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Kenyatta University newsletter

A Monthly Publication from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor

Transforming Higher Education... Enhancing Lives.

KU OVERALL WINNERS OF 2023 MOOT COURT



At a Glance

**Promoting mother
tongue Education**

**International
Women's Day**

**13th KU Disability
Awareness Day**

**Council of Legal
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Kenyatta University law students emerged the overall winners of the 11th Edition of the All Kenyan Moot Court Competition (AKMCC), edging out the 2022 champions, the University of Nairobi, Parklands Campus. The AKMCC is the oldest National Moot Court Competition in Kenya, which is organized and hosted by the law students of Kenyatta University.

The Moot Court Competition is held annually in the month of March and brings together students from all law schools in Kenya who compete in the research and moot court categories based on a hypothetical question on topical human rights issues in Kenya.

The theme of the just concluded 11th Edition was **'Social-economic Rights: Enhancing Government Transparency and Accountability in Protection of Human Rights'**. According to the President of the 11th Edition, Janet Karimi, the theme was inter-disciplinary in focus and provided law students an opportunity to research and make oral presentations and submissions on Government management of public debt and its impact on fulfillment of socio-economic rights.

The Moot Court Competition held on 14th -17th March 2023 drew participation from 21 teams representing law students from: The University of Nairobi Parklands and Mombasa Campuses; Africa Nazarene University; Egerton University; Kisii University; Moi University; JKUAT; Strathmore University; Mt Kenya Univer-

sity; Embu University; and the hosts Kenyatta University. The final rounds of the Moot Court Competition were held at the Supreme Court presided over by Hon. Justice Stephen Riech, in a seven-judge bench that included bar practitioners with expertise in human rights law.

The Kenyatta University team of Celine Maina and Debrah Moegi emerged the overall winners in the Moot Court Competition category. The African Nazarene University emerged the first runners-up, with University of Nairobi, Mombasa Campus as the second runners-up. In the Research category, Kenyatta University also emerged the overall winners with Martha Bowen scooping the best research paper award.

The 11th Edition of the Moot

Editorial

We are now into the second quarter of the calendar year 2023. The heavens have opened, and we continue to receive the blessings of rain. It is a good time to stay indoors and watch the rain through the window as the seeds we have planted germinate, sprout and grow. Meanwhile, the seeds that Kenyatta University has been sowing in the academic arena have mushroomed into exciting activities. This edition of the newsletter touches on a few that have happened in the early months of the year. Kenyatta University won this year's Moot Court Competition. "What's that," you might ask? All the details are in your fingertips. You will also get details of celebrations such as the International Mother Language Day, the International Women's Day, and the International Students' Cultural Day, among others. The world has truly become a global village. The stories in this edition of the newsletter will keep your eyes glued to the page. So please relax. Stay dry. Settle back into the warm folds and keep reading...

EKM.





Ms. Celine Maina from Kenyatta University (Centre) and Deborah Moegi receive the All Kenya Moot Court Competition Award from Mr. Herman Owiti

Court Competition was held in partnership with: the Supreme Court of Kenya; the Office of the Ombudsman; Kenya Law; Transparency International; IMLU; Article 19; International Public Finance; Uraia Trust; Mzalendo Trust; International Justice Mission Kenya; Amnesty International; Siasa Place; Kaplan and Stratton; Mohammed Mui-gai Advocates; NOB Advocates; Katiba Institute; Rachier and Amollo Advocates and

Kenyatta University.

The AKMCC aims to enhance research, writing and oral presentation skills of law students across Kenya; provide networking opportunities between students, judicial officers and other industrial players; and also offers internship opportunities in partner organizations for the participating law students.

Previous winners of the

AKMCC have won international moot court competitions including, the African Christof Heyns Moot Court Competition; John Jackson World Trade Organization Moot Court Competition; Nelson Mandela World Human Rights Moot Court Competition; and the Jean Pictet International Humanitarian Law Moot Court Competition.

Promoting mother tongue Education



Karoti Girls Students performing 'Gisheri gia Starehe' during the International Mother Language Day

Kenyatta University was the venue for the observance of International Mother Language Day which is celebrated every year on the 21st of February across the world, to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism. It is supported by UNESCO. KU students and staff were stars during the event organized by the Department of Literature, Linguistics and Foreign Languages in response to the annual call by UNESCO. This year's theme was, **'Multilingual Education – A necessity to transform education.'**

Dr. Richard Wafula, Executive Dean of the School of Law, Arts and Social Sciences, and Dr. Kenneth Ngure, Chairman of the Department which organized the event, gave short speeches on the topic, as well as Prof. Peter Githinji, Chairman of Kiswahili Department. Professor Chege Githiora, who chairs

the organizing committee, spoke about the importance of mother tongue education and challenged universities to produce more descriptive studies of Kenyan and other African languages.

In his address, he noted the day was actually an initiative by Bangladesh to safeguard their language and it was internationalized by UNESCO. He also urged policymakers to provide inclusive teaching materials such as textbooks in languages that children understand and encourage the hiring and training of teachers from linguistic and ethnic minorities to serve in the schools of their own communities.

But it was the students who stole the show with the spirit of the celebration through a variety of performances showcasing their mother languages

and cultural traditions of Kenya. KU International Students from different countries of Africa also participated, as well as students of Korean language and culture.

Some groups and individuals taught the audience how to count or pronounce basic words and short phrases. They also demonstrated pride and fluency in their languages through poetry, riddles, songs and tongue-twisters.

Korean Language Centre students gave a wonderful musical concert, and a student choir from Karoti Secondary School closed the event with the recitation of a poem in Gikuyu.

The majority of those who attended the celebration vigorously agreed that they would plan to attend the annual event next February 21st, 2024.



(From right to left) Mr. Benjamin Avusevwa, Director Statistical Coordination and Method, representing Mr. MacDonald G. Obudho Director General, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) flag-off a walk to celebrate Women's Day at Kenyatta University. Accompanied by Prof. Paul Okemo, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (RIO), Prof. Judith Waudu, KU-WEE Hub Director, students and staff.

International Women's Day

Wednesday, 8th March 2023 marked the 45th International Women's Day. A day where we celebrate women and their achievements over the years. Kenyatta University joined the world in celebrating this day by holding an event that was graced by the Director, Statistical Coordination and Method, Mr. Benjamin Avusevwa, who was standing in for the Director General, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), Mr. MacDonald G. Obudho.

In attendance were Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research Innovation & Outreach), Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Paul Okemo, and Prof. Judith N. Waudu, Prof. Grace Ngare, Dr. Isaiah Oyugi, Dr. Regina Mwatha, Ms. Elphiridah Ngele and Reverend Esther Wainaina.

The Amani Choir, Rambo-lo Dancers and two students entertained the guests. Prof.

Judith N. Waudu then welcomed everyone to the event. She noted that people use technology to report cases on gender-based violence. Prof. Waudu acknowledged that the even though technology was of help, it was still harmful to the youth.

The Centre for Gender Equality and Empowerment has experienced several cases of technology facilitated gender-based violence and because of the stigma attached to reporting, the Centre is implementing online application for reporting these cases.

Prof. Waudu affirmed that the University chose the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics because they have impeccable volume of data to show the gender participation and ICT.

The KUSA Chief Secretary Ms. Elphiridah Ngele said that Kenyatta University was honoured to hold the International Women's day with the aim of

having inclusion and integration in our society. She added that the aim is to bridge the gender gap in our progressive society with technological advancement, bringing women and other marginalized groups into technology in more creative solutions and greater potential for innovations that meet women's needs and promote gender equality.

Prof. Caroline Thoruwa also said that the international women's day helps recognize women and girls championing the advancement of transformative digital technology. Globally, 37% of women do not use the internet.

If women are unable to access the internet and do not feel safe online, then they are unable to develop the necessary digital skills to engage in digital spaces. We need more for women taking part in the STEM programmes for this will be of great value to them

International students' cultural day



On the afternoon of Friday, 17th March 2023, Kenyatta University held their 3rd edition of the International students' cultural day at the Amphitheatre. Kenyatta University is one of the most diverse institutions in East and Central Africa with students from Somali, Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Sudan, Chad, Malawi, South Korea, Brazil, Cameroon, Rwanda, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo and many others.

Director, Centre for International Programmes and Collaborations, Dr. Mildred Nawiri, welcomed the audience and was kind enough to request a representative from each country to come forward and welcome the audience in their own language. She then welcomed the Chairperson, Kenyatta University International Student Congress Person, Ms. Ruth Azama, who welcomed everyone and proceeded to thank the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul Wainaina, and the University Management for all the support they have given to the international students.

Ms. Ruth Azama said she was grateful to the University for making an effort to create a space for the international stu-

dents to get education. She recognized the students' congress for supporting her and said that the international students were happy with the warm hospitality the University has given them.

Dr. Masika represented the Director Student Affairs, Dr. Faith Nkuru, and said that the directorate was proud to have the many interactions they have with the international students. The Chairman, Cultural Week planning committee, Dr. Duncan Wambugu, said that he was happy to partner with the international students as they became part of the culture week.

The Vice-Chancellor was represented by Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Outreach), Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, who read his speech.

Prof. Thoruwa noted that KU strongly values her international students. She added that Kenyatta University was among the top two universities in Kenya with the largest number of international students, top ten in Africa and top 1000 in the world. Kenyatta University is proud to be home to over 2000

international students. It is also embracing 100% acceptance.

She added that for those students who are not physically in Kenya, the University is embracing 100% fully online learning and an online cultural programme that promotes inter-cultural bridging initiatives. This event and other similar ones open our minds to appreciate both local and international cultures.

She thanked the embassies for being instrumental in issuing visas to members of Kenyatta University community for which the University is grateful. She conveyed her gratitude to the international culture day planning committee for their good work in organizing the event, adding that the university is committed to supporting this annual event and upgrading it to an international cultural week.

The KU fashion and model students were able to compete for the prize of Mr. and Miss. KU International. The prize went to Jacques Hangi Mukene, Mr. KU International and Linnet Yar Makhor, Miss KU International.

CELEBRATING 2023 KUSA AWARDS



Director of Students Affairs Dr. Faith Nkuru awards participants at the 2022/2023 KUSA Awards.

Held on 8th March, 2022/2023 KUSA Awards went past its main basic purpose of recognizing and appreciating vibrant students, for their different skills, talents and gifts. The awards brought students together, to have fun, celebrate and at least have a chance to see the musicians that they fancy or they're fans of. Or any other public figure in the entertainment field that is capturing their attention or has done so at some point.

The attendance of the Director of Students Affairs (DSA) Dr. Faith Nkuru, was the most altruistic thing to the student fraternity. That at least sent a message to the students that they are valued and appreciated.

The purpose of the event was students' performance that was preceded by the students' leaders' reception. The official opening of the ceremony climaxed with the arrival of the Speaker of the 18th Congress, Hon. Hillary Musoma, which was marked by the students' state of enjoyable exuberance and loud cheers in jollity, all the way from the ground to the third floor of the Kenyatta University Amphitheatre.

The rostrum got packed with leaders, in full official bright-clean attires, that one wouldn't risk taking their eyes off the podium or even blinking, lest they miss an ounce of such highest esteems, this particularly was a warm moment, the epitome of the unity that comes with working and celebrating together as a team.

It served to motivate hundreds of students in attendance. Furthermore, the fact that the speaker was a student from the school of Law sent a sense of assurance to everything that

was taking place owing to the fact that he was the chief organizer of this event. Looking back at the flow of events, he deserves a pat on the back.

Talking of prior occurrence and voting period for the nominees at different categories, one thing that captured attention of many is the confidentiality with which the final results were kept, this might have caused an unbearable amount of anxiety, but it proved to be strategic and played its role effectively in the end. Out of expectations, everyone would want to know the outcome and for that day the results are what we wanted.

The Amphitheatre was full to its capacity.

On top of the fact that all through he seemed settled, well collected with his team well put, the 18th Congress speaker has posed to believe that he's the primary driver of the duties given to him by KU students and creator of his failure and success.

And for this reason, he seemed to have taken 100% responsibility to discharge his duties. In honesty, diligence and fullness of dedication. Being one of the active participants, I know from first-hand experience what transpired. It felt like being raised to the platform on which winners are created and sincerely, I have never felt so elevated. Such events motivate students in their different capacities; and this one achieved this purpose. It is not often that students find a platform to showcase their talents and gifts with such flowing rain-like applause.

And as it that were not enough, after the trophies had been awarded in the course of our happiness, the famous artist, arguably the greatest singer of this generation, Breeder LW, got on stage with such a vibrant entry that all were left in awe, unsure whether to cheer or sit and listen to the musician's magical talent. This is one event that will stand out in history, as far as KUSA Awards ceremony is concerned.

With all due respect to the immediate former speaker, we believe and even comrades' fraternity can confirm that he has truly raised the standards, up to where other leaders can look and emulate as they serve the general students' body.

It is stated, a leader can only be said to be fully successful if his successor succeeds better than the said leader. We hope that Musoma will not only set the bar high with his exemplary service delivery, but also be in the forefront in helping other leaders to deliver even better than he does. For that's the maxima of a true leader as he has proven to be.

Green Economy for Sustainable Development



Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof. Paul Okemo (Center) with guests and members of KUESA Executive Committee after the official opening of the East African Economic Symposium.

Kenyatta University Economics Students' Association (KUESA) is a professional conglomeration composed of students pursuing economics and those interested in economics affairs. It draws its mandate from the School of Business, Economics and Tourism where it is based. The association seeks to add value and amplify its members' contribution to the society.

On 2nd March, 2023, KUESA hosted the 5th Students' Economics Symposium on the theme, "Green Economy for Sustainable Development". The Students' Economics Symposium is an annual event organized by the Kenyatta University Economics' Students' Association in partnership with the School of Business, Economics and Tourism. The symposium is research-based and includes an innovation competition that draws participants from universities across the East African region. A

panel of 5 judges is drawn from various sectors of the industry, alumni representatives and academic staff who assist in verification and vetting of various projects.

This year's symposium sought to address climate change, an emerging global problem, by seeking sustainable practices. The projects and proposals were geared towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals while at the same time equipping the students with not only employability skills but also entrepreneurial skills. The symposium also offers a platform for young policy makers to air their views towards offering practical sustainable solutions to the problems facing the economy of the country.

The 5th Economics Students' Symposium drew participation from 15 universities. 8 universities gave presentations. Mul-

timedia University emerged winners of the competition. 1st runners up was Kenyatta University and Kabarak University emerged 2nd runners up.

The Chief Guest of the event was the Principal Secretary for Environment, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Eng. Festus K. Ng'eno. His keynote address touched on emerging issues in the green economy and the steps the government is taking towards enhancing a sustainable economy in its development agenda. He further highlighted the opportunities and how the young generation can better be involved in driving change in the green economy agenda.

The Keynote speech on "Building Resilience and Preparing Yourself for The Job Market" by Dr. Esther Muchemi, CEO Samchi Group of Companies highlighted the fact that young students can be not only job seekers but also job creators.

Mr. Kwame Owino, CEO Institute of Economic Affairs, gave an address on policy issues and the Green Economy. Ms. Celia Kisang opened up on opportunities in professional courses and how the professional bodies are playing a role in enhancing the green economy.

Mr. Israel Robert Burale gave the opening address on entrepreneurship skills and why the young of this generation need to be problem solvers and job creators in the current millenia. Kenyatta University Economics Students' Association thanked the office of the Vice-Chancellor, through Prof. Paul Okemo, Acting DVC (Administration), for gracing and officially opening the event.

13th Kenyatta University Disability Awareness Day



Prof. Justice Willy Mutunga (centre) former Chief Justice of the Republic of Kenya, Prof. Paul K. Wainaina Kenyatta University Vice-Chancellor (right) tours exhibition displays during the 13th Disability Awareness Day.

Kenyatta University marked the annual disability awareness day on 13th March 2023 under the theme 'Disability-inclusive innovation'. The celebrations were led by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul Wainaina, and the Chief Guest was retired Chief Justice Prof. Willy Mutunga, who now teaches law at Kabarak University. He was accompanied by Justice Monica Mbaru, Judge of the Labour and Employment Relations Court, Mombasa.

The event was attended by guests and partners from University of Eldoret, Itel, Coca Cola, innovate Now (iN), Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa, Kenya Institute of Special Education, Flone Initiative and various innovators of assistive devices including Knock Knock (for the deaf) and Utulav. KESI showcased their Assessment Truck, a mobile education assessment and research centre which enables professional identification of

disability and placement of children with special needs in appropriate learning centres.

In welcoming the guests, Dr. Mbugua wa Mungai, Director of Disability Services at Kenyatta University, paid homage to the foundational and outstanding contribution of the late Judith Heumann, globally acknowledged as the Mother of the Disability Rights Movement. It was her efforts, alongside her peers, that made it possible to enjoy the rights that persons with disabilities enjoy today.

Following Heuman's insights, the Director urged people with disabilities to be proud of their identity and to create partnerships with others in order to realize tangible gains for the disability movement.

Disability-inclusive innovations were one way of creating such partnerships. In his address, Mr. Bernard Chiira, the CEO of

innovate Now, challenged people with disabilities to think about themselves as leaders so that they could put in place the things they always wished other leaders could put in place for them.

For his part, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Wainaina, reiterated the University's commitment to creating an inclusive environment for persons with disabilities and he highlighted what the institution had achieved towards the realization of this goal.

Justice Monica Mbaru also emphasized the role of education in creating opportunities for persons with disabilities to lead dignified lives. She noted especially the role that technology has thus far played in enabling such persons attain education and lauded KU for actively championing this cause.

Prof. Mutunga lauded the University for showing other public institutions that it was possible to build meaningful inclusivity into service delivery processes for persons with disabilities.

He stated that the fact that KU was the only University in Kenya with a directorate-level office to deal with disability related issues at the institution was something to be deeply proud of. Prof. Mutunga also reflected on the role played by assistive technology in the lives of people with disabilities as well as those who do not have them.

He encouraged social enterprises that innovate assistive technologies to always place social good before profit as part of their contribution towards the achievement of social justice for persons with disabilities in Kenya.

Pictorial



Prof. Paul K. Wainaina, Vice-Chancellor receives a trophy from Dr. Duncan Wambugu, Chairman, Department of Music and Dance for best overall university choir in Kenya Music Festivals.



High school students at an exhibition during the International Women and Girls in Science celebration.



KU Alumni Class of 1999 plant a commemorative tree during their visit to the University.



Entertainment by KU Korean Language Centre students during the 13th Disability Awareness Day.

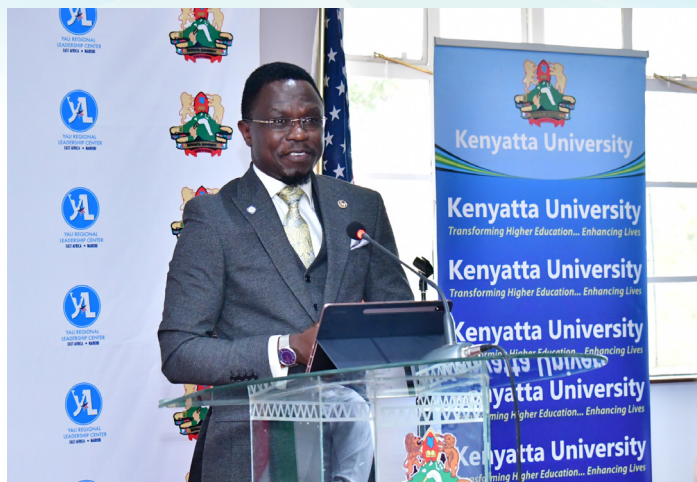


A delegation of Transcultural Perspective Art of Art and Education (TPAAE) during a courtesy call to the Vice-Chancellor represented by Prof. Paul Okemo Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration).



Prof. Paul K. Wainaina, Vice-Chancellor welcomed Prof. Zhou Xiaodong, Chinese Director Confucius Institute (right) alongside Dr. Hellen Guantai (left) Kenyatta University, Director Confucius Institute.

Pictorial



Hon. Ababu Namwamba, Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs, the Arts and Sports addresses YALI Regional Leadership Centre participants.



Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Outreach) hands a gift to Prof. Arti Ahluwalia, University of Pisa, Italy after paying a courtesy call visit to the Vice-Chancellor.



Anasheed Singing Group performing during the 2023 Interfaith Thanksgiving prayer service.



Prof. Paul K. Wainaina, Vice-Chancellor unveils a banner to launch the ODEL Train the trainer workshop for quality assurance and accreditation agency.



Jacques Hangi Mukene, Mr. KU International and Linnet Yar Makhor, Miss KU International together with other International Students Contestants.



Ms. Mary Mwangi interacts with high school students during the International Women and Girls in Science celebration.

YOUTHMAPPERS MAPPATHON

In the first week of March 2023, the Kenyatta University chapter of Youth Mappers under the KU GIS students' clubs organized a one-day mappathon event under the theme "Saving Lives through Mapping". The event aimed at creating free and open maps for everyone, focusing on the recent earthquakes in Syria and Turkey, and mapping the affected areas to support humanitarian response efforts.

Kenyatta University GIS Lab is located within the 8:4:4 Building Complex at the main campus. The Lab provides a platform for practical training of GIS and Remote Sensing and its application in a spectrum of industries that include Agriculture, Health, Transport & Communication, Security, Tourism and Hospitality, among others.

The Kenyatta University students therefore formed a club 'KUGISC', which better expresses their intentions with the facil-

ity and also helps in focusing their ideas and creates a structure through which the students' thoughts are channeled in a productive manner such as the Youth Mappers Mappathon one-day event.

Prof. Simon M. Onywere, Associate Professor Department of Environmental Planning and Management and Director Capacity Development and Consultancy, facilitated this day long activity that had a number of objectives that were set out to be achieved including, to create detailed maps of the affected areas in Syria and Turkey, to support humanitarian response efforts by providing accurate and up-to-date mapping data, and to raise awareness about the importance of open mapping data in disaster response and recovery efforts.

The mappathon event was well structured and involved various activities to achieve the set objectives. The event kicked off

with an introduction and welcome remarks by Youth Mappers representative, where participants were introduced to the event's theme, objectives, and expected outcomes. This was followed by a training session on how to use Open Street Map tools and software.

After the training, participants were divided into teams and assigned specific areas to map. Using Open Street Map tools, participants worked in teams to map the affected areas in Syria and Turkey. Afterward, there was a presentation on Youth Mappers and opportunities for students. This was followed by a break for lunch.

After the break, participants resumed mapping activities, with a focus on areas of high priority. The teams worked collaboratively to ensure that the maps were detailed and accurate. Finally, the event was concluded with wrap-up and closing remarks.



Nairobi Summer School Launch of cohort 3



Dr. Mithika Mwenda, Executive Director, PACJA addressing cohort 3 participants

The launch of cohort 3 of the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice was graced by members from Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), Kenya University and Nairobi Summer School at the International Language and Culture Centre/ Confucius Institute in Kenya University. This launch was dubbed “call for applications” as the main aim for this function was to announce the beginning of a fresh chapter of mentorship.

In attendance were the Chief Guest, Prof. Waceke Wanjohi, the DVC (Academic), who was representing the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul Wainaina; Dr. Joseph Gatama Gichini, the Ag. Deputy Director, National Research Fund, Ministry of Education; Madam Nancy Githaiga, Country Director, African Wildlife Foundation; Dr. Mithika Mwenda, Executive Director, PACJA; Dr. James Koske, Executive, Dean School of Agriculture and Environmental Sci-

ences, Kenya University; and Dr. Joseph Kurauka, Chairman Department of Environmental Studies and Community Development, Kenya University.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Kurauka mentioned that the idea for starting the Nairobi Summer School for Climate Justice was initiated to bring together young champions of climate change to share ideas. He further stressed that the previous cohorts have been successful.

The Chairman ended by thanking PACJA and other partners for considering KU as a viable partner. “Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time”, said Dr. James Koske, as he explained the readiness of his school to support policies on climate justice. Dr. Koske added that we should speak to our people on matters climate justice.

The importance of having the

right partners to bring an idea such as this to fruition was not lost on Dr. Gatama as he emphasized the importance of strategic cooperation. He congratulated PACJA and KU for this noble initiative and added that on behalf of the National Research Fund, he expresses interest in joining the process. Madam Nancy Githaiga pointed out that in the recent past we have lost more wildlife to climate change than to poaching and for that reason alone, our voices must be heard. She encouraged the young people to apply for the 3rd cohort of the NSSCJ to be part of the solution.

Dr. Mithika in his speech mentioned how the idea of having a summer school for this purpose came to be and he said that he and his team were thinking about climate change when the idea came to them. The PACJA Executive Director explained that this is a problem that may be with us for a while and as such we should equip our young people to deal with and adapt to the problem.

“We have experienced emergence of several diseases in both plants and animals as a result of climate change”, said Prof. Waceke Wanjohi, the DVC (Academic). She further explained that the war on climate change will require collective corporate efforts.

The DVC spoke about several things that KU has done in response to the climate change including the ‘Lisha Mwenzako’ programme that was a Kenya University initiative to feed the citizens in the affected arid and semi-arid areas. Prof. Waceke Wanjohi reiterated that KU will support evidence-based advocacy on climate change and climate justice and with that, she welcomed all the partners to Kenya University and officially launched the 3rd cohort.

The Power of Networking Public Lecture

On Tuesday, March 21st, the office of the Secretary General, KUSA, hosted a public lecture on the topics of “The Power of Networking” and “The Psychology of Social Media.” The lecture was given by Mr. Lionel Muniaf, a lecturer at Machakos University who specializes in the field of Social Psychology.

Mr. Muniaf began his lecture by discussing the importance of networking in today’s world. He noted that networking is not just about making connections with others, but also about building meaningful relationships. Mr. Muniaf stressed that networking can open up new opportunities and lead to personal and professional growth. He also emphasized the importance of maintaining these relationships over time, as they can prove to be invaluable in the future.

Next, Mr. Muniaf shifted his focus to the psychology of social media. He explained that social media platforms are designed to be addictive, using psychological tricks to keep users engaged for longer periods of time. He noted that social media can have both positive and negative



Mr. Lionel Muniaf, a lecturer at Machakos University gives an address

effects on mental health, depending on how it is used. Mr. Muniaf encouraged attendees to be mindful of their social media usage and to prioritize their mental health.

Throughout the lecture, Mr. Muniaf provided practical tips for networking and using social media in a healthy way. He advised attendees to be genuine in their interactions with others, to seek out common ground, and to be intentional in

their social media usage.

After the lecture, attendees had the opportunity to ask Mr. Muniaf questions and engage in discussion. Many participants shared their own experiences with networking and social media, and Mr. Muniaf provided additional insights and advice.

Overall, Mr. Muniaf’s lecture on the power of networking and the psychology of social media was informative and engaging.

World Oral Day Celebrations

Kenyatta University celebrated World Oral Health Day on Monday 20th March, 2023 and Tuesday 21st March 2023.

The celebrations were marked through raising awareness by encouraging various stakeholders to make commitments for promoting good oral health at the local, national and international levels and in this respect, Oral Health Association of Kenya, Smile Changers Foundation and eight dental clinics from surrounding hospitals partnered with the Directorate of Health Unit Services (dental team) to create oral health awareness among the Kenyatta University community.

A total number of 601 members of Kenyatta University community were checked and advised accordingly. Out of the 601 respondents, 283 were pupils from Kenyatta University Primary School while 318 were members of staff, their dependants and students.

According to a research done by dentists around the world, good oral health and hygiene habits helps an individual keep their dental pride even when they get older and it has also been proven that good oral hygiene and dietary habits can achieve and maintain overall physical and emotional well-being throughout life. Oral health is a

key indicator of overall health, well-being and quality of life.

The dental team appreciated the Kenyatta University Management through the Director, Directorate of University Health Services for permission, facilitation and the support accorded and also Oral Health Association of Kenya, Smile Changers Foundation, Caremax Hospital, Neema Hospital, Avenue Hospital, Equity Afia- Githurai, Family Health Dental clinic, St. Francis Health Services- Kahawa Sukari, Ruai Family Hospital (RFH) and Reale Hospital- Utawala for making the celebration a success.

Council of Legal Education visit

The Council of Legal Education (CLE) is a body that assures quality legal education and training through licensing and supervision of legal education providers; administration of the Advocates Training Programme examination and advising the Government on legal education in Kenya.

The three member CLE Audit Team led by Mr. Moses Muchiri visited Parklands Campus on Tuesday, 28th February 2023 at 9.00am for purposes of renewal of license of Kenyatta University Bachelor of Laws Programme.

The team was well received by Prof. Paul Okemo, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) representing the Vice-Chancellor; Prof. Wanjohi Waceke, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic); Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor, (Research, Innovation and Outreach); Prof. Benard Kivunge, Acting Registrar (Academic); Prof. Grace Bunyi, Acting Registrar (Corporate Affairs); Prof. Richard O. Oduor, Acting Registrar (Research, Innovation and Outreach); Mr. Ndiritu Gikaria, Acting Registrar (Administra-



The Council of Legal Education Audit Team led by Mr. Moses Muchiri (centre) Directorate of Quality and Standards and Prof. Benard Kivunge (5th left) Registrar (academic), Dr. Richard Wafula (Executive Dean School of law, arts and social sciences) and other officials after a successful audit meeting of Kenyatta University School of Law .

tion); Mr. Samuel Mwai, Chief Finance Officer; Dr. Richard Wafula, Executive Dean, School of Law, Arts and Social Sciences; Dr. Ratemo Tom, Deputy Executive Dean School of Law, Arts and Social Sciences; Dr. Njoroge Gitau, Chief University Librarian; Dr. Faith Nkuru, Director, Student Affairs; Dr. Hamisi Babusa, Head, Teaching Programmes Section; Mr. Japhet Mukobwa, Head, Senate Affairs; Director

ICT; Coordinator Admissions; Head Examinations Section; and Chief Legal Officer.

Prof. Paul Okemo made welcoming remarks representing the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul Wainaina, followed by brief remarks by the Prof. Waceke Wanjohi and Mr. Moses Muchiri. The presentation of the reviewed LL.B. Programme was made by Dr. Tom Ratemo.

A dentist checking a patient's teeth during the World Oral Health Day.



KU-WEE Hub

Sustainable Women's Economic Empowerment Progress Report



Prof. Judith Waudo during the press brief.

The Kenyatta University Women's Economic Empowerment (KU-WEE) Hub held a breakfast meeting with stakeholders from the public and private sectors to discuss Kenya's progress towards gender equality and women's economic empowerment.

The hybrid event, held jointly with the Institute of Economic Affairs, took place at the Stanley hotel in Nairobi and brought together researchers, government agencies and civil society representatives to take stock of the progress made in the country's journey towards gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. During the event, the KU-WEE Hub leader, Prof. Judith Waudo, emphasized the need to align women's economic empowerment with the

overall economic agenda of the country, adding that the utilization of gender data in the formulation of Women's Economic Empowerment policies and programmes is critical.

Sharing some of the preliminary findings from the Hub's ongoing project, the Project Leader, Dr. Regina Mwatha highlighted that a 10-year gender audit conducted by the Hub indicated that since the promulgation of the 2010 constitution, the proportion of women representation in upper management levels (Q to V) in the public service has been on the ascendancy, albeit insignificantly. In addition, preliminary research on the effectiveness of the Kenya Association of Manufacturers' women-in-manufacturing programme indicates that women

reported limited control over household productive assets, and could not make exclusive decisions about business and household income. "Most women have power in time agency, but with significant variations between those engaged in domestic work and those in income generating activities", said Dr. Mwatha.

Participants noted that data gaps continue to limit efforts to not only track but also quantify the contribution of and girls to the economic growth of countries across the region and world. Speakers also called for advocacy of women's initiatives across all government ministries, departments and agencies, for sustainable women's economic empowerment and gender equality.

Transformative Leadership for women political empowerment



Dr. Ala Isam Eldin Ali Khidir, University of Khartoum addresses participants of Regional Course on Transformative Leadership

The African Centre for Transformative and inclusive Leadership [ACTIL] is able to facilitate women political leaders from different political parties and professors from the University of Khartoum in Sudan on Transformative Leadership as a tool for women Political Empowerment and Transformative Leadership for peace and conflict Management. The event that was held on Friday 31st March, 2023 was to officially open the workshop. Rev. Esther Wainaina, Chaplain Protestant Community graced the event with a word of prayer.

Ag. DVC (Research, Innovation and Outreach) and ACTIL Coordinator, Prof. Caroline Thoruwa welcomed the guests. She added that the vision of Africa expressed in agendas 2063 is one of an Africa that is people driven especially relying on its potential offered by its women and youth. Africa needs leaders with a transformed mindset, driven by purpose and good stewardship in their quest for social and economic development. Several countries have made efforts to institutionalize inclusivity in leadership through constitutional probations, legis-

lations and national policy. As a result, participation of women has been on the rise in most African countries but still needs improvement.

Chairperson, ACTIL Technical Committee, Prof. Judith Waudo after introducing her team of trainers congratulated the women for holding the political seats in their country. She added that the centre was started to train women in leadership, women economic empowerment and business so that they can make an impact in society. "KU is privileged to have the women around so as to help them to improve businesses and all other sectors," she added.

University of Khartoum, Department of Political Science/ UN Women Sudan, Dr. Ala Isam Eldin Ali Khidir said she was grateful to be at Kenyatta University participating in the opening ceremony of the training course. The training course is an opportunity to learn more about transformative leadership and cover some important topics. These topics are of great importance especially in

the relation to the challenges Sudan is facing now during the transition.

Prof. Caroline Thoruwa representing the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul Wainaina welcomed all the women, thanking them for choosing ACTIL to facilitate the training. She added that Africa will not effectively implement Sustainable Development Goals and achieve Agenda 2063, if women and youth remain under-represented and excluded in political leadership and governance. "Lack of heightened commitment from the global community, gender equality will remain nothing more than an unrealized goal," she stated.

ACTIL has to date helped workshops in many African countries that have been drawn from both Anglophone and Francophone countries. She appreciated the delegates for accepting the invitation as ACTIL wouldn't be here without them. Finally, she wished the women a successful training and a pleasant stay at Kenyatta University and Kenya.

KU Overall Winners at 2023 KUSA games

The Kenyatta University sports fraternity has yet again shown their mettle after an outstanding performance at this year's Kenya University Sports Association (KUSA) games held at Meru University on 26th and 27th February 2023 with them emerging as the overall winners of the tournament. This comes immediately after another wonderful display at the Federation of Eastern Africa Sports (FEAUS) Games held at Ndejje University in Uganda from 17th to 21st December 2022.

Out of the 33 universities that took part with 1,420 student-athletes in the sports event, Kenyatta University emerged number one with a total of 16 medals won by the 20 teams presented. The University won six gold medals, five silver medals, and four bronze medals. The gold medalists included the women's Swim-

ming team, women's Tennis team, men's Chess team, men's Scrabble team, women's Rollball team, and men's Taekwondo team. The silver medals were won by the men's Tennis team, women's Woodball team, men's Rollball team, women's Taekwondo team, and men's Karate team. The bronze medals were won by the men's Table Tennis team, women's Scrabble team, men's Darts team, and men's Swimming team.

The continued success on the fields and sports in general is a testament to the University's commitment to not only inspire the students to academic success, but also to discover and nurture sporting and other talents; thus helping each student to become an all rounded individual. According to the Director of Sports and Games, Dr. Florence Gitau, the continued support by the Uni-

versity Management is what has translated the hard work of our athletes into tangible results and, on behalf of the sector, she thanks the management.

The University looks forward to even greater success in the sector in the coming years for the institution to cement its position as a sports power house when it comes to University Games Nationally and even continent wise owing to the fact that the University Football team, the Hardnuts won the Federation of Africa University Games, FASU hosted in Kenyatta University in 2022. The team continues their preparation to represent the continent at the World University Soccer World Cup that will be held in Jinjiang' China from 27th October – 7th November 2023.



KU annual Disability Games



The Academic year 2022-2023 has seen Kenyatta University take part in four major Sports events. They include: Kenya Universities Sports Association Nairobi Conference league games; Kenya Universities Sports Association National Indoor Play Offs; Kenya Universities Sports Association National Women Championships and Disability Awareness Sports Day.

In all the national events, Kenyatta University emerged overall winners. Kenya Universities Sports Association Nairobi Conference Games attracted a total of 13 institutions who competed in 20 different sports disciplines, Kenyatta University took overall top position in Soccer men, soccer women, Handball men, handball women, Volleyball men, volleyball Women, Scrabble men, Scrabble women and Chess men, Table Tennis men, Tennis women; and first runners up in Basketball men, Basketball women and Netball women.

Kenya Universities Sports Association Women's Championships held at Rongo University from 3rd -5th March 2023 was another competition with excellent results from our sportsmen and women.

The championships attracted a total of 1413 participants from 22 different universities in Kenya. Kenyatta University emerged as the best university overall in the Championship winning a total of 13 medals which included six gold, three silver, and four bronze medals won in various disciplines. The University's Volleyball team dominated the competition, winning all group stage matches and eventually clinching the gold medal after a tight match against the University of Nairobi. Additionally, Kenyatta University also won Gold medals in Table tennis, Handball, Swimming, and Hockey. Taekwondo, Netball, Athletics, and Goal ball teams contributed to the university's success by winning silver medals, while Scrabble, Badminton, and Karate teams

won bronze medals.

Finally, the University celebrated annual Disability Awareness Day on the 18th March 2023. This very important event in the university's calendar brought together 200 students who are differently abled and was supported by Kenyatta University and Itel Phone Company.

Our student-athletes enjoyed sports events in various adapted sports disciplines that included; Goal ball M/W (Visually Impaired), Para volley M/W (Physically Impaired), Chess M/W (Physically Impaired & Hearing Impaired), Scrabble M/W (Physically Impaired & Hearing Impaired), Javelin M/W (Physically Impaired, Visually Impaired & Hearing Impaired), Shotput M/W (Physically Impaired, Visually Impaired & Hearing Impaired), Discus M/W (Physically Impaired, Visually Impaired & Hearing Impaired) and Weight powerlifting (Physically Impaired, Visually Impaired & Hearing Impaired).

Kenyatta University's outstanding performance during these events is a testament to the student-athletes' hard work, dedication, and resilience which have brought great honour to the institution. The success we achieved is an indication of our commitment to promoting sports excellence among our students. I would like to thank the university management for their continued support of our sports teams. I look forward to even more remarkable achievements in future games as we continue to nurture and develop our student-athletes.



student-athletes participating in a Para volleyball game



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