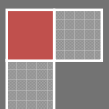


2010

MINISTRY OF ICT AND PUBLICITY ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2009/2010

MUHASSO
Minister: Geoffrey Makenga
D/Minister: Museven Justin
P/Secretary: Tibera Rugambwa
4/6/2010





MUHIMBILI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH AND ALLIED SCIENCES STUDENTS` ORGANIZATION (MUHASSO)

MINISTRY OF ICT AND PUBLICITY

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5th April 2010,

MINISTRIAL ANNUAL REPORT.

We thank God almighty for helping us in reaching the following goals.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

We successfully managed to install DSTV service at Chole road students' hostels. A memorandum of understanding concerning monthly payment for the service was made and signed by our Ministry (MUHASSO) and the catering service Boss, who will be paying 70% of the monthly cost while MUHASSO will pay the rest. The same was done for the catering service manager here of MUHAS undergraduate students cafeteria and MUHASSO. In this he will be paying 30% of the monthly cost. Under this condition the service has been run well.

For the first time students were able to access their examination results online through the MUHAS website. The process has now been officially made that our ministry in collaboration with the department of ICT MUHAS will be able to upload the examination results for students to have their view.

Strategic plan ICT-MUHAS.

Our ministry has been going hand in hand with the department of ICT on implementing and evaluation of the five year rolling strategic plan.

The plan aims at improving the internet services at MUHAS in general by improving the network coverage and as well the

quality of service, therefore extending the internet service to Chole road Hostels and the new building present at campus.

The tender notice from management was out on Friday 18th /12/2009 after a previous one that failed to reach the recommended qualities for the service, but even the second one that was called on December last year was also defective, this was due to a technical error within the procurement office and the ICT MUHAS. So the current plan is to call for another tender though the procedures seems long and time consuming that hence slow in implementations.

Strategic plan review.

On 3rd March 2010 a special workshop on reviewing the five year rolling strategic plan was conducted by the department of ICT MUHAS, our ministry represented the students. So many issues were discussed but to mention a few of them that are at crucial stake to students:

Last year the ICT department MUHAS managed to acquire service from a SEACOM though the shift of our Internet service provider (ISP) from using VSAT (i.e. satellite protocol) to SEACOM. This improved the internet service at MUHAS tremendously that one could download up to 300MB file in 10 minutes. This service was provided to MUHAS via wireless and was prone to various wireless data transfer problems that after two or three months the service was noted to be poor... this made the department go directly to SEACOM to inquire of on how to access their service without passing through the ISP, what was found is that SEACOM can provide service but at a price and contract that MUHAS couldn't manage (i.e. a pay of USD 500,000 for service half being paid once and the other on monthly bases to get a package worthy 153MBps traffic which was too big for MUHAS so the department decided to get a fiber connection indirectly from SEACOM via our ISP so as to overcome the wireless problems. The fiber was connected and accomplished in the end of February 2010. This was enhanced by the Ministry of information technology in terms

of funds. The service was then started and up to now it has stabilized to a package of 4MBps which is much better than before and is more reliable than the wireless we had.

In the workshop we agreed on to build a special ICT building that will contain computer labs and training rooms and as well ICT offices and upgrading the ICT department into a school of Bioinformatics. This will increase the computer accessibility per student and as well improve the quality of service to the community. Much more training on various program will be done in this building since for now the venue becomes the challenge when it comes to need of training.

Also on the current need for computer for the students we proposed to make a special proposal to the big computer assembly companies like Dell and Hp to let them sale laptops to students at a manufacturing price that will be cheap and all students and staff will afford and hence the computer need for students will be improved. This suggestion was positively accepted and was put in the plan.

We also had a concern on establishment of the students' information system for students to get their private information include students examination results, room allocation and registration be done online. This was also accepted and was put on the plan to be started soon.

The ICT department has established the help-desk to deal with inquiry and troubleshoots concerning ICT services that student's encounter and all students and staffs go to this desk for registration to get internet service. This has improved the security and easier the monitoring system of our internet.

In the students computer lab more computers were fixed and many were changed to use another operating system i.e. Linux so as to control virus attach on most of these computers. The challenge is some students are so stubborn that they still conduct vandalism in these rooms endangering the service availability to other students.

All students from first year to fifth year on various schools were registered for the students E-mail service. The service was impaired in the recent service problems that we had and including its server machine was defective. Currently some new servers were purchased and we hope that this will restore the service back shortly.

Others:

Electric cable installation on “vimbweta” program has been so much interfered by the management bureaucratization up to now the assigned invoice has not been passed... this also comes to the estate office that it has not been good at follow up and frequently losing the invoice documents. Much more efforts are done to make this a reality before handling over.

Our Ministry in collaboration with the Campus night youth group from Victory Christian centre (VCC) had a plan to conduct a career fair event which was to be held at MUHAS by the end of October 2009. The program faded after refusal of the administration to give us permission to do so for the reason not clearly stated. It was disappointing since this was the very opportunity for the first ever career fair to be held at MUHAS and would publicize our university at large since all universities in Dar would participate with good media coverage.

During the long vacation, members of our ministry took part in organizing the 2009/10 social evening for the first years. Also an organization chart was developed for the sole purpose of making sure that MUHASSO leaders are known to the general public as well as administration, we also managed to make identity cards for all MUHASSO leaders.

The ministry has always playing a good role in facilitating and participating in various school-wise meetings and their outcome.

We have been cooperating with the Public relation office to facilitate MUHASSO news appear on the MUHAS news letter.

DSTV service in rooms.

Lastly since the university management has been restricting students from installing their antennas for television setup on top of the hostel building, we had an idea of making these installations ourselves as MUHASSO then all students should just find the cable in to connect their television. In this idea we went further unto mounting the DSTV service in the rooms, follow up was made to the DSTV Multichoice offices and we agreed to get the apartment service that will enable a single person access up to 20 channels including live sports, entertainment, movies, discoveries and news in his /her room.

The calculated number of rooms were 533 (140 at Chole and 393 at campus). The service charge as per this package is \$16.55 per room which is too high for a student to pay monthly so we discussed further with the Financial manager of Multichoice and reached a discount to pay for 350 rooms only and the rest being free of charge. With this discount the distribution of monthly pay per room will be 15,000/= Tshs. Since at Chole we expect to have more people to stay in a room so in total we have (393+520) 913 students, then the monthly cost per room will be approximately 8500/= which will then be around 9000/- per month per person or 36000/=shs per semester.

Added 500 for MUHASSO service charges and income generation. With this plan MUHASSO will be able to gain 1,826,000/=shs semester wise hence being able to return her capital used for installation and as well being able to generate income precisely.

We do expect to use about 2.5 to 3 Million in archiving this plan but it all depend on the voice of the students themselves. But its a good plan at a cheap price one can access very worth DSTV channels. A full proforma invoice from DSTV multichoice will follow shortly to explain technically all the costs to be incurred.

Challenges

The bureaucratic system of the university management is so slow and sometimes indecisive hence delaying implementation of various issues agreed upon.

Being Leaders and at same time students brings much challenges in implementing some of the issues especially in this academic year where we had no breather at all.

Management problems in the Chole road hostel cafeteria made us not to pay timely in some occasions that the students missed the service but we solved this by having the boss himself pay the bill and not the catering officers.

Conclusion

We advice the coming leaders in this ministry to read carefully the reviewed ICT strategic plan and do followup for all this work to be a reality to the MUHAS community. Mind you that, many of the programs are on due to start now.

We emphasize on good cooperation among leaders themselves and the department of ICT. And leaders to be aggressive to know what exactly is going on rather than leaving an issue on air.

Acknowledgment:

We real thank God for all these were done in His grace and power.

We thank the MUHASSO leaders for their good cooperation and intimacy.

We thank the department of ICT MUHAS and her staffs for their good cooperation and working ability.

We thank all stakeholders to our community and its needs.

We thank the MUHAS Public relation officers.

To all who hear this report.

Thanks.
Glory be to God.

Yours faithfully

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Geofrey Makenga.
Minister ICT Publicity 2009/2010.