



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.

Prime Minister Opens KU's School of Engineering



The Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Raila A. Odinga, EGH., MP, arrives at the University to officially open the School of Engineering Complex. He is flanked by (L-R) VC Prof. Olive Mugenda, KU Chancellor Prof. Justice (Rtd) Onesimus Mutungi, Chairman of Council, Mr. Benson Wairegi and Assistant Minister for Higher Education Science & Tech. Hon Asman Kamama.

The Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Raila A. Odinga has called on Kenyan Universities to incorporate cutting-edge engineering programmes and provide multi-disciplinary training that will prepare graduates to enable them to serve well in the technologically-driven Kenya.

The Prime Minister was speaking at Kenyatta University when he officially opened the School of Engineering Complex at the Main Campus on 31st May 2011. The School of Engineering Complex comprises administrative offices, laboratories, lecture halls and workshops. Hon. Odinga commended the University leadership

for the notable growth and infrastructural development. *"The government is proud of your achievements and I wish to point out that we will continue to support Kenyatta University as you strive to achieve the goals stipulated in the University's ten-year Strategic and Vision plan,"* said the premier.

He further urged teachers training colleges to apply new and creative teaching methods in order to raise interest in sciences among the students. The Prime Minister underscored the need to address the causes of low enrolment among female students saying more girls should be encouraged to take up engineering

courses at the University.

At the same time, Hon. Odinga called on the Engineering Regulatory Board and the management of Schools of Engineering in the universities to come up with workable solutions in order to address the concerns raised in the past by the Engineering Registration Board. *"While maintaining that the quality of engineering education in our universities must never be compromised, I urge the ERB to guide the universities in strengthening these programmes to ensure that what our engineering*

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Prioritize Academic Excellence, VC advises 1st Year Students

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda has advised the new undergraduate students to prioritize their studies before other things. She was speaking during the official welcome to first year students who reported to the University in May.

In her speech during the Matriculation Ceremony at the Graduation Square on 9th May 2011, Prof. Mugenda urged the "freshers" to develop a personal strategic plan which would guide their decisions as students. *"Success is not an accident. It begins with a well-conceived plan. You can and will achieve more in the years*

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Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda addressing the First Year Students.



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Editorial

Hard on the heels of The Prime Minister's opening of the Engineering Complex highlights this issue. The Hon. Raila Odinga informed and entertained the audience at graduation square. He actually "wowed" the students when he addressed them as 'comrades'.

His ability to relate to all and sundry as well as challenge his listeners made his visit very memorable. We were humbled to be reminded that we have not added a measly mile of railway line since the departure of the colonialists.

On another vein, KU is proud to have taken the initiative in admitting the first group of the double intake of 2011/12 students so as to remove the back log of KCSE students. The 2009 KCSE students have now completed their first semester.

The 2010 KCSE group are due in September. This is indeed leading from the front since our Vice-Chancellor is the current chairman of the Joint Admissions Board.

This issue has articles on the University's involvement in more social and governmental concerns such as the training of KRA officials, matriculation of military science cadets, water and sewerage trainees at KIST, and the promotion of mathematics education.

We hope you enjoy our offerings and please keep on sending your contributions.

David V. Karanja
Editor

School of Engineering Opened

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graduates are trained to meet the international standards. Quality must never be compromised if our graduates are to remain competitive in the region and globally," he said.

The Minister for Higher Education, Science and Technology who was represented by Hon. Asman Kamama, an Assistant Minister in the same Ministry, congratulated Kenyatta University for being rated as a centre of excellence in provision of higher education not only in the country but also in the East African region. He praised the efforts by the University management to improve infrastructure without losing sight of the University's

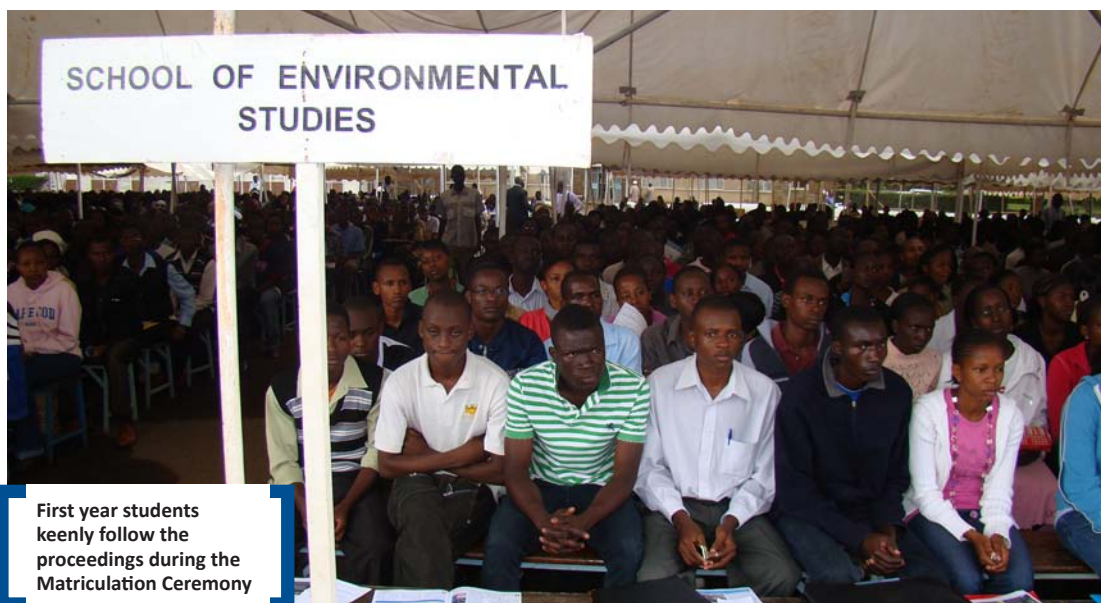
core function of providing quality education. Kenyatta University Chancellor, Prof. Justice (Rtd) Onesimus Mutungi, reiterated the University's commitment to providing high quality programmes and facilities. *"We continue to invest heavily in infrastructure so as to provide technologically advanced facilities that will in turn provide an outstanding learning environment for students in all spheres,"* said Prof. Mutungi.

The KU Chairman of Council, Mr. Benson Wairegi, noted that the completion of the project is a demonstration of the University's commitment to the expansion and improvement of learning facilities.

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, said that Kenyatta University was doing a lot to ensure that the engineering graduates meet the demands of the Engineers Registration Board (ERB).

The University, she said, with a qualified team of experts, was also restructuring and harmonizing courses in line with the ERB's requirements in order to get accreditation. Prof. Mugenda underscored the need to diversify different engineering courses being offered in the local Universities as is the case in the development world.

Prioritize Academic Excellence, VC advises 1st Year Students



First year students keenly follow the proceedings during the Matriculation Ceremony

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to to come than you have in the past with a disciplined Personal Strategic Plan. I encourage you to set yourselves high academic and moral standards," continued the VC.

The Vice-Chancellor further cautioned the new students against examination misconduct that would lead to dismissal from the University. *"Like all universities, Kenyatta University takes examinations very seriously. Accordingly, you are encouraged to carefully read all the regulations here at the University and conduct yourselves appropriately during all University examinations,"* she cautioned.

The new students were mostly the 2009 KCSE candidates admitted under Joint Admissions Board (JAB) and reported four months earlier than usual, thereby reducing the time they would have stayed waiting to join the University.

The completion of the project is a demonstration of the University's commitment to the expansion and improvement of learning facilities."

**Chairman of Council, Mr. Benson Wairegi
Kenyatta University**

VC calls for Strategies to Address Poor Performance in Mathematics



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, addresses participants during the opening ceremony of the Mathematics Conference.

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, has called on local universities to come up with specific strategies to address the poor performance in Mathematics among students and reverse the negative trend in the country.

Prof. Mugenda noted that the results of Mathematics as a subject for the past five years have been below 30%, a dismal performance despite the subject being a compulsory subject

in the secondary school curriculum in Kenya.

The VC implored the Universities to set up centres of excellence in Mathematics to help improve performance in the subject. According to Prof. Mugenda, *"research by one of the key stakeholders in secondary education in Kenya, the Strengthening of Mathematics and Science in Secondary Education (SMASSE) Project has shown that consistent failure and negative attitude by students towards Mathematics*

continues to characterize most classrooms."

The Vice-Chancellor was addressing participants of the First Kenyatta University International Mathematics Conference on 8th June 2011. The two day conference whose theme was *"The Role of Mathematics as a Tool for Development,"* was organised by the Department of Mathematics at the University. Participants were drawn from UK, Sweden, South Africa, Rwanda, Uganda, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Italy, Ghana and Nigeria. Universities in Kenya were also well represented. The VC also challenged the Department of Mathematics to come up with a Regional Journal of Mathematics in order to encourage publishing among the teaching members of staff.

The keynote speaker, Prof. Oluwole Daniel Makinde from Cape Peninsula University of Technology, South Africa, gave an address on *"Impact of Mathematical Sciences Research on National Development."* Prof. Makinde said that the level of research in mathematical sciences determines the level of the science and technological advancement of any nation. *"Unless a country is well equipped with the necessary mathematical skills and knowledge to unlock its enormous scientific and technological potential, it will be lagging behind in the race of development,"* said Prof Makinde.

Kenyatta University Trains Staff From Unicef and KRA

Kenyatta University, through the Regional Centre for Capacity Development, concluded training for Kenya Revenue Authority trainers in Curriculum Development Skills.

The officers, who consisted of both senior trainers and human resource personnel, were trained for five days during a training based at the Kenya Institute of Education (KIE).

The trainees had a chance to visit Kenyatta University during the closing of the workshop where they praised Kenyatta University Management for the ongoing development in the University. They expressed sentiments that they wished the training was held at KUCC instead and promised that next time they hold a workshop, they will definitely patronize Kenyatta University Conference Centre (KUCC).

During the closing of the workshop, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P.K. Wainaina, called upon the two institutions to grow the founded collaboration for their mutual benefit. He invited the participants to visit the KU City Campus and take up evening programmes in a bid to develop themselves further.

In another two days training workshop,



Participants from KRA in a discussion session.

staff from UNICEF were trained in Organizational Skills and Time Management. The course focused on self-management issues meant to increase efficiency among staff. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, who was the chief guest during the closing Ceremony of the workshop, advised the

participants to ensure effective management of time and acknowledged that without proper planning, progress is limited. She also highlighted the impact of time wastage on development generally. The Vice-Chancellor thanked UNICEF for choosing to train at Kenyatta University.

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

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

FOCUS ON STUDENTS

Matriculation for Military Science Students

The Matriculation Ceremony for the pioneer students of the new Bachelor of Science in Military Studies degree programme was held on 10th June 2011. The 132 military cadets from Kenya Military Academy took the matriculation oath to formally acquire the studentship status of Kenyatta University.

The Bachelor of Science in Military Studies programme is being implemented by a Joint Implementation Committee comprising the Institute of Peace and Security Studies and the Kenya Military Academy.

While addressing the matriculants, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, noted that the University was the first institution in the East Africa region to offer a degree in Military Studies. The pioneer students also include some from the East African Community. Prof. Mugenda also called on the officers to take advantage of the flexible modes of learning to further their careers in the wide range of courses offered at the University, such as the Masters in Public Policy and Administration.

Speaking during the historical ceremony, the Chief of the Defence Forces of Kenya, General Jeremiah Kianga, lauded Kenyatta University for achieving enviable standards of academic excellence. *Kenya Defence Forces only goes into partnership with the very best and I can state that Kenyatta University was able to beat a large field of competitors purely on merit by virtue of the superiority of your programme*



The Pioneer students of Bachelor of Science in Military Studies during their Matriculation

content and unequalled delivery capacity and quality," he said. Gen. Kianga congratulated the cadets who were selected through a highly competitive selection exercise to place them in the pioneer cadet class, urging them to reciprocate the trust shown in them.

The programme, he said, was aimed at equipping the officers with knowledge and skills that will

underpin their professional growth and effectiveness as commanders and leaders of the Kenya Defence Forces.

The colourful ceremony was attended by members of the University Management, Senate, Directors and Senior Officers of the Kenya Defence Forces.

KU Training for Malindi Water & Sewerage Company Staff



Participants engage in a practical session on wall construction and plastering.

Kenyatta University completed the first short course training in collaboration with Kiambu Institute of Science & Technology (KIST). The training took place from 9th to 14th May 2011 on masonry work for staff from Malindi Water & Sewerage Company Ltd drawn from the building & construction department of the company.

The course, being technical in nature, was mounted at KIST by the college facilitators who train on building construction. KIST was selected for this training since it is well equipped for such a course being a technical college and has a Memorandum of Understanding with KU.

The 5 participants covered topics in general building construction, wall & roof construction and general floor & wall finishes among other topics.

The principal KIST, floated thoughts through Director Regional Centre for Capacity Development to explore the possibility of offering the course through a holiday crash programme of 3 months in which the content of 1 year

would be covered. The facilitators also suggested that more diverse technical courses should be considered for future collaborations.

The training was as a result of a marketing trip late last year to Malindi Water and Sewerage Company Ltd by the Director, Dr. Josephine Gitome and a board member, Dr. Felicita Njuguna to promote the Centre's short courses. It is expected that the skills acquired during this training will go a long way in improving performances of the staff trained.

The course, being technical in nature, was mounted at KIST by the college facilitators who train on building construction.

Take advantage of the flexible modes of learning to further their careers in the wide range of courses offered at the University, such as the Masters in Public Policy and Administration.

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, Kenyatta University



FOCUS ON STUDENTS CONTINUED

Welcome to KU, VC tells Pioneer MPPA & EMPPA Students

Students of the Public Policy and Administration degree programme at the City Campus



The pioneer group of postgraduate students taking Masters in Public Policy and Administration (MPPA) and Executive Masters in Public Policy and Administration (EMPPA) Programmes have already started their studies at KU's City Campus.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, and members of the University management were at the

City Campus to welcome the students. *"I congratulate you for taking this important decision to pursue your post graduate studies at KU and we would like you to know that we value you as the pioneer group of students in the EMPPA and MPPA programme,"* said the VC. The VC assured the students that the University would equip them with the skills, values, knowledge

and attitudes necessary for the current competitive global economy. The new programmes were launched in March 2011 and are designed to equip public sector administrators with a combination of cutting-edge knowledge, policy analysis and critical public management skills.

KU Receives another Consignment of Books From Sabre Foundation, USA



The Ag. Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. K. Wainaina and other members of the KU Management receive books donated by the Sabre Foundation. Handing over the books is Mr. Nyaga, the Director of East Africa Book Trust.

Kenya University has once again received a book donation worth Ksh 112 Million from the Sabre Foundation, USA. The consignment of two containers was received in a colourful ceremony on 21st June 2011. Present during the reception were members of the University Management, Students and their leaders and staff from the University library among others.

The Ag. Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. K. Wainaina who led the University community in receiving the books, thanked the Sabre Foundation for the noble and kind gesture towards KU, noting that all the books were new editions. He also thanked Dr. Martin Mwangi of Harvard University, USA for his contribution in ensuring that KU benefited from the donation. Dr. Mwangi is a KU alumni and he introduced Kenya University to Sabre Foundation. Prof. Wainaina assured the donors that the books will be put into good use.

The Director of East Africa Book Trust, Mr. Nyaga and other Directors of the firm accompanied the books to the University. The East African Book Trust, is an NGO that solicits for books and other reading materials from donors and was contracted to facilitate the delivery of the books to the University, with the help of Dr. Mwangi.

Mr. Anthony Akoto, President of the Kenya University Students Association (KUSA) thanked Sabre Foundation on behalf of the students, who are the beneficiaries of the books. Mr. Akoto said that the books will support their goal of acquiring knowledge. He urged the students to make maximum use of the books without mishandling them. Sabre Foundation is Non-Governmental Organization in the USA that solicits books from publishers and donates them to institutions. In December 2010, the University received books worth over Kshs. 300 Million from the Sabre Foundation.



Prof. Leonard E. Newton
(Dept. Plant & Microbial Sciences)
Kenyatta University

The latest book by Professor L.E. Newton (Dept. Plant & Microbial Sciences), entitled **"Aloes: The Definitive Guide"**, has just been published by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK. In its 719 pages, he and two other botanists have written descriptions and notes for the 561 different kinds of Aloe plant known, 63 of which occur in Kenya. A fourth botanist has written a chapter on the history of plant exploration and discovery, going back over 2000 years. The book has over 1700 colour photographs. Prof. Newton has donated a copy to the university library.

The books will support their goal of acquiring knowledge. He urged the students to make maximum use of the books without mishandling them.

KUSA President, Mr. Anthony Akoto



Official Opening of The School of Engineering by the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon Raila A. Odinga

Picture Speak



Kenyatta University Students welcome the Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Raila A. Odinga to the University.



The Dean, Sch. of Engineering, Dr. Muthumbi Waweru explains a point about the machine to the Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Raila A. Odinga.



The Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga waters the tree he planted at the School of Engineering.



The Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga signs the visitors book at the School of Engineering.



Ms. Mugure Njendu-Mbathi of Gitutho Associates (the KU Post-Modern Library Architects) explains a point to the Prime Minister when he toured the site of the upcoming Post-Modern Library.



Paul Mbuvi and Martin Githinji of KU Traveling Theatre entertain guests during the ceremony to mark the official opening of the School of Engineering.



Picture Speak



(L-R) Assistant Minister for Higher Education, Science & Technology, Hon Asman Kamama, KU's Chairman of Council, Mr. Benson Wairegi and the Chancellor, Prof. Justice (Rtd) Onesimus K. Mutungi, Ph.D., EBS, await the arrival of the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga.



Prof. Peter Kinyanjui and other members of KU Council follow proceedings during the Ceremony to mark the official opening of the School of Engineering.



The VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda, introduces Prof. Oluoch Obura, Dean School of Humanities & Social Sciences to the Chief of the Defence Forces of Kenya, General Jeremiah Kianga on the occasion of the Matriculation Ceremony for Military Science Students.



General Jeremiah Kianga, the Chief of the Defence Forces of Kenya, introduces Senior Officers at the force to the VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda.



General Jeremiah Kianga, the Chief of the Defence Forces of Kenya, the VC, Prof Olive Mugenda and other members of the University Management during the Matriculation ceremony of the Kenya Military Science Students.



Defence Forces of Kenya Band lead the Procession during the Matriculation Ceremony.



Research Updates

KU Hosts International Mathematics Conference

Participants during the Mathematics conference.



Kenyatta University's Department of Mathematics collaborating with the Mentoring African Research in Mathematics (MARM) hosted the First Kenyatta University International Mathematics Conference between 8th -10th June 2011.

The Mathematics Conference whose theme was "The Role of Mathematics as a Tool for Development" took place at Kenyatta University Conference Centre (KUCC) and brought together local, regional and international mathematics researchers and scholars.

The Conference success in bringing together global participants created a forum appropriate for sharing important mathematical research findings, enhancing collaboration as well as creating awareness of mathematics as a tool for economic and

technological development. Among others, the Conference objectives included bringing together local and international mathematicians to share their research experiences, creating a forum for discussion of the role of mathematics in development and enhancing networking and collaborations among mathematicians.

Speaking during the official opening of the conference, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Olive Mugenda said that in today's technology driven society, greater demands have been placed on individuals to interpret and use mathematics to make sense of information and complex situations. The Vice-Chancellor emphasized that Mathematics is crucial not only for education but also for use by all people in various careers and daily applications including budgeting and planning.

Tanzania Govt Officials visit KU

A team of Government officials from Tanzania were at the University recently to learn and share experiences in the implementation of the Performance Contract process. Kenyatta University was one of the institutions nominated by the Office of the Prime Minister, Kenya as part of the itinerary for the Tanzanian delegation.

While welcoming the guests, the Ag. Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P.K. Wainaina noted that the University had put a lot of emphasis on the implementation of the Performance Contract

and ensuring that the set targets are achieved.

As a result of embracing the process of performance contracting and making it a culture, the University had achieved notable benefits key among them; rapid improvement in physical infrastructure, increased student enrolment, increased academic programmes, expansion through satellite campuses and open learning centres, enhanced customer satisfaction and increased visibility and improved international ranking among universities in the world. The University also became the first public university in the country to be ISO Certified.

The leader of the delegation, Mr. Sinji Matata from the President's Office in Tanzania observed that Kenyatta University had accomplished magnificent achievements.

He noted that it was clear that Performance Contracting process was very important if well implemented as with the case of KU. Mr. Matata congratulated the University management for the achievements that have indeed gone along way to support the core functions of the University teaching, learning and research.



The Registrar (Finance, Planning & Development), Dr. Nelson Karagu, explains a point to the delegation from Tanzania during a tour of some of the University facilities.

Campus Round-Up

PARKLANDS

The past semester was very eventful for the School of Law.

The following are some of the activities that took place at the school.

Mentorship programme

The lecturers at the School have taken the mentorship programme to a new level. They recognize the importance of the programme and have thus held several group meetings to tackle common issues affecting the students such as Curriculum Vitae writing; how to prepare for job interviews; how to answer job interview questions; how to study; among others. Apart from the group meetings,

the mentors have had private sessions with some of their mentees.

The students have actualized their mentors' advice and have thus come up with various initiatives at the School and have also personally excelled in various things, for example:

The Fikra Zetu Initiative. It is an initiative from U1 class meant to identify problems in our society and come up with projects to deal with these problems. e.g. Orphans in children's homes. Makinika.com. It is a website created by the School of Law students that links students across Kenyan Universities and Colleges. The students are thus able to Chat; share ideas and notes (e-books); photos and much more.

Published works and upcoming publications. Our students are working very hard to write and publish articles and books. Some of the students include: Joyner Okonjo (U4); Article in the Nairobi Law Journal. The article critiqued some of the amendments made in the Civil Procedure Rules. Felix Okumu (U1); Book: Sun of the Bush: A Story of His Own Personal Struggle in Life and into Success. Working on: Essentials of triumph: A

motivation book. Robert Githire (U5); Book: My Dream Career: A Guidance to Various Career Choices. He was featured in The Standard February 28, 2011. On 23rd March 2011, he launched his book at the Kenyatta University School of Law. The book is available at Chania Bookshop and Wells Bookshop. Tom Keen (U3); Book: After elections. A book on post election violence. We congratulate the students for these achievements



Guest Speaker Charles Kevin Kamau (Right) and Robert Githire (left) during the launch of his book My Dream Career on 23 March 2011 at Kenyatta University School of Law



Students cheering their fellows in mentor group during the Kenyatta University School of interclass sports day.

An interclass sports day was held at the compound. It was an exciting event for the students. Only four ladies represented their classes by actively participating in the various sports activities. They are Rosemary Kimani (U7), June Jumbari (U5), Mercine Millimu (U5) and Faith Wanjeri (U3). We hope to have more ladies actively participating in the future thus fewer ladies in the cheering stand. We shall keep the University posted on this.

Hon. Kivutha Kibwana Visits Campus

The students were honoured to have one of the senior counsels in Kenya and an authority in Constitutional Law give them a lecture on *The Ambiguities in the New Constitution* during their Clinical Seminar Class. The lecture was organised by their Clinical Seminar lecturer Mrs. Connie Houghton.



Students with Honorable Kivutha Kibwana during his visit to Kenyatta University - Parklands Campus

Kitui Campus exhibits at the Annual Education Day for secondary schools in Kitui County

Kitui Campus exhibited at the Annual Education Day for secondary schools in Kitui County that are sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Kitui on 17th June, 2011. The event was held at St. Charles Lwanga Secondary School in Kitui. The exhibition took place along with the main event which was attended by students and teachers from over 50 secondary schools. The main event was presided over by His Lordship Rt. Rev. Bishop Anthony Muheria of the Catholic Diocese of Kitui. The Kitui Campus stand was crowded throughout the event with hundreds of students and teachers enquiring about programmes offered at Kitui Campus and other campuses of Kenyatta University. At hand to give information was a team led by the Deputy



The Deputy Director, Kitui Campus, Dr. Peter Karanja, fields questions from students at the Campus stand during the Education day.

Director, Kitui Campus, Dr. Peter Karanja, Dr. Anne Kamau who is the Campus Coordinator SHSS, and other staff members and students. Information given was supplemented by brochures, flyers, information booklets from the various schools and directorates of Kenyatta University, and Kitui Campus in particular. It was evident that KU is very popular in this region and potential customers were eager to get information about programmes and life in KU and Kitui Campus.

Among the visitors to the Kitui Campus stand was the chief guest Bishop Muheria of the Catholic Diocese of Kitui. He was impressed by what Kenyatta University had presented and urged secondary school students to work hard in their studies and choose their careers wisely as they prepared to join the University. He promised to visit Kitui Campus again having visited on one earlier occasion.

Sports

IPC-SSC Meeting

The International Paralympic Committee – Sports Science Committee (IPC-SSC) held its annual meeting at Kenyatta University Business and Student Services Centre from 10th -12th May. This year's meeting was the first to be held outside Bonn-Germany.

This was followed by a workshop facilitated by the members of the IPC-SSC. The facilitators included Prof. Yves Vanlandewijck from Leuven University, Belgium, Prof. Jennifer Mactavish from Manitoba University – Canada, Prof. Walter Thompson from Georgia State University, Ms Osnat Fliess-Douer from Wingate University College Israel, Dr, Peter Van de Vliet the Medical and science Director of the IPC HQs in Bonn and Mr. Peter Bukhala of the Department of Physical and Health Education at Kenyatta University, Kenya.

The workshop was held from 13th -15th May and was attended by 64 participants from various organisations in the country, representing medical,

sports administrators, physical activity practitioners and graduate students in sports.

The Chief Guest during the official opening was the Deputy Vice Chancellor for (Academics) Prof. John Okumu who represented the Vice-Chancellor. The Keynote address was on the *State of Sports for Persons with Disabilities in Kenya* and was delivered by Prof. Wilson Lang'at the Sports Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

The workshop aimed to: Build capacity among Paralympic sports practitioners in the country; Sensitize sports practitioners on current research practices in disability sports; Train Sports practitioners in current IPC competition rules and regulations; Offer in depth skills on classification and eligibility of Paralympic athletes; and Provide a practical exposure to selected Paralympic sports.

Services offered at the Welfare Resource Centre



Located within the broader office of the Dean of Students, the Welfare Resource Centre, located at Usambara 3, is

designed to provide a variety of services to students who have special needs in order to facilitate both their academic and social life. In nature,

these services are technical as well as psychological support.

Contact between special needs students and the Resource Centre staff begins when such individuals arrive for their first year and during subsequent semesters. At this point the Kenyatta University Disability Office (KUDSO) together with the Dean of Students' Office ensure that the students receive quick attention at Registration venues.

The Resource Centre also liaises with the Dean of Students Office, the University's Moi Library (see Mr. Fredrick Wambua and Mr. Migwi Wangigi) who can be reached on Ext. 57044 or 57043), and the Kenya Society for the Blind to coordinate methods of harnessing existing resources in order to efficiently deliver diverse services

for visually challenged students.

In addition, the Centre runs a programme under which its personnel meets with special needs students Kenyatta University Disabled Students Association (KUDSA) to discuss problems they might be encountering with a view to resolving them. The Patron of KUDSA is Dr. Lilian Boit.

The Resource Centre plays a major role in offering crucial support services, for instance arranging Tuk-Tuk services to aid the mobility of such students within the campus. Further, the Centre recruits readers for visually challenged students. Mr. Muthoka and other staff can be reached on KU Ext. 57361 to volunteer.

Students Trained on Financial Management



Training of first year students on financial education on 14th and 15th May, 2011

The Directorate of Community Outreach and Extension Programmes (COEP) has been a busy office in the month of April, 2011 and May, 2011.

The Directorate sent out about 1,700 students for Community Service which was set to begin in April, 2011 and end by August, 2011. During this duration the students are expected to serve the communities where they come from as a way of giving back to the community.

In the Financial Education Mentoring and Training Programme (FEMTP) Project the Directorate targeted 4,000 Kenyatta University students to be trained on Budgeting, Savings, Financial negotiations, Bank Services and Debt Management. During the 1st phase training which was conducted on 12th and 13th March, 2011 the Directorate trained 1,690 students while the second phase, which targeted first

year students, 750 students were trained on 14th and 15th May, 2011.

This training was aimed at equipping students with skills to enable them make sound financial decisions in order to make their life in the campus smooth and debt free. The team which was appointed by the Vice-Chancellor to oversee the implementation of this project held a workshop at a City Hotel between 23rd to 28th May, 2011 to do data analysis for this project and draft a report on the project to be submitted to the donor by the end of June, 2011.

The Directorate takes pride in having qualified Master Trainers and ToTs in the University who will be used to train other students in future. The Directorate is also considering training members of staff on Financial Management.

Tribute



Mr. Martin O. Kaput

Mr. Martin Kaput of the Department Maintenance passed away on 27th April 2011 at the Cottage Hospital, Nairobi.

Mr. Kaput worked at Kenyatta University since 1988 having been first appointed as an Artisan and rose through the ranks to be a Senior Welder in Charge of the Welding Section.

Bereavement

Prof. Chris Shisanya lost his Mother, Mrs. Selfa Imbuchi Shisanya on Friday 17th June 2011. She was buried on Saturday 25th 2011.

The Vice-Chancellor and the Newsletter Editorial team send heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and pray for their peace and comfort.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Kenyatta University Scholarships 2011

The Financial Aid Office has announced the following scholarships for students at the University.

- OVS Scholarships
- OVS Scholarships for continuing students
- KUSA Scholarships
- KU Internal Bursary
- KU Postgraduate Scholarships

Applicants for these Scholarships should visit the KU Website at <http://www.ac.ke/fao> to download the application forms or visit the Financial Aid Office on Nigeria Street, Office No. 2

Further information on KU Financial Aid requirements can also be obtained from the Financial Aid Office.

Self Awareness: Key to Change and Happiness.

By Sr. S. Nganda.



The first step in changing the way you create your life is self awareness. You can not expect to change what you are not aware of. Self awareness

provides the clarity to choose whether you express emotions of love or express emotions out of reactions of fear. Self awareness provides the possibility to catch your self in that moment prior to saying something destructive or even thinking a negative thought.

Self awareness is the means to identifying your unconscious patterns and raise them in your consciousness so they can be changed. It is through self awareness that you identify and change the underlying core beliefs that drive destructive behaviors and create happiness.

It is important to note that self awareness is different from book knowledge. Self awareness is largely a

function of perception and observation. It can not be learned like academic subjects that fill the mind with knowledge. It can not be learned from books that give us more information to think about and has us noticing less about ourselves, and the world. Increasing awareness has more to do with emptying the mind of knowledge so we can see ourselves and life more clearly.

Self awareness is developed through exercises and practices that enable you to:

1. Identify and Change Core False beliefs in your mind
2. Control Emotional reactions that create a roller coaster of chaos
3. Recover and develop personal power

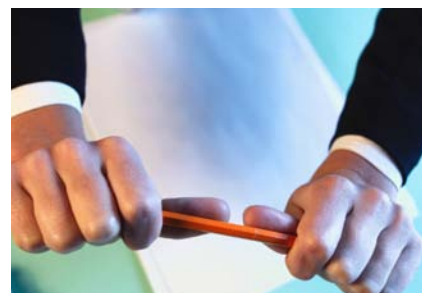


4. Create love and respect in your relationships
5. Feel peace and joy within.

You want to get rid of the emotional drama in your life? Try this:

1. Stop emotional reactions
2. Change False Core beliefs
3. Quiet the voices in your head
4. Develop communication and respect in your relationships
5. Create love and happiness in your life.

I doubt if any of us possesses fullness of self awareness. Nevertheless, some are in the journey to self discovery. Wish to come on board?



Sports

2011 May intake students' prowess in sports is evident in their 1st competitions

Kenyatta University 2011 May intake students have started their sporting campaign on a high note. After a series of organized training, the students were put to competitions on the weekend of 28th -29th May 2011 where they recorded excellent results. Among the competitions they took part in included:-

Volleyball (Chairman's Cup Nairobi Branch)

The Men's team won two matches

and lost one, The boys did well by beating National Youth Service and the University of Nairobi before going down to Strathmore in the semi finals.

KU 3- NYS 0

KU 3- UON 1

KU 2-Strathmore 3

The ladies on the other hand were outclassed by University of Nairobi and Kenya Polytechnic but they did put in a good fight despite the loss.

Rugby

Blak Blad as the team is known shocked a pregnant audience at the Kenyatta University grounds by holding a star studded Impala Club. Blad really gave the Impalas a run for their money in the closely contested semi final encounter of the Chairman's cup. Final result KU 14- IMPALA 17

In other results

Basketball

KU 62 -Aquinas 29

KU 54 - Kenya Airways 68

Spiritual Lines

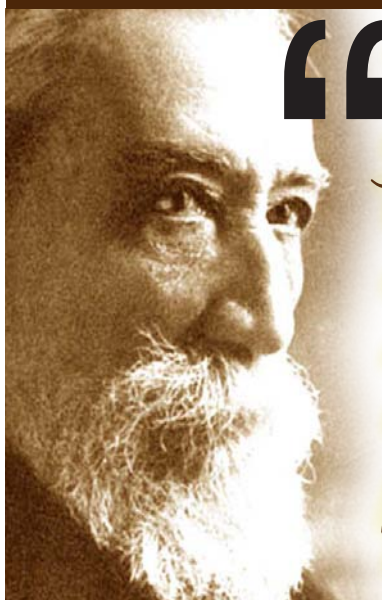
Singing and Praises

Are you someone who sings when you are happy? The Bible often records people bursting into song at key moments in their lives. Miriam and the women of Israel sung at the shores of the Red Sea after having witnessed God's mighty salvation as indicated in (Exodus 15:20, 21) In wonderful poetic language Deborah and Barak extol God's power over human kings and armies. (Judges 5:1-31).

When Mary visited her relative Elizabeth she broke out into a song of praise about God and His incredible plan of salvation (Luke 1:46-55). All these songs share one common denomination even though they appear in different historical contexts and under distinct circumstances, they all describe what happens when God intervenes in human history and responds to the plea of his children. In (Samuel 2:1-11) Hannah has found that true security depends not only on circumstances, but on knowing our God who does not change.

BY GEORGE MONAYO

Wisdom



“To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe.”

Anatole France (16 April 1844 – 12 October 1924), born **François-Anatole Thibault** was a French poet, journalist, and novelist. He was born in Paris, and died in Saint-Cyr-sur-Loire. He was a successful novelist, with several best-sellers. Ironic and skeptical, he was considered in his day the ideal French man of letters. He was a member of the Académie française, and won the Nobel Prize for Literature.

The Road Not Taken

Poem

By Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;
Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,
And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.
I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

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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.