



NEWSLETTER

QUARTERLY

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Dr. Dereje Engida
President at AASTU

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear AASTU Community, Stakeholders, and Partners,
It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings to you all as we present this latest issue of our newsletter. At Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU), we continue to drive excellence in education, research, and community engagement, fostering an environment that promotes innovation, collaboration, and societal transformation.

In the realm of academics, we have taken significant strides in advancing knowledge and capacity building. Our recent workshop on the role of chemical engineers in sustainable energy highlighted the critical contributions of engineering to a greener future. Furthermore, we are proud to announce the launch of a Joint PhD Degree Program in AI Technology, reinforcing our commitment to cutting-edge research and advanced education in the digital age. Our research and innovation endeavors have also seen remarkable achievements. The successful hosting of the 9th National Research Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation for Industry provided a platform for scholars, industry leaders, and policymakers to engage in meaningful

discussions. Additionally, our Project Conclusion Workshop on AI-Assisted Resource Allocation for Gender Equity in Ethiopian Universities underscored AASTU's dedication to using technology for social advancement and inclusivity.

Community Engagement remains at the heart of our mission. We have strengthened our partnerships through a workshop focused on better collaboration and communication. Moreover, our leadership and communication training initiatives have empowered community members, ensuring that knowledge-sharing extends beyond academic spaces into societal development. Beyond academia, AASTU actively participates in non-academic affairs, fostering holistic growth for our students and staff. We successfully hosted the 2025 Ethiopian Universities Sports Festival, rekindling the spirit of teamwork and competition. Additionally, our signing ceremony for Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Cascading Contract Agreements marks a significant step in institutional efficiency and accountability. In promoting well-being, our Anti-Addiction Training, themed The Power of Habit: Small Change, Big Impact, emphasized personal and professional

growth. A significant milestone was also achieved through our collaboration with Huawei, as we signed a historic MoU to establish an ICT Academy Support Center, strengthening our technological education and industry ties.

These achievements reflect the unwavering commitment of our academic and administrative teams, our partners, and, most importantly, our students. As we move forward, we remain steadfast in our pursuit of excellence, innovation, and impactful community engagement.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all who contribute to AASTU's success and look forward to our continued journey toward hub of science and technology in Ethiopia and beyond.

Warm regards,

Dr. Dereje Engida

President, Addis Ababa Science and Technology University



Dr. Kemal Ibrahim
Vice President for academic Affairs

Workshop Highlights the Role of Chemical Engineers in Future Sustainable Energy

The Department of Chemical Engineering at Addis Ababa Science and Technology University, in collaboration with the Ethiopian Society for Chemical Engineers, organized a half-day workshop on "The Role of Chemical Engineers for Future Sustainable Energy."

The workshop was officially opened by Dr. Bereket Tesfaye, Vice Dean of the College of Engineering, who welcomed participants with an opening remark emphasizing the critical role of chemical engineers in addressing future challenges. He highlighted the contributions of chemical engineers across various sectors, including agriculture and energy, and their pivotal role in developing technologies such as carbon capture, energy storage, and materials for efficient solar cells. Dr. Bereket underscored the importance of eco-centric solutions to global challenges, emphasizing environmental impact mitigation and waste management as key areas where chemical engineers can make a difference. The workshop featured insightful, research-based presentations by experts from academia and industry, showcasing the multifaceted role of chemical engineers in advancing sustainable energy.



Dr. Bereket Tesfay, vice Dean for the college of Engineering

Dr. Shimelis Kebede from AAiT presented on "Coffee Processing Waste as an Alternative Resource for Energy Production," exploring the potential of utilizing coffee processing waste to generate energy. His discussion highlighted global coffee production trends, the processing industry, and previous research in the field, illustrating innovative methods to convert waste into energy. Dr. Sintayehu Nibret from Ethiopian Society for Chemical Engineers delivered a presentation on "Energy Storage in Africa," focusing on electrochemical energy storage. He provided an overview of the opportunities and challenges in energy storage across the continent, emphasizing the importance of sustainable and scalable solutions to meet Africa's energy demands. In another presentation, Dr. Sintayehu discussed initiatives to build a chemical ecosystem in Ethiopia. He outlined efforts to support young scholars through research grants, public lectures, and postgraduate awards while highlighting strategies to strengthen the industrial ecosystem and boost local production capabilities.

ACADAMIC CORNER

Industry engagement added a practical dimension to the workshop, with representatives from companies such as Kuriftu Paper Mill sharing their experiences in substituting imported materials with locally produced alternatives. This perspective underscored the importance of promoting national products to enhance Ethiopia's industrial self-reliance.

Finally Professor Nurelegn Tefera added valuable insights regarding the role of student chapters in advancing the chemical engineering profession. He stressed the importance of having a strong and committed membership base within the Ethiopian Society for Chemical Engineers. To enhance the society's impact, he suggested awarding outstanding students to inspire future professionals and strengthen the society's profile. Furthermore, Professor Nurelegn recommended establishing student chapters in all universities, which would facilitate knowledge sharing, seminars, and conferences, ultimately promoting collaboration and professional growth.



AASTU and Ethiopian Artificial Intelligence Institute Launch Joint PhD-Degree Program in AI Technology

Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU) has signed a landmark implementation agreement with the Ethiopian Artificial Intelligence Institute (EAI) to jointly offer a third-degree program in Artificial Intelligence Technology. This collaboration marks a significant milestone in Ethiopia's efforts to advance AI education and develop a skilled workforce capable of addressing the country's growing demand for AI professionals.

The agreement, signed in a formal ceremony, underscores the commitment of both institutions to fostering innovation and research in the field of artificial intelligence. By combining AASTU's academic expertise with EAI's specialized knowledge and practical experience in AI applications, the program aims to equip students with cutting-edge skills and knowledge to tackle real-world challenges. During the signing event, Dr. Kamal Ibrahim, Vice President for Academic Affairs at AASTU, highlighted the critical role both institutions will play in ensuring the program's success.



Dr. Kamal Ibrahim, Vice President for Academic Affairs at AASTU

He stressed that the agreement is not just about offering an advanced degree but also about creating opportunities for students to engage in groundbreaking research. One of the key focus areas, he noted, will be tackling the prevalent challenge of data scarcity in Ethiopia, a significant barrier to AI development.

Dr. Kamal further assured that AASTU is fully committed to supporting the program's effective implementation by providing state-of-the-art facilities, expert faculty members, and a conducive learning environment. "This collaboration enables students to apply AI in solving local and global challenges while also fostering interdisciplinary research that will have practical applications in industries such as healthcare, agriculture, and finance," he stated. Similarly Dr. Taye Girma, Deputy Director General of the Ethiopian Artificial Intelligence Institute, reaffirmed the institute's unwavering dedication to making the program a success.



Dr. Abraham Debebe , V/P/R/T/T, Dr. Kamal Ibrahim, VAA and Dr. Habib Mohammed Head for AI and Robotics CoE at AASTU



Dr. Kamal Ibrahim, VAA at AASTU and Dr. Taye Girma, Deputy Director General of the Ethiopian Artificial Intelligence Institute

He emphasized that AI is rapidly transforming industries worldwide, and Ethiopia must invest in producing highly skilled professionals to remain competitive. "Through this program, we aim to bridge the shortage of AI professionals in Ethiopia and develop a globally competitive workforce capable of driving innovation in various sectors," Dr. Taye explained. The official launch of the AI program represents a major step forward for Ethiopia's higher education landscape. It signifies a shift toward more industry-oriented and research-driven academic programs designed to meet the demands of the digital era. With student registration now open, aspiring AI experts have the opportunity to enroll in a program that will provide them with in-depth theoretical knowledge and hands-on experience in AI development, machine learning, and data science.

By fostering collaboration between academia and industry, the program will not only produce highly competent AI professionals but also support Ethiopia's national AI strategy, which aims to leverage AI for economic and technological advancement.



Dr. Abraham Debebe

Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer

AASTU Hosts the 9th National Research Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation for Industry

Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU) successfully hosted the 9th National Research Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation for Industry, bringing together renowned scholars, researchers, policymakers, and industry professionals to discuss innovative solutions for industrial advancement. The conference, held from February 17–18, 2025, served as a platform for researchers to exchange ideas, present groundbreaking findings, and explore collaborative opportunities to strengthen the link between academia, industry, and technological development.

The conference was officially opened in the presence of H.E. Amb. Dr. Simone Knapp, Austrian Ambassador to Ethiopia, alongside distinguished keynote speakers and presenters from various institutions. In his opening remarks, Dr. Abraham Debebe, Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer at AASTU, emphasized the importance of such conferences in enhancing

industrial competitiveness, fostering knowledge exchange, and improving research capacity. Similarly, Dr. Dereje Engida, President of AASTU, highlighted the university's dedication to bridging academia and industry through science, technology, and innovation. He stated that advancing research-driven solutions is essential for economic growth and national development, reaffirming AASTU's role in promoting technological excellence and innovation-driven policies.



Dr. Dereje Engida

President at Addis Ababa Science and technology University

Delivering the keynote address, H.E. Amb. Dr. Simone Knapp underscored the strong educational and research ties between Ethiopia and Austria, stressing that international collaboration in science, technology, and innovation is vital for addressing industrial challenges and ensuring sustainable economic growth. She emphasized that universities must work closely with industries and global research institutions to translate academic knowledge into practical, real-world solutions.



*H.E. Amb. Dr. Simone Knapp,
Austrian Ambassador to Ethiopia*

The conference featured seven distinguished keynote speakers from around the world, covering topics that align with AASTU's thematic research priorities. Prof. Josef Noll from the University of Oslo, Norway, explored the gaps in mobile internet uptake and its implications for technological development. Dr. Elias Lewi Teklemariam of Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, presented research on Ethiopia's Rift Systems, including seismic activity and volcanic developments in the Fentale-Dofen area. Meanwhile, Prof. Markus Clark Scharber from Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria, discussed the future of solar panels in Africa, evaluating their potential and limitations. Further presentations included insights from Prof. Thulani P. Makhalanyane of Stellenbosch University, South Africa, who highlighted research and development achievements in the African microbiome and its prospects for Ethiopia's bioeconomy. Prof. Dr. Thomas Prohaska from Montanuniversität Leoben, Austria, provided an in-depth discussion on sustainable resource development and its impact on global balance.

Additionally, Dr. Laurent Bocherreau, representing the European Union to the African Union, emphasized the importance of EU-Africa cooperation in science, technology, and innovation and presented EURAXESS support opportunities for African researchers. The final keynote speaker, Dr. Yedilfana Setarge from Addis Ababa University, focused on strengthening EU-Africa research collaboration and highlighted existing opportunities for African researchers to engage in global scientific networks. Beyond the keynote speeches, the two-day conference featured 89 research papers and 25 poster presentations, categorized under eight thematic research areas: Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, and High-Performance Computing; Biotechnology and Bioprocess Engineering; Construction Quality Technology; Mineral Exploration, Extraction, and Processing; Nanotechnology; Nuclear Reactor Technology; Sustainable Energy; and Big Data Analytics. Research papers were presented in five syndicate rooms, allowing experts, scholars, and industry leaders to exchange insights, debate challenges, and explore potential research collaborations.



Participants at the conference



*Dr. Abraham Debebe
Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer*

These discussions emphasized the transformative role of technology and innovation in strengthening Ethiopia's industrial and economic sectors. In his closing remarks, Dr. Abraham Debebe emphasized that the research findings presented throughout the conference have immense potential for solving industrial challenges and improving national competitiveness. He reiterated that AASTU remains committed to fostering research excellence and expanding partnerships between universities, industries, and international stakeholders. Similarly, Dr. Kemal Ibrahim, Vice President for Academic Affairs at AASTU, praised the cutting-edge research presented during the conference, noting that it showcased groundbreaking innovations while also strengthening global and regional collaborations. He emphasized the practical applications of research outcomes, particularly in solving industry-related challenges and shaping the future of technology-driven economic growth. Dr. Getachew Adam, Director of Research and Centers of Excellence at AASTU, reaffirmed the university's commitment to hosting high-impact

research events, ensuring that AASTU remains a leading institution in science, technology, and innovation for national development. He also stressed that fostering multidisciplinary research collaborations will be key in addressing Ethiopia's socio-economic and industrial challenges. With valuable insights gained and groundbreaking research shared, the 9th National Research Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation for Industry successfully concluded, leaving a strong foundation for future research endeavors. AASTU looks forward to hosting the 10th National Research Conference, with an even stronger emphasis on bridging the gap between research and industry to drive sustainable economic transformation.



*Getachew Adam, Director For Research and
Center of Excellence*

AASTU Hosts Project Conclusion Workshop on AI-Assisted Resource Allocation for Gender Equity in Ethiopian Universities

The HPC & Big Data Analytics Center of Excellence at Addis Ababa Science and Technology University organized a half-day workshop to conclude the project AI-Assisted Resource Administering and Allocation in Ethiopian Universities to Improve Gender Equity and Inclusion in Education. The event brought together key stakeholders to discuss the project's outcomes and its impact on higher education in Ethiopia. Speaking at the workshop, Dr. Dereje Engida, President of AASTU, emphasized that research projects should not only be conducted but also implemented to create real-life societal impact. He stated that after a project's completion, its results should be published and shared to facilitate knowledge transfer and experience-sharing with other project teams.

Similarly, Dr. Abraham Debebe, Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer at AASTU, highlighted the importance of external projects like EDU AI in strengthening institutions such as AASTU. He underscored that collaborative efforts were key to achieving the project's goals. He also noted that research projects should achieve their targeted milestones, citing the EDU AI Hub project as an example of a successfully completed external initiative made possible through the joint efforts of research teams.

The project was conducted under the HPC & Big Data Analytics CoE, led by Dr. Surafel Leulseged, with contributions from a dedicated project team. During the workshop, Dr. Surafel highlighted the significance of equitable resource allocation in higher education, particularly for disadvantaged groups.



Dr. Surafel Leulseged Head for HPC & Big Data Analytics CoE

He also acknowledged the contributions of the project team and stakeholders, noting that the initiative has benefited the university, students, and the research community.

Additionally, Dr. Belay Mitiku from Adama Science and Technology University presented insights on AI-assisted resource administration in Ethiopian universities. He explained that the project aimed to develop tools for resource allocation and planning to better support women, disabled students, and staff, particularly in science and technology universities. He stressed that existing resource management systems in higher education often fail to fully consider the needs of these groups. The project, therefore, seeks to enhance inclusivity and accessibility through AI-driven solutions.

He emphasized that the project was successfully completed on time and within budget while effectively addressing challenges related to infrastructure, time, and resource distribution.

The workshop also included discussions with key stakeholders, including representatives from the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs and other government offices. They engaged with the project team, exchanging ideas on how such AI-driven initiatives could be scaled up to further promote gender equity and inclusivity in higher education.

The successful completion of this project marks a significant step toward ensuring fair and effective resource distribution in Ethiopian universities, paving the way for a more inclusive academic environment.



Participants

Community Service

Community Engagement Activities to Strengthen Partnerships for Community Development

One of the fundamental purposes for which universities were established is community engagement, alongside teaching and research. In today's world, where collaboration with local communities is essential for societal development, universities play a crucial role in fostering mutually beneficial relationships. Effective community engagement not only strengthens trust and cooperation but also enables academic institutions to serve as problem solvers for the challenges faced by local communities. Since its establishment, Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU) has actively worked to bridge the gap between academia and society through community engagement initiatives. Despite being a relatively young institution, AASTU has taken significant strides in addressing local challenges, fostering partnerships, and contributing to sustainable community development. As part of these efforts, the university recently organized a community engagement workshop, bringing together stakeholders, university officials, and local community representatives to further strengthen its role in community service.

During the workshop, discussions centered on identifying shared goals, leveraging university resources to benefit the community, and developing long-term, sustainable initiatives that would create lasting positive impacts. The event emphasized the importance of collaboration between academic institutions and the communities they serve by ensuring that knowledge and innovation are directly applied to solving real-world problems.



Dr. Kenatu Angassa, Director of Community Engagement at AASTU



Dr. Dereje Engida, President of AASTU

In his opening address, Dr. Dereje Engida, President of AASTU, highlighted the university's commitment to problem-solving research and community-focused initiatives. He emphasized that for the university to achieve its vision—not only at the national level but also at the continental level—it must engage in practical, solution-oriented activities that directly address pressing social and economic issues. He further explained that AASTU is conducting problem-solving surveys and needs assessments to ensure that the services and solutions it provides are both relevant and impactful. Additionally, he underscored the importance of stakeholder collaboration in maintaining and enhancing the services offered to the community.

On the other hand, Dr. Kenatu Angassa, Director of Community Engagement at AASTU, provided an overview of the university's past and ongoing community engagement efforts. She highlighted various initiatives, including capacity-building trainings, community-based research projects, infrastructure development, environmental sustainability programs, and efforts to promote scientific literacy. She also noted that the university is dedicated to enhancing human resource development and implementing projects that have a transformative impact on the community's overall well-being.

During the workshop, 10 community-based projects developed by university faculty and researchers were presented for discussion. Participants provided valuable insights and feedback, further strengthening the collaborative approach between the university and the local community. The discussions revealed that AASTU's engagement activities have significantly strengthened the bond between the institution and the community, fostering a shared sense of responsibility in addressing local challenges.

The workshop reaffirmed AASTU's commitment not only to academic excellence and research innovation but also to active participation in the socio-economic development of the local community. Moving forward, the university will continue to implement the ideas and recommendations raised during the workshop, working closely with local stakeholders to create sustainable and meaningful solutions for community development.



Community Engagement with Leadership and Communication Training

As part of its ongoing commitment to community development, Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU) is actively engaging in initiatives that foster human-centered growth and capacity building. One such initiative is a leadership and communication training program designed to equip core leaders serving in various roles within the city administration with essential skills to enhance governance and service delivery.

AASTU has long been dedicated to supporting the local community through various engagement programs. These include providing technical and vocational training, offering mentorship programs for youth, supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with research-driven solutions, and conducting awareness campaigns on social issues. Through these efforts, the university has positioned itself as a key partner in local development, working alongside government institutions and community organizations to drive meaningful change. As part of this broader commitment, AASTU has recently organized specialized training for core leaders of Akaki Kaliti Sub-City at different levels. As part of its ongoing commitment to community development, Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU) is actively engaging in initiatives that foster human-centered growth and capacity building. One such initiative is a leadership and communication training program designed to equip core leaders serving in various roles within the city administration with essential skills to enhance governance and service delivery. AASTU has long been dedicated to supporting the local community through various engagement programs.

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By integrating academic expertise with community-centered initiatives, AASTU continues to play a pivotal role in empowering local leaders and fostering sustainable development. This leadership training program is yet another demonstration of the university's dedication to creating a positive impact beyond the academic sphere.



Trainees



Dr. Temesgen Wondimu
Administrative and development Vice president at AASTU

Non Academic Engagement

AASTU Successfully Hosts the 2017 Ethiopian Universities Sports Festival

After nearly a decade-long hiatus, the Ethiopian Universities Sports Festival made a triumphant return in 2025, hosted by Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU). The festival, a long-standing tradition in Ethiopian higher education, has been held annually since 2008 but was discontinued after 2016 due to various challenges. Its revival in 2025 marked a significant milestone for university sports, fostering student-to-student relationships and strengthening bonds between institutions.



Dr. Dereje Engida, President of AASTU,

The festival is a highly anticipated national event where all member universities of the Ethiopian Universities Sports Association compete in various sports. Beyond competition, the festival serves as a platform for young athletes to showcase their talents, with many participants going on to represent Ethiopia at national and international levels. The last edition, hosted by Adama Science and Technology University in 2016, was the final event before the hiatus. Now, after taking over the hosting responsibility, AASTU successfully revived the festival, welcoming sports delegations from 45 universities with exceptional preparation. The festival is a highly anticipated national event where all member universities of the Ethiopian Universities Sports Association compete in various sports. Beyond competition, the festival serves as a platform for young athletes to showcase their talents, with many participants going on to represent Ethiopia at national and international levels. The last edition, hosted by Adama Science and Technology University in 2016, was the final event before the hiatus. Now, after taking over the hosting responsibility, AASTU successfully revived the festival, welcoming sports delegations from 45 universities with exceptional preparation.



Prof. Berhanu Nega Minister of Education

Held from January 25 to February 4, 2025, under the theme "Sports for Unity and Common Development," the festival attracted more than 2,500 participants from 45 universities. Students competed in five sporting disciplines, including football, international taekwondo, athletics, and cultural sports such as wrestling and boxing. Universities have long served as hubs for developing young talents in Ethiopian football, and this year's competition showcased high-level skills. The football championship final saw Wollo University clinching the title with a 1-0 victory over Wachemo University, while Gondar University secured third place.

Ethiopia's global reputation in athletics was evident in the festival, with young athletes delivering outstanding performances. Haramaya University dominated the men's athletics category, while Ethiopian Defense University emerged victorious in the women's athletics division. In taekwondo, Debre Tabor University won the World Taekwondo Championship, securing the champion's title. The overall winner of the competition was Hawassa University, while Adigrat University received the Best Sports Discipline Award for its exemplary sportsmanship and conduct throughout the event. The closing ceremony on February 4, 2025, was attended by distinguished guests, including Honorable Mr. Kora Tushne, State Minister of Education; Dr. Dereje Engida, President of Addis Ababa Science and Technology University; Mr. Abay Belayhun, President of the Ethiopian Universities Sports Association; and other invited guests. Honorable Mr. Kora Tushne highlighted the festival's importance in strengthening sports culture in higher education institutions and fostering unity among students. He commended AASTU's efforts in successfully organizing the event and emphasized that sports contribute to students' physical, mental, and social well-being.



He also assured that future editions of the festival will continue to be enhanced and expanded. Mr. Abay Belayhun, President of the Ethiopian Universities Sports Association, reinforced that the festival is more than just a sports competition—it promotes cultural exchange, collaboration, and long-term friendships among students. He also announced plans to implement a cluster-based competition model in future events. Dr. Dereje Engida, President of AASTU, expressed his pride in the university's role as host, stating that the festival was a resounding success, featuring intense yet friendly competition and a strong display of sportsmanship.



Mr. Abay Belayhun, President of the Ethiopian Universities Sports Association



Hawassa University's sports team has won the cup

He noted that AASTU had not only organized the sporting events but also provided entertainment programs to help students bond and enjoy their time together. AASTU made extensive preparations to ensure that all participants had a comfortable and memorable experience. The university provided adequate health, food, and accommodation services, as well as entertainment programs to enhance social interaction among students. The success of the 2025 Ethiopian Universities Sports Festival is a testament to AASTU's dedication to fulfilling national responsibilities and fostering a spirit of unity, discipline, and sportsmanship among university students. The university's impressive initiative in bringing back this significant event has set a new benchmark for future hosts. The success of the 2025 Ethiopian Universities Sports Festival is a testament to AASTU's dedication to fulfilling national responsibilities and fostering a spirit of unity, discipline, and sportsmanship among university students. The university's impressive initiative in bringing back this significant event has set a new benchmark for future hosts.



AASTU Team win the Best Host Cup

Signing Ceremony for Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Cascading Contract Agreement

Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU) has taken a significant step toward institutional excellence by signing a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) contract agreement with the Ministry of Education (MoE). This contract aims to ensure a structured approach to measuring and improving performance across various sectors of the university. The initiative is part of the broader effort by the Ministry of Education to enhance efficiency, accountability, and strategic goal alignment within Ethiopia's higher education institutions. As part of the implementation process, a formal signing ceremony was held at AASTU, where Dr. Dereje Engida, President of the University, and the Vice Presidents reaffirmed their commitment to the contract. The signing marks a major milestone in strengthening performance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms within the university. The agreement outlines specific performance expectations, key targets, and measurable outcomes that will guide AASTU's administrative and academic activities. Following the presidential-level commitment, the Vice Presidents representing various sectors proceeded to sign cascading KPI contracts with deans, executives, and directors within the institution. This cascading contract structure ensures that performance expectations flow from top leadership down to all relevant administrative and academic units, fostering a shared sense of responsibility for achieving institutional goals. By linking key performance indicators to specific roles, the agreement provides a clear roadmap for faculty and administrative staff to align their efforts with AASTU's strategic objectives. The KPI contract agreement is expected to enhance operational efficiency, accountability, and decision-making at all levels of the university.



Contract Signing Between Dr. Dereje Engida and Dr. Kemal Ibrahim V/P/A/Affairs



Contract Signing Between Dr. Dereje Engida and Dr. Abraham Debebe V/P/RTT

It establishes a structured framework for evaluating progress, identifying challenges, and implementing corrective actions where necessary. Moreover, the initiative will help improve service delivery, streamline processes, and strengthen institutional governance, ultimately contributing to the university's mission of academic excellence, research innovation, and community engagement.

Through this signing ceremony, AASTU has demonstrated its commitment to fostering a performance-driven culture by ensuring that all departments and individuals are aligned with the university's broader strategic vision. The successful implementation of the KPI agreement will not only enhance institutional effectiveness but also position AASTU as a model of accountability and excellence in Ethiopia's higher education sector.



Contract Signing Between Dr. Dereje Engida and Dr. Temesgen Wondimu V/P/AD

Anti-Addiction Training on The Power of Habit: Small Change, Big Impact

As part of its commitment to student well-being and personal development, Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU), in collaboration with the Ayseletinebgm Anti-Addiction Social Movement, is conducting awareness training on the impact of habits—both positive and negative. The initiative aims to educate students on the power of small behavioral changes that lead to significant long-term results, helping them build a strong foundation for success while avoiding addiction and harmful influences. To further this goal, AASTU is actively recruiting students as ambassadors of the Ayseletinebgm Anti-Addiction Movement and organizing educational forums within the university to promote awareness. As part of these efforts, an awareness training session was held on February 12, 2017, focusing on the theme “The Power of Habit: Small Change, Big Impact.”



Mr. Fitsum Nigusse, Head of East African Holdings Office

The session was attended by the university’s anti-addiction ambassadors and selected students. The training was delivered by Mr. Fitsum Nigusse, Head of East African Holdings Office, who emphasized the profound impact of daily habits on long-term success. He explained that while negative habits may seem easy to adopt, they often become deeply ingrained and difficult to break. In contrast, small, positive habits—when consistently practiced—lead to meaningful personal and professional growth. He urged students to resist peer pressure and focus on cultivating habits that align with their aspirations.



Trainees



Mihret Mekuria social Affairs and Inclusive Implementation expert

Students who participated in the session expressed their appreciation for the awareness programs, stating that such trainings have helped them make informed decisions and resist negative influences during their time at university.

AASTU encourages students to stay engaged by following the movement on social media, sharing knowledge with their peers, and actively participating in discussions to continue fostering a culture of awareness and self-improvement.



Collaborations

AASTU and Huawei Sign Historic MOU to Establish ICT Academy Support Center

Addis Ababa Science and Technology University (AASTU) has taken a significant step towards advancing digital education and technical skill development by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Huawei Technologies Ethiopia PLC. The agreement, finalized on December 26, 2024, paves the way for the establishment of the Huawei ICT Academy Support Center at AASTU, making it the first university in Ethiopia to partner with Huawei on such an initiative.

He emphasized that the collaboration will play a crucial role in enhancing digital literacy, fostering innovation, and developing technical expertise among Ethiopia's youth. Furthermore, he noted that this initiative aligns with Ethiopia's broader national vision of advancing its ICT sector and strengthening its technology-driven workforce. A representative from Huawei ICT Academy highlighted that AASTU is the first university in Ethiopia to sign this MOU, reflecting Huawei's commitment to empowering academic institutions and equipping students with practical ICT skills.

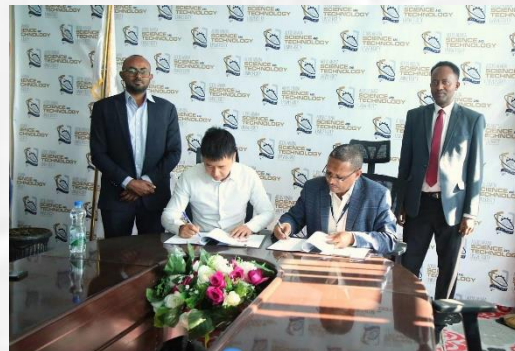


Discussion on the MoU.



Dr. Dereje, president at AASTU and Mr. Liming Ye Huawei Technologies Ethiopia PLC Dupty CEO

During the signing ceremony, Dr. Dereje Engida, President of AASTU, expressed his appreciation for Huawei's ongoing support and underscored the immense opportunities this partnership will provide for students and faculty members.



The partnership aims to bridge the digital skills gap, ensuring that students receive hands-on training and exposure to cutting-edge technologies in fields such as cloud computing, artificial intelligence (AI), cybersecurity, and 5G networking.

This groundbreaking collaboration is expected to enhance Ethiopia's digital transformation efforts, equipping young professionals with the necessary skills to compete in the global digital economy. By integrating Huawei's ICT expertise with AASTU's strong foundation in science and technology education, the Huawei ICT Academy Support Center will serve as a hub for innovation, research, and technical skill development. Additionally, this initiative will promote knowledge-sharing between academia and industry, fostering an environment where students gain real-world experience through training programs, industry certifications, and collaborative projects. As Ethiopia's digital landscape continues to evolve, the Huawei ICT Academy at AASTU will play a pivotal role in cultivating a skilled workforce that meets the demands of an increasingly technology-driven economy. This partnership underscores AASTU's commitment to becoming a leading center for ICT education and research, further solidifying its role in shaping the future of Ethiopia's technology sector.



Mr. Yared Bekalu Beyene
Editor-in-chief



Mrs. Bogalech Sibhat
Photographer



Ms. Melaknesh Assefa
News collector

Message from the Editor

Dear Readers,

Welcome to Volume XII, Issue III of our newsletter! We are delighted to bring you this edition, which highlights the remarkable achievements, collaborations, and milestones that have shaped the past months at AASTU.

This quarter, the Public Relations Executive has worked diligently to capture and showcase AASTU's successes across various domains, including administration, research, community service, and teaching and learning. This edition reaches both our internal and external communities, sharing stories that reflect our progress and unwavering commitment to excellence.

We hope you find this issue both informative and inspiring. For any comments or feedback, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at pr@aastu.edu.et. Your thoughts and insights are invaluable as we continue to document and share AASTU's journey.

Warm regards,

Yared Bekalu PR Executive at AASTU

An architectural rendering of a modern university building. The building is a multi-story structure with a light-colored facade and numerous rectangular windows. In the foreground, there is a courtyard with a paved walkway, greenery, and a few people walking. A large white rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text "Available for Rent" in bold yellow font.

Available for Rent

Addis Ababa Science and Technology University

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