

## **CEDAT signs MoU with UEGCL**

Makerere University's College of Engineering, Design, Art and Technology (CEDAT) and Uganda Electricity Generation Company Limited (UEGCL) on April 4, 2017 signed a memorandum of Understanding to develop joint programs aimed at creating knowledge and skills in several education and training programs.

The MoU was signed by the vice Chancellor Makerere University, Prof. John Ddumba-Ssentamu, Prof. Henry Alinaitwe, the Principal CEDAT and Eng. Goddy Muhanguzi Muhumuza, The Acting Director Legal Affairs on behalf of Makerere University.

On behalf of UEGCL, the agreement was signed by Dr. Eng. Harrison E. Mutikanga, the Chief Executive Officer, Mr David Isingoma, the Chief Strategy and Business Development Officer and Mr Mark Martin Obia, the Company Secretary.

The VC thanked UEGCL for partnering with Makerere University CEDAT saying Makerere University takes pride in her role as the region's leading teaching and research institution, and as such, is always on the lookout for mutually beneficial collaborations.

"We are privileged to attract leading partners, who have generously supported our core functions of teaching and learning, research and knowledge transfer partnerships. It therefore gives me great pleasure to note that UEGCL is today officially joining hands with Makerere University to broaden our aspirations of producing graduates that are not only academically unmatched but are also equipped with the relevant practical skills," Prof. Ddumba-Ssentamu said.

Dr. Eng. Mutikanga called on researchers to embrace this opportunity for research created by the company's building of the Karuma and Isimba dams. He said the two dams were a 'gold mine' for research. He added that the MoU gives the company an opportunity to interest the young generation into the energy sector.

The partnership will also promote close cooperation between the parties with regard to research & development.

This will be achieved through the delivery of joint short, medium and long term projects in appropriate skills development and training programs relevant to the identified needs of both parties. Operationalization of the partnership will take the form of promotion of students' field attachment, support and promotion of studies in specialised fields in the energy sector, synergy in policy formulation and corroboration in corporate social responsibility activities among others.

"We are confident this partnership will buttress one of our major aspirations to capacity development in the energy sector which is the establishment of the Hydropower Training and

Vocational Centre (HTVC),” said Dr. Eng. Mutikanga, “Through the exchange of trainers, trainees, design of curriculum, and related activities, this shall be realised sooner rather than later,” He added.

“As a research based university, this MOU with UEGCL gives us the opportunity to undertake research of the most pressing challenges in the energy sector,” said Dr. Henry Alinaitwe, the Principal CEDAT. “CEDAT was recently designated the East African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency. This centre will help address one of the key objectives of this MoU which is to support the establishment of the renewable energy and vocational training Centre to address emerging learning needs of both parties and the country in the energy field”.