

Makerere to centralise marking of exams

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KAMPALA. The Makerere University Vice Chancellor, Prof Barnabas Nawangwe, has ordered college principals to centralise the marking of students' scripts to ensure a transparent and credible process.

Delay to release the examination results as has been the practice by some lecturers would become history.

Prof Nawangwe noted that students are justified to get restless because the lecturers have failed on their part to deliver marks.

In his September 19 email to all staff, Prof Nawangwe asked that all unmarked scripts be collected and marked centrally so that the results are available by close of this month.

"Our students are becoming increasingly restless, and understandably so with our failure to release their examination results. This is one of the problems tarnishing our

reputation," Prof Nawangwe said.

"Late release of examination results has far reaching consequences for our students, many of whom lose out on scholarships. We must all work to bring to a stop this vice. I have requested college principals to handle this matter with the urgency it deserves. Going forward, centralised marking is to be introduced in all colleges," he added.

Uncertainty

Mr Simon Wanyera, the guild student leader in charge of academics, yesterday told *Daily Monitor* that some of his colleagues, who completed their courses in June, are uncertain whether they will graduate in January because the university's online system doesn't reflect some of their results since they joined the institution.

"Our university has a number of challenges and students are discontented with the services. Students can't access their

results online. There are those who have never received their transcripts, those who sat examinations in first year and are now in third year and fourth year respectively but they don't have their results online," Mr Wanyera observed.

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PROF BARNABAS NAWANGWE,
MAK VICE CHANCELLOR

He explained that they have sought audience with the university management which is not coming forth, something that is agitating the students' community.

However, the teachers' fraternity has blamed the university management for failing to pay them especially the part-time lecturers, forcing

some to withhold the results.

Dr Deus Muhwezi, the Makerere University Academic Staff Association (Muasa) spokesperson, yesterday said while they don't condone such behaviour, their leaders should not expect to 'reap where they have not sowed'.

He explained that in most cases, the university fails to pay the part time staff who later on hold onto the students' results to compel their bosses to clear their dues.

"Some of our managers need to be realistic. Some of these lecturers who run away with students' marks are working on part-time basis. They have invested in their transport and time and you spend months without paying them. What would you expect? It is important that each party honours its obligation," Dr Muhwezi said.

The university's staff establishment is at 45 per cent and the institution largely depends on these part time lecturers