



Kenyatta University

Transforming Higher Education... Enhancing Lives

A Graduation Publication From the Office of the Vice-Chancellor

Tribune

Graduation Ceremony

52nd

KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

WELCOME

ELIMU
NI
NGUVU



Our Vision

To be a dynamic, inclusive and competitive centre of excellence in teaching, learning, research and service to humanity.

Our Mission

To provide quality education and training, promote scholarship and innovation for sustainable individual and societal development.

Our Identity

A community of scholars committed to the generation and dissemination of knowledge and cultivation of creativity for the welfare of society.

Our Philosophy

Sensitivity and responsiveness to societal needs and the right of every person to knowledge.

Core Values

Truth
Moral Integrity
Excellence
Democracy
Creativity
Corporate Governance
Self-Reliance
Institutional Culture of hard work
Innovation
Competitiveness
Quality & Relevance
Academic Freedom
Equal Opportunity
Respect for diversity
Professionalism





Kenyatta University

*Welcomes You to
52nd
Graduation Ceremony*





KU ANTHEM

Renowned fountain of knowledge
Well of learning experience
A bubbling spring of wisdom
A promise of a better tomorrow

A granary of higher education
Seat of literary flowering
Enhancing national culture
Illuminating our future

A beacon of national pride
Tower of learning might
A star shining bright and clear
Ensuring a richer posterity

Kenyatta, Kenya
Oh Kenya, our nation's star
Kenyatta our nation's pride
Kenyatta, the university of our time





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Editor's Desk

EDITORIAL

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The 52nd Graduation Ceremony represents victory from the effects of COVID-19 that had dimmed the hopes of the nation and the globe at large. No doubt, the economic and social recovery will take a few years but it begins with a single step, no matter how painstaking it may be taken. It therefore gives me immense pleasure to highlight, on behalf of the Tribune Editorial team, the accomplishments of Kenyatta University since we congregated last on 22nd July, 2022.

2022 has been a year of mixed fortunes with electioneering taking centre stage for the better part of the year. However, Kenyatta University continues to excel and win accolades which is in line with our vision of a dynamic, inclusive and competitive centre of excellence in teaching, learning, research and service to humanity. In recognition of exemplary work by focal point persons and the National Values Committee in Kenyatta University, the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government delivered a certificate to the Vice-Chancellor.

The University marked the World Teachers' Day with splendor deserving a ceremony of its stature on Wednesday 5th October, 2022. The theme was aptly titled "Transforming of Education Begins with the Teachers" and provided the perfect opportunity to thank every teacher that has contributed to our communities through education.

On the students' front, the Students' Governing Council of the 18th KUSA Congress was inaugurated on Wednesday 26th October, 2022 at the Amphitheatre during which Mr. Teddy Odhiambo was sworn in as the Chairperson and Ms. Mary Nzilani Muli was sworn in as the Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Moses Kurgat, Commissioner for Oaths administered the oaths.

Our students excel in all facets of life including sporting activities, drama and music festivals and bring back numerous trophies as our Vice-Chancellor likes to say 'they always bring a forest of trophies'. This is just a sneak peek of the achievements of Kenyatta University; there is much more in this issue of the Tribune. I urge you to read on and enjoy.

On behalf of the Editorial Committee, it gives me great delight to congratulate the class of 2022, who weathered the storms that life presented in their search for knowledge, and whose resilience is the reason for this 52nd Graduation Ceremony. The 1st Class Honours and Ph.D graduands deserve special mention for their tireless efforts that will see them graduate at the top of their respective categories. We hope that the special focus is a stimulant that will encourage them to soar to greater heights of academic and professional excellence thereby setting infallible standards for the coming generations.

Once again, congratulations to the class of December 2022!

Prof. Grace Bunyi
Editor in Chief



CHANCELLOR

Congratulations Dear Graduands



Dr. Benson I. Wairegi
Chancellor

It is a pleasure for me to once again join Kenyatta University in celebrating a great milestone – the 52nd Graduation Ceremony. I am very delighted that your hard work and dedication has led to your success. You have come far since your first moments at Kenyatta University, when you were hoping simply that you would make it through the first week of classes. And now you are finally at the point of graduation.

The fact that we are celebrating this graduation, proves that our graduands were capable of adapting to changing circumstances especially the COVID-19 Pandemic. The past few years presented a number of challenges which greatly affected the learning environment globally. You, our dear graduands kept going with purpose, focused on earning your academic degree and completed all that was required of you. You know that nothing is promised and there is always uncertainty. And you also know you have the strength and determination to go on to succeed. Therefore, there is much added joy for us all in celebrating your success today.

A university graduation is important since it is a time of passing through to the next stage of your lives, full of hope and possibility. The world is full of conflict, and our horizons are constantly changing. Kenyatta University through various academic programmes has prepared you to face the challenges in the world with hope and determination to build a better society. Your university education has built a solid foundation

for you to succeed. You now have the potential to achieve what is necessary to meet the challenges of the future. We need people who can think critically and creatively, to solve problems and to innovate. We need people who can build teams, bring consensus, motivate action, and lead. We need people with passion and compassion – the motivation to succeed and to help others succeed. These skills are the most important outcomes of studies at Kenyatta University. They are the skills that build the sustainability and wellbeing of a society.

Now, I would like to speak on behalf of the entire University, to honour all those who have supported you on your university journey. We are grateful for the wisdom of our nation's leadership. We thank your parents, our faculty and staff, your advisers, mentors, and your friends. All these people had faith in your dreams and potential, and they have all helped you to be here today. We are grateful to them all. We also hope that you, in turn, will offer the same service to those who come after you.

In conclusion, graduands, your respective Schools have recommended you to receive your degree, because you have completed all the University's requirements for this award. Therefore, it is my great honour to be part of this ceremony when you will receive your respective awards from Kenyatta University with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities that the awards bring.

CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

Graduands, We are Very Proud of You



Prof. Shem E. Migot-Adholla
Chairman of Council

On behalf of the Kenyatta University Council, I would like to share a couple of thoughts with you, our graduating class of 2022 in honor of your graduation.

Though I am speaking to you from my heart, I know my sentiments reflect those of our entire University staff as well as my fellow Members of the University Council. Your graduation is certainly a tremendous milestone and a huge accomplishment for you, your family, and your extended group of supporters. Years of dedication, perseverance, and sacrifice have brought you to this momentous moment and you should be incredibly proud of yourselves and feel confident that your degree is valuable, vital, and will serve you well in the society.

Indeed the world has seen turbulent times brought about by the COVID-19 Pandemic but this graduation ceremony and specifically your success is a testament that you made it due to our resilience and determination. When you look back, you will realize that the COVID-19 Pandemic and all its repercussions did not significantly hold you back, but actually helped propel you forward. It enabled the society to learn from the experience and forge creative and careful ways of living. I encourage you to embrace the world's challenging times, turn the lessons learned into opportunities, and be a positive force for all that is good. Our world is slowly

being passed to your capable hands and I feel confident that each of you will make it.

Our dear graduands! You are a remarkable group of individuals with an extraordinary education, living in a world that needs you. You have shown that you have the abilities and determination to succeed – in the face of unexpected challenge. You are ready for what lies ahead. Undoubtedly, taking the easy path while at Kenyatta University was not your plan. You signed-up for a just fight and as graduates of our Kenyatta University each of you have proven that you have the ability and grit to be winners. Along the way, you have also learned that when you work extra hard for the goals you have set, achieving victory is that much more rewarding than if you had easily “strolled” towards success. Never fear the challenge of hard work, instead embrace it and confront it head on. Success is fairly straight forward: have a well thought out plan, enlist help from others, don't take rejection personally, learn from your setbacks, and always keeping your eye on the end goal. If you follow this plan, I promise you will not only achieve success, but it will be more real and meaningful than taking an easier path.

By working closely with the University Management, the Kenyatta University Council is committed to support the University to achieve its mission of providing quality education and training, promoting scholarship, service, innovation and creativity and inculcating moral values for sustainable individual and societal development.

VICE-CHANCELLOR

Contributing Towards Societal Development

It is with great pride that I join you on this auspicious occasion of the 52nd Graduation Ceremony. Kenyatta University is home to some of the world's most distinguished scholars, researchers, and experts in a variety of fields. We take pride in offering high-quality programmes that attract people who wish to be globally competitive. To accomplish this, we have invested heavily in infrastructure and facilities in order to provide our students with the best experience in quality academic programmes in a nurturing environment where they can learn and grow.

Dear graduands, Kenyatta University has prepared you well to contribute towards societal development. You have to take responsibility for a lot of things once you graduate. You have to contribute to your family, your home, your village and society at large and make the world a better place for all. As graduates, you have a special place in society. This is because education has been known to offer the greatest opportunity for making an impact on the lives of others.

Graduation is a special event, a celebration and the culmination of years of intense study, interaction, exploring, learning and experiencing with many who come from different backgrounds and different environments from the ones you were used to. For you to have come this far, you relied on not only your own intellect, your drive, your determination to succeed, but you also relied on the support of your lecturers, your colleagues, your mentors and your parents and donors more important, God's Grace. Without their support you would probably have faltered along the way. Join me in appreciating all the people

who supported you in your academic journeys.

Graduands, your graduation is not the end but a new beginning. You have much more to achieve. Although you are entering a vastly different world from the one you expected when you joined Kenyatta University, it is a world that needs you more than ever before. Please take time and advance in your chosen career paths by enrolling in higher level academic programmes. Let what you have gained at KU be a foundation for growth to greater heights as we enhance education and research for economic prosperity.

Dear graduands, by being here today, you immediately qualify for two things; to become a graduate of this great university and also join the family of Kenyatta University Alumni. The KU Alumni has for over 35 years contributed to the success of the nation through their distinguished careers and service, both in employment and in the community. As a member of this alumni you are the Kenyatta University's representatives in the world. Your success will secure our reputation. And wherever you go, your Kenyatta University family will be there to support you.

Congratulations dear graduands on your achievement, your family's achievement and that of your community who have also supported you on this journey, and of course it is an achievement of Kenyatta University to have produced such outstanding alumni.



Prof. Paul K. Wainaina
Vice-Chancellor

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL



Prof. Shem E. Migot-Adholla
Chairman of Council



Dr. Chris Kiptoo
PS, National Treasury



**Major General
(Rtd.) Bashir Yussuf Haji,**



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Mr. Samuel Mwai
Chief Finance Officer

Office of the

VICE-CHANCELLOR

Kenyatta University under the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor continues to make great strides towards supporting the learning and research initiatives at the University. This is in line with the University's Mission of providing quality education and training and promoting scholarship and innovation for sustainable individual and societal development.

The Office of the Vice-Chancellor has sustained its support towards the growth of research, innovation and outreach. Through the Vice-Chancellor's Grant a number of research initiatives have been funded. These initiatives are geared towards promotion of scholarly excellence, easing teaching and learning as well as providing an enabling environment for entrepreneurship and innovation. The University has initiated new academic programmes, strengthened research advancements and emphasized teach-

ing that develop management and entrepreneurial skills. Kenyatta University will continue to make a major impact on education and training, thus supporting our region and the nation's achievement of Vision 2030.

To enhance teaching and learning, necessary measures have been put in place especially having the University operate optimally following the challenges posed by the COVID-19 Pandemic. All the measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 have been put in place even as the classes operate on full capacity. Kenyatta University has made tremendous progress in the improvement, renovation and development of modern infrastructure which is critical to the provision of quality higher education and enhancement of students and staff welfare. This has been achieved through strategic planning, prudent management of resources and in-house project development.

The University has entered into collaborations with various organizations, institutions and groups from government, the academia and industry. These mutual benefitting collaborations promote academic and research activities, community outreach and enhance integration between partners. Players from industry and the academia have opened doors to partner with Kenyatta University in equipping our students with entrepreneurial capacities to effect change in their respective communities.

To support students and staff welfare initiatives, the Office of the Vice-Chancellor has been at the forefront to ensure all students and staff needs are met. This is done through support to various units within the University as well as having in place favourable and disseminate policies to guide the operations at the University.



DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (ACADEMIC)

The Academic Division oversees programmes and policies that promote academic excellence, quality assurance of academic programmes, effective coordination of curriculum development, optimal utilization of teaching, research and library facilities in line with the vision and mission of the University.

Student Enrollment

During the Academic year 2022/2023 Kenyatta University received 6,622 government sponsored students. In addition to this, 694 students were enrolled from other institutions of higher learning through inter university transfers. The enrolment of both undergraduate and postgraduate self-sponsored students is increasing gradually. Quality academic programmes at Kenyatta University has continuously played a great role in students' enrolment.

Career Development and Mentoring

The Division has continuously nurtured career development and mentorship programmes through intensifying such related activities both in the Main and Satellite Campuses. Recently the Division through the Directorate of Career Development and Mentoring Programmes facilitated a virtual seminar on 29th September 2022 for mentors. This was in conjunction with DePaul University and Tangaza University College dubbed "Sustainable Leadership for Organizations". The mentorship programmes have been extended to schools nationwide.

Internationalization: Collaboration and Partnership

Kenyatta University continues to globalize education through linkages and collaborations.

There are more than 400 active collaborations within the academic domain. These have placed enrolment of international students at over 2,000 from over 50 countries across the globe.

The 100% online Master of Business Administration (MBA) course in Partnership with Higher Ed Partners South Africa (HEPSA), South Africa has attracted more than 800 students. The academic partnerships with Universities in Europe supported by the European Union have attracted 15 international students from Germany, Switzerland, France, Lithuania and Canada. Students from Kenyatta University have on the other undertaken exchange programmes in Europe, Nigeria and South Africa.

Accreditation of TVET Programmes

Kenyatta University Competency-based Education and Training (CBET) Diploma programmes were recently accredited by Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA). These programmes will be offered both in Mombasa and Nakuru Campuses after registration as TVET Centres. The two centres shall train youths and adults alike, making them ready for the labor market.

Kenyatta Post Modern Library

Kenyatta University Postmodern Library is now fully functional, having resumed normal operations after COVID-19 restrictions. The library not only conducts face-to-face sessions for information literacy but also online sessions to the faculty, students and librarians.

The library has a special service section on ground floor where users with special needs

access information. Digital technologies have been embraced through installation of NonVisual Desktop Access (NVDA) screen reader software and CCTV. A database of laptops for students and staff in the University is maintained within the library for security purposes.

Expansion of Wi-Fi Coverage

In its effort to improve the quality of students' lives in hostels as well as in support of blended learning, the University has continued, through a phased approach to install Wi-Fi in hostels, with Eastern zone already completed and the same extending to Nyayo zone.

Implementing CBC in Teaching and Learning The Kenyan Government under the new Competency Based Curriculum (CBC) approved teaching of Chinese Mandarin in the Kenyan curriculum. Kenyatta University Confucius Institute has not only been training teachers to teach the language in these schools, but also working closely with primary schools and high schools in Kenya with Chinese Clubs.

Sports and Games

The Directorate of sports and Games participated in the East African Sports Federation Leadership Conference held on 8th and 9th October 2022 in Morogoro, Tanzania. During the conference 3 sports student leaders accompanied by the Director, Sports and Games attended the event. In addition to this the elite teams have embarked on preparing for the East Africa University Games, scheduled for 16th to 22nd December, in Ndejje, Uganda.

Office of the

DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (ADMINISTRATION)

The Administration Division enables the University realize its goals through the efficient utilization of institutional resources by ensuring that the human resource, financial and technical facilities required, to support the University's goals, Mission and Vision are adequate and up to date.

Some of the recent activities by the Division since the last graduation include the setting of performance targets by non-academic staff for the financial year 2022-2023. The Division having operationalized the automated human resource management system, had the non-academic staff set and sign off their individual performance targets in liaison with their respective supervisors for the current financial year. This was a great milestone for the Division in ensuring that both academic and non-academic staff have identifiable performance targets which was previously only undertaken by the teaching staff.

Efforts of all members of University staff guided by the Division enabled the University receive the Exemplary Performance Award for attaining the highest score of 100% in the mainstreaming of National Cohesion and Values on 30th September 2022. National Values and Principles of Governance are espoused in

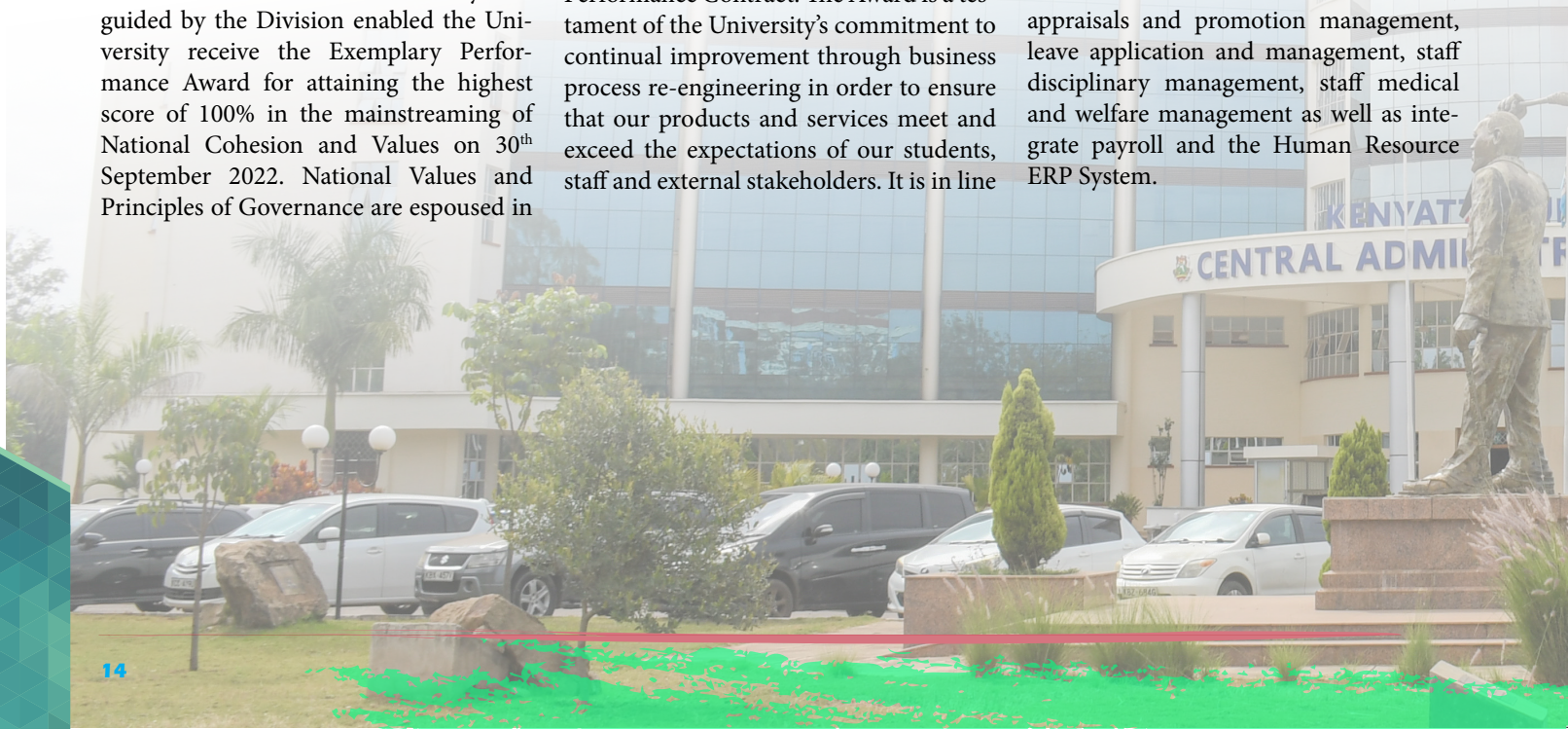
Article 10(2) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and are fundamental beliefs that guide the choices, actions and behaviors of the nation. These values are critical in building national identity and character that guides the realization of national development. Kenyatta University Management supported by the University Council has put in place structures and support systems to ensure that these National Values are engrained in the ethos, culture and day to day life at the University. The award was presented by the Secretary Directorate of National Values and Cohesion, Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, Mr. Josiah K. Musili in a colorful award ceremony held at the University and graced by the University Management, faculty and students' representatives.

The University also received a Platinum Award for excellence in Citizen Service Delivery and Business Process Re-engineering sub-indicators of the 2021/2022 Performance Contract. The Award is a testament of the University's commitment to continual improvement through business process re-engineering in order to ensure that our products and services meet and exceed the expectations of our students, staff and external stakeholders. It is in line

with this commitment that the University Management has customized its services, catering to the unique needs of persons with disabilities and is in the process of establishing a One-Stop Shop (KU Huduma Centre) to increase its stakeholder satisfaction experience.

The University recognizes ICT as a prime mover and driver in stimulating creativity and innovation in education, training, research and community service. The University has invested in ICT to continually support management, teaching, learning, research and community service in a bid to achieve the maximum benefit from ICT innovations, increasing research capability, enhanced teaching, learning, and delivering efficiencies in support of administrative functions.

The Division has continued to automate various human resource functions and is in the process of acquiring an Enterprise Resource (ERP) Planning system to enhance efficiencies in staff recruitment, appraisals and promotion management, leave application and management, staff disciplinary management, staff medical and welfare management as well as integrate payroll and the Human Resource ERP System.



DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT)

Finance and Development Division is responsible for ensuring implementation of sound financial systems, policies and procedures among other functions. The Division also spearheads development of physical infrastructure in the University. This is to ensure that the University has the required facilities to run its functions smoothly and improve on the overall landscape of the University.

In the recent past the Division has undertaken the following activities:

- i. Renovation of Kenyatta University Conference Centre Interaction Hall to give it a modern look and ensure that it attracts more revenue for the University.
- ii. De-commissioning of the septic tanks at Ruiru Campus through connection of the Ruiru Campus sewer to the main Ruiru Sub-County sewer line. This is in line

with the 2016-2026 University Strategic Plan of ensuring efficient waste management in the University.

- iii. To maintain the sporting and learning facilities, the division is creating French drains at the synthetic track to ensure that water is not logged on the football field.
- iv. De-commissioning of the dairy farm dilapidated oxidation ponds through connection to the new Athi water trunk sewer system. This will minimize chances of water and soil pollution as well as reduce health and safety risks to the immediate and neighboring communities

The Division is implementing the following cost cutting measures in a phased manner:

- a. Restructuring of Schools and Departments
- b. Merger and establishment of directorates
- c. Restructuring of established Campuses
- d. Increase in University rental spaces
- e. Increase students' numbers by offering Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes.
- f. Freezing purchase of assets
- g. Restructuring of income generating activities.



DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND OUTREACH)

The University through the Division of Research, Innovation and Outreach continues to affirm its commitment to research excellence informed and influenced by the needs and challenges facing our society. Our research activities are intended not only to create awareness but also solutions to topical issues such as climate change, sustainability, quality education, food security, gender inequality, entrepreneurship among others. Knowing research's significance and dependability in understanding and providing solutions of humanities complex problems, the Division has progressively amplified the University's research and innovation agenda resulting to exemplary performance by both faculty and students across the different disciplines. A selection of the notable grants secured in 2022 include;

What Works to prevent violence against women and girls: impact at scale led by Prof. Grace Wamue-Ngare of the Department of Sociology, Gender and Development Studies. The flagship global programme launched by the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) aims to scale up evidence-based, practice-informed prevention of violence against women and girls. The programme has invested £ 67,500,000 million towards the initiative.

The feed the future Striga Smart sorghum for Africa project led by Prof. Steven Runo of the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Biotechnology with funding of up to \$ 3.8M from USAID. The research project inspires hope for millions of sorghum farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa who have been yearning for a sustainable solution to Striga infestation on their crop as it seeks to use genome editing, a powerful new breeding technology, to develop new varieties of sorghum that are resistant to a noxious weed called Striga ('Kayongo' in local dialect).

Combating malnutrition in Africa through diversification of the food system led by Dr. Juliana Kiio of the Department of Foods, Nutrition and Dietetics. The Project implemented by a consortium of 20 partners funded by the European Union to a tune of € 10,327,804 aims at harnessing the potential of diversification of food systems in combating malnutrition and enhancing food and nutrition security in the continent.

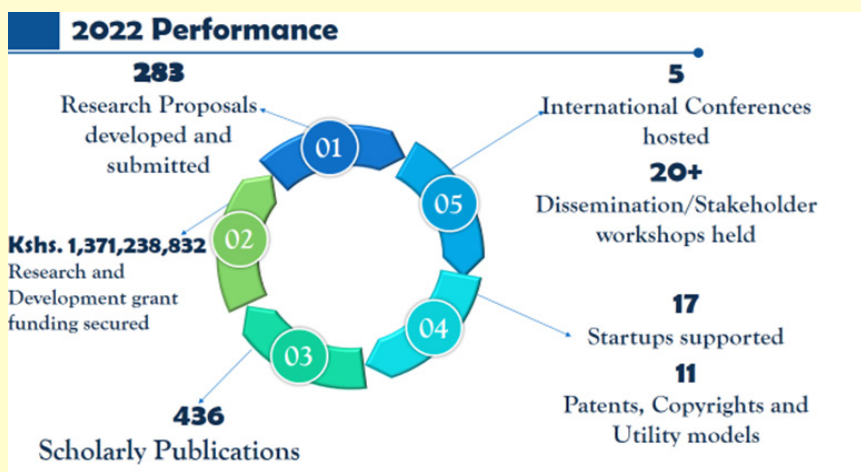
Higher Education Systems Strengthening in Somalia led by Prof. Godfrey Mse of the Department of Education Management, Policy and Curriculum Studies. The project funded by the European Union (€ 2,000,000) has been working to address systematic gaps in higher education in Somalia with focus on the regulatory frameworks, quality assurance tools and institutional networks and improvements.

SoundAct: The actuation of sound change led by Dr. Fridah Kanana Erastus of the Department of Literature, Linguistics and Foreign Languages funded by the Europe Research Council (€ 2,400,000). The project seeks to explain how cognitive mechanisms that control human speech processing, social factors that bind individuals together, and the phonetic properties that shape a community's dialect, can, in combination, sporadically

cause the sounds of languages to become unstable and change providing a better understanding of actuation of sound change.

Local dynamics and Integration of UNESCO world heritage sites of outstanding universal value: evidence from cultural landscapes in Kenya and Ethiopia led by Dr. Eric M. Kioko of the Department of Environmental Studies and Community Development with funding of € 1, 500,000 from Volkswagen Foundation. The project investigates the dynamics and threats affecting cultural heritage sites and how best to conserve such sites without impairing the livelihoods that depend on them.

Impact of training and implementation of portable ultrasound devices among mid-level clinicians on maternal and neonatal health services in selected counties in Kenya led by Dr. Grace Githemo of the Department of Medical Surgical Nursing and Pre-Clinical Sciences. Funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (\$1,058,855) the project is seeking to improve accessibility to antenatal ultrasound and improve outcomes for mothers and neonates by placing hand-held ultrasounds in lower-level facilities in Kenya and speed the diagnosis of high-risk conditions by training 500 healthcare workers.



Kenyatta University feted with Platinum Award



Kenyatta University was awarded a certificate of exemplary performance by the Directorate of National Cohesion and Values and Principles of Governance. Mr. Josiah Musili the Chief Guest gracing the occasion awarded the certificate to the then Ag. Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Waceke Wanjohi, at a colorful ceremony on 30th September 2022. At the opening part of the ceremony, Dr. Isaiah Oyugi, the entertainment coordinator, led the entertainment with the Kenyatta University choir and the Rombolo dancers, the former having participated in and won the National Music Festivals that took place in Kisumu County, scooping other trophies as well.

Prof. Wanjohi could not hide her joy with the various awards coming to KU in both academic and extracurricular

activities, saying that such is what makes Kenyatta University recognized. “You can write about who you are, but it is what you achieve that speaks to the masses,” she said in her speech as she congratulated the University choir on their sublime representation of the institution throughout the National Music Festival.

The then Ag. Vice-Chancellor further stated that it is not only enough to brag about our achievements but that we must also develop mechanisms to talk about them. According to the report by the Directorate of National Values and Cohesion, which was established through an executive order in 2008, Kenyatta University achieved the highest attainable mark of 100% to be ranked first.

Kenyatta University, in the performance contract, scored a perfect

score in both the Ombudsman’s Office and the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission and received a certificate of exemplary performance from the Ministry of Public Service. Mr. Josiah Musili, indicated that a lot of public institutions find it difficult to connect their mandate with the national values, which can be found in Article 10 Section 2 of the constitution, but Kenyatta University balanced the two perfectly, hence the award itself.

Mr. Musili added that it was not that other universities performed poorly, but that Kenyatta University did the extra work and was a cut above the rest. Mr. Musili also recognized the in-house University National Values Committee. He thanked fellow members for a job well done with the entire Kenyatta University fraternity.

Point of Care Ultrasound Launched at Kenyatta University



Head of Directorate of Health Care Services, Ministry of Health Dr. Julius Ogato (4th left) launches the Point of Care Ultrasound at KU. The project is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in partnership with the Global Ultrasound Institute.

Kenya has continued to report a high maternal mortality rate of far above the global average of 211 deaths per 100,000 live births. To address the high maternal and neonatal mortality, the Government of Kenya introduced several national programmes including the “Linda Mama” programme and expansion of Universal Health Coverage. These programmes have resulted in increased numbers of mothers seeking maternal health services. Despite all these measures Kenya still falls far below the global targets of less than 70 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births.

In the newly released national reproductive health priority research and learning agenda (2022-2027), point of care diagnostics has been identified as a priority research agenda. However, studies

have shown that there are variations in ultrasound access coupled by inadequate ultrasound training among the health care providers. Little is also known about the current practices of portable ultrasound devices in lower-level facilities and its impact on patient outcomes

Towards this, Kenyatta University partnered with Global Ultrasound Institute and Butterfly Networks with support from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to equip 500 healthcare providers in level 3, 4 and 5 health facilities with knowledge and skills on the use of basic obstetric ultrasound diagnostics. The project will also deploy 500 Butterfly iQ+ devices to healthcare practitioners eight selected counties in Kenya which include Kakamega, Nakuru, Baringo, Samburu, Kitui, Taita Taveta, Kilifi and Turkana.

The overall goal of the project is to see improvement in the accessibility to antenatal ultrasound and improved

outcomes for mothers and neonates. This is by placing hand-held ultrasounds in lower-level facilities and speed the diagnosis of high-risk conditions and improve the proportion of mothers meeting the World Health Organization (WHO) goals of all patients receiving an antenatal scan prior to 24.

This project was launched at the Kenyatta University Conference Centre on 20th September 2022 by Dr. Ogato, Director of Healthcare Services from the Ministry of Health representing the Director General for Health, international dignitaries led by Mr. Darius Shahinda, Chief Strategy Officer at Butterfly Network, Dr. Sachita Shah, Director Global Health Butterfly Networks and Dr. Kevin Bergman, Director Global Ultrasound Institute graced the occasion.

County Directors for health and representatives from various professional bodies also attended the function.

Inauguration of New Students Governing Council



KU Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul Wainaina with the new Kenyatta University Students Association Governing Body.

It was the change of guard at the institution as new Kenyatta University Students Association (KUSA) Governing Body was being sworn into office on 26th October 2022. This was the 18th Congress of KUSA as per the number of Student Governing Councils (SGCs) that had come before them.

Dr. Eng. Daniel Oyoo, the Chairperson, KUSA Electoral Commission started the speeches section saying that the Vice-Chancellor had tasked them with conducting a free and fair election and that they managed to deliver on that mandate.

He also thanked the commission for the achievement and declared United Bureaucratic Action Alliance as the governing body and Teddy Odhiambo Osano as the Chairperson.

Mr. Moses Kurgat, the Commissioner of Oaths just before swearing in the new SGC said that there was only one appeal out of all the posts vied for and that the election was viable and credible.

The following then took the oath of office.

1. **Mr. Robert Rhova Bonaya**
Organizing Secretary for Social Welfare and Co-curricular activities
2. **Ms. Juliet Elphiridah Ngele**
Gender and Special Needs Secretary
3. **Ms. Anab Mohammed**
Academic Secretary
4. **Mr. Muhsin Jafar Kasaya**
Treasurer
5. **Mr. Samuel Thiong'o**
Secretary General
6. **Ms. Mary Nzilani Muli**
Vice Chairperson
7. **Mr. Teddy Odhiambo Osano**
Chairperson

After this, the outgoing KUSA Chairperson, Mr. Moses Ngigi highlighted some of the things his administration achieved and those in motion. The new Secretary General, Mr. Samuel Thiong'o pointed out what he would wish to start with as he assumes office.

Mr. Teddy Odhiambo Osano addressed the audience sharing the same sentiments with his Secretary General on various issues facing the students. He pledged to work hand in hand with the Vice-Chancellor and the administration to ensure quality service for the students.

Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, the then Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) congratulated the new SGC and also the outgoing one and said that competition can be fierce but peaceful.

The Ag. Vice-Chancellor thanked the Commission for fulfilling the mandate given to them. She emphasized on the commitment of the administration to work with the new SGC with mutual understanding in co-operation.

"You have a responsibility of providing leadership to all the 70,000 plus students," said the Ag. Vice-Chancellor as she congratulated the new SGC. She equated the University elections with the recently concluded General Elections noting that both did not have violence, stating that it marked our growth as a society.

Highlights

Growing Leaders Programme Opening Ceremony

Mr. Mamo B. Mamo, Director General, National Environmental Management Authority addresses the congregation.



"Today, getting the job done is not enough for employers; they also want to see creativeness and other elite skills," was the memorable quote from then Ag. Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Waceke Wanjohi during the opening ceremony of the Growing Leaders Programme's first semester in 2022-2023. The ceremony took place at the University's amphitheatre on 19th October 2022 and was graced by the Chief Guest, Mr. Mamo B. Mamo, Director General, National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA).

Dr. Margaret Muturi, the Director, Career Development and Mentoring Programmes, observed that the programme is examinable and that there are currently 3,000 students registered. Dr. Paul Sang, the then Ag. Registrar (Academic) also briefed the audience, saying that the course enables the students to challenge their leadership skills on top of their academics.

Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, the then Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), emphasized that that young people have the power to transform the world with their leadership. Prof. Thoruwa also observed that every day we are challenged

to keep upgrading our skills and adapting to the environment.

Prof. Waceke Wanjohi thanked the Director, Career Development and Mentoring Programmes for continuing the programme through the pandemic. She then told the students that the course was free, and on top of this, it presented them with an opportunity to go beyond the norm.

Just before officially opening the programme, the Ag. Vice-Chancellor said that the skills that the students will require when they graduate are available in the programme. The Chief Guest, Mr. Mamo B. Mamo took to the podium, and just like the Vice-Chancellor, thanked the Directorate for coming up with the programme and urged the students not to fear dreaming, saying that no dream is too big.

He also urged the students not to be copies of themselves but to be the original versions of themselves. "We need to take responsibility for our actions and our environment, and to do this, we need to be leaders of ourselves," said the Chief Guest.



CULTURE for Inclusivity and Peaceful Co-existence

The opening ceremony for this year's Culture Week Festival was held on the 24th October 2022 at the Bishop Square. The theme for this year's Culture Week Festival was 'Culture for Inclusivity and Peaceful Co-existence' and the performances that kicked off the ceremony were true to the theme.

The contingent led by the then Ag. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Waceke Wanjohi, the Chief Guest, Mr. Mike Rabar the Chief Executive Officer, HomeBoyz Group, among other senior management officials graced the event.



The Kenyatta University choir started things off with a performance that earned them the number one spot in the recently concluded music festivals in Kisumu. They were closely followed by a performance by the KU Orchestra, Rambolo Dancers, and contemporary dance by a group of KU students and a traditional dance by the Bomas of Kenya Group.

The Cultural Ambassadors representing communities from across the country and beyond dressed in their traditional regalia danced as they entered the stage before officially being crowned Ambassadors for this year's Culture Week Festival.

Dr. Duncan M. Wambugu the Chairman of the Culture Week Planning Committee, gave the welcoming remarks and provided the list of events for the week.

Prof. Thoruwa, the then Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) appreciated the performances, terming Culture Week as one of the most important events in the University.

The then Ag. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Waceke Wanjohi applauded the performances and pointed out the objective of the event was to promote understanding and appreciation of culture. Prof. Wanjohi also pointed out that KU's proactiveness in such matters earned it the Certificate of Exemplary Performance among other government institutions this year. "We celebrate the late Prof. George Eshiwani for starting this event," said Prof. Waceke Wanjohi.

She closed by thanking the sponsors and the Culture Week Planning Committee for a work well done.

"I wish to acknowledge and congratulate Kenyatta University for providing a platform for cultural exchanges for a long time through the Culture Week Festivals which are a major attraction," said the HomeBoyz CEO Mr. Rabar.

He also applauded KU for always charting a way and championing for diversity and insisted on the importance of the event since the world has become a global village through interaction. "I have enjoyed the performances and will definitely comeback in the course of the week," added Mr. Mike Rabar as he officially opened the Culture Week Festival.



New Students Initiated to Kenyatta University Academic Community

Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) makes her remarks during the Matriculation Ceremony.

Matriculation is described as the process of initiating or welcoming new students to the academic community at a university level, dating back to the 16th Century in medieval Europe, and this is the particular ceremony that was being conducted by Kenyatta University on 2nd September 2022.

It began with an academic procession making its way to the dais of the Graduation Square.

After the entertainment, the then Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, took to the podium to usher in the start of the ceremony. She started by quoting the reknowned Kenyan marathon runner Eliud Kipchoge, equating the sport to the journey of academics. Her point was that the level of preparation needed to run a marathon is almost similar to the

preparation needed in academics. Prof. Thoruwa congratulated the new students and afterwards ushered to the podium the Deans of the various Schools to read out the matriculation oaths to the new students.

For the newcomers, the journey had not started that morning but rather two days earlier with a two-day orientation. During this time, they were spoken to by various directors who were in charge of the different sectors in the University in order to get the flow chart of the activities. The directors spoke to the new students, first welcoming them to the institution and then expressing their expectations while at the same time explaining to them the services rendered by each of the sectors they represented.

After the matriculation oaths administered by various Deans, the Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) ushered in the

then Ag. Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Waceke Wanjohi to address the new students.

She started by introducing the directors of various units in the University, deans and associate deans, full professors, and KUSA officials, allowing the KUSA Chairman to speak to the newly matriculated students.

The Ag. Vice-Chancellor also stated that 22 new international students will be joining them at the institution, bringing the total number of international students to well over 5,000 at KU. She also urged the first year students to not only engage the available career advisors at the institution but also to use the Chandaria Innovation Centre to foster ideas and leadership within themselves. The Ag. Vice-Chancellor reminded the new students that what they had begun was an academic journey that they should really see through.

Focus on Students

Supporting Students' Welfare



Dr. Faith Nkuru, Director Students Affairs makes her remarks during the KUSA Induction.

The Welfare of the students is at the heart of the operations of the University. In this line, the Directorate of Students Affairs is charged with the co-ordination of student welfare services.

In doing this, the Directorate works closely with other University directorates that provide student services such as; Catering Services, Accommodation Services, Disability Services, Sports and Games, Careers Development and Mentoring Programmes, University Health Services, Wellness and Rehabilitation Centre and Security Services.

For the spiritual welfare of the students, the Directorate co-ordinates four chaplaincies namely; the Muslim, Seventh Day Adventist (SDA), Protestant and Catholic chaplaincies that are manned by full time Chaplains. There are also wardens in the various residential areas who guide the students on the various challenges that they may encounter during their stay there.

The University views the students as her chief clientele and hence always endeavors to maintain a cordial working relationship with the students' body. This ensures that student issues are well articulated and addressed in a timely manner. Towards this end, the University has consequently mandated the Directorate to oversight the Kenya University Student Association (KUSA). In this spirit, the Directorate coordinated successful elections for the new student government for the 2022/2023 academic year in October 2022. This saw a new Student Governing Council and Congress elected.

To encourage talent development and appreciate the multiple cultures from which the University's students and staff are drawn from, the Directorate collaborated with the Culture Week Office and other University organs in the organization of a successful 2022 Cultural Week from Saturday 22nd to Friday 28th October 2022. This saw different talents and cultures from all over the world were exhibited.

Light for the World

Employability Skills Training



Kenyan pop music icon Nameless (David Mathenge) entertains students during the Career Mentorship session.

On 28th October 2022, at the Amphitheatre, the University through the Directorate of Disability Services hosted the Future Makers Career Mentorship Session to support students with and without disabilities to be job market ready. This inclusive event had an attendance of over 1,000 students.

The morning session was graced by the Chief Guest, Margaret Kositany, an accomplished MBA executive with over 15 years of domestic, regional, and international experience in marketing, leadership, and strategy within the Technology and Fast-Moving Consumer Goods industries. Currently, she sits as a Director at the Kenya Commercial Bank Group and is the founder of New Heights Consultants, which focuses on providing marketing and strategic development services. Margaret gave a talk on how to remain relevant in the job market (technical skills and job market demand).

The guest artist for the day was Mr. David Mathenge (Nameless) who mentored the students on how to turn their talents into careers.

In the afternoon session, the students were taken through an Employability Skills Training facilitated by Mr. Stanley Kaguora from Riziki Source, a Non-Governmental Organization on a mission to enable access to job opportunities for persons with disabilities.



KU Hosts Third Annual Film Summit

Kenyatta University hosted the 3rd Annual Kenya Film Summit (KEFiS) from 21st to 23rd September 2022. This was held under the ambit of the Film Lecturers and Trainers Association of Kenya (FLeTA-K). The theme of this year's event was "Film Production as a Driver for Online Learning".

The Summit was attended by students from all universities and tertiary institutions offering film programmes. The Guests of honour during this year's Summit included: Ms. Fridah Karuri, representing the Cabinet Secretary ICT, Mr. Christopher Wambua, Chief Executive Officer, Kenya Film Classification Board and Mr. Timothy Owase, Chief Executive Officer, Kenya Film Commission.

During the three days summit, several workshops were facilitated by the Canon Group. Fervent to explore matches between capacity, training models, opportunities and facilities, with other world-class institutions and media related establishments, since their inception, the film schools in Kenya are constantly forming partnerships and collaborations, most importantly is the FLeTA-K umbrella that allows the schools to compare notes. Chaired by Prof. John Mugubi of Kenyatta University Department of Communication, Media, Film and Theatre Studies, the Association has worked to engage students' and staff's sensibilities with the rich theatrical, cultural, media and social traditions of other nations and organizations to create unique approaches to the teaching and appreciation of media and film.

Best University Choir for over a Decade



The Kenyatta University Students' Choir is a dominant force in the Kenya music scene. The choir has participated in almost all national contests and has also provided entertainment services within the University at various functions. At the national level, the choir has won the Best University Choir Trophy for record 12 years in a row.

This was no exception during the just concluded Kenya Music Festivals, 2022 edition, which took place in Kisumu County. The choir participated in more than 40 categories, won more than three quarters of them and thus bagged the Best University Choir Trophy for 12th year running. The choir

was awarded about 20 trophies for this sterling performance during a state concert that was presided over by the Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Rigathi Gachagua.

The University choir, under the leadership of Dr. Isaiah Oyugi as director and deputized by Elijah Adongo, has been active in various competitions over the past few years. The choir is housed in the Department of Music and Dance under the supervision of lecturers in that department.

The choir is proudly facilitated by the Office of the Vice-Chancellor who is also the Patron of the University choir.



KU drama students in action during the festival.

KU Excels at National Drama and Film Festival

Kenyatta University excelled and outshone all others at the Kenya Universities Performing Arts Association National Drama and Film Festival held at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Technology from 4th to 14th November 2022.

A total of 16 universities performed at the national level. Among the awards won were: Overall Winning University, Most Prolific University, Most Disciplined University, Most Original Play, Most Creative Play, Best Costume and Decor, Best item on Early Childhood Development, Most Thematic Play, Best Scripted Play, Best Overall item of the Festival, Best Actor-Mathew Ngugi, Best Short Film, Best Picture, Best Feature Film, Best Screenplay, Best Sound Effect, Best Cinematography, Best Actor in a Leading Role - Katana Evans, Best Performing Artist Female

- Gaturi Sandra and Best Performing Artist Male - Evans Katana.

All the items were scripted and directed by students supervised and guided by Theatre Technician Derrick Waswa and Prof. John Mugubi.

Kenyatta University also participated in the FILAMU Festival where students studying film won 9 out of 17 categories at a National Film Competition held under the umbrella of the Film Lecturers Association of Kenya (FLETA) from 21st to 23rd September 2022. Nine Universities and Tertiary Institutions that offer programmes in film participated in the competitions. These included KCA University, Multimedia University, Kenya Film School and Africa Film and TV Talent Training Institute (AFTTI) and Africa Digital Media Institute.



Hon. Ababu Namwamba, Cabinet Secretary, Youth Affairs, Sports and Arts hands over a trophy to KU Theatre Technician, Mr. Derrick Waswa.



Offering Quality Accommodation Services to Enhance Students' Learning Experience



Nyayo Hostels.

The Directorate of Accommodation Services is committed to offering high quality and affordable accommodation to students to enhance their learning experience. The KU accommodation facilities are serene and offer a tranquil and conducive environment for students. In addition, the Directorate builds partnerships with off-campus accommodation providers for safe off-campus accommodation to non-resident students.

Safety and comfort is of utmost importance to the Directorate, hence students are inducted and constantly guided on ethical conduct in the University hostels to promote safety, comfort and peaceful co-existence among students within a population that enjoys rich cultural diversity. The University has continued with efforts to strengthen security in hostels through fencing off hostels for special needs students in the Western zone.

The Directorate continues to collaborate with other Directorates such as: Wellness

and Rehabilitation, Health Services and Student Affairs in the promotion of students' psychosocial wellbeing.

In its effort to improve the quality of students' lives in hostels as well as in support of blended learning, the University has continued, through a phased approach to install WiFi in hostels, with Eastern zone already completed and the same extending to Nyayo zone.

With full resumption of face to face learning in the 2022/2023 academic year, following reduction of COVID-19 risk, the hostels have reverted to full occupancy across the zones and campuses. Nonetheless, efforts to promote health and safety protocols to prevent any surge in COVID-19 or other contagious diseases have remained continuous.

In addition to hosting students, the Directorate hosts University short-stay guests and recently hosted the Federation of African University Sports (FASU) games within the Nyayo village with great success.

Providing Quality Catering Services



The Directorate of Catering Services focuses on provision of affordable, quality and accessible catering services to the University community, comprising students, staff and other clientele. The Directorate also provides catering services for functions and events hosted by the University.

In addition to providing meals to our students in the messes, the Directorate was privileged to offer catering services during various events – Matriculation Ceremony to usher first years on 2nd September 2022, AIESEC function held on 21st September 2022, Korean Dance and Performance at Amphitheatre 6th October 2022, Light for World event organized in collaboration with the Directorate of Disability Services on 28th October 2022 and Equity Leadership on 5th and 6th November 2022.

In an endeavor to be responsive to clientele needs, the Kenyatta University Coffee House and Bakery has expanded its offering to consumers. Consumers at the facility can now enjoy different flavours of ice cream, iced coffee and teas milkshakes of different flavors and ice pops.

The Directorate strives to provide quality catering services by providing safe, nutritious and delicious meals to KU students, guests and clients.

Playing Central Role in Postgraduate Programmes



(Seated) Prof. Paul Wainaina, Vice-Chancellor (3rd right) Jared Ochwangi – a graduand (left), Prof. Elishiba Kimani – Executive Dean, Graduate School (2nd left), Prof. Waceke Wanjohi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) (3rd left), Prof. Michael Gicheru – Executive Dean, School of Pure and Applied Sciences (2nd right) and Ruth Wambui – a graduand (right) during the 44th Postgraduate Seminar.

Graduate School has continued to play a central role in the postgraduate programmes and activities at Kenyatta University.

After the last graduation ceremony held on 22nd July 2022, Graduate School retreated to its normal routine but very important duty of processing projects and theses for examination, organizing and carrying out oral defenses, organizing seminars for supervisors and postgraduate students, preparing postgraduate awards for approval, maintaining quality of postgraduate programmes, among many other activities.

One of the major developments that have taken place at Graduate School is the development of the Graduate School Tracking System by the ICT Department. We are happy to report that this is on track. Phase I of the System was signed off at the end July 2022. Phase II is ongoing.

It is expected that the system will be activated soon and this will automate most of the processes of Graduate School. The Department of ICT is working on the final touches to make this a reality.

Another major activity that has taken place in the University is the KUSA elections which were held on 19th October 2022. During these elections the postgraduate students elected Constant Lisutsa Asenahabi as the Graduate School Congressperson, Roxanne Regina Achieng as the Graduate School Female Congressperson and Andrew Okambo Nyaundi as the Graduate School Delegate. It is our expectation that the new team will be as active as the team that preceded them in disseminating information, organizing, consultation between Graduate School and postgraduate students and providing leadership to the postgraduate group of students.

Promoting Standards of Teaching



In fulfilling her mandate to promote and maintain high standards of teaching at the University, the Centre for Teacher Professional Development and Excellence was mandated to develop and adopt an online student – lecturer evaluation programme.

The programme was subsequently launched and since then, it is a requirement at Kenyatta University ISO 9001:2015 Standard. To enhance quality of teaching, Student-Lecturer evaluation was conducted. A total of 910 units were evaluated during the 1st Semester and 530 units during the 2nd Semester of 2021/2022 Academic Year.

To enhance effectiveness and efficiency, the Centre has periodically conducted Training Needs Analysis and established the training gaps. Training of teaching staff has also been conducted on request basis. The Centre is currently preparing to train new teaching staff from the School of Law on teaching methodology an area they requested for training.

KU Students Shine at National Economics Debate



On 10th November 2022, 60 students from the KU alongside students from other ten Kenyan universities, participated in the National Economics Debate under the theme “Achievement of Vision 2030 through Enabling a Sustainable Macro-Environment” at Kabarak University. The annual debate provides a platform for university students to air out their ideas

on formulation of policy frameworks and to give ideas on possible solutions to economic challenges facing the country.

The motion items for the debate were: Is Kenya’s public debt sustainable? and Does the country risk a severe economic crisis as a result? Kenyatta University students clinched the top position and the runners-up award for the second-best orator.

Getting Ready to Offer Technical, Vocational Education and Training Programmes



Ag. Registrar (Academic), Prof. Benard Kivunge (front row, centre) leading an Internal Inspection team to assess the preparedness of Nakuru Campus for inspection by the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority.

The Directorate of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Programmes at KU is mandated with among other things coordinating the preparation of the University Satellite Campuses for inspection for the purpose of registration as TVET Centres by the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA).

The internal inspection of the Satellite Campuses commenced on 14th October 2022 with Nakuru Campus. Mombasa Campus was inspected on 17th October 2022 while Kitui Campus was inspected on 4th November 2022.

Upon their registration as TVET Centres, Mombasa and Nakuru Campuses will offer Competency-

Based Education and Training (CBET) Diploma programmes already accredited by TVETA, including, Diploma in Accountancy, Diploma in Procurement and Supply Chain Management, Diploma in Business Management, Diploma in Human Resource Management, Diploma in Marketing, Diploma in Records Management and Information Technology and Diploma in Information Science. Kitui Campus TVET Centre will offer Agriculture-based programmes, including, Diploma in Horticulture production, Diploma in Apiculture, Diploma in Agripreneurship, Diploma in Farm Business Management, Diploma in Agricultural Education and Extension, Diploma in General Agriculture and Diploma in animal health and production. Kenyatta University TVET Centres are committed to producing competent graduates who will not only be job seekers but also job creators with highly developed occupational abilities.

Equipping Students with Core Competencies Aligned to Competency Based Curriculum



Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, then Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) (2nd left), External Examiner, Prof. Anane (2nd right), with officers from Kenyatta University during a courtesy call.

At the core of teacher training is the mandatory teaching practicum exercise which runs for one school term. In the Academic year 2021/2022, the Centre for Teacher Professional

Development and Excellence conducted two Teaching Practicum exercises. The first one was done between April and July, 2022 with 2,043 students while the second one was conducted between July

and September, 2022 with 1,200 students.

Two External Examiners; Prof. Agnes Kibui – University of Nairobi and Prof. Eric Anane – Cape Coast University, Ghana ensured quality during the July-September, 2022 teaching practicum.

The Centre also facilitated placement of second year students to various schools. They were undertaking ECT 213: Practicum; a unit developed by Department of Educational Communication and Technology to equip the trainees with core competences and values aligned to the Competence Based Curriculum. This is in line with the 21st century training and learning skills. Over 1,100 students undertook the practicum.

Medical Students Association of Kenya 6th General Assembly Conference



Medical Students Association of Kenya (MSAKE) held the 6th General Assembly Conference from 26th to 30th October 2022 at Neptune Hotels, Diani.

MSAKE is an umbrella body of 11 medical schools in Kenya comprising of University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, Moi University, Egerton University, Mt. Kenya University, Kenya Methodist University, Kisii University, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Uzima University and Maseno University. The Association of Kenyatta University Medical Students was the host of this event.

The Theme for the conference was 'Moving Together to Uphold Quality Healthcare'.

Financial medicine, Telemedicine, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Mental Health Antimicrobial Resistance and Basic Life support were the topics covered during the conference.

The conference was officially opened by Director of KU, Mombasa Campus who represented the Vice-Chancellor. Mr. James Ngaruiya, Director Family Bank gave a talk on Financial Management. The National Health Insurance Fund representatives highlighted on the need to achieve Universal Health Care.

The 21st Century Workforce

The Directorate of Career Development and Mentoring Programmes is entrusted with giving social, emotional, academic and career guidance to prospective and continuing students, organizing attachments/internships and sourcing for job placements for students, organizing career talks and the Career Week as well as training all finalist students on leadership and life skills in order to give them an edge in the world of work.

The Directorate has endeavoured to achieve these objectives by stepping up career and mentorship activities in the Main and Satellite Campuses as well as in high schools in different parts of the country.

A number of activities that the Directorate has engaged in include a staff mentors' virtual seminar in conjunction with DePaul University and Tangaza University College which was held on 29th September 2022, dubbed "Sustainable Leadership for Organizations" and a virtual seminar by International Youth Fellowship on Mind Education.

The Directorate has continued to offer career



Mr. Robert Kahiga (left) hands over Kenyatta University branded clocks during a career visit to schools.

guidance to both continuing and high school students as well as at the Main and Satellite Campuses. The University attended career fairs at Alliance Boys, Chogoria Girls, Mukumu Girls and Limuru High, Kensisw Secondary and Kianda School. Similarly, career outreach programmes in high schools neighbouring Mombasa, Kitui and Nakuru Campuses were in which 91 high schools were visited.

To ensure students get requisite job skills, the Directorate continues sourcing for internships/attachments opportunities with different companies such as Vivo Energy, Kenya Commercial Bank, National Bank of Kenya, Godrej Kenya, Rhombus Concrete. In addition the Directorate coordinates practicum and attachments for students.

Enhancing Higher Education in Emergencies

Kenyatta University-Dadaab Centre coordinates partnership activities and research geared towards higher education in emergencies, ensuring that refugees and the host community gain access to higher Education. The Centre has continued to seek partnership with donors, Non-Governmental Organisations, national and international universities whose interest is in higher education in the context of emergencies.

The ongoing projects under different partners include the Danish Refugee Council, Quality Secondary Education (QSEE), Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) and the Open Society University Network (OSUN). Currently the Centre is coordinating close to 200 DAFI sponsored

refugee scholars undertaking different courses, in the University on a regular mode of study. In addition, approximately 20 students under the DAFI have joined the KU DAFI fraternity during the September, 2022 intake.

The Centre has also recently entered into Memorandum of Understanding with the African Higher Education in Emergencies Network (AHEEN). The network comprises of four Universities - Moi University, University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, Stellenbosch University (South Africa) and three non-Governmental organizations - Women Educational Researchers of Kenya (WERK), Youth Educational and Sports (YES), African Digital University Network, Windle International Kenya (WIK) and Dadaab Response Association

In this consortium Kenyatta University is expected to support over 500 refugees and internally displaced persons, including refugee-hosting community to undertake Diploma, Bachelor and Master Courses.

The Centre is also committed to research, and brings together KU faculty in collaboration with partners to identify gaps and make recommendations for evidence based higher education in emergency programmes. Currently the Centre is coordinating a research for Windle International Kenya on 'Evaluation of Windle International Kenya Education Models and Innovations in Kakuma and Dadaab; the research is funded by WIK and it is currently at the final stages.

Exposing Students to Natural Environment

The Department of Environmental Sciences and Education organized an educational trip to Laikipia, Isiolo, Samburu from 28th to 30th October, 2022.

The purpose of the field trip was to expose the students to the natural environment and find out how the communities carry out their economic activities that make up their livelihoods in this ASAL regions. It also assisted the students to appreciate natural elements of the ecosystems and the effects of climate change that appear to be at play in the current drought affecting the northern Kenya and now spreading to nearly 24 counties.

On the first day the students examined the eco- climatic/ agro – ecological zones of Kenya and land use potential scenarios, the indicators of land degradation and grassland ecosystem and their effects on pastoral land. The students had an opportunity to learn more on the human settlements patterns of the areas soil and vegetation types enter the Solio Ranch.

Day two was another educative day the

students as they learned more on dry land ecosystems, savannah grasslands, Uaso Nyiro River geomorphological process Samburu Game reserve – the savannah grassland and plains land use systems, arid and semi-arid lands and ecotones, vegetation and soil types and land use potential.

On the last day, the students learned more on arid lands and agricultural communities, ecological zones and land use potential. In Isiolo Makutano and Meru area the focus was on high potential area geomorphological processes while in Tharaka Kathuana area it was ecotones and ecolines, arid and semi-arid lands productivity and economic activity.

In other news, the Department of Environmental Resource Conservation went to an educational trip to Mombasa Malindi and Kilifi from 25th to 28th October, 2022. The students proceeded to Malindi Marine National Park. From here they preceded to Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI).

On the conservation of our natural resources, the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) donated 10,000 seeds to Kenyatta University on Friday 16th October, 2022 in KEFRI offices at Karura Forest. Later, the office dispatched 2 Bamboo specialist officers to the School to educate and demonstrate how to store prepare the nurseries and plant the young bamboo seedlings in the Kenyatta University Nursery grounds.

The purpose of the field trip was to expose the students to the natural environment and find out how the communities carry out their economic activities that make up their livelihoods in this ASAL regions.

Quality Management

Mandate of the Directorate

The Directorate of Quality Management System is mandated to coordinate implementation and maintenance of the University Quality Management System; Performance Contracts and monitor implementation of the University Strategic plan.

Quality Management System

Over the last six months the Directorate has successfully conducted internal audits across all the Campuses in the University and has also coordinated external surveillance audits. Surveillance audits are conducted twice a year and the next visit will be in May 2023, which will be a recertification audit after the current certificate expires.

Performance Contract

Evaluation of the University 2021/2022 Performance Contract was conducted by independent evaluators from Public Service Performance Management and Monitoring Unit (PSMMU) on 16th September, 2022 and the University achieved a raw score of 2.5519 which is in the 'Very Good' category. This is a remarkable improvement from last year's raw score of 2.8819. In addition the University received two

awards of exemplary performance in the implementation of the 2021/2022 Performance Contract. The first award was a Certificate in Mainstreaming of National Values and Values where the University received the exemplary performance award for attaining a score of 100%. The second award was a Platinum Award for the implementation of the Citizen's Service Delivery Charter and Business Process Re-engineering. Currently, the University is in the second

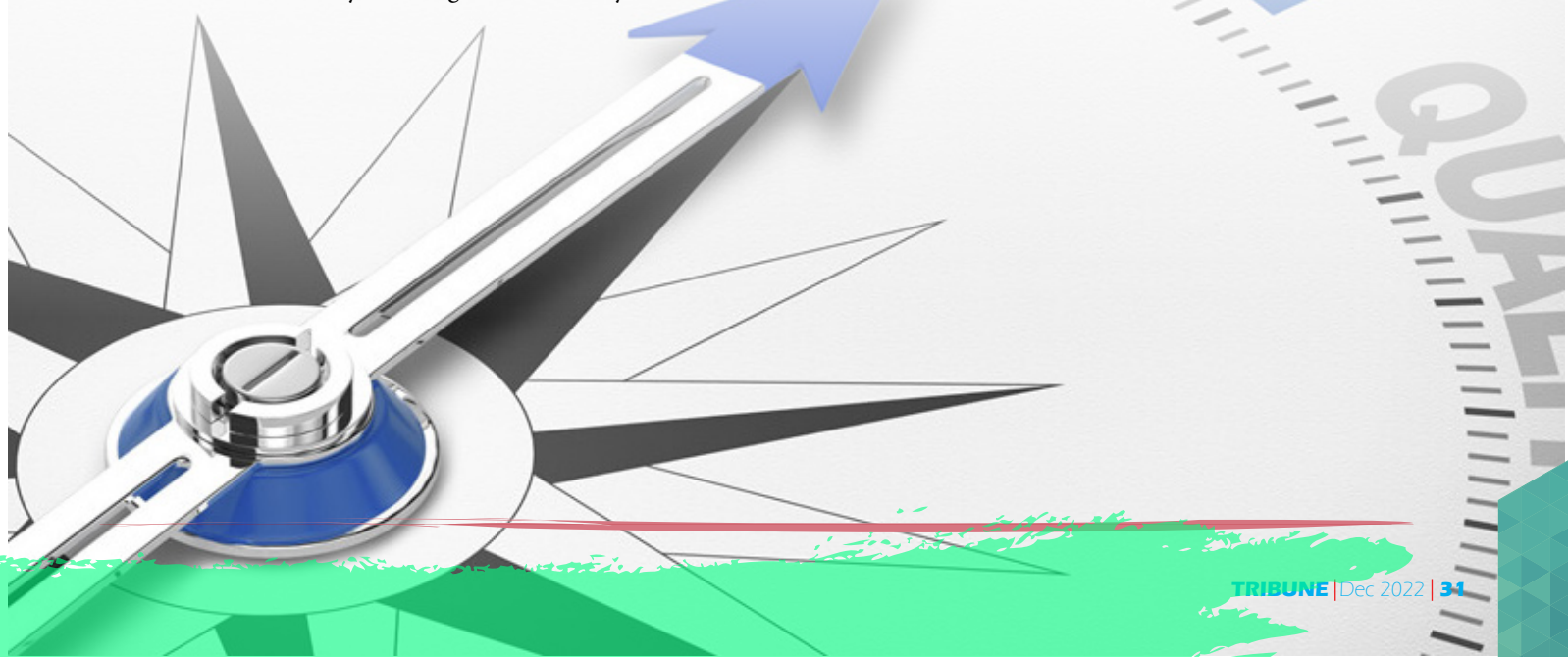
quarter of the 2022/2023 Performance Contract after going through the process of negotiation, vetting and review.

In line with the 19th Cycle Performance Contracting guidelines the Directorate organized a two day forum to sensitize top management and the University Corruption Prevention Committee on corruption prevention.

Implementation of the 2016-2026 University Strategic Plan

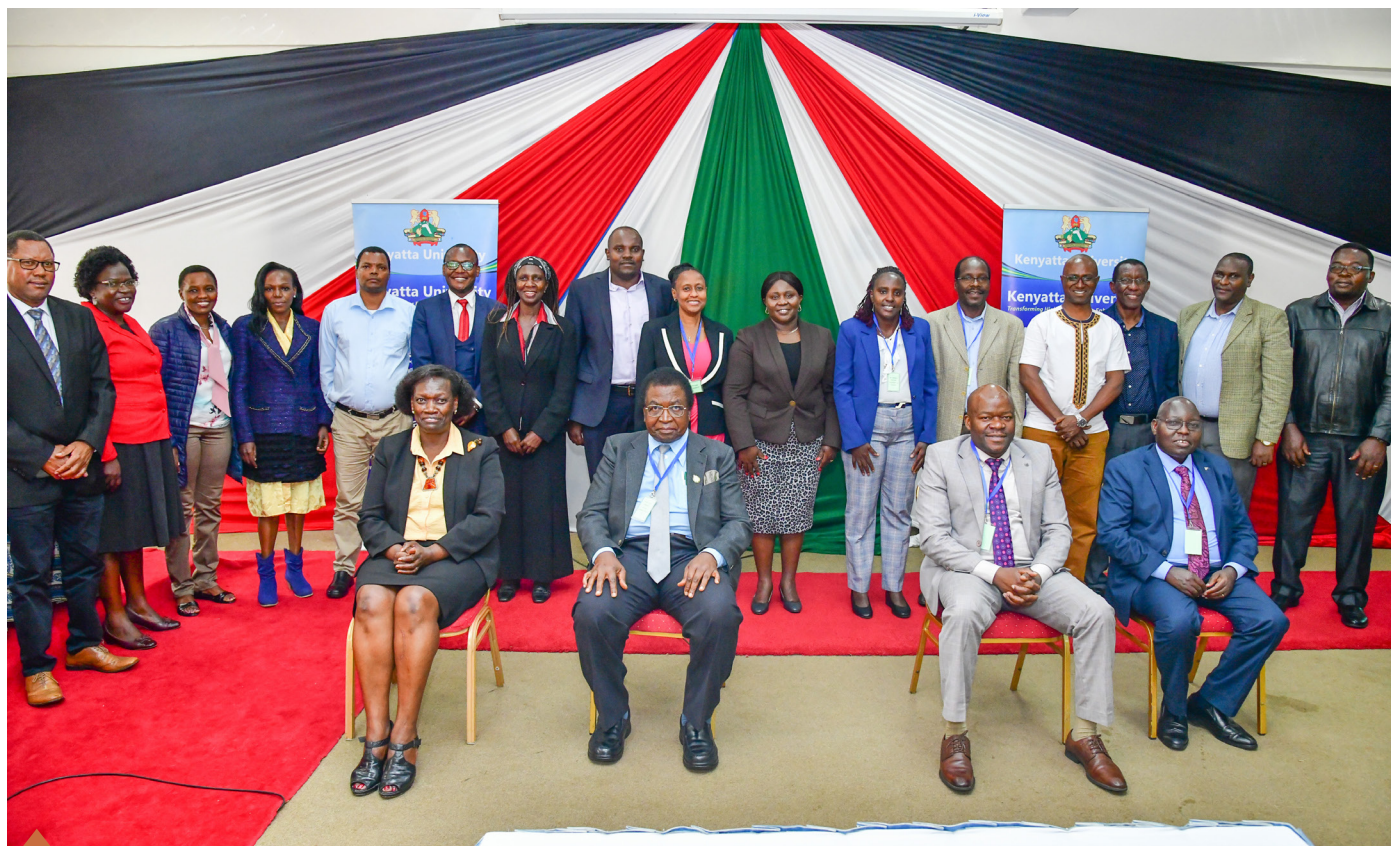
The Kenyatta University Strategic and Vision Plan continues to guide and point the way forward for the University. The University has continued to implement the Strategic Plan through annual work planning and by ensuring that University Performance

Contract is cascaded to operational units. The implementation of the Strategic Plan is monitored through quarterly reports of the annual work plan to ensure that any deviations from the stated goals are identified and addressed.



Research and Innovation

Pursuing Academic and Research Excellence



Prof. Paul Okemo, Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) (2nd left), Prof. Dickson Andala Chief Executive Officer - National Research Fund (2nd right), Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Outreach), Prof. Michael Gicheru, Executive Dean School of Pure and Applied Sciences (right) among other guests and conference organising committee members.

In pursuit of academic and research excellence the School of Pure and Applied Sciences organised a three day conference from 16th to 18th November 2022 on Basic and Applied sciences (CBAS).

The conference brought together reputed scientists and exhibitors who showcased their research findings and opportunities of new collaborations for Kenyatta University.

The conference adopted blended mode with colleagues from various parts of world such as Europe, USA, Canada, South Africa, and different parts of Kenya participating in the conference.

The keynote address during the opening session was given by Prof. Walter Oyawa, the Director General National Council for Science and Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI).

Other heads of government institutions and agencies who participated in the conference included Director General Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), Prof. Samuel Kariuki, Director Institute of Primate Research, Dr. Peter Mwethera and Chief Executive Officer, National Research Fund (NRF), Prof. Dickson Andala, among others.

The conference adopted blended mode with colleagues from various parts of world such as Europe, USA, Canada, South Africa, and different parts of Kenya participating in the conference.

Promoting Access to Funding Opportunities and Capacity Building



A Kenyatta University researcher during a laboratory session.

The Directorate of Research Support and Dissemination is committed to supporting scholars, researchers and graduate students at Kenyatta University in their quest to access funding opportunities, develop winning proposals and effectively implement awarded grants.

The Directorate has undergone various reforms in order to accommodate an additional mandate of disseminating research outputs. These reforms have strengthened competitiveness of KU researchers and raised the University's reputation among funding agencies. The range of funding organizations, number and size of grants awarded to KU have steadily increased over the years.

To promote access to funding opportunities and with support from the Office of Registrar (Research Innovation and Outreach), the Directorate has strengthened its mechanisms for identifying active calls for proposals. For instance, in the first quarter of the

year 2022-2023 alone, the Directorate shared 113 funding opportunities from which 44 proposals were developed and corresponding institutional support letters issued.

Eleven grants were awarded during that quarter. In cases of multidisciplinary proposals, the Directorate facilitates the appointment of proposal writing committees, coordinates internal review of draft proposals to ensure compliance with the University policies, and where applicable, submits the proposals on behalf of the committees or individuals.

To enhance capacity building, the Directorate has continued to conduct virtual trainings for both academic staff and postgraduate students particularly on strategies for writing winning grant proposals as well as supporting the dissemination of research findings through conferences, seminars and workshops.

Feed the Future Striga Smart Sorghum for Africa

A new public-public partnership project "Feed the Future Striga Smart Sorghum for Africa" has been launched in Nairobi, Kenya a project spearheaded by Prof. Steve Runo of Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Biotechnology.

The three-year project has been awarded 3.8 million US dollars and will be co-led by the International Service for Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA) AfriCentre and Kenyatta University. Other partners are the University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and the African Agricultural Technology Forum (AATF). The project also includes Corteva Agriscience from the US.

This African-led initiative will use genome editing, a powerful new breeding technology, to develop new varieties of sorghum that are resistant to a noxious weed called Striga ('Kayongo' in local dialect). Striga ravages cereal production in most parts of Africa, sometimes leading to a complete loss of the crop. In addition to impacting food security in Africa, the project integrates local capacity building and bio-entrepreneurship. The project will establish bio-entrepreneurship hubs (AfriBIOHubs) to empower the youth and sorghum value chain players with skills for generating decent jobs and high value products from agricultural biotechnology. In the short term, Africans will have capacity to leverage and use biotechnology to tackle local food production challenges.



Establishing Linkages in Nematology

Hybrid banana that has inspired many farmers



Dr. Nchore Bonuke from the Department of Plant Sciences and Prof. Maina Mwangi from the Department of Agricultural Science and Technology have been working towards establishing linkages with international partners in the field of Nematology under the project Nematology Education in Sub-Saharan Africa (NEMEDUSSA) for the benefit of Kenyatta University students, academic staff and the University community at large.

NEMEDUSSA is a partnership project between various Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and research institutions from sub-Saharan Africa and Europe running from January 2021 to December 2023. The project is funded by Erasmus+ Programme Capacity-Building projects in the field of Higher Education (E+CBHE) and is coordinated by Ghent University, Belgium. The total project funds are 908,950.00 euros (Ksh 118,163,500.00).

The main objective of NEMEDUSSA is to promote nematology in selected HEIs and to transform the selected HEIs

into regional centres of excellence for nematology education in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The project has been organised by a multi-country and multi-stakeholder strategy, which will serve as a leading example for other HEIs in SSA and elsewhere. The beneficiary institutions are; Université d'Abomey-Calavi –Benin, University of Parakou –Benin, Haramaya University –Ethiopia, Jimma University –Ethiopia, Kenyatta University –Kenya, Moi University –Kenya, Ahmadu Bello University –Nigeria, University of Ibadan –Nigeria, North West University –South Africa, Stellenbosch University –South Africa, Makerere University –Uganda, Muni University –Uganda, ICIPE –Kenya, IITA –Kenya, and Université Côte d'Azur –France.

The partners are working towards establishing a Research collaboration and networking. This partnership will give Kenyatta University students and staff opportunities to access;

1. An assortment of laboratory equipment (microscopes, nematode extraction sieves, micropipettes, microscope cameras, IT and multimedia tools like Camtasia

software) worth 22,840 euros to support practicals and teaching in Plant pathology and live streaming and recording of lectures that can be uploaded into our digital platform.

2. Development of Bachelor of Science modules in plant pathology (Nematology) that will be piloted in KU in January 2023 and at the end of the project, the modules will be integrated into the existing courses in B.Sc biology at Kenyatta University.

3. Capacity building where members of teaching and non-teaching (Technical) have been trained in various aspects in Plant Pathology.

4. Access to the Nematology Digital Learning Platform (NDLP) of Ghent University. Kenyatta University is able to access the digital content and materials for teaching both theory and practicals in line with plant pathology.

5. Networking and international collaboration among the higher education institutions involved in the project.

Smart Cooking Banana Hybrids Now on Farmers' Fields

In 2017 a consortium of researchers from Belgium, Uganda, Spain and Kenya secured funding under the Long-term EU-Africa Research and Innovation Partnership on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (LEAP-Agri) 2017, to develop Climate Smart Banana (CLISMABAN) varieties with optimal market potential in Africa and Europe. The Kenyatta University team comprising of Prof. Grace Wamue-Ngare (Department of Sociology, Gender and Development) and Mary Mwangi (Department of Biotechnology, Microbiology and Biotechnology) focused on evaluation of NARITA hybrids in the Muranga, Kirinyaga and Embu counties.



Prof. Grace Wamue-Ngare and Mary Mwangi display a climate smart banana variety in a farm.

NARITA hybrids were developed through a collaboration between the National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) Uganda and the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture hence the acronym. Through the CLISMABAN project the Kenyan team has imported 25 accessions of NARITA hybrids from the IITA International Transit Centre, Ibadan Nigeria. These hybrids are high yielding and resistant to Black Sigatoka

disease. They have been developed through conventional crossbreeding led by Prof. Rony Swennen, of KU LEUVEN/ IITA who is a partner in the Consortium. They have been evaluated for agronomic performance in Uganda and Tanzania.

Through the CLISMABAN project, the KU team has embarked on multiplication and assessment of the potential of the hybrids for adoption by farmers,

consumers, and traders in Kenya. The project supported establishment of a tissue culture laboratory and capacity building of 2 young technicians in the tissue culture technology and 1 M.A student in gender studies. In addition to the NARITAs the laboratory is currently being used to multiply 14 plantain hybrids and 2 new accessions of sweet banana resistant to Panama disease, also sourced from ITC, Ibadan.

Smart Greenhouse system Designed in the Department of Physics

Smart Greenhouse System designed by a postgraduate student: Mr. Stephen Nyaga in Physics Department attracted a big crowd at Nairobi International Trade Fair. The Department of Physics participated in the Nairobi International Trade Fair which was held from 26th October to 2nd September, 2022. The Department was represented by Mr. Stephen Nyaga who exhibited his Smart Greenhouse System.

The Physics Department is also hosting the Cohort-3 Ph.D students who are beneficiaries of the Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund

(RSIF) Programme of the Partnership for skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology.

The seven continuing Ph.D (Materials Science) students have completed their coursework and have embarked on their research in the thematic area of minerals, mining and materials engineering. One Cohort-4 Ph.D newly admitted student has also joined the Department. Further, the Department is hosting the Cohort-2 Master of Science students in the East African Community-German Development Bank (EAC-KfW) Scholarship Programme.



Mr. Stephen Nyaga a postgraduate student explains about the Microcontroller based Greenhouse that is monitored using a mobile phone app during the Nairobi International Trade Fair 2022.

National Phytotherapeutics Research Centre

Mandate

The National Phytotherapeutics Research Centre (NPRC) is mandated to develop a suitable habitat for further research and commercialization of research products and processes emanating from Kenyatta University research and other institutions.

Research Activities

Several graduate, postgraduate students and other investigators are undertaking research work at NPRC. The research activities include:

- Processing of essential oils from aromatic herbs and resins.
- Creation of chemical fingerprints for herbal materials and products.
- Checking for fungal and microbial contaminants in herbal materials and microscopic characterization of herbal materials.
- Checking for adulteration in herbal materials.



National Phytotherapeutics Research Centre staff showcase some of their final products during the Nairobi International Trade Fair 2022.

NPRC exhibits at the Nairobi International Trade Fair (NITF)-ASK Show, 2022

NPRC had the opportunity to showcase its range of products and services at the KU stand during the NITF-ASK Show, 2022. The NPRC booth in the KU stand was quite outstanding and got an opportunity to be featured in Kilimo Biashara, a program that is aired by K24 TV station and mainly focuses on agriculture and value addition.

NPRC digitizes its operations

NPRC has made it easy for interested parties to learn more about its products and services through creation of a virtual video tour that is now available on the KU YouTube channel and NPRC webpage in the KU website.



Stimulating Entrepreneurial Thinking for Impactful Research and Enhanced Graduate Employability



(L-R) Dr. James Koske, Executive Dean, School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Prof. Michael Gicheru, Executive Dean SPAS, Prof. Paul Okemo, Ag. DVC (Administration), Mr. Daniel Dzidzornyo Tuakly (Business Consultant Country Manager E4impact Foundation) Ghana, Prof. Margaret Keraka, Deputy Executive Dean, School of Health Sciences and other stakeholders during the DIFFERENTIATE stakeholders Forum.

Kenyatta University is a beneficiary of the British Council inaugural Innovation for African Universities programme (IAU) 2021 whose aim is to foster the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship within universities.

The project is also designed to support the development of Africa – UK University Partnerships. Kenyatta University partnered with Lancaster University UK, the University of Benin, Nigeria and Africa Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) and the Association of African Women in Science and Engineering (AWSE) to apply for IAU funding.

The project whose acronym is DIFFERENTIATE aims to develop an entrepreneurial mindset and skills amongst academics, scientists and

graduates for impactful research, employability and job creation.

The Kenyatta University partners are Prof. Caroline Thoruwa of the Department of Chemistry and Mary Mwangi, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Biotechnology, both board members of AWSE.

DIFFERENTIATE focused on development and testing a similar tool kit for students. This involved mounting a boot camp for 30 students drawn from the Schools of Engineering, Pure and Applied Sciences and Agriculture. The 3 day bootcamp which was held in partnership with the Chandaria Business Innovation and Incubation Centre involved provoking entrepreneurial thinking among the students using the tool kit.

In addition to the tool kits, the team has developed a promotional video on the project. The team is working on securing additional funding to roll out the tool kit within Kenyatta University and other universities in Africa.



Anthony Ochoo, a Kenyatta University student is congratulated by Monica Blagescu, Head of Programmes, Higher Education British Council during Kenya Innovation Week 2022.

Pictorial



(L-R) Council Members: Mr. Nemwel Motanya, Rep. PS, Treasury, Mr. Eric Sila, Maj. Gen. (Rtd.) Bashir Yusuf Haji, Ms. Mary Mugo, Prof. Shem Migot-Adholla, Prof. Paul Wainaina, Dr. Gatama Gichini, Rep. PS, Education, Mrs. Alice Muita and Mr. Andrew Nyanchoga during a retreat.



Prof. Paul Okemo, Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) hands over relief food to Lerata village residents of Samburu County, during a community outreach programme funded by the Kenyatta University staff and students.



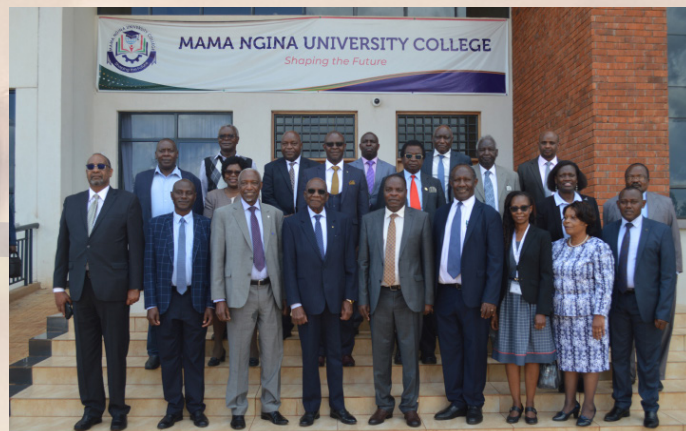
A Young Africa Leaders Initiative (YALI) participant receives a certificate during YALI RLC E.A. cohort 45 graduation ceremony.



Tambora Aloo, a student of Alliance Girls High School explains their innovations to guests during the 12th African Regional Centre of Expertise meeting held at the University on 28th November 2022.



Prof. Michael Gicheru, the then Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) receives copies of the newly published books from Dr. Shem Maingi of the Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management. The book titled 'Management of Tourism Ecosystem Services in a Post-pandemic Context' was published by Routledge on 30th September 2022.



Prof. Shem Migot-Adhollah, KU Council Chairman (4th left) led a delegation of the KU Council and Management Board to Mama Ngina University College (MNUC) for a hand over ceremony of the College to the MNUC Council and Management Board. On his left is Dr. David Oginde, Chairman MNUC Council.



Panelists during the second annual Kenyatta University and African Association for Public Administration and Management Public Lecture held on 14th October 2022 at KU.



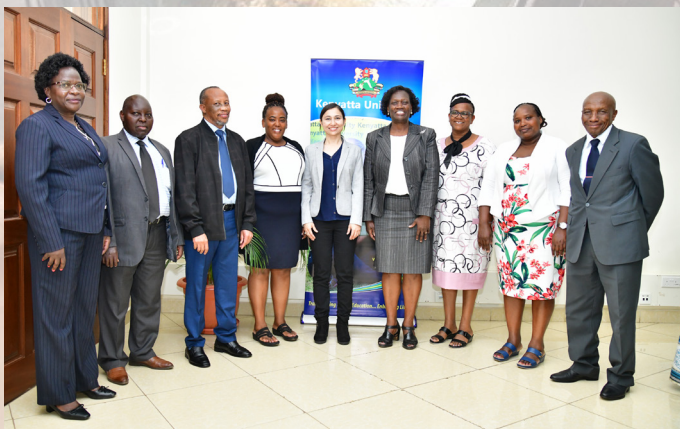
The Commandant of Security of Government Buildings (SGB) and VIP Protection Unit, Ezekiel Mwita welcomes the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul K. Wainaina during a visit to the SGB and VIP Protection Unit Headquarters.



Kenyatta University Student Debate Society members, Regina Indech, Wycliffe Otieno and Zachary Mbeke who emerged winners in the Kenya National Debate Council Scholars Festival Masters Edition.



Prof. Nicholas Gikonyo (right), Director National Phytotherapeutics Research Centre showcases herbal products to Prof. Dickson Andala, CEO, National Research Fund. Looking on is Prof. Caroline Thorurwa (centre) Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (RIO) alongside Prof. Paul Okemo, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) with other officials during a conference on basic and applied sciences.



Ms. Indira Negi, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Deputy Director Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Discovery and Tools (Centre) with Prof. Caroline Thorurwa, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (RIO) (4th left) and other University officials during a courtesy call.



Prof. Michael Gicheru, Executive Dean, School of Pure and Applied Sciences flags off cyclists during the Culture Week 2022 Sports Day on Saturday, 22nd October 2022.

Gender Equity and Empowerment

KU-WEE Hub Strengthens Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement



Tharaka Nithi Governor, H.E. Muthomi Njuki meets a delegation from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Kenya University Women Economic Empowerment Hub.

Teams from the Kenya University Women's Economic Empowerment (KU-WEE) Hub and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (B&MGF) held a consultative meeting with Tharaka Nithi Governor H.E. Muthomi Njuki. This was to discuss the working relationship between the County government and the Hub. The delegation was led by the Hub Leader, Prof. Judith Waudo and Jessie Shawver, B&MGF's Investment coordinator and senior programme coordinator for gender equality.

The team discussed the progress of a project that will see KU-WEE Hub conduct research on the three interrelated areas of Women's Livelihoods, Female Labour Force Participation (FLFP) and Impacts of Crèche on FLFP, child development, and women's psychosocial wellbeing, with funding from the B&MGF.

The Governor reiterated his commitment

to continue the cordial working relationship to ensure success of the project.

So far, the research team has conducted a rapid needs assessment as well as a pilot survey and developed Randomised Control Trial (RCT) Design awaiting implementation. A curriculum to be implemented in the RCT has been developed and validation workshop conducted in Tharaka Nithi County.

The study titled "Enhancing women's livelihoods, labor force participation, psychosocial wellbeing, and child development through the crèche programme in Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya", will evaluate the impact of the crèche programme on women's labour force participation and on child development using an RCT approach.

The two teams agreed to continuously strengthen the partnership that will see study findings upscaled to not only other parts of the county, but also across the country and region.

Stakeholder engagement is at the centre of the KU-WEE Hub's research approach and as it seeks to ensure that data generated through field research is fully utilised in Women's Economic Empowerment policy and programme design and implementation.

The Hub has conducted a stakeholder mapping and power analysis to facilitate the full involvement of all stakeholders at every phase of the project implementation cycle.

Towards Attainment of **Gender Equity and Equality**



Kenyatta University students in procession to mark the International Men's Day.

The Centre for Gender Equity and Empowerment (CGEE) observes that, although the University and the country has made great progress towards attainment of gender equity and equality and prevention of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, there is still a lot to be done.

The Centre continuously sensitizes and trains members of staff, students and general University community on gender issues and sexual and gender based violence (SGBV). Kenyatta University encourages both genders to partake as agents of change and take action against negative stereotypes and behaviors that perpetuate gender inequalities.

On Thursday, 1st September 2022, the Centre sensitized the first year students on the Gender Policy and the Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) policy, and the reporting frameworks.

The International Day of the Girl Child was celebrated on 11th October 2022. An article by Prof. Judith Waudo, Director, Centre for Gender Equity and Empowerment was published in the Standard newspaper under the theme “Our time is now-our rights, our future”. In her article, Prof. Waudo urged policy implementers to translate the policies into actionable plans for the empowerment of the girl child. It is time for us to stand with and for the girls and invest in a future that believes in their leadership potential and promotes gender equity and equality.

On Thursday 17th November 2022, the International Men's Day was celebrated under the theme “Making time for old mates: Helping men and boys”. The guest speaker of the day was Mr. Philip Erick Otieno, Executive Director, Advocates for Social Change Kenya (ADSOCK) and Human Rights Activist. Mr. Otieno emphasized the importance of men

getting in touch with their feelings and vulnerabilities in order to build better social connections. Through this socialization men can have a platform to decompress and not suppress their emotions and struggles. Close friendships and social connections can promote good health.

Earlier on that day, Mr Otieno, led by the Kenyatta University Student Association (KUSA) Gender Secretary, Miss. Juliet Ngele and students went on a march around the University Main Campus to recognize and celebrate men and boys in all their diversity.

The Centre continues to play a key role in creating a platform for conversation on matters that promote gender equity and equality at Kenyatta University and firmly supports the safe spaces for all initiative, for effective transmission of gender responsive knowledge.

Partnerships & Collaborations

Building Stronger Ties through Collaborations

Kenyatta University's internationalization agenda coordinated through the Centre for International Programmes and Collaborations (CIPC) has led to establishment of 450 active collaborations with partners across the globe. These mutual benefitting collaborations promote academic and research activities, community outreach and enhance integration between partners.

Our collaborations contribute to the enrollment of international students to Kenyatta University (2,241 international students originating from more than 60 countries), and support staff exchange programmes. In the 1st semester 2022/23 academic year, the University hosted 15 exchange students from Lithuania, France, Germany, Switzerland and Canada. Kenyatta University supports the capacity building programmes in partnership with RUFORUM (1 Ph.D student), RSIF (9 Ph.D students in Material Science), Government of Liberia (12 students for Pedagogical training) and Government of Botswana (11 students on education psychology assessment training). In September 2022, 19 students graduated from Multichoice Talent Academy under the KU-Multichoice collaboration. In the 52nd graduation ceremony, 20 International students will be conferred with various Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates of Kenyatta University. The European Union (Erasmus) has supported on exchange programmes from Algeria (1), Nigeria (2), Sweden (6), Turkey (5), Germany (3), Hungary (4) and Turkey (3) since July 2022.

Through partnerships, 21 students and 36 staff have participated in international mobilities since July 2022 including to South Africa (1 student), Japan (2 postgraduate students on the Planetary Health Exchange Programme (PHASE) to Nagasaki University, Spain (4 postgraduate



Director of MultiChoice Talent Factory Africa, Ms. Nwabisa Matyumza (2nd left) and Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul K. Wainaina have a light moment together with DVC (Academic), Prof. Waceke Wanjohi, Academy Director-MultiChoice Talent Factory East Africa, Victoria Goro and Prof. John Mugubi during this courtesy call.

students from Department of Hospitality to University of Girona), USA (3 students for internship under Placement International), Italy (1 faculty member to PISA University under the Health Promotion Project ABEM collaboration) and Turkey (teaching mobility to Manisa Celal Bayer University (2 faculty) and Dumlupinar University (1 faculty)).

The KU-KNATCOM collaboration continues to conduct the Student Training for Entrepreneurial Promotion for Youth (STEP-4Y) programme aimed at promoting job creation by empowering the youth in Kenyan Counties with business and entrepreneurship skills. Other partners include; University of Arkansas (USA), COMESA (support students in economic regional integration) World Bank, DAAD, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, British Council, Fulbright Scholarship, Danish Academic Exchange, UNHCR and Windle

Trust International. Through collaborations with foreign governments KU offers foreign languages including Korean, Chinese, French, Japanese and German. A Francophone Employability Centre to promote job placement and teaching in Francophone region has been set up, and through the Turkish Embassy discussions are ongoing geared towards setting up a Turkish Language Centre at Kenyatta University.

The 1st Female International Congressperson was inaugurated in October 2022 to represent international students in the University's student leadership and organize activities that will enhance the welfare of international students. CIPC continues to support staff and students on application of travel documents and travel arrangements and in addition promoting linkages between the various University stakeholders and the local and international partners.

Global RCE Network

African Regional Meeting Held at KU

The School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences in conjunction with the Regional Centre for Expertise (RCE) organized the 12th African RCE Regional Meeting held from 28th to 30th November, 2022 at Kenyatta University Conference Centre. The meeting was hosted by RCE Greater Nairobi, the National Environment Management Authority-Kenya (NEMA-K) and the Kenyan RCE Network, with the support of United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) under the theme 'Role of African RCEs in Climate Action'.

The RCE Centre at Kenyatta University is coordinated by the National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA). The mission is to promote partnership, dialogue, networking and advocacy on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) towards public awareness for community action to



Dr. Pacificah Ogolla, Director in charge of Climate Change at the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, representing Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry plants a commemorative tree during the 12th African Regional Centre of Expertise meeting held at the University.

facilitate economic and environmental sustainability.

The meeting brought together participants both globally, and those from the entire RCE Africa community to reflect on the actions undertaken by various RCEs in Africa in addressing climate change. It was a forum for participants to share best practices and innovations in addressing

change impacts.

The 3-day meeting incorporated poster exhibitions, presentations and interactive sessions from participants. The sessions will provide RCEs with a platform to discuss how to further strengthen and engage with regional and national governments to focus RCE activities on climate change with a view to achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

Accounting Students Association of Kenyatta University Collaborate on Career Expo

The Accounting Students Association of Kenyatta University (ASA-KU) held a career talk event on 29th September 2022 where officials from the Kenya Accountants and Secretaries Examination Board (KASNEB) outlined the professional courses offered to students. The aim of the event was to guide students on proper professional career planning while still in campus. The event was graced by the Chairman of the Accounting and Finance Department, Dr. Fredrick Warui, ASA-KU patron, Dr. Nathan Mwenda, and Dr. Caroline Kimutai, ASA-KU Advisory Board Member.



Accounting Students Association of Kenyatta University, faculty members and Officials from KASNEB during a Career Talk Event.

Partnership & Collaborations

Developing and Implementing Trade and Economic Integration Policies

A delegation of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) secretariat led by Dr. Christopher Onyango, the Director of Trade and Customs, visited Kenyatta University from 22nd to 26th August 2022 on a quality control mission on the Master of Regional Integration, which has been implemented since September, 2020.

Kenyatta University and the University of Mauritius are the leading Universities implementing the Master of Regional Integration in Africa in collaboration with the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). The master programme is intended to build capacities for effective development and implementation of trade and economic integration policies for social and economic transformation of Africa.

During the Visit, the team held consultative meetings with relevant stakeholders including, faculty in the Master Programme and students to identify the successes and challenges to inform future improvements in the training. In a tour of the University, the



Dr. Christopher Onyango, Director Trade and Customs (COMESA) hands over a gift to Prof. Waceke Wanjohi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

team visited Digital School and the KU Post Modern Library to get a feel of the infrastructure and resources used by the students in online learning. They also visited the State Department for Trade and the Commission for University Education on programme collaborations, and quality assurance matters, respectively.

Two students from the Master of Regional Integration and a staff member attended the 9th COMESA Annual Research Forum that was held on 12-15 September 2022 in Cairo Egypt where research papers and selected innovations were presented under the theme “Enhancing Business Competitiveness and Resilience to Boost Intra-COMESA Trade”.

International Annual Conference on Education and Lifelong Learning

The School of Education and Lifelong Learning continues to offer education programmes geared towards the 21st century needs.

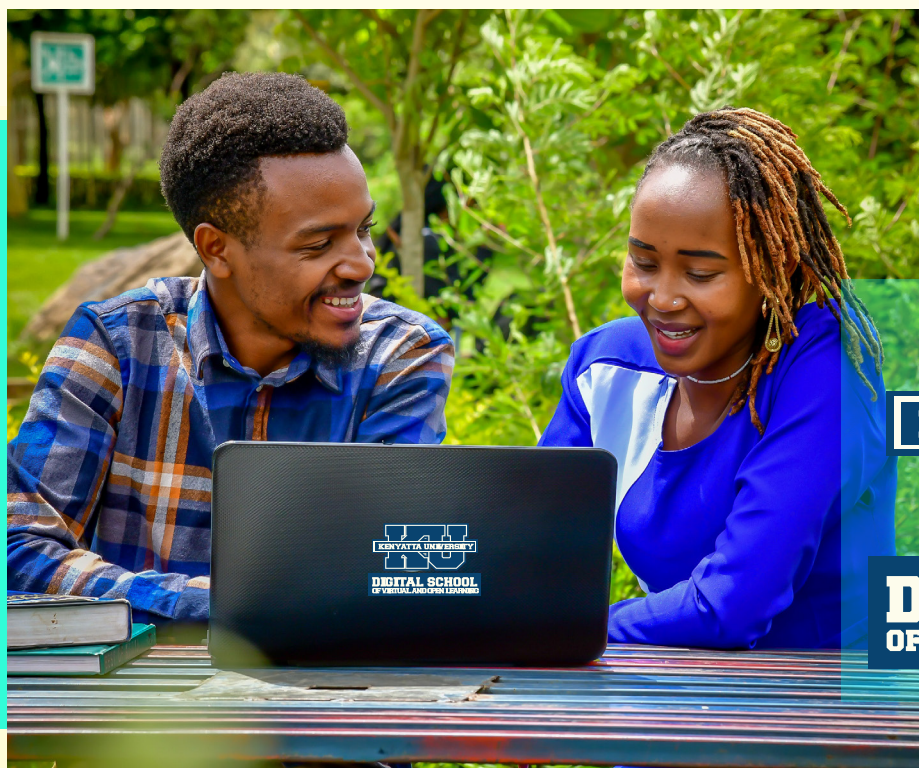
This year a hybrid 8th International Annual October Conference on Education and Lifelong Learning took place from 6th to 7th October 2022. The theme for the conference was: “Optimizing Holistic Education for Sustainable Development”.

This conference was preceded by celebrations and other activities to mark the World Teachers’ Day on 5th October 2022. The conference has continued to receive support from key partners who include UNESCO–Regional Office of Eastern Africa and UNESCO - KNATCOM. Prominent researchers both local and international graced the occasion as guests and speakers.



Students and staff during a procession to celebrate the World Teachers’ Day.

Capacity Building in Technology Enabled Learning



**DIGITAL SCHOOL
OF VIRTUAL AND OPEN LEARNING**

The University, in tandem with the 2016-2026 Vision and Strategic Plan, has fully embraced technology-enabled learning across all modes of course delivery. To fully leverage on the affordances of digital learning, the University has continuously ensured that members of faculty are able to harness the current knowledge and skills requisite for effective teaching and learning through digital spaces.

One of the opportunities the University has leveraged on to create a pool of professional of trainers in technology enabled-learning, is participation in the Skills for Prosperity Kenya project. This is a two and a half year project funded by UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and spearheaded by Open University (OU), UK. The overarching aim of the project is to provide technical assistance to help improve the quality, relevance, equity and cost effectiveness of higher education in Kenya.

The Open University UK is working with 8 selected universities in Kenya to support and strengthen their existing digital education capacity and provision.

The project which comes to an end in March 2023, has seen 3 staff in the Digital School and one in former School of Business complete a 12 weeks online micro-credential course in the development of digital education in the University. The second phase of the project also focused on digital education and involved 8 academic and non-academic (technical staff). In addition to this, the second phase also entailed individual universities developing projects (related to digital education) supported by mentors from the Open University UK. For Kenyatta University we identified the following three projects, which we are on course to completing:

Kenyatta University Learning Analytics Policy

The KU Learning Analytic Policy will seek to leverage the affordances of learning analytics that is data-driven to

enhance student learning. The policy will be completed after receiving feedback from faculty and tabling it to the Senate for approval.

Online Assessment Strategies

The deliverable of the online assessment project is the development of the online assessment strategies module. The module is designed with the aim of equipping e-moderators with relevant skills in development of ideal assessment tasks for e-testing.

Development of Videos for Online Courses

The team that is developing interactive videos has successfully completed the mentorship/course both theory and practical on how to prepare a storyboard which is a pre-requisite for video development. The team members take away from this exercise is acquiring the knowledge and fundamental skills on how to prepare a storyboard before shooting a video. The Digital School intends to build capacity of the faculty in integrating videos in subject content.

Partnership & Collaborations

Library and Information Science and World Bank Group Continuing Partnership

With the aim of growing the records, archives and information management profession in Kenya, the Archives and Records Unit (ITSAR), of the World Bank Group (WBG), launched a partnership programme with institutions of higher learning in the year 2020. Under this partnership, the Department of Library and Information Science has continued to benefit in terms of students' placements for internship and industrial attachment among other areas. The internship programme is designed to ensure that students get an opportunity to connect classroom learning to real work-environment experience.

During WBG and Department of Library and Information Science consultative meeting held on 3rd October 2022, at the School of Education and Lifelong Learning boardroom, the teams identified



Ms. April Miller of World Bank Group addresses faculty and students of the Department of Library and Information Science.

annual information science workshops/conferences; standing internship programmes; student career fairs and mentorship, and industry tours on records management projects for further partnerships. The team from the WBG was led by Ms. Elisa Liberatori-Prati, Director and Group Chief Archivist, and Ms. April

Miller, Manager and two World Bank Group Archives and Records Managers. The Department was represented by faculty members and over three hundred students drawn from Bachelor of Science (Records Management and IT) and Bachelor of Library and Information Science.

New Pharmacy Students Celebrate White Coat Ceremony

Newly admitted students began their 5-year Bachelor of Pharmacy journey with the White Coat Ceremony. White coats have been worn since the late 1880's by scientists who used them for protection against chemicals that they were working with. The White Coat Ceremony symbolizes professionalism, caring and trust, which students must earn from patients and serves as a reminder of students' new purpose to serve humanity through diligence and excellence.

The ceremony held at Business and Student Service Centre was chaired by Chairman Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacy - Dr. Titus Kahiga.



Dr. Gladys Mwangi receives copies of US Pharmacopeia by the US Pharmacopeial Convention- Africa.

In other news, Kenyatta University-Pharmacy programmes were presented with one of the last 5 print copies of the US Pharmacopeia by the US Pharmacopeial Convention- Africa. The Pharmacopeia

is a primary reference standard that helps ensure quality accuracy and reproducibility in the development and manufacture of pharmaceutical products. The team from US Pharmacopeial

Convention led by Dr. Juliet Konje, applauded Kenyatta University-Pharmacy programmes for their professional and competent graduates that are in practice.

Strengthening Connections in Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

Kenyatta University students examine the TIBA-VENT innovation.



In September 2022, NEST360's Invention Education (IvE) expanded to Kenya with Kenyatta University as the anchor partner. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the faculty and students at KU leveraged elements of IvE to address the need for an affordable ventilator manufactured in Kenya that resulted in the development of TIBA-VENT.

The goal of this partnership is to build on this foundation and strengthen connections between the universities and stakeholders in the broader innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem. This will expand access to prototyping equipment and infrastructure to support the student-led design of technologies, improve employability for university graduates and expand funding resources to advance prototypes of promising inventions.

Through the Mechanical Engineering Department, as an associate partner, KU won a Marie Curie Grant for the training of Ph.D students in research based on the use of drones in conservation activities under the Wild Drone project.

During this year's Nairobi International Trade Fair, students from Computing and Information Technology Department won the best stand embracing ICT for the project "Intelligent Pneumonia Real-time Monitoring System".

Mr. Jeff Ayako, a fourth year student in the Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering Department was voted "Top 40 under 40 by the Business Daily newspaper. Business Daily Africa judges nominated him as one of the most influential persons based on his track record in matters innovation and entrepreneurship.

The Department of Spatial and Environmental Planning together with Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD)'s Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) organized a training under the programme based on Forest and Water Initiative Framework. Teams from Joint Research Centre (JRC) and a representative from ICPAC were at Kenyatta University for the training. They also paid the Vice-Chancellor a courtesy call.

The Department in collaboration with Leverage Africa hosted an interactive online conference dubbed 'Africa's Unique Climate Agenda: Prioritizing Africa's Context and Co-Authorship in Climate Change Policy Response Narratives'.

The Department also held an Education Summit to mark the Geographic Information System (GIS) Day 2022. The theme for this year was "Resilience in Climate Change." The Summit brought together various geospatial communities in Kenya including representations from 18 universities across the country. The guest speaker was Michael Gould, the Global Education Industry Manager for Esri Inc.

The Department of Architecture and Interior Design organized a talk by Mr. Israel Robert Burale, the Founder and CEO of the RB Company and life coach. The speaker shared the phrase, "Where you stand in your youth, determines where you sit when you are old". He also reminded the students that their papers would amount to nothing if discipline was not a part of their identity.

Partnership & Collaborations

School of Health Sciences Upscales Interprofessional Education Activities Among Students

Kenyatta University, School of Health Sciences, is one of the implementing partners of the HEPI-KENYA grant. The grant was awarded to a consortium of 4 Kenyan and 2 USA universities. One of the objectives of the project is to increase the capacity for undergraduate health professional students in research skills through a 10 weeks research electives currently in the third cohort.

18 students from Nursing, Pharmacy and Medicine courses undertook 3 research projects at Thika Level 5 Hospital and Karatina Level 4 Hospital, between May and August 2022.

Fredrick Nundu (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery Student) and Lameck Otieno (Bachelor of Science Nursing Student) participated in one of



Clare Newstead, Associate Director, Nottingham Trent University Global and Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) display the MoU signed to develop working relations and partnerships with the KU, School of Health Sciences.

the research electives that took place at Thika Level 5 Hospital. Their research was on 'assessing provision of psychological support among women receiving post abortion care' at Thika Level 5 Hospital, Kenya.

The findings of the research were

presented to KU faculty and later to the Thika Level 5 Hospital management. They also made an oral presentation at the 7th Annual scientific Conference held from 4th to 6th October 2022 at Nakuru. Their manuscript had been accepted for publication in the East African Medical Journal.

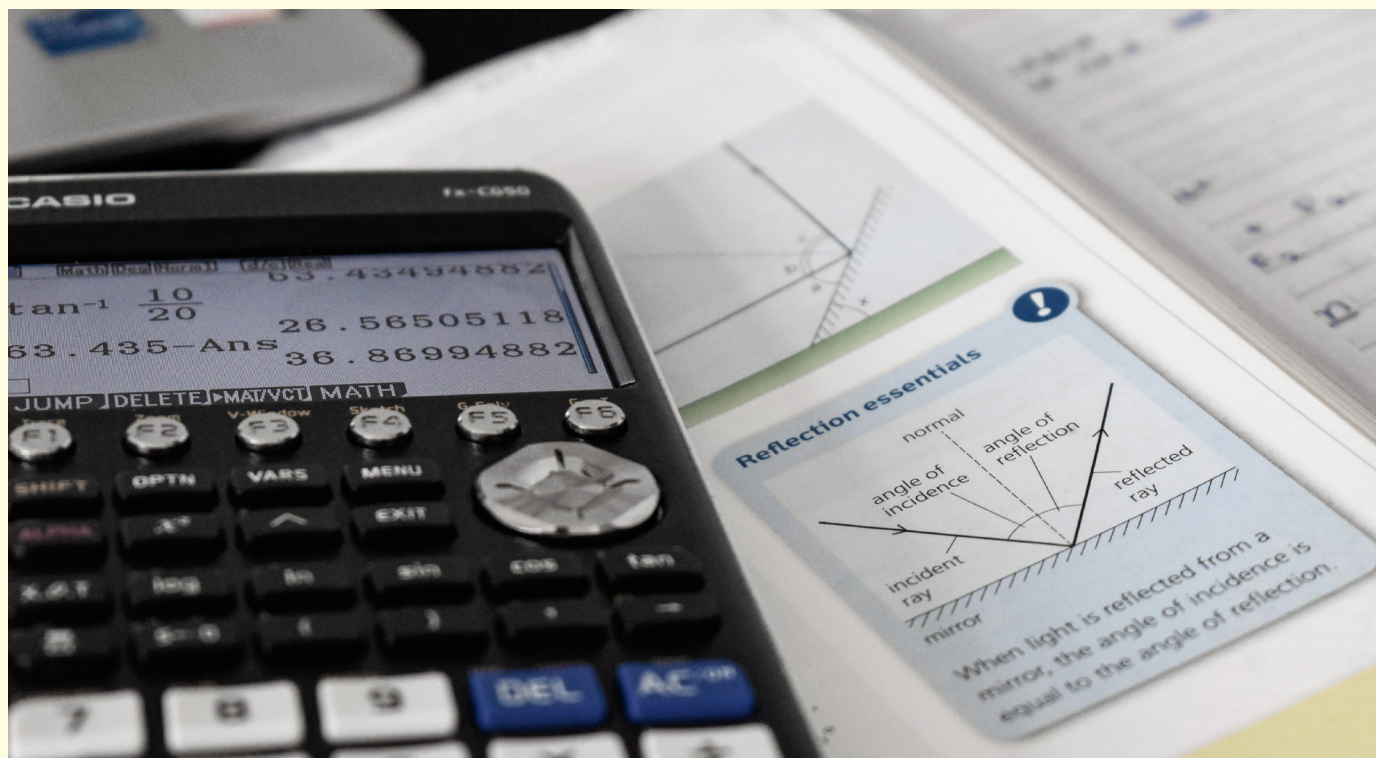


Prof Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary visits the Department of Chemistry

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary, the Director and Professor of Bioorganic and Natural Product Chemistry at the International Centre for Chemical and Biological Sciences visited and delivered a presentation on 1st November 2022 to students and faculty at the Department of Chemistry. His talk was about the centre he heads and possibilities of students' recruitment as well as pursue collaborative research with Kenyatta University faculty.

Prof. Choudhary has, since 1990, been among the world leaders in the field of natural product chemistry, and has made pioneering contributions in the discovery of novel natural products. He has discovered many potent anti-epileptic and antileishmanial compounds from indigenous medicinal plants that are under clinical trials. His contributions to reverse bacterial resistance to antibiotics represent seminal contributions in this important field.

Department of Mathematics and Actuarial Science Enhances International Collaborations



The Department of Mathematics and Actuarial Science has collaborated with various international universities and organizations with the aim of enhancing capacity building and quality of research. As a result of these collaborations, members of the Department have benefitted in fully sponsored workshops as well as staff and students' exchange programmes.

Between 6th and 16th July, Dr. Ananda Kube and Dr. Winifred Mutuku attended a workshop and a summer school on Chemical Reaction Networks organized by the Department of Mathematical Sciences, Politecnico di Torino in Italy. The Department has also benefitted from a mobility programme under the Erasmus International Credit Mobility Inter-institutional agreement for mobility of students and staff between Department of Mathematics, Linnaeus University and Department of Mathematics and Actuarial Science, Kenyatta University.

As a result of this agreement, Ms. Faith Muthoni Muriithi, a student in the Department was fully sponsored for a six months stay at Linnaeus University, beginning in August, 2022.

During this period she has been attending some masters classes as well as work on her Master of Science project entitled "Mathematical Modelling and Analysis of Corruption Dynamics with Optimal Control Measures in Kenya". The project is co-supervised by Dr. Winifred Mutuku, Chairperson, Department of Mathematics and Actuarial Science and Prof. Roger Petterson of Department of Mathematics, Linnaeus University.

Under the same programme, Dr. Winifred Mutuku, visited Linnaeus University between 3rd and 10th October 2022 for a research visit and to explore possibilities of further collaboration with departments where Mathematics is taught.

Mr. John Kinyanjui Kigio, a Ph.D student at the Department will be visiting Linnaeus University under the same programme.

The GeMVi Research Fellowship awarded to Dr. Mutuku for the project entitled, "Estimating the HIV Incidence Using Routine Surveillance Data in Kenya" by KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme was successfully concluded. The awardee attended the GeMVi Genomics, Bioinformatics and Modelling Dissemination Symposium between 7th and 9th September 2022, held at the Mnarani Club, Kilifi, Kenya.

From her research, she was able to develop a model for estimating new HIV cases using surveillance data. She was awarded a certificate of the Best Presenter.

Partnership & Collaborations

Digitalization of Beginners' in Chinese Language Course by Kenyatta University Confucius Institute



Dr. Helen Guantai, Director - KU Confucius Institute (left) with course digitalization team.

We live in a highly digitalized age, and even before the COVID-19 Pandemic, academia has seen massive shifts from the traditional approach to teaching to a more digitalized, online based approach, and a combination of both. In view of the current times, the Kenyatta University Confucius Institute (KUCI) has also taken the big step towards digitalizing their Chinese language courses, targeting a wider diversity of students. The digitalization will enable the institute to reach more students even in Satellite Campuses.

Under the leadership of Dr. Helen Guantai - the Director, KUCI and Dr. Samson Kariuki, a curriculum expert at Kenyatta University, the Kenyan and Chinese teaching staff worked together to develop the digital content of the Beginner's Chinese Language Course. The activity started by a training workshop on how to prepare the course content into a high-quality package for the digital learning platform. Dr. Samson Kariuki, the

facilitator, put emphasis on development of high quality PowerPoint presentations, sourcing images and audiovisual files from the internet while avoiding infringement of copyrights and practical tasks that the target students would engage in during their learning process.

The lecturers, guided by Dr. Susan Wachira, brainstormed and came up with a package that would resonate with the target students, as well as take care of the students' Chinese language listening, speaking, reading and writing abilities. Because language learning is synonymous with understanding of culture, a Chinese culture component was included in the package.

The KUCI went an extra mile to hire a professional team of videographers for the video recording. The first few recordings were challenging for most of the instructors with some errors which slightly undermined the first few video recordings. However, the instructors took

to heart all the corrections, suggestions and recommendations given by Dr. Helen Guantai and Dr. Samson Kariuki, and the end result was a masterpiece.

During the activity, one instructor, Mr. Benson Kamau remarked, "This has been a rich learning experience for me as a Chinese language lecturer. It is incredible to be part of this activity; it shows we are moving with the times, we are not getting left behind."

Dr. Helen Guantai greatly appreciated the team effort employed by the local and Chinese instructors. In her concluding speech, the Director observed that she was confident that the digitalized programme would attract a large enrollment and that this was just the beginning of more engagements. She also encouraged personal development among the teaching staff, in order to be more skilled and competent to adapt to the latest digital developments witnessed in academia.

KU Researchers Attend Erasmus+ International Hybrid Staff Consortium



Dr. Esther Munyiri, Director, Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management Centre – Eastern Africa presents at the 4th Erasmus+ International staff week in Piraeus, Greece.

A delegation of 12 researchers from Kenyatta University led by the Director, Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management Centre – Eastern Africa visited Greece from 18th July to 22nd July 2022.

The purpose of the visit was to attend the 1st Erasmus+ International Hybrid Staff Week Consortium of International Credit Mobility themed “New Digitalization Era, European Neighbours, Diversity and Inclusion”. This visit was within the framework of the European Exchange programme, Erasmus+.

The team was hosted by the University of Piraeus and University of West Attica, Greece. Key among the areas of interest included Sustainable Blue Economy. The team will spearhead projects on carbon sequencing, coastal protection, coastal waste disposal, biodiversity management, geospatial planning, climate change adaptation, among others.

The participants had an opportunity to

contribute towards global issues such as the Blue Economy and other Environmental issues through development of skills that promote environmental conservation and noting the risks which provide such opportunities.

The mobility programme activities were effective especially in networking, information and cultural exchange hence achieving mobility goals.

There are also many opportunities in higher education through Erasmus+ programme for both staff and postgraduate students in the discipline of Hospitality and Tourism Management and beyond.

The conference shared knowledge, experience and cultural diversities. It aimed at fostering and strengthening the collaborations as well creating new collaboration opportunities. The need to adopt to current practices in the dynamic changing environment was also emphasized.

Providing Action-oriented Consultancy Services



The Directorate of Capacity Development and Consultancy Services partnered with the School of Business, Economics and Tourism (Kenyatta University), International Committee for Development of Peoples (CISP), Cooperation Development Network (CDN), University of Pavia in Italy and the State Department for Planning in the National Treasury and Economic Planning (Kenya), among other actors to develop and implement a skills training curricula on Project Design and Project Monitoring and Evaluation.

The training on Project Design was conducted from 28th November to 2nd December 2022 while the short course on Project Monitoring and Evaluation was implemented from 5th to 9th December, 2022. The short courses targeted staff of government, civil society organizations and development partners. It aimed at equipping the participants with knowledge, skills and competencies for planning, designing, appraising, monitoring and evaluating development projects and programmes at national and county levels.

A total of 50 Economists drawn from the State Department for Planning in the National Treasury and Planning benefitted from the two courses.

Celebrating Confucius Institute Day 2022

On 28th September 2022 staff and students of Kenyatta University Confucius Institute (KUCI) congregated at the multifunctional hall of the International Language and Culture Building to mark the 2022 Confucius Institute Day. This is an important day celebrated by students of Chinese Mandarin globally. The Centre for International Chinese Education, headquartered in Beijing China and affiliated to the Chinese Government promotes Chinese language and culture, supports local Chinese teaching internationally and facilitates cultural exchange through Confucius Institutes. This day is key in celebrating achievements made in fulfilling these mandates.

Speaking on behalf of KUCI's partner University Shandong Normal, Prof. Zhou Lianyong, Director of the International Exchange and Cooperation Office of Shandong Normal University and Director of the Confucius Institute Office, hailed Kenyatta University for supporting the teaching of Chinese language in Kenya. In his goodwill message, shared via video, Prof. Zhou said that there has been great partnership between KU and Shandong Normal University over the years and he looked forward to greater



Showcasing of various Chinese clothing by models during the Confucius Institute Day.

collaborations. He said his University will keep on supporting teaching and research around Chinese language and aid staff and student exchange for the mutual benefit of both universities and nations.

Special guests of this year's Confucius Institute Day celebrations were high school students from Naivasha Girls. The girls displayed a keen interest for Chinese language which they confessed was quite foreign to them. Lecturers gave them quick lessons in writing simple Chinese calligraphy and speaking basic

phrases. They also sampled Chinese tea and the art of using chopsticks. As much as Chinese language is not taught as a foreign language at their school, the girls were glad to have visited and learnt about its relevance in the current job market.

Speaking on behalf of Confucius Institute board members, Dr. Martin Ogolla encouraged students to keep practicing their language skills and also take advantage of scholarship opportunities offered by the University. He said taking Chinese learning all the way to China makes a graduate more competitive and opens up more opportunities to learn and do international exchange with colleagues from China.

Some of the entertainment pieces enjoyed included; lion dance, Taiji and Chinese songs as performed by students of the Institute. The highlight of the celebrations was a fashion show segment organized by students of KUCI. They displayed a wide variety of traditional Chinese clothing featuring pieces worn even thousands of years ago.

KUCI Taiji Tuan entertainment team in action during the Confucius Institute Day Celebrations.



Investing in Next Generation of African Leaders

The Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) is a signature effort to invest in the next generation of African leaders. Nearly 1 in 3 Africans are between the ages of 10 and 24, and approximately 60 percent of Africa's total population is below the age of 35. The US Government launched YALI in 2010 to support young African leaders as they spur growth and prosperity, strengthen democratic governance, and enhance peace and security across Eastern and Central Africa. YALI is an interagency US Government Presidential Initiative combining the resources of several government entities, with most of the programming carried out by the US Department of State, USAID, and the US African Development Foundation (USADF). US Government resources dedicated to YALI are invested in the areas of leadership development, entrepreneurship and networking to connect young African leaders, the United States, and the globe. The programmes created under YALI are designed to complement each other by providing a variety of resources and avenues of opportunity to young Africans. Regional Leadership Centres play a unique role in reaching young African leaders on the continent with greater access to leadership training and professional development programmes. In April 2022, Kenyatta University took over the implementation of the YALI regional leadership Centre from Deloitte East Africa. As such, Kenyatta University will implement the fixed ward for two years. The award of the implementation letter took place on 14th April at Kenyatta University, YALI RLC EA Centre. The event was attended by the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education who represented the Cabinet Secretary for Education.

Training

YALI RLC EA draws participants from 14 countries in East and Central Africa: Burundi, Central African Republic,



YALI RLC EA Cohort 45 Graduation Ceremony.

Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. The Centre is supported by a growing number of African and international partners.

Selected participants engage in leadership training across three tracks of study: (1) Business and Entrepreneurship, (2) Civic Leadership, and (3) Public Management in a 4-week residential format with a focus on individual and team leadership skills, innovation, creative learning, and communication. The programme's emphasis is on interactive and experiential learning which fosters each participant's ability to contribute both individually and in teams.

During the onset of COVID-19 Pandemic, the Centre introduced virtual learning to ensure it progresses its mandate of empowering young people. As such, future cohorts will adopt a blended format where participants will be engaged in a virtual leadership experience for a period of two weeks and two weeks of residential training at the Centre.

Alumni and Impact

The Centre boasts over 4600 alumni spread across the 14 countries in

East and Central Africa, organized in their country chapters, and have great transformational stories. Among some notable alumni is Elizabeth Wathuti, a Kenyan climate activist who was very influential during Cop 26 and Cop 27, Flavia Kaule Nabagabe, an elected woman Member of Parliament Kassanda District in Uganda, Fathia Mousa, Ministry of Youth Djibouti, and Ian Tarimo who uses animation for social and behavioral change, Kalkidan Tadesse from Ethiopia who makes sanitary towels from banana fiber and Yvette Ishimwe from Rwanda who was recognized by Bill Gates and the late Queen Elizabeth.

Initiatives by the alumni continue to cascade impact to the marginalized and hard-to-reach communities. Alumni of YALI RLC EA have resources such as the Transformation Fund, which enables them to continue transforming themselves, their communities, and their countries. Specifically, it enables them to provide solutions to the most pressing problems in their communities. Through the fund, alumni will have an opportunity to apply for resources to support a variety of initiatives that will help them perpetuate the vision and mission of the YALI RLC EA, cascading impact, and Pay-it-Forward.

Kenyatta University Researchers Lead and Learn at Macerata, Italy



Prof. John Mugubi, Ms. Anne Mwiti, Mr. Marino Severini, Dr. Beneah Shapaya and Dr. Isaiah Oyugi during the visit to Macerata, Italy.

Through a European Union funded Research Project, educators from Kenyatta University travelled to the Università Degli Studi Macerata, Italy for a fall secondment in November 2022. They took part in a range of individual and collective activities at the Italian partner institution.

Music and Dance lecturer Dr. Isaiah Oyugi, Dr. Beneah Azangalala Shapaya from the Department of Communication, Media, Film and Theatre Studies, and Anne Mwiti, an assistant lecturer in the Department of Fine Arts and Design made the trip. They joined Prof. John Mugubi, Transcultural Perspectives in Art and Art Education (TPAAE) Regional Coordinator for Kenya, who led the month-long delegation.

Prof. Mugubi's aim in the secondment is initiating an assessment of the sustainability of the creative economy that will look at the economic impact of film screenings in Kenyan cities and towns. Using Macerata as a benchmark, this foundational work will compare activities in Machakos, a town located some 60 km southeast of Nairobi. Numerous datasets will be collected, ranging from screening spaces, frequencies and attendance, to direct and indirect economic impacts and

educational opportunities allied to such events.

Dr. Oyugi's research focus is on music in public space, comparing whether and how music is used in public space in Macerata and in Nairobi. While in Italy, he is tracking the presence and absence of music on public transport, and in restaurants, stores and shopping malls. The study is a two-pronged approach; identifying public spaces that do not employ music in their daily business and the effect of this phenomenon on the business and its clients.

Dr. Shapaya's research focuses on decoding messages in the graffiti found in Macerata and Nairobi. He is circulating photographs of the works among scholars, soliciting their perception of graffiti art. Focus group at both partner institutions will provide a basis for student engagement, with these discussions determining how audiences view graffiti art. The results are to be published in a paper and a film is planned to document Dr. Shapaya's research.

Together with Prof. Rosita Deluigi, and Ph.D candidate, Miriam Cuccu, Ms. Mwiti is developing an article that evolved from a 2021 mobility and based

on a series of her ink drawings themed "The New Normal". These works, made in 2020, explore the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on day-to-day activities. Shown to primary school children and to a group of Macerata students, the ways in which these groups experience Ms. Mwiti's drawings forms the basis of the trio's written work. In addition, Mwiti and Deluigi are exploring the role of art as a tool of pedagogy in early education using paintings made in 2015 and inspired by children.

Collectively, the Kenyatta University team attended a community function in Montefano, a town in Macerata Province, to explore how music can be used for social change. Facilitated by musician Marino Severini, the leader of a band named "The Gang", the team experienced music's ability to inspire people to question and confront authority and motivate them to act on and redress injustices and inequalities. Kenyatta University researchers are also leading workshops on art and the human condition and an examination of the multiplicity of artistic language for graduate students in Art History.

In other news, Prof. Mirosława Jarmolowicz, Rector, Academy of Art in Szczecin, Poland and Prof. Grzegorz Skorny, Chancellor of the same institution visited Kenyatta University for a Research Stay at the School of Creative Arts, Film and Media Studies, from 10th to 23rd September 2022.

He participated in activities within the Transcultural Perspectives in Art and Art Education (TPAAE) project funded by the European Union's Research and Innovation Programme Horizon 2020. While in KU, they: engaged in meetings geared towards realizing the aims of the TPAAE project; conducted workshops in the area of photography for Media, Film and Fine Art students. The Duo also made seminar presentations to students and staff in the School of Creative Arts, Film and Media Studies.

Partnering with Digital School to Produce e-learning Content



The proliferation of e-learning in universities across the country, catalyzed by suspension of face-to-face teaching and learning due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, has created increased demand for adequate lesson materials required for delivery of e-learning modules.

E-learning modules are effective since they offer learners illustrative and interactive multi-communicative resources of audio, video and text at once. Online resources such as those found in the creative commons (On You Tube, for example) can offer such multi-media lessons materials free of charge, or so many trainers previously believed. Unfortunately, it is now becoming clear that using the Creative Commons to Hyperlink supplementary content for students' lessons is not always straightforward and

rewarding. Access to second and third-party owned hyperlinked lessons content can and has been blocked by the owners perhaps due multiplicity of use beyond what they anticipated or for copyright infringement by learner users.

The Kenyatta University Digital School is currently partnering with KUTV&RS to produce original media content, with Kenyatta University lecturers and professors, for virtual use as lesson materials by students enrolled in the School's programmes.

KU Digital School offers Certificate, Diploma and Postgraduate level programmes via communication technology, enabling learners to access learning anywhere at all times.

KUTV has embraced Digital School's

quest of ensuring that learning moves out of the classroom into the learners' environment both real and virtual.

To this cause three video lessons in Plant and Soil Sciences have been produced and will soon be uploaded for use by thousands of KU and international students affiliated with the University. The lessons are effective as they feature illustrative practical lessons being presented by trainers, and will have an interactive facility for use by the e-learning user for optimum reward.

Using KUTV and KU Radio to produce the e-learning media content will ensure that the University trainers can produce tailor-made, original content to meet the students' needs, whose access will not be compromised by intellectual property rights.

Alumni Programmes



Maintaining Significant Relationships with Alumni

beneficiaries.

Regarding alumni activities, the Directorate has continually engaged the alumni in departmental and University activities. During the 51st Graduation Ceremony, through the Directorate, the University invited a guest speaker, Mr. Enock Sikolia who read the speech on behalf of other alumni and three alumni representatives who graced the graduation ceremony.

The alumni have also continuously shared placement opportunities with our office for sharing with the alumni community. The Directorate continues to build on the alumni database and issue the Alumni MasterCard.

The Kenyatta University Foundation continues to spearhead fundraising activities. The Endowment Fund was launched by the Directorate's Board on 2nd June 2022. Regarding the ongoing partnership with Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA), the Social Economic Environmental Impact Assessment project is in the final stages of completion while the other two projects are in the process of being launched.

The Directorate continues to support other University initiatives like the 2023 Career Week as well as the ongoing resource mobilization for drought and famine intervention and continues to seek for more partnerships for the purpose of learning best practices in managing alumni functions, resource mobilization and management of scholarships.

The main objective of Endowment and Alumni Programmes Directorate is fundraising, creating investments and an endowment fund in order to establish a strong financial base to ensure impact and sustainability in provision of resources to support the Kenyatta University in her goals and aspirations. Further, EAPD creates opportunities for alumni to participate in the growth and development of their alma mater.

In relation to Orphans and Vulnerable Students' (OVS) services, the Directorate facilitated the OVS annual mentorship seminar, which was held on Friday, 4th November 2022. Over 100 students

participated in the seminar which was graced by mentors who are members of the alumni community and notable members of the society including media personalities and a transformational speaker, Mr. Ezekiel Odongo who is former OVS scholarship beneficiary.

The University's OVS scholarships were also processed with new students and continuing students benefiting. The annual Chinese Ambassador Scholarships were also processed with 10 needy students benefitting from the award.

The Directorate continues to monitor progress on both the academic and social aspects of the OVS scholarship



Health Service Delivery Award



Kenyatta University, in its quest for improving the quality of service delivery to its members, has yet again been recognized and awarded, this time in the health sector of the University. The Kenyatta University Health Unit was feted and awarded as the “Best Level 2 Public Dispensary in Nairobi County” on 21st July 2022, in a colorful event held at the Sarova Stanley Hotel in Nairobi.

The Health Service Delivery Awards is a ceremony held annually by the Nairobi Metropolitan Services with support from partner non-governmental organizations, including Ciheb-Kenya and the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

The Health Service Delivery Award is a combination of two processes, the first being an internal self-assessment followed by an independent evaluation by the County Health Management Team.

In order to win this award, the Kenyatta University Health Unit won the following awards in the various dimensions of the Kenya Quality Model for Health:

1. Best performer in the Health Management Information System.
2. Best performer in equipment management.
3. Best performer in infection prevention and control.
4. Best performer in patient-centered care.

Services at the Directorate of University Health Services boast of a wide variety of medical needs to ensure a holistic range of clinical services.

These services include primary care, triage, mental health services, specialized services (gynecology, dentistry, pediatrics, psychiatry, and more), occupational health services, laboratory services, allergy, immunization, and travel clinic services, and physical therapy, among others.

The award not only reflects the steady improvement of the Kenyatta University Health Unit but the University as a whole, especially in the post-pandemic era where organizations and individuals alike are finding their feet once more.

Wellness and Rehabilitation Services

The Directorate of Wellness and Rehabilitation Services is mandated to provide services which address the total wellbeing of both staff and students. The services include provision of psychological counseling, Alcohol and Drug Abuse (ADA) and HIV/AIDS prevention and referral services for clients presenting psychiatric symptoms as well as those with substance dependence challenges.

The Directorate has been working towards ensuring that first year students transition smoothly to the University by addressing any challenges and how to cope with the new environment.

To ensure that HIV infections are prevented, the Directorate has continued to conduct counseling and testing services to both staff and students. This aims at encouraging those who are negative to maintain their status and those who are positive to enroll at the comprehensive care unit for medication and follow up.

In the period from July to December 2022, the Directorate managed to sensitize members of staff on various topics which included:

- i. Mental health, stress and stress management.
- ii. Personal financial literacy.
- iii. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and HIV/AIDS prevention policies.

The Directorate continues to offer psychological counseling services to members of staff, their dependents and students.

Campus Round-up



MOMBASA CAMPUS

Mombasa Campus got an opportunity to contribute in a big way to the conservation of the mangrove ecosystem through research led by Dr. Fredrick Tamoooh, a lecturer in the School of Pure and Applied Sciences - who was awarded a grant of USD\$ 39,688 by The Nature Conservancy.

The objective of the grant is to advance applied Natural Climate Solutions science through a project entitled: 'Soil organic carbon stocks and CO₂ emissions in degraded and healthy mangrove formations in Tana River and Lamu counties, Kenya'. This two-year (2022-2024) project will be in partnership with University of Embu, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), The Northern Rangelands Trust-Coast, Kenya Forest Service, Kenya Forestry Research Institute and the coastal communities in Lamu and Tana River Counties.

In addition, Dr. Tamoooh also attended the 12th Scientific Symposium of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), held from 10th to 15th October 2022 in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. At the conference, he met his former Coastal and Marine Resource Management students who are now working with various marine-related institutions.

On community health, the Campus Health Unit organized a Wellness Day for staff, students and hostel residents on 2nd November 2022 in conjunction with Chiromo Hospital, Mvita Sub County Hospital, AAR Health Centre, Coast Region Blood Transfusion Centre. The participating health care providers gave mental health, dental health, lifestyle disease talks, and check-ups. As part of our Campus social responsibility, Campus staff and students spared some time from their work/study schedule on 4th November 2022 to invite and give motivational talks to KCSE candidates from the immediate neighbourhood - Coast Girls High School - as they prepared for the national examinations. In an effort to enhance its visibility in the region, the Campus showcased its academic programs and ICT short courses to attendees during an Education Show Case Day at the Tudor Day Secondary School grounds on Saturday, 12th November 2022.

The event was organized by the Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Aga Khan Foundation. During the event, the Campus exhibition stand was visited by the County Government of Mombasa Governor accompanied by county officials and local leaders."





NAKURU CAMPUS



On 26th September 2022 the Director Kenyatta University Career Development and Mentoring Programme (CDMP), Dr. Margaret Muturi visited the Campus accompanied by the Career Advisor – Mr. Robert Kahiga. The Director CDMP sensitized the staff on post COVID-19 issues affecting the students/youth today such as drugs/substance abuse; influence of social media; unhealthy relationships and mental health issues and how the university is regarded as the avenue for providing solutions.

The team also conducted career guidance activities in a number of schools

in Nakuru County. Among the schools visited were Nakuru Girls High School, Nakuru Boys, Langalanga Day Secondary School, Mary Mount in Molo, Naivasha Girls, Kirobon Boys and Girls, Jomo Kenyatta Secondary – Bahati among others.

Accepting the visit, Madam Rufina Nkonge – Principal Langalanga Secondary, thanked KU for the good gesture. 'No University in Kenya has ever visited the school with a gift of this kind, except when posting the student teachers' said Rufina. Similar sentiments came from almost all schools visited. They assured the KU team that among Universities in Kenya KU is the Universi-

ty of Choice for many students.

TVETA INSPECTION TEAM AT NAKURU CAMPUS

On 13th October, 2022, Prof. Benard Kivunge, the Ag. Registrar (Academic) who is also the Chairman of the KU TVETA Committee, led a delegation to Nakuru Campus to inspect the Campus readiness for the restructuring plan as had been proposed by the University Management.

After the preliminaries, two groups were formed; one led by the Director KU TVET inspected the documentation as the other group led by the Registrar (Academic) went out the physical facilities. The documentation team went step by step analyzing the TVETA Assessment Report and correcting details in each section. The Physical facilities team equally took time to visit every office and lecture halls among other areas to ensure that the expected standard of TVETA was not compromised.

At the end of the second day, the Inspection leader, the Registrar (Academic) and his team commended the Campus Director for the good job saying that the Campus was 90% ready to roll out the TVET programmes.

CITY CAMPUS



Mounting of programmes at the City Campus is largely informed by the desire to meet the prevailing market needs. It has excellent facilities for higher education including computer laboratories, lecture rooms, a library and a medical clinic. All this is made possible by the concerted and dedicated efforts of the University Council, Management, Deans of Schools, the Director, Chairpersons of Departments, academic staff and support staff.

During the First Semester, Academic Year 2022/2023, the Campus enrolled close to 400 regular postgraduate and undergraduate students, in addition to approximately 200 students under the virtual and open learning mode. Those already registered have commenced studies under the blended mode of learning. KUSA elections were also held successfully to fill the vacant students' leadership positions in the Campus during the current semester.

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Sports & Games

KU Sports Teams Participate in Various Tournaments and Leagues



Kenyatta University Women Football team in action.

The Directorate of Sports and Games continued implementing its mandate to ensure participation of students teams in various tournaments. In the Kenya Universities Sports Association (KUSA) leagues, KU participated in the KUSA Nairobi conference league which started on 23rd September 2022 featuring main University elite teams (men and women) at the Main Campus. These teams were football, basketball, hockey, handball, volleyball, tennis, table-tennis, badminton, chess, scrabble, karate, taekwondo, and athletics.

The University also took part in the KUSA Central conference league which kicked off the season in end of September with

Kitui Campus representing Kenyatta University in all organized series. In the KUSA-Rift conference league, Nakuru Campus represented Kenyatta University in all organized series while Mombasa Campus represented KU in all organized series in the KUSA Coast league.

The East Africa University Sports Federation Leadership Conference was held at Morogoro, Tanzania on the 8th and 9th October 2022. Kenyatta University was represented by 3 sports student leaders. These were: Captains of football men, basketball men, the former Sports Congress Lady and accompanied by the Director, Sports and Games.

As early as first week of September 2022, all Kenyatta University Elite Teams started preparations for the East Africa University Games, scheduled for 16th to 22nd December 2022 in Ndejje, Uganda.

The Kenyatta University fitness testing exercise for the University elite teams is periodically conducted to ascertain the fitness level of all players when the new University sports and games season kicks off. The exercise also aims at assessing the athletes' response to training loads as well as assessing players' and teams' readiness for the competitive period.



School of Health Sciences



Ndahura Nicholas Bari



Njue James Kinoti



Malla Janet Kajuju



Mucheke Charles



Ndedda Ouma Crispin



Eliud Mutwiri Festus

School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences



Eze Anayochukwu Victor



Ntinyari Winnie

School of Business, Economics & Tourism



Dennis Osoro Maranga



Paul Nderitu Mwangi



Fatuma Barlin Omar Shurie



Nyaga Juster Gatumi



Wainaina Ruth Wambui



Wushibba Bako



Kaibung'a Joseph Mworio



Charles Omwanza Odongo

School of Law, Arts and Social Sciences



Emmanuel Psongol Kondolitiony



Fredrick Otieno Amolo



Kereth Gudilla Ancelm



Oguntuase Adebayo Adefemi



Leonard W. Sanja



Joseph Kimaru Karanja



Eric Israel Okere



Kimemia Millicent W.



Maurice Simbili Mwichuli



Gloria Ajami Makokha



Kirui Agnes Cheptoo



Monica Oforu Koranteng



Daniel Mburu Mwangi

School of Pure and Applied Sciences



Masanga Joel Okoyo



Muruthi Carolyn W.



Rotich Charles Kipngeno



Ochieng Mark Odero



Titus Munyao Kasimu



Mwangi Boniface Maina

School of Engineering & Architecture



Hannah Wanjiru Kinuthia



Onesmus Mulwa Munyao



Mutuli Peter Mutisya



Mwaura Ann

School of Education and Lifelong Learning



Obuya Edward Otieno



Nganda Aidah Trevelynn



Nzau Arthur Kalanza



Rabago Zachariah



Wang'eri Joyce Mugure



Kara Lwanga Kamau



Lucy Muthoni Gitau



Osabwa Wycliffe



Martha Lilian Akoth Oigo



Lucy Eunice Akinyi



Motanya Jared Ochwangi

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Herine Juma Agola

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Mercy Atieno Oluoch
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Njoki Grace

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE)

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Mwangi Alice Nyambura
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Joseph Mumo Mutua
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Juma Stephen Ochieng
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Morvart Kiplagat Chepsergon

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Antony Kimani Wanjiru
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Badawi Abdalla Kuku
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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY WITH MANAGEMENT)

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BACHELOR OF ARTS (PSYCHOLOGY)

Kiugo Francis Karugu



CONGRATULATIONS!
to all our graduands



December 2022 Graduands Christmas Offers

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Kenya University North Coast Beach Hotel
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Double	7,800/=	9,300/=	11,500/=	Double	15,600/=	18,600/=	23,000/=
Triple	10,200/=	12,800/=	15,800/=	Triple	20,400/=	25,600/=	31,600/=
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