Ugandan President, H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, delivered a public lecture at Kenyatta University themed ‘Integration in Africa’ on 29th March 2019. During the public lecture, President Museveni said that integration was the only way African countries would reach the status of Europe, China and the United States.

He criticized tribalism which, he noted, characterized the continent’s political landscape. “I am a cattle keeper, and so are all my tribesmen. I produce milk, meat and bananas, they also do the same, so they cannot buy from me and I cannot sell the same to them. I therefore need someone from other tribes to make money. In order to address prosperity, we have to address tribalism,” he said.

President Museveni said that while a large portion of the continent’s problems can be blamed on its colonial history, Africa’s leaders have to unite to secure its future. “Africa is the pioneer of civilization. The free labour of (African) slaves is part of the efforts that liberated Europe from poverty,” he said.

However, despite the continent’s contribution to industrial revolution, President Museveni expressed his disappointment that African countries are still struggling in terms of development. This he blamed on ‘political balkanization.’
“We do not have unified governments. Even in the past we had clans controlling small areas, at times small kingdoms. It is for this reason that by 1900 Africa had been colonized,” he said. He argued that Africa should learn from Europe, the US, Israel, and China which have prospered by not being entangled in ethnic divisions.

“China has an internal guaranteed market of 1.3 billion but that is not enough, they still need more. That is why they trade with us. But us (Uganda), with a population of 41 million, we think we are well-off. This is our disaster,” said Museveni.

President Museveni noted that Africa already has a base to start by unifying languages of Swahili and English. He said the idea of a unified continent was long overdue.

“If some members are not ready, then let those who are ready go ahead,” he said.

The public lecture was graced by Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Prof. George Magoha; Mining Cabinet Secretary, Hon. John Munyes; Principal Secretary and Chief Administrative Secretary, State Department for University Education and Research, Prof. Collette A. Suda; Kenyatta University Chancellor, Dr. Benson Wairegi; Chairman of Kenyatta University Council, Prof. Shem. E. Migott-Adhola; Members of Kenyatta University Management and Senate; Staff, Students, and others.
The United Nations International Mother Language Day annually celebrates language diversity and variety globally on 21st February since the year 2000. This year’s International Mother Language Day was celebrated and hosted by Kitui County in conjunction with Kenyatta University, Kitui Campus and State Department of Culture and Heritage under the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage and East African Educational Publishers on Friday 21st February 2019.

This year’s Mother Language Day fête was part of an International conference organized and held at Kenyatta University, Kitui Campus, from Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd February 2019.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. John Okumu, representing the Vice-Chancellor, led a delegation from Kenyatta University. Kitui County Deputy Governor, Dr. Gideon Wathe Nzau and an Executive for Tourism, Sports and Culture, Patrick Koki Musau, were also present to mark the International Mother Language Day.

The day’s celebrations marked through various activities such as cultural dances, music, dances and exhibitions, brought out the significance of marking the day. The epitome was an address by the keynote speaker, Prof. Ngugi Wa Thiong’o, an award-winning, world-renowned Kenyan writer and academic scholar who also launched a book written in Kikamba and published by the East African Educational Publishers.

Prof. Ngugi Wa Thiong’o, a renowned Kenyan writer and scholar (2R), unveils one his books ‘Tutanie Kikamba’ during the celebration of the International Mother Language Day. With him were Prof. John Okumu, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) (L), Dr. Gideon Wathe Nzau, Deputy Governor, Kitui County (2L).

Prof. Ngugi Wa Thiong’o, and his son Mukoma Wa Ngugi read one of his books during the celebration of the International Mother Language Day.
The Government of the People’s Republic of China on Thursday, 24th January 2019, officially handed over a modern International Language and Culture Centre worth over KSh1.09 billion to Kenyatta University. The building hosts a Confucius Institute, an Africa Education Institute, an International Languages Centre and a culture centre, all geared to the promotion of local, African and foreign languages, arts and cultures.

The ground breaking ceremony for the International Language and Culture Centre took place on 15th March 2016, and was graced by the then Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Kenya, Liu Xianfa. The centre was financed and constructed by the People’s Republic of China.

Successful delivery of the facility is touted as a reflection of the current situation and long history of cultural and people-to-people exchanges between China and Kenya. As observed by various speakers during the handover ceremony, the International Language and Culture Centre marked another milestone in China-Kenya friendship and showcases the rapid development of China-Kenya cultural and people-to-people exchanges and comprehensive cooperation partnership.

The handing over ceremony was attended by top officials from the National Treasury, Ministry of Education and Kenyatta University Chairman of Council, Prof. Shem Migot-Adholla.

Treasury Cabinet Secretary, Henry Rotich, noted that the country’s key bilateral linkages with the People’s Republic of China have resulted in a number of benefits, especially in bridging infrastructural gaps. “This has not been an easy path given the various global challenges associated with international financing for infrastructural projects. However our partners have and continue to stand with us in our efforts to modernize our national infrastructure across various sectors,” said Mr. Rotich in a speech read on his behalf by Treasury’s Director for Resource Allocation, Jackson Kinyanjui.

In a statement read on her behalf, the then Education Cabinet Secretary, Dr. Amina Mohamed noted that the handing over ceremony was timely due to the ongoing efforts by the Ministry to promote delivery of quality education and align the country’s education with global trends.
On Friday 15th March 2019, Kenyatta University Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul K. Wainaina, together with a team of University academic staff and exhibitors, joined the Molo Constituency Member of Parliament, Hon. Francis Kuria Kimani, for Career Fair and Mentoring Day that was held in Molo Stadium.

Dubbed First Edition of Molo Constituency Career Fair and Mentoring Day, the event was organized by Kenyatta University in partnership with Molo Constituency themed ‘My Education, My Career, My Life’. The event was organized to guide K.C.S.E candidates on career paths, proper career choices; as well as mentor the potential university candidates on what is expected of them at higher learning institutions.

The event attracted over 3,000 form four candidates from secondary schools within the constituency and its environs.

Speaking during the function, the Vice-Chancellor urged the candidates to believe in themselves and aim at becoming the next dignitaries and leaders within the country. “All of you have the potential to do and to make, and become a family of Kenyatta University,” Prof. Paul K. Wainaina added.

Among the University team that joined the Vice-Chancellor included Ag. Registrar (Corporate Affairs), Prof. Grace Bunyi; Director, Career Development and Mentoring Programme, Dr. Daniel Muthee; teaching staff and KU students.
Kenyatta University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Paul K. Wainaina at MoU signing ceremony between Kenyatta University and Binghamton University, State University of New York at Binghamton.

A team of University officers interact with pupils during a community outreach activity at Nyakinyua Primary School, Solai. The team handed over donated seats, chairs and books.

Prof. John Okumu, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), receives a gift from Donald Nieman (Provost and Executive Vice President-SUNY) during a visit to Binghamton University.

Prof. Paul K. Wainaina (3R) and Harvey Stenger (President-Binghamton University) (3L) after signing MoUs. With them are Prof. Dean Tarhule Aondover, Dean Graduate School (SUNY), (L), Donald Nieman (Provost and Executive Vice President-SUNY) (2L), Prof. John Okumu, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) (2R), and Dr. Mildred Nawiri, Director, International Programmes and Collaborations (R).

Dr. Kenya Sekoni (R) from Michigan State University lauded the University during a cocktail dinner for Family Physicians who were in KU for a training of Clinical Trainers.

Panellists during the All Kenyan Moot Court Competition - 2019 held and Kenyatta University School of Law, Parklands Campus.
Hon. Isaac Mwaura, Nominated Senator, follows a demonstration about an electronic braille machine during the celebration of the International Disabilities Day. With him are Prof. Frederick Gravenir, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (RIO) (2L), Mr. Mutegi Mukobwa (L) representing the Registrar (Academic).

Mr. Peter Njioka from Safaricom Foundation donates walking canes for visually challenged students during the celebration of the International Disabilities Day.

Students from Winston Salem State University, USA led by Prof. James Pope (extreme back right) after paying courtesy to the Vice-Chancellor during the Annual Summer held at Kenyatta University.

A group of students lead the procession to mark the International Women's Day held on 7th March 2019.

The Catholic choir performs during the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Service held in the University Amphitheatre.

Prof. Frederick Gravenir, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (RIO) (seated centre), with other members of University Management, clergy and students after the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Service.
Kenyatta University hosted a five-day training of Clinical Trainers (TCT) Course of the Family Medicine Leadership, Education and Assessment Programme (FaM-Leap) from 4th to 8th March 2019. Kenyatta University has a special interest in family medicine and primary health care and believes that more investments in health should be geared towards developing capacity of front care workers.

Speaking during the welcoming dinner at the University, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul K. Wainaina, observed that KU was privileged to host the training and will continue to support similar initiatives and collaborations in staff development and collaborative research. The Vice-Chancellor added that the University wished to see the number of Ph.D holders in the field of medicine increased. To this end, he encouraged the Deans and other senior staff from medicine-related Schools and Departments in the University to seek support and collaborations towards that venture. Professor Wainaina also urged the participants to venture into research-based treatment.

The training workshop attracted a number of delegates drawn from the United Kingdom, United States of America, South Africa, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Ethiopia and Kenya. Dr. Steve Mowle from the Royal College of General Practitioners, London, expressed his delight in being part of the training and also noted that KU was setting very high standards in medical training. Another delegate, Dr. Kenya Sekoni from Michigan State University, lauded the University for its efforts to improve training in health care and pharmacy practice, encouraging more staff and student exchanges.

Pharmacy Students Organize Medical Camp at Kahawa West

The Kenyatta University Pharmacy Students association (KUPhSA) organized a medical camp at Grace Community Children’s Home in Kahawa West, Nairobi on 9th March, 2019. The camp’s theme was ‘Let’s Put a Smile on the Kids’. In attendance was the association Patron, Dr. Titus Muhu Kahiga, Medical Faculty from the USA: Dr. Neill Pitts from University of Sciences, Philadelphia, USA and Dr. Sekoni Kenya from Michigan State University, USA.

The activities carried out included a medical camp, cooking activities and a monitoring interactive session. Drugs were donated by KU Outreach Programme (COEP), Regal Pharmaceuticals and the National School Based Deworming Programme (NSBDP). KUPhSA members donated clothes. The patron and the visitors from USA catered for lunch for both students and fraternity at the children’s home. The association’s chairperson, Marangu Moses thanked all those who made the camp a success and promised that the students association will continue to foster outreach activities within and outside the environs of KU.
The University held a training workshop for all Deans, Directors and Chairpersons of Departments on Wednesday 27th February 2019. The two day training workshop was geared towards sensitizing and enabling the participants to understand their individual and collective roles in articulating and implementing University policies in their respective areas of jurisdiction. This workshop not only gave them an opportunity to discuss and ensure that they all have the same understanding of the University policies, but also enable them understand what the University Management expects of them as the administrative and academic heads of their respective Campuses, Schools, Directorates or Departments.

Speaking during the official opening ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul K. Wainaina, advised the heads to be responsible for continuous monitoring of staff and periodic evaluation of annual performance targets. He also added that as leaders they need to support staff and/or students to find the fullest expression of their talents and aspirations. To this end, he urged them to effectively deal with the challenges that face staff and students who contact them for service or guidance.

Furthermore, the Vice-Chancellor observed that as the administrative and/or academic heads of their areas of jurisdiction, the participants’ primary role is to provide leadership to members of staff and students, as applicable. They are therefore required to demonstrate vision and empower colleagues in order to deliver on the agreed work plans and strategies within their respective Schools, Campuses, Directorates or Departments, in line with the University’s overall Strategic and Vision Plan (2016 – 2026).

The Department of Sociology, Gender and Development Studies was privileged to host a guest speaker, Dr. Lisa A. Fontes from University of Massachusetts Amherst. Dr. Fontes is a researcher, author, and activist with 25 years’ experience in addressing issues of child abuse and violence against women.

Dr. Fontes highlighted where child sexual abuse is situated within the broader field of gender based-violence and provided dynamics of child sexual abuse that include behaviours that may be seen as “milder” than rape, but are still damaging to children, such as fondling and taking sexual pictures of children. She stressed that the damage comes from the violation of the caretaking relationship. The talk stimulated discussions of behaviours that are not normally considered damaging or categorized as sexual abuse such as sexual facial expressions, inappropriate body language and touching.

The discussions unveiled interesting projects that KU faculty and students are engaged in which include Dr. Beatrice Gathungu’s work around child issues and an upcoming conference on the same; Dr. Okong’o’s work with the Hope Foundation for African Women, faculty projects on child protection and restorative justice and also student research on related themes.

Dr. Fontes further pointed out that child sexual abuse is common throughout the world, and each of us may know multiple female and male victims of child sexual abuse, but may not realize this because people do not discuss this freely. “Speaking with friends, family and spouses about traumas promotes healing,” she suggested.
Activities are in top gear organizing the 1st Kenyatta University Biennial Research and Innovation conference (KUBRIC 2019) to be held from 22nd to 25th October 2019. Unlike other conferences held by individual Schools and Departments, KUBRIC 2019 will encompass a broad range of thematic areas and is designed to provide opportunities for different academic disciplines and fields of expertise to showcase their research and innovations.

While the Big Four Agendas are highlighted, KUBRIC 2019 goes much further and the sub themes straddle academic disciplines and research themes. The conference targets Kenyan and international participants and transcends research on the key human wellbeing goals of good health, food security and good shelter. It will be an important forum for evaluating progress and strategies to spur progress towards attaining the objectives enunciated in the Kenya Vision 2030, Sustainable Development Goals and other sector-specific targets. KUBRIC 2019 avails a platform to hold bold discourse on the topical issues of national values, social cohesion, peace and development alongside examining the role of gender in development.

It is expected that researchers will position these issues in the context of prevailing global challenges of climate change, disruptive innovation, technology and entrepreneurship. The conference has specific space for scholars in visual and performing arts, recreation and sports specializations to inform on strategies for harnessing human creative potential to bolster development in Kenya and across Africa.

KUBRIC 2019 promises to be the premier research conference in 2019 in Kenya and the East African region. All Schools and Departments should proactively mobilize their staff and students to submit abstracts, papers and organize symposia during this important event. Information on the conference is available at www.ku.ac.ke/kubric

**Appointments**

Dr. Wilson M. Thagana  
Director, Kitui Campus

Dr. Fredrick W. S. Ndede  
Director, Embu Campus
Kenyatta University presented a team to the 8th edition of the annual Kenya University Sports Association (KUSA) women championship held at Kirinyaga University from 15th-17th March 2019 themed “Balance for Better in Women Sports”. The event is exclusive for female athletes in Kenyan Universities and hosted in celebration of International Women’s Day.

The event, modelled after the Olympic Games, attracted 22 universities. Eighteen sports disciplines were on offer (football, hockey, handball, netball, volleyball, rugby, basketball, roll ball, chess, scrabble, badminton, tennis, table tennis, karate, taekwondo, athletics and swimming). KU presented participants in 17 sports disciplines and recorded exemplary performance by becoming overall champions for the 8th time since the inception of these games. The team won gold medals in swimming, athletics, tennis, table tennis, netball, volleyball and roll ball; silver medals in football, basketball and scrabble; bronze medals in handball, rugby and chess.

Prior to the women games, KU teams were competing in the 2018-2019 season KUSA Nairobi conference leagues in various sports. The league commences in September and ends in March of the following year. Winners and runners up from each conference compete with others from different conferences in a national playoff. In the 2018-2019 season, KU football, hockey, basketball, handball men and women teams, as well as volleyball and netball women qualified for the national playoffs which shall be hosted at Kenyatta University from 19th - 21st April 2019.

The teams are currently training in preparation for the national playoffs and federation leagues.

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**Bereavements**

Ms. Calperina Wawira Murage, a member of staff in the School of Nursing Sciences, passed away on Sunday 17th February 2019. The Late Ms. Calperina Wawira Murage was laid to rest on Saturday 23rd February 2019 at Kahuhia, Muranga County.

Ms. Christine Thunga, a member of staff in the Directorate of Catering Services, passed away on Tuesday 26th February 2019. The Late Christine Thunga was laid to rest at Migwani Location, Kitui County.

Mr. Peter Gachanja Njiraini, a member of staff in the Department of Applied Economics, passed away on Monday 4th March 2019. The Late Peter Gachanja Njiraini was laid to rest on Tuesday, 12th March 2019 at Gatundu South, Kiambu County.

Prof. Agnes Mary Wangari Gathumbi, a member of staff in the Department of Educational Communication and Technology, passed away on Sunday 10th March 2019 following the Ethiopian Airlines Flight ET302 crash.

Dr. Isaac Minae Mwangi, a member of staff in the Department of Educational Communication and Technology, passed away on Sunday 10th March 2019 following the Ethiopian Airlines Flight ET302 crash.

Ms. Roselyne Akinyi Ouma, a member of staff in the Directorate of Catering Services, passed away on Thursday 14th March 2019. The Late Roselyne Akinyi Ouma was laid to rest on Monday 25th March 2019 at Okota Village, Ndhiwa Sub-County, Homabay County.

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The Editorial Team joins the Vice-Chancellor in sending a message of condolence to those who have lost their dear ones.
The Kenyatta University Newsletter is published by the Office of the Vice-Chancellor. The Editorial Board welcomes brief comments, articles or news on topical issues.

The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit/shorten articles and to decide whether to publish them.

You may email the articles to: pro@ku.ac.ke or drop them in soft copy at ROOM 508 in the Central Administration Complex.

Editorial Board:
Machua Koinange (Chairman), Dr. Esther Mbithi (Editor), James Kaine (Member), Atika Manani (Member), Eva Mugo (Member), Evalyne Kibata (Member), Patrick Ndungu (Member), Muthoni Kariuki (Member), George Gachie (Member), Kiarie Stephen & Dennis Rono (Design & Layout)

OBJECTIVES

1. Addressing the link between food safety and food security and its effect on development.
2. Providing a forum to share the existing and emerging issues on food safety and ultimately enhance consumer protection.
3. Identifying key areas of food safety concern throughout the food chain; food production and environmental contamination, processing, packaging, distribution, storage, food and catering services and food vending and consumption.
4. Identifying gaps in risk and exposure assessment and surveillance systems on food safety.
5. Creating consumer awareness on key issues of food safety concern.
6. Addressing the role of regulatory bodies, governments, environmentalists, producers, processors, traders, consumer organizations and civil society in ensuring food safety.

SUB-THEME 1: Linking food safety, food security and public health.
1. Nutrition, healthcare systems and food safety
2. Linking food safety and food security and development
3. Food intoxications and food borne illnesses among populations
4. Public health interventions addressing food safety
5. Exposure risk assessment and surveillance

SUB-THEME 2: Food safety along the food chain
1. Food safety at primary production, agrochemicals, hormones, veterinary drugs and animal feeds
2. Water quality and food safety
3. Food safety during processing, distribution and storage chains.
4. Food adulteration
5. Environmental, chemical contaminants and microbial food contamination
6. Food allergens, GMOS, biotechnology, new processing technologies and food safety
7. Hospitality industry, food service and food safety
8. Nutritional supplements and ergogenic aids
9. Domestic food safety and consumer practices

SUB-THEME 3: Food safety policies and implementation
1. Food safety policies and legislation
2. Food safety management systems
3. Consumer education, awareness and protection on food safety
4. Leadership, integrity, corruption malpractices and food safety
5. Emerging themes in food safety

REGISTRATION FEE
Students – USD 80
Kenyans & East Africa – USD 100
International participants – USD 150
Exhibitors/exhibiting space – USD 100

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
For abstract preparation and submission, and important dates, please click here: http://www.ku.ac.ke/foodsafety

Call for Abstracts is now open until 15th April, 2019:
submit abstract on this link: http://www.ku.ac.ke/foodsafety
Or email to: foodsafetyconference2019@gmail.com

Global food security has been shaken by the many emerging and re-emerging issues of food safety concern. Scientific evidence indicates that unsafe foods are responsible for more deaths than malnutrition. Cancer and other food borne illnesses which have also been attributed to unsafe foods are on the increase. This not only loads the already overburdened healthcare systems but also lowers human productivity in low- and middle-income countries. Food safety issues emanate from the food value chain, from agricultural food production, post harvesting handling, processing, packaging, storage, distribution and retailing, food preparation and consumption at household and institutional level. This also includes the hotel industry. However, evidence based research is lacking to guide on policies and action points. There is minimal information on risk and exposure assessment of food hazards. Use and misuse of nutritional supplements as well as ergogenic aids in population is also worrying.

This conference is therefore planned to address issues of food safety concern involving all the key players. The goal of the conference is to bring together multidisciplinary scholars and scientists, environmentalists, agriculturalists, food and hospitality industry, nutritionists and public health, NGOs, distributors, traders, consumer organizations, policy makers, food legislators, civil society and other organizations to share evidence based research and disseminate findings on issues of food safety concern. Kenyatta University welcomes you to the International Conference on Food Safety to be held in Kenyatta University, Main Campus, Kenya between 20-24th May, 2019. The theme of the conference is “food safety from farm to fork - a missing link in consumer health, education and food security”.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Theme: “Food and nutrition safety from farm to fork: a missing link in consumer health and food security”.

The 1st International Food Safety Conference
Venue: Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya
Dates: 20th to 24th May, 2019

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