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## Editorial:

Welcome to the second issue of DeIPHE Malawi Fisheries Project Newsletter. This is a quarterly newsletter containing news items on the project.

Editor: E. Kaunda  
Sub-editors: M. Matsimbe  
M. Kavalo

## Contacts:

DeIPHE Malawi Fisheries Project Coordinator, Bunda College, P.O. Box 219, Lilongwe, Malawi.  
E-mail:  
ekaunda@bunda.unima.mw  
delphefish@bunda.unima.mw



# DeIPHE Malawi Fisheries Newsletter

Bunda college, Chancellor college, Mzuzu university and Bangor university

## UK partners support Malawi partners with research equipment

Research equipment has been donated under the Development Partnership in Higher Education (DeIPHE) project. The research partners from the northern (UK) at Bangor University have donated these research equipment to their counterparts in the south (Malawi).

The research equipment include: an inflatable boat, assorted boat accessories, engine, diving equipment, high pressure compressors (3), paddles, out-board motor and accessories,

assorted dive equipment, steel cylinders and journals.



*Bunda College staff displaying the research equipment donated by UK partners*

## DeIPHE Supports Curriculum Review Workshops for Bunda College and Mzuzu University

The curriculum of the aquaculture and fisheries program for Bunda College was reviewed at Andrews Hotel in Mangochi from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March 2008. DeIPHE supported the curriculum review workshop with a sum of £2000. The program was reviewed for Both BSc and MSc in aquaculture and fisheries. At the workshop a new MSc course outlines were made, curricula structures and course outlines were also reviewed. The BSc in Aquaculture and Fisheries Science was developed in 1998 and was implemented in 1999.

Initially the program was operating under Animal Science Department. The MSc curriculum was developed in 1998 and was approved in 2000, implemented in 2001. To date, more than six cohorts of three students have graduated from the program.

In a parallel development, DeIPHE supported the BSc Fisheries Program review workshop for Mzuzu University. The review workshop was held from 28-29 February, 2008 at Chilambula Lodge in Lilongwe.



*Participants of the Bunda College Aquaculture and fisheries curriculum review workshop in Mangochi.*



*Participants of the Mzuzu university Fisheries curriculum review workshop in Lilongwe.*



DR. ROSANNA ROBINSON

Dr Robinson is the teaching coordinator in the College of Natural Sciences at Bangor University. She did her PhD

at Rhodes University, South Africa, studying social behaviour of Lake Malawi fishes and underwater observations for almost 18 months at Thumbi Island in Malawi. She holds a Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education Teaching from the University of Portsmouth and a Masters in Fisheries Biology from Bangor. Subsequently lectured in ecology, evolutionary biology, conservation and animal behaviour, and

been involved in numerous field and laboratory studies on Lake Malawi fishes. She co-ordinates joint UK-Malawi field courses and provides lectures and practical teaching.



HASTINGS ZIDANA

ZIDANA is a researcher at Malawi National Aquaculture Centre, under the Fisheries Department.

He is currently pursuing PhD studies in Biological Sciences at the University of Hull with interest on the impact of introduced fish species on natives in Lake Malawi. Lake Malawi has 450-600 fish species and it is suggested to contain more endemic fish species in the world.

KAFUMBATA is a lecturer of genetics in the Department of Biology at Chancellor College. Currently on leave for doctorate study in Conservation Genetics at the University of Hull. His study on *Phylogeography and Population Genetics of Oreochromis species in Malawi*.



DALITSO KAFUMBATA

The study aims at utilizing molecular techniques to conservation and management questions concerning the *Oreochromis* species as a contribution towards a national restoration program for the fishery.

DeLPHE is supporting some of its members including, Zidana, Kafumbata in their Doctorial programmes and Gladys Chigamba in her MSc research study.



PROF. GEORGE TURNER

Prof. Turner is Head of the School of Biological Sciences at Bangor University, UK. He with the Universities of Hull, Southampton and Aberdeen and spent 2 years working in Malawi for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation in the early 1990s. He is a leading authority on biology of Lake Malawi's fishes and published a book on the identification and biology of commercially exploited cichlid

fishes, as well as over 100 scientific papers and reports on ecology, behaviour, systematics, evolution, genetics, conservation and exploitation of cichlids. His research involves field work including SCUBA diving, molecular genetic methods, morphometrics, modeling and aquarium studies of behaviour and genetics. He co-ordinates the UK University input to the DeLPHE project, and teaches by lectures and practical work on the joint field course in Malawi, as well as supervising research programmes of UK and Malawian postgraduates.

#### JOINT FIELD COURSE BY UK/MALAWI STUDENTS



UK/MALAWI PARTICIPANTS

The joint field course was held from 5th-17th August 2007 at Cape Maclear in Mangochi-Malawi. The aim of the field study was to observe the abundance and behaviour of fishes of Lake Malawi, Cape Maclear. To achieve this objective, students were equipped with snorkeling skills for two days (first and second