



# Kenya University newsletter

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A Fortnightly Publication of the Office of the Vice-Chancellor

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

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## Intellectual Property Rights: KU Makes History



KU Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, receives the University's Intellectual Property Rights Policy, and Research Notebook from Ms. Jane Omari of the National Council for Science and Technology at the Main Campus on May 14, 2010. With her are (from left) the Kenya Industrial Property Institute managing director, Prof. James Otieno-Odek.

**K**enya University has made history by becoming the first Kenyan university to have an official intellectual property rights policy, the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) Managing Director, Prof. James Otieno-Odek, has revealed.

He said in sub-Saharan Africa, there were less than 10 universities that have official IPRs. He said that though Kenya has three other universities that have IPRs, unlike KU's "theirs are in draft form." KU's

move, he said, was in line with world-class universities.

Prof. Otieno-Odek also disclosed that KU has two other "firsts" among the country's 30 odd public and private universities in the form of two patent applications pending at the KIPI. He called KU's launch and the two pending patents milestones.

Prof. Olive Mugenda launched the University's IPR policy as well as the Research Notebook, at the Main Campus on May 14, 2010. The IPR policy seeks to regulate

ownership of inventions as well as promote confidentiality, among other things. The Research Notebook is a major component of the policy.

Prof. Otieno-Odek said by officially launching its IPR policy, KU was setting an example for the region's public and private universities. "Wealthy countries," he said "were almost always those with institutions that valued and promoted creativity and invention."

In response, the VC said the development of the IPR policy was

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## KU, KenGen Sign MoU on Research & Training

**K**U Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, and KenGen Managing Director, Edward Njoroge, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding binding the two institutions to carry out joint research so as to create a pool of qualified candidates for job recruitment.

At the same time, Mr Njoroge said KenGen would sponsor an award for a selected cadre of science undergraduates. He commended KU for its programme that seeks to sponsor needy orphans who qualify to join universities but fail to do so due to lack of funds. And following an appeal from Prof. Mugenda, Mr Njoroge promised that KenGen would join the sponsorship.

Mr Njoroge said the MoU "will help KenGen tap into KU's long-standing reputation as a centre of academic excellence and research to enhance its capacity in geothermal research and development."

Through the MoU, KenGen would be expected to help build the capacity of undergraduate KU science students through internship. The company would take a specified number of the students and help them get hands-on experience. The interns would also get a negotiated salary.

Through the internship programme, Mr Njoroge said, KenGen would provide the students "with better understanding of the industry's problems, thus enriching

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## From the Editor's Desk

The University takes special pride in having launched its Intellectual Property Rights Policy to protect and boost the morale of its researchers and inventors. The occasion was hailed as the first of its kind by any university in the country. This constitutes our lead story in this issue.

Our second front-page story is the matriculation of our May Intake First Year students. KU has registered 1500 students in most of the disciplines that we offer. These freshers have already attended their maiden lectures. In her now familiar firm but maternal style, The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, exhorted the students to keep alive their basic motivation for seeking a university education. She pointed out the opportunities open to them, and cautioned them against potential dangers. Among the latter are diseases, substance abuse and disorderly behavior. In this group there was a contingent from our fast-growing City Campus.

The University has had several visitors in the last fortnight. We had a delegation from The University of South Africa (UNISA) who, despite their much wider experience in providing Distance Learning, were full of praise for our ODeL programme. We also had a visit from Prof. Lou Shizhou of Tin of Zhejiang Normal University. The university intends to forge linkages with KU in various endeavours.

We take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Samson Muthwii for his recognition by the International Biographical Centre for inclusion in their list of the top 100 scientists for 2010.

The issue has several other interesting articles as we are continually diversifying our offerings. Enjoy the issue.

David V. Karanja  
Editor

## Choose Friends Wisely, VC Advises Students



KU Vice Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, (left) addresses about 1,500 May Intake First Year Self-Sponsored Programme (SSP) students during the matriculation ceremony at the University's Main Campus on May 7, 2010. On the right, a section of the students listen keenly as she advises them on the importance of seeking valuable friendships.

**K**U Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, has asked students to seek and maintain valuable friends.

While addressing matriculating First Year students, Prof. Mugenda asked them to seek and establish "valuable and lasting friendships" with their peers and lecturers.

"Together, therefore, we all represent the diverse and universal nature of the university where the main goal is the pursuit of knowledge. Diversity is not about how we differ but about appreciating and embracing each other's uniqueness and enriching ourselves with the tremendous body of knowledge and experience that we each have," Prof. Mugenda said when she welcomed about 1,500 May Intake of

Self-Sponsored Programme (SSP) students at the university's Main Campus.

Those who attended the colourful ceremony at the Graduation Square included Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Management Board members, and Deans of Schools, who led the students in taking the Matriculation Oath. The students responded: 'I DO' every time Deans of their respective schools read out the oath. After the matriculation, the jovial students were treated to snacks and refreshments, a tradition most unique to KU.

Prof. Mugenda said the University would strive to make the lives of its students easy. "The University will strive to ensure your

stay at the university is comfortable. You have every right to feel proud of being students of this institution." The philosophy of KU stands on three pillars: excellence, creativity and self-reliance.

She urged students to aim for First Class Honours degree right from the outset, and avoid irresponsible behaviour. The VC urged them not follow all decisions blindly, be they from their peers or other quarters. She made it clear to them that the institution would not tolerate indiscipline among students.

The Prof. Mugenda said the administration, she said, would always be ready to listen to the students.

## KU Hosts Regional AWARD Meeting

**K**U hosted a top regional women leaders' meeting where the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, called for value-based leadership.

Speaking during the African Women in Agriculture and Research Development (AWARD) Eastern Africa Sub-regional meeting at KU, the VC urged those aspiring to be leaders in the modern age to embrace transformational and value-based leadership. She said development of a vision was the start of transformational leadership with the leader taking every opportunity to constantly sell the vision.

The VC encouraged AWARD members to adopt value-based leadership, and enhance effectiveness in decision making. "Since the world we live in, particularly the business world, is becoming increasingly complex, chaotic and unpredictable, values provide a flexible mode of decision making," Prof. Mugenda told participants at the meeting on May 3, 2010.

"Values," she added, "are the anchors we use to weather a storm. Values keep us aligned with ourselves. They keep us true to ourselves. When we use values in decision-making, we are consciously creating the future we want to experience." She praised AWARD members for their "great work" that



A participant contributes during the AWARD workshop. Wangu wa Makeri, the historical woman chieftain's portrait 'looks' down from the wall 'approvingly.'

seeks to improve the lives of many people in the continent.

AWARD supports women in agriculture with focus on strategic career enhancement. It also offers fellowships designed to fast-track careers of African women scientists and professionals delivering pro-poor agricultural research and development that benefits rural communities, especially women.

# KU, KenGen Sign MoU on Research and Training



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda and the Managing Director, KenGen, Mr Edward Njoroge. Looking on is Prof. Reuben Muasya Ag. DVC (Academic) and Mrs. Rebecca Miano, KenGen's Company Secretary/Legal and Co-operate Affairs Director.

*their training as engineers and scientists."*

Besides, he said, the programme would "create for KenGen, and other players in the energy sector, a pool of qualified candidates for job recruitment."

KenGen and KU will conduct joint research, exchange information and

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documentation, use each institutions' facilities, and develop joint proposals to seek funds. "By working closely, KU and KenGen will bring together diverse but complementary strengths and expertise to optimise the use of geothermal resources in the country," said Mr Njoroge, adding that KU could play a great role in helping the company achieve its Vision 2030 of boosting energy countrywide.

The VC, said the internship programme could start as early as September this year, once the modalities are complete. "This programme would benefit both the KU and KenGen. KU will have its students get hands-on experience before they graduate. KenGen will spend minimally on training since the company will be getting ready manpower. The result will be very good for both KU and KenGen," Prof. Mugenda said after the signing ceremony at the University's Main Campus. The KenGen boss, Mr Njoroge, said the MoU "will result in more value to KenGen and KU than a separate investment of resources."

KenGen, he said, "will supplement its research needs, especially as far as optimisation of geothermal resources are concerned, while affording KU an opportunity to work on problems with a practical application by experiencing first-hand challenges facing geothermal power development in Kenya."

He said the KU-KenGen collaboration would "enhance the understanding of the challenges facing industry by exposing the University to industrial concerns and approaches to research, while helping KenGen scientists to stay current with the latest developments in geothermal resource exploitation and other areas of strategic interest to the company."

## KU Launches Intellectual Property Rights Policy



KU's Intellectual Property Rights Unit (IPRU) Deputy Director, Dr. Ethel Monda (left), and IPRU Chairman, Prof Ahmed Hassanali, during the ceremony.

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initially modelled on similar policy documents of universities overseas and international research organisations with a long tradition in IPR protection and management.

She said views on the earlier draft were sought from Prof. Otieno-Odek and the University lawyer, Mr. Lawrence Mungai of Lawrence Mungai and Company, Advocates "The policy that we now have provides a sound framework for regulating our IPRs to the benefit of all parties: the inventors including research students and key collaborators; the University as a whole including the departments where research is primarily carried out; the community that provides initial ethno-knowledge that stimulates research leading to scientific innovations; and the society as a whole. With

experience and changing local and global scenarios on intellectual property, the Intellectual Property Board will revise the Policy periodically, when deemed appropriate."

The Kenya National Council of Science and Technology (NCST) executive secretary, Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, commended KU for "moving faster than other institutions in embracing intellectual property issues."

Dr. Monda, Deputy Director, Intellectual Property Rights Unit (IPRU), was commended by the VC for her "passion and commitment," in the realisation of the project.

Dr. Monda said the research notebooks would be confidential and would remain the property of the University when the researchers leave the University or complete their work.

## Chinese Varsity Seeks Links With KU

**Z**hejiang Normal University in China has expressed interest in establishing a linkage with Kenyatta University.

During a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Lou Shizhou, the Deputy Dean, Tin Ka Ping Institute of Education Science Studies, Zhejiang Normal University, said possible areas of collaboration include cultural studies, comparative higher education, research, and student and staff exchange.

The Ag. DVC (Academic), Prof. Reuben Muasya, who hosted the guests on behalf of the VC said KU already had a good working relationship with Chinese

institutions, not only in academics, as is the case with the Confucius Institute, but also in business.

He cited the construction by a Chinese firm of the the post-modern library at the Main Campus as one of major fruits of partnership between Chinese institutions and KU. The Chinese have also participated many times in the Annual KU Culture Week.

Prof. Muasya invited Zhejiang Normal University to participate in this year's Culture Week festival, as well as support the upcoming Cultural Centre Project.



Prof. Lou Shizhou, Vice-Chancellor, Tin Ka Ping Institute of Education, signs the visitors' book when he called on Prof. Reuben Muasya, DVC (Academic) (right).



# focus on students

## 1<sup>ST</sup> Years Tell of Their Experience

**S**elf-Sponsored Programme (SSP) students at KU's Main Campus may be only two weeks old at the institution, but they have a lot to tell about their experience so far.

However, those interviewed had one thing in common: they had been impressed by the institution's conducive learning environment as well as efficient services. In particular, they were, happy, that lectures have already started and lecturers were resourceful and helpful. The meals at Students Mess were not only appealing but affordable, they said.

In separate interviews, the students said, in their first week they had a hard time trying to make their way within KU's vast and beautiful compound. Many could not easily locate lecture halls as well as other buildings.

Some suggested First Year students be given a map of the University on their first day on the Campus to help them find their way around with ease.



**Basra Hussein Issack:** "Lecturers are so helpful. Other students are friendly, too. The compound is so nice – large and very clean. Security is tight. New students should be given a guide to help them around, at least for the first week."



**Bernard Kemboi:** "In the first week, I found the place very confusing. Then there was the Ponyoka na Fresha, where a female student would tell you she wishes you are her husband, only to discover she was only making fun of you. That she could be even in Second Year. However, there is a very conducive learning environment. Lecturers are resourceful and caring."

**Fridah Meme:** "The college is wonderful – large and clean. Lecturers are very helpful and teach well. Meals at the Mess are inexpensive and tasteful."



**Casmil Ogembo:** "The college is very beautiful. The compound is very large. I got lost so many times. But I got help from other students to locate lecture halls. The first week was hard. Ilikuwa kujitafutiya (everyone for him- or her -self)... trying to find your way around the Campus. But I would seek help. Something needs to be done to help First Years find their way, at least for the first week. For instance, First Years should be given a map of the University on their first day."



**Leonard Misoi:** "The atmosphere is very conducive. At least you get peace of mind. The computer lab and library are well-equipped. Service is very good at every point from the Administration downwards."



**Kevin Kamau:** "Learning is good considering we are in the second week. The place has conducive environment for learning. It's quiet. But I find lecture halls far apart. There is also need for more lecture halls."

**Rachel Wanjau:** "The place is wonderful. I got lost several times in the first week. For instance I could not locate lecture halls, (Business and) Student (Services) Centre, and the Mess. But other students and the people around are very helpful. Considering we are in the second week, lectures have started very well. It's good."



A section of First Year students listen to the KU Anthem during the Matriculation Ceremony at the Main Campus on May 7, 2010. Below are the words of the KU Anthem.

## The 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  
A tower of learning might  
A star shining bright and clear  
Ensuring a richer posterity*

*Kenyatta, Kenyatta  
Oh Kenyatta, our nation's star  
Kenyatta our nation's pride  
Kenyatta our nation's pride  
Kenyatta, University of our time*

## The Human v Machine War on Campus



It seems pedestrians and motorists are competing for the right of way as seen here on Kenya Drive. The footpaths in both sides are ignored.

**A** discerning driver on the Main Campus is immediately struck by the number of pedestrians who get in the way, who ignore empty, newly-paved footpaths.

Why would people endure the nuisance of car horns or risk being injured, rather than use the pedestrian pathways? This is definitely a community of above-average intelligence from whom one expects rational behaviour.

Is there a subliminal fear of concrete or a love of tarmac inherent in most of us? Psychologists and sociologists, please unravel this mystery! In the meantime, readers are advised to use the pedestrian walks and footpaths that the University has spent so much money to construct. You may save life and limb in the process!

## KU's ODeL Impresses SA Scholars

**K**U's e-learning system has impressed South African education officials and scholars from a leading African distance learning institution.

Top education officials from SA's Free State Province, as well as scholars from University of South Africa (UNISA), said Kenya and KU in particular, had a great role to play in showing other African countries and universities the way to the establishment of an efficient distance and e-learning structure.

### A lot to learn

The delegates, led by Education Minister from Free State, Mr. Tate Makgoe, said though UNISA is known for its offering distance learning courses, the institution could still learn a lot from KU's Open, Distance and e-Learning (ODeL) structure. The delegation included UNISA's Prof. Peter Dzvimbo Kuzwinestsa and Prof. Stanley Malope from Free State's education department.

*"Kenya stands out in Africa as a country that has a lot to teach others in the*

*area of distance learning . KU could play that role. There is a lot we can learn from KU's e-learning system,"* said Prof. Kuzwinestsa, after the ODeL Director, Dr. Speranza Ndege, took the attentive delegates through the University's ODeL programme.

### Educate Parents

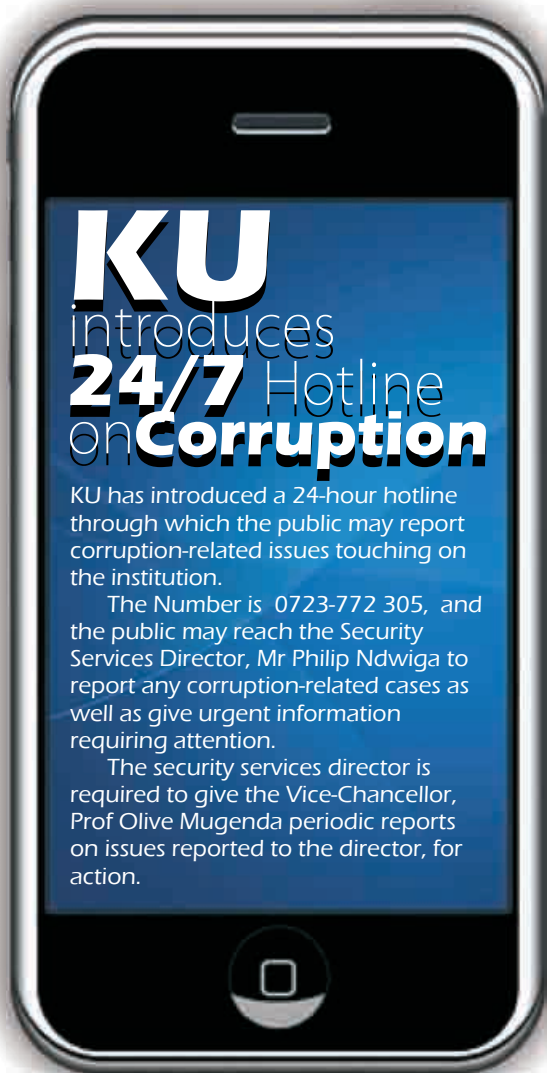
Dr. Ndege said KU's vision on the programme was to *"have students do exams online."* The University, she said, is sensitising parents to online degrees which are as valuable as those acquired after attending classes physically at colleges. The move is aimed at encouraging parents to allow their children to take e-Learning courses.

The visitors, who were in the country as guests of the Kenya government, were escorted to KU by Mr. Omindo Ong'ong'a of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology. They were received by KU's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Finance, Planning and Development), Prof. Daniel Mugendi on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Olive Mugenda.



A section of delegates from Free State in South Africa as well as University of South Africa (UNISA) listen to a presentation during their visit to KU on May 5, 2010. The delegates, led by Education Minister from Free State, Mr. Tate Makgoe, said they were impressed by KU's Open, Distance and e-Learning (ODeL) programme.

## KU Students' Association (KUSA) to Tour USA Universities on Non-Conflict Management



**KU**  
introduces  
**24/7 Hotline**  
on **Corruption**

KU has introduced a 24-hour hotline through which the public may report corruption-related issues touching on the institution.

The Number is 0723-772 305, and the public may reach the Security Services Director, Mr Philip Ndwigwa to report any corruption-related cases as well as give urgent information requiring attention.

The security services director is required to give the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Olive Mugenda periodic reports on issues reported to the director, for action.



KUSA President  
Anthony Maina

**T**wo top KU Students' Association (KUSA) are expected to tour a number of universities in the United States this month to learn about non-violent-conflict management skills.

KU Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, the University's Dean of Students, Dr Edwin Gimode and the Director, Teaching Programmes, Dr. Stephen Nyaga, will lead KUSA President Anthony Maina and his Vice-President Renalda Mwanjuma



KUSA Vice-President  
Renalda Mwanjuma

on a tour of various universities in different states of the USA. The theme of the tour, dubbed the International Visitor Single Country Project for Kenya, and organised by the US government, is *Non-Violent Conflict Resolution in Higher Education*.

The Non-Violent Conflict Resolution in Higher Education project focuses on students protests on campuses. It seeks to help the KUSA leaders explore avenues of conflict prevention, management and resolution in American institutions of her education.

The State Department has outlined specific objectives for the project. They include to, provide the KUSA leaders with an overview of the US higher education systems, acquaint the KUSA officials with the best practices in developing and maintaining relations between students and administrators at American colleges and universities; as well as provide the leaders with *"effective knowledge, skills and tools for campus conflict resolutions."* Besides, the US project seeks to enable KUSA leaders to *"develop strategies for effective student-administration communication for effective conflict prevention/ resolution in their own university setting that they can also share with counterparts and other Kenyan universities."*



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Prof. Joshua Ramisch from the University of Ottawa, Canada, visits the VC, May 3, 2010.



A section of students from the University of Ottawa, Canada, call on the VC Prof. Olive Mugenda.



Prof. Judith Kimiywi, Department of Foods, Nutrition and Dietetics, (front left) with other participants during the department's Post-Graduate Seminar on May 13, 2010.



The VC with women leaders after the AWARD meeting at the Kenyatta University Conference Centre (KUCC).



Koome George (right), a presenter and newscaster with KU99.9FM, leads members of KU's Harmony Band in entertaining about 1,500 May Intake of First Year Self-Sponsored Programme (SSP) students during the matriculation ceremony at the University's Main Campus on May 7, 2010. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, asked the students to use all the facilities at the University to develop their potential.



Some of the 1,500 May Intake First Year Self-Sponsored Programme (SSP) students register at the Student Computer Centre at KU's Main Campus in May. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, asked the students to make full use of the University's ICT for their Intellectual growth.



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The Kenya Industrial Property Institute Managing Director, Prof. James Otieno-Odek, receives the KU Souvenir from the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda.



The President of the African Sports Federation, Prof. Jacob Nteere, receives the KU souvenir from the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda.



Members of the African Educational Research Network (AERN) at the end of the network's summit held at Kenyatta University between May 4 and 6, 2010. They said AERN, whose key purpose is capacity building in research, should be strengthened to become a continental "network of networks." The network aims to promote and support African-based scholars.



Education Minister from Free State, in South Africa, Mr. Tate Makgoe (*second left*), receives the KU Souvenir from KU's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Finance, Planning and Development), Prof. Daniel Mugendi, during a visit by SA's education officials and scholars to KU on May 5, 2010.



Participants in the PHEA-ETI project at Blue Posts Hotel on April 27, 2010.



Prof. Lou Shizhou, Vice-Chancellor, Tin Ka Ping Institute of Education, opens his KU souvenir from Prof. Reuben Muasya, DVC (Academic).



# Research Update



## AERN asks KU to Help on Proposal Writing

**A**frican Educational Research Network (AERN) has suggested that KU help the network write proposals in a bid to seek funds and strengthen it.

The AERN summit agreed the organisation needed a "well-orchestrated source of funding." Most members said KU, known for its capacity in writing winning proposals, could help in that area. They said, AERN, whose key purpose is capacity building in research, should be strengthened to become a continental "network of networks."

A strong network, they said, would be in a better position to attract more funding.

This year's AERN summit was held at KU between May 4 and 6, 2010. It was jointly hosted by Kenyatta University, and the Ugandan Martyrs University. AERN was founded in 1992 by a group of US and African universities including KU, whose Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, is a founder member. AERN is a non-profit making network dedicated solely to the dissemination of information on Africa. Its main projects, which aim to promote and support African-based scholars, include *The African Symposium*, an on-line African educational research journal.

Among the participants at the summit were the Vice-Chancellor, University of Swaziland - Prof. Cisco Magagula; Vice-Chancellor, Ugandan Martyrs University - Prof. Charles Olweny; Dean, Faculty of Education, Ugandan Martyrs



Vice-Chancellor, University of Swaziland, Prof. Cisco Magagula (left), when he paid a courtesy call on the VC. The DVC (Academic), Prof. P. K. Wainaina, is on the right.

University - Prof. B. Otaala; Director, University Advancement, Kenyatta University - Prof. F.Q Gravenir; Deputy Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Dar es Salaam - Dr. Eugenia Kafanabo; Associate Dean for Outreach, Ohio University - Prof. Linda Rice and Prof. David of Virginia Union University.

In her welcoming remarks, read by the DVC (Academic) - Prof. Reuben Muasya, the VC - Prof. Olive Mugenda said that there is need for Universities to sustain networks that circulate

knowledge among learners, researchers and knowledge producers. The Vice-Chancellor emphasized that the priority must be to promote networks for African researchers to engage with and learn from each other as well as from their counterparts from the North. With the extension of the East African Community, the National University of Rwanda and The University of Burundi joined the network and participated in this year's summit.

## Graduate School holds e-Research Induction Workshop



The Dean, Graduate School, Prof. J. Waudu, addressing the e-Research Workshop.

**A** team comprising of Departmental Research Method representatives and School teams were inducted into a realm of e-Research which the University intends to incorporate strongly within the diversity of its academic programmes.

The PHEA - ETI Research Methods induction workshop which took place on April 27, 2010 at the Blue Post Hotel, Thika, marked the beginning of yet another milestone in the University's research discipline.

In a speech read on her behalf during the workshop, by the Ag. DVC (Academic) Prof. Reuben Muasya, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof.

Olive Mugenda, said transforming research approaches at the University as well as embracing emerging world-class research methods would set KU on a path towards making greater contribution to the society.

The proposed e-course in research methods is geared towards inculcating appropriate research skills in students and academic staff. The primary themes and drivers of e-research include, data management, research collaboration, high performance computing and ease of use.

The course's ultimate strategic goal is to promote e-Research, application of technology-based learning management systems and publications.

## Library: Theses and Dissertations Now Available Online

**S**cholars can now access research theses, dissertations and research reports from an online database, Deputy University Librarian, Mrs. Maryanne Muiruri-Gichuhi, has said.

Mrs. Muiruri-Gichuhi said KU was among 30 Kenyan universities and university colleges, that have contributed information to the

database. The database - accessible at [www.researchkenya.org](http://www.researchkenya.org) - has been compiled and produced by the Kenya Information Preservation society (KIPS), a national initiative that facilitates the preservation and conservation of Kenya's national information heritage.

The Deputy Librarian, says to search the

database, one would need to visit the website at [www.researchkenya.org](http://www.researchkenya.org); key in the search terms, for example, author, title, abstract; and, then click "search" to view results.

For more information, researchers may contact ICT Librarian, Mr. John Thuku, on Ext. 57044 or email: [library@ku.ac.ke](mailto:library@ku.ac.ke) or [thuku.john@ku.ac.ke](mailto:thuku.john@ku.ac.ke)



## CITY CAMPUS

**T**he City Campus now has 180 students after it admitted fresh full-time and evening students in the May intake.

Fifty six and 24 students registered for Bachelor of Commerce (full-time and evening) and Bachelor of Economics (full-time) respectively. An orientation exercise was undertaken between May 5 and 6, soon after the registration that had begun on May 3.

Those who addressed the pioneer freshers included the City Campus Director, Prof. Wangari Mwai, Deans of the two Schools, library personnel, Dean of Students, Director Mentoring, Aids

Control Unit, as well as KU Students' Association (KUSA) top officials.

The freshers joined their peers for the Matriculation Ceremony at the Main Campus on May 7, and lectures began three days later. The Campus anticipates a higher intake in September 2010.



KU Plaza which houses the City Campus, viewed from Haile Selassie Avenue, Nairobi.

## KITUI CAMPUS

**T**he First and Second year continuing students have reported back after their vacation, and lectures have been running smoothly. Their examinations are set to start on June 7, 2010.

New students, for the Bachelor of Arts (Education) degree programme, have since joined, and been briefed by directors of different centres, as well as both teaching and non-teaching staff.

Students aspiring to join other programmes such as BA, B.Ed (Science) and Bachelor of

Economics & Finance were referred to the Main Campus after they failed to meet the minimum number for a class. However, the Campus expects to admit more students to these programmes in the September intake.

With the completion of science laboratories, there will be admissions in September for students wishing to pursue science-based programmes such as Bsc., Environmental Science, Biochemistry and Physical and Biological Sciences.

Meanwhile, the establishment of Kitui Campus has turned around the lives of people in the neighbourhood.

In fact, there are visible social and economic benefits. There is no doubt the Campus has raised the image of the local community and helped to open up more business opportunities.

For instance, electrification of the Campus has changed the formerly 'sleepy' Kwa-Vonza market to a vibrant market. In particular, this has boosted *jua kali* activities and helped create employment opportunities for the youth.

Furthermore, the upgrading of the access road from Kwa-Vonza to the Campus has opened up new business opportunities for local residents.

## MAIN CAMPUS

### Historic 'KU Bridge' Comes Down

**T**he once magnificent and imposing pedestrian footbridge outside Kenyatta University's Main Campus gate is no more.

The KU Bridge, as it was popularly known, was built between 1999 and 2000, to help reduce cases of accidents some of which resulted in instant deaths of students after being knocked down by speeding vehicles.

However, the bridge was brought down early this month by engineers working on the Thika Road project. The bridge will reportedly be replaced by an underpass, which will begin at Kahawa.

Before the construction of the bridge there were frequent accidents at the gate involving students, staff, visitors as well as children from the KU Primary

School. Many a lives were lost at that gate.

The most memorable incident involved a student, Anne Wanjiru, who was knocked and killed on the spot by a speeding car one Saturday morning. Ms. Anne was popular in the University having been a committed member of the Charismatic group at the Catholic Chaplaincy. She was known to volunteer her services at the Nyumba ya Wazee at Kasarani, and various children's homes in Nairobi every weekend. On that fateful day, she left her room and informed her roommate she was headed for Nyumba ya Wazee. But she never made it.

Her death sparked off a riot among students, leading to the closure of the University. By the time the University re-opened, the government had started to build



Workers bring down the 'KU Bridge' on Thika Road as part of the ongoing construction of the superhighway.

the footbridge.

In the 10 years that the bridge has been in existence, not a single life has been lost to a road

accident. The secret remained simple – just use the bridge and you are safe.

# Why Some Students Don't Get Stressed Out.



By Sr. Dr. S. Nganda-schonganda5@yahoo.com  
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**S**tress destroys health, happiness and quality of life for hard working people everywhere. Don't let stress control your life for even one more hour. You owe it to your family, friends, and colleagues to be the relaxed and capable team member you really are deep down inside.

People who are unaffected by stress are the ones who get what they want in life. Those dreams you had when you were young may not see the light of day unless you take

control of stress. Take back control and be the smiling winner others admire.

Some people don't get stressed out. They laugh and smile their way from one success to the next. The winners in life relax and enjoy every moment of their success. Want to know their secret?

Winners who thrive on pressure and uncertainty are wired differently. These fortunate people share a secret few understand. And it is not just a **positive attitude** that allows them to be so laid back all day long. The simple fact is they use their brains differently from the rest of us.

Here is the good news. If you use your brain in the same way, you will see the same results. You will start to laugh at stress like they do and life gets much easier. You will relax, have more fun and get what you want the easy way. Thankfully, it is easier than you think to enjoy the same resilience to stress. And this is all you need to do: **Use Your Brain like a Winner and Relax.**



The secret to using your brain like a winner is brain wave entrainment. This is an established science backed up by over many years of solid research. Brain wave entrainment is effortless and it works without any preparation on your part. There are no difficult processes to learn and there is no way to fail with this powerful science that allows us all to access the

powerful capabilities of our brains. Brain wave entrainment takes a few minutes a day.

Entrainment, a principle of physics, is the synchronization of two or more rhythmic cycles. Effect of this principle is also seen in chemistry, biology, medicine, and many other fields. We can see this principle at work when two unsynchronized pendulum clocks side by side on a wall slowly synchronize over time with a precision greater than can be achieved with a mechanical device.

We can use entrainment to supercharge our brain power. Brain wave entrainment is a simple yet very powerful way to change your mental state with no effort. Simply entrain your brain waves to that mental state and you'll feel resilient and calm. You will smile just like the



super successful do in the face of stress.

By listening to a special audio track made up of rapid pulses of sound, your brain wave patterns entrain to those frequencies. This causes your brain waves to go from a **'stressed out'** pattern to a **'relaxed'** and feeling in **'control'** brain wave pattern. Just close your eyes and listen to a special audio track that rewires your brain while you simply relax and enjoy a short time out. By listening to a gentle tune, your brain starts to work in a new way. You start to think and perform like a winner when pressure is on. You must take the risk to be open-minded and try a new and better way of using your brain.

Train your brain to be like those relaxed winners everyone wants to be like and life takes on a whole new quality:

- Be calm and relax under pressure
- Feel relaxed and in control at will
- Make great decisions in the face of deadlines
- Feel at ease despite having way too much to do.

You will enjoy life again and finally have that mental clarity that makes such a big difference when you have too many balls in the air and too little time to get anything done. You can now have all of this as soon as you take control of stress.

## Community Outreach Set To Start Model Farm

**T**he Directorate of Community Outreach and Extension Programmes is set to establish a model farm for the teaching and demonstration of subsistence farming, including rearing dairy cattle.

According to the Director, Dr. Dinah Tumuti, in November last year DCOE planted a maize crop that has since been made into about 35 tonnes of silage.

This is enough (complemented with supplements) to feed one cow for four years.

The DCOE made the silage with the assistance of Mr. Moses Ndung'u from the neighbouring Gicheha Farm.

This initial exercise aims to train local farmers in the rearing of cows, dairy goats, rabbits, and other animals of economic value.



Dr. Dinah Tumuti (centre) Kenyatta University's Director, Directorate of Community Outreach and Extension Programmes, inspects a chaff-cutter at the model farm at the Main Campus. With her are Mr. Peter Simiyu; Dr. Kamau Mbugua, the COEP board Chairman, and Mr. Moses Ndung'u from the neighbouring Gicheha Farm.

# KU Biographer Among World's Top 100 Scientists



Dr Sam Muthwii

**K**U lecturer, Dr. Sam Muthwii, has been nominated to the world's Top 100 Scientists 2010 list.

Dr. Muthwii made it to the list of the distinguished International Biographical Centre (IBC) Top 100 Scientists for making "significant enough contribution" in the field of biographies. Announcing and congratulating the don for the award, IBC Director-General, Mr. Nicholas Law, told Dr. Muthwii: "Of the many thousands of biographies from a wide variety of sources investigated by the research and editorial departments of the IBC, a select few are those of individuals who, in our belief, have made a significant

enough contribution in their field to engender influence on a local, national or international basis."

The Cambridge-based scholar said: As a holder of this distinction, you can be assured of your place in our history and be gratified that your work has not only been noticed but recognised as outstanding. In any one year, only 100 of the world's best scientists, both famous and uncelebrated, from all disciplines will populate this exclusive list. These are people whose daily work makes a difference — not just those who populate the headlines.

"It is henceforth decreed that you should not only be on the list for 2010,

but that as a bearer of this honour you will be recorded in perpetuity in the halls of the IBC," said Mr. Law, adding that the IBC hoped Dr. Muthwii's award would place him in a position to have "influence on your colleagues and friends."

Listees of the IBC Top 100 Scientists are eligible for the commemorative items, including the distinguished and limited **TOP 100 SCIENTISTS** medal, designed by regalia-makers to the World's Monarchies.

Last year, Dr. Muthwii was also nominated to the international list of Who-is-Who in Biographical Data for his contribution to the science.

## BEREAVEMENTS

1. Dr Margaret Miheso O'Connor, Educational Comm. and Tech. Department, and Ms Priscah Awayi of the Dean of Students office lost their mother Agnes Nafula Miheso, on February 18, 2010. She was buried on February 27, 2010 at Mukango Village, Shinyalu Constituency, Kakamega.
2. Dr. Stephen Wambugu, Chairman Department of Agribusiness Management and Trade lost his mother, Mama Agnes Njambi Wambugu on May 12, 2010. The late Agnes Njambi was buried on Friday May 21, 2010 in Murang'a.

## KU Ready to Host Regional Varsity Games



Dr. Peninah Wahome, Coordinator, Sports and Games at the preparations for the pcoming East-Africa University Games to be held at KU.

**K**U is fully prepared to host this year's East African University Games, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, has said. "KU is happy to host the games, and we are committed to ensuring the event will be a memorable one," said the VC, when members of the Executive Committee of the East African Universities Sports Federation paid her a courtesy call.

The VC commended the committee for their "enthusiasm and passion" in helping to make the December event a success. The theme of this year's edition is "Promoting Regional Integration and Development through Sports." The members, led by Federations President, Prof. Jacob Nteere, were at the University's Main Campus to assess the progress of preparations. Prof. Nteere commended KU management "for overwhelming support" and positive response towards the preparations of the inter university games.

Those who accompanied the VC included the Ag. DVC (Administration), Prof. P. K. Wainaina, who is also the chairman of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) and Co-ordinator, Sports and Games and Secretary to LOC, Ms. Peninah Wahome.

## Appointment



**Prof. James Thomas Daniels** of the School of Law, Parklands Campus, has been appointed Chairman, Public Law for a period of two years. Prof. Daniels will be in charge of all administrative duties as well as academic programmes in the Department.

## FAITH CORNER

The Sacrifice of Integrity

One definition of sacrifice is: "to give up something of value for something with a more pressing claim." The definition I am using for integrity is "being honest and undivided, to live out in private what you really believe." This is not an easy thing to do. Too often, we sacrifice our integrity because we are under pressure to make immediate decisions, or we want to avoid conflict. I believe that while many people are fighting to maintain their integrity, they nonetheless are losing this battle on a daily basis. Some may be completely unaware that there is a battle.

Since, integrity is key to living out a true relationship with God and avoiding just the practice of religion, we need to place high value on integrity. We need to regularly ask ourselves what is more valuable to us than honesty? Are there circumstances in our lives where we feel that we have no choice but to lie? Do you feel that you must 'bend the truth' to keep others happy? If we are really willing to say to God: "I will obey you and trust you to provide for me," then we should have the courage to examine some of the gray areas of our lives and prepare our responses in advance, so we will not be caught off-guard and hence sacrifice our integrity. Let us be challenged to live up to this high calling today. We need to make a daily sacrifice to live a life of integrity. Honesty will water what God has planted in our hearts.

Anita Worthen, New Hope Ministries (Adapted)

## Mind Bender

No.3/13

1. What is the missing word? 3. A normal coin is tossed 9 times in succession and comes down tails each time. What are the chances that it will come down heads next time?
- BOG + 2 - 0 = DOG  
FAG + 1 - 5 = GAB  
BIG + 4 - 0 = FIG  
FOE + 1 - 1 = ?

## 2. Find the missing number

|      |    |      |
|------|----|------|
| EINS | 10 | VITY |
| BELL | 5  | HONE |
| MARC | 4  | ADIO |
| CURI | ?  | DIUM |

Answers in the next Issue

From 'Improve Your IQ', By Glenn Wilson

Mind Bender  
answers to previous puzzle

- Missing letters are CL: First letter increases by one going down; second letter increases by two going down (alphabetically)
- The odd one out is REFREGATOR; all the other words pertain to communication
- SANGUINE is to BLOOD

## Inspiration

## DREAMS &amp; IMAGINATIONS

*Have you ever dreamt or imagined that;*

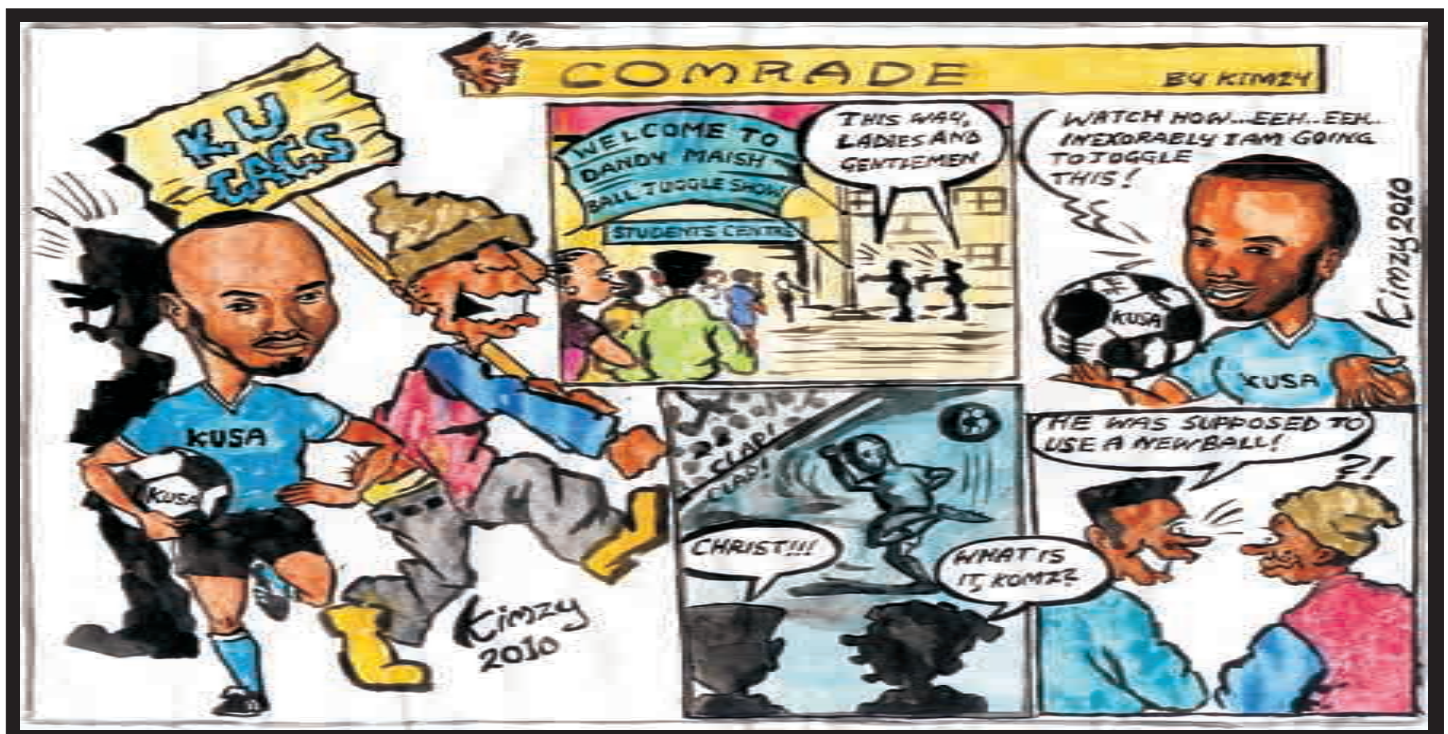
**Dreams** can be more **powerful** than real world situations, Hold fast to your dreams for if your dreams die, life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly. The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams and dare to dream big.

**Imagination** can be much stronger than **knowledge** and can bring about a dramatic shift in your life, do not entertain small **imagination** for your life for such have no power to stir the soul.

**Remember;**  
*"The true sign of intelligence and success in your life is not the amount of knowledge you have but the depth of your imagination"*

- Albert Einstein

JM



**Editorial Board:** Mary Nge'the (Chairperson & Editor-in-Chief), Charles Nderitu (Co-Chairman), Margaret Otolo (Member), Janet Muthimi (Member), Grace Muchiri (Member), Erica Mwololo (Member), Julius Maore (Member), Isaac Mwangi (Member), Mercy N. Kanyi (Member), Kaniaru Ndirangu (Photographer), Patrick Minai (Design & Layout), Susan Ndichu (Secretary), David Karanja (Editor), Stephen Mburu (Media Liaison Officer) Simon Kirwa (Students' Representative).

The Kenyatta University Newsletter is published by the Office of the Vice-Chancellor. The Editorial board welcomes brief comments/articles of news and events on topical issues. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit/shorten articles and or determine what is to be published and when.

You may email the articles to: pro@ku.ac.ke or drop them (in hard or softcopy) at ROOM 109 or 106 in the main Administration Block