

Theme: UTANA Grant Scheme for Authors (UGSA) Takes Root

UTANA Chairman's Message: UTANA embarks on Awarding Authors/ Prof. Elisam Magara

In an effort to address the authorship needs in the country, the Uganda Textbook-Academic and Non-Fiction Authors Association (UTANA) was formed in 2012 following a result of a study conducted under National Book Trust of Uganda (NABOTU) supported by Norwegian Association of Non-Fiction and Translators (NFF). UTANA was consequently launched on 3rd October 2013.



UTANA Launch 3rd October 2013. Center holding Books is Hon Tarasis Kabwegyere

UTANA's mission is to "promote the rights of academic and non-fiction authors through advocating for the recognition of their works and protection of their rights, products and services in collaboration and cooperation with all stakeholders in the book value chain". UTANA is a company limited by guarantee governed by the General Assembly as the supreme body of the association, with the Executive Board that oversees the implementation and execution of the decisions and policies made by the assembly. This has been possible through a number of programmes including capacity building and academic mentorship, research and development, training seminars, school/university and community-based workshops. Others include professional expositions through cooperation, networking and

Editorial

This issue of the Authors Voice tells a story of ten authors who won the first UTANA Grants Scheme for Authors (UGSA) award for academic and non-fiction writing. It also tells us about the rigorous processes through which they were identified by the selection committee consisting of people with tested and uncompromising professional integrity. The report of that committee is a testament of the rigors of that process. Speakers during the award ceremony were full of praises and expressed the readiness to collaborate with Ugandan works on the World Stage. They considered the awards to be UTANA's first breakthrough. UTANA is very grateful for all these. We look forward to continue to work with all of you as you we all read together this issue. For God and my country.

Editorial Committee

Ms. Joyce Tabingwa, Chairperson.
Mr. Source Peter Opak, Member
Ms. Samalie Namukasa.
Mr. Emmanuel Otm, Secretary

Issue Reviewers

Dr. Justus Biryomumaisho, Gulu University
Mr. Godwin Anywar, Makerere University
Ms. Winny Nekesa Akullo, PPDA
Ms. Irene Nakayenga Sserunjogi, NCDC

strategic partnerships and alliances to support and promote the book industry. Particular emphasis is laid on supporting the authors' efforts to engage in gainful publishing process

UTANA has therefore endeavoured to bring together various authors and writers to build their capacity on issues pertaining to authorship, copyright awareness, technical skills and competence, mentorship and book design production process.

UTANA's Engagement with MOES

In 2016, UTANA hosted the 4th Pan African Writers Symposium (PAWS), aimed at exchange of ideas and challenges among authors and sharing lessons and experience in trends in the industry. On 5th October 2016, UTANA invited the Minister of Education and Sports (MoES), Hon. Mrs. Janet Kataaha Museveni, to officiate at the closing of the Pan African Writers Symposium under the theme “Building Capacity for Academic and Non-Fiction Authorship in Africa”. The Minister was represented by the former Director of Basic and Secondary Education, MoES, Mr. Robinson Nsumba-Lyazi, who witnessed the colorful closure of the Symposium.



On the Left, Mr. Robinson Nsumba-Lyazi Representing Minister of Education and Sports after awarding One of the awardees on 5th October 2016

On behalf of the Minister, he committed the sector support to the partnership initiatives especially in promoting literacy, local content and quality of authors' works. He specifically asked authors to play their role of ensuring quality. The Symposium was also attended by Mr. George Mutekanga, the Assistant Commissioner for Private Schools who gave a key note address on *the Prospects of book provision in education sector in Uganda* on behalf of the said Director. His address provided strategies of the sector in support of the SDGs on education, like skilling Uganda, a capacity that required concerted efforts including writing skills.

In the process, UTANA has participated in a number of programmes organised by the MoES including development of instructional materials policy in 2018 and 2020. In particular, the National Consultative Process on Instructional Materials and Book Policy held on 5th and 6th March 2020 addressed issues of enforcement of standards on authorship, promotion of reading culture, development of local language publishing. UTANA also appreciates that

the Ministry is promoting the use of local content through the Buy Uganda Build Uganda (BUBU) policy, supporting curriculum review, and appreciating the need for compliance with copyright, Intellectual Property (IP). The fact that the policy framework aligns standardization, registration and certification of authors, producers, editors, printers of textbooks, rhymes with the key strategic area of interest to UTANA. Indeed, UTANA initiatives in place like Academic Authorship Support Training (AASST) in higher education, Authors mentorship programme and the Guidelines for Publishers-Authors Standard Contract/Agreement (PASCA) - an initiative of UTANA together with Uganda Publishers Association (UPA) all provide opportunities to support authorship in the country.

UTANA GRANT SCHEME FOR AUTHORS (UGSA) AWARDS

To support one of the core needs of authors in the country, UTANA with the support from Norwegian Association of Non Fiction and Translators (NFFO) has launched a 3-year programme entitled “UTANA Grant Scheme for Authors (UGSA)” that aims at “strengthening Authorship capacity for increased availability and accessibility of Ugandan-based authored books on the world market”. The UGSA project is meant to support authors in their writing process. The project will facilitate authors towards the completion of their publications/academic works and shall have a far-reaching effect on quality of books and authorship in the country. The project is in the 1st year of implementation and 10 authors have been supported towards completing the writing, review, editing and production of their works. The award giving ceremony for the first beneficiaries was presided over by Mr. George Mutekanga, the Assistant Commissioner for Primary Schools, representing Ismail Mulindwa, the Director, Basic and Secondary Education Ministry of Education and Sports. The project has three products: 1. Capacity building among writers and authors for increased authorship, 2. Support authors with publication grant and 3. Promotion, advocacy and awareness of Ugandan authored books in Uganda.

What then is the challenge?

A study conducted in 4 selected bookshops in Kampala, Uganda in 2014, assessed 225 books accessed on the bookshops' displays identified that majority

of the authors (60%) earn their living in education related jobs including teachers (40%), professors and lecturers (16%), and researchers (4%). It is also a fact that most of those books targeted-market is in educational institutions (UTANA Archives, 2014). It was however noted that most of the books produced by teachers were of a pamphlet form and most of these pamphlets lacked a professional touch in terms of standards, editorial review, international acceptability, format of presentation and compliance to copyright and intellectual expectations and book promotion. In reality, majority of the teachers have neither authored books to their credit, nor possess the capacity to initiate and develop a book authorship project. UTANA acknowledges the fact that the Ministry has been promoting essay writing in schools, as revealed by Mr. George Mutekanga, at the officiating function on UGSA giving awards ceremony. This effort however needs to be supported with professional authorship skills. This is particularly important in the effort to mitigate the challenges of the post COVID-19 period, especially in supporting home schooling and digital and online platforms, which requires supported interpretation, transcription and writing skills, a competence promoted by UTANA. The basic skills that are essential like editing, competence in book review, book production process are essential elements of a 21st century author. Therefore, the following interventions are proposed for collaboration of UTANA and MoES.

1. **Support to the on-going UTANA Grant Support for Authors (UGSA) project:** In the 1st phase of UGSA, UTANA and partners funded 10 grants to support the authors in their writing process. The project offers grants to writers in critical areas of textbooks, academic and non-fiction books in the production process. UTANA administers the grant scheme through its executive board. The grants are for publication process: completing writing, reviewing and writing, publishing, editing costs. UTANA proposes that the Ministry of Education and Sports supports an equivalent of at least 20 teachers to be supported annually. In that respect, an officer directly nominated by the Ministry shall be a member of the selection team. The Ministry can also provide terms and conditions on specific beneficiaries. However, the mission and selection criteria of the project shall be observed so as not to divert from the purpose of the Project.

2. **Support of capacity building among teachers on authorship competence.** There are many teachers who have been teaching for several years. These teachers need to be supported to convert their works into books. Many of the teachers have manuscripts but do not have time to write, and lack guidance in writing competitive books, an opportunity that needs exploitation. This programme shall support the post COVID-19 readiness of teachers in home school learning through training of trainers and empowering teachers in technical skills for successful writing. In addition, capacity to support the books/materials development in the curriculum reforms by NCDC shall also be assured.
3. **Authorship promotion in the education sector.** This activity is meant to launch a sensitization and awareness programme on competence authorship in the country. This pillar is meant to promote increased availability, accessibility, readability, affordability and sustainability of academic books in Uganda. This shall involve creating synergies in the promotion of authorship products and services. As a strategy, a unified book promotional program shall be implemented to increase awareness of the public on the products published from the project. This shall involve some activities including author exposition and book promotion occasions, young writers' mentorship programme in schools to develop writing skills among the students in schools, authors/writers interactions with readers and students.

Expected outcomes

- Improved level of academic writing in the country
- Writing/publishing skills developed among teachers
- Increased cooperation in the book sector stakeholders
- Good quality books that meet the demand of Ugandan education/education curriculum
- Vibrant network of academic and non-fiction authors

Conclusion

UTANA is committed to work towards promoting authors' rights and literary works. UTANA welcomes any partnership available from any stakeholders to support the UGSA initiatives. This issue is tailored to the testimonial responses to Phase 1 of the Awards Scheme.

Proceedings of the Award Giving Ceremony of UTANA Grant Scheme for Authors (UGSA), held on 28th August, 2020 at Silver Springs Hotel, Bugolobi

Introduction

Uganda Textbook and Non-Fiction Authors Association (UTANA) in partnership with the Norwegian Association of Non-Fiction and Translators Association (NFFO) are implementing a 3-Year project titled Utana Grant Scheme for Authors (UGSA). The purpose of UGSA is to support authors in their writing process aimed at completion of published works. Friday 28th August, 2020 was a happy moment at Silver Spring Hotel, Bugolobi when Uganda Textbook Academic and Non-Fiction Authors Association (UTANA) in partnership with the Norwegian Association of Non-Fiction and Translators Association (NFFO) awarded Grants for writing textbooks to ten (10) Ugandan authors. The function was presided over by the Director of Basic and Secondary Education, Ministry of Education and Sports, Mr. Ismail Mulindwa, who was represented by Mr. George Mutekanga. It was characterized with speeches, awards and a book launch by Mr. Innocent Byaruhanga, the Assistant Commissioner responsible for Family Issues in the Ministry of Labour, Gender and Social Development. The Project is coordinated by Prof. Elisam Magara who worked hand in hand with an independent selection committee of reviewers. These are: Dr. George Christian Muganga (Chairman), Mr. Godwin Anywar, Ms. Sarah Mirembe Kyankya and Dr. Justus Biryomumaisho and Mr. Robert Kayiki (in attendance).

Remarks from the Representative of the Selection Committee of the UTANA Grant Scheme for Authors (UGSA): An Insight by Dr. Biryomumaisho Justus



Dr. Justus Biryomumaisho who represented the Se-

lection Committee gave a general overview of the project review process as contained in a project document. He noted that the role of the committee was to assess the applications and select the most deserving applicants were identified and selected with UTANA Board's approval. The project coordinator coordinated the review process and to implement this project, a selection committee was constituted. Accordingly, the first round of the competitive grant scheme, UGSA 2020, issued a call for applications from eligible UTANA members. In total 22 applications were received from the UTANA secretariat. The methodology of the review process used face to face meetings and zoom meetings. At least four such meetings took place in the entire exercise. The first meeting was the orientation by the project coordinator. The second was review of the scoring instrument. The third was scoring and evaluation. The fourth was presentation of awards. On behalf of the reviewer committee, Biryomumaisho provided an insight on the first three meetings.

The orientation meeting took place on 02/07/2020 at the Ministers' Hotel in the up-scale Ntinda area and was attended by all the committee members. Applicants were from different backgrounds including but not limited to new and experienced authors, rural and urban, untutored to degree holders, scholarly and general non-fiction and gender as provided in the project guidelines. This orientation practicum was therefore envisaged to ensure that the committee produces authentic author applicants given the various backgrounds. During the orientation, reviewer committee members were guided by transparency, integrity and confidentiality.

Due to the intricate nature of the review process, the selection committee was mandated to review the scoring instrument. In agreement, the following themes were identified:

- Preliminary eligibility assessment criteria
- Technical assessment criteria
- Plagiarism criteria

Thereafter, proposal allocations were made based on the committee members' competences. On 26/07/2020, the selection committee carried out the scoring and evaluation exercise at the Ministers Hotel. The scoring and evaluation criteria was intended to provide UTANA and the call applicants with a dependable mechanism for identifying author applicants who met the requirements for UGSA 2020.

The applicant manuscripts were thereafter distributed among the reviewers based on reviewer competences. Guided by the technical assessment criteria instrument, reviewers were required to scrutinize and score the applicant manuscripts accordingly. The reviewers were required to produce a report on each applicant's manuscript reviewed to the project coordinator. Each application was reviewed by a minimum of 3 reviewers, and after three weeks, a meeting for evaluation was held to select, recommend grants commensurate with the manuscript proposals against the grant envelope, shortlist, and propose a date for offer of awards to deserving beneficiaries. Out of 22 applications assessed, 11 were found meriting the awards, pending a further check for plagiarism.



Scholars define scoring as converting raw item responses to scored responses according to rubric that makes this process a function of the item type. The scoring system premised on the themes earlier mentioned served as a set of considerations to be built upon when evaluating the applicant. Evaluation is very useful to improve the quality of the review process and attendant outcomes. In practice, evaluation cannot be separated from scoring because the effectiveness of scoring can only be known through evaluation. Evaluation served two purposes: assessing the strengths and weaknesses of applicant proposals; and to help the committee make appropriate award decisions. Consequently, under the supervision of Mr. Anywar, each of the eleven manuscripts was subjected to the plagiarism check using Tanity software to assess extent of originality. Therefore, the ten awardees, today, had their manuscripts pass all the phases of the assessment criteria as set out by the selection committee. Subsequently, a final evaluation meeting by zoom was held on 14/08/2020 to confirm and set a date for award offers to the deserving awardees. The selection committee process culminated into the presentation of awards. On that day, Friday 28/08/2020, the UGSA award ceremo-

ny was conducted at Silver Springs Hotel Bugolobi. Ten (10) deserving awardees were officially awarded their respective grants ranging between Shs.1.6 million to Shs.3.6 million.

He concluded that "I take this opportunity to sincerely thank members of the selection committee for the excellent job professionally done. I extend gratitude to the UTANA board for entrusting such a sensitive task to members of the selection committee. Likewise, I salute the successful applicants and encourage the unsuccessful never to lose hope in the authorship domain".

Remarks by the Representative of the Beneficiaries of UGSA 2020 Awards, Dr. Hassan Lubowa Tugume



Dr. Tugume recalled that at one time, UTANA invited him to present a paper, on the state of secondary school pamphlets. Whereas he was convinced that the Body he was presenting to was good, it did not attract him to join it that time. Additionally, whereas he did not know whom to contact, he submitted his application and was happy that his manuscript passed the criteria. Based on the comments the committee gave on the response to the applications, he was convinced that there was a fair process as the representative of the selection committee had described. Dr. Tugume, Head of department, Religion and Peace Studies at the School of Liberal and Performing Arts, CHUSS, Makerere University, commended the technical selection committee which assessed and selected based on criteria without asking and/or coming back to him, and also witnessing that "people have won the awards today" and that required a very thunderous clap. He pledged to promote UTANA and continue to further participate in future endeavors and was happy to note that the exercise was very rigorous. He suggested that with the skills exhibited in this process, UTANA officers should as well identify in reviewing Universities/staffs publications for promotion. He pledged that when called upon to do

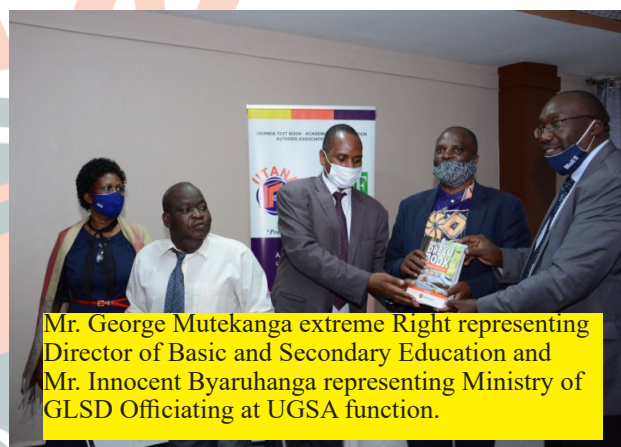
UTANA work, he will have no doubt to participate. He requested UTANA to further publicize awardees to institutions where they belong by “congratulating us for great achievements that we have received”, and adding that personally “I am willing to deliver mine”.

Remarks from the Chairman UTANA, Prof. Elisam Magara

Prof. Magara started with a historical background of the development of literacy when he, as a president of Uganda Library and Information Association, participated as a facilitator of the decentralized instructional materials programme (DIMP) in the Ministry of Education and Sports in 2001. During his tenure, the Association promoted and developed a model on reading tent/camp model under the East African Book Development Project that has become part and parcel of the school co-curricular activity in Uganda. His contribution to authors is actually adding to previous efforts in other responsibilities. He noted that the idea of UTANA and thus the UGSA Project, arose from a courtesy call made to Mr. Trond Andreassen while in Oslo as a Visiting Professor at the University College Oslo. He had previously met Mr. Trond in the Republic of South Africa (RSA) where he noted that Norwegian Government had done some good work with South Africa, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Nigeria. Trond did not hesitate to give a hand to promote authorship in Uganda. At that time, in Uganda there was a Writers Association, which only recruited fiction writers and thus non-fiction and academic writers did not have a forum that joined them together. As a kick start, a study on promotion of non-fiction authorship in the country was conducted under the leadership of Prof. Elisam Magara. By end of 2012, the Uganda Textbook Academic and Non-Fiction Authors Association (UTANA) was formed and by May 2013, it was registered and started its operations. Since then UTANA has been conducting many activities including capacity building, research, publication, mentorship and holding conferences, seminars and workshops among others.

Prof. Magara noted that the major outputs put in the inception of UTANA in 2011 have largely been achieved: a research was conducted, an

association was formed, capacity of authors has been built through trainings, and authors are now able to receive awards. Prof. Magara extended great gratitude to NFFO for once again considering supporting the UGSA project. He reminded the participants that in 2016, when UTANA hosted the Pan African Writers Symposium (PAWS), the Minister of Education represented by the Director of Basic and Secondary Education closed the function. Therefore, it was fitting for the same office to be invited for this function. He asked members to learn what it takes to be an author to continue attending UTANA organized functions. He reminded them that UTANA is concerned with promotion of writing. Now that we have a handbook on how to write a dream book, he called on every person to have a dream book and write it down. The awards being offered included: completing writing, book review, editing, and book production.



Mr. George Mutekanga extreme Right representing Director of Basic and Secondary Education and Mr. Innocent Byaruhanga representing Ministry of GLSD Officiating at UGSA function.

Launch of the Handbook for Authors: “Write your Dream Book” by Mr. Innocent Byaruhanga

Mr. Innocent Byaruhanga, the Assistant Commissioner, Ministry of Labour, Gender and Social Development (MGLSD) represented Ms. Naumo Juliana Akoryo, the Commissioner Culture and Family Affairs, Minister of Gender Labour and Social Development. Innocent congratulated UTANA that within a period of 7 years of operation, it is exhibiting its first breakthrough of awarding people. He appreciated the leadership for the wonderful effort in the protection, promotion and preservation of cultural heritage. He noted that “in our society today, there has been a disconnect between the academics and the practitioners and to know how some of these things can get to our policy making”. He exemplified

this with the current policy review of the National Curriculum Development Center (NCDC) of 1973 that requires bright contributions from visionary organizations like UTANA. It is, therefore, important to build synergies between UTANA and the NCDC as we work towards “ensuring preservation, protection and promotion of our heritage”, an important attribute in a globalized world. He noted that people have become aliens to themselves and warned that “the first taste before God when he calls you back, is denying your culture”. He said “We need to write our history... history is being written every day... that is how history is being written”.

He congratulated Prof. Magara, not only for spearheading the awards to authors but also for writing a book to guide their writing process—“*Write Your Dream Book*”. He said, this should not be taken for granted. He, therefore, encouraged authors not to wait for others, but to write what they create—books, music, general creations, etc., for them to leave a legacy “because we shall be celebrating a legacy that is being made today”.

The Ministry of Labour, Gender and Social Development he said has an interest in what has happened today and pledged on behalf of the department of Culture and Family affairs its commitment to support the UTANA efforts.. He promised to be closer to UTANA, and requested UTANA also to be closer to the Ministry, and to have interest in cultural issues as “we forge to create synergies for national development and transformation”. On behalf of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, and Government of Uganda, he said, he would like to appreciate the work of Prof. Magara “for writing this historical book ‘*Write Your Dream Book-a Handbook for Authors*’, I would like to take a golden opportunity of officially launch this book for public usage, for God and my Country”.

Speech from Chief Guest, Director of Basic and Secondary Education represented by Mr. George Mutekanga

Mr. George Mutekanga started his remarks with extending greetings from the Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Kataaha Museveni, the Permanent Secretary, and the Director of Basic and Secondary Education. George stated that

in education psychology, when a child is 7 years, he/she is joining P.2, and this means you are growing. He acknowledged all the achievements and the leadership ability to bring together all these professors, writers, and academicians. He singled out Ms. Lucy Lunyolo who came all the way from Botswana, Tanzania and then Zambia, back home to start writing. He called upon all Ugandans to fight the poor reading culture and advised that “if you cannot read, at least know how to write, if you cannot know how to write, at least know how to read”. He informed participants that Government has come up with a program of early green reading in over 12 local languages after realizing a gap in reading and writing culture, a challenge which requires concerted efforts to address. George is in charge of Essay writing, witnessed that “in the writing culture, we cannot begin writing at University level, we must start low”.



He requested UTANA to come forward and support the Ministry of Education and Sports IN promoting the writing culture, especially in the Post COVID-19 era. In this era, he noted that teachers are so frustrated, “why, because they were not prepared”. Some skills, he said are needed to make teachers “write and earn a living, through writing, and the life could continue”. To George, you don’t necessarily need to be a teacher in class—“we must think outside the box”. He implored UTANA to consider the fact that some of “these awards could look at the Post COVID -19” as one of the issues we should write on”. He noted that “there is a lot of fear; people may think that this may take 2 to 3 years, shall we stay like this?” George noted: What to write on should be able to change the mindset of not only our teachers, our children, but all our people, we have so many industries and sectors that are almost down”.

He suggested to UTANA to come on board to ensure that the whole country is mobilized. He was proud that emphasis was put on the local languages, local content, traditional religion, traditional medicine, etc.. For example, “we have heard families breaking down, because they don’t know anything about witchcraft”. Referring to Uganda mission of promoting Buy Uganda, Build Uganda (BUBU), he added on another BUB—“Buy Uganda’s, Build Uganda by Buying Ugandan Books” (BUBUBUB). Coming to the Ministry of Education and Sports, at the Lower secondary level, “we are in the process of making sure that we change our curriculum, we have over 20 subjects, we need these books, and we need writers”. He was happy that writers of curriculum books like, Physics and Literature are part of these being awarded.



Mr.Nassur Taban receiving his award

Acknowledging the representatives of culture, he noted that issues of culture have had a challenge, where enlightenment was associated with speaking English or knowing how to write English. Time has come that we need to appreciate our culture”, he said. He observed that “we have over 65 local languages in Uganda, so building our tribes and culture requires a clear advocacy and strategic alliance. He was encouraged with advancement of the need for representation of authors and publishers in the NCDC Board, a task he promised to follow up with the authority. Whereas the the pandemic is challenging the country, he hoped that God would take us through. Mr. Mutekanga appreciated the Norwegian Association of Non-Fiction Authors and Translators for the support extended to Uganda, with a very big hand clap. He acknowledged Prof. Magara’s ability to encourage the development partners to support us. He called on all stakeholders to come together and support these initiatives to build a Uganda we are proud of.

He concluded by giving award letters as follows:

1. Mr. Nassur Taban El-Tablaz, awarded Shs.3.6 million, his book is ‘*Analyzing O’level Literature, Novel Place and Poetry 2021-2025*’.

2. Source Peter Opak is improving his book ‘*God of Iteso before the Christian God*’. He had published an abridged version, now he wants to publish in full, and he is awarded up to production with Shs.3.6 million.
3. Professor Abasi Kiyimba is looking at ‘*Gender Power and Destiny in all Literature: Lessons of Folk Tales and Proverbs of Buganda*’ and he is awarded Shs. 2.6 million up to editing of his book.
4. Dr. Ronald Kakungulu, was awarded Shs. 1.6 million for his book ‘*Cyber Law in Uganda, In International Encyclopedia of Laws*’.
5. Mr. Eric Namungalu, was awarded Shs.2.6 million for his book “*Casting a CRPD Lens on Disability Rights Law in Uganda*” up to editing.
6. Ms. Lucy Sophie Lunyolo, was awarded Shs.2.6 million for her book “*Kamaliro Ka Lawino, Kimabala kya Lawino*” up to editing.
7. Mr. Ignatius Kagongi was awarded Shs.3.6 million for his book “*Amahiri Tradition*” up to production.
8. Dr. Hassan Lubowa Tugume was awarded Shs.2.6 million for his book “*Ethno Medicine in Buganda: The Strength and Challenges*” up to editing.
9. Dr. John Ngubiri was awarded Shs.2.6 million for his book “*Ordinary Level Physics: Principles, Illustrations and Applications*” up to editing.
10. Mr. Andrew Kigenyi Wansolo was awarded Shs.2.6 million for his book “*Enono Ya Busoga Family Unit – A Complete Government*” up to editing.

Lastly, Mr. Mutekanga requested UTANA to give feedback on the progress of these books. He noted that since his work in the Ministry is to promote reading and writing, the books being supported, including “*Write Your Dream Book*” should be promoted into secondary schools so that students and staff get the culture of reading and writing. He asked everybody from now on to begin writing as one way of sustaining the legacy being initiated. He concluded by declaring the function officially closed.

Commentaries/Remarks by Awardees and other stakeholders

Mr. Andrew Kigenyi Wansolo said “the book is filling a gap by providing knowledge of what happened at the fire place”.



Prof Abasi Kiyimba he felt great that his work has been recognized.” It feels so good, and so encouraging because I have a lot of research lying in my shelves and now am encouraged by this recognition to go and dig it up and start editing it for publication, he remarked. He thanked UTANA for this, not just for the monetary value alone but also because it is inspiring. His earlier publication titled ‘*Omulanga gwa Lawino*’ he said was accepted as one of the set books for A’ Level and schools are buying it. Unfortunately, somebody took them out and started reproducing them, he lamented. He said the protection for authors in this country is so weak that people who are in schools keep on getting copies every year but they are not accountable. “So you feel a sense of frustration that somebody is taking your sweat and benefiting financially from it and you are not getting the benefits from your sweat”, he said. He urged government to beef up protection for writers, otherwise people will be discouraged. Though he likes the idea that they are reading his books, they should also read them through the right channels. Something should come my way because I need it also, so it is not just for those who have not worked for it to benefit”.

Dr. Hassan Lubowa Tugume said: “I feel very happy because African medicine is an alternative to modern medicine. Many people are shying away from modern medicine to traditional medicine because modern medicines are very expensive”. There are instances, he said, where modern medicine has failed and traditional medicine has worked effectively particularly in the field of born setters.

Mr. Ignatius Kagongi said he was surprised to get this award. People used to laugh at him when he was writing his book. But he ignored them because he believed will one day appreciate his contribution. In all schools, we don’t have traditional sport, but this one, ‘*Amahiri*’ is an indigenous traditional sport

and am very proud about it today”, he said. I am very proud that it is appreciated by UTANA today. He disclosed that he wrote most of his books; when he was the General Manager of Mandela National Stadium and while at home. “I would wait when other members of my family had gone to bed and I would get into my study room. I used a lap top; I could write for an hour and then go to sleep.”, he explained. He said he wanted to do something which is relevant to our society and I feel very happy that I am appreciated”.



Dr. Ronald Kakungulu said “I feel very happy that I have been given this award to help me publish my book on ‘*Cyber law in Uganda*’ which is a relatively new area in the field of law, so I am very grateful to UTANA and the Norwegians for funding this project. Well, am a university teacher and my core role is teaching and learning, then research, community outreach and university service, so doing research is part of my job, so it’s not a side business but part of my core activities as a university teacher”.



Mr. Charles Batambuze, the Executive Director, Uganda Reproduction Rights Organisation (URRO) said: “Writers deserve to earn from their sweat, the investments they put in to create income, and as the copyright society”. , I think we are doing our level best to ensure that all writers and all publishers of books and other Literary works in our market of Uganda are able to reap from that effort that they invest; we are carrying out operations, threats against people by raiding other people’s books; we are also making sure that we ease the process of Licensing

a book so that people who would want to use these works use them legally; so that instead of resorting to unauthorized ways, people are able to get authorization from our Society the Uganda Reproduction Rights Organisation.

We are very vigilant about piracy, we are working with URSB, a government agency; we are working with their copyright inspector, the police unit that is based there, and also the territorial police to ensure that the enforcement happens, and I am sure once we testify enforcement, the writers and publishers will begin to earn from their sweat. So everybody should be confident that with their support, because they also have to support us by giving us information for piracy wherever it's happening and we follow up, track down these people, arrest, prosecute and then clean up the Market”.

UBC Interview to Prof. Elisam Magara, Chairman UTANA

Normally authors face challenges in translating ideas into a book. Getting that idea from the head of the person up to the time of production of the book is a very significant challenge on the author. So Most people don't know whether their ideas are good enough to be written down or what some body has told them is significant enough to deserve publication. That's why we concentrate on the process of writing, on the reviewing of the book and editing of the book, such that as the book is going to the publisher, authors have done their part in the publishing processes. Authors should know that the book is for the author, unfortunately, authors always think that editing is the publisher's work. When the publisher has commissioned an editor, he is editing on behalf of the author. So why don't you be part and parcel of editing of your work?, Magara asks. That's why those are the areas that UTANA supports so that we get the books where the authors have participated and are part and partial of the process of production of their books with other stakeholders.

AUTHORS INSPIRED TO PRODUCE GOOD WORKS

Introduction

The Uganda Textbook Academic & Non-Fiction Authors Association (UTANA) held a WRITESHOP on 16th October, 2020 from 8:00am to 5:00pm at Minister's Village Hotel, Ntinda. The workshop was meant to receive work in progress from UTANA

Grant Scheme for Authors (UGSA) beneficiaries for purposes of building capacity and for increased acquaintance of authors in the publishing process.

In his opening remarks, Prof. Elisam Magara, the chairman UTANA thanked the Norwegian Non-Fiction Writers and Translators Association (NFFO) for the support given to UTANA over time and for sponsoring UGSA project. He noted that UTANA is providing different opportunities to authors including an opportunity to join the Writers-Authors Investment Club (WAIC).which he requested members to take seriously and invest their incomes from their authorship works. He also requested members to get access to the copy of the Publishers-Authors Standard Contract-Agreement (PASCA) to familiarize themselves with contract issues in the publishing process. Members of technical committee facilitated the workshop. These were: Mr. Godwin Anywar, Sarah Kyankya, Dr. Muganga, Dr. Justus Biryomumasho with invited technical presenters.

Progress Report of the beneficiaries

All the beneficiaries made presentations on their progress and submitted written reports of their book projects. The authors appreciated the support extended to them by UTANA, since it gave them opportunity to improve on their works. The funding provided them with an opportunity to set time aside to reflect and concentrate on completing the work on their publications. The support also helped many of the authors to fill gaps and polish their works. For example, Prof. Kiyimba came to establish that there are some instances in society, where both men and women are disadvantaged, contrary to popular beliefs in the contemporary world. His focus was on folktales of real life. Another author, Mr. Kagoni Ignatious appreciated the idea of reviewing the book which he had not taken seriously before. He was able to reflect on his work and noted that “there was hardly any sport we played at school that has no foreign influence”. That made him to conclude that “Amahiri is purely ours”. It is Ugandan and was exhibited during The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in 2007. He was thus advised to work with UNESCO for his game to be protected.

UGSA WORKSHOP



To others, the support helped in filling the skills and data collection gaps. For instance, Mr. Eric Namungalu, who is working on *Casting CRPD Lens on Disability Rights Law in Uganda*, had to employ a legal assistant to help him with compiling and organizing his material since he had most of the materials he needed. For others like Andrew Kigenyi: *Enono Ya Busoga Family Unit – A complete Government*, the review enabled him consider and include the essential information that was not captured in the previous version of his manuscript. He was therefore convinced that involving the reviewer helped him to identify shortcomings and gaps in his manuscript and make it a better product. Mr. Nassur Tab'an El-Tablaz was writing on *Analysing O'Level Literature; Novels, Plays and Poetry 2021-2025*. He had been developing his work since 2011. The support from UGSA helped him to finalize with designing of the book.

Ms. Lucy Sophie Lunyolo with her book on *Kamaliro Ka Lawino/kimibala Kya Lawino* noted that while she was inspired by Lumasaaba group to translate the book “Song of Lawino” to the Lumasaaba language, the opportunity provided by this grant helped her to uncover a lot of traditional things in Lumasaaba culture and provided a way to fulfill her expectation to contribute to Lumasaaba community. Mr. Source Peter Opak's view is not far from the rest. His reviewer helped him to identify irrelevant chapters in his book “The God of Iteso before the Christian God”. He said he was thinking of dropping them altogether. This would enable him to focus the scope of his book, he said.

Use of Online Platforms for Book Publication

Many authors face challenges with publishing media, as a result the authors were introduced to self-publishing as one the new trends in the industry.

Ms. Lynda Nakalawa, a self-published author, PhD student and lecturer of clinical psychology from Makerere University facilitated this session. The authors were introduced to self-publishing using the Amazon Kindle platform.



Some of the awardee after a Writeshop

The session covered aspects such as signing up for Amazon via Kindle, uploading a book to Amazon, how to earn from your book when its either being read or purchased online and how to monitor and market one's book on-line. She noted that we use Kindle direct publishing to put your book online. She said that self-publishing should not mean lowering standard and quality of the publishing process expected of publishing firms. Lydia clarified that Amazon gives authors different options of book covers/designs to choose from when publishing ones book with them. She guided authors on preparing their manuscripts before uploading them on Amazon.

Editorial Expectations and Quality Indicators

Sarah Kyankya from the National Curriculum Development Centre (NCDC) advised the participants to ensure that they get appropriate editors for their books. She reminded the authors of the need to mind about language and infringement matters when writing a book. She also advised authors to have their work peer reviewed prior to the final editorial work. Authors should ensure that the text flows, to make better sense of their work and liaise with Illustrators.

The participants were reminded that it is their duty to make sure that what they have written is correct. Language editors should be engaged to look at the language and completeness of the sentences. Peer reviewers, proof readers and editors should work hand in hand with authors to ensure quality work. A reviewer should be engaged early in the work. Where the authors choose to use pictures or illus-

trations, they must be clear and related to the text. Credits in the photos/pictures are very sensitive and should be managed well to avoid issues of copyright infringement. The participants were also reminded to take seriously the often overlooked area of punctuations and references. .

Individual Experience and interaction with Facilitators

Mr. Godwin Anywar emphasised to the beneficiaries the importance of taking the plagiarism report seriously. Plagiarized work has serious legal and other implications and could cost one their career. He advised authors to always acknowledge their sources of information including illustrations. Authors were reminded to ensure submission of the final product to UTANA office. For additional tips, authors were referred to a newly published book titled “Write your Dream Book” to ensure the formatting of the book follows international standards.

Closing Remarks

Mr. Kigenyi Andrew Wansolo, State Minister for Culture, Disabled Persons, Antiquities, Social and Clan Affairs, Busoga Kingdom gave closing remarks for the workshop. He thanked UTANA for the work well done and for being so organised. He requested UTANA to follow up so that people produce the said manuscripts. He noted that UTANA objectives have socially and economically inspired citizens. The Minister asked beneficiaries to produce impressive work that would help UTANA source for more funds to help other authors. He appreciated the contribution UTANA was making through the UGSA grant with a quote, “What ink has written, is proclaimed”. He gave the example of a book which was referred to by a University lecturer in a class that was attended by his wife. He thanked the technical committee for the work well done and UTANA for organizing the Writeshop. He reminded everyone to complete the tasks they were assigned.

SELECTED TESTIMONIES OF THE BENEFICIARIES (USGA AWADEE) 2020-- UGSA PHASE 1

INDELIBLE EXPERIENCE WINNING UGSA AWARD/ BY LUCY LUNYOLO

I came across the advertisement for UGSA on 14th May 2020 on social media. After a few months of e-mails and phone calls, I was offered the award.

Soon I was invited to various workshops and webinars organized by UTANA where I received the necessary training and tools for the project. This motivated me to work on the project full-time. To ensure that the project was completed on time, editing and review of the manuscript was done in phases.



The *Kamalilo ka Lawino* project is a translation of an academic literature book relating to culture and heritage. Its setting is in Kampala, Mbale and Gulu. It started in July 2020 and ends in June 2021. Being recognized has opened doors to new horizons as I am more visible and have a larger reach worldwide. It has cemented my credibility as an author in Uganda. Of what use is “Mama Africa” without roots? I have been motivated to publish more in future. I would like to thank UTANA, the NFFO, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Gender, Culture and Social Development, NCDC, URRO and URSB; without whom, my work would not have been completed. To encourage more authorship, UGSA should be nurtured by all stakeholders and partners because of its role in supporting the well-being of authors and production of valuable works. This calls for the government of Uganda to increase their support for this noble cause.

IT'S MY LADDER: IGNATIUS KAGONGI TESTIFIES

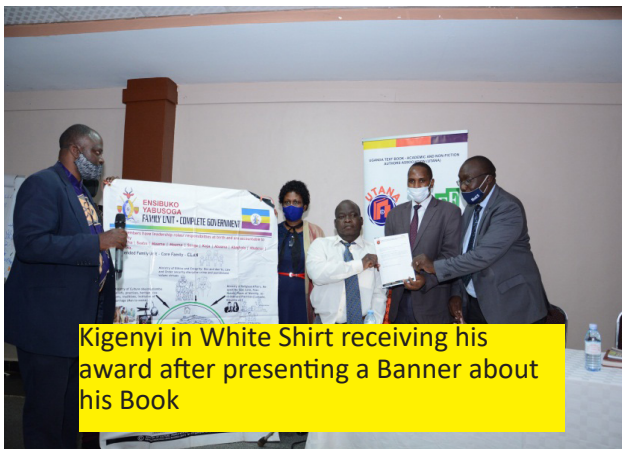
I will forever be grateful to NFFO of Norway and UTANA along with the Grant Scheme for Authors for financially and advisory enabling me realise my cherished dream of translating my AMAHIRI book into OMUZAANO GW'OBUHANGWA in my mother tongue, Runyankore.



in 2007, but also the an Award Winner at The 4th Pan African Writers Symposium in 2016.

So inspired I am by the assistance rendered that I have completed writing another book; KAAMUKUNGU in Runyankore, and now I have started another; WHAT MATTERS. My dream has always been that by such documentation, our ancestors' valuable knowledge will live on! My Publishing Body is Teacher Consultants Readers' Group.

UTANA AS A VEHICLE TO AUTHORSHIP: A TESTIMONY BY KIGENYI WANSOLO ANDREW



Kigenyi in White Shirt receiving his award after presenting a Banner about his Book

UTANA is an upcoming incubation centre for authors of non-fiction materials in Uganda. It has a systematic way of tapping talent in writing through a free and fair advertisement process, where potential authors submit their respective concepts and manuscripts for consideration. These submissions are professionally screened including subjecting the draft manuscripts to plagiarism detector to establish authenticity. This plagiarism test is a major strength and motivation in this cycle, which ensures that quality prospective and unique write-ups are considered for development. The identified grantees are technically groomed into prospective authorship skills and techniques, which can be used to guide others and to peer review prospective books and write-up from other authors with a keen eye. In addition to the seed money, the author is empowered academically and intellectually to see that she or he writes his or her dream book. This participatory approach is a major strength in the UTANA process. For UTANA to serve better, it is recommended that: First, it considers supporting the publishing process as the last input in the project because that is where the community sees the

results of this good work in the project. Secondly, it is empowered to apply its methods of work to all publishable scholarly work especially the plagiarism test and training for future authors. This will reduce wastage of resources, improve quality and build a pool of potentially productive author.

A GOLD MINE: PETER SOURCE OPAK'S TESTIMONY

It was a learning experience. And this was just the beginning, so I felt after going through the hectic UGSA book project. At the beginning I had an I know it all attitude. But this was soon shattered by something I had never heard before: A Plagiarism. Though the percentage of plagiarism supposedly fell within acceptable academic limits, I was not at all pleased. So, I sought to reduce drastically, if not eliminate altogether all traces of the vice.

The reviewer of my work at first said he felt privileged to be chosen to read and comment on my well-researched manuscript of unequalled depth. He described it a gold mine before later on raising a lot of issues that needed to be addressed prior to publication. The gentleman had two doctorates in the field I was writing on. I had no qualifications in that discipline except my drive. Among the issues raised was, of course, plagiarism which he said could have legal implications. Some chapters, he said, were smuggled in because they were irrelevant.

In my opinion the easiest to deal with was irrelevant chapters. I might as well delete them and have a shorter book. But I didn't. I chose the harder route - to make them relevant instead. I also chose to tackle the issue of plagiarism head-on, through attribution. After addressing all the issues, I was impressed by the dramatic improvement in the quality of the final product and thanked the reviewer for being so hard on me.



UGANDA TEXTBOOK ACADEMIC
AND NON-FICTION AUTHORS ASSOCIATION
(UTANA)

UTANA GRANT SCHEME FOR AUTHORS (UGSA) 2021

SECOND CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Uganda Textbook Academic and Non-Fiction Authors Association (UTANA) in partnership with the Norwegian Association of Non-Fiction and Translators Association (NFFO) is implementing a 3 Year project (entitled UTANA Grant Scheme for Authors (UGSA) to support authors through their writing process. The grant will support authors (who are already in their writing process) for facilitation towards the completion of their publication/academic works. It is expected that at the end of the grant, a publication will be ready/available. This is the second round of the competitive grant scheme to benefit authors of academic and general non-fiction works.

Target: Authors of Textbooks, Academic and Non-fiction Works including but not limited to: scholarly works, academic textbooks/ scholarly articles, school textbooks, manuals, biographies/ autobiographies, expository, argumentative, functional, and opinion pieces; Nonfiction essays on art or literature, historical, scientific, technical, or economic writings works of general interest.

Eligibility: If you are currently working on a scholarly or a general non-fiction work and are a member of UTANA, you are eligible to apply. If you are not yet a member of UTANA, you can join at the same time as you submit your application. The grant is intended to provide a an average of Three Million (UGX) to be used for an author to take off time for instance, and devote herself or himself to complete the current writing project. UTANA encourages institutional book/publication with a minimum of 3 people (who are contributors to the publication and are members or willing to be members of UTANA). The grant will be paid out in portions justified by the applicant's proposal following the Result Based Financing (RBF) model.

Selection Process: An Independent Selection Committee will assess the applications and select the most deserving applications. The successful selected candidates shall be approved by UTANA Executive Board, which shall give the award. There are three main criteria for eligibility: Membership of UTANA (and subscribed to the Writers-authors Investment Club), evidence of being engaged in a writing process and Justification that the manuscript shall be a publication available in book form (hard or e-book). Non UTANA members should submit their application together with the membership application <Click here to access the UTANA membership form>. The selection committee aims to offer awards to a wide-ranging group of authors and subjects and shall bear in mind authors writing in rural as well as urban locations; and may consider authors at all levels of education from the untutored to the highest level.. The UTANA Grant Scheme 2nd Call of Applications, 2021 particularly encourages new and upcoming authors to apply. Manuscripts/publications in all approved local languages shall be equally considered.

Application forms are available online at <https://utanauganda.org>. All application should be Submitted through the provided UGSA Application Form <Click to access> addressed to the Project Coordinator, UTANA Grant scheme for Authors (UGA-SA), UTANA, P. O. Box 40277, Kampala, Teachers House, Room 208, Bombo Road E-mail: ugasaproject@utanauganda.org. The closing date for applications is 6th May 2021---- while successful applications will be announced by 28th May 2021.

Membership to UTANA

- New Membership Fee (150,000/=). Includes membership to writers-Authors Investment Club [Click here to access the form for registration]
- Existing members to be up to date with their subscriptions to writers. Authors- investment Club.

UTANA SCHEDULED MEETINGS

6th May 2021, Deadline for UGSA Application Submission

7th May 2021—Selection Committee starts the process

26th May, 2021 Meeting for selection of UGSA beneficiaries

4th June 2021, UTANA Executive Board Meeting

11th June 2021, Writers Authors Investment Club (WAIC) General Meeting

4th to 5th October 2021, Academic Authors National Author Symposium

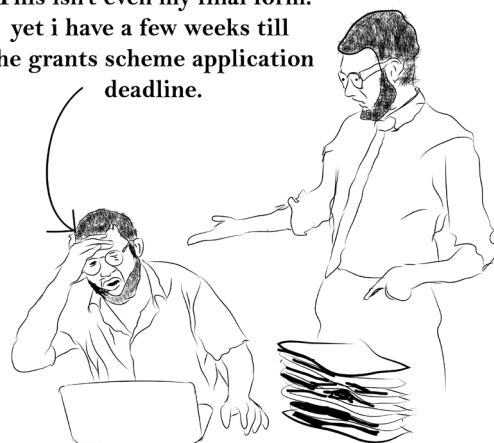
Contact: 0772495592, chairman@utanau-ganda.org, adminn@utanauganda.org.

woooooow, thats alot of paper work. What took u so long?



Illustrated by
Bob Clipper

I can't agree more...!!
This isn't even my final form.
yet i have a few weeks till
the grants scheme application
deadline.



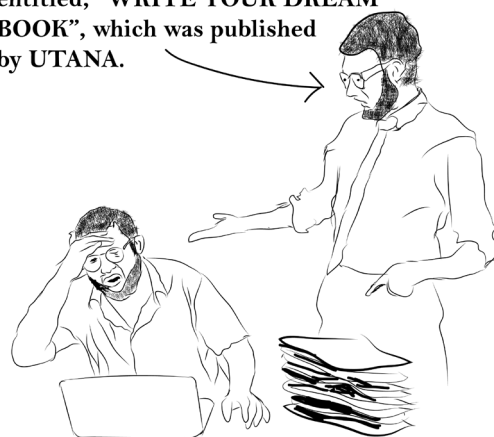
Illustrated by
Bob Clipper

Whats all this?!!!!



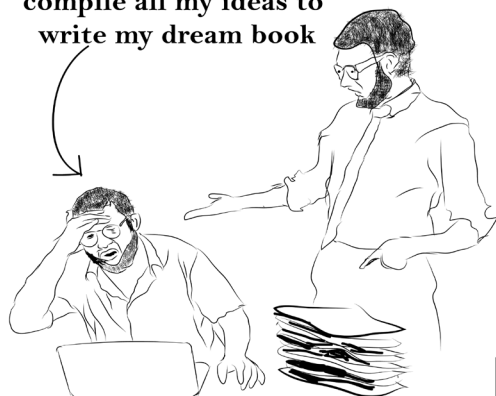
Illustrated by
Bob Clipper

I wud highly recommend u to a book
entitled, "WRITE YOUR DREAM
BOOK", which was published
by UTANA.



Illustrated by
Bob Clipper

I am attempting to mentally
compile all my ideas to
write my dream book



Illustrated by
Bob Clipper

The book has aided many
struggling authors in Uganda
in achieving their dreams.



Illustrated by
Bob Clipper

WRITE YOUR DREAM BOOK

A HANDBOOK FOR AUTHORS

Prof. Elisam Magara

KAMPALA



Uganda Textbook-Academic and
Non-Fiction Authors Association