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JUNE 2026

1-13 June: General Registration (Vacation School)
15 June 2026: Vacation Classes Begin
21 June 2026: Baccalaureate Service
22 June 2026: General Yard Sale
23 June 2026: Career Day
24 June 2026: Health Day
27 June 2026: Commencement Convocation
29 June 2026: Vacation Bridge & Kids University

THE NASSCORP Innovation Lab

By Staff Writer



Margibi University is blazing the Path for collaboration and partnerships. Among other strategic initiatives, the University (formerly Harbel College), has embarked on aggressive partnership building initiatives for academic excellence, faculty and staff development, and campus development projects.

The architectural rendering shown above is a proposed Computer Lab under construction on the campus of the University in Harbel. The proposed building, estimated at \$30,000 is designed to hold 24 computer stations, an office, and a waiting room. The project is funded by a special grant from the National Social Security and Welfare Corporation (NASSCORP) of Liberia. In approving the Grant, NASSCORP boss Hon. Dewitt VonBallmoos expressed the NASSCORP Board of Directors'

ongoing support for education initiatives in Liberia. In February 2025, Margibi University unveiled a \$20 Million Campus Development Master Plan, of which the NASSCORP INNOVATION LAB is well aligned with. The building will be expanded in the future to accommodate other learning activities.

According to the University President Dr. Joseph T. Isaac, creating a 21st Century learning environment is priority #1 for his administration. Dr. Isaac who was appointed president of Margibi University in September 2024 is known for his campus development insights

at previous universities in Liberia where he served. According to Dr. Isaac, the NASSCORP INNOVATION LAB is scheduled to be dedicated as part of a weeklong commencement convocation activities in June 2026.

MU Advances its Mission



Rosemarie E. James
VP, Institutional Advancement

At our University, progress is not measured solely in rankings or facilities-it is measured in opportunities that we create for our students to learn, grow, lead, and transform their futures. Opportunities abound for faculty and staff to be innovative and to continue positively impacting the University community and national development. Our Institution continues to grow in strength, reputation, and academic excellence because of the resolute dedication and support of our students, faculty, partners, stakeholders, and friends.

As we continue to build on Margibi University's (MU) proud tradition of excellence, I am keen and honored to share continued progress in its mission - *to deliver quality education that remains current and responsive to the diverse needs of those it serves* - through strategic partnerships, resource mobilization, and robust engagement with stakeholders, donors, and developmental partners. Through the generosity of donors, stakeholders, and the dedication of our advancement team, we have supported scholarship opportunities at the Bachelor's, Master's, and PhD

levels; explored innovative research initiatives; and enhanced campus facilities that enrich our students' experience.

We aim to continue to reinforce relationships with industry leaders and community partners to ensure that our academic programs remain responsive, proactive, and aligned with workforce and societal needs. These collaborations remain vital in creating experiential learning opportunities and research partnerships that will prepare our graduates to lead in a rapidly evolving world.

As we forge ahead, our focus remains clear – to enhance our University's Mission and Vision. We will continue to:

- expand access through increased scholarships
- strengthen stakeholders and donor engagements
- create opportunities to invest in infrastructure and innovation
- build sustainable partnerships to advance our academic mission

Institutional Advancement is not exclusive to garnering resources – it relates to relationships, trust, and shared vision. Collectively, every vision, every gift, every connection, and every act of support embraces our future.

On behalf of our Advancement Team, I extend sincere gratitude to our innovative leader, Dr. Joseph T. Isaac, President; our students, faculty and staff, stakeholders, partners, and supporters. We appreciate you. Together, we are cultivating an academic institution that meets the demands of our current needs and boldly prepares for those of the future.

Canada – Afrique Collaborates with Margibi University

By Moses M. Tokpah

Margibi University continues to raise its profile internationally through key collaborations with renowned institutions, paving the way for vital partnerships amid financial constraints.

The latest is a collaboration between Canada-Afrique and the University, which will see the institution's President, Dr. Joseph Isaac, and the partnerships coordinator traveled to Canada in April, 2026 to attend a prestigious international conference.

The Chief of Staff-Office of the President, Esi Kou Dagadu, told MU Chronicle in an interview recently that an official invitation was secured for the two executives, marking a strategic move to elevate the University's profile.

She indicated that the trip aims to lobby for new partnerships and enhance visibility in a competitive landscape dominated by institutions like the University of Liberia (UL),

African Methodist Episcopal Zion University (AMEZU), and Cuttington University (CU) that have been in existence for years. "So, we are talking about the visibility of Margibi University. How can we get the support and partnership?" Dagadu explained.

Dagadu emphasized the critical role of a strategic network for public universities such as Margibi University, which is facing budgetary constraints. She noted that external collaborations offer a sustainable path forward by unlocking resources, expertise, and opportunities that government funding alone cannot provide.

The initiative underscores the University's proactive approach to growth, placing it as the Rising Sun of Hope in Liberia's higher education on the global scene.

MU Champions Women Professor Program.

By Moses M. Tokpah



The Chief of Staff at the Office of the President of Margibi University, Esi Kou Dagadu, is championing the Women Professorship Program (WPP) at the University. Making the disclosure to MU Chronicle recently, Dagadu said the initiative is designed to address gender imbalance in academic staffing and leadership at the University, as the University envisions a 50-50 gender balance among faculty in line with the Sustainable Development Goals target for 2030.

Dagadu informed this newsletter that a concept note she recently submitted to Dr. Isaac and the Cabinet outlined strategies to increase the number of female lecturers and move toward a comparable gender equality.

She asserted that over an initial three-year period, the program aims to build a strong

pipeline of female scholars, improve teaching and research capacity, and increase women's participation among faculty.

The Chief of Staff believes that gender equity in higher education improves academic quality, research performance, and student outcomes. Dagadu also emphasized that financial constraints, limited mentorship, and unclear pathways often discourage women from pursuing academic careers; as such, this program responds to those barriers.

Dagadu shared the objectives of the program, which include increasing female participation in academic pathways, providing postgraduate scholarships, strengthening research and teaching skills, offering mentorship and professional support, creating a supportive institutional culture, and establishing a sustainable recruitment pipeline. She outlined the components of the program as early identification and career guidance, scholarships and fellowships, mentorship and professional development, as well as teaching preparation and institutional strengthening.

Regarding the implementation timeline, she explained that year one focuses on foundation and setup, while year two will

focus on expansion and placements, and year three will concentrate on consolidation and evaluation, respectively. Dagadu added that the Women Professorship Program is being warmly received by the faculty and staff of the University, especially the few women who are currently serving the institution.

“Nothing is impossible once you put your mind to it,” she said, adding that many women are as qualified as men but need opportunities, mentorship, coaching, and support to grow in academia. She described the situation, one woman among dozens of male lecturers, as a serious concern that demands intentional action. Rather than

blaming either the institution or women for the imbalance, she framed it as a “gap” that must be closed through reaching out, mentorship, coaching, and giving women the opportunity to further their education.

Confident, yet collaborative, Dagadu insists that her ideas can only be achieved with the support of the University Administration. She views her first month as the beginning of a longer journey of innovation at Margibi University. She reaffirmed the University’s commitment to promoting equity, excellence, and inclusive participation in higher education.

Margibi University Rises Structured Administration Formed

By Staff Writer



IT Officer, Jonathan Barwon

Margibi University, formerly Harbel College, is on an upward trajectory, thanks to the visionary leadership and steady infrastructure upgrades, according to long-time service IT Officer Jonathan Barwon. With nearly nine (9) years at the institution since its inception, Barwon has witnessed its gritty startup phase evolved into a structured university poised for national standards.

Barwon noted: “We had only our president

and one Executive Dean, Dr. Abu, doing everything with a limited staff. Everybody was doing everyone's work—it was not easy."

Barwon said the transition to Margibi University marked a turning point, especially with Dr. Joseph Isaac's arrival. "He structured the leadership and made everyone know their role—stay in their lanes and perform their tasks," Barwon highlighted.

A key innovation under Dr. Isaac, he pinpointed, is the dual governance model: The University Council, which comprises senior staff members (The President and heads of divisions and departments), and a University Cabinet, which comprises the President, and heads of divisions that report directly to him.

He explained that the Council meets every second Thursday of each month to brief the President on progress, needs, and challenges. "It's very good and helpful," Barwon noted.

Barwon added that infrastructure has seen tangible gains, pointing out that Dr. Isaac completed an unfinished building, relocating his office, admissions, and the Department of IT.

Speaking about IT initiatives at MU, Barwon proudly highlighted the online registration system, introduced 'before' the University of Liberia (UL). He recounted that during

the COVID-19, while students stayed home, Margibi University's platform allowed course planning and instructor coordination.

"Our system is unique and easy to use," he explained stating that about 60% of students now navigate it independently to check grades and academic progress despite the common Liberian hurdles like limited smartphones and inadequacy of data.

He said the administration assists temporarily while educating users. Barwon also boasted of a dramatically improved internet reliability with Starlink, adopted a year ago with a minimum amount of US\$206 monthly for a 2-terabyte (TB) package serving the campus efficiently, managing bandwidth for the growing number of users (students and employees).

The IT Officer revealed that the computer lab, a student priority, is nearing completion, adding, "Dr. Isaac heard their cry." Recent upgrades include AC installation and fresh paint, with new modern computers expected to arrive soon, and plans for student internet access in phases.

"Changes come gradually, but my boss is working hard to get the IT department up to task," Barwon wrapped up.

MU Poised for Transformation

By Staff Writer



MU 10-Year Campus Master Plan

Margibi University is entering a transformative phase marked by ambitious infrastructure development, rising student enrollment, and expanded academic programs under the leadership of President Dr. Joseph Isaac.

Margibi University currently operates seven colleges offering diverse academic programs. The College of Business and Public Administration provides degrees in Accounting, Economics, Public Administration, and Management, including specializations in Procurement and Human Resource Management. The College of Education offers programs in Primary and Secondary Education. The College of Natural Sciences includes Environmental Science, Climate Change, and Disaster Management. The College of Health Sciences offers Public Health, with a Nursing program scheduled to be launched in the first semester of the 2026/2027 academic year, following the necessary approvals. The College of Liberal Arts offers Criminal Justice, while the College of Engineering provides programs in

Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical Engineering, as well as Information Technology.

The University's Director of Human Resources, Nelson Decontee Wroye, recently provided an update on a comprehensive master plan for a modern campus. The plan was unveiled during the University's graduation convocation on February 22, 2025, an event attended by President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, who served as the Keynote Speaker. The proposed blueprint includes 18 state-of-the-art buildings, such as a central administrative complex, designated facilities for each of the University's seven colleges—designed with ground, first, and second floors—and sports pitches. Once completed, the development is expected to transform the institution's current modest facilities into a landmark academic campus.

During the convocation, President Boakai pledged his support for the realization of the project before the end of his tenure. Progress has already begun, with architectural designs

for the five priority buildings submitted to the Executive Mansion as requested. Canadian development partners, who were in Liberia for other construction projects, have also been linked to the initiative through President Boakai's office, raising optimism about the timely implementation of the plan. The University leadership anticipates significant infrastructural progress within the next one to two years.

In addition to physical expansion, the University is experiencing substantial growth in student enrollment. When the current administration assumed leadership, enrollment stood at approximately 390 students. In the last semester (Semester I, 2025/2026), that figure had increased to more

than 600, and the University is projecting similar or higher numbers this semester, including approximately 150 new students. Having previously reached a peak of 1,000 students before experiencing a decline, the University is now witnessing renewed interest and returning students. The University's Administration is confident that enrollment will soon reach or surpass the 1,000-student mark again.

These combined developments in infrastructure and academic expansion position Margibi University as an emerging institution in Liberia's higher education sector, reflecting a strong commitment to institutional growth and national development.

Faculty Recruitment Fair Hosted At Margibi University

By Staff Writer



HR Director, Nelson Decontee Wroye

In a strategic move to strengthen its academic lineup, Margibi University hosted a major faculty recruitment fair, drawing nearly 100 applicants, Nelson Decontee Wroye, the University's Director of Human Resources, said. Held on November 26, 2025, Wroye said

the fair aimed at bringing on board new faculty members, including doctoral degree holders and seasoned professionals, for the current semester while prioritizing gender equity.

He revealed that the event featured a joint program of the colleges followed by breakout sessions across colleges, where participants presented CVs and engaged directly with departmental chairpersons.

"We had a good time together," Wroye noted, emphasizing the event's success in generating a strong pool of applicants. According to him, CVs from the fair are now guiding targeted academics to fill specific gaps, such as replacing two mechanical engineering faculty, covering IT courses for ailing instructor, and expanding

overall capacity.

Wroye explained that all hirees undergo rigorous vetting to ensure qualifications match positions. He added that applications trigger a Personal Action Notice (PAN) processed through the Civil Service Agency, which scrutinizes credentials like degrees and CVs for finalizing public entity employment.

He also highlighted the University's commitment to quality: "We are doing our best to ensure qualified faculty members are hired for our students, who will prepare them to make a difference." The Plans to host similar fairs moving forward.

MU –CJC Ends Back to School Jamboree in Kakata

By Staff Writer



In a vibrant display of sportsmanship, unity, and academic camaraderie, Margibi University proudly joined Cuttington Junior College in Kakata to celebrate its much anticipated Back-to-School Jamboree, held on the campus of the Junior College.

The 3-day event (November 20 – 23, 2025) brought together students, athletes, administrators, and supporters from both institutions in a spirit of healthy competition and mutual respect. The atmosphere was filled with excitement, cheers, and a renewed sense of purpose as the new academic season officially commenced.

The kickball match set the tone for the day, as both teams demonstrated skills, determination, and teamwork. Margibi University struck first, taking an early lead with a powerful home run that energized

both players and supporters. However, the host institution refused to back down. In a dramatic turn of events during the final inning, Cuttington Junior College rallied and overturned the score with two decisive home runs, securing a 2–1 victory over Margibi University. Despite the narrow defeat, Margibi University displayed remarkable resilience and competitive spirit throughout the match. The football encounter was equally exciting and intense. Cuttington Junior College opened the scoring in the 35th minute through a spectacular strike from one of their standout players, sending the home crowd into celebration. Margibi University, however, remained composed and strategically focused. Their persistence paid off in the 78th minute when Tuan Gbonlonga confidently converted a penalty kick to level the score at 1:1.

The remainder of the match was fiercely contested, but neither of the sides was able to find the winning goal. The game ended in a well-earned 1:1 draw, reflecting the balanced strength and determination of both teams.

Following the games, the Director of Sports and Athletics of Margibi University, Mr. Genesis Meami, expressed heartfelt appreciation to the team for their outstanding performance and discipline while competing away from home. He commended the athletes for

representing the University with integrity, respect, and unity. Mr. Meami encouraged the players not to be discouraged by the kickball results, reminding them that setbacks are growth opportunities. “We can bounce back stronger,” he said. “Remain focused, stay committed, and continue to balance your academic responsibilities with your athletic excellence. You are ambassadors of Margibi University.” He further emphasized the importance of discipline, teamwork, and dedication—both on the field and in the classroom.

The Back-to-School Jamboree served not only as a sporting event but also as a platform to strengthen the relationship between Margibi

University and Cuttington Junior College. It highlighted the role of sports in fostering unity, friendship, and institutional collaboration within Margibi County.

As the new academic year begins, both institutions look forward to a continued partnership, healthy competition, and shared commitment to student development. Margibi University returns home proud of its athletes, motivated to improve, and confident in the strength and resilience of its student body.

Indeed, this jamboree was not just about winning or losing — it was about unity, growth, and the celebration of a new academic beginning.



Photo from the Event

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Clean Environment Supports Learning: Margibi University’s College of Natural Sciences leads by Example



“Clean Environment Supports Learning.” The celebration was marked by thoughtful discussions and hands-on activities that reinforced the importance of environmental cleanliness in fostering effective teaching and learning.

World Environment Day, observed globally on June 5 each year, serves as a platform to raise awareness and inspire action for the protection of the environment. For institutions of higher learning such as Margibi University, the day presents an opportunity not only to

College of Natural Sciences (CNS) at Margibi University organized a meaningful and action-oriented event aimed at promoting environmental responsibility within the academic community. Under the supervision and leadership of the College Chairman, Mr. Jupor Gborkerquelle, students and faculty came together to commemorate the day under the theme:





educate but also to model sustainable practices. The CNS community embraced this responsibility with enthusiasm and purpose. The program began with a group discussion session that brought together students and faculty members in an interactive dialogue.

The discussion centered on the critical role a clean environment plays in enhancing academic performance, health, and overall well-being. Participants explored how environmental conditions—such as waste management, sanitation, and campus aesthetics—directly impact concentration, motivation, and productivity among students. Students contributed insightful perspectives, highlighting challenges they encounter on campus, including improper waste disposal and limited awareness about environmental stewardship. Faculty members, in turn, provided guidance and shared practical strategies for maintaining a cleaner campus.



The event emphasized that environmental responsibility is a shared duty that requires consistent effort from both individuals and institutions.

One of the key takeaways from the event was the understanding that a clean learning environment goes beyond physical appearance. It influences mental clarity, reduces health risks, and creates a sense of pride and ownership among students. When the campus is clean and well maintained, it fosters a positive academic atmosphere that encourages discipline and respect for shared spaces. Following the discussion, participants transitioned into the second major activity of the day: a campus-wide clean-up campaign. Equipped with cleaning tools and a renewed sense of purpose, students and teachers worked side by side to remove litter, clear overgrown areas, and improve the overall sanitation of the college environment. The exercise was not only practical but symbolic, demonstrating a collective commitment to environmental care.

The clean-up campaign covered key areas within the CNS campus, including lecture halls, walkways, and surrounding outdoor spaces. Students organized themselves into groups, each assigned to specific zones, ensuring that the activity was efficient and impactful. Faculty



members actively participated, reinforcing the message that environmental stewardship is not limited by role or status.

The event also served as a platform for experiential learning. Students were able to apply theoretical knowledge from their environmental science courses to real-life situations. Concepts such as waste segregation, recycling, and sustainable practices were not merely discussed but practiced. This hands-on approach strengthened their understanding and highlighted the relevance of their academic studies to everyday life.

Mr. Jupor Gborkerquelle, in his remarks during the event, commended the students for their active participation and emphasized the need for continuity. He noted that while World Environment Day provides a focal point for action, environmental responsibility should be a daily practice. He encouraged students to become ambassadors of cleanliness, both within and beyond the university.

The success of the event was evident not only in the visibly cleaner campus but also in the heightened awareness and sense of responsibility among participants. Students expressed appreciation for the initiative, noting that it inspired them to adopt better environmental habits. Many pledged to continue organizing similar activities and to advocate for improved waste management systems within the university.

Furthermore, the event highlighted the importance of leadership and collaboration in driving change. The guidance provided

by the College Chairman, combined with the collective effort of students and faculty, created a powerful example of what can be achieved when a community works together toward a common goal.

As the world continues to face challenges such as climate change, pollution, and resource depletion, initiatives like conducive learning environments underscore the role of educational institutions in shaping responsible citizens. By integrating environmental awareness into campus culture, Margibi University's College of Natural Sciences is contributing to a broader movement toward sustainability.

In conclusion, the commemoration of World Environment Day by the CNS at Margibi University was a resounding success. Through engaging discussions and impactful action, the event reinforced the message that a clean environment is essential for effective learning. It also demonstrated that meaningful change begins with small, collective efforts. As students and faculty continue to build on this momentum, the vision of a cleaner, healthier, and more conducive learning environment remains within reach. As students and faculty continue to build on this momentum, the vision of a cleaner, healthier, and more conducive learning environment remains within reach.



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Margibi University Charts Expansion Path Amid Funding Gaps

- Strengthens Academic Systems and Partnerships -

By Cedrick Quoi Jones, Published June 10, 2026 in the Daily Observer Newspaper



The relatively young Margibi University is positioning itself for long-term academic growth and institutional transformation, even as it grapples with persistent financial constraints that continue to limit its operational capacity.

Established in August 2024 following legislative action by President Joseph Boakai that repealed the former Harbel College Charter, the institution was elevated to university status and placed under the leadership of its founding president, Dr. Joseph T. Isaac. Since then, the university has sought to redefine higher education delivery in central Liberia, particularly in the densely populated educational corridor of Margibi County.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with The Daily Observer on June 8, 2026, Dr. Isaac

described the university's current operational environment as "fair," but cautioned that limited funding remains a major barrier to achieving its full strategic vision.

"The university cannot do much because it lacks the funding to properly carry out its activities," he noted, while expressing optimism that future national budget allocations could significantly improve the institution's capacity to expand infrastructure, staffing, and academic programs.

Despite these challenges, Margibi University has recorded notable progress within its short existence. Student enrollment has more than doubled—from just over 300 students in 2024 to over 800 currently—reflecting growing public confidence in the institution.

Dr. Isaac attributed this growth to targeted improvements in institutional branding, emerging partnerships, and operational reforms. One such partnership includes a stable electricity supply agreement with Firestone Liberia, which has helped reduce one of the university's major infrastructural burdens.

The administration has also expanded its leadership structure to strengthen governance. In 2025, the university appointed vice presidents overseeing Academic Affairs, Institutional Advancement, Student Support Services, and Administration, a move Dr.

Isaac described as essential for institutional stability.

“We needed to have sufficient leaders and managers to fill administrative and academic roles, and we did that in 2025,” he said. “In order to grow Margibi University, the right people must be in the right places, and we are committed to achieving that.” Plans are also underway to recruit deans for its seven colleges, a step intended to further align the institution with standard academic governance frameworks.

Academic restructuring has also become a key pillar of the university’s reform agenda. The Vice President for Academic Affairs, Professor Edison Pajibo, who joined the institution in June 2025, outlined major developments aimed at strengthening academic credibility and curriculum standards.

According to him, the university’s teaching curriculum has been completed and submitted to the National Commission on Higher Education for review and approval, alongside the formation of a faculty senate—an important step in formalizing academic governance.

“We want to set ourselves apart from other universities,” Prof. Pajibo emphasized. “You must have a master’s degree to teach here. We don’t have anyone with a bachelor’s degree teaching in our programs, and once I am here, no one with a bachelor’s degree will teach.”

He further encouraged students across Liberia to consider enrolling at the institution, noting that its academic standards are designed to be competitive with established universities in the country.

A major milestone in the university’s development roadmap is its 10-year master plan, which was presented to President Boakai during his visit to the campus in 2025. The plan envisions the construction of 20 buildings across the sprawling but largely undeveloped campus.

According to Dr. Isaac, discussions are ongoing with the government to begin phased implementation, starting with at least one major building project in the near future.

The university is also preparing for its second commencement convocation scheduled for June 27, 2026, where more than 80 students from six academic departments will graduate at the Royal Ambassador Hotel along the Roberts International Airport (RIA) Highway.

While funding constraints continue to define much of its operational reality, Margibi University’s leadership insists that its trajectory remains upward. The combination of administrative restructuring, curriculum reform, rising enrollment, and external partnerships suggests a young institution attempting to position itself as a future academic hub in Liberia’s expanding higher education landscape.

However, its long-term success will likely depend on sustained government support, infrastructure investment, and continued institutional discipline as it navigates the challenges of rapid expansion.

The Margibi University currently stands at a critical junction—balancing ambition with limitation, and growth with governance—while seeking to cement its place among Liberia’s emerging centers of higher learning.

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