

An empty lecture room at the College of Computer Science and information technology on Monday. Photo by Ashraf Kasirye

Makerere bosses to engage unhappy staff

By Hannington Mutabazi

Makerere University authorities assured journalists yesterday that they will continue engaging the dissatisfied staff and persuade them to end the sit-down strike that started on Saturday.

The acting vice chancellor, Dr Eria Hisali, slammed claims that there was unrest at the university.

Hisali said the University Council, had a meeting with Makerere University Academic Staff Association (MUASA) executive yesterday and reassured them that doors remained open for staff to continue with their duties.

"The situation here at the university is not out of hand because we opened last week on Saturday and students have just started reporting back," he said.

He revealed that MUASA had raised its concerns in the general assembly on January 11, including salary enhancement, payment of arrears and other matters which he preferred not to reveal.

However, he said the council chairperson, Lorna Magara, had asked for some time because her council had just taken office last month.

The council is set to meet on February 7, where they will constitute committees that will handle all issues of concern by academic, administrative and support staff.

Ruth Etewu, the MUASA representative on the university council, said the meeting yielded no results because the chairperson of the council kept on saying the same thing that all issues will be looked into after the council meeting next month.

Lecture halls at the university main campus remained empty vesterday.