



# AAU-Monthly

*Seek Wisdom, Elevate Your Intellect and Serve Humanity*

**AAU hosts the 65<sup>th</sup> Graduation Ceremony p.11**

A monthly newsletter  
produced by  
Office of  
External Relations,  
Partnerships and  
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August, 2016



*Happy  
Ethiopian  
New Year  
(2009 E.C.)*



**Veterinary Medicine & Agriculture holds commencement p.12**



## AAU launches photo exhibition

The Addis Ababa University, as part of this year's graduation, launched the first University wide photo exhibition on July 7, 2016 at the University's New Administration Building located in the Main campus.

The exhibition has been organized with the objective of showcasing the achievements and successes the university has attained from its teaching-learning, research and community service activities over the last few years.

More specifically, the exhibition shades light on the university's international relations and partnerships, international and university wide high level events, graduates of the university, institutional development, memorable public lectures, high level delegation visits



and extracurricular activities of students.

The opening ceremony was graced with the attendance of Kassa T/Berhan, Minister of Federal and Pastoralist Affairs and Chair of the Governing Board of the AAU, Admasu Tsegaye (PhD.),

President of the AAU, Vice Presidents, Deans, Directors and the rest of the university community.

Speaking on the occasion, President of the AAU, Admasu Tsegaye (PhD.) accentuated that properly documenting and showcasing the previous activi-

ties of the university to the next generation has paramount significance in terms of moving forward with a new vision.

He further applauded the event as very crucial and timely citing the fact that it provides families of graduates with a glimpse of the achievements of the past few years and the positive influence they bear on the future.

Organized by the Office of External Relations, Partnerships and Communications of the University, this historic photo exhibition stayed open until July 21, 2016.



### AAU - MONTHLY

*This monthly newsletter is produced by Office of External Relations, Partnerships and Communications of Addis Ababa University. Please reach us at [info.external@aau.edu.et](mailto:info.external@aau.edu.et)*

## Gender Office awards best performance



Gender Office of the Addis Ababa University awarded female students, researchers, instructors and administrative staff for best performance during this academic year on a ceremony held at Eshetu Chole Hall on July 4, 2016.

The award was said to have been made to encourage female participation and empowerment in higher education institutions through which women can increase their abil-

ity to shape their life and environment, realize their full identity and power in all spheres to be independent and self-reliant.

High scoring female students of the graduating classes of 2016 from each college, along with academic and administrative staff were awarded during the occasion.

Admasu Tsegaye (PhD.), AAU President, in his opening speech noted that

the roles of women in different capacities tremendously benefit individuals, the community and the country at large. He also went on to say that a developmental endeavor without the active participation of women is like an attempt to clap with a single hand.

“Ever since the last few decades when the government of Ethiopia accorded due attention to women empowerment, Ethiopian

women have come forward exercising power at different capacities to establish their own roles across a plethora of walks of life,” he added. He also stated that Addis Ababa University is working to increase female participation in research, teaching and leadership.

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## IES automates foreign language library



According to Ahmed's (Ph.D.) statement, the institute has been under expansion since 2007 E.C. with plans to move the library to a new building under construction the upcoming year. To make the library a center of information and documentation about the country and enrich it with necessary resources for research, the library has planned to collect relevant document from various public Universities in Ethiopia.

The Institute of Ethiopian Studies Library of the Addis Ababa University launched a new online public access catalogue on August 11, 2016 in a ceremony held at Mekonnen Hall.

The rapid diversification and growth in use of emerging technologies has changed the traditional library into an automated, electronic, virtual and digital resource center, especially in an academic set-

up. Towards offering effective and efficient service to library users and to modernize its data management, the Institute of Ethiopian Studies (IES) Library, one of the Addis Ababa University's research libraries, has automated over 43,500 collections of the foreign language library.

Appreciating all the personnel behind the success of the work during the launching ceremony; Ah-

med Hassen (Ph.D.), director of the IES, stated that automation of the library has multiple effects to maximize effectiveness and efficiency helping users easily access materials they need using key words like author or subject. He further explained that automation of the library facilitates resource sharing with other institutions, increases durability and heralds a better level of library management.

The IES Library collects and maintains various books, manuscripts and periodicals written in any language, concerning Ethiopia and Ethiopian studies of all kinds. It envisions the preservation of Ethiopian literary heritage rare publications and manuscripts.

The ceremony featured a visit to the museum and the expansion progress made in the last couple of years.

## CDS undertakes research dissemination workshop

The College of Development Studies (CDS) of the Addis Ababa University carried out a research dissemination workshop on rural land scarcity, fragmentation and landlessness on July 29, 2016 at Sarem Hotel.

The aim of the workshop was to present and discuss the research findings obtained from the study carried out on land scarcity, fragmentation, landlessness and implications for rural household food security in Amhara, Oromia and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional States of Ethiopia.

The study aimed at exploring the magnitude of land scarcity, fragmentation and landlessness under different contexts such as agro-ecology, gender and family size.

The study further exam-

ined the interaction of land and its characteristics with rural household food security status.

Speaking on the occasion, Dean of the College of Development Studies, Dilu Shaleka (Ph.D.) noted that the findings, supported by compelling evidence, are believed to make a strong case that require policy attention.

He further pointed out the College's commitment to continue conducting research on land issues, citing the college's long standing tradition of being at the forefront of a broader array of land research.

The study findings singled out that landlessness and fragmentation are of considerable magnitude that requires policy attention. The study further identified that landholding size and landlessness affect household food security in



*Workneh Negatu (Ph.D.)*

the selected study regions. Following the presentations, participants posed various questions which the researchers deliberated on.

Carried out by three veteran researchers from the College of Development Studies: Workneh Negatu (Ph.D.), Degefa Tolossa (Ph.D.) and Ato Dula Etana, the study was fi-

nanced by the USAID through its project called 'Land Administration to Nurture Development.'

Several academicians, researchers, pertinent experts from the selected study regions as well as stakeholders were part of the workshop.

## IDPR administers research dissemination workshop



The Institute of Development and Policy Research (IDPR) of the Addis Ababa University ran a research dissemination workshop on the dynamics of land transaction in selected regions of Ethiopia on July 22, 2016 at Desalegn Hotel.

The objective of the workshop was to present and discuss the research findings obtained from the study conducted on the dynamics of land transaction in selected agricultural and agro-pastoralist communities of Afar, Oromia and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional States of Ethiopia.

Carried out by four researchers from the Addis Ababa University, the

study explored forms of land transaction and actors in land transaction. The study further singled out the motives for land transaction and the implications of land transaction for economic development and livelihood security in both highland/agricultural and lowland/agro-pastoralist areas.

Speaking on the occasion, Director of the Institute of Development and Policy Research, Getnet Alemu (PhD.) accentuated that the study findings are believed to add new knowledge to existing ones and extend debate on land policy in the country. He further emphasized that such a research dissemination workshop will provide useful inputs

and insights for policy makers and executors on issues pertaining to land administration.

The study findings indicate that land transactions are commonly practiced in spite of restrictions and the agreements of land transaction were found out to be overwhelmingly informal. Signifying the major driving forces for land transaction, the study identified lack or limitation of capital and irregular market as the primary ones for farmers to practice sharecropping or renting of their land.

Following the presentations, participants posed various questions on issues related to the major factors for land transac-

tion, existing laws on land administration as well as the role of women on the issue.

The research was financed by the USAID through its project called 'Land Administration to Nurture Development.'

Four principal investigators from the Addis Ababa University: Prof. Tegegne G/Egziabher, Mamo Hebo (PhD.), Ayalew Gebre (PhD.) and Ms. Kiya Gezahegn were tasked by the Institute of Development and Policy Research to produce independent but interrelated studies in their respective study areas.

Several academicians, researchers, pertinent experts from the selected study regions as well as

## AAU to collaborate with Chongqing University



A delegation of three from the Chongqing University of Posts and Telecommunications of China made a working visit to the Addis Ababa University and held talks on August 11, 2016.

Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer of the Addis Ababa University, Prof. Tassew W/Hanna, welcomed the delegates in his office and discussed the potential areas of collaboration and partnership for mutual benefit.

Prof. Tassew expressed AAU's keen interest to collaborate with Chongqing University of Posts

and Telecommunications especially on telecommunications engineering, citing the fact that the university has recently launched a telecommunications engineering program. In light of the Technology Business Incubation Center the AAU is to launch soon, he also expressed his strong belief that the envisioned collaboration will support the two programs in terms of building the capacity of the University.

Director of the Office of International Cooperation and Exchange at the Chongqing University of Posts and Telecommunica-

tions, Cao Hua (Ph.D.), for his part, pointed out that a range of researchers, students and faculty at his University are highly interested to come to the AAU for short and long term stays and work on joint research projects of mutual interest.

He went on to further pledge that once the MoU is signed, his University would be interested to fund joint research projects that are designed for mutual benefit.

The two institutions have agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that allows them carry out staff and student exchange

es, undertake joint research projects in areas of mutual interest as well as sponsor cooperative seminars and workshops.

The MoU will also enable the two institutions launch joint degree programs in selected fields of study, develop and deliver short term training programs and exchange academic materials, publications, and other scientific information.

Founded in 1950, Chongqing University of Posts and Telecommunications is one of the few Universities that have been given priority to develop by the state.

It has also grown into a prominent university and is acknowledged by its excellence in the field of information industry both within and outside of China.

Cited as the birthplace of digital communication in China, the University commits itself to innovations and explorations.

## World Bank Senior Vice President lectures @ AAU

Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the World Bank, Prof. Kaushik Basu, delivered an open lecture on 'Prospects for Emerging Economies in a Rapidly Changing World' to the Addis Ababa University community on July 28, 2016 at the Eshetu Chole Hall of the College of Business and Economics.

Speaking on emerging global economies, Prof. Basu demonstrated a glimpse of the success stories of China, India, and South Korea. He also addressed the experiences of emerging global economies, the role of policy making in economic development and contemporary challenges of Ethiopia.

Acknowledging the fact that Ethiopia has registered the fastest economic growth rate in the world, Prof. Basu identified the country's horticulture, floriculture and shoe industry as very appealing to the world economy despite the poor performance of the country's export trade over the last couple of years.

Citing the role of education, he urged higher education institutions in Ethiopia to play their own roles in the development efforts of the country through enhancing free thinking and nurturing practical knowledge.

Prof. Basu singled out political stability and technological innovation as the fundamental driving forces that sustain the economic development of a country.

Moderating the open lecture, Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer of the Addis Ababa University, Prof. Tassew W/Hanna pointed out that the series of public lectures delivered by a number of scholars and experts from the World Bank over the last few years signifies the fact that Addis Ababa University closely works with the World Bank.

He went on to further indicate that the World Bank supports a number of



*Prof. Kaushik Basu, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the World Bank*

AAU projects, referring to the fact that the university has also recently won a World Bank grant to launch four centers of excellence which are designed to serve Eastern and Southern African Countries. "Today's open lecture is, therefore, believed to enhance the existing collaboration between the two institutions", he added.

Following his insightful presentation, questions

related to the fate of the global economy, issues of job creation as well as the role of economic integration for political and social integration were raised and deliberated on.

Prof. Tassew W/Hanna along with deans, directors, students and the rest of the university community were part of the open lecture.



## Department awards its partners



respectively.

The collaboration is exemplary in the University's effort to enhance University-Industry Linkage.

Friends of the department, Engineer Tsedke Yihune, CEO Flintstone Group, Department Staff Mr. Gashaw Haile, and Alumnus Mr. Hyder Kemel who were instrumental for such collaboration were also recognized.

During the same occasion, the Center of Excellence for Entrepreneurship housed by the Department of Management and established under the auspicious of UNDP and the Government of Canada and the Staff Coffee Room were also officially opened.

The Department of Management of the College of Business and Economics, Addis Ababa University has awarded certificate of recognition to business organizations that contributed to the Department's effort to transform its

teaching-learning and research environment in a ceremony held on July 14, 2016.

The certificate of recognition was awarded to Medtech Ethiopia, Flintstone Group, and Aujan

Coca-Cola Beverages Company (ACCBC) and Rani Refreshments (RR). The recognized companies furnished executive class room, erected a staff room, and provided refreshment equipment and refreshments to the department

Kaushik Basu holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the London School of Economics. He has received honorary doctorates from several institutes including

IIT of Mumbai and Fordham University of New York. Currently, he is the Chief Economist and Senior Vice President of the World Bank. He is also a

fellow of the Econometric Society and received the title Padma Bhushan, which is one of the highest civilian awards given by the President of India. His

contributions span development economics, welfare economics, industrial organization and game theory.

## Department runs training on international financial reporting standards



The Department of Accounting and Finance of the Addis Ababa University in collaboration with Accounting and Auditing Board of Ethiopia (AABE) held a capacity building training workshop on international financial reporting standards (IFRS) from July 11-22, 2016.

37 staff members were trained from both the Accounting Department of the School of commerce and the Accounting and Finance Department in the College of Business and Economics, AAU. The

training of trainers (TOT) workshop was a 10 full days training held from July 11 to July 22, 2016. Most of the trainers were staff members of the department of accounting and finance who attended the seed TOT training along with AABE and volunteers who earned Diplomas in IFRS.

It is to be recalled that Ethiopia adopted International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) on December 5, 2014 through proclamation no. 847/2014. Further, the

council of ministers through its regulation no. 332/2014 established the Accounting and Audit Board of Ethiopia to regulate financial reporting practices in Ethiopia. The board set out, through its 5 year strategic plan, to make companies implement IFRS.

Subsequently, AAU's Department of Accounting and Finance engaged in revising the national harmonized modular curriculum which was mostly based up on US Generally Accepted Accounting Prin-

ciples (US GAAP) to IFRS. The department though introduced IFRS in its curricula since 2011, cognizant of the need for embedding IFRS in the training of professional accountants than ever before as the proclamation made it a legal requirement to adopt it. However, the number of staff formally trained in IFRS was too few to bring about the necessary change. Accordingly, the department in its close collaboration with the AABE managed to secure 5 out of 30 places in the seed TOT workshop held in Capital Hotel organized by the World Bank and the AABE from June 13, 2016 to June 17, 2016 by experts from the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). The place left for the department was the highest allotted for a single organization with the rest prorated for experts from different sectors like banks, insurance, auditors and regulators.

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AAU hosts the 65<sup>th</sup> Graduation *continued from page 1*

*P.M. Hailemariam Desalegn awarding Prof. Peter Mutharika*



*Ambassador Konjit Sinegiorgis*

The Addis Ababa University, in a colorful ceremony, graduated a total of 8,881 students on July 9, 2016 at the Millennium Hall.

During the occasion, the University also conferred Honorary Doctorate Degrees upon Prof. Peter Mutharika, President of the Republic of Malawi, and Ambassador Konjit Sinegiorgis, a seasoned Ethiopian diplomat.

Out of the total number of graduates, 5311 earned their undergraduate degrees while the remaining 3570 were postgraduates, of which 229 saw through their PhD. studies.

This year, female students

accounted to 26% of the total number of graduates. Guest of Honor of the ceremony Hailemariam Desalegn, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, handed out degrees and awards for distinction and PhD. graduates.

Admasu Tsegaye (PhD.), President of the Addis Ababa University, congratulated the graduates and all those behind their success.

He said that the continuously increasing number of graduate programs and the enrollment capacity of the University will help it become a hub of graduate studies.

Citing the Bibliometric Performance Report, he

further accentuated that the number and quality of research outputs published on reputable journals by AAU postgraduate students and professors has tremendously increased, making the University among the top few preeminent higher education institutions in Africa. Prime Minister Hailemariam congratulated the class of 2016 and acknowledged AAU's unmatched contributions in providing trained manpower to the country.

He also reassured that the government will strengthen its effort towards racking up the number of highly skilled manpower to uphold the growth and transformation of Ethiopia.

On the same occasion, in recognition of their valuable and limitless contributions to their countries, the continent and the world at large, the Addis Ababa University conferred Honorary Doctorate Degrees upon Prof. Peter Mutharika and Ambassador Konjit Sinegiorgis.

The University conferred the Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa upon Prof. Peter Mutharika recognizing him as a progressive leader of our time and an African Statesman.

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## AAU hosts the 65<sup>th</sup> Graduation *continued from page 11*

Prof. Mutharika is the pride of Africa and a Pan-African spirited scholar who taught in various universities in the world including the former Haile Selassie University, which has come to be the AAU.

Similarly, the University also conferred the Degree of Doctor of Humane Let-

ters, Honoris Causa upon Ambassador Konjit Sinegiorgis acknowledging her outstanding diplomatic achievements and contributions to the advancement of freedom, democracy and development in Ethiopia and Africa.

Present on the ceremony along with Prime Minister

Hailemariam Desalegn were Shiferaw Shigute, Minister of Education, Kassa Teklebirhan, Minister of Federal and Pastoralist Affairs and Chairperson of the Governing Board of Addis Ababa University, Ministers, Diplomats, invited guests and the graduates' families and loved ones.

The University Cultural Center, as usual, entertained the gathering and spiced the ceremony with the graduation marking iconic song "Enkuan Des Yalachihu", which translates to 'Congratulations!'. The event was televised live on EBC and covered by several print and broadcast media.

## Veterinary Medicine & Agriculture holds commencement *continued from page 1*

The College of Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture of the Addis Ababa University graduated a total of 99 students on July 16, 2016 at the Bishoftu Campus Hall.

Out of the total number of graduates, seven earned their PhDs; fifteen had their Masters while the remaining fifty seven were Doctors of Veterinary Medicine and the rest twenty graduated with a B.Sc. in Veterinary Laboratory Technology.

Guest of Honor of the ceremony Sileshi Getahun, Minister of Animal and Fish Resources of the Federal Democratic Republic



of Ethiopia, handed out degrees and awards for the graduates.

Dr. Dinka Ayana, Dean of college of Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture of Addis Ababa University, congratulated the gradu-

ates, families and all those behind their success.

He said that the College of Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture of the AAU has finalized its preparations to launch graduate programs in Clinical Medicine and Surgery Training

for the coming year. Dr. Dinka further indicated that the College will widen and strengthen its collaboration with the newly established Ministry of Ani-



## Gender Office awards *continued from page 3*



Hirut Woldemariam (PhD.), Vice President for Institutional Development, while presenting her research paper entitled “Why are women absent from research and leadership positions in higher education institutions?” depicted that women are still under the historic perpetual dominance of their

male counterparts despite the recent commitment to women empowerment.

She singled out the assignment of women to less important activities, lack of awareness on the actual value of women by themselves and lack of role models as major challenges for women empowerment.

ment.

The award ceremony was held in the presence of university high level administrators and the university community in general.

Similarly, the Gender Office of the College of Natural and Computational

Sciences also organized a recognition ceremony on July 5, 2016 for high scoring female students, instructors who offered tutorials for female students, graduating members of the girls club and for others who supported the office in one way or another.

The Minister of Animal and Fish Resources, Sileshi Getahun, congratulated the class of 2016 and acknowledged the college’s incomparable contributions in providing trained manpower in the field of animal care and agriculture to the country.

He also reiterated his Ministry’s determination to strengthen its efforts and ties with the college to promote agricultural growth and facilitate the transformation of the country into an industrial led economy.

Present on the ceremony

were Zegeye Muluye, Vice President for Administration and Student Services of the Addis Ababa University, high officials of the university, invited guests and families of graduates.

The Addis Ababa University Cultural Center entered

tained the gathering and warmed the ceremony with a variety of graduation songs.

The event was reported by EBC, Oromiya Television and other print and broadcast media.

## Department runs training on international ... *continued from page 10*



patriates. Since all government public enterprises are early adopters, the University will offer trainings to these public enterprises. Further, it is indicated that the department will discharge its leadership role in regenerating enough IFRS experts through capacity development trainings offered in two phases. In phase one all public universities in the country will be offered similar TOT trainings and then in phase two all private higher education institutions will be trained.

In addition, the department is finalizing the revision of the harmonized curriculum, which up on completion will be used as a base curriculum to serve as an input to all public higher education institutions. Currently, there are nearly close to 100 IFRS trainers in the country.

Immediately after the completion of the seed TOT training, as a follow through, the department in collaboration with AABE organized a TOT Workshop for boosting the capacity of its staff.

Up on successfully completing the training, trainees were awarded certifi-

cates. The award ceremony was graced with the presence of Gashe Yemane, Director General of the Accounting and Audit Board of Ethiopia, and Jeilu Oumer (PhD.), Academic Vice President of Addis Ababa University. In addition, prominent guests like Emeritus Professor Johannes Kinfu also

attended the certificate awarding ceremony.

The TOT will make Addis Ababa University an IFRS expertise hub through which all adopting private and public enterprises will get IFRS trainings and expert implementation consultancies curbing the hard currency outflow for ex-

## AAU peace club holds discussion



The Addis Ababa University Peace Club held a discussion session themed “unity and diversity” on June 23, 2016.

The purpose of the discussion was to elicit from the student a desire for peace, to foster in them a culture of peace and to equip and empower them to be effective peace messengers to create a peaceful academic environment where students of diverse background live interdependently.

The stage created an opportunity for students to debate on impartiality, equality, transparency,

justice and solidarity which are vital pillars for peace keeping and peace building.

Guest of honor Kasa T/berhan, Minister of Federal and Pastoralist Affairs and Chair Person of AAU Governing Board, said: “the

way we handle our diversity is either a beauty or a threat for the country. To sustain the country we have to build unity based on equality where all the nations and nationalities of the country are treated without any discrimination,” he added. He also

noted that unity in diversity is a source of dignity, pride and prosperity that we have to pass on to future generations.

The students, for their part, appreciated the good start of the AAU Peace Club, asked the minister to support its sustainability and assist ways to share the experience with other universities. The students also raised various questions on peace including: how to build sustainable peace in the country, factors that hinder peace, problems on the government’s side and importance of dialogue to secure peace.

AAU Peace Club envisions a higher education institution, where peace, justice and non violent relations prevail through students’



## Book on engineered sustainable development launched



plied in Ethiopia needs to be strengthened by the incorporation and application of engineered professional techniques for sustainable development. According to Bantihun's statement engineered economic, educational, environmental, productive and revitalization approaches are vital for holistic development pointing out the favor these factors do to quality production and the subsequent increased level of global competitiveness.

An Amharic book entitled “በመሀንዲሳዊ ዘዴ የተቃኘ ሁሉን አቀፍ ዘላቂ ልማት” which translates to “engineered sustainable development” was launched at Mekonnen Hall of the AAU Main Campus on June 16, 2016.

Authored by Bantihun Tizazu, an Engineer by profession, the book emphasizes an approach called 4EPR. The abbreviation stands for engineered, economic, educational and

environmental approaches represented by the 4E's along with productive and revitalization approaches represented by the PR.

Tasew W/Hanna (PhD.), AAU Vice President for Research and Technology transfer, said on the occasion that the efforts that the scholars have been making through demand driven research, enormously benefit to realize the strategic plan of the

country towards achieving the goal to become middle income country. “Addis Ababa University is engaged in community service and problem solving researches to significantly contribute to the development strategy underway,” he added.

While briefing the audience about the book, the author, Bantihun Tizazu stressed that the poverty alleviation strategy ap-

The book has 10 chapters and 380 pages that deal with engineering a holistic approach to ensure sustainable development. The book is deemed a highly relevant read for policy makers, academicians and researchers. The ceremony was organized by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer of the AAU.

## World Bank launches book at the CBE



The World Bank launched a book entitled “The Unexplored Potentials of Trade in Services in Africa” at Eshetu Chole Hall of the College of Business and Economics of the AAU on June 16, 2016.

The book highlights service trade in Africa, challenges to trade in services in Africa, innovative policy solutions and mutual recognition agreements in service trade in Africa.

Nora Dihel, Senior Economist at the World Bank

stated that services do not only offer promising opportunities for export diversification but also serve as key inputs in the production of exportable goods and services. She went on to say that services imports are important because they can improve the availability and quality of services inputs through increased competition, better technologies, and access to foreign capital. She then noted that the latter in turn can have strong impact on the domestic business en-

vironment and broaden access to essential services such as health, education, and financial services.

Arti Grover Goswami, Senior Consultant Economist at the World Bank also noted that regional trade in services offers enormous opportunities for sub-Saharan African Countries to diversify their exports, pursue new opportunities for dynamic growth, increase investment, promote efficiency and widen access to services in the domestic econ-

omy. The result of these opportunities is reducing the cost, raising quality and increasing access to key services such as telecommunication, energy and finance. Such conditions spell economy-wide impacts as these services are often inputs into most productive activities, including manufacturing.

Moderated by Zewde Abate, Associate Professor at the AAU Department of Economics, the event entertained interactive discussions and Q & A.

## U.S. State Department Officials visit AAU



A delegation from the U.S. State Department led by Melissa Clegg-Tripp, Director of the African Bureau of Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, made a working visit to Addis Ababa University and held discussion with University officials at the Senate Hall of the main campus on June 7, 2016.

Admasu Tsegaye (PhD.),

President of Addis Ababa University, warmly welcomed the delegates and briefed them on already existing collaboration and partnership between the AAU and U.S. Universities for mutual benefit.

During the discussion, Dr. Admasu pointed out that the University has identified postgraduate programs, curriculum support

for strategic plan, water resource related studies, Biotechnology, University – Industry Linkage, student and scholars exchange and cost sharing accessibility for students as priorities that require capacity building schemes and partnership with U.S. Universities.

The U.S. State Department delegates, for their part,

indicated that former U.S. Ambassadors to Ethiopia and representatives of different American Universities will have a working visit to Ethiopia in August, 2016. Accordingly, the AAU has been advised by the delegates to have a detailed plan of its area of collaboration and address its programs to the appropriate U.S. Universities by then.



The U.S. Embassy and the FDRE Ministry of Education organized the first higher education conference on “Building Sustainable U.S.- Ethiopian University Partnerships” in December, 2010. They have been working together on the topic ever since.

### AAU - MONTHLY

*This monthly newsletter is produced by Office of External Relations, Partnerships and Communications of Addis Ababa University. Please reach us at [info.external@aau.edu.et](mailto:info.external@aau.edu.et)*

## AAU Welcomes a delegation of Chinese University Students



A student delegation of 30 from different Chinese universities visited Addis Ababa University on the opening of the 11 days China-Africa Youth Exchange program on August 7, 2016.

The program is co-sponsored by the Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters and the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is organized by the Beijing Language University and the Confucius Institutes at Addis Ababa, Nairobi and Johannesburg Universities.

Academic Vice President of Addis Ababa University, Jeilu Oumer (Ph.D.), welcomed the delegates at the Ras Makonnen Hall and discussed potential areas of collaboration for mutual benefit over the

platform of the Confucius Institute.

Jeilu Oumer (Ph.D.) extended a warm welcome to the delegation of Chinese students on behalf of the AAU and acknowledged that the youth make up the future of a country. He also expressed his hope that the exchange program could help the youth from both China and Ethiopia know more about each other's culture, language and society, further strengthening the friendship between the two countries.

Li Hongyu, delegation leader from the Confucius Institute Headquarters, for her part thanked AAU for its hospitality and expressed her organization's keen interest to create more collaborative endeavors between Chinese

universities and Addis Ababa University over the platform of the Confucius Institute.

You Yi, cultural counselor at the Chinese Embassy in Ethiopia, made an overall summary of the recent increasing collaboration between China and Ethiopia in the field of culture and education, subsequently wishing the program a big success.

Lin Jiali of the Beijing Language University and Mahedir Getachew of Addis Ababa University also made speeches on behalf of Chinese and Ethiopian university students respectively.

Zealelem Leyew (Ph.D.), Dean of College of Humanities, Language Studies, Journalism and Com-

munication of the AAU, and Zenebe Beyene (Ph.D.), Director of External Relations, Partnerships and Communications of the AAU, also attended the opening and closing ceremonies of the program.

During their three-day stay in Addis Ababa, the Chinese delegates were invited to the Ethiopian Ministry of Education, the African Union, the Shenzhen Metro Ethiopian branch and the China State Construction Ethiopian branch for a high-level discussion. 8 students from the Chinese department of Addis Ababa University were also invited for a full participation in the program and interactive exchanges with their Chinese counterparts.



*Happy Ethiopian New Year*



Addis Ababa University



@AddisAbabaUnive

Please, send us any information that you want to go public and let us know your events ahead of time so that all your efforts are known to others. We welcome your views, opinions and critics on the issues we run and we very much value your inputs.

Our office seeks into seizing the beats of every specification of the University's endeavors towards academic excellence, and plans to sell what the University embeds as a rich culture, with strong push and demands on issues that need to change. We also stand ahead to sell the University's strategic priorities.

*We work to foster and let academic  
Dialogues grow.*



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