Editor’s Note
Welcome to the first edition of CLS News in the year 2010. We apologize to our readers for the delay in issuing this edition. This was due to circumstances beyond our control. However, the CLS editorial staff remains committed to keeping you informed about the events at the Centre.

Its business as usual at the Centre. Translations from our clients are still coming in. This is a sign of the trust that our clients have on us. We promise to do our best to continue providing quality services. The MALEX Project, which commenced way back in 2007, is now at an advanced stage and the general feeling is that targets are being met. It is our hope that everything will be in place when the project winds up in 2011.

The next edition of CLS News is expected before June 2010. Meanwhile, CLS Editorial Board wishes all its readers a Happy Easter Season.

Mario S. Thodi  Arnold F. Mboga
Editor  Assistant Editor

CLS - WHAT IT OFFERS

The Centre for Language Studies was established on request from Government on 1st April, 1996 to take over some of the responsibilities and facilities of the dissolved Chichewa Board. The Centre’s main responsibility is to promote and develop Malawian languages. To do this, the Centre conducts research/consultancy in Malawian languages such as Chichewa, Citumbuka, Ciyao, Cisena, Citonga, Cilomwe etc. The Centre also recognises the educational, social, economic and political importance of non-African languages like English, French, German, Portuguese, Spanish and others. It therefore, carries out research and consultancy in these areas as well.

Among the many services the Centre offers are:

- Translation of materials from one language into another.
- Interpretation of speeches
- Editing of materials in various languages.
- Conducting short courses in both Malawian and non-Malawian languages e.g. Intensive Chichewa courses for foreigners.
- Collaborating with foreign research centres.

The Centre has professionally trained experienced and dedicated members of staff. For more information, please write to:
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You can also visit our website on www.unima-cls.org

CHICHEWALANGUAGE COURSE OUTLINE UNDER REVIEW

The Chichewa Language Section at the Centre for Language Studies has produced a new language course outline which is further being reviewed by the Centre’s other Language Specialists. The new course outline is divided into elementary, intermediate and advanced levels. It is hoped that the new course outline will help our Chichewa students acquire the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing more easily than was the case before.

CLS STRATEGISES ON HOW TO REACH POTENTIAL CLIENTS

In an effort to market services that CLS provides, members of staff at the Centre discussed ways in which potential clients, who may not know about the Centre but would require its services, can be reached. Members, therefore, resolved to use the following strategies:

• Placing adverts in the press media and notice boards so that clients should be aware of CLS activities.

• Organize and advertise short language courses of various levels i.e. elementary, intermediate and advanced levels. Dates for the courses will be specified.

• To organize and advertise other courses that the Centre has expertise such as translation and interpretation courses as well as project proposal writing courses.

To this end, we would like to inform our clients to look out for such advertisements in the papers but also on our web page www.unima-cls.org.
Since its establishment in 1996, CLS has conducted a number of surveys and has also written and published several materials. Some of our materials are already available on our web page. These include Language mapping surveys for Malawi as well as the HIV and AIDS Survey entitled “Assessment of the effectiveness of HIV and AIDS messages among the youth.” CLS is currently in the process of trying to put the other materials on the web page. These include The Sociolinguistic Surveys of four Malawian Languages, The availability of teaching materials in Ciyawo, Ciyawo orthography rules, Citumbuka orthography rules, Citumbuka grammatical rules and Ciyawo grammatical rules, among others.

In 2009 CASAS organized a workshop that was held at Chancellor College. At that workshop, participants were requested to write monographs that could be published and be used as supplementary readers in adult literacy programmes in the country. It is pleasing to note that there has been a positive response. So far two monographs have been sent to CASAS for possible publication. The two monographs which are in Ciyawo and Chichewa respectively deal with issue various issues such as democracy, self help projects and child abuse. CASAS has acknowledged receipt of the two monographs and has since forwarded them to their reviewers.

The annual institutional review of the MALEX Project for the year 2009 took place on 9 March 2010 at the University Office. The review panel was headed by the Chief Coordinator of NUFU Projects, Professor Leonard Kamwanja. The project is now in its final phase. There was a general agreement that the
targets are being met. It was thumbs up for the project.

**STAFF ISSUES**

- The office of the Principal at Chancellor College has appointed Dr. Stella Kachiwanda as Acting Deputy Director for the Centre for Language Studies. The appointment is with effect from 1st February 2010.

- Ms. Tionge Kamina joined staff of Centre for Language Studies as Director’s secretary on 16th February, 2010 replacing Ms. Eusta Namwaza Banda, who resigned from her post on 18th December, 2009. To Ms. Tionge Kamina, we would like to say *Takulandirani, Twapocele, Tamupokererani,* Welcome to CLS, the home of languages!