

His view. The President says staff who are involved in sexual harassment of students and indiscipline cases should not be tolerated.

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KAMPALA. President Museveni yesterday supported Makerere University Vice Chancellor Prof Barnabas Nawangwe for sacking 45 staff especially those who were accused of sexually harassing or abusing female students.

The university appointments board on December 22, 2018 dismissed 45 staff for diverse offences that included fathering children with female students, awarding marks to students in exchange for sex, insubordination, assault and failure to hand in students examination marks in time, among other ills.

"I want to congratulate Prof Nawangwe and his team for being decisive in disciplining lecturers and staff. It is very embarrassing to see a so-called lecturer in court for raping a young girl and he is still teaching. That is rubbish, they should exit," President Museveni said in support of Makerere University's decision to sack the implicated staff.

He was speaking during the university's 69th graduation ceremony at Makerere main campus which kicked off yesterday and will last up to Friday.

The President said staff who are involved in sexual harassment of students, besides other cases of indiscipline, should not be tolerated at the university.

"Nawangwe has proved that people from the remote part of the country can do better jobs than the ones who have been rotating in Kampala. If you commit a crime, you should resign by yourself. We do not want indiscipline, crime, cheating exams, decadency... at Makerere University," Mr Museveni added.

Some staff who were sacked over alleged sexual harassment include a lecturer in School of Social Sciences who was accused of acts likely to undermine the university's image

Museveni backs Nawangwe on sacking Makerere staff



CHALLENGED

The university chancellor, Prof Ezra Suruma, challenged the graduates to unlock Uganda's vast potential in natural resources, aggressively revolutionise agricultural productivity and processing. He said this will enable Uganda's agricultural products compete in domestic, regional and global markets.

and status. The lecturer's trouble started after a story was run on NBS TV on February 26, 2018 implicating him of attempting to have sex

Officiating President Museveni and First Lady Janet Museveni during the 69th graduation ceremony at Makerere University grounds yesterday.

PHOTO BY RACHEL MABALA

with his female student in exchange for marks. The fired staff have since protested their dismissal and petitioned Parliament for intervention.

They contend that the university administration terminated their employment unfairly and unjustifiably.

They have also appealed to the university tribunal.

Graduates advised

At the graduation ceremony yesterday, President Museveni implored the new graduates to organise them-

selves into groups so that government supports them with grants, low interest loans or interest free loans to carry out businesses.

"It is not right to say that there are no jobs in Uganda. The youths are just disorganised. I am imploring them to form groups so that we can give them money to do various businesses like leather turning or maize processing. I do not see the reason why we should import certain items which can be manufactured from here," the President said.