

University of Malawi – The Polytechnic



Suzgo C. Kaunda (PhD), Senior Lecturer

Suzgo Kaunda's research focus is on sustainable energy systems, environment and climate change. He has been involved in research and teaching at postgraduate level including supervision and examination of Masters students. He is currently Coordinator of Postgraduate Programmes in the Faculty of Engineering, and has been the Lead Applicant for Higher Education Partnerships in Sub-Saharan Africa Project, awarded to University of Malawi in 2017 -2019 by the UK Government through the Global Challenges Research Fund, administered by the Royal Academy of Engineering. He has provided consultancy services to the Malawi Government in coming up of National Communications to UNFCCC COPs (Second and Third) and Technology Needs Assessment in the areas of energy.



Eng. Theresa Mkandawire (PhD), Associate Professor

Theresa Mkandawire is a Registered Civil Engineer. She holds a PhD from Leeds Metropolitan University, UK, and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Engineering from Oklahoma State University, USA. Theresa served as Dean of Engineering from 2013 to 2018 at University of Malawi. She has led programme development for both undergraduate and postgraduate studies. She also led the development a new mining engineering department at University of Malawi, The Polytechnic. Theresa also led the development of an international Masters programme in collaboration with Leeds Beckett University and University of Botswana, which is currently running.



Esther Phiri (PhD), Lecturer

Esther Phiri obtained her PhD in Renewable Energy Systems from Loughborough University (2017); MSc degree in Energy Studies (2009) from the University of Otago in New Zealand and BSc in Electrical Engineering (2002) from the University of Malawi. She has experience in teaching, curriculum development, research and consultancy. She has carried out consultancy work in Energy Management and Module Design for the Technical, Entrepreneurial and Vocational Education and Training Authority of Malawi. Her current research interests revolves around providing practical energy developmental solutions for people living in the rural areas of developing countries using interdisciplinary approaches.



Isaac Gwayi, Lecturer

Isaac Gwayi received his MSc in Electrical Engineering from Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment at University of Cape Town (UCT) in South Africa in 2019. He received his Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from University of Malawi in 2012. He joined the department in 2014 and teaches several undergraduate courses including Control Systems, Measurement and Instrumentation, Embedded Systems and Electronics. He was involved in solar PV installation and monitoring under the Sustainable Off-Grid Electrification for Rural Villages (SOGERV) project funded by the Scottish Government and led by Strathclyde University. His research areas of interest are Control Systems, Measurement and Instrumentation and Renewable Energy.

