Uganda Management Institute celebrated its Golden Jubilee since their establishment in 1969. The event that was attended by several dignitaries also marked the 17th graduation ceremony where students were awarded diplomas, bachelors and masters degrees.

The chancellor, Geraldine Namirembe Bitamazire, noted that making 50 years of an excellent service, is a landmark for the institute. “It is nice that over all the years, the institute has grown, a growth that has been driven by demand.”

At the ceremony where more than 3,000 students graduated, it was announced that new courses including a Diploma in Journalism and Public Affairs and Non-Governmental Organisations Management had been introduced.

In a speech read for him by the Prime Minister, Dr Ruhakana Rugunda, President Museveni thanked the institution for growing from a department under the Works ministry to a fully-fledged institution of management.

He also urged the institution to embark on graduating Ugandans that are skilled enough to create jobs than seek; “I want to implore you to tailor skill-based programmes to have graduates that can create jobs for themselves,” he said, adding that the country is looking for results-oriented people ready to train and retrain.

State Minister for Education John Chrysostom Muyingo asked the institution to continue adapting technology in their teaching techniques, saying the era of teachers and a blackboard is almost behind us. “Times are upon us and educators have to embrace ICT and long distance learning,” he said.

When it was established in 1969, UMI used to train African cadres to assume responsibility from the colonial masters after Uganda had attained independence in 1962.