



AJU MONTHLY DIGEST

May 2026



Welcome to the May Edition

The Marketing and Communications Department is pleased to present the May edition of the AJU Monthly Digest.

This publication highlights key academic, marketing, and University-wide activities that continue to position Arrupe Jesuit University as a centre of excellence. Our aim is to keep you informed, engaged, and connected to the pulse of the University.

Thank you for your continued support.

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Beyond the Arrupe Narrative

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

CCJP SOCIAL ANALYSIS WORKSHOP

Arrupe Jesuit University hosted a three-day Social Analysis Workshop from 18–20 May 2026 for Jesuit students, facilitated by the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP).

The workshop explored key social, political, economic, and environmental issues affecting Zimbabwe. Participants were introduced to the principles and methodology of social analysis and engaged in discussions on contemporary national challenges. The service program was highlighted as a central expression of AJU's mandate, reinforcing Arrupe Jesuit University's commitment to forming individuals dedicated to service and the common good.



The workshop was described as insightful and enriching, equipping participants with a deeper understanding of social realities and inspiring greater commitment to justice and service.



The final day focused on pressing social concerns, including poverty, unemployment, migration, drug abuse, gender-based violence, and environmental degradation caused by mining activities. Participants also learned about CCJP's grassroots work in promoting justice and peace within communities.

VISIT OF THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR

His Excellency, Ambassador Maekawa Nobutaka, Ambassador of Japan to Zimbabwe, visited Arrupe Jesuit University and presided over the handover ceremony of books donated to the AJU Library under the "Read Japan Project".

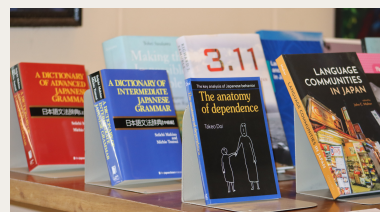
The visit also included engagements with University leadership and a tour of the campus, providing an opportunity to strengthen ties between the Embassy of Japan and the University.

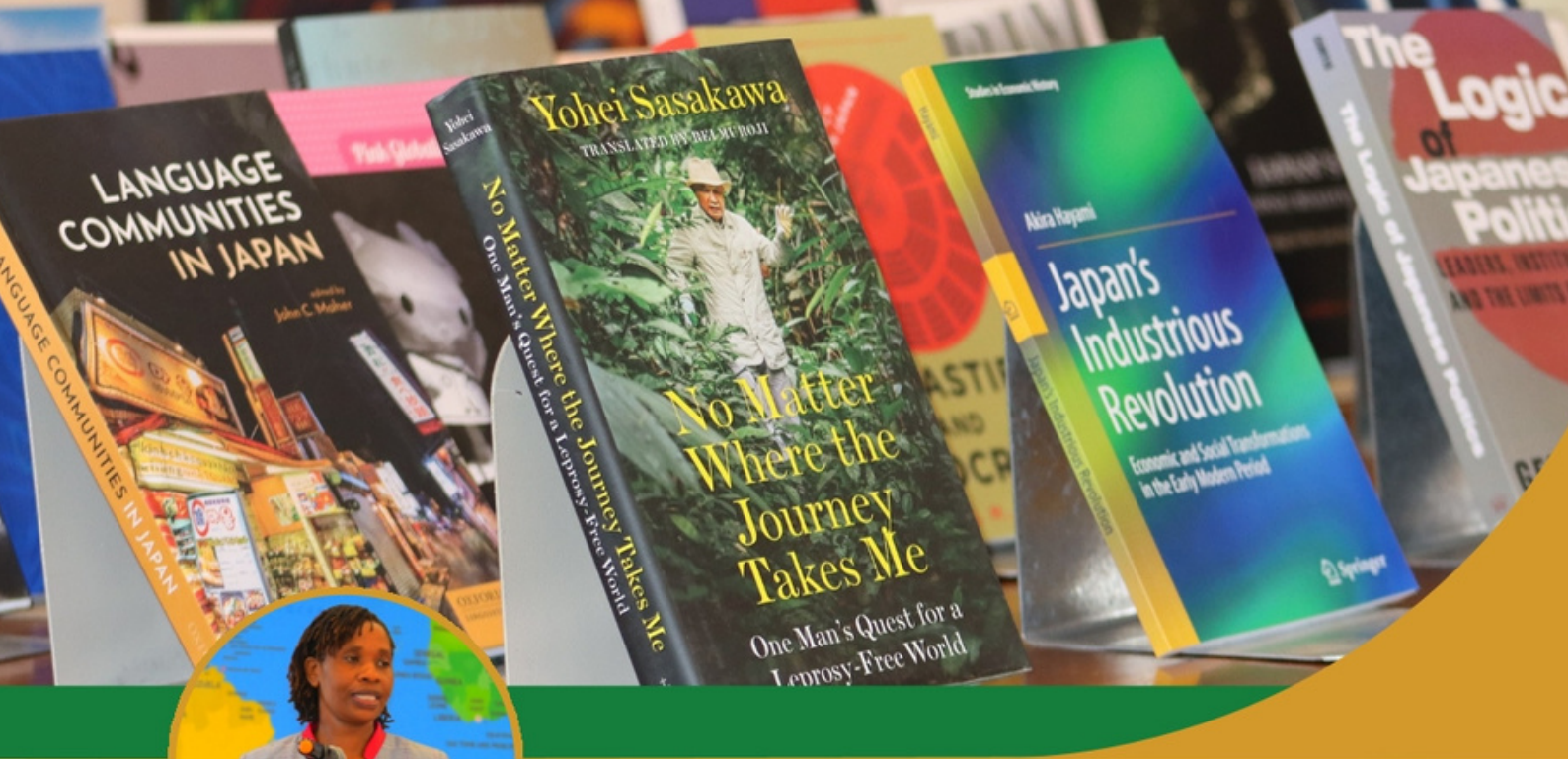


**HIS EXCELLENCY, MAEKAWA NOBUTAKA,
AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN TO ZIMBABWE**



Arrupe Jesuit University expressed its gratitude to the Embassy of Japan for its generous donation of books on Japanese culture and contemporary life, which support the University's commitment to cultural diversity and learning. This visit concurred with the launch of an exciting student exchange initiative between AJU and Sophia University, established under the Japan–Africa Nexus Programme and Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU).





Ms Mildred Gwangu
University Librarian

AJU Library- Equipping for Competence

The Arrupe Jesuit University Library continues to play a vital role in supporting teaching, learning, research and intellectual development within the university community. Rooted in the Jesuit tradition of academic excellence and holistic education, the library remains committed to providing quality information resources and services that empower students, faculty and researchers.

This year marked a significant milestone for the library with the successful winning of the Japan Read Project, an achievement that greatly enhanced the library's collection and strengthened its academic resources. Through this prestigious initiative, the library received a generous donation of books from the Government and people of Japan, further enriching the university's learning and research environment. This accomplishment reflects the library's dedication to expanding access to knowledge and building international partnerships that support education.

Throughout the year, the library continued to improve its collections by acquiring new books, journals, and



electronic resources aligned with the university's academic programmes and research needs. The additional materials received throughout the year broadened the range of scholarly resources available to students and staff, contributing positively to academic success and research output.

The library also remained active in promoting information literacy through orientation programmes and research support services. Students were trained in the effective use of the electronic databases and digital research techniques, helping them develop essential academic and lifelong learning skills.

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

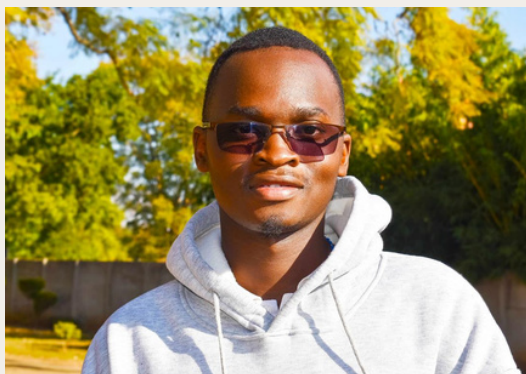
AJU SHINES AT SOPHIA AFRICA WEEK 2026

On May 25, 2026, Arrupe Jesuit University made a vibrant impact on the global stage during Sophia Africa Week, a collaborative initiative between AJU's Centre for African Studies and Sophia University in Japan. Representing our community with distinction, AJU students Maxwell Tinashe Nyasulu and Sr. Conceptor Gora who volunteered to work in the Centre for African Studies took centre stage to share the essence of the Arrupe spirit.

During their presentation, Maxwell and Sr. Conceptor introduced AJU's rich academic ecosystem, highlighted the unique cultural charm and heritage of our region, and offered inspiring, supportive messages to attending high school and university students. Their insights successfully sparked deep interest among international peers, paving the way for future global studies and cross-continental collaborations. We commend our student ambassadors for representing AJU so brilliantly!



Sr Conceptor Gora



Maxwell Tinashe Nyasulu

MAGIS EXCHANGE

Nicole Matambudza, a third-year BCom (Accounting & Management) student, reflected on her transformative experience representing Arrupe Jesuit University on the MAGIS Exchange Programme at Universidad Loyola Andalucia in Seville, Spain.

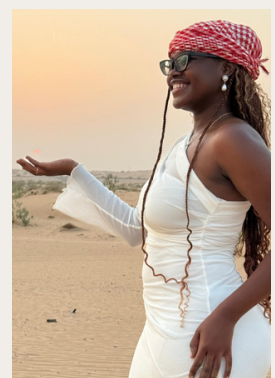
During her exchange, Nicole embraced new cultures, gained fresh perspectives, taught English to local children, and built meaningful international connections. Her travels to Dubai, Portugal, and Madrid further enriched her appreciation of diversity, service, and global citizenship.

She described the experience as a journey of personal growth, learning, and cultural exchange that broadened her worldview and deepened her commitment to serving others.



Adding to her achievements, Nicole has been accepted into the prestigious GOAL NextGen Youth Programme. Selected from more than 2,000 applicants worldwide, she will join a global network of young leaders addressing critical issues such as climate change and social inequality while developing skills in sustainable finance, project management, and advocacy.

Her accomplishments reflect the excellence, leadership, and global outlook fostered at Arrupe Jesuit University, and she continues to proudly represent both AJU and Zimbabwe on the international stage.



ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

CLASS OF 2026 GRADUATION CEREMONY

Arrupe Jesuit University celebrated its Graduation Ceremony under the theme, "Forming Ethical Leaders for a Transformative World: Knowledge, Values and Service." The event marked an important milestone for the graduating class, recognising their academic achievements and commitment to the University's mission.



The ceremony brought together graduates, families, faculty, staff, and distinguished guests. The University was honoured to welcome Professor Sunungurai Dominica Chingarande, Vice Chancellor of the Women's University in Africa, as Guest of Honor while the Most Reverend Apostolic Nuncio to Zimbabwe, Mons. Janusz Stanislaw Urbańczyk, served as the Main Celebrant. Speakers encouraged graduates to lead with integrity, compassion, and a spirit of service.



Reverend Apostolic Nuncio
Mons. Janusz Stanislaw Urbańczyk
Main Celebrant



Vice Chancellor of the Women's University in Africa
Professor Sunungurai Dominica Chingarande
Guest of Honor

Outstanding students were recognised for academic excellence and service to both the University and the wider community, embodying AJU's values of leadership, excellence, and social responsibility. We had graduates from the following degree programmes:

- BSc in ICT,
- BCom in Accounting and Management,
- BEd in Inclusive Education,
- BA in Transformational Leadership,
- Diploma in Child Protection Studies,
- BA in Philosophy,
- Postgraduate Diploma in Philosophy,
- MA in Philosophy,
- Diploma in Ignatian Spirituality,

as well as various short courses. Our Graduates are equipped to contribute ethically and professionally to the industry and society through the values and skills gained at AJU.



The University also acknowledged the support of its corporate partners, whose sponsorship and participation contributed to the success of the celebrations.



We would also like to thank Hon George Mashavave who is the MP of Mt Pleasant for partnering us. The graduation ceremony reaffirmed Arrupe Jesuit University's commitment to holistic education and to preparing graduates to make meaningful contributions to society.



ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Welcoming the New Vice Chancellor

Heartfelt congratulations are extended to the newly installed Vice Chancellor, Dr. Joseph Afulo Oduor, S.J., as he begins this important journey of leadership and service.



Vice Chancellor, Dr. Joseph Afulo Oduor, S.J.

The installation ceremony took place during the graduation ceremony held on 29 May 2026. Dr. Joseph Afulo Oduor's installation marks a significant milestone and an exciting new chapter for the institution. Bringing a wealth of wisdom, academic excellence, and a deep commitment to the University's core values, he is uniquely positioned to guide the University toward a future of innovation and growth.

The University looks forward to thriving under his visionary leadership and stands ready to support him in advancing the institution's mission.

The entire University offers its warmest wishes and unwavering support to Dr. Joseph Afulo Oduor for a highly successful and impactful tenure.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

PUBLICATIONS

Faith, Culture and Sexuality in Africa

A new edited volume, ***Faith, Culture and Sexuality in Africa***, has been published and co-edited by Fr Dr Isaac Mutelo, OP, Ms Beullah Matinhira, and Dr Emmanuel Phiri.



Fr Dr Isaac Mutelo, OP

The publication brings together leading African scholars to explore the intersections of religious belief, cultural practices, and human sexuality across diverse African contexts. Drawing on empirical research, theological reflection, and social analysis, the contributors examine how faith traditions and cultural norms shape identities, values, and social relationships.

The volume offers a nuanced and balanced perspective on contemporary issues, fostering deeper understanding of the evolving relationship between faith, culture, and sexuality in Africa while highlighting both continuity and change within African communities.

You can access the book online via the publisher's website here:

<https://www.domuni.eu/press/en/book/faith-culture-and-sexuality-in-africa/>

Physical copies will also be available in the library by June.

These achievements reflect Arrupe Jesuit University's continued commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and service. As the University expands its contribution to knowledge creation and innovation, it remains dedicated to forming competent, ethical, and socially responsible leaders equipped to make a meaningful impact in Zimbabwe, Africa, and the wider world.

School of Engineering and ICT Publications

The School of Engineering and ICT is pleased to announce the publication of several research papers in the IEEE Xplore Digital Library as part of the proceedings of the Zimbabwe Conference on Information and Communication Technologies (ZCICT) 2025.

These publications reflect the School's ongoing commitment to research excellence, innovation, and the advancement of knowledge in engineering and information and communication technologies. The contributions showcase the work of faculty and researchers in addressing contemporary technological challenges and developing solutions with local and global relevance.

The published papers are listed below:

1. ***T. C. Mhiribidi and P. Kadebu, "Secure Exam+: A Privacy-Conscious AI and Biometric Framework for Online Assessment Integrity," 2025 4th Zimbabwe Conference of Information and Communication Technologies (ZCICT), Chinhoyi, Zimbabwe, 2025, pp. 1-8, doi: 10.1109/ZCICT67553.2025.11502705.***
2. ***I. Tafirenyika and E. T. Chigodo, "Facial Recognition in Online Examinations: Harnessing Converging Technologies to Redefine Online Exam Integrity," 2025 4th Zimbabwe Conference of Information and Communication Technologies (ZCICT), Chinhoyi, Zimbabwe, 2025, pp. 1-5, doi: 10.1109/ZCICT67553.2025.11502690.***
3. ***I. Tafirenyika and E. T. Chigodo, "JustListIt: A Trust-Enhanced Digital Marketplace Transforming Zimbabwe's Real Estate Through Emerging Technologies," 2025 4th Zimbabwe Conference of Information and Communication Technologies (ZCICT), Chinhoyi, Zimbabwe, 2025, pp. 1-7, doi: 10.1109/ZCICT67553.2025.11502701.***

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Farewell to AJU Staff

The University bids farewell and expresses its sincere gratitude to several members of staff for their dedicated service and contributions to AJU.

Special appreciation is extended to:

Dr. Thomas Mbatna, SJ, who served as Registrar and Pro Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance for the past two years.



Fr. Collins C. Obidiagha, SJ, for his service as Dean of the School of Engineering and ICT.



Mr. Mapeza Maselechi for his leadership as Director of the School of Business, Management and Development and Director of Short Courses over the last two years.



Mr. Victor Manirakiza for his valuable contribution as Assistant Administrator.



Their commitment, hard work, and service have greatly enriched the University community, and we wish them all the very best in their future endeavors.

Congratulations to Dr Zangairai

Arrupe Jesuit University extends its heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Zangairai on the successful completion of his PhD in Religious Studies from the University of Pretoria, South Africa. His doctoral thesis, ***The Concept of Salvation in the Karanga Indigenous Religion of South-Eastern Zimbabwe***, was approved on 22 February 2026, and he graduated on 26 May 2026.

In recognition of his outstanding academic achievement, Dr. Zangairai also received a Student Union Academic Merit Award. The University celebrates this significant milestone and wishes him continued success in his academic and professional endeavors.



Well done Dr Zah !!!!

Five Months in the Halls of AJU as A Fieldwork Researcher Learning the Way in Which Jesuit Charism relates to Education 5.0.



By Fr Laurien Nyiribakwe

When I joined the Society of Jesus, one question stayed with me through my novitiate, time in the classroom, chapel, and currently during my postgraduate studies at the University of Glasgow: How can Jesuit education truly connect with secular, postmodern policies that seem to no longer use its language of grace, excellence, and *Cura personalis*? This question became the focus of my postgraduate research. During a five-month placement, I explored it from inside Arrupe Jesuit University in Harare.

In 2022, I joined AJU as a new lecturer in graduate studies, but I mostly saw myself as a learner. I wanted to observe, listen, and reflect on how this academic community lives out the Ignatian Pedagogy while meeting the demands of Zimbabwe's Education 5.0. This national policy focuses on innovation, industrialisation, and measurable results. At first glance, Education 5.0 seems to leave little room for reflection, daily examen, or social justice, and that troubles my heart. Why should a Jesuit institution care about it?

Having taught at the university before, I thought five months (From January to May 2026) would be enough to gather the data I needed. I interviewed lecturers, gave questionnaires to students, and observed their seminars and workshops. Over time, I noticed things that short visits may easily miss. In one workshop, a student encouraged his peers not just to design an innovative project, but to first consider its ethical impact. What might this App mean for its users? This way of thinking exemplified an Ignatian spirit in action—reflecting before acting—rather than a purely secular approach. Among many Ignatian followers, I saw neither resistance to Education 5.0 nor blind acceptance, but a thoughtful conversation with Ignatian spirituality: letting go of attachment to profit-driven products and services, except those that help the common good and ultimately, the Greater Glory of God (AMDG).

For me, AJU became a Kairos, what Ignatius called “finding God in all things.” Postmodern students, who often question absolute truth, were not judged. Instead, they were encouraged to think about critical issues of our times, including polluted cities in Africa, corruption, and the careless use of AI. The research helped me learn how to question policies, but my five months at AJU taught me even more: Jesuit education invites us into a dialogue, not with pre-made answers, but with a thoughtful heart, trusting that God is present even in secular policies.

I acknowledge that I am yet to ponder the data I collected; I know I have not yet finished this fieldwork. The question still stays with me in prayer, reading, and during quiet moments of writing. Maybe, in time, articles or a framework will come from this research. For now, I am still exploring and have more questions than answers. That is an added reason for which I remain grateful. My sincere thanks to every academic, student, leaders, and Jesuit companions who welcomed me into their offices, classrooms or houses and shared their experiences. As one lecturer said, you let me be “a guinea pig for fieldwork; observing, asking imperfect questions,” and learning from your generosity. I am thankful to Arrupe Jesuit University for their hospitality and to the University of Glasgow for trusting a new researcher with such an important question.



Induction of the new AJUSA Committee 2026/2027



Elected Members of Arrupe Jesuit University Students Representative Council 2026/2027



Casper Mabvundwi
President-elect



Oleg Kamanzi
Vice President-elect



Erik Chikuemeka
Treasurer-elect



Chipochashe Rusike
Secretary-Elect



Stewart Masongomai
Chairperson, Welfare and Charity
Committee-elect



Pius Mugisha
Chairperson Sports and
Entertainment-Elect



Kudzai Shusha
Chairperson Culture and
Liturgy Elect

Congratulations to the newly elected and inaugurated AJUSA committee members as they assume their leadership responsibilities for the coming year. The University community wishes them success in their service to the student body.

Appreciation is also extended to the outgoing committee, led by President Thelma Tadiwa Chiromba, for their dedicated service and valuable contributions to both the students and the University.

The University also acknowledges the Dean of Students for coordinating the publication of the 2026 Yearbook, which captures and celebrates key moments in student life and the University community.

STUDY AT ARRUPPE JESUIT UNIVERSITY

Arrupe Jesuit University offers a wide range of undergraduate programmes and professional short courses designed to prepare students for success in a rapidly evolving global environment



**ADMISSIONS
OPEN FOR AUGUST
2026 INTAKES**

Your future starts here!!!

Enrol Now

For further inquiries:
+263718959249 | marketing@aju.ac.zw | admissions@aju.ac.zw

Arrupe Jesuit University

Why Choose AJU?

- ✓ Industry-relevant and future-oriented programmes
- ✓ Practical, hands-on learning experiences
- ✓ Strong international partnerships
- ✓ Flexible study options for diverse learners

Application Link <https://apply.apps.aju.ac.zw/>

Join a University that is shaping ethical leaders, innovative thinkers, and professionals ready to make a global impact.

STUDY AT ARRUPPE JESUIT UNIVERSITY



ARRUPPE
JESUIT
UNIVERSITY
EVER TO LOVE AND TO SERVE

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY

DIPLOMA

Deepen your faith. Discern your path.
Transform your world.

A two-semester diploma that deepens your faith, builds inner freedom and equips you to bring Ignatian spirituality to a world in need.



“
Find God
in all things.
– St. Ignatius of Loyola

COST
300 USD
PER SEMESTER

Scholarships available
for those in need.



DEEPEN YOUR FAITH

Grow in relationship
with God.



DISCERN YOUR PATH

Make wise decisions
with clarity.



SERVE OTHERS

Bring spirituality
to life through
service.



TRANSFORM THE WORLD

Become an agent
of hope and
transformation.



DURATION

Two Semesters per year



MODE OF DELIVERY

Online (Saturdays)
+ Block Week per semester

WHAT YOU WILL GAIN

- ✓ Ignatian Spirituality & The Spiritual Exercises
- ✓ Prayer, Discernment & Spiritual Direction
- ✓ Leadership, Social Spirituality & Service
- ✓ A deeper relationship with God and others
- ✓ Skills to transform lives and communities

THE DIPLOMA INCLUDES

Guided learning in Ignatian spirituality, biblical studies, world spiritualities, leadership, social engagement and more.
Opportunity for a directed Ignatian Spiritual Exercises retreat in daily life.

*Begin your journey.
Be transformed.*



OPEN TO

Anyone passionate about
faith, growth & service

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



5 O'LEVELS

(OR 5 YEARS WORKING EXPERIENCE
IN A RELEVANT FIELD)

ACCREDITATION & AWARDS



- Arrupe Jesuit University Diploma
- One Year Part-time Certificate of Attendance
- One Year Part-time University Certificate

COURSE FLEXIBILITY



- Two Semester Part-time University Diploma
- One Year Part-time Certificate (without exams)
- Certificate of Attendance (lectures only)

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\$20

Application
Fees



EVER TO LOVE AND TO SERVE

Join a University that is shaping ethical leaders, innovative thinkers, and professionals ready to make a global impact.



Ms Patience Tsikira **Marketing and Communications Manager**

Beyond the Arrupe Narrative: Telling the Arrupe Story Better

At Arrupe Jesuit University, we believe that every institution has a story, but not every institution tells it well. Over the past academic year, the Marketing and Communication Department has intentionally embraced a strategy centred on one powerful idea: telling the Arrupe story better.

For us, marketing has gone beyond visibility and promotion. It has become an opportunity to communicate identity, preserve institutional memory, and showcase the transformative experiences that define life at Arrupe Jesuit University. In a rapidly changing digital world, we have chosen authenticity by telling stories that reflect not only academic excellence, but also the values, leadership, creativity, and service that continue to shape the University.

This vision has manifested itself in one of our biggest projects this year: the documentary *Beyond the Arrupe Narrative*, which was launched on graduation day on 29 May 2026. More than just a documentary, the production reflects who we are becoming as a University. It captures the lived experiences behind the institution — the voices of students, alumni, staff, and partners whose journeys continue to shape the Arrupe identity beyond the classroom.



Throughout the year, the department has strengthened the University's visibility through initiatives that place people at the centre of communication. Through alumni profiling, we have celebrated graduates whose impact continues to reflect the values of Arrupe Jesuit University in different sectors and communities. Through Magis Exchange profiling, we have highlighted global experiences and intercultural learning that broaden the horizons of our students. Career expos and parish visits created spaces for engagement with prospective students and stakeholders, while digital campaigns allowed us to connect with wider audiences in more creative and meaningful ways.

AJU Documentary: Beyond the Arrupe Narrative



<https://youtu.be/hJJdTtYt6jU?si=kLqrK4KQoakwxzko>

Upcoming Veread Conferences



12 June 2026



18, 25, 29 June 2026

CONTACT



www.aju.ac.zw



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0242745411

Thank you for your continued support in building the Arrupe Jesuit University community. Together, we move forward in excellence and impact.

