



Kenyatta University newsletter

A Fortnightly publication from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor

The vision of Kenyatta University is to be a dynamic, inclusive and competitive centre of excellence in teaching, learning, research and service to humanity.

KU Students Win Big In Continental Challenge

We were holding our collective breath hoping that this time we will be the Season 3 Zain Africa Challenge champions but the jinx that has been stalking us struck again. We are number two for the third time.

However, being runners-up three times in a row is not a fluke. We are good. We have a lot to crow about: not only are we now the national champions but tops in Eastern and Central Africa. Our erstwhile Kenyan nemeses (who will remain nameless) were dismissed quite early in the tournament this time.

The Zain awards were presented on last Tuesday by the Secretary to the Commission for Higher Education, who incidentally is our immediate former Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Everett Standa. Commenting on Kenya's performance in the 32 universities' tournament, here is part of his glowing praise: *"KU being number one in the region is a mark of the quality of Kenya's higher education."* The trophy was received by the DVC (FP&D), Prof. Daniel Mugendi on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor.

Zain opened a generous cornucopia for Kenyatta University: The University received gifts worth 2.7 million Kenya shillings in the form of 35 laptops, 35 Zain modems with matching lines; as for the coach and liaison, each of them received 273,000 Kenyan shillings (well-deserved for taking the young people through their paces); and the real heroes of the occasion, David (team leader), Malcolm, Andrew and Albert are now KSh. 195,000 richer with a laptop, a Nokia N63



The DVC (Finance, Planning & Development) Prof. Daniel Mugendi (middle) who represented the Vice-Chancellor during the award ceremony with the KU Team at the Zain Africa Challenge, Albert Gicheha, David Mchero, Malcolm Lee Ngugi and Andrew Langat display the trophy.

handset with Zain modem and 6 months worth of airtime to boot.

We congratulate everyone who participated in forging our star performance. The Dean of Students, Dr. Edwin A. Gimode, was the liaison with Zain and the coach was Dr. Ezekiel Alembi,

Director of Radio station KU 99.9. Dr. Wambugu (School of Agriculture), Dr. Omino (Chemistry) and former competitors Eric Mugendi, Claire Otero and Andrew Owuor, played a pivotal role in training the team.

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VC Urges Appreciation of Diversity



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda addressing the First and Second year students soon after they resumed studies recently.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, has appealed to the student fraternity to embrace diversity among themselves and learn to appreciate one another for peaceful coexistence.

The VC was addressing the first and second year students who resumed studies recently.

"Remember that we are from different ethnic backgrounds; We also differ economically-some of us are rich and others are not. Whatever our differences, let us appreciate each other and respect diversity as that is what a university is all about," implored the VC.

"My advice to you is that you re-

focus on your work and complete your studies. Exercise independence of thought and avoid negative influences. Be positive as you pursue your degree, be creative, innovative and honest," added the VC.

The VC reminded and urged the students to develop a personal strategic plan as it would be a guide to achieving their personal goals. *"Remember that until you put down your goals on paper they are like seeds without soil,"* she reiterated.

The Vice-Chancellor further urged the students to be good ambassadors of the University by supporting and guarding the image of the University. Prof. Mugenda said that the University was working to pg 3

From the Editor's Desk

Good news could not have come at a better time after what we went through recently.

Our intrepid young scholars came close to beating Ibadan University as Zain Africa Challenge Season 3 champions. However, the number two slot (and number one in not only nationally but in East and Central Africa) is no mean feat.

But playing second banana three times in a row is getting to be a bit of a bore and the forthcoming Season 4 due to be contested in Kampala will see us bagging the top prize. We cannot go anywhere else but up this time. This competition is not only materially lucrative (read the article), but very intellectually stimulating. Even watching it is psychedelic.

We urge as many of our students, particularly those with a penchant for general knowledge (trivia to detractors), to try their luck in the forthcoming tryouts. We shall announce these in the Newsletter.

Another positive note is the successful rejuvenation of our programmes: our school-based students have satisfactorily completed their session and the regular students have sat for their erstwhile interrupted Second Semester examinations.

We are now all set to receive our freshers and usher the new academic year 2009/10.

David V. Karanja

IHEA Meeting Held at KU



The Secretary General of International Association of Universities (IAU), Dr. Eva Egron-Polak, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, Secretary General of Association of African Universities, Prof. Goolam Mohamedbhai and the Ag. DVC (Finance, Planning & Development), Dr. Jacktone Ogeno during the Vice-Chancellors' meeting on Internationalization of Higher Education at the Kenyatta University Conference Centre.

Kenyatta University recently hosted a high profile meeting on Internationalization of Higher Education in Africa.

The Secretary General and Executive Director of International Association of Universities (IAU), Dr. Eva Egron-Polak and the Secretary General of Association of African Universities (AAU), Prof. Goolam Mohamedbhai, were the key speakers during the meeting on Internationalization of Higher Education in Africa.

The meeting brought together vice-chancellors of public and private universities in Kenya; it provided a platform for them to discuss the issue

of Internationalization of Higher Education in African universities: challenges and prospects. Members of university management, Deans of Schools and Directors of the various centres at the University were among the distinguished guests present.

Kenyatta University Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, who hosted the meeting, is the Vice-President of the International Association of Universities.

In her address during the meeting, Dr. Eva Egron-Polak stated that internationalization of Higher Education was a priority theme for IAU and is central to the association's mission.

The Executive Director further noted

that the Internationalization principles for IAU are based on proactive efforts by Institutions of Higher Education, cooperation and partnerships among equals, ethical behaviour, mutual respect and recognition of shared benefits, priority for academic rationales, models that safeguard or improve quality and accessibility, geographically balanced and contextually relevant approaches.

According to a global survey, students' preparedness ranked highest in the rationales for Internationalization among universities both in Africa and globally. Other rationales included curriculum and quality, profile and reputation of the institution, research and quality production, increase and diversity of students.

While urging the vice-chancellors to form true partnerships, Dr. Polak said internationalization contributed to international awareness of students, strengthened research, cooperation and solidarity, internationalized curriculum and enhanced profile among the institutions of higher education.

The Secretary General of Association of African Universities, Prof. Goolam Mohamedbhai, noted that the concept of internationalization of higher education is driven by several forces that include national development, international competitiveness, harmonization of higher education, international cooperation and creation of inter-cultural understanding among

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KU to Collaborate with SWTTC

In its endeavour to reach out and enhance access to quality higher education, Kenyatta University will soon collaborate with South Western Teachers Training College (SWTTC) in Kericho.

The move will also decentralize some programmes in the Main Campus thus reducing congestion at the Main Campus and further be cost-effective to students.

The School-Based and ODeL programmes will commence once the Technical Team from Kenyatta University and the South Western Teachers Training College work on the modalities of the collaboration.

The Board members of SWTTC led by the Chairman, Hon. (Engineer) Kipng'eno Arap Nge'ny, visited the University on 26th August 2009 to further discuss the collaboration. Engineer Nge'ny was optimistic that the collaboration was going to provide higher education opportunities to communities in Kericho and the



(L-R) Mr. Joseph Magutt, Dean School of Education, Dr. Jactone Ogeno, Mr. Roselyn Nge'ny, Director, Centre for Linkages, Prof. Caroline Thoruwa, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, Hon. Engineer Kipng'eno Arap Nge'ny, Mr. Paul Ng'etich and Ag. Registrar Academic Dr. John Koga.

neighbouring regions. The Vice-Chancellor lauded the collaboration stating that Kenyatta University will

ensure quality programmes are offered.

IHEA Meeting Held at KU

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The Vice-Chancellor, United States International University (USIU), Prof. Freida Brown, and the Vice-Chancellor, Africa Nazarene University, Prof. Leah Marangu during the Vice-Chancellor's meeting on Internationalization of Higher Education.

internationalization.

These activities, he said, include recruiting foreign students and faculty, students and staff exchange, organization and participation in international conferences, joint research activities, international programmes, cross border delivery of higher education through open universities, branch campuses, and franchising among other activities.

Prof. Goolam underscored the need for membership in regional and International Associations and creation of regional and international networks of institutions or Programmes. He said that internationalization can be promoted at institutional, national sub-regional, or regional levels.

others.

He urged the vice-chancellors

present to engage their universities in activities that would promote

VC Urges Appreciation of Diversity

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hard to develop networks for students exchange programmes to ensure students get wider exposure.

In the same forum the Director, Institute for Research, Science and Technology, Prof. Eric Aseka, challenged the students to uphold integrity and cultivate virtue, reminding them that academic freedom goes with social responsibility.

"As budding scholars, you need to reflect the image of reliability and predictability. Put value in the right place," Prof. Aseka concluded.

The Secretary General of KUSA, Mr. Tom Bwana, advised the students to engage in activities that would help rebuild their image and improve their professional standards.

KU in African Higher Education Advancement and Development (AHEAD) pilot study

The South African Institute for Advancement (INYATHELO) in partnership with the Carnegie Corporation of New York has initiated a research programme on resource mobilization in African universities.

The Senior Programme Coordinators, Ms. Nazli Abrahams and Dr. Sean Jones, visited Kenyatta University on 19th August 2009 to conduct a pilot study that would lead to case studies of the existing resource mobilization strategies of seven African Universities selected to participate in the study.

Kenyatta University is one of the African universities that have been identified by Carnegie Corporation and CASE Europe as a potential institution for participation in the African Higher Education Advancement and Development (AHEAD) pilot study.

It is envisaged that Kenyatta University will be invited to participate in the longer term study being planned by the South Africa



Senior Programme Coordinator of the South African Institute of Advancement (INYATHELO), Ms. Nazli Abrahams signs the visitors book when she paid a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor.

Institute of Advancement.

According to the Inyathelo Team, budgetary pressures have affected seriously and in multifold

ways, the nature and quality of teaching, learning and research at Africa Universities. Against this background, many institutions are

under increasing pressure to mobilize resources from other sources such as private sector, multinational aid and development organisations and donors.

The Inyathelo Team is therefore planning a long-term programme to identify models for resource mobilization in higher education that are appropriate to African universities; and feed knowledge and understanding about the models into new and existing leadership development and skills enhancement programmes in the field.

The research will focus mainly on local ways of organising fundraising, building capacity and research, and localised training for fundraising and development.

Kenyatta University, through the Directorate of Grant Writing and Management, is already discussing with INYATHELO ways through which KU can participate in the long-term study and its implementation

Our Zain Team Succumbs to Ibadan but Triumphs in East & Central Africa

from pg 1

Preparations are underway for the January 2010 contest. Be on the lookout for tryout announcements. Participants will be chosen in October and the competition is very stiff: out of the 222 aspirants for the last contest only four qualified. If you are a glutton for trivia and

something of a polymath given to lateral thinking, you should have no problem representing KU at Kampala in January 2010.

Our heroes: Albert, Malcolm, Andrew and David did indeed bring home the bacon. The editorial team says HONGERA. Our only

regret is that there were no ladies in the team this time round. We urge those brainy ones among our distaff to stand up and be counted! We know you are very much around. We thank Zain for affording us this opportunity to show our worth.

Students Focus

Young Voices Haunt Policy Makers from S.Korea

Less Talk, More Action on Climate Change, Young People urge World Leaders



Ag. DVC(Academic) Prof. Geoffrey Muluvi, Kevin Odhiambo, James Chacha, Dr. Swaleh Sauda representing the Dean of Students Affairs and the Ag. Registrar Academic, Dr. John Koga pose for a group photo with James & Kevin just before they left for South Korea.

Young people from around the globe gathered in Daejeon (Republic of Korea), 7th to 24th August 2009 and called on world leaders to take radical measures against climate change.

At the largest-ever global youth gathering on climate change, about 700 young people from 10 to 24

years of age, honed in on their governments' track record in addressing climate change, emphasizing the need for strong vision and leadership.

In a statement, the young delegates representing three billion of the world's population-expressed their "concern and frustration that their governments

are not doing enough to combat climate change", adding that "we now need more action and less talking".

The declaration was finalized and adopted by the young participants at the Tunza Children and Youth Conference in Daejeon (Republic of Korea), as part of the global UN-wide 'Seal the Deal!' campaign spearheaded by Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon to galvanize political will and public support for a comprehensive global climate agreement.

The children and youth also addressed the citizens of the planet and urged them to push their governments to create a global green economy.

Other recommendations included a call to pressure businesses, producers and governments to promote environmentally friendly products and eco-labelling policies.

The statement is the culmination of eight-week-long discussions between young people

across the planet using the power of the worldwide web. It was finalized at a Global Town Hall on 20 August in Daejeon, where the 600 participants were joined by over 200 young people in 15 cities around the world.

KU Student to Represent African Youth in UNEP

Kenyatta University was represented at the conference by four students, out of the seven Kenyan youth delegates. One of the students, Kevin Odhiambo, was elected to the TUNZA Youth advisory council to represent African youth.

He will advise UNEP on better ways of engaging young people in the continent, facilitating youth input in local, national, regional and international environmental forums and representing the African youth in such forums.

(ODEL) Conducts a Sensitization Seminar for Regional Coordinators

The Institute of Open, Distance and e-Learning (ODEL) conducted a two-day sensitization seminar for all the Regional Coordinators of ODeL Centres.

The Seminar focused on addressing issues of concern to the Institute with the objective of improving service delivery and access to education by all students.

In her remarks to the Coordinators, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, stated that Kenyatta University's Strategic and Vision Plan had paid adequate attention to the use of ICT to enhance access and that the University was expanding use of Open and e-Learning to achieve this target. She noted that the University had aligned its Strategic Plan to Kenya's Vision 2030 and Sessional Paper NO.1 of 2005 that identify access to and equity in tertiary education as major targets.

The VC said that the University was committed to improving its services at the Centres and urged Centre Coordinators and their staff to be committed to the strategic objectives and targets of their plan. Prof. Mugenda further challenged



The Director, Institute for Open, Distance and e-Learning (ODEL), Dr. Speranza Ndege addressing the Regional Coordinators during the Sensitization seminar. Seated is the VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda and the Director, Mombasa Campus, Prof. Edwin Wamukoya.

the Coordinators to be proactive and develop strategies to increase enrolment in their respective centres.

The VC also called on the Coordinators to reach out to the students and ensure that they received accurate information **"Be available to assist and guide the students when they come to your centres,"** she implored.

The Director, ODeL, Dr. Speranza Ndege, reiterated that the

University had put in place strategic systems and resources to enhance online teaching and learning and service delivery and urged the Coordinators to maximise the use of ICT facilities provided for by the University. She further called on the Coordinators to uphold the image of the University so that people would learn to appreciate programmes on offer at KU.

The Deputy Director, ODeL, Dr. James Kahiri, noted that the

Coordinators were Provincial representatives of the University and urged them to devise ways of marketing the university programmes in their respective regions. Dr. Kahiri called on the distance learning students to stay in touch with their centres to ensure some of the problems encountered are solved promptly.

The Coordinators praised the sensitization programme, terming it as an ideal forum for discussing challenges encountered at the centres and an opportunity to learn from each other.

Recently, the University merged the former e-Learning Coordinating Centre and Institute of Open Learning to form the Institute of Open, Distance and e-Learning for better service delivery to distance learners. Currently, there are nine(9) Regional Centres that serve distance learners countrywide: Nairobi, Mombasa, Nakuru, Kakamega, Kisumu, Embu, Nyeri, Garissa; and Marsabit. The Institute of ODeL has an ICT Support Unit where content is digitized by a highly competent technical team.

Students Focus

cont...

VC Welcomes 1st & 2nd Year Students



First and Second year students follow keenly to the proceedings during the Vice-Chancellor's address at the graduation square.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, has sent a warm message of welcome to the 1st and 2nd years students who reported back to the University on 29th August, 2009 to complete their 2nd semester 2008/2009 Academic year.

In her message, the Vice-Chancellor urged the students to settle down quickly into their academic work *"I am happy to see you back in the University after the break brought about by the unfortunate incidences of February 2009"* said the VC noting that the University was now about to complete the

disrupted academic year 2008/2009 which will soon usher in the new academic year 2009/2010.

The VC noted with satisfaction that both the Institutional-Based Students (IBP) and the regular 3rd, 4th and 5th year students have successfully completed their session which began early August without a hitch. *"I commend the students who have completed their examinations and wish them well in their next phase of their academic life"* the VC noted in her message.

Success in your exams

The Vice-chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, has sent a message of Best Wishes and success in the examinations to the 1st and 2nd year student who are sitting for their examinations for the

2nd semester 2008/2009 academic year. The examinations which began on 7th September 2009 will continue until 18th September 2009.

In her message, the VC said *"Dear Students, we have once again*

come to the time when you are evaluated in what you have learnt in the course of your studies at the University. I am sure you have all that it takes to go through the examinations successfully, and I take this opportunity to wish you all the best

as you sit your exams".

The KU Newsletter Editorial team joins the VC and the University community in wishing the students success in their exams.

KENYATTA



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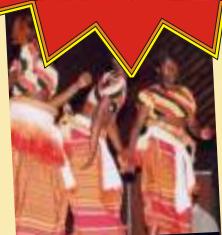
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PICTURE Speak



The Secretary General of International Association of Universities, Dr. Eva Egron-Polak receives a memento from the Kenyatta University VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda.



Dean of Students Affairs Dr. Edwin Gimode addresses the 1st and 2nd year students.



Vice Chancellors, Prof. Godfrey Nguru of Daystar University, Dr. Timothy Wachira of St. Paul's University, Dr. Daniel Oluoch of KCA University and Prof. Stanley Waudo of Mount Kenya University during the Vice-Chancellors meeting on Internationalisation of Higher Education at the Kenyatta University Conference Centre.



The Chairman of South Western Teachers Training College, Hon. Engineer Kipng'eno Arap Ng'eny signs the visitors book when he visited the University recently.



DVC (Academic Affairs) Maseno University Prof. Dominic Makawiti, representing his Vice-Chancellor, makes his contribution during the Vice-Chancellors meeting at KUCC.



(L-R) Vice-Chancellor of Mount Kenya University Prof. Stanley Waudo, Vice-Chancellor, Gretsa University, Prof. Kaburu M'Ribu and the Deputy Commission's Secretary, Commission for Higher Education, Mr. Joel Mberia during the Vc's meeting at KUCC.

PICTURE Speak



(L-R) Front row - Director, Grant Writing and Management, Prof. Reuben Muasya, 2nd row - Mr. Justin Murani, Director Quality Management & Performance Contracting and Dean School of Visual & Performing Arts, Dr. Beatrice Digolo at the meeting on Internationalisation of Higher Education in Africa.



Members of Kenyatta University Travelling Theatre, Mbuvi and Martin perform during the Vice-Chancellor's address to First and Second year students.



The Winning Team: (L-R) Albert Gicheha, Daniel Mcharo, Dean, Students Affairs, Dr. Edwin Gimode, Malcolm Lee Ngugi, Andrew Lang'at and Director, KU 99.9FM, Dr. Ezekiel Alembi pose for photo after receiving the Zain Africa Challenge Trophy.



Director, University/Industry Links, Dr. Karanja Thiong'o makes his contribution during the Annual General Meeting of the Kenyatta University Staff Retirement Benefits Scheme held at KUCC recently.



The Director, Institute for Research, Science and Technology, Prof. Eric Aseka addressing First and Second year students at the Graduation Square.



Dr. Waceke Wanjohi, was the Chief Guest at Ikawa Secondary School on 5th June 2009 during the prize giving day. She also officially opened the only science laboratory in the school. Looking on is Ms Jesca Mbaka and the Headmaster; Mr. David Rugendo Muga.

Kenyatta University to Host ESDA Project

Kenyatta University has been selected to host and pilot a new Masters Programme on Education for Sustainable development (EDS), specifically community-based innovations for sustainable urban development.

This was after extensive consultation with the United Nations University (UNU) and other stakeholders. An MoU between the two institutions has already been signed. The action-oriented programme aims to empower and improve the quality of life in urban slums by addressing challenges such as sewerage and sanitation.

Kenyatta University will coordinate the project under the leadership of Dr. Dorcas Otieno of the Department of Environmental Studies and Community Development.

This new Masters programme will be based in the Department of Environmental Studies and Community Development, and draw expertise from other departments in the School of Environmental Studies, School of Education, School of Health Sciences and the School of Business.

Other stakeholders in the Programme include University of Nairobi, Stellenbosch University in South Africa, Tokyo and Yokohama Universities in Japan, United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and UN-Habitat. The programme will acquire an International status with an ICT dimension to link students.

According to the Coordinator of the ESDA Project, Prof. Masafumi Nagao, United Nations University in Japan, the study aims at developing a conceptual framework in the area of sustainable development. Other aspects of the project will focus on peace and governance, international development cooperation, and graduate school education programme. Prof. Nagao had paid a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor.



(L-R) Dr. Dorcas Otieno of the Department of Environmental Studies and Community Development, Prof. Masafumi Nagao of United Nations University Japan, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Olive Mugenda and the Dean, School of Environmental Studies, Prof. Stephen Njuguna.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, lauded the project saying that it will not only help the School of Environmental Studies but also promote research in general. The VC commended the community aspect of the project as the University is committed to community service and outreach. She said that the University would support the project and ensure its success.

Prof. Mugenda further praised the cordial relations with Japan, citing the Japanese Laboratory donated by the Japanese Embassy in Kenya and the KU-Hiroshima Collaboration Centre as examples

of partnerships between the two countries.

The Education for Sustainable Development in Africa (ESDA) is a newly initiated project to develop and test a graduate level education programme for professionals to be engaged in sustainable development in Africa based on United Nations University network with higher education institutions in Africa and Japan.

The government of Japan, through the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is seed-funding this project.

Mathematics Department in MARM Project



Prof. Enrico Rogola of the University of Rome, and the Chairman, Mathematics Department, Dr. David Malonza, during a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor.

The Department of Mathematics at Kenyatta University has been selected among several universities to be part of the Mentoring African Research in Mathematics (MARM) through the

initiative of African Millennium Science Initiative (AMMSI) where the Department is a member and London Mathematical Society, the sponsors. According to the Chairman, Department of Mathematics, Dr. D.

Malonza, members of the department developed a proposal in collaboration with Prof. Enrico Rogora of University of Rome which was accepted. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, congratulated the Mathematics Department for the good proposal and networking.

She noted that mathematics was poorly performed in schools and urged the department to dig deeper into the reasons for the poor performance adding that a pipeline project should be conducted focusing on the performance of the subject in primary schools.

The project has kicked off with a Data Analysis workshop and conference. The main objective is to initiate and maintain some joint research projects on data analysis with both staff and postgraduate students.

Each project will be focused on data from one of the following disciplines: biological sciences, electrocardiogram (ECG) recording, ecology and standardized examination tests.

Lectures by mentors on data analysis have been coordinated with computer lab sessions, where real data

has been analyzed. The aim is to provide necessary background for the joint research projects and to motivate the introduction of more advanced algebraic techniques.

The project aims to identify problems facing research in mathematics in Africa (Kenya) and seeks ways of improving the quality of research in mathematics in the department; sponsor joint research in Mathematics leading to publication of international journals; arrange visits by staff from Department of Mathematic to Italy to do research and improve their skills and dissemination of knowledge through workshops, seminars and conferences by the partners from the joint research findings.

The long-term objective is to have a Ph.D/Masters collaboration possibly through a split programme to enhance capacity building in the department and faculty exchange from Italy with specific tasks of training Ph.D and Masters students.

July 2009

A one day academic publishing workshop was held in July 2009. The facilitator of the workshop was Dr. Dorothea Kleine from the University of Holloway, London.

Members of academic staff were given tips on how to write abstracts for publishing in UK and other international journals. They were also taken through the process of

Publishing and advised on what to avoid when submitting papers and abstracts for publishing.



Dr. Dorothea Kleine, University of, Holloway London



Participants listen attentively to during an academic publishing workshop held in the University recently.

June 2009

PHEA/KU Education Technology Initiative facilitated by Neil Butcher (South African Institute of Distance Learning) and Ms. Sharman Wickham of University of Cape Town Centre for Educational Technology was held in June, 2009.

The Vice-Chancellor formed various teams to write proposals for funding in Educational Technology. The Vice-Chancellor is the principal investigator in the project, "Kenyatta University Post-Graduate Research Methods and Resources Project". The proposed project will:

- Ensure that all Post-Graduate students are able to engage promptly

in the research process and therefore ensure timely completion of their courses;

- Provide superior and accessible resources to supervisors;
- Make use of available research at the University while avoiding duplication of efforts and information.

National Council for Science and Technology (NCST) has funded 8 research projects by Kenyatta University members of teaching staff in their call for proposals 2007/2008 cycle as follows.

1. Dr. Thoruwa Thomas:
Development and Commercialization of solar-biomass powered drying system with energy for fruits and vegetable drying in rural and urban markets.
2. Prof. Ndiritu D. Wamai:
Testing the Efficacy and Safety of Cheetan and Cheetan/CFC by Assessing the Cd4 counts, viral load, liver, renal, bone marrow functions using HIV infected Baboons.
3. Dr. Muiruri P. Warimu:
Role of Governance and Urban Planning in meeting Climate Change Challenges and Adaptation in the City.
4. Dr. Godfrey A. Olukoye:
Enhancing Integrated Management Options of Lake Ol Bolossat Basin through evaluation of impacts of Climate Variability, Land use and Land Cove Change.
5. Prof. Benson E Mochoge:
Rainwater Harvesting, use of manure and fertilizers in Maize-cowpeas intercrop production on smallholder farms in semi-arid parts of Kenya.
6. Eng. Fidelis Kilonzo:
Evaluating the use of the Constructed Wetlands in the Treatment of Tannery Wastewater.
7. Mr. John Chege Mutuota:
Ascertaining of knowledge, attitude and practice on conservation of Hinde's babbler among the stakeholders of Mukurweini valleys important smallholder arms in semi arid parts of Kenya.
8. Dr. Leonard Kisovi:
The impact of new water policies and institutions on water resource management and access to safe drinking water.

Congratulations to all principal investigators and their research teams.

Farmers Voice Radio (FVR) Proposal

Kenyatta University, and American Institute for Research will be involved in a unique project of assessing the impact of radio in delivering agricultural extension services. This project will be supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The FVR strategy is designed to lay the foundation for achieving a ten-year vision of success: an enhanced network of radio broadcasters, coupled with supplementary technologies and methods, reaching 80% of the smallholder farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa with sustainable, impact-driven programming that results in measurable improvements to productivity, livelihood and wellbeing through improved quantity, quality, timeliness, ease of access, cost-effectiveness, and credibility of information while supporting informed, successful citizen-farmers.

Kenyatta University is in a unique position to contribute to this project due to the fact that it already has a radio station and experienced researchers in Agriculture, Gender and in Monitoring and Evaluation of research projects.

Leadership Africa Director Calls on VC



The Programme Director, Leadership Africa, Ms. Shenaz Rangwala, receives a souvenir from the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda when she paid a courtesy call on her.

The Programme Director of Leadership Africa, USA, Ms. Shenaz Rangwala, visited Kenyatta University to explore collaboration in a leadership programme.

According to Ms. Rangwala, the Leadership Programme targets high schools. The curriculum consists of topics such as good governance, conflict resolution and building self-esteem, among others.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, welcomed the initiative adding that leadership skills are the very key in management proficiency. The VC noted that the programme would be very effective in equipping

the young generation with the much-needed leadership skills, both at the high school and university level. The skills acquired will in turn create a generational change and good citizenship in our country.

She added that the University would explore the best ways of implementing the programme. These would include establishing a Leadership Academy targeting pre-university students and training teachers who would in turn impact high school students.

She further envisaged a joint collaboration between KU-Leadership Africa and the Ministry of Education to impact the whole nation.

New Lecture Theatres Completed

In the last financial year the University recorded a historically tremendous growth in terms of development with the erection of several buildings.

Among the completed buildings are the state-of-the-art lecture theatres adjacent to the Science Laboratories.

The three storied state-of-the-art building houses two lecture theatres with a capacity of 500 students each, four lecture theatres with a capacity of 300 students each and six lecture theatres with a capacity of 100 students each.

Other developments in the University include construction of road kerbs which are underway and walkway pavements also at an advanced stage. The LCDs (Liquid Crystal Displays) have been mounted in the Lecture theatre and in use. Unlike the old lecture theatres, the new ones have well-designed special ramps at the entrance for the physically challenged persons.

Construction of the student hostels which are expected to be ready and in use by 15th September 2009 is ongoing. The new students' hostels which are in two blocks (*one for males and the other for females*) will have four floors. Each block is estimated to hold 256 students to a total of 512 students. This will go a long way in relieving the congestion in our hostels.

Kenyatta University Featured in the 2009 Census

The Kenya household and population census 2009, which took place throughout the country between 24th-30th August, also took place in Kenyatta University. Students residing in the university as well as the university staff living on campus were visited by the census enumerators in an effort to make them part of the national population tally.

The exercise went on smoothly thanks to the efforts by the Registrar Academics and the KUSA Secretary General urging the students to co-operate with the enumerators. Despite their

busy examination schedule the students willingly participated in the exercise. The enumerators on their part made sure they visited as many hostel rooms as possible. Towards the end of the programme they were seen in strategic places in the university calling upon those who had not been counted to do so.

The national population census is a nationwide government exercise that takes place after every 10 years. This is to enable the relevant ministries in the government plan on service delivery.



Newly completed lecture halls



After a long holiday, students at the Mombasa, Kitui and Nyeri campuses reported for the commencement of studies for the 2009/2010 academic year on 31st August 2009. Freshers at these campuses are reported for registration on 24th August and went through their orientation programme from 25th-29th August 2009.

Parklands Campus

After the long recess, Parklands Campus is back to life following the re-opening of the university. With the phasing out of programmes offered under the School of Business, the majority of the students at the campus belong to the School of Law and Open, Distance and e-Learning. Registration for Open-Learning students was held between 24th August 2009 and 4th September 2009.

Registration for the Continuing Law Students which began on 29th August 2009 ran for two days followed by exams which started on 7th September 2009 to 14th September 2009. The students are excited to be back and preparing in earnest for the scheduled examinations.

Those Continuing Law students who failed to register due to unavoidable circumstances and were forced to call-off the Semester will be registered on 26th September 2009 at the commencement of the new academic year. Finally, we are expecting our Freshers on 14th September 2009.

We are very excited and look forward to receiving them and wish them a comfortable and wonderful student life experience here at Parklands Campus.

Mombasa Campus

Mombasa Campus has admitted its first group of the Institutional-Based students. They reported on 8th August 2009 and were received by the Director, Prof. Edwin K. Wamukoya.



School Based students pose for a group photograph at the Campus

Service to the Community

Mombasa Campus students are actively involved in community programmes. During the vacation, student members of the Red Cross Club represented the University in Kilifi while Environmental Club members were in a cleaning exercise to honour the Annual Marine Day by cleaning exercise of the Kenyatta Beach.

2009 Mombasa Agricultural Show

Mombasa Campus recently took part in the Mombasa International Show. The show ran from 12th-16th August 2009 and was officially opened by H.E. President Mwai Kibaki accompanied by the Prime Minister, The Right Honourable, Raila Odinga and other ministers. Kenyatta University was represented by Prof. Gravenir, Director of University Advancement, and Prof. Wamukoya, Director, Mombasa Campus, who led a group of staff from the Main Campus.

Students in Mombasa Campus

Mombasa Campus is currently registering the student for the new semester. The number is expected to hit 1000 students in the 2009/2010 academic year for the regular programmes. The students reported on 24th August 2009 and are being taken through the orientation programme and classes were scheduled to start

The students were also addressed by the Mombasa Campus KUSA representatives (Odanga, Siri and Priscah), the Manager Equity Bank Digo Road Branch and officials from the I Choose Life in Kenya.

During the orientation, the students were advised not to involve themselves in any ugly incidents while on campus. They were encouraged to follow a more preferred way of dialogue and communication in order to complete their programmes without any hitch.

The new students were thanked for having chosen to join Kenyatta University Mombasa Campus.



Mombasa Campus students follow proceedings during their orientation



The Director Mombasa Campus, Prof. Edwin Wamukoya, Dean of Students, Dr. Edwin Gimode, the Director, Mentoring Programme, Dr. Elishiba Kimani, the Director Career Development and Placement, Prof. John Okumu, the Head of the Health Unit, Dr. Osundwa, and Mombasa Campus KUSA representatives pose for a group photograph with the new students at Mombasa Campus during orientation on 28th August 2009.

As part of the orientation the new students were addressed by the Director, Prof. Edwin K. Wamukoya, and the respective Coordinators of schools at Mombasa Campus. On Friday 28th August 2009, the new students were addressed by the Dean of Students, Dr. Edwin Gimode, the Director, Mentoring Programme, Dr. Elishiba Kimani, the Director Career Development, and Placement Prof. John Okumu and the Head of the Health Unit, Dr. Osundwa Ashira.



A student going through the online registration process during August 2009 registration session

Transition



Mr. Jackson Bartonyi

Mr. Jackson Bartonyi who was a gardener at the Department of ICT passed on and was laid to rest on Saturday 29th August, 2009 at his home in Baringo. Mr Bartonyi joined Kenyatta University in 1997 as a gardener at the inception of the Culture Village. Until his death on 18th August, 2009, Mr. Bartonyi worked as a gardener at the Computer Centre near the Arts Complex.

May the Almighty God rest his soul in peace.

Mrs. Margaret Otollo, Senior Administrator in the Vice-Chancellor's office, lost her brother, Mr. Dominic Savio Kinyua, after a short illness. Mr. Kinyua was laid to rest on Friday 4th September, 2009.

Mr. Bernard Nyaga, Security Department, lost his dear wife, Mrs. Kellen Kagendo, who passed on after a short illness. Mrs Nyaga was laid to rest on Friday 4th September, 2009.

Dr. Elizabeth Andang'o, a lecturer in the Department of Music, lost her Mother, Mrs. Sylvia Oboula Angang'o. May the almighty God console the family of Dr. Andang'o and also rest the soul of Mama Andang'o in Eternal Peace

The Vice-Chancellor, in separate messages delivered to the families expressed the University community's heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, relatives and friends. She wished them strength and God's blessings.

FAITH CORNER

By G.J.O. Monayo

GIFTS OF HELP AND MERCY

The gift of mercy - genuine empathy and compassion for others - is a special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ. Both Christians and non-Christians suffer distressing physical and mental problems. Those with the gift of mercy translate their compassion into deeds that are cheerfully enacted to reflect Christ's love and thus alleviate the suffering.

Jesus described this gift through the parable of the sheep and goats in Mathew 25:34-40. People referred to these verses do not realize that they have helped many other people and that the Lord had taken note of their actions.

In the New Testament, Barnabas is an outstanding example of one gifted thus. Acts 9: 25 27 and Acts 15: 37 39 describe Barnabas' actions, as he is seen vehemently defending Saul to disciples in Jerusalem after his salvation. Barnabas is seen here as a considerate and humble man of God by the position and action he takes.

END

WORD SEARCH

A	R	B	A	Q	W	F	W	S	R	B	B	H	N	H	H	P	O
W	H	V	V	R	T	O	I	D	E	W	G	J	L	O	E	O	P
B	E	N	G	I	N	E	E	R	I	N	G	R	E	S	W	R	S
L	A	T	N	E	M	N	O	R	I	V	N	E	W	P	P	E	O
M	L	E	W	R	E	T	B	C	O	P	S	S	Q	I	I	V	A
P	T	H	B	I	J	P	N	Z	E	E	T	X	Z	T	P	Z	P
L	H	J	G	O	T	B	K	L	Y	V	H	W	I	A	F	Q	P
H	S	P	D	W	B	D	U	I	I	L	S	N	W	L	Q	A	L
P	C	W	B	R	R	B	E	S	P	C	A	D	E	I	E	G	I
S	E	H	E	P	F	A	S	M	U	N	V	L	F	Y	B	I	D
G	N	W	R	Q	L	O	O	H	W	E	E	C	A	A	R	C	H
F	C	B	W	A	E	N	R	D	O	U	H	S	Q	W	W	U	U
K	E	E	R	N	O	E	R	E	D	W	E	G	S	Q	T	L	M
A	S	T	H	C	Q	P	H	U	B	T	R	L	R	P	K	T	A
B	S	W	E	R	G	S	G	R	A	D	U	A	T	E	B	U	N
N	E	D	U	C	A	T	I	O	N	S	A	Y	B	W	D	R	R
S	M	H	U	D	O	P	P	U	R	E	A	P	P	L	I	E	D

Schools

Visual Arts
Humanities
Pure Applied
Hospitality
Law
Graduate
Health Sciences

Business
Agriculture
Engineering
Education
Economics
Environmental

Mind bender

- What is the missing word?
BOG + 2 0 = DOG
FAG + 1 5 = GAB
BIG + 4 - 0 = FIG
GOD + 0 - 2 = ?
- PULMONIC is to LUNG
As RENAL is to?
- What is the next number in the series?
3, 21/4, ¾, 0, ?
- Find the missing number:
17 35 3 21
26 19 ?

(Answers)
1. GOB: The plus (+) sign raises the first letter through the alphabet by that number; the minus (-) sign lowers the last letter through the alphabet by that number; while the middle letter remains constant.
2. KIDNEY
3. -3/4 : Subtract ¾ each time.
4. 12: Add numbers in top two squares and divide the total by 2 to get the number in the

Editorial Board Members: Margaret Otollo (Chairperson/Editor-in-chief), Charles Nderitu (Co-Chairman), Janet Muthimi (Member), Grace Muchiri (Member), Mrs. Erica Mwololo (Member), Julius Maore (Member), Isaac Mwangi (Member), Mercy N. Kanyi (Member), Kaniaru Ndirangu (Photographer), Patrick Minai (Design & Layout), Susan Ndichu (Secretary), David Karanja (Editor/Proofreader) Simon Kirwa (Student Representative).

The Kenyatta University Newsletter is published by the Office of the Vice-Chancellor. The Editorial board welcomes brief comments/articles of news and events on topical issues.

The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit/shorten articles and or determine what is to be published and when.

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