



RENU Bids Farewell to Prof. Lejeune, Welcomes New Members to the Board!

KAMPALA – Tuesday, 8th September 2020

It was a day of mixed feelings at the last Annual General Meeting (AGM) of RENU as Prof. Michel Lejeune officially announced his end of service as the Chairperson of the RENU Board of Directors (BoD). The announcement was made last Thursday, 27th August 2020 as Prof. Lejeune chaired the 11th AGM (the last RENU AGM he would chair), which was held online on the RENU web conferencing platform. "Please note that today, three members of the Board, including myself, will be stepping down and it is your duty to see to it that their replacements will be for the greater good of RENU", he announced, triggering numerous messages of appreciation for his dedicated service flowing in the chat section from representatives of the various RENU member institutions in attendance.

Prof. Lejeune who is also the former Vice Chancellor of Uganda Martyrs University (UMU) and the Virtual University of Uganda (VUU), joined the RENU Board in 2014. He then succeeded Prof. Venansius Baryamureeba (then Vice Chancellor of Makerere University) as Chairperson of the RENU Board of Directors, and served for six years.



During his tenure, Prof. Lejeune chaired 25 board meetings, 5 AGMs, and worked with 2 CEOs. During his term of office, a number of other achievements were recorded by RENU including; establishment of a RENU backbone now connecting over 200 campuses, increase in turnover from USD 440,000 in 2013 to USD 2,354,000 by end of 2019,

attaining level 6 of NREN status, and reduction of the cost of bandwidth from USD 630 to less than USD 50 per Mbps per month currently.

Prof. Lejeune leaves the RENU Board together with two other dedicated board members, Prof. Eleanor Wozei of Uganda Christian University (UCU) and Prof. George Nasinyama of Kampala International University (KIU), whose terms of office had also ended.

Prof. Eleanor Wozei, who had been a Board Member of RENU since 2014, is a Senior Lecturer, and Coordinator of Engineering and Environment Programs in the Department of Engineering and Environment at Uganda Christian University (UCU). She is also the current Chair of the UCU Central ICT Committee.

Prof. George Nasinyama had served on the RENU Board since 2016. He previously worked as the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research, Innovation and Extension at Kampala International University (KIU). Previously, he had also worked in several capacities with Makerere University, as the Deputy Director, Research and Innovation, and Head of the Department of Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine.

As the three board members stepped down, three new entrants were voted into office to take up the vacant positions in a highly competitive election in which six candidates vied for the three positions. From the election, the three contestants that emerged as winners are Dr. John Kitayimbwa (UCU), Dr. Janice Desire Busingye (KIU) and Dr. Charles Tushabomwe Kazooba of Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST).

Below, we bring you a summary of the newly elected members of the RENU Board of Directors.

Dr. John Kitayimbwa

Dr. Kitayimbwa is the Deputy Vice Chancellor in Charge of Academic Affairs at Uganda Christian University (UCU). He is a former lecturer in the Department of Mathematics at Makerere University. Dr. Kitayimbwa was the Makerere University Retirement Benefits Scheme (MURBS) representative for the academic staff association, i.e. Makerere University Academic Staff Association (MUASA), on the Board of Trustees. He is also a Computational Biologist by trade.



Dr. Janice Desire Busingye

Dr. Busingye is the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration, as well as the University Secretary at Kampala International University (KIU). She is an Associate Professor of Education, and a Senior Lecturer at KIU. She is a former Head of the Adult and Community Education Department at Makerere University. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Adult and Community Education from Makerere University, and a Masters and PhD in Education (majoring in Adult and Community Education) both from the University of KwaZulu Natal in South Africa. She has published articles in various journals such as the Journal of Infection and Public Health, and the Journal of Asian and African Studies. Dr. Busingye has been in the education sector since 2001 starting from Makerere University and later joining Kampala International University (KIU) where she has been since 2015.



Dr. Charles Tushabomwe Kazooba

He is the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration at Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST). He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce from Makerere University, a Master of Business Administration, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration from the University of Birmingham, UK, and a PhD in Sustainability Accounting and Reporting from Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST). He has been in university administration since 1994 starting with Makerere University. Dr. Tushabomwe is a known researcher both locally and internationally who specializes in sustainability accounting. He is a professional accountant and holds ACCA, CPA (U) and ACIS certifications. He is also the public universities' representative on the council of Bishop Stuart University.



RENU is highly grateful for the dedicated service of the three outgoing members of the Board and warmly welcomes Dr. Kitayimbwa, Dr. Busingye and Dr. Tushabomwe on board. We look forward to achieving greater things as we tap from the experience and expertise of the new Board members.