



AJU MONTHLY DIGEST

August 2026



Welcome to the August Edition

The Marketing and Communications Department is pleased to present the August 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.

In this issue, you will find highlights from the mark of the beginning of the academic year 2026/2027 the Opening Assembly, milestones we have reached with the new staff and students portal, the new website and strategic outreach initiatives.

Thank you for your continued support in building the AJU Brand.

IN THIS ISSUE

1. Academic Highlights

- Academic Opening Assembly
- August Intake Orientation
- Enhancing the Digital Experience at AJU
- Blended International Workshop: AI and Human Dignity

2. International Engagements

- African Jesuit Education Capacity Building Academy

- Magis- Exchange
- Japan-Nexus exchange

3. Marketing Activities

- Education Expo
- Career Guidance Expo

4. Staff Development

- New Appointments
- Professional Achievement

5. Professor Channels Tributes

6. AJU Sports

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Opening of the 2026/2027 Academic Year

Arrupe Jesuit University officially opened the 2026/2027 academic year, marking an important milestone in the University's journey. The occasion brought together new freshmen and returning students as the University welcomed them into a new year of learning, growth, and transformation.



The Guest of Honor, Rev. Fr. Wilfred Sumani, S.J., shared an inspiring message to the new and existing students. In his speech, he offered guidance and encouragement to students as they embarked on the new academic year, reminding them of their potential to grow, achieve their goals, and become more than they may currently envision for themselves.



Guest of Honor Rev. Fr. Wilfred Sumani, S.J.

We wish all AJU students a fantastic and fulfilling academic year. Keep up the good work, stay inspired, and continue striving for excellence in all that you do!



A Warm Welcome to Our August 2026 Intake!

Arrupe Jesuit University was delighted to welcome a new cohort of students for the August 2026 intake. Students joined us across all four schools, bringing fresh energy, enthusiasm, and new perspectives to our University. We are delighted to celebrate the continued growth of enrolment at AJU, a reflection of the growing confidence and trust. We warmly welcome our newest members to the AJU family and look forward to journeying with them throughout their University experience!



The University staff and AJUSA also reaffirmed their shared commitment to walking alongside students throughout their University journey, from their very first lecture to the moment they cross the graduation stage. Together, they remain dedicated to equipping students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to thrive, make a meaningful impact, and become leaders who serve with purpose.

Enhancing the Digital Experience at AJU

AJU is taking a bold step forward in its digital transformation. The University has launched a new website and enhanced its student and staff portals creating a more modern, accessible and seamless digital experience at AJU.

To support a smooth transition, the IT Department organised a training session for students and staff, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to navigate the new portal with confidence. The training covered key functions such as course registration and other administrative tasks, helping to simplify processes and enhance the overall university experience.

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

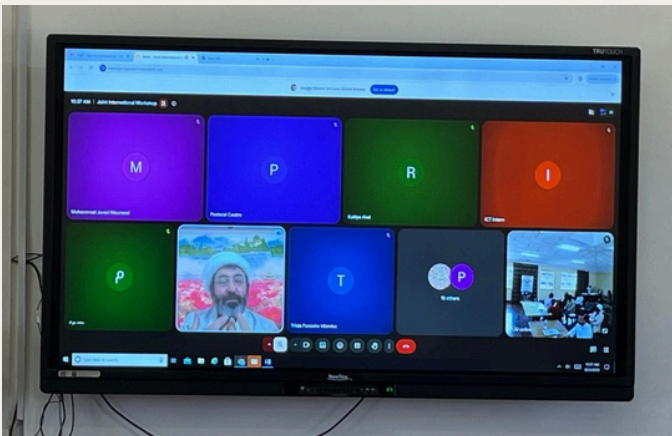
Blended International Workshop Explores AI and Human Dignity

Arrupe Jesuit University, in collaboration with the International Institute for Islamic Studies in Qom, Iran, hosted a thought-provoking Blended International Workshop on “Artificial Intelligence and Human Dignity: Christian, Islamic, and African Perspectives.”

The workshop brought together diverse voices and perspectives to explore the opportunities and challenges presented by Artificial Intelligence, while reflecting on the importance of safeguarding human dignity in an increasingly digital world. The engaging discussions highlighted the value of Christian, Islamic, and African perspectives in shaping a more ethical and human-centred approach to AI.



The workshop provided a platform for interreligious dialogue, bringing together Christianity, Islamic, and African Traditional Religion perspectives on the ethical, spiritual, and social implications of Artificial Intelligence. Discussions highlighted the need to place human dignity and the common good at the heart of AI development and use. International stakeholders also joined virtually, enriching the dialogue with diverse global perspectives.

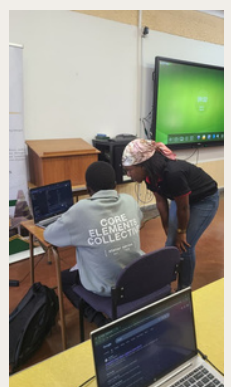


Inspiring Young Innovators Through Technology

The School of Engineering and ICT hosted an exciting Computing and Robotics Holiday Bootcamp for young learners aged 8 and above. The programme introduced participants to the fascinating world of coding, robotics, and hands-on technology, providing a fun and engaging environment for them to learn, explore, and create. Through practical activities and interactive sessions, the young innovators had the opportunity to develop new skills, spark their creativity, and discover the possibilities that technology offers. The bootcamp was a wonderful step towards nurturing the next generation of tech enthusiasts, problem-solvers, and innovators.



The bootcamp was facilitated by technology expert Ms. Nyasha Faith Bvindi from FabXLab, who guided the young participants through an engaging and interactive learning experience. The programme provided a valuable platform for young innovators to develop practical skills, explore emerging technologies, and nurture creativity through hands-on learning and experimentation. Participants also had the opportunity to experience Virtual Reality firsthand, offering an engaging introduction to immersive technologies. This experience aligns closely with the practical and creative learning approach embedded in our Virtual and Augmented Reality degree programme, which equips students with the knowledge and skills to innovate in this rapidly evolving field.



ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

AJU at the African Jesuit Education Capacity Building Academy

The Vice-Chancellor of Arrupe Jesuit University, Fr. Dr Joseph Afulo Oduor S.J, and the Dean of the School of Education and Leadership, Dr David Kaulem, joined senior education administrators from across Africa for an in-person curriculum co-design meeting held in Seville, Spain.



The meeting brought together key stakeholders to shape the curriculum and overall framework of the proposed academy. Discussions focused on the programme format, participation model, funding arrangements, and plans for the academy's launch.

The Seville sessions focused on understanding leadership challenges, identifying essential leadership competencies, defining participant selection criteria, and developing the academy's curriculum and pedagogical model.



The meeting marked an important step towards developing an institution that responds to the distinctive leadership needs of Jesuit higher education institutions across the African continent and Madagascar.

AJU Student Represents Zimbabwe at UNESCO Consultation on Africa's Education Future

Arrupe Jesuit University proudly celebrates Nicole Matambudza, a Level 3.2 Accounting and Management student, who represented Zimbabwe and AJU at the UNESCO SDG 4 Youth & Student Network Consultation on the Post-2030 Education Agenda for Africa, held on 31 July 2026.



The consultation brought together young leaders and education stakeholders from across Africa to share perspectives and contribute to shaping the continent's post-2030 education agenda, with a strong focus on ensuring that youth voices inform the future of education.

Nicole's participation reflects AJU's commitment to nurturing globally engaged, socially responsible leaders who actively contribute to shaping society and Africa's future.

Well done Nicole !!!!!

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

AJU Student Joins International Innovation Initiative

Samantha Maunganidze, a Cybersecurity student at Arrupe Jesuit University, proudly represented AJU in the **SADO Project**, a Sophia-Africa initiative fostering global collaboration, innovation, and academic excellence. Her participation, made possible through the **Japan-Nexus Exchange Programme** in partnership with Sophia University, Japan, reflects AJU's commitment to providing students with transformative international learning and exchange opportunities. Samantha's involvement highlights the University's growing global engagement and the capacity of its students to contribute meaningfully to international academic and innovation platforms.



Her participation is a testament to the opportunities available to AJU students to connect, learn, and contribute beyond the University. Samantha's involvement also highlights AJU's continued commitment to empowering students to take part in impactful international initiatives and to become confident contributors on the global stage.



Global Opportunities in Action: Zoe Demanyundo Goes to Spain

Arrupe Jesuit University's student, Zoe Demanyundo, studying Social Work, participated in the **MAGIS Exchange Programme** in Spain, gaining valuable international and cross-cultural exposure.



The exchange provided Zoe with an opportunity to broaden her professional perspective, engage with diverse communities, and deepen her understanding of social work in an international context. The experience reflected AJU's commitment to forming competent, compassionate, and globally minded graduates equipped to address challenges in an increasingly interconnected world.



Through programmes such as the MAGIS Exchange, AJU continues to provide students with opportunities to develop skills and perspectives that extend beyond the classroom and prepare them to make a meaningful impact locally and internationally.

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

My Experience in Japan: A Journey of Learning, Growth and Cultural Exchange by Lorna Musimbira

Participating in the **Japan Nexus for Africa** initiative at **Sophia University** was one of the most meaningful experiences of my University journey. As a Social Work student from Zimbabwe, being given the opportunity to travel to Japan, study at Sophia University, and interact with students from different parts of the world allowed me to learn far beyond what can be found in a classroom.



Lorna Musimbira
BSc in Social Work Student
Arrupe Jesuit University

One of the things that made the experience particularly special was the opportunity to represent Zimbabwe. I was part of a small group of African students participating in the programme, and I had the privilege of being the first Social Work student from my university to take part in the programme. This made me feel both excited and responsible because I was not only experiencing Japan as an individual, but also sharing aspects of Zimbabwean culture, experiences and perspectives with people from different backgrounds.

My time at Sophia University exposed me to new academic perspectives and encouraged me to think about Social Work from a more global perspective. Interacting with students from different countries helped me appreciate that although our cultures and experiences may differ, many of the challenges faced by young people and communities are universal. The experience strengthened my understanding of the importance of empathy, cultural competence, communication and learning from people whose experiences are different from my own.



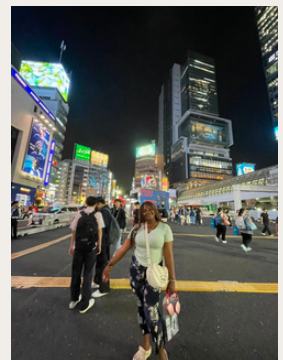
Outside the classroom, Japan gave me the opportunity to experience a culture that was very different from my own.

From navigating public transport and exploring different parts of Tokyo to experiencing Japanese food, traditions and everyday life, each day presented something new. I was particularly fascinated by the organisation, discipline and efficiency I observed in Japanese society. These experiences made me reflect on how small everyday practices can contribute to a more organised and respectful community.

Living away from home also challenged me personally. There were moments when I had to step outside my comfort zone, figure things out independently and adapt to an unfamiliar environment. However, these challenges helped me become more confident and independent. I learned that growth often happens when we allow ourselves to experience situations that are unfamiliar and sometimes uncomfortable.

Another important part of my experience was the friendships and connections I made. Meeting people from different countries gave me the opportunity to exchange ideas, learn about other cultures and create memories that I will carry with me. These interactions reminded me of the power of genuine human connection, even when people come from completely different backgrounds.

Looking back, my experience in Japan was much more than simply travelling to another country. It was an opportunity to learn, represent my country, challenge myself and broaden my understanding of the world. I returned to Zimbabwe with a greater appreciation for cultural diversity, a stronger sense of independence and a renewed desire to use my Social Work education to make a meaningful difference in my community.



I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have been part of the Japan Nexus for Africa initiative and to have studied at Sophia University. The experience has become an important part of my personal and academic journey, and I hope to carry the lessons, friendships and perspectives I gained in Japan into everything I do in the future.

MARKETING AND OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS

Arrupe Jesuit University continues to take its mission beyond the campus through meaningful outreach, engaging communities, inspiring young people and sharing opportunities for transformative education.

Education Expo and Career Guidance

Arrupe Jesuit University continued to strengthen its engagement with the wider community by participating in key platforms, including the Apostolic Faith Mission in Zimbabwe Education Expo and St Joseph Parish's 21st Century Parenting and Career Guidance Day. These events provided valuable opportunities for AJU to connect with prospective students, parents, and community members, while sharing insights on education, career development, and the university's programmes.

AJU also had the opportunity to engage with diverse professional audiences through workshops hosted on campus. Among these was the Anti-Human Trafficking Week, a three-day training organised in collaboration with the British Embassy.



These engagements significantly strengthened AJU's brand visibility while providing an opportunity to showcase the University's diverse academic programmes, innovation-driven learning environment, and technology-focused approach to preparing students for an increasingly AI-driven world. They also highlighted the international opportunities available to students and the University's commitment to equipping them for a rapidly changing global landscape.

The positive response received across these engagements was encouraging and reflected the growing interest in AJU's mission, programmes, and opportunities. The University looks forward to building on these connections and continuing to engage meaningfully with the wider community.

Key Outcomes

The engagements generated encouraging interest and opened up exciting opportunities for AJU, with key outcomes including:

- Increased interest in academic programmes across Engineering & ICT, Education & Leadership, and Philosophy & Humanities.
- Growing demand for short courses and professional development, particularly in areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Child Protection Studies, and other courses designed to help professionals upskill and stay relevant in a rapidly changing world.
- New opportunities for wider church and community engagement, including potential partnerships with other major Christian denominations. These connections will help AJU broaden its reach and extend its market beyond the Catholic community.



These outcomes demonstrate the growing interest in AJU's academic offerings and its commitment to providing relevant, innovative, and accessible learning opportunities for diverse communities.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

New Appointment

Arrupe Jesuit University is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. P. Chavhunduka as the Assistant Dean of the School of Business Management and Development.**



This appointment reflects the University's continued commitment to excellence and strategic growth in teaching.

Dr. Chavhunduka brings valuable professional expertise to the role and will contribute to strengthening the School's academic leadership and development.

We warmly congratulate Dr. Chavhunduka on this appointment and wish him success in this new role as AJU continues to grow and advance its mission.

Did You Know??

The School of Business Management and Development offers an exciting Accounting and Management degree programme designed to prepare students for the evolving demands of the accounting and business world.

Upon completion of the programme, graduates can qualify for up to **nine ACCA exemptions**, leaving only six modules to complete towards becoming a Chartered Accountant.

Students or professionals can further enhance their skills by taking short courses in Big Data and Artificial Intelligence, gaining valuable knowledge in data analytics and emerging technologies that are increasingly shaping the accounting and business sectors.

Join AJU and gain the accounting knowledge, practical skills, and technological expertise needed to thrive in today's dynamic industry.

Celebrating Staff Achievement

Arrupe Jesuit University celebrates the recent professional achievements of Eng. Clever Murauzi, Lecturer in the School of Engineering & ICT and Exam Officer at AJU.

Eng. Murauzi has further strengthened his professional expertise by attaining a **Certificate in Ethical Hacking** through the Cisco Networking Academy, as well as the **CCNP Enterprise: Core Networking (v9)** certification through DBI Academy under the Cisco Networking Academy programme.

These achievements demonstrate Eng. Murauzi's commitment to continuous professional development, excellence, and staying abreast of emerging trends and industry standards in technology and ICT. His growing expertise enhances AJU's capacity to provide students with current, industry-relevant, and high-quality instruction.

As a Cisco Networking Academy centre, AJU provides training for internationally recognised Cisco certifications, including **CCNA** and **CCNP**. Eng. Murauzi's attainment of the CCNP Enterprise certification further strengthens the University's existing expertise and capacity to deliver quality, industry-aligned networking training to students and professionals.



His accomplishment is a testament to AJU's growing culture of instructor excellence and its commitment to equipping learners with the knowledge and practical skills required to thrive in today's rapidly evolving technology landscape.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Welcoming Our New Interns

Arrupe Jesuit University is pleased to welcome our new interns, who have joined various departments across the University. Their arrival brings fresh energy, ideas, and enthusiasm as they gain valuable hands-on experience in a professional and academic environment.



Lawrence Michael Nzvimbo
Admissions Intern



Audrey Smoke
HR Intern



Isheanesu Chabata
ICT Intern



Meagan Watson
Accounting Intern

We look forward to supporting their learning and professional growth during their time at AJU and wish them a rewarding and enriching internship experience.

Welcome to AJU Interns !!!

Remembering Prof. Chennells: A Lasting Legacy



REST IN PEACE



Professor Anthony Chennells

DECEMBER 23, 1937 – JULY 2, 2026



Rest in Peace, Professor Chennells

With heavy hearts, Arrupe Jesuit University honors the life and legacy of Prof. Chennells. A dedicated educator and a pillar of our institution, his long years of service greatly shaped the formation of Jesuit priests, Religious Order, and the entire AJU student body. We shall deeply miss his presence and his remarkable dedication to our university.

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to everyone who kept Prof. Chennells, his family, and Arrupe Jesuit University in their thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Your messages of comfort, presence, and support have been deeply appreciated and have offered strength to the university community.

The tribute publication stands as a lasting celebration of an extraordinary scholar, mentor, colleague, and friend whose life and work touched many. His legacy will continue to live on in the hearts and minds of all who had the privilege of knowing and working with him.

We thank you once again for standing with us and walking alongside AJU on this journey of remembrance and celebration of his life and legacy.

Read the tributes here:

<https://aju.ac.zw/thank-you-for-honouring-the-legacy-of-prof-anthony-chennells/>

AJU SPORTS

The AJU Students' Soccer Team recently secured an exciting victory against independent football club **Nhabvu Football Club** from Chitungwiza.



At AJU, we recognise the importance of holistic student development, including mental well-being, recreation, and healthy social connections. Through sporting activities such as these, the University continues to encourage students to stay active, celebrate their achievements, and build meaningful relationships with other football clubs and the wider community.

The match showcased the students' talent, determination, and teamwork, while providing a valuable opportunity to connect and enjoy the positive benefits of sport.



We look forward to seeing more opportunities for our students to grow, compete, and build community through sport!

STUDY AT ARRUPE 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



Why Choose AJU?

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

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

AJU Documentary: Beyond the Arrupe Narrative



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

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

