

**SPEECH FROM ASSOC. PROF. SAPHINA BIIRA, FIRST DEPUTY
VICE-CHANCELLOR- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS BUSITEMA
UNIVERSITY ON THE OCCASION OF OPENING FOR THE
DATACITE WORKSHOP ON 27TH MAY 2024**

- Members of Top Management
- Dr. Fredrick Kiwuwa Lugya – Convener & Facilitator, and University Librarian Busitema University
- University Librarians present
- Participants
- Ladies and Gentlemen

I am honored to address you today to talk about a groundbreaking initiative that is underway at Busitema University. This project, led by Dr. Fredrick Kiwuwa Lugya, aims to promote Open Scholarship and Open Science and is a significant step towards enhancing the adoption of DataCite open infrastructure services among libraries in Uganda.

Funded by DataCite under the Global Access Fund (GAF), this project is targeting 35 participants, including librarians, ICT professionals, and research administrators from the Consortium of Uganda University Libraries' (CUUL) membership. The ultimate goal is to spark a countrywide dialogue on the benefits of Open Scholarship and increase awareness of integrating DataCite infrastructure services to make research more discoverable.

We are excited to announce that a five-day "Training of Trainers" workshop will be held from Monday, 27th to Friday, 31st May 2024 at the Engineering Library, Busitema Campus, Busitema University. This workshop aims to equip participants with the skills to facilitate training

on Open Scholarship, Open Science, and DataCite open infrastructure services.

The learning outcomes of this workshop are comprehensive, covering a range of essential skills and knowledge areas. Participants will gain the expertise to advocate for open access, understand open access infrastructure, ensure interoperability and retrieval of information for open access resources, optimize resources, and effectively utilize DataCite open infrastructure.

The project also emphasizes the importance of evaluation and impact assessment to ensure that the training activities lead to tangible outcomes in the form of increased adoption of open infrastructure and services.

This initiative holds immense promise for advancing Open Scholarship and Open Science within the Consortium of Uganda University Libraries. By equipping participants with the necessary skills and knowledge, we believe that this project is poised to ignite a positive transformation in the research landscape, paving the way for increased discoverability and accessibility of scholarly outputs in Uganda.

Thank you for your attention, and we look forward to your participation in this important endeavor.