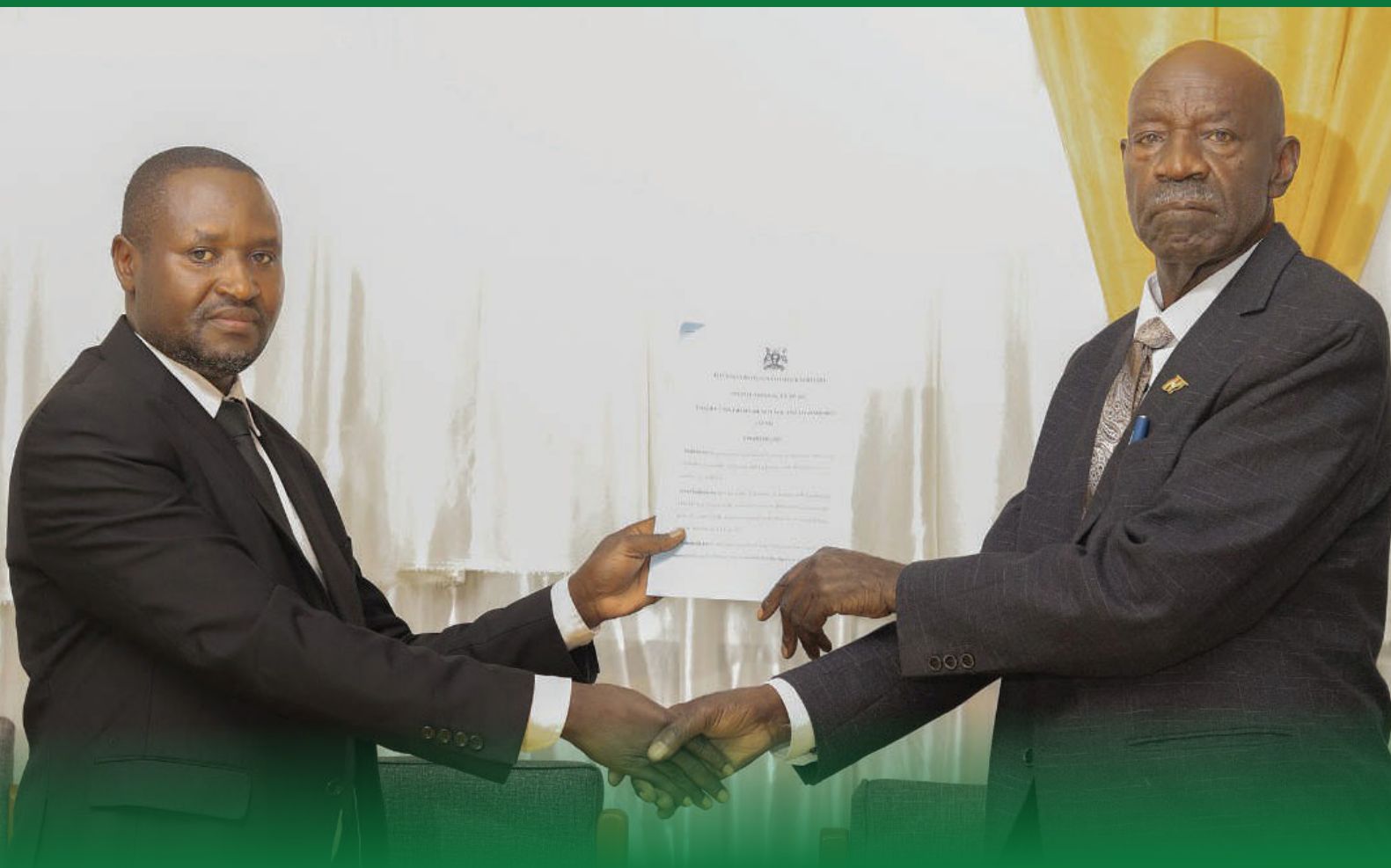


**VALLEY UNIVERSITY  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

# NEWSLETTER

**CHARTER EDITION**



**AUGUST 2025**

# In Celebration of Life and Legacy

Valley University of Science and Technology pays tribute to the memory of two remarkable individuals who left an indelible mark on our institution



Dr. James Musinguzi Garuga  
Chancellor

We honor his visionary leadership and dedication to our university's growth.



Hon. Mary Karooro Okurut  
BOT Member

We remember her invaluable contributions to our university's governance and development.

**Their legacy continues to inspire us. We celebrate their lives, achievements and the impact they had on our university community.**



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## EDITORIAL NOTE



### **Dear Readers,**

It is with immense joy and pride that we present to you this Charter Special Edition of the Valley University of Science and Technology Newsletter. This historic moment marks a defining chapter in our journey as we officially attain charter status.

Our charter is not merely recognition of institutional growth; it is an evidence of the hard work, resilience and dedication of our governance, students, staff, alumni and partners who have walked this path with us. It is a celebration of vision, persistence and the belief that together we can build a world-class center of excellence in science, technology and innovation.

In this special issue, we reflect on the road we have traveled, honor those who have shaped our story and share our aspirations for the future. This milestone belongs to all of us and we invite you to celebrate, reflect and dream with us as we embark on the next chapter of transformation.

On behalf of the editorial team, I thank you for your continued support and readership. May this edition inspire you as much as this achievement inspires us. Warm regards,

**Andrew Agaba**  
Chief Editor



## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

Dear Members of the Valley University of Science and Technology Community,

It is with a heart full of gratitude and pride that I pen down this message at such a defining juncture in our history. The news of our University's charter ignited a spirit of joy that resonates in our Campus, our alumni circles and indeed throughout the entire community that has walked with us on this extraordinary journey. To be granted a charter is no ordinary achievement; it is a national recognition of credibility, maturity and academic excellence. It is a seal of approval that affirms that Valley University of Science and Technology has come of age, ready to stand tall among the most respected institutions of higher learning in the world.

When I reflect on the road that has brought us here, I am reminded of the countless sacrifices, the tireless nights and the determination that have defined our path. Our story is one of resilience; of a vision that was nurtured against all odds, of pioneers who believed in the possibility of building a homegrown institution rooted in science, technology and innovation, and of a community that rallied around this dream with hope and courage. Each milestone we achieved along the way whether it was the accreditation of our first programmes, the graduation of our first cohorts, or the establishment of vital partnerships was a stepping stone leading to this

moment of recognition.

This joyous milestone is not mine alone, nor does it belong to a few. It belongs to all of us. It belongs to our Founding body, BOT, the University Council, dedicated academic staff, who have gone beyond the call of duty to nurture brilliance in our students; to our administrative and support staff, who have worked behind the scenes to keep the wheels of this institution turning smoothly; to our students, whose energy, creativity and ambition breathe life into our vision; and to our alumni, who continue to carry our banner high in their workplaces and communities. We also owe this victory to our partners, Ministry of Education and Sports, NCHE our regulators, parents, industry stakeholders and friends of the University whose support has brought us this far.

Yet, while today we celebrate, we are equally reminded that a charter is not a destination but a beginning. It places upon our shoulders an even greater responsibility of remaining steadfast in upholding the values of academic freedom, integrity, and excellence; to broaden our research and innovation capacity; to expand our infrastructure and programs; and to produce graduates who will shape the future of our nation and beyond. This moment challenges us to think bigger, dream higher and to embrace the limitless possibilities that lie ahead.

As Vice Chancellor, I could not be more honored to lead such a vibrant community into this new chapter. I invite all of you students, staff, alumni and friends to carry this joy with pride, but also with a renewed commitment to our shared vision. Together, let us build a Valley University of Science and Technology that stands as a beacon of knowledge, a hub of innovation and a fountain of transformation for generations to come.

With warm regards and unshakable optimism,

**Dr. Enos Rwasheema**  
Vice Chancellor



## MESSAGE FROM THE ACADEMIC REGISTRAR

Dear Members of the Valley University of Science and Technology Community,

The attainment of charter status is both a moment of immense pride and a solemn reminder of the responsibility we carry as an academic institution.

As Academic Registrar, I take this opportunity to congratulate our entire university family on this historic achievement. It is a triumph that speaks to our collective effort, discipline and commitment to quality education.

Charter recognition affirms that our academic systems, governance and programs meet the highest national standards. However, it is important to recognize that this milestone is not an end, but rather the beginning of an even greater journey. Going forward, our central task must be to ensure that the quality of education we provide not only meets but surpasses expectations. Quality must be reflected in the design of our curricula, the delivery of our lectures, the rigor of our assessments and the relevance of our research.

Our students; past, present and future are the living testimony of our credibility. It is therefore our duty to equip them with skills, knowledge and values that will enable them to thrive in an ever-changing world. We must embrace innovation in teaching, strengthen our internal quality assurance mechanisms and continuously align our programs with the dynamic needs of industry and society.

As Academic Registrar, I pledge that my office will remain vigilant in upholding academic standards and ensuring that every graduate of Valley University of Science and Technology carries not just a degree, but a mark of excellence aimed at self-reliance. With the continued support of our staff, students and stakeholders, I am confident that we will build a legacy of education that transforms lives and serves our nation with pride.

With dedication and hope,

Dr. Deusdedit Byabashaija  
Academic Registrar

## Message from the University Secretary



### *A Tribute of Gratitude and a Call for Continuous Improvement*

To Valley University of Science and Technology Family,  
As we celebrate the attainment of charter status, my heart is filled with gratitude for every hand, mind and heart that contributed to this remarkable achievement. The charter is not a gift handed down to us; it is the fruit of collective effort, perseverance and the shared belief that our university is destined for greatness.

In my capacity as University Secretary and particularly in my role as custodian of human resources, I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the dedication of our people. I extend my deepest thanks to the Top Management Team under the guidance of the Vice Chancellor for steering this ship with wisdom and vision. I salute our academic staff, whose tireless teaching and research laid the academic foundation for recognition. I equally recognize our administrative and support staff, who often work quietly behind the scenes yet remain the backbone of our daily operations. To our students, alumni, partners and regulators you have been indispensable pillars on this journey. Together, you have written a story of resilience and triumph.

While this moment calls for celebration, it also calls us to look forward with renewed commitment. Charter status is not the destination but a doorway into greater responsibility. It reminds us that we must never become complacent, but instead continue to improve in every aspect; governance, teaching, research and service delivery. Our community expects nothing less than consistent excellence, and it is our duty to deliver.

On behalf of the Office of the University Secretary, I pledge our continued support in ensuring a professional, motivated and empowered workforce that will carry this university to even greater heights. With unity, discipline and a spirit of continuous learning and improvement, there is no limit to what we can achieve.

With sincere appreciation,

**Janan Mubehamwe**  
University Secretary



# ROAD TO CHARTER

The University was given a Provisional License to operate on 28th September 2015 under registration no.Ul.PL.028

On 26th Jan. 2016, the University was officially opened and on 5th Feb 2016, pioneer students were admitted.

In 2019 NCHE requested Institutions to submit their roadmap towards charter Acquisition.

In May 2022, we submitted our first Charter application

In January 2023, NCHE Team visited the University to assess progress and further guide on the necessary requirements for charter acquisition.

In May, 2023 we conducted a self-assessment which was key in identifying areas of improvement.

VUST submitted a revised application to NCHE on 30th June, 2023.

On 14th January, 2024 a team from our university went to NCHE for vetting.

In July 2024, VUST received an Inspection Team from NCHE

At its 78th council sitting on January 31, 2025, in accordance with Section 105(3) of the Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act CAP 262, NCHE cleared VUST for grant of Charter.

On 3rd July, 2025, His Excellency the President of Uganda, H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni signed our Charter



**NCHE charter inspection team at VUST on 30th July, 2024**





**NCHE charter inspection team with VUST'S top Leadership on their first vist on 30th July, 2024**



**Csl Steven Okoth from NCHE delivering VUST Charter to the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Enos Rwasheema on 15th July, 2025**





THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

# **THE UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER TERTIARY**

## **INSTITUTIONS ACT CAP. 262**

### **VALLEY UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

#### **(VUST)**

#### **CHARTER, 2025**

**WHEREAS** the promoters established in Uganda an Institution in the name of Valley University of Science and Technology (VUST) which we now wish to be chartered;

**AND WHEREAS** the said Valley University of Science and Technology (VUST) has applied to the National Council for Higher Education for the grant of a Charter in the manner prescribed under the Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act Cap. 262;

**AND WHEREAS** the National Council for Higher Education has visited and inspected the said Institution and is satisfied that the objects of Valley





THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

University of Science and Technology (VUST) are consistent with the advancement of University Education in the Republic of Uganda;

**AND WHEREAS** the National Council for Higher Education is also satisfied that Valley University of Science and Technology (VUST) has complied with the provisions of the Act;

**AND WHEREAS** the National Council for Higher Education has submitted a Charter for the said institution to the Minister of Education and Sports, a copy whereof is annexed hereto and the Minister is satisfied that Valley University of Science and Technology (VUST) be granted the Charter;

**AND WHEREAS** the Minister has submitted the Charter to me with recommendations thereon;

**AND WHEREAS I COMMAND** that the attached Charter may be amended by the appropriate organs of Valley University of Science and Technology (VUST) with the approval of the National Council for Higher Education and myself;





THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

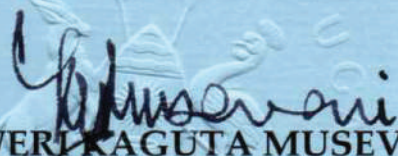
**AND WHEREAS** I am satisfied that granting of the Charter will be of benefit to the advancement of University Education in the Republic of Uganda;

**NOW THEREFORE**, by these presents, be it known that in the exercise of the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and by Section 106(2) of the Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act Cap. 262;

**I, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni**, President of the Republic of Uganda, **HEREBY** grant the Charter annexed hereto, to **VALLEY UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (VUST)**.

**GIVEN** under my hand and the Public Seal of the Republic of Uganda

this.....<sup>3rd</sup> day of.....<sup>July</sup>.....in the year.....<sup>2025</sup>..

.....  
  
**YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI**

**PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**



Our Ref: NCHE/U/043

11<sup>th</sup> July 2025

The Vice Chancellor  
Valley University of Science and Technology  
P.O. Box 44  
Bushenyi

**RE: CHARTER FOR VALLEY UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

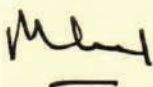
Greetings from the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE).

I am pleased to inform you that following your application for grant of a Charter, H.E. the President of the Republic of Uganda has approved and granted Valley University of Science and Technology a Charter.

Attached please find the duly signed Charter.

Please note that the Charter will be presented to the Uganda Gazette for purposes of publication. We shall furnish you a copy of the Legal Notice once it is published.

The National Council for Higher Education congratulates you upon this achievement.



Professor Mary J.N. Okwakol  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Encl: Charter Document.



# What Charter Status Means

The attainment of a charter is more than a legal recognition. It is a transformative milestone that carries profound meaning for everyone connected to Valley University of Science and Technology. It is a promise of excellence, a seal of trust and an invitation to dream bigger.

## **For Students**

For our students, charter status guarantees that their degrees carry the highest recognition both nationally and internationally. It means their qualifications will be respected in the job market and in postgraduate studies anywhere they go. It reassures them that they are learning in an institution that meets rigorous academic and governance standards. More importantly, it inspires pride knowing they are part of a university whose voice and vision have been officially acknowledged.

## **For Staff**

For our academic and administrative staff, charter status is a validation of years of dedication, sacrifice and professional excellence. It affirms that their work meets the highest benchmarks in teaching, research and service. The charter also opens doors to greater opportunities: stronger partnerships, research collaborations, and the ability to attract and retain talent from across the globe. Above all, it offers staff the satisfaction of being contributors to an institution that is not just growing, but thriving and recognized at the national level.

## **For Alumni**

For our alumni, charter status elevates the value of the degrees they earned from Valley University of Science and Technology. It strengthens their identity and association with a chartered institution of repute, thereby enhancing their competitiveness in the workplace. Our alumni can now wear the VUST badge with even greater pride, knowing that their alma mater is firmly established, respected and expanding its influence.

## **For the Community**

For the community, the charter represents more than an academic achievement. It is a beacon of hope and a driver of socio-economic transformation. The recognition of VUST as a chartered university means more research that responds to local challenges, more innovations that address community needs and more opportunities for young people in the region. It is a promise that the university will continue to be a partner in development, a source of inspiration and a hub where knowledge and community empowerment meet. “Together, these gains affirm that the charter belongs to all of us”





# THE VOICE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICE

From the green grass of Valley University of Science and Technology hails the unquenchable, undisputable bright shining light of the Quality Assurance Office. This office safeguards and facilitates the delivery of the right academic programs and ensures the implementation of the highest standards of education across the region helping our students access the best academic resources from VUST.

We strive to create a comfortable academic environment for learning by promoting competence-based and practical approaches, providing access to e-learning resources and involving our students in online tutorial studies. These innovations have attracted a diverse community of students and professionals, equipping them with skills through effective networking and benchmarking across different fields of study. It is through such progress and commitment that the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) convincingly approved VUST as a Chartered University.

The Office of Quality Assurance has also played a significant role in shaping and instilling ethical principles, morals and self-discipline in our students. Through effective orientation and induction programs, we prepare them for an excellent academic journey and empower them for successful career prospects. In cooperation with academic units, we ensure the recruitment of competent lecturers, the design of purposeful programs, access to e-resources and the provision of psychological and counseling support. We further encourage research and innovation through seminars and publications that widen the scope of students' knowledge in this dynamic scientific age.

Over time, we have strategically expanded our operations to meet the demands of growth: increased student enrollment, skilled manpower, new academic programs and the expansion of physical facilities. These have strengthened the core mission of VUST. Our stakeholders can now testify to the value, integrity and teamwork that define our university, values that continue to positively impact both community and society at large.

As we celebrate our charter, we urge ourselves to tighten the bonds of collaboration in developing and empowering young people with the right application of knowledge and skills. By doing so, we shall nurture an enriched, healthy and empowered society.

Your feedback remains paramount to us, and we look forward to continuing this journey together pivoting and gearing up the VUST community toward a brighter future.

With commitment to quality,

**Ogwuche L. Mercy**

Quality Assurance Office

Valley University of Science and Technology

# DIRECTORATE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES



The Directorate of Graduate Studies welcomes the community members from the Greater Bushenyi, and more so our prospective Candidates from all over the Country.

We are very delighted to have been admitted to the club of Chartered Universities in Uganda. All our Graduands can now walk with their heads high for this level of attainment.

The Directorate is currently managed by Professor Emmanuel Karoro, Ms. Esther Wedhoye and Dr. Katunguka. All our teaching staff are highly qualified personnel from the faculties.

At the moment we have a Postgraduate **One year Programme, in Education Management Science and Leadership, in waiting are Public Administration and management, and Business Administration to start next Semester.**

The Graduates of Postgraduate Diploma Programmes qualify for admission to a one year continuous duration for Masters' awards in the relevant field. We, in addition, have a two year continuous programme for Masters Degrees in Education, Public Administration and Business Administration. We, are planning to have many more come 2026.

The Directorate is working on Doctoral Programmes in Education, Public Administration, and Business Management due to start soon.

The Directorate congratulates, the Foundation Body, especially Mzee William Mukaira who conceived the vision of starting the University.

Long live Valley University of Science and Technology.

Prof Emmanuel Karoro, Ph.D. (Mak.)  
Director  
Postgraduate Studies & Research

# ARTICLES

## A Word from VUST Resource Innovations Hub

At Such an epitome moment when our University is celebrating a landmark of receiving a Charter, this serves as a catalyst to offering excellent education, Innovations and community engagement. The idea of Innovations came as a dream when Annah Tugaineyo introduced late James Katumba (may his soul continue to rest in eternal peace) in early December 2024 to the University Secretary. This culminated into meeting the top management which gave Innovations a blessing. On 25th January 2025 (graduation day), we made an exposition on food supplements-value added products which acted as a “catch eye” to the public.

VUST Innovation Hub young as it is, has so far engaged in two exhibitions that is, Bushenyi Exhibition which was held on 22/2/2025 involving different institutions and farmer groups. Another exhibition that portrayed our University across borders was held at Mbarara district Kamukuzi grounds between 27th-29th March 2025. This exhibition brought on board almost all Universities in Uganda whereby VUST was recognized as it was her first time to participate.

Therefore, the granting of the charter is a vital milestone for Valley University, and the innovations hub is committed to utilize top management so as to provide quality innovations that serve both local and global demands and interests. The hub is committed to opening doors to staff and students with innovative ideas, collaborate with different stakeholders and partners and above all, make memoranda of understandings with universities and other tertiary institutions that are beyond takeoff stage. This will help to improve the status-quo of our university to greater horizons which will come to realization with full support from the top management and all the stakeholders.

As Valley University celebrates its charter, the VUST Resource Innovations Hub intends to carry out a one day sensitization workshop so as to equip the community about embracing use of advanced technology and have an urge on the adoption of entrepreneurial innovative knowledge and skills.

**Annah Tugaineyo**

VUST Resource Innovations Hub-Coordinator

## PROUD FRESHER

As a proud fresher at Green grass of Valley University, I feel truly honored to be part of this historic moment as our university celebrates being officially chartered. This milestone is not only recognition of our university's excellence but also a testament to the vision, teamwork, integrity, and commitment that define our community.

From the very first day I stepped onto the campus, I was struck by the warmth of the environment, an atmosphere that encourages learning, innovation and personal growth. The lush green surroundings and well planned facilities reflect the university's dedication to creating a good environment where students can thrive academically and socially.

Being chartered is more just a status; it is proof of our collective hard work and belief in the values that guide us. The university has shown that excellence is not achieved by chance but through unity, discipline, and persistence. As students, we are inspired to embrace these values in our academic journey and future careers.

On this joyous occasion, I extend heartfelt congratulations to the administration, staff, fellow students and all stake holders of our green grass of Valley University of science and technology. Together, we are writing a story of success, reliance and hope. As freshers, we pledge carry forward the torch of integrity, teamwork, commitment and excellence ensuring that the name of green grass of VUST continues to shine brightly across generations. Indeed, this celebration is not just about the past achievements, but also about the bright future that lies ahead.

**WE CAME TO LEARN TO  
GO TO SERVE.  
EDUCATION FOR SELF RELIANCE**

Byabashaija Edson 1.1  
August 2025



# STUDENT'S LIFE AT VUST, A JOURNEY OF GROWTH AND COMMUNITY



Life as a student at the Valley University of Science and Technology (VUST) is an exciting blend of academic pursuit, personal growth and rich social experiences. Beyond the classrooms and lecture halls, campus life at VUST is a vibrant tapestry woven from diverse cultures, friendships, challenges, and opportunities.

## EMBRACING A NEW BEGINNING

For many students, the journey begins with the freshers' orientation an important event that helps newcomers adjust to university life. Freshers arrive filled with hope and curiosity, eager to explore the sprawling campus, meet fellow students and learn

about the various clubs, like patriotism, sports, debate to mention but few. Orientation activities are designed to build confidence and help students find their place in the VUST community

## ACADEMIC LIFE AND BEYOND

While academic rigor is at the heart of student life, VUST encourages students to balance studies with extracurricular activities. Lectures and tutorials challenge students to think critically and engage deeply with their fields, while group projects foster teamwork and leadership skills. Students benefit from access to well-equipped libraries, modern laboratories and dedicated study spaces that support their learning journey.

## CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND SPORTS

The campus buzzes with energy outside lecture hours. VUST boasts a variety of student-run clubs and societies catering to interests such as drama, music, debate, environmental conservation and entrepreneurship. These groups offer a platform for students to express creativity, develop skills, and build lasting friendships. Sports also play a central role in campus life. More especially, football, volleyball and netball where by sporting events bring students together in healthy competition and school spirit. Regular tournaments and friendly matches foster a sense of community and encourage physical wellness.

## SOCIAL LIFE AND EVENTS.

VUST's calendar is filled with events that celebrate diversity and community spirit. From cultural festivals showcasing traditional dances and cuisines to academic seminars and career fairs, there is always something happening on campus. These events provide opportunities for networking, learning, and relaxation, making student life both enjoyable and enriching.

## OVER COMING CHALLENGES TOGETHER

University life comes with its share of challenges. Managing time between lectures, assignments, hunger and social activities can be demanding. However, VUST offers various support services including counseling, academic advising and mentorship programs to help students navigate these challenges successfully. Peer support and friendships also play a vital role in creating a supportive environment where students can thrive.

## PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Ultimately, student life at VUST is about growth intellectual, social and personal. Through academic excellence, extracurricular engagement and community involvement, students build a strong foundation for their future careers and lives. The university's commitment to holistic education ensures that graduates leave not only with knowledge but also with confidence, resilience, and a strong sense of purpose.

By NDOBYA RENDER BAE 2.1  
2024

# DRIVING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AT VALLEY UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



In today's rapidly evolving digital landscape, universities must embrace technology not merely as a support function, but as a strategic driver of innovation, research, and learning. At Valley University of Science and Technology (VUST), our Information and Communication Technology (ICT) department is at the forefront of this mission of ensuring that technology underpins and enhances every aspect of academic and administrative life.

**Bridging the Gap Between Technology and Education**  
Our vision at the ICT department is to build a digitally empowered university that leverages modern technology to foster academic excellence, innovation, and efficiency. This requires a dual focus: improving infrastructure and cultivating a culture of digital literacy among students, faculty, and staff.

Over the past academic year, we have made significant strides in expanding our digital infrastructure. High-speed campus-wide Wi-Fi, robust data management systems, and a modern Learning Management System (LMS) now support our blended learning initiatives and remote education options. These tools have proven vital in enhancing the student learning experience, enabling interactive, accessible, and flexible education.

## Data-Driven Decision-Making.

One of the critical roles of ICT in higher education today is to provide accurate, real-time data to support institutional planning and decision-making. We have implemented centralized academic and administrative information systems that streamline operations and improve service delivery.

Our integrated platforms now enable departments to manage records, monitor student performance, track resource utilization, and generate reports with ease. As a result, university leadership can make evidence-based decisions, improving transparency and accountability at every level.

## Cybersecurity and Digital Trust

With increasing reliance on digital platforms comes an increased risk of cyber threats. Our department has prioritized cybersecurity, not just through upgraded firewalls and monitoring systems, but also through awareness training and policies to promote responsible digital behavior among our users.

We are also working toward compliance with national and international data protection standards to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of our institutional data.

## Fostering Innovation

Technology is not just a tool rather it's a catalyst for innovation. Through initiatives such as digital labs, coding boot camps, and hackathons, we are nurturing a culture of creativity and problem-solving among our students. Our partnerships with industry stakeholders provide valuable exposure and real-world experience in areas such as AI, data science, and software development.

## Looking Ahead

As we look to the future, the ICT department at VUST remains committed to aligning our technological strategies with the university's broader academic mission. Priorities for the coming year include:

- Expanding e-learning and remote assessment capabilities
- Leveraging AI and machine learning for academic support services
- Enhancing student access to devices and digital resources
- Strengthening our IT governance and risk management framework

In conclusion, technology is no longer optional in higher education, it is foundational. At Valley University of Science and Technology, we are proud to be building a resilient, digitally-forward institution that prepares students not just for today's challenges, but for tomorrow's opportunities.

**By: Steven SSERUMA**

Head of ICT, Valley University of Science and Technology

## My Journey Begins at VUST



It has been only three weeks since I joined Valley University of Science and Technology, yet I already feel at home. The beauty of the weather, the serenity of the study environment and the warmth of the community have made settling in such a joyful experience.

What excites me most is the way our lecturers deliver their lessons. Each class is clear, engaging, and well-structured, making learning both enjoyable and meaningful. But beyond the classroom, what has truly captured my heart are the farm interactions. Every Wednesday, we visit the university farm for practical sessions, where we put theory into practice. This hands-on approach to learning has shown me that VUST is not just about passing exams, it is about preparing us for real-life challenges and opportunities.

Inspired by these experiences, I have already set a personal goal. I am saving 2,000 shillings every day with the aim of buying my first goat at the end of this semester. By the time I complete my four-year course, my target is to have 20 goats. I believe this venture will not only help me apply what I learn but also prepare me for life after graduation.

I am deeply grateful to VUST for providing an inclusive and empowering education that caters for all students, regardless of where they come from. Here, every student has the chance to dream, to plan, and to grow. For me, this is just the beginning of a long and exciting journey. With hope and determination,

**Winnie Abol Samson-BSA 1.1 , August 2025**

## *From Humble Beginnings to Charter Glory*

When I first walked through the gates of Valley University of Science and Technology in 2018, I was filled with both excitement and uncertainty. At that time, the university was still very young, and many in the community doubted whether it would ever break through. I vividly remember the small class sizes, sometimes we were only three or five students in a lecture. The environment felt quiet, even lonely at times. There were only a handful of lecturers and at the university gate, you would find just two or three words of welcome scribbled; simple, modest and unassuming.

To many outsiders, VUST looked like an experiment that might not last. But to us who were inside, it was a home of dreams. We believed in the vision, even when the world around us questioned it. We worked hard, encouraged one another and trusted that the seed being planted would one day blossom.

Today, as I look back, my heart swells with pride. The transformation is nothing short of remarkable. From those quiet beginnings, VUST has grown into a vibrant academic community. The student population has multiplied, the staff body has expanded and the university now hums with life, energy and possibility. Modern structures stand tall where there were once empty spaces and the vibrancy of campus life reflects the unstoppable spirit of growth.

Even more inspiring is the impact that VUST graduates are making in their workplaces and communities. As alumni, we are proving that the education we received here was not in vain. We are contributing to industries, leading initiatives and carrying the values of our university into the wider world.

Now, with the attainment of charter status, Valley University of Science and Technology has cemented its place as a fully-fledged institution of excellence. For me, this is more than a legal recognition. It is the fulfillment of a dream that began in humble classrooms with just a handful of us.

As an alumnus, I could not be prouder. VUST has taught me that greatness does not always begin with crowds or noise it begins with vision, persistence and faith. Today, that vision has borne fruit, and I am grateful to be part of the story.

**Joram Ankunda -VUST Alumnus (Class of 2018)**



## A Letter to My University

Dear Valley University of Science and Technology,  
As I sit under the shade of your trees, notebook in hand, I find myself imagining what you will look like by the time I graduate. You have just received your charter and already the air is filled with pride and possibility. But I cannot help dreaming of what lies ahead.



I dream of a university where classrooms are alive with innovation, where technology and science merge seamlessly with creativity and problem-solving. I dream of modern lecture halls filled with eager students from every corner of Uganda and beyond, all united by a common thirst for knowledge.

I dream of more research centers and laboratories that not only push the boundaries of science and technology but also respond to the needs of our communities improving agriculture, health, business and the environment. I dream of breakthroughs that will carry the name "VUST" far beyond our borders.

I dream of a campus even more vibrant than it is today. A place where culture, sports, music and ideas are celebrated alongside academics. A place where friendships are made that last a lifetime and where diversity is embraced as a source of strength.

Most of all, I dream of a future where graduates of VUST continue to stand tall; respected, trusted and sought after wherever they go. A future where the world will know that this university produces not only professionals, but leaders of integrity and service.

When I graduate in 2029 I want to look back and say: I was part of the generation that saw VUST rise, and I contributed to its growth. That is my dream; for myself and for you, my University.

With hope and pride,  
Mbambu Joy Sylvia- BAE 1.1  
August 2025

## Turning Knowledge into Hustle

When I joined Valley University of Science and Technology to pursue a Bachelor of Business Administration, I expected to sit in lecture halls, take notes, and pass exams. What I did not expect was how quickly my studies would translate into real-life opportunities.

One of the compulsory course units we study is Entrepreneurship Skills. At first, I thought it was just another subject, but I soon realized it was a treasure. The practical lessons on business planning, financial discipline, and customer care challenged me to think beyond theory. Our lecturers did not just teach; they pushed us to try out our ideas.

Inspired by those lessons, I decided to start a chapati stall near my neighborhood. With a little capital and a lot of courage, I began putting into practice what I had learned. To my amazement, the stall picked up quickly. Today, I earn an average profit of 7,000 shillings per day. From this income, I am able to support some of my daily needs as a student, save a portion and even reinvest in growing the business.

What excites me most is the confidence I have gained. I no longer worry about the uncertainty of life after graduation. Even if I do not find a formal job immediately, I am sure that the skills I have

acquired at VUST will help me survive and even thrive. The hustle is real, but thanks to VUST, I now have both the knowledge and the courage to embrace it.

I am deeply grateful that my university insists on inclusive and hands-on training that prepares us for life beyond the classroom. For me, business administration is no longer just a degree; it is a lifestyle, a toolkit and a pathway to independence.

Long live VUST. Education for self-reliance  
**KAKURU FRANCIS BBA 3.1, 2023**

### IMPORTANT DATES

1. Semester for Regular students August –December, 2025 began on 4/8/2025 while for in-service students shall begin on 24/8/2025 (August session).
2. Lectures for Regular students August –December semester, 2025 began on 8th August, 2025.
3. CATs for Regular students August –December, 2025 shall begin on 26/9/2025.
4. End of August –December, 2025 semester Exams for Regular students shall begin on 21/11/2025.
5. End of August, 2025 session Exams for in-service students shall begin on 8/9/2025.
6. December , 2025 in-service students shall report on 7/12/2025 and do end of August session exams on 16/12/2025
7. Regular students, 2026 will begin their 1st semester on 2/2/2026.
8. January, 2026 session In-service students will report on 4/1/2026 while their end of January 2026 session exams shall begin on 31/1/2026.



Located in Bushenyi, along Mbarara – Kasese Highway, 500 metres branching off at Bushenyi Chief Magistrates Court.

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