

39 staff sue Kyambogo University over pay rise

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KAMPALA. Thirty-nine staff have sued Kyambogo University on accusations of refusing to elevate their salaries to the appropriate scale that matches the enhanced structure of other teaching staff at the same institution.

The suit was filed before the High Court in Kampala last Friday.

The staff under the category of technicians claim that Section 51 (2) C of the Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act 2001 empowers the University Council to designate persons as academic staff.

They say Kyambogo University Council on November 6, 2014 approved the Human Resource Manual which designated the 39 petitioners as academic staff.

However, they contend that when President Museveni enhanced the salary of all academic staff for public universities effective 2015/16 by a January 12, 2015 letter, their salaries were not adjusted accordingly.

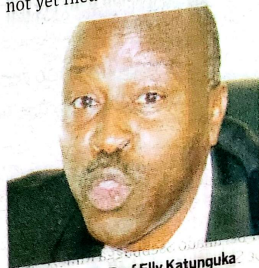
The staff led by Mr Peter Agole say at the time of the President's pronouncement, they were part of the academic staff who qualified for the same salary enhancement but Kyambogo excluded them.

"The defendant (Kyambogo) discriminately shrouded the plaintiffs' (39 staff) teaching staff post in ambiguity to deny them their deserved salary enhancement yet they were defacto academic staff as per the human resource manual," their petition reads in part.

"By copy of a letter dated October 27, 2016, the plaintiffs wrote to the defendant director of human resource, seeking, among others, that they effect payment of the salary enhancement like for all the other staff but up-to-date, they have ignored and refused..." the petitioners further claim.

Through their lawyers, the staff want court to declare them as academic staff and order the university to pay them their salary enhancement arrears from July 1, 2015 to the time of judgment.

By press time, the university had not yet filed in its defence.



Kyambogo VC: Prof Elly Katunguka