

Makerere disowns fake gold deal suspects

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Makerere University management has denied responsibility over the fake gold deal unearthed by police leading to the arrest of five people from within the campus on Wednesday.

The suspects picked by detectives from the Police Criminal Investigations Department were arrested from the university's Physical Chemistry Laboratory of the Department of Chemistry College of Natural Sciences (CoNAS).

"The university management strongly condemns the misuse of university facilities by unscrupulous individuals. It is unfortunate that suspects dealing in fake gold were arrested at CoNAS at Makerere University's main campus on Wednesday," reads a statement issued by the university's public relations department.

The suspects

The suspects, including one woman and four men, were allegedly involved in a fake gold deal in which they defrauded \$200,000 (about Shs720Bm) from Mr Assi Soubhi, a South American businessman.

"It has come to our notice that the suspects illegally accessed the Makerere University Physical Chemistry laboratory through an emergency exit door with the help of a retiring Chief Technician and a Lab assistant in the same department to purportedly test the fake gold," Ms Ritah Namisango, the university spokesperson, said.

She said the university will cooperate with the police in investigating the matter.

The CID spokesperson, Mr Vincent Sekate, confirmed the arrest of the suspects, but declined to give details, saying he would consult and brief the press later.



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