

**Uganda successfully hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) World Academic and 16<sup>th</sup> Makerere University Environmental Health Students' Association (MUEHSA) Scientific Conference in April 2019**

**Faith Atai, George Oryongatum, Rawlance Ndejjo, Rebecca Nuwematsiko, Grace Lubega, Edwinah Atusingwize, Charles Ssemugabo, David Musoke**

It was a great honour for Makerere University Environmental Health Students' Association (MUEHSA), the unifying body of School of Public Health undergraduate students, to work hand in hand with the university faculty to organize the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) World Academic and 16<sup>th</sup> MUEHSA Scientific Conference held from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019 in Kampala, Uganda. MUEHSA participated in more than 20 planning meetings over 12 months and supported identification of partners, conference venue, and putting everything together for a successful event.

The event with a theme “*Environmental Health: a cornerstone to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals*” was unique and the highest ever attended MUEHSA conference with over



500 participants from 17 countries. The deliberations and discussions at the conference from researchers, practitioners, policy makers, funders, implementers, civil society, students and other stakeholders from national and international organisations were geared towards attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Uganda and the world at large.

**Group photo of conference participants with the Guest of Honour Hon. Dr. Joyce Moriku, Uganda Minister of State for Primary Health Care**

The conference activities included remarks from highly distinguished people such as Hon Dr. Joyce Moriku - State Minister of Health for Uganda in charge of Primary Health Care, The President of the IFEH - Dr. Selva Mudaly, Professor William Bazeyo who represented the Vice Chancellor of Makerere University, and Professor Rhoda Wanyenze - Dean School of Public Health. Cultural entertainment, oral and poster presentations, workshops and key note addresses were part of the exciting conference programme. For several of the sessions students attended, there was a lot to learn to inform their academics and career development. Indeed, the IFEH/

MUEHSA conference 2019 was one of those historical events that all Environmental Health students in Uganda and beyond deserved to attend.

The participants from all over the world including: Africa, Asia, Europe, Australia and America



came together to discuss research findings, best practices, lessons learned, and innovations relevant to environmental health training and practice. From the conference evaluation, the most beneficial aspects of the event included: keynote addresses, content, career development and mentorship. The interactions / networking, WASH sessions, NGO interventions, and the first of its kind student led debates were also amazing!

**IFEH President Elect Dr. Susana Paixao hands over the best poster award to Gloria Ahimbisibwe, a Makerere University student**

The key note addresses for each of the three days, breakout sessions on field success stories, innovations and findings, as well as panelists and chairs of various sessions had good advice for



the audience about bridging the gap between practitioners, leaders and researchers focusing on disease prevention. The meet and greet event for MUEHSA students and alumni was a life time memory, reflecting how MUEHSA conferences have grown bigger from the half day conferences held in initial years to 3 days of an incredibly busy schedule of activities. We sincerely acknowledge the enormous support offered to MUEHSA from our Dean Prof. Wanyenze

**Meet and greet session for MUEHSA alumni and students**

The cocktail held at the end of day 1 saw His Worship Erias Lukwago, the Lord Mayor of



Kampala city, welcome the IFEH community, students, researchers and other guests into a socializing evening of bites and drinks, with awarding of certificates to the past 16 MUEHSA presidents as well as the outgoing MUEHSA

**George Oryongatum, outgoing MUEHSA president receives an award from His Worship the Lord Mayor of Kampala city.**

executive. This was another opportunity to network with colleagues, potential employers.

There was so much content that students wished the conference could have been more than 3 days to allow all participants attend other sessions in different halls. Live updates about the conference continued flocking social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. #Ifeh\_muehsa was carrying an enormous amount of traffic all through the conference, and over 100 posts were made during the 3 days. This social media presence enabled us update those who were not physically present at the conference due to unavoidable circumstances.

With such great exposure in organizing a successful conference, we are looking forward to an even more unique 17<sup>th</sup> MUEHSA scientific conference come April, 2020.

**For Health, Prevention is Our Priority!**

**Watch out for the next IFEH World Congress in 2020 in Malaysia**



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**16th**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
**FEDERATION OF**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**HEALTH (IFEH)**  
**WORLD CONGRESS 2020**  
”

**Date:**  
10th-13th August 2020

**Venue:**  
Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC),  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Theme:**  
Environmental Health At The  
Centre Of Sustainable Development

**Email:**  
[secretariat@wceh2020malaysia.com](mailto:secretariat@wceh2020malaysia.com)



- Air Quality
- Built Environment
- Child Environmental Health
- Climate Change and Environmental Health
- Emerging and Reemerging Infectious Diseases Related To Environment
- Environmental Forensics
- Food Safety and Hygiene
- Green Technology and Sustainability Research

- Hazardous Materials/Toxic Waste Management
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Pest and Vector Control
- Sustainable Solid Waste Management
- Waste Water Management
- Water Quality

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• Travel Grant coming soon



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