



APPOINTMENT OF ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR MWAPATSA MIPANDO, PHD, AS VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE MALAWI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Council of the Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) is pleased to announce that His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika, President of the Republic of Malawi and Chancellor of the University, has appointed Associate Professor Mwapatsa Humble Christopher Mipando, PhD, as Vice-Chancellor of MUST.

The appointment follows a rigorous and competitive recruitment and selection process through which he distinguished himself as a leader with exceptional academic credentials, extensive management experience and strong commitment to institutional excellence. The process was conducted in accordance with the relevant statutory and governance provisions of the University. Associate Professor Mipando is expected to assume office on 9th August, 2026.

Between now and his formal assumption of office, Associate Professor Mipando will work closely with the outgoing Vice-Chancellor, Professor Address Malata, to ensure an orderly handover and smooth leadership transition. The University Council is confident that this transition arrangement will support continuity, stability and sustained progress in the implementation of MUST's strategic priorities.

Associate Professor Mipando is a seasoned academic, higher education leader and institutional strategist with over 29 years of experience in university teaching, academic leadership, strategic planning, research development, international engagement and resource mobilisation. He currently serves as an Associate Professor in the Academy of Medical Sciences at MUST and Dean of Global Engagement responsible for Africa at the University of Glasgow, where he became the first African-based academic to hold that position.

Prior to this appointment, Associate Professor Mipando served in several senior academic and management positions, including Head of Department, Dean of Students, Dean of Faculty, Vice Principal and Principal of the former College of Medicine of the University of Malawi. As Principal of the College of Medicine, he provided strategic leadership in institutional reform, academic development, research strengthening, infrastructure development, stakeholder engagement and resource mobilisation. He also played a key role in championing the delinking process of the University of Malawi that contributed to the transformation of the College of Medicine into Kamuzu University of Health Sciences.

Associate Professor Mipando has a strong record in institutional transformation and partnership development. His leadership contributed to the establishment of Malawi's first Dental School through the MalDent Project, the development and



strengthening of major international collaborations with institutions such as the University of Glasgow, University of Melbourne, University of Liverpool, Johns Hopkins University, University of Cape Town, and other partners, as well as the mobilisation of significant institutional grants from international partners including the World Bank, Scottish Government, Royal Norwegian Government, the Government of Japan, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), GIZ and other development partners.

Locally, he championed resource mobilisation initiatives that supported the construction of a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) student hostel at KUHeS Lilongwe campus, student scholarship programmes, and leadership capacity-building initiatives.

He has also been instrumental in the establishment and strengthening of strategic university systems, including resource mobilisation, marketing and communications, monitoring and evaluation, research development and internationalisation. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he championed initiatives that supported emergency remote teaching and learning, including the mobilisation of resources for internet-enabled tablets for disadvantaged students and arrangements for educational internet access.

Associate Professor Mipando holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Health Sciences (Physiology) from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, a Master of Science in Physiology from the University of Liverpool, and a

Bachelor of Education from the University of Malawi. His research interests include Cardiovascular System and Health Professional Education.

He is an International Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (Int-FRSE), an honour accorded in recognition of his contribution to strengthening academic and development partnerships between Scotland and Malawi, particularly in health and education. He has also served on several international advisory committees and on local statutory boards.

As a higher education leader, Associate Professor Mipando is widely recognised for strategic leadership, institutional stewardship, stakeholder engagement, academic credibility and commitment to national development. He is also a strong advocate for excellence, innovation and accountability across all aspects of university governance, teaching and learning, research, student experience and institutional service.

The Council also extends its sincere appreciation to Professor Malata for her distinguished and visionary service as Vice-Chancellor of the University since her appointment on 16th September, 2016. Professor Malata will conclude her tenure as Vice-Chancellor on 8th August, 2026, completing a historic and transformational ten-year leadership journey that has profoundly shaped the growth and development of the University and strengthened its contribution to higher education, science, technology, innovation, entrepreneurship, research and national development. As the first woman to lead a public university in Malawi, Professor Malata leaves behind an extraordinary legacy of courage, innovation, institutional excellence and transformational leadership. Her tenure has helped position MUST as an emerging centre of excellence in science and technology education, while contributing meaningfully to regional and global higher education, research, sustainability, innovation and development agendas.

As MUST prepares to transition from one distinguished era of leadership to another, the University Council and Management warmly congratulate Associate Professor Mipando on his appointment and welcome him to the office of Vice-Chancellor. Building on the solid foundation established over the past decade, the Council is confident that his leadership will advance the University's strategic ambitions and strengthen its contribution to science, technology, innovation, entrepreneurship, research and human capital development in Malawi and beyond, in line with the MUST Strategic Plan 2024-2030 and Malawi 2063.

Mr Noel Mkulichi
CHAIRPERSON OF MUST COUNCIL

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