

Dilla University Hosts 14th Annual National Research Conference

April 3, 2025

Under the theme “*Research for Societal Transformation: From Insight to Action*”, Dilla University held its 14th Annual National Research Conference, bringing together diverse scholars and researchers from both national and international institutions.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Habtamu Temesgen, Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer, emphasized the significance of the conference as a platform for knowledge exchange, practical research application, and strengthening partnerships among higher education institutions.

Dr. Elias Alemu, President of Dilla University, underlined the university's strategic commitment to research, technology transfer, and community service, beyond traditional teaching roles. He highlighted the role of such forums in empowering researchers and graduate students to create real-world impact.

Dr. Misganu Legesse, Director of the Research Publication, Ethics and Dissemination Directorate, noted that 187 research papers were submitted, with 38 high-quality studies selected for presentation. He also celebrated the university’s milestone of publishing over 400 research articles in international reputable journals this year.

Distinguished keynote speakers included His Excellency Dr. Negeri Lencho; Professor Ahmed Hussen, who presented on *'Microfluidic Paper-Based Analytical Devices (μ-PADs) for Environmental and Occupational Pollution Monitoring'*; and Dr. Yuhans Budi from Mulawarman University, Indonesia, who presented on *'The Role of Geospatial Information and Earth Observation for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and the Environment'*. All delivered impactful addresses that inspired engaging and thought-provoking discussions.

The panel presentations and discussions continued in the afternoon, taking place within the respective colleges hosting each panel session.

The conference was also attended by honored guests such as members of the House of Peoples' Representatives (FDRE), officials from the South region and Gedeo Zone, university leaders, elders, representatives from various research institutes and universities, directors, deans, faculty members, and invited stakeholders.