

Kenyatta University

newsletter

www.ku.ac.ke

A Fortnightly Publication of the Office of the Vice-Chancellor

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

Kenyatta University Press Commissioned

Kenyatta University has launched a new press that would help the institution become self-reliant, as well as generate income.

The Kenyatta University Press (KUP), located at the multi-million shillings Business and Student Services Centre — at the Main Campus — has first-grade digital imaging and machines designed to meet the needs of the University as well as customers outside the institution.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, said the old press, actually, a printer with limited capacity, was started in 1985 and served the University for more than 10 years. However, successive administrations made unsuccessful attempts to establish a university press but fell short of doing so. Due to increasing printing needs and volume, the University has been outsourcing most of the printing jobs.

However, the VC said, with the new in-house press that is equipped with modern digital and electronic [continued on Pg 2](#)



Kenyatta University Press acting supervisor, Mr. Simon Muhika, explains a point to Mr. Paul Wanyagah — the CEO, MediaMax Network Ltd — when he commissioned the Kenyatta University Press on February 3, 2011. Others include the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda (on the right of Mr. Muhika).



Mr. Gerald Wandera, the Kenya Institute of Administration's (KIA) Strategic Leadership Development Programme Coordinator, addresses the audience.

Senior Gov't Officers on Learning Tour

More than 90 senior government officers visited KU to learn the secret behind the rapid growth of the University.

The staff, under the Kenya Institute of Administration's Strategic Leadership Development Programme, were at the University so that Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, could give them tips on excellent management factors.

Speakers, led by the KIA Programme Coordinator Gerald Wandera, at the one-day workshop at the Kenyatta University Conference Centre (KUCC) said they were impressed by the exemplary uplifting of a public institution through effective and strategic leadership.

Prof. Mugenda, who gave a presentation entitled: *Transformation Leadership; The Kenyatta University Experience*, said the country had a [continued on Pg 2](#)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pg 2 KU, Sabre Foundation Sign MoU

Pg 3 Transport Boost as VC Assures Staff

Pg 4 Shuttle Launch Special

Pg 5 Mututho, "Avoid Alcoholism"

Pg 9 KU-Equity Bank Youth Training

Pg 10 KU, Delta State University seek partnership

Editorial

The opening of the Kenyatta University Press is indubitable evidence that the University has indeed come of age. No longer will our scholars be at the mercy of mercenary commercial publishers who put quality in the backseat behind profit.

This is sadly the fate of university level books which local publishers shun, claiming, albeit honestly, that they have a minimal market. At Kenyatta University Press (KUP), the quality of the work presented for consideration will be paramount.

Further benefits that will ensue from this facility are income generation from services provided to the market at large and the savings that will be realized from severing reliance on outside printers and publishers for our institutional needs.

While on the subject of books, we learn that our erstwhile benefactors, the Sabre Foundation, have signed an MoU to provide us with more books and ICT material. For this the VC has expressed her profound gratitude.

The students are on an upbeat mood as the Student Shuttle Service has taken off smoothly.

The service is a brilliant solution to commuting problems between the campuses and it is gratifying to see the 'comrades' queuing calmly for the buses.

Have a productive and peaceful Second Semester.

David V. Karanja
Editor

Text books: Sabre Foundation and KU Sign MoU

Kenyatta University and the Sabre Foundation, USA, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding where the two institutions will cooperate in book donation in order to enhance the capacity of Kenyatta University's library to provide adequate services to users as well as enhance the ICT capacity of the University.

According to the MoU, Sabre Foundation will support Kenyatta University by donating books to its postmodern library, assist in the development of ICT capacity for the library and the University and also work closely with the University liaisons in Kenya and in the USA to expedite and customize

shipments to the current and future needs of Kenyatta University.

In December 2010, Kenyatta University received books worth 300 million from Sabre Foundation. Various disciplines that included Health Sciences, Engineering and Computer Sciences benefited from the 28,000 book donation.

During the meeting to sign the MoU, the Vice-Chancellor,

Prof. Olive Mugenda, thanked the Sabre Foundation through its Executive Director, Ms. Tania Vitvitsky, for the book donation, adding that many students and faculty had benefitted a lot from the publications. Ms. Vitvitsky said that her organization was committed to the screening of the publications to ensure that they are updated and of good quality.



The VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda, and Ms Tania Vitvitsky, the Sabre Foundation Executive Director sign the MoU on the donation of textbooks at the University on February 15, 2011.

Senior Gov't Officers on Learning Tour

continued from Pg 1

"very strong Civil Service" that would make institutions record impressive growth. "Leadership is a key intervening variable between resources and vision," said Prof. Mugenda, adding that she has a "very strong team of change agents."

The VC said KU was far from being where she would like it to be. "We are trying to reach where we want to be," she said.

Prof. Mugenda asked the

visitors to be committed to their work and above all to be transparent in their dealings. Good leaders, she said, should not engage in corruption. "Chief executive officers or senior administrators are the people to stop corruption. If we don't, we cannot expect those below us to stop it," said Prof. Mugenda, adding, "the fight against corruption would be futile if those in leadership positions used their juniors to carry

out corrupt dealings on their behalf." "The fight against corruption must start from the top. People should know that the practice is not institutionalized," said the VC.

She said that one major factor that contributes to corruption is greed. Leaders, she said, should avoid accepting gifts or favours, as the practice would compromise them. Prof. Mugenda said she herself does not accept gifts.

KU-Press Commissioned

continued from Pg 1

publishing, the University would be self-sufficient.

The press was commissioned by Mr. Paul Wanyagah, CEO, MediaMax Network on February 3, 2011. He described this development as "yet another milestone in the history of Kenyatta University."

The press has been set up to internationally-recognised standards as a prominent scholarly publisher of books, journals, brochures, magazines and all types of print material. It can perform various tasks from graphic design to printing, folding, cutting, binding and packing.

Mr. Wanyagah, a KU alumnus,

said that by establishing its own press, the "University has now empowered itself." The new press, he added, will help both the staff and students "of this great institution engage with the local community."

The CEO said the press will not only benefit the University, but will also play a key role in the development of the publishing industry in the country. He challenged scholars, students as well as other "young men and women" to seize the opportunity presented by the press and get themselves published.

Mr. Wanyagah commended the University Management, staff and students for the many achievements that have been realised in the last five years under the leadership of Prof. Mugenda. "Those who value visionary leadership need to continually celebrate these wondrous successes the University has achieved," he said.

Prof. Mugenda said it had been her dream to help the University own a press, not only to save funds but to generate the much-needed income.

For more, please visit: www.ku.ac.ke

"Kenyatta University has now empowered itself."

-Mr. Paul Wanyagah, CEO, MediaMax Network

VC Selected to Prestigious Com'wealth Varsity Council

Prof. Olive Mugenda,
Kenyatta University
Vice-Chancellor.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, has been nominated unopposed to the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU).

There are only three nominees from Africa: Prof. Mugenda, Prof. Ihron Rensburg (University of Johannesburg), and Prof. Ishaq Oloyede (University of Ilorin, Nigeria). All were nominated unopposed.

Prof. John Wood, the ACU Council Secretary General, said Prof. Mugenda will sit on the Council for the next two years. The Council, he said, looked forward to working with Prof. Mugenda, who has already been asked to attend her first Council meeting in Hong Kong in April. The meeting would prepare grounds for the ACU's Executive Heads meeting at the same place.

Writing on behalf of Prof. Wood, Ms Jacqueline Middleton the ACU Council Administrative Secretary, told Prof. Mugenda: "We are delighted to let you know that you have been nominated to serve the ACU Council for a two-year term. Welcome."

Prof. Mugenda, who is one of the four Vice-Presidents of the International association of Universities, said she was humbled by the honour. "This is a great honour to Kenyatta University and Kenya," she said.

The Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) was established in 1913 and is the oldest inter-university network in the world. The ACU has more than 500 member institutions in over 30 Commonwealth countries. It offers a wide portfolio of services, including policy research and analysis, advocacy, benchmarking and surveys, professional networking, opportunities for student and staff mobility, and access to discounted recruitment advertising and (in low-income countries) journals.

The ACU also manages prestigious scholarship schemes for governments and other funding bodies, and publishes the annual Commonwealth Universities Yearbook, the definitive source of information on higher education institutions in the Commonwealth.

Transport Boost as VC Assures Staff

The transport fleet at the University has been enhanced following the procurement of new vehicles, including a 62-seater bus.

The University has also acquired construction machinery, including a tipper and a backhoe loader. Both will be a major boost to the ongoing construction projects at the institution. About 50 vehicles have been procured since 2006. It is, indeed, a major achievement by the University.

Commissioning the vehicles, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, said the University was committed to enhancing efficiency in the transport department.

The VC commended the staff in the transport section for their continued commitment in taking care of the vehicles. She advised them to uphold integrity and honesty in their work.

The staff congratulated the Vice-Chancellor on getting another five-year contract. Prof. Mugenda sought to assure them that the Management was looking into their welfare.



From left
bottomclockwise:
The VC flags off the
backhoe loader, the
bus the car and the
tipper.



"I am very impressed by great projects underway at Kenyatta University."

-H.E. Ngovi Kitau, Kenyan Ambassador to Korea

FOCUS

ON STUDENTS

Shuttle Launch Special

It was relief to many students after the Management in consultation with the Kenyatta University Student Association (KUSA) introduced a shuttle service in January.

Main picture: A section of students board one of the Student Shuttle Service buses at the Main Campus. *Inset:* KUSA President Anthony Maina addresses the audience during the launch at the Ruiru Campus; the VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda and the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Paul Wainaina chat with the elated students aboard a bus at the Campus.



Think Job Creation, HELB CEO Urges

By Victor Kiplagat, Academic Secretary, KUSA

Mr. Benjamin Cheboi, CEO of the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), addresses students during a motivational talk at the Main Campus in January.

The Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) CEO, Mr Benjamin Cheboi, has asked students to focus on job creation and position themselves well so as to exploit available opportunities in the global village.

"As the world changes, work is changing too. Technical knowledge will always be essential. But equally important is the cross-cutting skills that enable people to cope with and develop new knowledge, while pursuing more flexible career paths. In the face of changing technologies and global competition, skills that support innovation become critical," said Mr Cheboi, when he addressed students during a capacity building forum. The forum was organised by the Academics Committee of KUSA in conjunction with University Management.

Its theme was *"The youth, changing technologies and the global competition."*

Mr Cheboi said: *"All you need to do is be on the lookout and prepare to take advantage of the skills that you have acquired in this great University and use them to realize your potential."*





FOCUS ON STUDENTS CONTINUED



Naivasha MP, Hon. John Mututho delivers his speech during the KU's Peer Educational Talk Show on February 5, 2011.

Right: Mr. Mututho launches the Peer Magazine.



Shun Alcohol Abuse, Mututho Urges Students

Naivasha Member of Parliament, Hon. John Mututho, has urged students to drink responsibly. Mr Mututho, who is credited with initiating the famous Alcoholic Drinks Control Act 2010, said the new laws, popularly known as the "Mututho rules", are aimed at regulating the consumption of alcohol with a view to helping the youth become more productive.

The MP was the guest speaker during the Kenyatta University Peer Educational Talk Show on February 5, 2011. His topic was entitled: *Alcohol Law-Myths and Facts*. Mr. Mututho also launched KU's *Peer Magazine*.

The theme of the event, hosted by the Kenyatta University Family Welfare and Counselling Project, (KUFWCP) was: *Demistifying Myths on Alcoholism in Campus - Alcohol Law*.

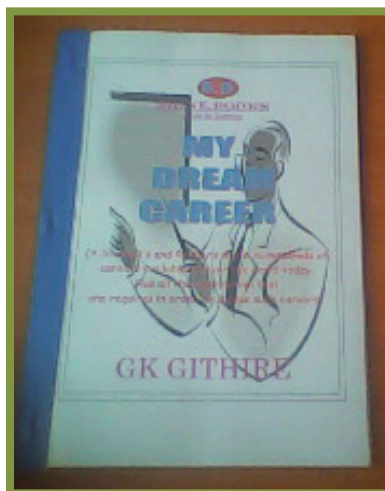
Speakers included Dr. G. Karanja, the KUFWCP Director; Dr. Sammy Tumuti, Director, Kenyatta University Wellness Centre; Dr. Robert Muniu, the Chairman, Physical and Health Education Department and a peer counsellor, Vincent Kaudu. The KUFWCP is also supported by the Pathfinder International, whose partnership with KU now spans 25 years.

The *Peer Magazine*, whose editorial team is comprised of students, is a vital means of information.

Career Book Goes Digital

Robert Kihui Githire, a Third Year law student at Parklands Campus, has released an electronic version of his book, *My Dream Career* he published last year. The book gives students advice on general career choices in high schools, colleges and universities.

The e-book, published on January 31, 2011 only three months after releasing the hard copy, has been printed on a Copyrighted Disc. It can be read using desktop computers, laptops or PCs. It retails at KSh.200 instead of



KSh500, thanks to technology.

The author says the book should guide the readers to choose wisely from hundreds of jobs available in the world today. It would, in particular, be helpful, especially at this time, when the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examination results are just around the corner. "Students need to be guided wisely on how to choose careers long before joining colleges and universities".

The e-Book is available at leading bookshops.

For more details, contact the author on:
0721-585-333, gkgithire@yahoo.com

Microsoft Calling Students for Global Competition

Microsoft is inviting university students to register and participate in the premier technology competition, the Imagine Cup 2011.

Registration is currently under way as students from around the world unlock their creative genius for top honours while extending their technology skills and talent to address many issues facing humanity today.

More than 300,000 students from more than 100 countries are expected to compete in this year's Imagine Cup competition whose worldwide finals will be held in New York City, USA in July.

The students are expected to showcase technology solutions to help solve problems as outlined in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals including projects aimed at helping to end hunger and poverty, as well as the achievement of universal education and health for all.

Vincent Mugambi, Developer & Platform

Manager, Microsoft Eastern & Southern Africa said "The Imagine Cup inspires students to use their creativity to help change the world for the better by discovering new ways to use technology to address some of the world's toughest challenges."

"Some of the greatest innovations and companies of tomorrow will be created by today's students. The Imagine Cup presents a fantastic opportunity for them to compete with students from around the world," Mugambi said.

For more information, contact the Director, Information Management and Communications, AIESEC. Also at hand to help is Evelyn Mwangi. Tel. 0711-995601. Email: eve.muthoni@aiesec.net.



Picture Speak



Ms. Lorna Skohosana, the Country Manager of Dow Chemicals (East Africa), receives a KU Information Pack from the Vice-Chancellor when she paid a courtesy call on her.



Prof. John Okumu, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (*Academic*) addresses visitors from the Kenya Institute of Administration who were on a study tour at the University on February 15, 2011.



Hon. Dr. Rajesh Jeetah, Mauritius' Minister for Tertiary Education, Science and Technology (*third right*) when he paid a courtesy call on the VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda on January 28, 2011 (*on his right*). With them are some members of the Management staff.



KU Deputy Vice-Chancellor (*Administration*), Prof. Paul Wainaina, displays the certificate from the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) declaring the University a 'NEMA Centre' on January 21, 2011.



A section of visitors from the Kenya Institute of Administration during their study tour at KU on February 15, 2011.



Mr. Kenneth Njoroge, the CEO, Holiday Cars and Tours, addresses the launching ceremony of the Kenyatta University Student Shuttle Service on January 10, 2011.



Picture Speak



Members of staff during the launch of the Kenyatta University Student Shuttle Service at the Ruiru Campus on January 10, 2011.



A student makes a point during the launch ceremony on January 10, 2011. On the left is Mr Anthony Maina, the Kenyatta University Student Association President and Victor Kiplagat (centre), KUSA Secretary.



Students and visitors admire items during the arts exhibition at the Godown Art Centre in Nairobi on February 14, 2011.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, leads some members of the Management Board on an inspection tour of the newly completed School of Engineering building.



The VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda (Centre), with among others, staff from the Transport Department after launching three vehicles and a loader on January 5, 2011. On either side of the VC is Prof. John Okumu (right) the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and Prof. Daniel Mugendi (left), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Finance and Planning).



Research Updates



Prof. Waceke Wanjohi,
FSB, Ag. Dean School
of Agriculture and
Enterprise Development.

KU Flag Flying High as Don Joins Prestigious Global Society

Prof. Waceke Wanjohi, KU's acting Dean School of Agriculture and Enterprise Development, has been elected as a Fellow of the Society of Biology.

The President of the Society of Biology Professor Nancy Rothwell said Prof. Waceke was elected "by a resolution of the Council" in recognition of her emense contribution in biological sciences.

"You are now entitled to use the

designatory letters FSB after your name. These letters signify to all that you are a professional biologist, well-qualified and subject to a rigorous code of conduct," Prof. Rothwell said in a letter to Prof. Wanjohi. He added: "Through your membership, you are contributing to the future status and understanding of all bioscience disciplines."

The Society of Biology has more than 80,000 members who "are uniquely placed to represent the wider bioscience

community and serve the public interest."

Prof. Wanjohi, who is among four scientists from Africa who are the latest to join the Society, said she was humbled by the honour. "Kenyatta University flag continues to fly high," she said.

The Vice-Chancellor congratulated Prof. Wanjohi on her election, saying the move was another honour to the University.

Envoy: I'll Mobilise Support in Korea for KU

The Kenyan Ambassador to South Korea has promised to mobilise Korean investors with a view to help KU with its projects.

H.E Ambassador Ngovi Kitau, said he would approach key investors so they could help in enhancing "very important projects" under way at the University. He said this when he paid a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor,

Prof. Olive Mugenda on January 31, 2011.

The envoy said he was "very impressed" by the great strides Kenyatta University has made academically and in infrastructure development. Mr Kitau said key areas of partnerships between KU and potential Korean investors would be on the establishment of the Kenyatta University Culture and Language Centre. The Ambassador said Korean government was keen on working with the University, including the promotion of Korean language and culture.

He said, he would seek support for Research and Industrial Park, as well as Community Outreach Activities.

H.E. Ngovi Kitau, the Kenyan Ambassador to South-Korea, receives the KU Information Pack from the VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda, on his courtesy call to KU.



Wikimedia Chairman: Help Vet Wikipedia Content



Mr. Ting Chen, Chairman of the International Wikimedia Board, signs the visitors' book at KU. Witnessing the occasion is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Paul Wainaina.

The Chairman of International Wikimedia Board, Mr. Ting Chen, asked scholars to help vet knowledge and content on the Wikipedia.

Mr Chen said this when he visited Kenyatta University on January 12, 2011. He was in the country to launch the Wikipedia for Schools project, an initiative of Wikimedia Foundation and Wikipedia volunteers in Kenya. The initiative aims at improving access to free information, especially critical educational content to Kenya's students and teachers.

Mr Chen, an information technology specialist, was at KU to share the Wikimedia Vision with the University. Besides, he was seeking partnership by recruiting volunteer students who would help in installing the Offline Wikipedia software to primary and secondary schools countrywide. He was received by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration, Prof. Paul Wainaina.



KU-Equity Bank Youth Training Programme Under way



Kenyatta University, through the Directorate of Community Outreach and Extension Programme, is undertaking a project on financial education for both the students and the youth around the country.

The Financial Education Mentoring and Training Programme (FEMPT) is a partnership between the University and Equity Bank. The project aims at enhancing education and up-scaling financial literacy among the youth to

enable them to make informed financial decisions.

Knowledge and skills

The programme includes 4,000 KU students and 8,000 young men and women around the country. The project expects to give knowledge and skills as well as change attitude and behaviour among the youth in five thematic areas: budgetary, savings, financial negotiations, banking services and debt management.

A tutor takes participants through a lesson during a financial education class at the Main Campus. The Financial Education Mentoring and Training Programme (FEMPT) programme is a joint venture between KU and Equity Bank.

Pioneer Anthropometrics Trained



Dr. Theo Nell, (seated centre) with participants in the ISAK Capacity building course between January 31 and February 4, 2011 at KU.

The first batch of anthropometrics from KU were trained during a five-day International Anthropometry Capacity Building Course at the University.

The course, which was conducted between January 31 and February 4, 2011, was facilitated by exercise and sports scientists, physical educators, nutritionists, paediatricians and general clinicians.

The 14 trainees, from KU and other institutions, will get the International Society for the Advancement of Kinanthropometry (ISAK) certificate. Dr. Theo Nell, from The University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, and KU's Dr. Vincent Onywera directed and coordinated the course.

The Dean, School of Applied Human Sciences, Prof. Keren Mburugu, said the course would improve service delivery significantly.

Total Group Seeks Partnership With KU

Total Group has approached KU with a view to partnering with the University.

If Total Kenya so recommends to its Paris head office, KU would be the third university, and the only one in East and Central Africa, to team up with the Group's Paris-based Total University, the organisations top officials have said. Others would be from Senegal and Nigeria.

From right: Mr. Clement Isong, Head of Refining and Marketing in Africa and Middle East; Ms Florence Varescan, the Total Group's Education Project Manager; and KU's Deputy VC (Academic) Prof. John Okumu.



Ms Florence Varescan, the Total Group's Education Project Manager; Mr Clement Isong, Head of Refining and Marketing in Africa and Middle East; and Mr Adele Tura, Total Kenya's Human Resources and Administration Manager, said the proposed partnership would involve student-staff exchange.

"Kenya University has been identified as

being very attractive to students in the region," said Mr Isong when the three visited the University on February 10, 2011. Ms Varescan said she looked forward to further talks leading to the partnership.

For more, please visit: www.ku.ac.ke

KU, Delta State University Seek Partnership

KU and Nigeria's Delta State University are set to partner on student - staff exchange.

Other areas will include joint research, publishing and supervision of postgraduate students, conferences and seminars and KU's annual Culture Week.

Prof. Eric Arubayi, the Vice-Chancellor of Nigeria's Delta State University and Prof. Peter Eruotor, the Director, Centre for Research and International Programmes, were at KU to work out the modalities.

Receiving the professors in her office, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, said the partnership would provide an opportunity for students and staff to gain wide experience. She said there was need for more partnerships among African Universities.

Prof. Orubayi said Delta State University had a lot to learn from KU due to its impressive track record.



Prof. Eric Arubayi, Vice-Chancellor of Nigeria's Delta State University, receives the KU Information Pack from the VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda, when he paid her a courtesy call.

Seek VCT Services, VC urges



Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration) Prof. Paul Wainaina during the official opening ceremony of the Eighth Edition of KU's HIV Testing Week.

The Vice-Chancellor has encouraged both students and staff to take up Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) services to know their HIV status in order to make informed decisions.

The eighth edition of KU's HIV Testing Week ran between February 7 and 14, and its theme was: "My Sexuality, My Swag, My Life." The event was opened officially at the Main Campus by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Paul Wainaina, who represented Prof. Mugenda.

The KU-ACU was established in March 2001 with the mission of building positive

responses to HIV/AIDS and to promote behaviour change within the KU community and the neighboring Kiwanja ('KM') community, through encouraging positive living.

During the first HIV Testing Week, only twenty five (25) clients were tested but the number has grown tremendously such that by the year 2010, 1879 clients were counselled and tested for HIV.

Prof. Mugenda said it was encouraging to note that KU's ACU has since been able to reduce stigmatization, as well as disseminate information that helps in the fight, management and prevention of HIV/AIDS.

KU Ranking Improves yet Again

Webometrics rankings released in January this year 2011 indicate that KU has gone up the ladder yet again since 2007.

Please visit <http://www.webometrics.info/> for details. The table below summarizes the margin of improvement.

Date	World Rank	Africa Rank	Country Rank
Jan 2007	7354	82	7
Aug 2007	Out of Rank bracket	Out of Rank bracket	Out of Rank bracket
Jan 2008	Out of Rank bracket	Out of Rank bracket	Out of Rank bracket
Aug 2008	8855	94	5
Jan 2009	7993	84	5
Aug 2009	9129	100	5
Jan 2010	7189	74	4
July 2010	6464	80	4
Jan 2011	5129	51	3

Disability Day

The second Disability Day – an annual event - will be on March 18. The event will be marked by various activities including displays by

organisations working with the disabled.

Prof. Paul Mbugua, the Coordinator, Kenyatta University Disability Services Unit

(KUDSO), said the event will be opened officially by a top official from the National Council for People with Disabilities. "The climax will be a public Lecture by

Mr. Kibaya Laibuta, a renowned lawyer," he said. Mr. Laibuta is a member of the Constitutional Implementation Commission.

Appointments



Dr. Edward Kigen from the Department of Educational Psychology, has been appointed Chairman, Kenyatta University Nakuru Campus Advisory Board.



Prof. James Gatoto has been appointed Director, Kenyatta University Nakuru Campus.



Dr. Mukiri wa Githendu has been appointed the Acting Chairman, Department of Agricultural Science & Technology.



Dr. Mary Runo has been appointed Chairman, Department of Special Needs Education.



Dr. Vincent Onywera, has been appointed the Acting Director, Centre for Linkages and International Programmes.

“
Education
sector is open
to many
opportunities
in addition to
teaching,”

- Dr. Eddah Gachukia,
The Academic Director,
Riara Group of Schools

Mentors Retreat to Karura Forest



Cool retreat: Staff and student mentors at the end of a one-day retreat at the Karura Forest in Nairobi, on February 12, 2011.

Staff and student mentors made a one-day retreat to the Karura Forest in Nairobi, to enjoy and appreciate Kenya's rich natural heritage.

The 160 students and staff were led by Dr. Elishiba Kimani, Director, Mentoring Programme, Prof.

Douglas Nderitu, Dr. Ruth Wanjau, and Mercy Mwaniki, Administrator, Mentoring Programme.

They used the occasion — on February 12, 2011 — to bond and learn to work as a team in various ways, including games, songs, dances.

Mauritius Seeks KU Partnership on Tourism



Hon. Dr. Rajesh Jeetah, Mauritius' Minister for Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, during the visit. Looking on is the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda.

Top government officials from Mauritius visited the University with a view to seeking partnership in hospitality and tourism.

The team, led by the Minister for Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, Hon. Dr. Rajesh Jeetah, said his country has a well-developed hospitality and tourism sector, which KU could exploit and grow.

Those who accompanied the Minister included the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, Mr. Rajeshwara Pentiah, the Director of Tertiary Education Commission, Dr. Pravin Mohadeb, the Research Officer, Dr. Vimla R. Luximon.

The Kenyan government delegation that escorted them included Dr. Fredrick Kamundi, who represented the PS, Ministry of Education, and Ms. Fenny Mwakisha, representing the PS, Ministry of Higher Education, Science & Technology.

Career Week 2011



More than 4,000 secondary school students attended this year's career week than ran between February 19 and 25.

Its theme was: *Paradigm shift from job seeking to job creation*. Key professionals in the country graced the event and delivered motivational speeches. *Full story in the next issue.*

Bereavement



Mary Mukonyo Mutie passed away on January 25, 2011 at Kenyatta National Hospital. She was staff at the Health Unit, mother of Justus Mutie, also of Health Unit.

She was laid to rest on February 5, 2011 at her home in Nduluni, Makueni District.

SPIRITUAL LINES

The Race

BY GEORGE MONAYO

To win the race, one must be disciplined. In the Bible Apostle Paul, uses the analogy of an athlete in the Christian race. There are many things that may hinder a competitor in the race of faith.

A Christian is one who is fit and ready to run the race that is set. After a good start runners may slacken in the will to persevere. Their effort decreases. (Hebrews 2:1). This kind of effort can be likened to an educational race.

Along the way, students will face great challenges that will depress their mood. However they must remember that they are engaged in a contest of utmost seriousness, God chastises us so that we may be partakers of His holiness and yield the peaceable fruit of righteousness (Hebrews 12:8).

In the Christian sense, athletes must keep their eyes fixed on the goal. Those who run become witnesses. They must also keep their eyes fixed on Jesus on whom faith depends from start to finish. Similarly, the educational race freshers have started must be one in which their

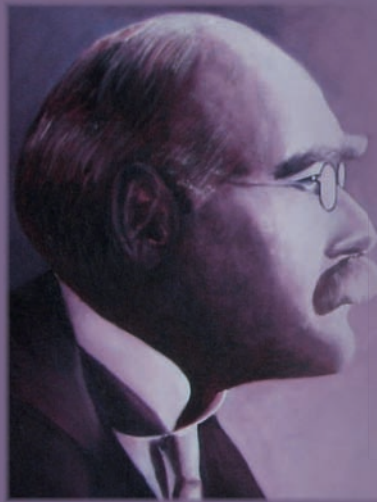
eyes are fixed on Jesus and have that necessary faith for completing the course.

We come from different families, we should form a Christian community where we call one another brother and sister. (Ephesians 2:19).

Nobody can be a Christian in isolation. We need one another. *"Find friendship, develop our gifts, and comparatively meet our Lord"*. Ecclesiastes 9:11 states that *"The race is not to the swift, or the battle to the strong, nor does good come to the wise, or favour to the learned, but time and chance happen to them all"*. All of us are in the race. We do not really know, whether we shall all complete this race. Time and chance will determine. As you have begun your race of Education in this institution, time and chance will determine your success.

1 Corinthians 9:24 indicates that all runners in a race run but only one gets a prize. All aim to receive a reward. All of us who compete in the games must undergo strict training. You have to be trained and compete in order to get a reward.

Wisdom



*I keep six honest
serving-men (They
taught me all I knew);
Their names are What
and Why and When
and How and Where
and Who. "*

- Joseph Rudyard Kipling -

Joseph Rudyard Kipling, the first English language writer to receive the Nobel Prize for literature, is eulogized for his narrative versatility. Born as an Anglo-Indian, his writings are influenced by complexities of identity and national allegiance. Rudyard Kipling is now viewed rather negatively for his defence of colonialism, imperialism and white supremacy.

Poem

Know your Strengths

**Keep the eye on the ball
Ignite your creative juices
Practice at all times
Reach for greatness
Observe your moves
Test yourself
Inspire yourself
Challenge yourself, then,
Hope for the best**

**Try your perfection
On all aspects of life
Never abnegate whatsoever
Use every chance given to
Improve yourself**

**Shy away from dream Killers
Have strong desire
And
Don't shy from brickbats but
Rise against adversity
Accept accolades happily
Cherish all your dreams and victories
Know your strengths**

Shadrack Tonui Kiprotich
Third Year, B.Ed
(English and Literature)

Editorial Board: Margaret Otolu (Member), Janet Muthimi (Member), Grace Muchiri (Member), Erica Mwololo (Member), Julius Maore (Member), Isaac Mwangi (Member), Mercy N. Kanyi (Member), Patrick Minai (Design & Layout), James Chege (Student Representative), David Karanja (Editor), Stephen Mburu (Production 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 109 or 106 in the main Administration Block.