



PRESS RELEASE

February 4, 2014

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT- PROF. DAVID PETER SIMON WASAWO

The University of Nairobi community is saddened by the death of a distinguished scholar, researcher and former administrator, Prof. David Peter Simon Wasawo, who passed away in his sleep, early this morning. Prof. Wasawo, an illustrious academic, was the first East African to be awarded a degree in Science and also became the first African teaching member of staff in the Faculty of Science, Makerere University. Wasawo, was the first Vice-Principal of Makerere University between 1962 and 1965.

In 1965 Wasawo transferred to the University College of Nairobi, where he taught many scientists and scholars, including pioneers of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Nairobi. Wasawo also served as the first Vice-Principal of the University College Nairobi, between 1966 and 1969. He also served as Chairman, Department of Zoology and Dean, Faculty of Science at the University of Nairobi.

Prof. Wasawo served as the Chairman of the University Council between 1998 to 2005. During this period, he successfully foresaw the implementation of Module II Programmes and laid ground for competitive hiring of top managers in the University, a practice that has been emulated by other state bodies.

A prolific researcher, Prof. Wasawo researched widely and published on various biological species, for instance his contribution on the lungfish; the largest fish in the region before introduction of Nile Perch in Lake Victoria, was one example of his outstanding contribution.

As we celebrate the life of an academic hero, the University of Nairobi, Chancellor, Council, Senate, Staff and Students join the family in mourning a departed founding academic icon in the country.

May the Almighty rest his soul in Eternal peace.

Charles E. Sikulu
PR Manager