



First USAA President Prof. Edward Kirumira presides over the launch of the USAA website



Outgoing USAA President Prof. Peter Atekyereza hands over office to incoming President (2025-2027) Mr. Titus James TWESIGE

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UGANDA SOCIOLOGICAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION



Brief profile of USAA

Background

The Uganda Sociological and Anthropological Association (USAA) is a non-profit professional association for Ugandan Sociologists and Anthropologists within and outside the country. The idea of USAA was conceived by the management and staff of the Department of Sociology at Makerere University in 2006 and the association was officially inaugurated in a general meeting of sociologists held at Hotel Africana 8th August 2006. An interim Executive Committee was elected to steer the progress of the association. The association is duly registered in line with the Companies Act (Cap. 110) as a company limited by guarantee No138538.

Goals and objectives

The goal of the USAA is to bring together and represent Ugandan Sociologists and Anthropologists. The association aims at advocating and acting as a mouth piece and voice the Ugandan Sociologists and Anthropologists. It works for the advancement of sociological and anthropological knowledge by supporting its members to further strengthen their profession through further studies, research and publication as well as creating an enabling environment for professional practice.



USAA Relaunch and AGM at Makerere University Main Hall 2017

Rationale

Sociology and Anthropology are concerned with the science or study of the origin, development, organization, and functioning of human society. It focuses on human social behavior, especially the study of the origins, organization, institutions, and development of human society. With this in mind, USAA works towards achieving the highest level of credibility and recognition of the profession. It exists to effectively guide development practice by advising and supporting government, private sector and other partners in ensuring appropriate analysis and consideration of social, cultural and other society factors in development practice.

Uganda is on a road to recovery from decades of civil strife which was largely rooted into religious and cultural values and societal practices responding to an oppressive social, political and economic environment. The current development efforts are oftentimes faced with challenges of ensuring relevance, appropriateness, limited acceptability and ownership of development efforts by the intended beneficiaries. Compounded with new challenges such as diseases, poverty and exposure to the global culture, this has meant incurring tremendous costs from the mistakes of development practice.

Strengthening the role of Sociology and Anthropology in guiding appropriate development will avert the enormous cost of development efforts that has been experienced in the country over the years largely due to lack of professional guidance.

The activities of the Association

The association engages in the following activities among others

- i. Promoting and protecting the professional ethics and discipline of Sociology and Anthropology.
- ii. Promoting and expanding the provision of professional services to serve the interests and concerns of its members
- iii. Organizing seminars, workshops, conferences, and other activities that can foster development and sharing of knowledge

- iv. To promote research and publication through coordinating grants and publishing a journal
- v. To Network with other National and International Sociological and Anthropological Associations and social scientists at national, regional and global levels in order to advance Sociology and Anthropology.
- vi. Developing and managing an accreditation mechanism for Sociologists and Anthropologists e.g. issuing certificates and awards of merit and exceptional practices
- vii. Advocating and advising government and other development partners to ensure a policy environment that takes into consideration the social cultural dynamics in development practices.



Swearing in of the USAA Executive Committee 2025-2027

Future Prospects

The Association envisions growth into a formidable national professional association with affiliation/membership to other like-minded national and international associations. The profession should be able to guide development practice in Uganda to the benefit of society.

USAA MEMBERSHIP

- There are four types of membership
- I. General Membership: UGX50,000 (Paid Annually)
 - II. Student Membership (Undergraduate): UGX 30,000 (Paid Annually)
 - III. Associate Membership UGX50,000 (Paid Annually). This applies to None Sociologists or Anthropologists