



# MZUZU UNIVERSITY

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

National Research Dissemination Conference  
**25th – 26th October 2023**  
Grand Palace Hotel, Mzuzu

### a) Preamble

Mzuzu University wishes to invite you to participate in the First National Research Dissemination Conference. The theme of the conference is: **Research and Innovation: A Catalyst for Social, Cultural and Economic Transformation**. This theme recognises the importance of research, science, technology, and innovation in the realisation of Malawi 2063. The University further seeks to generate research outputs which can be used by policy makers to formulate evidence-based policies to ultimately transform Malawi into an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant nation.

It is against this background that Mzuzu University is calling upon scholars and researchers to submit abstracts based on completed or ongoing research for presentation at the dissemination conference.

### b) Conference Sub-themes

We invite researchers from Malawi and beyond to submit papers in the form of original full research papers, research-in progress papers, posters or lightening talks (short 5-minute presentations) that have not previously been presented elsewhere and make original contributions to the theme of the conference. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following broad areas:

#### i. Science, Technology and Innovation

- New advances in pure and applied mathematics
- Promoting renewable energy technologies

- ICT, Data Science and new innovations
- Biological sciences
- Chemistry and its applications
- Physics and its applications

## **ii. Environmental Sciences**

- Agrisciences
- Urban and Regional Planning
- Estate Management
- Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Forestry
- Environmental Management
- Geosciences
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Waste Management and Recycling
- Climate Change, Adaptation and Mitigation

## **iii. Humanities and Social Sciences**

- The role of linguistics, literature and creative arts in national development
- History, Heritage and Economic Development in Malawi
- Security and Public Sector Governance
- Religion and Environmental Conservation
- Information services for development
- Communication for Sustainability

## **iv. Health Sciences**

- Innovative approaches and interventions to strengthen health delivery
- Healthcare access, delivery and outcomes
- Health technology and digital transformation
- Maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health
- Communicable and non-communicable diseases
- Biomedical and Health Informatics

## **v. Tourism, Hospitality and Management**

- Sustainable tourism
- Tourism planning and development
- Cultural heritage tourism
- Transport and aviation
- Service quality and management in the hospitality industry
- Entrepreneurship
- Sports management

## **vi. Open, Distance and eLearning**

- eLearning
- Student support
- Self-learning materials
- Copyright
- Open Educational Resources

## **vii. Education**

- Education and Development
- Education, Society and Culture
- Critical Thinking and Reasoning Education
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education
- Language Education
- Inclusive and/or Special Needs Education

## **c) Format of abstracts**

An abstract with a maximum of 350 words in length **must** consist of:

- Purpose
- Methodology/approach
- Findings
- Conclusion and recommendations
- Originality/value of contribution
- Keywords of between 4 and 5
- Paper type (e.g., research paper, literature review, case study, conceptual paper, etc.).
- The title page which should include the title of paper followed by name(s), qualification, affiliation(s) and the e-mail of the author(s).

A template for submitting abstracts can be downloaded at [www.mzuni.ac.mw/?p=7939](http://www.mzuni.ac.mw/?p=7939)

#### **i) Procedure for submitting abstracts**

All abstracts should be submitted through the following email: [conference.2023@mzuni.ac.mw](mailto:conference.2023@mzuni.ac.mw). Authors **must** indicate the subtheme in the email subject heading. **d) Conference proceedings**

Accepted papers will undergo blind peer-review, and will be published as conference proceedings with a reputable publisher.

#### **e) Important dates**

- Deadline for the submission of abstracts: 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2023.
- Communication of decisions: 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2023.
- Deadline for submission of PowerPoint Presentations: 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2023.
- Conference dates: 25-26 October, 2023.

#### **f) Conference Fees and Registration**

Conference fees, which will cover conference materials, teas and luncheons, are as follows:

- Malawian based presenters: K100,000
- Malawian based students: MK60,000
- International presenters: \$100

#### **g) Payments**

Payments should be made to the following bank account:

Bank : National Bank of Malawi, Mzuzu Branch, P.O. Box 20, Mzuzu.  
Account Name : MZUNIREC, Mzuzu University, Private Bag 201,  
Luwinga, Mzuzu 2, Malawi.  
Account No. : 1007578888

#### **h) Venue**

The conference will be held in **Mzuzu at Grand Palace Hotel**. Email: [info@thegrandpalacemalawi.com](mailto:info@thegrandpalacemalawi.com), Tel: +265-(01)-303-323/333/324 or website <https://www.thegrandpalacemalawi.com/>

## **i) Travel and Visa Requirements**

It is expected that participants should make their own travel arrangements. However, SADC residents do not require entry VISA to travel to Malawi. Those requiring visas to enter Malawi should visit the following website: <https://evisa.gov.mw/>. The Conference Organising Committee will facilitate with the issuance of letters to confirm the hosting of the conference.

## **j) Accommodation**

The costs for travel, accommodation and incidentals are the responsibility of the participants. Participants are expected to make their own accommodation arrangements.

For more information, please contact the following:

- Chair, Main Organising Committee, Dr Aubrey Chaputula – +265 888 328 671, Email: [chaputula.a@mzuni.ac.mw](mailto:chaputula.a@mzuni.ac.mw)
- Chair, Editorial Committee - Dr Winner Chawinga - +265 993 509 295, Email: [chawinga.w@mzuni.ac.mw](mailto:chawinga.w@mzuni.ac.mw)
- Chair, Protocol Committee - Dr Michael Sepula - +265 999 578 737, Email: [sepula.m@mzuni.ac.mw](mailto:sepula.m@mzuni.ac.mw)

For more details about the Conference, visit [www.mzuni.ac.mw/](http://www.mzuni.ac.mw/)