

The Standard

UCU COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Our view

Mugisa's acts a sign of moral decay

For the first time in the history of this university, an elected Guild President has resigned soon after swearing in and naming his cabinet. The resignation of Mr. Andrew Mugisa has sent shivers throughout the community because it is unprecedented.

The process of electing a guild president has been elaborate. Candidates have been screened right from their departments and faculties to ensure that they meet the basic criteria required of a leader in a Christian institution, before they are presented to the student population for the decisive vote.

Although this process was followed, Andrew Mugisa who won the poll with a landslide was found to have uttered false documents during the screening exercise. The people who did the screening should have detected the anomaly in his papers. There could have been an oversight on their side perhaps driven by the belief that as aspiring leaders, the candidates had the responsibility to present genuine documents to reflect their integrity.

It is a pity the young generation seems to be a true mirror of our society. The election of some of the current generation of national leaders has been wrought with forgery, bribery, intimidation and vote theft. The anti-corruption courts are hearing numerous cases to do with corruption and theft of public resources. Our previous guild governments have been implicated in similar vices. All this is evidence that we have a long way to go to instill Christian values on to our people.

It is a pity that the university has to go through the election process again. It is a costly exercise in terms of time and money. While it might be possible to find the time, it is going to be hard to find the money. The likely scenario is that the university administration may have to cut the guild budget to finance another round of elections. This is unfortunate because some guild projects will be either shelved or cut. The student community will lose.

We demand that in future no such a thing happens again and those implicated should be punished.

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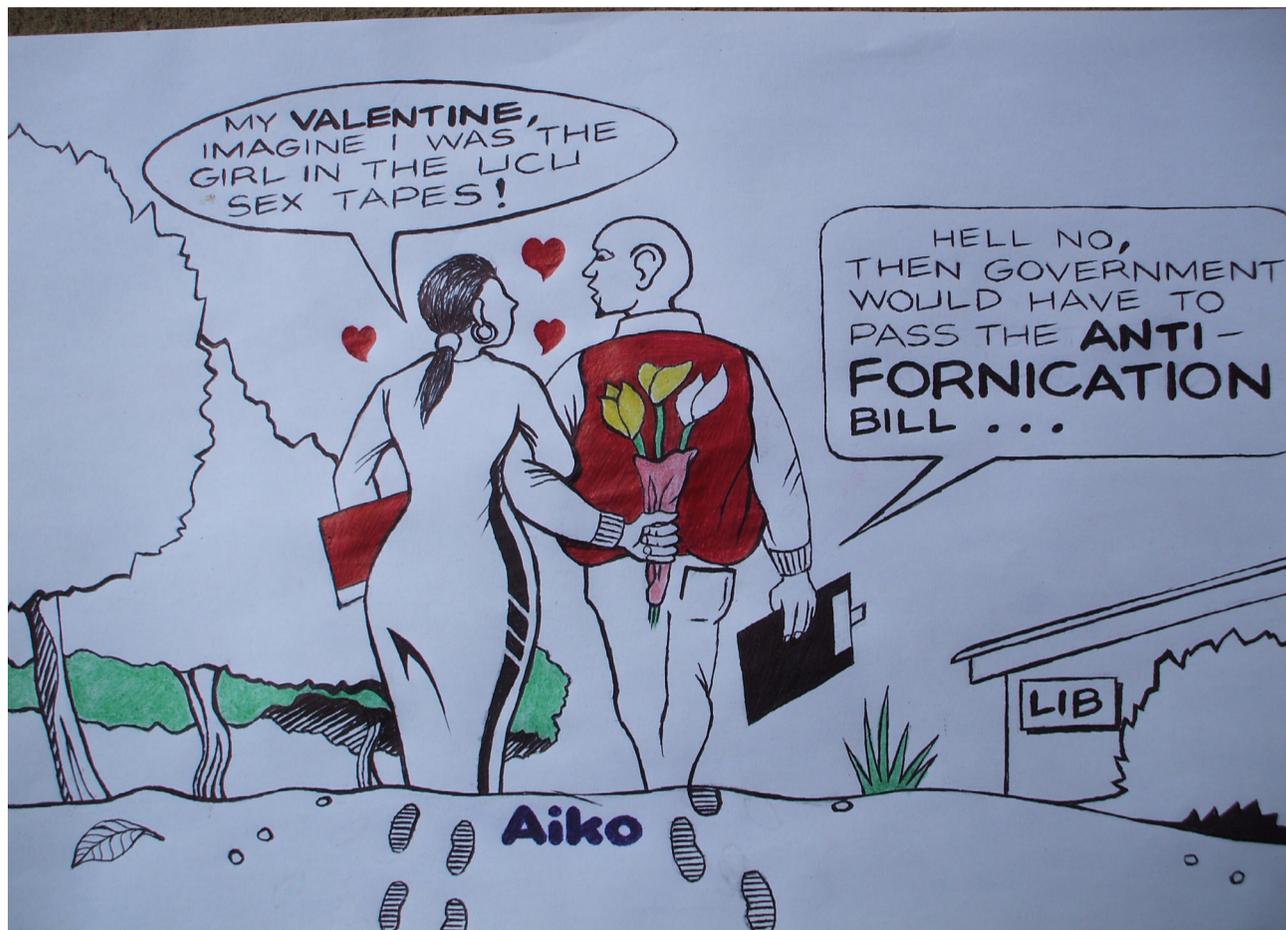
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Waiting for the right person can sometimes take time, but in the end bring us the most joy.

This Valentine's, fall in love with the One who knows you

THOMAS FROESE



It's soon Valentine's Day and you're alone.

The flowers are out there and so is the wine, and much more. One would have to be blind and half-dead not to notice. But you're alone, a rose in the parched desert, and you don't know how much longer you can hang on.

Or maybe, dear UCU student, you're less innocent. You're in a physical relationship, or even several, because you can't bear even your short university life without someone to hold.

Or maybe you're still very different. Maybe it's just the simple carnal satisfaction you want, like a good meal. And God knows everyone needs to eat, right?

But, really, what does God know? It's a good question, especially for a God who once lived in our kind of fleshy body. Have you ever asked?

I did, when I was a student like you. I had my goals: school, graduation, job, marriage. In that order. Without delay, if possible. Sound familiar?

My God, the one I dared to talk to about all this, had other plans. I waited. Yes, I waited for marriage longer than I ever dreamed.

But something happened along the way. First, it wasn't just a wait, but a journey. More so, as time went by, I enjoyed it all, this journey. I changed. And life certainly wasn't boring in the least.

I learned new things about, for one, myself. I also learned about the opposite sex in healthy ways that prepared me. Rather than dying of hunger, I also found I was fed in other surprising and new ways.

Then one day the God I was talking to told me something. He said I would be satisfied with the sweetest of honey. He spoke clearly through an ancient Psalm. Shortly later, I met my wife. We were engaged on Valentine's Day. We were both 35.

She had waited too. Incredibly, no body parts had fallen off either of us. And while this sort of wait seems long to you, think about it. If my wife and I live to even average ages, we'll still be married for decades.

Sure, there is another way. This is the beauty and terribleness of free choice. Nobody denies the pleasure of hooking up at will. Our bodies are made for pleasure and this is nothing shameful or unholy. Those who suggest otherwise are misguided.

But outside of marriage, there will be guilt. Your creator made it this way. And there is a much greater chance of disease. Or public humiliation like felt by the UCU students in last year's pornography scandal.

The pain of regret can happen to anyone, really: any star Sunday school teacher or any mature theology student. And it has. This is the truth of it, of what goes on behind closed doors.

Then consider the discipline from a university that's better than most, but still learning to look past the need for repentance to other important needs, like giving life skills and maternal support to pregnant young women so that innocent children aren't aborted out of fear of losing one's education. More pain.

It's too long you say. You can never wait like I did. That's okay. Your wait will likely be shorter. But, like I did, you'll learn your value as a human being is based on far more than if you have a partner or not.

This Valentine's Day you'll hear other things from media and peers and other universities. They'll look like they're enjoying the big party. None of it is reality. The only reality is that God can see into your bedroom as easily as your heart.

This God knows your needs, just like he knows your past and your hurts and your fears and your future and many other things that neither you nor I can even imagine.

This God also loves you through every step, and misstep, of your journey. What a gift. Nothing, even the mistakes, need be lost.

And how much sweeter it is when our gifts are opened at the right time.

Author and journalist Thomas Froese is a Standard founder. Read him at www.dailydad.net and www.thomasfroese.com