



Kenyatta 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.

KU POST-MODERN LIBRARY OFFICIALLY OPENED



H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki, the President of the Republic of Kenya, unveils the plaque during the official opening of the Post-Modern Library

H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki, the President of the Republic of Kenya, officially opened the Kenyatta University Post Modern Library on the 7th of October 2011. On the same day, he commissioned the construction of the proposed Kenyatta University Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital.

"It is indeed commendable that this will be the first University Teaching Hospital in Kenya and in Eastern and Central Africa to be developed and fully owned by a public university. I would like to thank the Government of the People's

Republic of China, which has provided financial support to the tune of 10 billion shillings for the hospital project. I trust that the project will be implemented in a professional manner and will be a source of great pride to both Kenya and China", said H.E. the President.

He congratulated the Chancellor, the University Council and the management of the University for providing the necessary leadership which made it possible for the two projects to be initiated. *"The projects will go a long way in contributing to the achievement of academic excellence at Kenyatta University,"* he added.

H.E. Hon. (Dr.) Kalonzo Musyoka, Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs, who also graced the occasion, noted the completion of the hospital project, would promote medical tourism. He further noted that Kenya will become a hub for medicine and research to be able to compete effectively with the very best in medicine such as India.

The Chinese Ambassador, H.E. Amb. Liu Guangyan congratulated the University on the big stride taken in proposing to build a referral hospital. He spoke of the mutually beneficial co-operation between

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Dr. Juan Ramón de la Fuente,
President IAU

Kenyatta University Hosts the IAU Conference

Kenyatta University will be hosting this year's three-day IAU conference at the Safari Park Hotel in Nairobi on the 16th of November 2011. This is the second time the conference will be held in Africa in a period of 10 years. Approximately three hundred (300) delegates will converge to confer on the theme of the conference: **Strategies for Securing Equity in Access and Success in Higher Education.**

A well-educated citizenry is the foundation of social equity, cohesion and successful participation in the global knowledge economy. As a result, most countries have set goals to increase the share of the population with higher education and/or broaden access to higher education for individuals that are under-represented because of socio-economic status, race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, [dis]ability or location.

As a general rule, countries with low rates of participation in higher education seek to expand access by increasing the number of opportunities available while those countries that have already achieved a significant level of participation in higher education tend to focus on broadening access so as to include more individuals from under-represented groups. There are many reasons why some countries may focus on one aspect rather than the other or why some countries feel the need to meet both challenges simultaneously. Over time, however, paying attention to both is becoming important for all.

As a global association of universities and other higher education institutions, the International Association of Universities (IAU) is committed to promoting the twin goals of equitable access to, and successful

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Editorial

On the 7th of October we were honoured with a visit from the President of the Republic, H.E. the Hon. Mwai Kibaki. The occasion was double-billed: opening of our brand new Post-Modern library and the ground-breaking for the upcoming Teaching and Referral Hospital – highly significant milestones in the development of Kenyatta University towards full-fledged world-class status.

And to further KU's inexorable impetus on this trajectory, the University is hosting the 11th International Association of Universities Conference at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi. More than 300 delegates have already registered to participate in the deliberations with the theme "Strategies for Securing Equity in Access and Success in Higher Education."

It is only fitting that KU should play host for this particular conference since a unique characteristic of this University is having broadened the base to the admission of students: KU has the largest population of students with disabilities and has a limited bursary scheme for students who cannot afford fees- thus facilitating success.

Elsewhere in these pages, readers' attention is drawn to the increasing congestion on the pathways and roads on campus. Pedestrians are kindly requested to show sensitivity for others by not causing human traffic jams. In other words, when you are walking or stopping to chat on the way be aware that there are other road users. Other pedestrians perversely avoid available footpaths and nonchalantly block motor vehicles. Remember, the driver may see you, but his brakes can and sometimes fail – in a clash between flesh and metal, the result is obvious. Lastly, especially for those sitting for examinations, read Sister Nganda's article on "Cheating in examinations."

Good luck in all your endeavours.

David V. Karanja
Editor

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his country, China and Kenya that has seen the China government fund a lot of infrastructural projects such as the Kenyatta University Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital. "I am delighted to see that the Moi International Sports Centre and the airport highway, with assistance from Chinese among many other projects, have become the tokens of friendship between our two countries".

Hon. Beth Mugo, the Minister for Public Health and Sanitation, noted that the Kenyatta University Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital, will bring hope to our people especially with the establishment of the Cancer Unit. "The official opening of the Post-Modern Library and the Ground Breaking ceremony for the proposed Kenyatta University Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital are historical because Kenyatta University has become the first public university in our nation to start a teaching, research and referral hospital wholly owned by a university", said Hon. Margaret Kamar, Minister for Higher Education Science and Technology.

Hon. Kamar also congratulated the Kenyatta University for proposing to dedicate a special part of the library for permanent collections of H.E. President Mwai Kibaki's contribution to the politics, economics and development of Kenya. Speaking during the occasion, the

An Aerial View of the Kenyatta University Teaching, Research & Referral Hospital



Chancellor Kenyatta University, Justice (Rtd.) Prof. Onesimus Mutungi said that the Post-Modern Library and the Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital are significant milestones for the University and that the twin projects confirm the University's commitment to be the leading University in the country and the East Africa region.

The Chairman of Council, Mr. Benson Wairegi, urged the government to help the University install various items in the Post-modern Library to make it more efficient. The items include the closed-circuit television (CCTV), additional books, computers and the Radio-frequency identification (RFID) technology which is highly advantageous in the inventory tracking of books and the circulation of library resources.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, said that the official

opening of the Post-Modern Library and the Ground Breaking Ceremony of the proposed Hospital mark the culmination of a long process and hence, a dream come true.

Prof. Mugenda acknowledged the efforts of those who dreamed the dream of developing the University through the development of a Strategic and Vision Plan which has guided many projects and the architects, designers, engineers, construction workers, managers and many others who have turned those hopes into tangible reality. She thanked the government for supporting the hospital proposal and for arguing the case to the Government of China for the financial support, the University Council and Management, members of staff and students for their encouragement.

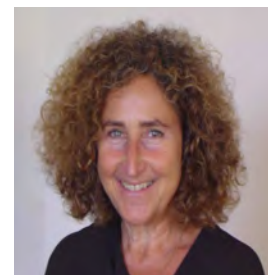
Kenyatta University Hosts the IAU Conference

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participation in higher education for all members of society. The IAU believes that equitable access to quality learning contributes significantly to the development of national human resources, promotes social justice and cohesion, enhances personal development, employability and, in general, facilitates sustainable development. The Association urges higher education institutions and government decision-makers at all levels to adopt the following principles and recommendations on equitable access and successful participation in higher education and to act, with some urgency, on their implementation.

Equitable access and broadening participation in higher education are fundamental to "knowledge societies" in all parts of the world. The International Association of Universities calls for all stakeholder groups, especially governments and higher education institutions, to act on the promise and potential of these principles and recommendations. Only robust and collective action, based on ongoing research, data analysis and the systematic monitoring of progress, will help achieve these goals. Access and participation in higher education are essential for the empowerment of all, especially those often excluded.

The economic, historical and cultural context that couches higher education policies is of utmost importance in this area. Equally central in designing strategies for equitable access and success are such matters as the demographic make-up of the population in terms of ethnicity, languages, race and age. Furthermore, achieving the goals of equity in access and success requires the full participation of all higher education stakeholders – leadership, faculty members, staff and students. Thus speakers and presenters were identified carefully to ensure wide representation and broad expertise.



Eva-Egron-Polak
Secretary General IAU



Prof. Fatuma Chege
Chairperson, Organising
Committee

The Project will go a long way in contributing to the achievement of academic excellence at Kenyatta University"

H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki
President Republic of Kenya

Biomedical Engineering Programme to be Launched in KU



Dr. Victor Konde (Centre Left) during a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor

initiate BME in Universities in Africa and that the University of Nairobi and the University of Zambia have been selected to participate in pilot programme to be sponsored by the Korean government. He said that the initiative came about following the lack of adequate medical personnel and medical devices in hospitals in Africa hence UNECA is ready to address these issues through capacity building and training of medical technicians.

Dr. Ethel Monda who is a member of the UNECA's Technology Transfer and Development Committee and currently the Deputy Director, Intellectual Property Rights Unit at KU urged UNECA to include Kenyatta University in the programme. Dr. Konde held various talks with the Deans, School of Health Sciences and Engineering and Technology who are in the process of developing the relevant curriculum for the programme to include Diploma up to masters level to be housed under the School of Engineering and Technology.

Plans are under way to have the Biomedical Engineering Programme (BME) launched in Kenyatta University following discussions with senior officers of the United Nation Economic Commission for

Africa (UNECA). Speaking during a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor held on 12th October 2011, Dr. Victor Konde, the UNECA's Scientific Affairs Officer said that UNECA have a project to

VC Honoured during Mashujaa Day Celebrations

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, is one of the heroes and heroines recognized on the Mashujaa Day. In a letter to Prof Mugenda, the PS, Ministry of State for National Heritage and Culture stated thus, "You were nominated as one of our national heroines for your impressive record of quality leadership that has improved education standards in this country and for being a role model for Kenyan women". The heroes and heroines were categorised under different domains and the process of identifying the heroes and heroines was initiated from the grassroots as well as the national level. The event to honour

the heroes and heroines took place at Nyayo National Stadium and presided over by H.E President Mwai Kibaki.

The recognition came hot in the heels of another award to Prof. Mugenda from Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT). The Union recognised her exemplary leadership as the 1st Woman Vice-Chancellor in a public university in Kenya. It was given to her on 5th of October 2011 during the Word's Teachers Day celebration at Uhuru Park, Nairobi. The Newsletter editorial board congratulates Prof. Mugenda on the awards.



H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki, President of the Republic of Kenya, congratulates Prof. Mugenda for the award

Apply for Grants', Urges Dr. Yvonne Njage

Dr. Yvonne Njage, the Programme Officer at the National Institutes of Health/Fogarty International Center, has urged faculty members at the University to apply for research grants which the NIC /FIC programme is ready to offer. During her recent courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Njage said that the National Institutes of Health/Fogarty International Center has benefited various Kenyatta University students undertaking masters and Ph.D Degrees from the departments of Biochemistry and Biotechnology and Zoological Sciences by providing grants to undertake their research work and are in the process of announcing more research grants.

Dr. Yvonne Njage receives a souvenir from Prof. P.K. Wainaina, when she paid a Courtesy call on the Vice-chancellor.



Set up centres of excellence in Mathematics to help improve performance in the subject."

**Prof. Olive Mugenda, Vice-Chancellor
Kenyatta University**

FOCUS

ON STUDENTS

'Aim Higher', VC Urges Students

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda has advised students from Shalom Girls Training College to aim higher in their quest for knowledge. The Vice-Chancellor was speaking during the 45th Anniversary of the PCEA Shalom Girls Training College on Saturday 8th October 2011.

'You need to come up with a personal strategic plan for your studies and stay out of trouble by avoiding distractions', added the Vice-Chancellor.

Further, the Vice-Chancellor congratulated Shalom Girls Training College management for the commendable job of educating girls, noting that when more women are educated, it impacts positively on the growth of the country's economy. She also encouraged more girls to take science-based subjects and in essence increase university enrolment in Science and Technology.



The Vice-Chancellor is welcomed by the students of Shalom Girls Training college. Looking on is Rev. D. R. Gathanja and Chairlady of the Guild, P. W. Karanja

Pedestrian Traffic Jams



Students walking on the lawn due to students idling on the footpath

Finding groups of students standing on a footpath or on the road chatting away is not a myth. The increase in student population is probably a reason for this but most students don't realise what they are doing. A path is for people to walk on. When it is blocked, one may be needed to go around it or simply ask the people on the path to let them go through. It's a nightmare

for cars because they have to honk for the 'blockers' to give them way but once the car has passed, they go back to their former position.

Let's use the paths and roads for their original purpose. There are seats all over, for people to sit and talk. I hear grass makes a soft cushion. So when someone tells you "Excuse me," or honks at you, it's probably because you are standing in the way.

Congratulatory Messages from KUSA

The Kenyatta University, Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital scores another first for this great institution. It is actually a dream come true! It provides an opportunity for Kenyans to access quality and affordable medical care and most notably the contribution of Kenyatta University in terms of solving societal challenges. The entire student community is proud of this remarkable achievement and it is my sincere hope that fellow students and staff in the field of health sciences will take full advantage of this project. "My heartfelt appreciation goes to the entire team that has made this dream a reality", Antony Akoto, KUSA, President.

Bravo! The Post-Modern Library is a marvelous piece of work. I hold my breath in admiration for this magnificent addition to KU's landscape. It is not only the largest, but the most equipped and all inclusive as it also caters for the students with special needs. It gives the students community a deep sense of pride and a better opportunity for academic excellence and quality research. We must press forward and cement our position as the University of choice in Africa. (Shipeta Mathias, Academic Secretary, KUSA)

'Get Googling!'

The Google Ambassadors, Thomas Oweri and John Nderitu, held a training event at the students computer centre on 12th October 2011, where after the session, they realised both old and new students have not fully exploited the functions of Google and Gmail applications for students. The Google Student Ambassador is a programme for students to act as liaisons between Google and the Universities. The students were trained for a week on Google products and applications

and given insights on Google future products. The two students were selected as Google Student Ambassadors earlier this year and are to hold the position for one year (2011-2012). The criteria for selection included technology and student influence. The student ambassadors work closely with Google teams to organize events and raise awareness among students about the opportunities found on Google. It is with this mandate that the two organised a training event for their fellow students.

"My heartfelt appreciation goes to the entire team that has made this dream a reality", Antony Akoto, KUSA, President.

Prof. Olive Mugenda, VC



FOCUS ON STUDENTS CONTINUED

AIESEC Kenyatta University

AIESEC Kenyatta University has had two recruitments this year, one in May and the other in September to cater for both intakes. Potential AIESECers went through a rigorous process with info-sessions, interviews and pre-induction seminars. The purpose of this process is to ensure that only committed and dedicated people join the Local Chapter. Anyone can be a member of AIESEC KU, as long as they are students of the university and show commitment, dedication and interest.

AIESEC has a template of portfolios replicated globally. These portfolios are Talent Management (TM), Finance and Administration (FnA), Incoming Exchange (ICX), Outgoing Exchange (OGX), Cooperate Relations (CR), Information



AIESEC experts in the studio during the "Meet the Experts" show

management and Communication (IM) and Projects. To gain an all-round experience, members are encouraged to join teams within each portfolio and participate in events and activities:

- 19th October-Alumni Edition Member Seminar Series (MSS) was attended by over 14 former AIESEC KU leaders. They shared their AIESEC and post-AIESEC experiences with the audience which included AIESECers from different local

chapters such as JKUAT, USIU, KCA, Daystar and UoN.

- 17th of November - Leadership and Entrepreneurship Day.
- This event is to promote various technological advancements in all sectors of life. Tune in to KU 99.9 FM every Tuesday 6-8 p.m to learn more about AIESEC and the different portfolios, activities, events and opportunities on 'Meet the Experts'.

The Psychology of Academic Cheating

Academic cheating is extremely common in educational institutions. Cheating undermines the use of assessment data as both indicators of student learning, and a source of feedback to teachers for instructional planning.

Although cheating appears to increase as students move through lower to higher school system, no age group is exempted from acts of academic dishonesty. For example, research indicates that cheating occurs among elementary school children (Kanfer & Duerfeldt, 1968), in middle and high school by adolescents (Anderman, Griessinger, & Westerfield, 1998) and as late as college (Newstend & Armstead, 1996) and even graduate school (Baldwin, Rowley & Schwarz, 1996).

Surprisingly, most individuals associate cheating

with students, but research indicates that educators may also become involved in forms of cheating, in order to bolster their students' scores in high-stakes assessment systems (Kanfer & Staiger, 2002). Indeed academic cheating can be viewed from a number of disciplinary and theoretical perspectives. Notably, academic cheating has been studied from the domains of education (Cizek, 1999), Sociology (Black, 1962), Philosophy (Green, 2004), and Economics (Kerkuliet, 1994).

Whereas each of the above vantages offers something in terms of understanding how and why cheating occurs, in the final analysis, when individuals engage in any type of cheating behavior, they are making the decision to engage in that behavior. This decision, which occurs within the mind of the individual, is inherently psychological in nature.

It is to be acknowledged that cheating on academic work involves a diverse array of psychological phenomena, including learning, development, and motivation. These phenomena form the core of the field of educational psychology.

From the perspective of learning, cheating is a strategy that serves a cognitive short-cut. Whereas effective learning often involves the use of complex self-regulatory and cognitive strategy,

cheating precludes the need to use such strategies. Thus students may choose to cheat either because they do not know how to use effective learning strategies or simply because they do not want to invest the time in using such strategies.

From a developmental perspective, learners report many different reasons for engaging in academic cheating. Some students cheat because they are highly focused on extrinsic outcomes such as grades; others because they are concerned with maintaining a certain image to themselves or to their peers, still others cheat because they lack the requisite self-efficacy to engage in complex tasks or because of the types of attributions they have developed. It is therefore, important to spend quality time and resources researching and reporting on various psychological factors that influence academic cheating. Only by understanding whatever influences the psychological causes of cheating can any educational institution manage to put the appropriate intervention strategies in place. Needless to say, such components as: The Anatomy of Cheating; Achievement Motivation and Cheating; Moral and Social Motivations for Dishonesty; and Prevention and Detection of Cheating must be viewed as having a role to play in students' academic cheating.

Appreciation

The University management expresses appreciation to all teaching and non-teaching members of staff for heeding the appeal to resume duty and call off the industrial action. This is important, given that the industrial court

ruled that the strike was illegal. The University management extends special commendation to the student's body for remaining calm and patient as the management made the effort to ensure continued service delivery.

Our appeal is for the teaching members of staff to take the necessary steps to make up for lost time to enable the students sit for the end of semester exams as scheduled.



When individuals engage in any type of cheating behavior, they are making the decision to engage in that behavior.

Sr. S. Nganda, KU Wellness



Official Opening of The Post-Mordern Library by the President, H.E. Hon Mwai Kibaki

Picture Speak



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda commissions the new KUSA bus



H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki, President of the Republic of Kenya, being welcomed by Hon. Beth Mugo, Minister for Public Health and Sanitation. (Looking on), H.E. Hon. Kalonzo Musyoka, Vice-President and Hon. Prof. Margaret Kamar, Minister for Higher Education, Science and Technology



H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki, President of the Republic of Kenya, cuts the ribbon at the Post-Modern Library as the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda and the Vice-President, H.E. Hon. Kalonzo Musyoka look on.



H.E. Hon. Liu Guangyuan, Ambassador of the Peoples Republic of China, addresses the congregation at the Graduation Square



The President, H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki, The Vice-President, H.E. Hon. Kalonzo Musyoka among other distinguished guests look on as a student explains about the facilities at the Post Modern Library



H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki, President of the Republic of Kenya, flags off the truck shovel escalator during the ground breaking ceremony of the proposed Teaching, Research & Referral Hospital



Picture Speak



Dr. Charles Nyachae, Chairman Commission for Implementation of the Constitution addresses the participants during the launch career week held recently



Prof. P. K. Wainaina presents Hon. Peter Kenneth M.P., Assistant Minister, Ministry of State for Planning, National Development and Vision 2030 with a gift during the launch of Global Entrepreneurship Week on 2nd November 2011



Prof. Olive Mugenda, VC, S. K. Macharia, Royal Media Services Chairman, and The Venezuela Ambassador to Kenya follow proceedings during the recently held Culture Week



Kenyatta University Boys Choir performs during the Culture Week Gospel Extravaganza held on 23rd October 2011 at the Bishop square



Dr. Martin Oduor-Otieno addresses guests during the Culture Week Grand Finale held at KICC on 30th October



Prof. Olive Mugenda, VC, poses with artists, amongst them Erick Omondi, as the DVC (Administration), Prof. P. K. Wainaina, looks on.



Research Updates

KU Scholar Earns Award in Addis

Dr. Richard Okoth Oduor of the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology was recently recognized as the Best Oral Presenter in the just concluded 4th African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation (ANDI) Conference, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 24th to 27th October 2011. Dr. Oduor's paper 'High-throughput screening to identify novel anti-trypanosomal leads targeting glycogen synthase kinase 3 of *Trypanosoma brucei*', was categorized under Product Discovery and Development and focused on Hit to Leads Optimization to discover new drugs for Human African

Trypanosomiasis commonly known as Sleeping Sickness.

ANDI was launched in Abuja in 2008 and seeks to promote and sustain African-led health product innovation to address African public health needs through efficient use of local knowledge, assembly of research networks, and building of capacity to support economic development. The conference brought together over 500 key medical researchers and Pharmaceutical Companies from Africa and beyond.

The Kenyatta University Newsletter Editorial Board congratulates Dr. Oduor for this achievement.



Dr. Richard Oduor with members of the award committee in Abuja, Nigeria

EU-ACP Cooperation in Higher Education Germany / African Networking Seminar



H.E. Margit Hellwig-Bötte, the German Ambassador to Kenya addresses the delegates

Kenyatta University hosted a EU-ACP Cooperation in Higher Education German/African Networking seminar which was held at Kenyatta University Conference Centre from 6th to 7th October 2011. The seminar was supported by the German Government through DAAD. The conference attracted participants from Germany, Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya among others.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, who was represented by Dr. Tom Kimani, the acting DVC (Academic) welcomed the participants to the University and assured them of the University's support throughout the seminar. The Guest speaker was Her

Excellency, Margit Hellwig-Bötte, the Ambassador of Germany to Kenya. Other distinguished participants included the Lodewijk Briet who led the delegation of the European Union to Kenya. Others were, Nina Salden, DAAD, Bonn- Head of Unit 604, and Tempus/Erasmus Mundus/EU-Third Country Cooperation, Christoph Hansert-Director of the DAAD Regional Office for Africa.

The seminar addressed the promotion of programmes offered by European Union: EDULINK, ACP Science and Technology programmes and Erasmus Mundus.

CTA Stakeholders' Conference Held

The international conference for East African Cotton, Textile and Apparel (CTA) stakeholders was officially opened by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda at the North Coast Beach Hotel on 2nd of November 2011. The focus of the conference was revival of cotton, textile and apparel sector in East Africa. It was attended by delegates from over 25 countries around the globe. Kenyatta University, through the department of Fashion, Design and Marketing, partnered with African Cotton and textile Industries Federation (ACTIF), the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) and the National Council for Science and Technology (NCST) for the conference to organise the conference. The conference called for closer cooperation

between the private sector, the government and development partners in order to enhance the sector capacity to create wealth. Speaking at the conference, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda said that the sector was not performing to its full potential due to lack of new investments to upgrade technology. She called upon the stakeholders to embrace research and view policies to address the challenges the sector faces. The unique aspect of this conference was the engagement of world known consultants, who will spend the next six months following up the outcomes of the conference with a policy paper to the government. The conference ended with the launch of DANIDA, a funded project on capacity building.



Dr. Isabella Wandaka, Chairperson Department of Fashion and Design addresses the delegates during the CTA Conference

Campus Round-Up

Nakuru Campus

The Vice-Chancellor Meets Nakuru County Stakeholders.

In a function dubbed "Climbing down from an Ivory Tower", by Kenyatta University with the Chief Guest as Hon. Lee Kinyanjui, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda hosted the first ever stakeholders' dinner in Nakuru. The guests drawn from the Political circles, Senior Provincial Administrator, Senior Educational Officers, representatives from the private sector gathered at a Nakuru Hotel on the evening of the 30th day of September, 2011. The hall was packed to capacity as KU band rolled out the "zilizopendwa" music genre. Prof. James K.Gatoto, Director Kenyatta University Nakuru Campus and Dr. Edward Kigen, the Management Board Chairperson of Nakuru campus ensured that every detail to make the function splendid was well catered for.

The Vice-Chancellor invited the stakeholders to partner with Kenyatta University for the development of Nakuru County and thanked the Director, Nakuru Campus for the initiative.

The Chief Guest acknowledged the tremendous growth KU has undergone in the recent past under the leadership of Prof. Mugenda. Hon. Kinyanjui noted that the last five years, Kenyatta University has erected new buildings, renovated old infrastructure and greened the lawns, something that has made the institution more conducive to academic endeavours. He added that the establishment of Kenyatta University – Nakuru Campus is a welcome development because it has brought education closer to the people and this will help in transforming not only the Nakuru County but the greater Rift Valley Region.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda with Hon. Lee Kinyanjui, during the stakeholders dinner

Nyeri Campus

Nyeri Campus in the lead in Fighting Deforestation.

The Students of Nyeri Campus collectively with the Nyeri County College and University students Association NCCUSA, headed out to the Abardare forests on 1st Oct 2011, on a tree planting mission as a tribute to the Late Nobel Peace Laureate Prof. Wangari Maathai. The team planted over 300 trees, with an exclusion of 71 trees which were jointly planted to signify the number of years the late Professor lived.



Nyeri Campus students plants trees

B.Ed. Class

The new programme for Bachelor of Education (Arts) has started in earnest. The campus currently runs the Full time programme, and the numbers are promising. In her welcoming Speech to the First years, The Acting Director, Professor Wangari Mwai congratulated the students for choosing K.U.



The acting Prof. Wangari Mwai addresses the students

Learning made Easier

Nyeri campus boasts a well-stocked library with over 1,400 books for the various disciplines and for General reading. The library is also stocked with computers for research purposes. This has been a great boost to the Campus since learning has been made easier. The Campus also has an adequately stocked Computer laboratory.

RUIRU CAMPUS

Registration for continuing students was carried out from 5th to 7th of September 2011, which marked the start of the first semester 2011/2012 academic year. The continuing students were glad to have done their registration in the campus this semester just as the Vice-Chancellor had promised earlier on this year when she visited the campus. Later on the 19th of September 2011 saw the campus open its gates to the fresher's who were excited to mark a progressive step in their life by joining an institution of higher learning. The fresher's joined their counterparts in main campus for the orientation and matriculation ceremony during their first week of reporting. Classes started on 26th September. As the semester continues the campus is organizing an inter-years sports competition which is scheduled to be on 15th October 2011 amongst other semester activities.

EMBU CAMPUS OPENED

Kenyatta University started offering its University programmes in the Embu Region (Eastern and parts of Central Provinces) in 2003. This was through its Open, Distance and e-learning (Odel) mode of study. The Region's demand for other modes of study i.e full time, part time and Institutional Based led to the establishment of Embu campus in July 2011. The campus is located in the Embu Central Business District along Mutero road in Ghayshyam building. The current Odel student and prospective students are very happy with this location. The building has four floors. Currently, Odel programmes are using the facility with a student population of 261, 178 undergraduate, 23 diploma and 60 in the postgraduate programmes. The campus projects to enrol its first year students in the FULL-TIME , PART TIME AND INSTITUTIONAL BASED Programmes in January and April 2012 respectively.

Culture Week Grand Finale



Dr. Martin Oduor-Otieno is assisted by the VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda to cut the cake to commemorate the Culture Week Grand Finale



The VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda poses with the incoming Mr. & Miss KU, and the runners up.



Creative Ministry Group Entertains guests at the Bishop Square during the Gospel Extravaganza

Culture Week 2011 Gospel Extravaganza

Pastor Robert Ayonga, the Seventh Day Adventist Chaplain, University of Nairobi advised Kenyatta University to keep hope alive, noting that it was commendable that the University puts God first in its activities. Pastor Ayonga was addressing the University as the Chief Guest during the Culture Week 2011, Gospel Extravaganza on Sunday 23rd October 2011 at the Bishops Square.

The Chief Guest said that there was no better way to start a major event at Kenyatta University such as Culture Week than to worship

and honour God through the Gospel Extravaganza. He further noted that apart from helping young people to understand their culture, Culture Week would promote an understanding of culture and society. This would go a long way in promoting understanding and peaceful coexistence in the community and the country at large.

'Today's performances have been good and remarkable, and I hope everyone will go home fulfilled after worshipping God', added Pastor Ayonga.

The Grand Finale for the Culture Week 2011 was held at the KICC on 30th, October, 2011. Hordes of students, invited guests and interested parties fill the hall for the Sunday entertainment. The event Guest of Honour was Dr. Martin Oduor-Otieno, KCB CEO. The entertainment came in various categories. Kitui Campus showcased a Kamba traditional dance while Triple E presented a Swahili choral verse called *Ndizi Mbogoya*. Maria's C Primary School was wildly cheered for their dance titled *Nalifuka Tamina* dance. The age of the dancers (12-15 years) accompanied by the vigorous shaking of their waists had even the Vice-Chancellor wowed. The MC crowned their dance by giving a pen to the best dancer in the group.

Valary Ndeizi's melodious voice cautioned us to be peaceful now and during next year's elections. At a time when Kenya is undergoing various hardships, the song was timely and precise. Ndumberi Girls Secondary was at hand to present the Kikuyu culture with a song sung by young girls advising each other on life issues. Guest performers, Loise Kim among others had the crowd on their feet, dancing to their tunes. The showstopper was Size 8 with her song, *Moto* which got Prof Mugenda on her feet and on stage waving her flag along with the crowd.

An Alumni of Kenyatta University and former Culture Week performer, Kiari John, was on hand to represent his former college mates. He gave tribute to his former college mates and Culture Week partners including Janet Kanini, Caroline Nderitu, Moses Ochieng (Mudomo baggy) and Peter Kaimenyi (Kajairo). His special tribute went to Walter Mungare, his partner in Reddykyulus and Tony Njuguna, the man who believed in them and backed them up all the way. He thanked the Vice-chancellor

specifically for giving him and his group, Ridiculous, the backing and moral support to perform at a time when the political environment frowned upon some of their comedy.

The Vice-Chancellor, thanked the audience for creating the time on a Sunday afternoon to come for the function. Her pride was that most of the leading artists in Kenya were nurtured at Kenyatta University Culture Week. She noted that Culture Week sharpens the skills of the artists and prepares them for the national stage in the field of Arts.

"Kenyatta University has consistently held this unique cultural event every year for the last twenty years during which time we have been able to display some of the finest talents in creative and performance arts. The University recently got a grant from the Chinese Government to build a Language and Culture Centre for housing local regional and international cultures. This will become a centre for the diverse African cultures," she added. She thanked the planning committee led by Prof. Nyakiti and the performing artists and wished them the best in developing their talents.

Kenya Commercial Bank CEO, Dr. Martin Oduor-Otieno, said he was honoured by the invitation and congratulated the Vice-Chancellor and the management of Kenyatta University for showcasing Culture. He advised the students to give their all in everything they do like the Ugandan Maria's C primary school who danced with all the energy they had. He urged them to appreciate the values of culture and said that Culture Week makes it possible for everyone to do just that. He quoted the Senegalese, Baba Dioum, "In the end, we will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand, and we will understand only what we are taught."



Mr. David Mulwa, is presented with the trophy for Lifetime Award during the Kalasha Awards

Mulwa Honoured

Mr. David Mulwa, of the Department of Theatre Arts and Films Technology received a Lifetime Award during the Kalasha Awards that took place on 30th of September at the Carnivore. This award is given to persons who have contributed extensively to the Film industry over a long period of time. Mr. Mulwa has offered exemplary service to the local and international literary, television and film

works. He has acted in *The Married Bachelor*, *Clean Hands*, *The pot of gold*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Aminata* among others. He has also directed *Animal Farm*, *Dedan Kimathi*, *The Married Bachelor* among many more. He has been invited to act in international films such as *To walk with lions*, *Born Free* and *the Jesus Film* (the African version). The editorial board congratulates Mr. Mulwa for this achievement.

Appointments



Dr. James G. M. Muriithi, has been appointed Chairman, Department of Pathology.



Dr. Grace N. Wamue, has been appointed Chairman, Department of Gender and Development Studies



Prof. Leonard M. Kisovi, has been appointed Chairman, Department of Geography



Dr. Moses P.H. Gathaara, has been appointed Chairman, Department of Plant and Microbial Sciences



Ms. Gladys Kimutai, has been appointed Chairman, Department of Management Science



Dr. Andanje Mwisukha, has been appointed Ag. Dean School of Applied Human Sciences



Mr. Paul K. Sang, has been appointed Acting Associate Dean, School of Business



Prof. Edwin K. Wamukoya, has been appointed Director, Ruiru Campus

Bereavement



Mr. James N. Kinuthia

The University Community regrets the sudden demise of Mr. James Ndung'u Kinuthia after a tragic road accident on 25th October 2011. Until his death, the late Mr. Kinuthia was an accountant in the Finance Department. Mr. Kinuthia joined Kenyatta University in 1997 as an accountant and has worked in several sections within the Finance Department. He was laid to rest on 2nd November 2011 at Gatanga location, Ithangari village



Mr. Patrick M. Othim

The University has learnt with profound sorrow the death of Mr. Patrick M. Othim which occurred on 12th October 2011 after a short illness. Until his demise, the late Mr. Othim was a Messenger in the Department of Music and Dance. He was laid to rest on 29th October 2011 at South East Alego Location, Masumbi Sub-Location, Masumbi Thim Village.



Mr. Robert O. Okunyanyi

The University has learnt with sadness the demise of Mr. Robert O. Okunyanyi a Security Supervisor under the Security Department which occurred on 8th October 2011 after a tragic road accident along Thika Road. He was laid to rest on 22nd October 2011 at his rural home in Western Province.

Mrs. Judith Ombok of the Directorate Catering Services lost her husband Mr. Gilbert Ombok Oboge on 24th October 2011. The late Mr. Ombok was laid to rest on 6th November 2011 at Nyahera/Dagothim Village in Kisumu.

The Vice-Chancellor sends heartfelt condolences the bereaved families on her behalf and that of the University Community

Sports

Culture week results 2011 Results

The Culture Week sports competition was a Kenyatta University intercampus affair: 6 KU campuses (Main, Ruiru, Parklands, City, Kitui and Mombasa) competed against each other in 11 sports disciplines for both men and women. Out of which, Main Campus emerged overall winners after clinching top position in 17 events (badminton M&W, basketball W, chess, Soccer M, handball M & W, Rugby M, scrabble, table tennis M & W, Tennis

M & W, volleyball M & W and Handball both M&W). Ruiru came in second with one top position in Basketball men, and 2nd position in Badminton M & W, basketball W, chess, handball M&W, Scabble, table tennis M&W, tennis M, volleyball M&W and netball M&W).

Parklands, Kitui and City managed 2nd place in Tennis Women, Rugby men, and soccer Men respectively.

Boxing and body building were also among other competitions that took place early in the week. In Boxing, Sheldon Mutei won in the heavyweight category while in bodybuilding, Kevin Arucho was crowned Mr. KU and Mr. culture week. The highlight match of the event was basketball finals between Main campus and Ruiru campus. Ruiru campus emerged winner for the first time in culture week history by beating main campus with one score (29-28) after the final whistle.

Under His Wings

Spiritual Lines

David in the book of Psalms, indicates his image as being shattered under the wings of God.

God shelters and covers our sins. The garments of David in a spiritual sense were priestly as well as kingly, he was the head of Israel's theocracy too. This story is found in the book of Psalms 32 and 51. At the pinnacle of his greatness, David faces his fiercest battle.

One small stone and down falls a giant. One small glance and down falls a king. David did many things to 'cover' his sin of adultery and exposure. The awful reality of sin is that of committing one sin without confessing and forsaking it, therefore leads to committing other heinous sins in order to hide the previous offence.

David committed adultery and murder under the cloak of kingly power. When we humbly confess our sins, and seek God's restoring grace, we are hidden under God's wings very safely.

God does not overlook sin. Confession alone is incomplete without repentance, we must not only be sorry for our sins, we must turn away from them in God's power. God can forgive and cover all our sins, forgive and accepts the repentant sinners.

BY GEORGE MONAYO

Wisdom



“Philosophers will praise war as ennobling mankind, forgetting the Greek who said: 'War is bad in that it begets more evil than it kills'”

Immanuel Kant (German pronunciation: 22 April 1724 – 12 February 1804) was a German philosopher from Königsberg (today Kaliningrad of Russia), researching, lecturing and writing on philosophy and anthropology at the end of the 18th Century Enlightenment. At the time, there were major successes and advances in the sciences (for example, Isaac Newton, Carl Friedrich Gauss, and Robert Boyle) using reason and logic. But this stood in sharp contrast to the skepticism and lack of agreement or progress in empiricist philosophy. Kant's magnum opus, the Critique of Pure Reason (Kritik der reinen Vernunft, 1781), aimed to unite reason with experience to move beyond what he took to be failures of traditional philosophy and metaphysics.

A New World

Poem

A new world
Of possibilities and beyond
World drawn on pages
Well laid out by words,
Formulas
Colors of the new world
Splashed by numerous adjectives
As pages are turned in the library

A new world
Of chances and beyond
A world built on hope
Great service and more chances
As doctors breathe out hope
Giving treatment to sick souls
And bodies too
Smiles shared by nurses
Patients sigh happily
As they walk away

A new world
Of increased thoughts of progress
As the intellect is tickled
By thousands of words in books
And lifetimes of experience
As knowledge rules our thoughts
And creativity gives us power
No knowledge is as powerful
As knowledge put to use

A new world
Increases chances
Of infusing knowledge
In all disciplines
To shove humanity
In the right direction
Of a better world.

Editorial Board: Margaret Otolu (Member), Janet Muthimi (Member), Grace Muchiri (Member), Erica Mwololo (Member), Isaac Mwangi (Member), Mercy N. Kanyo (Member), Atika Manani (Member), Rose Maingi (Member), Kevin Ouko (Design & Layout), James Chege (Student Representative), David Karanja (Editor)

The Kenyatta University Newsletter is published by the Office of the Vice-Chancellor. The Editorial Board welcomes brief comments, articles or news on topical issues.

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

You may email the articles to: pro@ku.ac.ke, or drop them in soft copy at ROOM 115 or 106 in the main Administration Block.