

# MAKERERE

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# UNIVERSITY

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## COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, DESIGN, ART AND TECHNOLOGY

### PRESS RELEASE

October 30, 2017

### THE AFRICA CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN MATERIALS PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND NANOTECHNOLOGY (MAPRONANO ACE)

Makerere University and the World Bank will next month launch/open the Africa Center of Excellence in Materials Product Development and Nanotechnology (MAPRONANO ACE). The center, is based at the College of Engineering, Design, Art and Technology.

The center's primary thematic discipline is Materials and Product Development, Nanotechnology and Nanomedicine.

The Center was developed out of the need to strengthen research and training in the thematic areas of materials science and engineering, nanotechnology and nanomedicine in order to develop human resource capacity in applied science engineering disciplines for the development of the great lakes region. MAPRONANO ACE will also offer highly specialized short courses in welding technology, health safety engineering, Oil & gas, Monoclonal and Nanobodies generation, Bioinformatics & Next Generation sequencing techniques. Nanomedicine Program will be implemented in partnership with College of Health Sciences (MakCHS).

The center is supported by the World Bank to the tune of USD 6 million for the period of 5 years. This money will be used to furnish laboratories as well as offer Masters and PhD scholarships. The college recently advertised scholarships for Masters in Mechanical Engineering and Masters of Science in Technology Innovation and Industrial Development as well as PhD.

5 PhD students have been admitted, while another 5 from Rwanda have also been identified.

#### Key Objectives:

- 1) To increase capacity of research and training materials engineering and product development
- 2) To enhance teaching and training in Nanotechnology and Nanomedicine
- 3) To promote linkage among academics, industry practitioners and policy makers
- 4) To promote research spins offs for industrial development

#### Expected Outcomes

- a) State of the art research Laboratory for Materials, Nanotechnology and Nanomedicine in the Eastern and Southern Africa Region.
- b) Graduate professional scientists who can contribute to regional development through research and development.
- c) Accredited Master's Programs (curricula) in Materials and Product Development and Nanotechnology

- d) Well-trained technicians and engineers in Materials Science, Product design and Nano-enabled technologies
- e) Strengthen research and publication
- f) Strengthen teaching quality through Pedagogical training.

**Primary Regional and Global Partners:**

<b>Senior Faculty</b>	<b>Email Address</b>	<b>Research Area</b>
Dr. Shital Mahindra Maru, University of Nairobi	<a href="mailto:smaruspecial@gmail.com">smaruspecial@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:Shital.maru@uonbi.ac.ke">Shital.maru@uonbi.ac.ke</a>	Pharmaceutics (Targeted Drug therapies/formulations)
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Prof. Constantine Megaridis, UIC, USA	<a href="mailto:cmm@uic.com">cmm@uic.com</a>	Materials Science, Energy, Nano/Microfluidicssystems
Dr. Leslie Lobel, BGU, Israel	<a href="mailto:Leslie.lobel@gmail.com">Leslie.lobel@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:llobel@bgu.ac.il">llobel@bgu.ac.il</a>	Ultra –sensitive POC Diagnostics, Virology, Drug & Vaccine Development
Dr. Rujeni Nadine, University of Rwanda(UR)	<a href="mailto:nrujeni@gmail.com">nrujeni@gmail.com</a>	Immunology & Microbiology
Mr. Gad Rutayisire, UR	<a href="mailto:gadrutal@yahoo.co.uk">gadrutal@yahoo.co.uk</a>	Immunology & Microbiology
Prof. AB Pant, CSIR-IITR	<a href="mailto:abpant@rediffmail.com">abpant@rediffmail.com</a>	Nanotoxicology
Prof. Rajeev K Gupta, University of Petroleum, India	<a href="mailto:rajeev@ddn.upes.ac.in">rajeev@ddn.upes.ac.in</a>	Thin film technology, Nano coatings &Petroleum Engineering
Dr. InekeMalsch, Netherlands	<a href="mailto:malschtechnoaluation@xs4all.nl">malschtechnoaluation@xs4all.nl</a>	Nano-Ethics

**Center Title and Acronym:** Africa Center of Excellence in Materials Product Development and Nanotechnology (MAPRONANO ACE)

**Host University and Country:** Makerere University, Uganda

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