

of 750 assets under the Departed Asians Custodian Board. In the report for the financial year ending June 30, 2016, the AG raised a number

arguing that the monthly salary is not enough. He said the salary for mayors and district chairpersons should be increased to about

base. He said each municipality should be able to meet its recurrent expenditure, instead of relying on the Government.



Sylvia Tamale, a professor of law at Makerere University (left), interacting with Dr Simon Kagugube (centre) as the principal of the School of Law, Damalie Nagitta Musoke looks on during the inaugural professional lecture about nudity, protest and the law in Uganda at the university's main hall last year. Photo by Juliet Kasirye

MUK dons ordered to declare funding

By Agnes Nantambi

The presidential visitation committee investigating Makerere University has started assessing each lecturer's career profile, teaching and research performance, as well as academic qualifications as it seeks to determine the causes of endless strikes and how to curb the problem.

In the investigation that has turned rather stern, the lecturers are also required to declare all the grants they have ever obtained in the past six years, as well as the role and source of the funds.

According to the forms the committee has sent to the university for lecturers to fill, the dons also have to declare the conferences they have attended since 2013, their peer reviewed publications, the students supervised as well as their other professional, extra-curricular and community-based activities.

"The committee is interested in assessing the individual contributions of the academic staff of Makerere University

BETWEEN THE LINES:

■ One of the staff, who preferred anonymity, said some professors were hesitant to submit the requirements for fear of their secrets, such as grants on projects, being exposed.

towards the core functions of teaching and learning, research and innovations, as well as knowledge transfer and partnerships," a letter from the vice-chancellor, Prof. Ddumba Ssentamu, to the academic staff, reads.

In the letter dated January 16, the vice-chancellor intended to deliver the visitation committee's data collection directive to his staff.

"This instrument (form) is an essential requirement for all academic staff to enable the committee form a valid assessment of the contribution of academic staff to the mission of Makerere University. The form should be personally filled and returned to your college

principal not later than January 27," Ddumba said in the letter.

President Yoweri Museveni appointed the visitation committee, chaired by the deputy chairperson of the National Planning Authority, Dr Abel Rwendeire, in November last year, after ordering for the closure of the university. This followed a standoff between management and the lecturers, who are on a sit-down strike over allowances/incentive arrears, which had sucked in the students. The university was reopened on January 2.

The committee, which includes Auditor General John Muwanga, is mandated to inquire into financial management, students, staff and academic affairs and review the past visitation committees' findings, as well as recommendations.

The academic staff association spokesperson, Deus Muhwezi, said: "It is prudent to take up this measure and we will answer the questions. The committee is doing its work and we are expecting investigations to be done on merit," he said.