



HEKIMA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

A CONSTITUENT COLLEGE OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

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Office of the Principal

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19 August 2024

Dear Hekima Family

RE: BECAUSE HEKIMA DESERVES BETTER

The Peace of the Risen Christ!

We are starting the new academic year with gratitude, a bold vision filled with hope, and aware that “if the Lord does not build the house, the work of the builders is useless. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain (Psalm 127:1-2). We place our plans into God’s hands and we are also aware that God uses human instruments that we are. *“No masterpiece was ever created by a lazy artist,”* Anonymous. May we work hard with the right attitude **BECAUSE HEKIMA DESERVES BETTER** (*Kuko Hekima ikwiye ibyiza gusa*). HUC is small but mighty, noted Archbishop Anyolo.

The New Academic Year 2024-2025 was officially and inspiringly opened by Rev. John Baptist Anyeh Zamco, SJ, *Socius* to the President of the Jesuit Conference of Africa and Madagascar on Saturday 17 August 2024. Fr. Zamco also launched our New Strategic Plan 2024-2030. We were deeply honored by the presence of His Eminence Peter Cardinal Turkson who delivered a powerful, substantive, and well-rounded Keynote Speech on “Re-imagining Power Dynamics in the Ecclesial and Socio-Political Loci: Lessons from Vatican II, Ecclesia in Africa, and Synod on Synodality.” It will be published in the coming months. His Grace Archbishop Philip Anyolo urged us: “Whether in classrooms or family homes, on our streets or in offices, proper education, understood and approached from the perspective of formation, is meant to prepare us for life, instilling in us a sense of purpose and commitment to achieving dreams. Jesuit education is about this: an education that abhors mediocrity but places itself in the spirit of the Magis.” There were many other wonderful speeches. For more details, follow the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEiUvFtYkiA> here is also the link to the inauguration photos: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1A10nqiCqCLowz0L65jZKu0XkIOc1nOmX?usp=sharing>

We are starting a new academic year on a high note **BECAUSE HEKIMA DESERVES BETTER**. We have a new strategic plan. Let us get to work so that it is implemented. This will be possible if our faculty, staff and student keep asking ourselves: what can I do so that HUC moves forward and how can I help those charged with the responsibility of leadership to succeed, focusing on bigger issues than talking about people. Everyone’s contribution is needed. While the road may be muddy, and we may not know all the details of how we will get there, we are confident that we will, **BECAUSE HEKIMA DESERVES BETTER**. The clock is ticking now. *“To realize the value of one year, ask a student who failed an exam. To realize the value of one second, ask a person who just avoided an accident. To realize the value on one mill-second, ask the person who won a silver medal in the Olympics.”* You can only **move forward and upward** if you know that you have a sense of holy indebtedness.

Mrs Muhoro (Chair of HUC Council), reminded us of the value of time and hard work: Hard work has no alternatives. Time management and at this level, curiosity to learn, will keep you motivated to accomplish your academic goals. Excellence is not an accident. “Today is a gift, tomorrow is a mystery, yesterday is history! Enjoy the dance.”

Welcome to HUC@41, Forward and Upward with a Bold Vision Filled with Hope.

I remain your servant,

Rev. Marcel Uwineza, SJ, MBA, PhD

Principal (President), Hekima University College

Jesuit School of Theology (JST) and Hekima Institute of Peace Studies & International Relations (HIPSIR)
Jesuit Historical Institute in Africa (JHIA) and Faculty of Theology of the Jesuits of Africa and Madagascar (FTJAM)
Center for Research, Training and Publications (CRTP) and Center for Interfaith Studies in Africa (CISA)