Dire Dawa University held an election for the position of deans and directors on December 15, 2014 in Twins Hall.

In his opening speech, Dr. Girma Goro, DDU President said: ‘Since the new management came to power, it has been working hard, mainly with the staff kind collaboration, to bring drastic change in all round of the University and register significant scores. So one of a step among those significant ‘changes’ necessary to bring in the University, is the running of an election to the position of middle managements. This, particularly has becoming important following the general meeting that was held on September 29, 2014, whose feedbacks and comments had a sense of ‘change’ to be addressed to the middle managements.”

Since then, he added, top management has been curious on the issue and has been working hard to bring it to the ground. As a result, first Middle and Lower Level Leaders Election and Appointment Manual (Guideline) was produced and endorsed. Then, as per of the Guideline, an Electoral Committee that was represented from all schools and gender, was formulated. He further said: ‘The Committee has designed a working plan and been implementing it as per of the schedule working all the days.’ He thus thanked the Electorate Committee for a very pains-taking job they have carried out since the beginning of the process.

He at last requested electors to make a free election and choose persons whom they believe can lead the schools and implement the policy. The Electoral Committee that was responsible to facilitate and run this election was assigned by and close supervision of VPARA Of-
Ato Yared Ayele who has worked in DDU being Acting Director of the ICT has departed after nearly 5 years of service. In a farewell dinner party held at Ras Hotel on January 2, 2015, Ato Yared who was diligent and industrious was officially departure in a presence of his workmates and Managements.

During the event, Dr Girma Goro, DDU President appreciated Ato Yared (and his team as well) for his significant contribution in the expansion of ICT. He also extended his appreciation to Ato Yared’s work habit who usually works late at night.

Following the speech, Ato Yared received a present from the hand of the President as a marking to the recognition of his work.

Ato Yared who is well known by his staff for his good management skills thanked the Management, his workmates all DDU staff for their good will and friendliness during his career in the ICT.

During his speech Ato Yared showed a sigh of sobriety as tears rolling down over his cheeks, saying that he will miss the DDU staff very much.

During his career in the ICT, Ato Yared introduced Electronic Student Management System (ESRS) Version 1.0 and Electronic Students Registration Systems (ESRS) Version 2.0 in the year between 2013-2014. As a result, starting from the year 2014 all freshman students were able to log-in to the system to enroll for courses.

Ato Yared was very positive about the full implementation of the system with strong internet access, see it fully utilized by all staff and contribute to the successful integration of the University business process. However, although the ESRS is fully functional and can contribute to effectiveness of the teaching and learning processes, he was very sad that he has to depart earlier than seeing it in its working process, with the students and teachers enjoying the system.

It is, however, expected that the current team whose contribution to the fully function of the system has also been great, will assure the realization of the system-ESRS- into real and the continuity of other started projects to their end.
In the election, academic staff and students representatives of the schools, department heads, Senate members and presidents were involved. During the election process, 31 candidates who applied for the deans and directors position took a stage for self introduction and candidacy.

The 2007 E.C deans and director election process, the first in its kind in the history of DDU, was witnessed by observers, and invited guests from in and outside of the University.

Names of winners of the election are: Ato GebreKiristos Gebresilassie Dean of School of Business and Economics, Ato Takele Bekele Dean of School of Social Science and Humanities, Ato Gizachew Girma Dean of School of Law, Ato Desalegn Bekele Dean of School of Medicine, Ato Bamlaku Simegn Dean of School of Natural and Computational Science, Ato Desalegn Olgira Coordinator of the Continuous Education Program, W/rt Emam Ahmed Director for Library Information Service, Ato Getenet Tollosa Director for the Registrar and Enrollment and Academic Record, Ato Amare Kenaw Director for Research and Technology Interchange, Ato Andom Berhe Director for Quality Enhancement and Academic Program Affairs and Ato Edgetu Adane Director for School of Graduates.

Positional change has also moved downward to the level of department heads land associate dean as of last week and is on process.

DDU Weekly says to all newly elected deans and directors congratulations!
New Elected Deans and Directors Vow to Serve Schools with all their Effort

Dr. Girma Goro, DDU President who made an opening speech, first thanked everyone for attending the ceremony, and then acclaimed the former deans and directors who, from the very beginning, have been much willed and worked collaboratively in the transformation process. He said: ‘Your positional change doesn’t mean that you are no more work closely with the management; instead, like yesterday, we will call you anytime and participate in the succeeding of the transitional processes. Your honest presence and working closely with us being part of the agent has smoothed the transition process we have carried out. We are not started from zero. There has been an immense job done earlier. So with this new force (i.e., the new deans/directors), being hand in hand, we will continue strengthening what have been started and propel forward and secure the University mission.’

Dr. Yitbareg Getachew, Vice President for Academic and Research Affairs, who also addressed the speech said in his part that ‘the responsibility of sustaining and continuing what have been started so far in schools and offices lies not only in the hand of newly elected deans and directors, but also in the former deans and directors;’ so, he added, ‘when the new deans and directors start offices, the former deans and directors should support and share to them what has been done earlier and help to maintain and transfer the ‘institutional memory’ to the next stage. So by working together you have to keep and maintain the schools resource and knowledge and make them transform to the future.’

Then comments and suggestions were forwarded from both (from the former and the new) deans and directors. Letter of recognition, along with present, were also given to all former deans and directors, whereas letter of recommendation were to the newly elected deans and director by the University president. It was during this time that the new deans and directors were vowed to serve the University with all their effort. At last, dinner was served.