



Kenya 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.

Public Policy and Administration Degrees Launched by KU

Kenya University has launched new degree programmes in Public Policy and Administration.

In a move that is expected to greatly benefit the country especially the new counties established under the new constitution, the three degree programmes namely; Bachelor of Public Policy and Administration, Executive Master of Policy and Administration and the Master of Policy and Administration are designed to provide those wishing to pursue or enhance their careers in public service, policy and administration with practical skills to manage and guide the administration of public affairs.

At the Masters level, the new programme will open opportunities for senior civil servants as well as those in the private sector to attain higher degrees in their area of operations. The course will also give professionals in the NGO sector, international organizations and

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The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda with Amb. Francis Muthaura (2nd left) after he officially unveiled the Commemorative Plaque to mark the launch of the new programmes. Also in the Picture is Mr. Wairegi, Council Chairman (right) and Chancellor, Prof. Justice (retired) Onesimus Mutungi.



New KUSA Executive Officials are introduced before they were sworn in.

New KUSA Leaders Take Office

The newly elected President of the Kenya University Students Association, (KUSA) Mr. Antony Akoto, has reiterated the need for students to unite and provide support for each other during their years at the University as they pursue higher education.

Addressing a gathering of outgoing student leaders and the winners of the elections held on Tuesday, 22nd March 2011, Mr. Akoto said that the new members of the student congress were all excited about their role in keeping their peers motivated and confident. He added that their objective was to promote the Kenya University identity, culture and talent on campus and to foster greater integration among its members.

Akoto N. L. Antony
KUSA President



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Editorial

This has been a very eventful semester. We have just concluded very spirited KUSA elections that however matched enthusiasm with tranquility. For this we heartily congratulate both electors and candidates for their prudence and maturity, qualities we always expected of budding scholars.

We now have our very own University Bookshop and University Press. These acquisitions are milestones that set us well on our way to our determined endeavour to attain world-class status as a university. Not only will it be easier for the university community to purchase books, but it will also make it less arduous to publish them!

Our international friends continue to support us: a sound recording studio is now in place, courtesy of the Government of Poland; and we have yet new equipment for the Foreign Languages Department from the French Government.

KU students have again demonstrated their prowess in various fields by winning scholarships and essay competitions.

Lastly, we are grateful for recent book donations from Prof Daniel Kiminyo and the estate of the late Dr. Francis N. Gitau. The books will be lasting memorials to the unstinting service rendered this University by these scholars.

We have many more engaging stories in this issue. Enjoy yourselves.

David V. Karanja
Editor

Public Policy and Administration Degrees Launched

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the community development sector higher level training to compliment their current competencies.



Prof. Harry Kaane, the Secretary for Higher Education in the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology addresses participants during the launch of the new programmes.

Speaking during the launch of the degree programmes at a Nairobi Hotel, the Head of Public Service

who is also the Permanent Secretary in the Office of the President Amb. Francis Muthaura said that training in public policy and administration by Kenyan institutions of higher learning is long overdue and thanked KU for being proactive by establishing relevant programmes that will aid the realization of the demands of the new constitution as well as propel the implementation of the National Vision 2030.

The Secretary for Higher Education in the Ministry of Higher Education Science and Technology Prof. Harry Kaane, said that the new policy and administration Programmes at KU will contribute greatly to good governance in the country. He urged KU to make the programme one of excellence and practical-oriented to produce graduates who fit in the market.

He urged the University to partner with the Kenya Institute of Administration to strengthen the training and even become key leaders in the area of governance training.

KU Chancellor Prof. Justice Onesimus Mutungi said that the country needs to prepare highly

skilled movers of the countries governance structures. He said that the programmes will make a direct impact on national and regional arena.

Kenyatta University Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda said that in commencing the new courses the University was responding to the current demand for competent and well trained leaders to take up the role of championing reforms and improvement in the public service sector. "The new governance structures set out in the new constitution calls for leaders who are well-grounded in public policy and administration, in this regard, the central and regional governments will need qualified public servants to drive the economic and social development agenda" said Prof. Mugenda.

She added that the first intake of students will be in May 2011 and will initially be conducted at the Nairobi City Centre Campus in the evenings and weekends.

For more on this story, please visit www.ku.ac.ke

In Their Own Words

Winners reacting after announcement of results

I thank the student community for this humble privilege to serve them. This opportunity comes with responsibility. I will endeavor to remain a focused and steady steward to our highly esteemed association. We must embrace teamwork, solidarity and equity. We have a role in redefining our institution's and our nation's leadership. I look forward to working with all the stakeholders towards uplifting Kenyatta University to even greater heights".



Akoto N. L.
Antony
KUSA President

*I thank my comrades for conducting a peaceful and mature election process right from the campaigns up to the ballot. Thank you for the opportunity you gave me and my team to serve you.
Long live KU*

I commend the students for the peace they showed during the transition from the 2010-2011 KUSA team to 2011-2012 KUSA team, as a new team, the stage has been set high for us by our predecessors but with your continued support we will achieve more and most importantly contribute towards our K.U.S.A being a world class student association."



Said Munawar
Vice-President



Antony Maina
Outgoing KUSA
President

I endeavor to remain a focused and steady steward to our highly esteemed association.

Akoto N. L. Antony, KUSA President.

In Their Own Words

Winners reacting after announcement of results



It's been a very great moment serving the KU Comrades. I am very proud to be a KU Student because of the cooperation accorded to me. I do kindly request our comrades to offer the same cooperation to the incoming office for the peace and harmony and prosperity of our University. God bless KU."



Mwaboza
Mwasambu
Outgoing
Secretary
General



William K. Maingi
Organising Secretary



Allow me to salute you comrades, this victory belongs to you. I accept your verdict whole heartedly; it is both heartwarming and humbling to serve you as the Secretary General of KUSA. It should be note worthy that our real strength is not caged in our biceps but our brains.



Osongo Joseph
Secretary General KUSA



Shipeta
Mathias
Hezron
Academic
Secretary



Eric Mutwiri
Finance
secretary



Winnie Mandela,
Gender and Social Welfare
Secretary



I am quite indebted to the students for electing me as the Gender and Social Welfare Secretary. It is a victory for us all since gender issues encompasses all students in the university. Its my strong commitment to dedicate my efforts to the benefit of the students and the university at large. Thank you comrades.



I have worked as a group discussion leader, class rep and congressman but serving as the academic secretary is actually a dream come true. Thank you comrades and most especially I thank God. I am because we are.

Beyond appreciation for your overwhelming support during the ballot; I realize it is now on my part to deliver to the magnitude of your expectations. Your trust gives me confidence to soldier on and turn down any rigidity. As I begin the stewardship I will be "with you to the end"

The price of greatness is responsibility.

-Winston Churchill-



Ogaa Collins
Special Needs
Secretary



Eric Keter
Deputy Sec. General



Fellix Okech
Chairman, Parklands



Spencer Hillary
Chairman, Ruiru

New KUSA Leaders Take Office

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The Installation of the newly elected Kenyatta University Students' Association (KUSA) leaders was held on Tuesday, 29th March 2011 at the Kenyatta University Conference Centre (KUCC) Main Hall. The programme was presided over by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda amid jubilation with every speech punctuated with thunderous applause.

The new officials thanked their electors

and promised that they would work for the development and progress of the University. They assured the students of their commitment in representing them at various university forums as they strive to uphold the prestige enjoyed by Kenyatta University students.

While congratulating the newly elected office bearers, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Mugenda said that she hoped that they

would work towards upholding the prestige of Kenyatta University. she said that the University is like a family and preserving its existence and working for its development is our responsibility. She said that University Management is fully committed to the welfare of the students and that it would work with the Students leaders to ensure improved welfare of the students.

It is a victory for us all since gender issues encompasses all students in the university

Winnie Mandela, Gender and Social Welfare Secretary.

FOCUS

ON STUDENTS

Students Shine in National Essay Competition

Kenyatta University Students Scooped the top positions in the 2010 national essay writing competition sponsored by the Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD). The completion topic was *"Violence against women in Africa: An imported agenda or hidden reality"*. In organizing the competition, the organizers sought to mobilize young intellectuals to get involved in a deep reflection of the issues affecting women in Africa and recommend strategies to effectively and efficiently deal with violence against women and all its forms.

Out of the 113 essays received and reviewed, only 5 were selected for publication because they were judged to contain comprehensive and instructive information about gender violence.

The Five best essays have now been published by ACORD in a book titled - *Reflections from University students in Kenya*.

The winners were awarded cash prizes at a colourful ceremony held on the occasion of the 2010 International Women's Day at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa. The Guest of honour was Hon. Njoki Ndungu.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda congratulated the winners for a job well done, she said that apart from getting the first position with the best essay nationally, KU students also got the best three spots out of the top five. *"We are very proud of all our students who represented us in this competition,"* the VC said. *"It reflects very much on the high quality of students that we have at Kenyatta University"*

The top five winners

1. Innocence S. Ndungo – Kenyatta University
2. Florence Kariwonyang' – Moi University
3. Benjamin Opondo – Kenyatta University
4. Damaris Dinda Kanyili – Catholic University of Eastern Africa
5. David Otieno Ngira – Kenyatta University



The cover of the book published by ACORD containing the 5 best essays

Kenyan Ambassador To The US Visits KU

H.E. Elkana Odembo recently visited Kenyatta University. The visit focused on possible areas of collaboration and partnership between Universities in Kenya and the US.

Following a comprehensive presentation by VC Prof. Olive Mugenda on Kenyatta University profile, infrastructure development, strategic plan, key facilities and ongoing projects, the

Ambassador noted a lot of possibilities for partnerships.

Ambassador Odembo said that many brilliant Kenyans in US were keen on opportunities to engage with their counterparts back home especially in the areas of Science Research and Technology.

Among the possible areas of partnership to be explored included students and staff exchange, supervision of Ph.D students, Post doctoral programmes among others. The Ambassador highlighted some of the programmes that the Mission in Washington has been involved and possible areas it can facilitate should the University be interested in Programmes in the US. He further called for

a linkages to the Mission's website to enhance Kenyatta University's visibility in the US.



Amb. H.E. Elkana Odembo, (2nd left) with the VC, Prof. Mugenda and Prof. John Okumu, DVC (Academic) left, on the right is Dr. Vincent Onyera.

'Change your Attitudes' - Hon. Moody Awori



The VC, Prof. Mugenda (left), explains to Hon. Dr. Moody Awori (2nd right) how the assistive technology computer for visually impaired students works.

Former Vice-President of Kenya, H.E. Hon. Dr. A.A. Awori has called on the society to change the negative attitudes and perceptions towards people with disabilities.

He noted that stigmatization of people with disabilities was very rampant and hence the need for creation of awareness.

Hon Awori was speaking during Kenyatta University's Second Disability Day on 18th March 2011. The theme of this year's Disability Day was *"Disability Inclusiveness in Life"*.

At the same time he commended KU for putting in place necessary infrastructure and facilities to meet the needs of the

students and staff with disabilities and called on other institutions to follow suit.

"Its incumbent upon leaders both in government and private sectors to create an enabling environment especially infrastructure to meet the various needs of people with disabilities," said the former VP who is currently the National Chairman of the Association for the Physically Disabled in Kenya.

In her address during the function, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, reiterated the University's commitment to improving the welfare of people with disabilities in KU.



FOCUS ON STUDENTS CONTINUED

Community Outreach and Extension Programmes has been a very busy office for the past two weekends. On the weekend of 12th and 13th March, 2011 the Directorate was undertaking a training whereby 2,000 Kenyatta University students were trained on financial education.

The training which was conducted by other Kenyatta University students who had earlier been trained as Trainer of Trainees (ToTs) together with Master Trainers for the project aimed at impacting skills of making sound financial decisions to the students on the following thematic areas: Budgetary, Savings, Financial negotiations, Banking services and Debt management.

The elated Kenyatta University students were very enthusiastic and expressed a lot of

appreciation for the training.

After the Financial Education Mentoring and Training Programme, the Directorate embarked on another training on the weekend of 19th and 20th March, 2011 which will see the 5th group of 1,000 students go out on voluntary basis to serve the communities where they come from.

The training which is offered by Kenyatta University in collaboration with Equity bank aims at giving the students some insights on issues that affect the community out there such as: HIV and AIDS, Drugs and substance abuse and Environmental conservation and Awareness.

The key speakers were drawn from both Kenyatta University and Equity bank and they included: Dr. Elishiba Kimani (Directorate of Mentoring), Ms. Grace Wambui Ngaruiya

Financial Education Mentoring and Training Programme Project (Fem&Tp)

(Plant and Microbial Sciences) from Kenyatta University and Mr. Philemon Kibiru (General Manager, marketing) from Equity bank who trained the students on financial education.

The directorate appreciates the support accorded by Kenyatta University and Equity Bank in implementing the two projects.



A section of students who attended the training.

Catholic Community Holds Elders Mass

Kenyatta University Catholic Community Elders' Mass (KUCC) recently held a very successful Elder's Mass at the Catholic Church. This is the culmination of various events held in celebrating the achievement of the students completing their 8-4-4 this semester.

The main celebrant of the Holy Mass was the Bishop for Murang'a Diocese, His Lordship Bishop James Wainaina. Our beloved VC graced the occasion with her presence. The Bishop and the VC were received with jubilations by the completing students. It was also a time for handing over of the Executive Council of the Catholic Community. The VC oversaw the investment of the new officials with Peter Masoni taking over as the chairman

from Francis Kimani who has been the chairman for the last two years.

On his address, Bishop Wainaina praised the University administration with its many achievements. He congratulated the University



on its silver jubilee and praised the many achievement has made. "KU's achievements are so many that they can make someone dizzy trying to list all of them", he said.

The VC on her remarks congratulated the

elders on completing their undergraduate but challenged them to come back for their postgraduate studies. He thanked the outgoing parish council on its exemplary leadership and their contribution towards the achievement of the University's mission and objectives. She cited the needy students food assistance, the community service to various parts of the country among other achievements.

On behalf of the elders, Kimani, in his remarks thanked the university for giving them a chance to grow professionally, socially and spiritually through its many programs and through the chaplaincy. The event also saw the launch of Christ the Teacher Catholic Chaplaincy Foundation. This is a students assistance kitty run by the students and the Catholic Community Alumni that aims at assisting KU students pay their accommodation fees.

Catholic Students welcome the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda to the Elders' Mass. Looking on is the Catholic Chaplain Fr. Lance Nadeau.

Scholarships Awarded to KU Students

Four Kenyatta University German students were awarded scholarships for summer studies in Germany in August 2011. The students won the Presentation Contest organized by DAAD - Nairobi for various institutions and students studying German in Kenya.

Kenyatta University team emerged winners by scooping four out of the five top prizes as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Mr. Dominic Onsaze | - Full scholarship awarded by University of Trier, Germany |
| 2. Ms. Anzazi Mwangovya | - Partial Scholarship Awarded by DAAD - Nairobi |
| 3. Ms. Zipporah Kiurugu Muli | - Partial Scholarship Awarded by DAAD - Nairobi |
| 4. Ms. Margaret Gathiga Nguru | - An Internship at DAAD Regional Office for Africa |

In her message, the VC, Prof. Olive Mugenda congratulated the winners for their marvelous effort. She wished the students well as they prepare to take up their scholarships and asked them to ensure that they represent Kenyatta University to their best.



Picture Speak



Models participate in the Fashion Show during the opening of Career Week that took place between 19th and 25th of February 2011.



The Vice-Chancellor receives a gift from a student during the Catholic Mass.



Visiting Professors from the University of Tennessee USA.



Vice-Chancellor Prof. Olive Mugenda (*seated centre*), Dean of students (*seated left*) and Prof. John Okumu, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (*Academic*) with the outgoing KUSA Executive Congress after the incoming officials were sworn in.



Kenyatta University students vote during the 2011 KUSA elections.



Finnish Ambassador to Kenya H.E. Madame Heli Sirve signs the visitors book when she visited the University recently.



Picture Speak



Prof. Florence Wambugu, the Chief Executive Officer, Africa Harvest (centre) receives a memento from Prof. Catherine Ndungo, Director, Centre for Gender & Affirmative Action.



Prof. Justice (retired) Onesimus Mutungi (right), Chancellor, Kenyatta University, with Mr. Benson Wairegi, Chairman Kenyatta University Council during the launch of degree programmes in Public Policy and Administration.



Prof. Olive Mugenda, Vice-Chancellor, Kenyatta University, presents a souvenir to H.E. Madame Anna Grupinska, Polish Ambassador to Kenya.



Mr. Antony Akoto, takes the Oath of Office as KUSA President.



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, receives assistive equipment from Mr. Geoffery Waithigo of the National Council of People with Disability.



Participants in the Lakes and Catchment Research Symposium (LARS) 2011 in a group photograph. The Symposium was held at the KUCC from 14th to 18th March, 2011.



Research Updates

VC's Research Grant Workshop Held For Recipients



Prof. Ogo, Director, IRST and Deputy Director, Research Capacity Building and Dr. Gathaara exchange views during a break.

The Institute for Research Science and Technology recently organized a workshop for recipients of the first Vice-Chancellor's research grant at the Kenyatta University Conference Centre (KUCC).

There were 7 funded research projects under the Vice-chancellor's research grant awards. The total grant amount was Ksh 300,000 for every recipient for the year commencing on 1st April 2008 and ending 31st March 2009. The grant was to be a motivation to source for more funding and inculcate a culture of grant proposal writing by members of academic staff.

The workshop was held for the purpose of presenting and discussing the final research reports to the University Research Review and Advisory Board (URRAB).

New e-Books Access At The Library

This is to inform all students and staff that there are now two links for fulltext access to e-book

1. Ebrary

URL- <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/kenyatta>

Access: Within KU Internet (*no passwords*)

Period: Upto 31st Dec 2011

Coverage: Multidisciplinary

2. SpringerLink:

URL- <http://www.springerlink.com/>

Access: Within KU Intranet (*no passwords*)

Period: 2011 and beyond (*i.e. perpetual ownership to KU*)

Coverage: Collections by Subject, i.e.

- (i) Biomedical and Life Sciences
- (ii) Business and Economics
- (iii) Chemistry and Materials Science
- (iv) Computer Science
- (v) Humanities, Social Sciences and Law
- (vi) Mathematics and Statistics (*Most books*)

Note: To browse the books

Click on the "Books" on the Home page of SpringerLink then choose Collection listed on the left pane.

KU Dons Donate Books to University Library

Prof. Daniel Kiminyo from the Department of Early Childhood Studies and the estate of the late Dr. F. Gitau from the Department of Education Foundations have donated their collection of books to the University for use by staff and students. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, together with other members of University Management received the books from the two scholars on 7th March 2011. She termed the book donation a "noble gesture" from the scholars who had bequeathed their precious collection of books. At the same time, the Vice-Chancellor commended Prof. Kiminyo for his humility and leadership and his dedicated service to the University.

Prof. Kiminyo, who is about to retire, said that he was leaving the books behind to help the current and future students. Prof. Kiminyo who joined KU in 1975; said that he was giving back to an institution that had contributed significantly to his life as a person.

Mrs. Elma Gitau, widow of the late Dr. Francis N. Gitau, presented the books to the VC. According to Mrs. Gitau, "Dr. Gitau was a giver and giving the books to the University is what he would have wanted to do." Colleagues of the late Dr. Gitau noted that the books

the people who gave them.

Meanwhile, the Department of Foreign Languages has received a collection of books from the French Embassy in Kenya. The books were handed over to the University by Dr. Claude Frey, the Linguistic Attache' at the



Prof. Kiminyo (left) presents Books to the Vice-Chancellor, Kenyatta University, Prof. Olive Mugenda. Looking on are members of the University Management.

were as specialised as would be very useful in the resource centre at the Department of Education Foundation.

The VC thanked Prof. Kiminyo and Mrs. Gitau for their generosity adding that the books will be stamped in order to remember

French Embassy. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Prof. P. K. Wainaina, who received the books on behalf of the VC thanked the Embassy for equipping the French resource centre at the University.

Polish Government Donates Sound Recording Studio to KU

The Government of Poland, through its embassy in Kenya, has donated a state-of-the-art sound recording studio to the Department of Music at the University. This makes KU the first public university to establish a sound recording studio.

The studio was commissioned in a colourful ceremony by the Polish Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Madame Anna Grupinska. The equipment will provide the students with a great start to their music

and creative arts careers by enabling them to learn how to use industry standard equipment while working hands-on.

In her address during the handing-over ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, thanked the Polish Government for its sustained support to Kenyatta University. The VC noted that in 2008, the Embassy of Poland donated very useful musical equipment that included a trumpet and a saxophone to the Department of Music.

The Polish Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Madame Anna Grupinska said that the equipment will help to preserve Kenya's musical heritage, promote Kenyan artists abroad and help in collaboration abroad and thus enrich other cultures. "The support that Kenyatta University has received from the People of Poland may not be great in comparison to the contribution made by other donors but the small victory that we have won here will further help the Polish Government to scale up its efforts in achieving global development."

The new donation of high quality sound equipment comprise:

Macintosh Computer, with a 27 inch screen, 4 gigabytes of RAM memory, two state-of-the-art keyboards, sound monitors, high range microphone, pro-tool professional recording program, 24 channel mixer, professional head-phone for use in the studio, Digi- Design/MIDI Interface.

To accommodate the new state-of-art equipment, the University has enhanced the acoustics of the studio and installed powerful air conditioners. The studio has been designed to achieve the designed desired acoustic properties such as proper sound diffusion, low level of reflections and adequate reverberation.



H. E. Madame Anna Grupinska, Polish Ambassador to Kenya, and the Vice-Chancellor, Kenyatta University, Prof. Olive Mugenda, with other senior University Officials follow a demonstration in the new Sound Recording Studio.

Bookshop officially launched

Kenyatta University has achieved another milestone by launching a University Bookshop.

The modern state-of-the-art facility was officially opened by Prof. James Ole Kiyiapi, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, on 7th March 2011.

Speaking during the opening ceremony, Prof. Kiyiapi lauded the University Management for putting in place ultra modern facilities that meet the required standards of a modern university, which is vital in attracting both local and international academic staff and students. "By having this bookshop, the management has displayed great foresight and placed this university at the same level with universities in America, Britain, Asia and South Africa. KU has made benchmarks for the East African Region and will be envied for its the



Prof. Ole Kiyiapi (centre) looks at one of the books on offer at the University Bookshop. On the left is the KU Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda and the Bookshop Manager, Mrs. Grace Kimani (right).

academic excellence and innovation the world over," said the PS. Prof. Kiyiapi added that the Bookshop should be stocked with up to date reading materials and should from time to

time capture social – economic global trends, in order to meet the high demand for reference materials.

Workshop For Peer Counsellors Held

The Kenyatta University Family Welfare and Counseling Project held a two day Workshop for all the Project stakeholders.

The workshop was held on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th 2011 and brought together Project Management Committee Members, Peer Counselors' supervisors, depot holders-trained housekeeper on Reproductive Health Issues and Family Life, and peer counselors. Over 120 participants attended.

The workshop was officially opened by the Project Director-Dr. G. Karanja -Head Health Unit who applauded the university administration for funding the project and more specifically the Workshop. Also in attendance was the Coordinator Students Services-Dr. R. Muniu, Sr. S. Nganda, Mrs. C. L. Njoka, all Peer Counselors Supervisors, Sr. Ann Afandi -incharge of Clinical Arm and Ghana II Clinic ,17 depot holders and over 90 peer counselors.

The peer counselors praised the university for creating an enabling environment for students to seek solutions to problems affecting them. He emphasized that peer counseling and education was the most effective means to solving issues among peers in the university.

The workshop's main aim was to seek means of making

the project more visible among students and to design new ways of assisting students' clients. Elsewhere, peer counselors visited Mother Theresa Home of Hope on 12th March 2011. The peer counselors presented donations and carried out community services to the patients.

*Counsellors visiting
Mother Theresa
Home of Hope on 12th
March 2011.*



Kenversity to hold AGM

The 35th AGM of the Kenversity Savings and Cooperative Limited will be held on Saturday, 16th April 2011 at 10.00 am at the KU Science Zone Hall (SZ39). During the meeting, members will receive reports from the Chairman, supervisory committee report as well as the declaration of interests, dividends, honoraria and bonus for the year 2010. Elections for management and supervisory committee members will be held on Wednesday, 20th April 2011 from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm.

Students Donate To Needy



Mr. Abbas Gullet receives food donations from Kenyatta University Students. The food was collected through the Jaza Pick-up campaign.

KU students' pulled another first as the Jaza Pick-Up campaign drew to a close in February 2011. According to the Red cross Secretary General, Mr. Abbas Gullet who was at hand to receive over Ksh. 30,000 worth of donations in foodstuffs from the KU community, this was the first group of students he had ever received such donations from since the appeal to help drought stricken Kenyans was raised. He added that the Red Cross usually got donations from corporate as well as donor organisations.

Jaza pick-up campaign was the brainchild of the KU Students' Journalism Club in collaboration with the KU Red Cross club, KUSA and the Radio Service 99.9 KU FM. The campaign lasted two weeks where students were asked to donate whatever they could in terms of dry foodstuffs, clothing and toiletries. Also a week long door to door campaign was mounted in the halls of residence by Journalism and Red Cross Club members in a bid to collect cash that would be used to supplement these donations.

Cash donations were converted into dry foodstuffs which included maize flour, sugar, rice and cooking oil. Speaking on the donations Mr. Abbas Gullet said it was not the amount

collected but rather the principle behind the campaign that mattered.

The Campaign was intended to feed the hungry in Turkana who were suffering from hunger due to the prolonged drought that has hit the country leaving many dead and thousands more without food for survival. The Kenya Red Cross Secretary General who was touched by the effort and its intended purpose promised to have those particular donations reach the people in Turkana.

Patrick Ndirangu 3rd year (B.com), the campaign coordinator expressed his gratitude to the KU community saying that the short campaign would never have been a success without them. He also thanked the Red Cross club chairman and the Journalism club chairman, James Chege for their support through mobilizing their members to take time away from their studies, especially during the CATs, to help out. He also pointed out the important role played by 99.9 KU FM in publicising the campaign over her airwaves and through cash donations from their staff. Last but not least he thanked KUSA for their effort towards publicity through printing of posters and banners.

Career Week

Be Job Creators- Graduates Urged

Kenyatta University students have been advised to be creative and venture into income-generating projects. Dr Evans Kidero, the Managing Director of Mumias

money, I could start my own company. Prolonged idleness paralyses initiative. Do not waste time in doubt and fear but start preparing yourselves for the major task ahead — that of job creation,” he said.

He asked the them to be “creative and smart,” as the country depended largely on them to transform it into a first-world country. “The most important moment of your life is right now. Don’t let hesitation and procrastination keep you from your destiny,” he said.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda, said it was unfortunate that little career guidance was available



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda with Mumias Sugar Company Managing Director, Dr. Evans Kidero (left) and an official of the Kenya Wildlife Service stand during the career Week Exhibition.

Sugar Company, has asked the youth to think of job creation rather than seeking formal employment. He, at the same time, said he has already established a centre to develop youth leadership. He said the Evans Kidero Centre, or simply the EK Centre, seeks to “provide opportunities for young people to explore their leadership skills and create a platform to take our country to the next level.”

Dr. Kidero said this when he officially opened Kenyatta University Career Week recently. Speakers during the function included the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olive Mugenda. The theme of the Career Week 2011 that ran between February 19 and 25, was: Paradigm Shift from Job- Seeking to Job- Creation.

Dr Kidero asked the students not to let what they could not do keep them away from what they could do. “Use your talents to create new opportunities. God has already given you what you need to begin to create your future. Yet most of us find ourselves saying: ‘If only I had more

for students in institutions offering tertiary education. “As such, students lack access to the range of services they require to make informed educational and career decisions. Little attention is paid to career development and choice, including helping students develop career management and entrepreneurial skills and to consider taking up self-employment options,” she said.

However, said the VC, Kenyatta University offered “specific career guidance to particular groups of students, including those in transition from study to employment, students who are changing their courses, mature students returning to study, distance learning students, and international students.”

The University, she said, was in the process of developing a business and incubation centre to nurture innovative ideas into feasible businesses. “Kenyatta University is ready to partner with the private sector to help our students realize their dreams,” said Prof. Mugenda.

Appointments



Dr. Tabitha Wangeri has been appointed Chairman, Department of Educational Psychology



Dr. John Kimemia has been appointed Director, Kenyatta University Press

Sports

Sports Teams Feted

It was pomp and fanfare at the KUCC grounds on the evening of 30th of March, 2011 when the 2010 East Africa University Games participants thronged the venue for a special fete organized by the Vice Chancellor. The long awaited fete was promised by the VC on the day she handed over the flag to the team prior to the 2010 December games, the KU team was position 3 overall but with most medals at 79 against Ndejje's 64, and KIU'S 44, who were ranked first and second respectively based on their gold medals.

In their remarks, the Sports Congressman, The Sports and Games department Coordinator, Chairman LOC and the Vice-Chancellor who was represented by the DVC (Academics) Professor Okumu believed that the team will do much better in future with extended incentives such as the newly acquired sports sponsorship programs for achieving sportsmen and women. Success and achievement by the team also characterized their speeches.

The VC mentioned that she was proud to be associated with a diligent and industrious team like the 2010 EAUG team. She however challenged those who still have an opportunity to compete for the university to aim even higher and attain the top position in the next Edition of the East Africa University Games and the forthcoming Kenya University Games in December.

Other items on offer were entertainment from different groups but the climax of the event was the awards ceremony. Medals and Certificates were given to winners and participants in the event. A special award (Gold, Silver and Bronze medals) was also given to the Vice Chancellor for her efforts in ensuring a successful event.



Prof. John Okumu, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), presents a medal to a captain of one of the sports teams during the awards Ceremony at KUCC.

Sports

Softball Comes To KU

Probably, you may have noticed some students dressed in awkward looking protective gear and wearing some strange gloves on one hand tossing a luminous green ball across the field. Worry not for this should not be cause for concern but rather one for joy as KUs newest sport, softball takes it first baby steps! The softball team will this year participate fully in the Universities league which began on 5th March. The league features other varsity teams like JKUAT, Egerton and African Nazarene.

The sport introduced in late October last year is quickly gaining popularity. In fact until January 2011 the team consisted of about 9 players all from the Sports and P.E. departments. However after an awareness campaign the numbers have shot up with the team today boasting of a membership of close to 40 students. Under the stewardship of Mrs. Elizabeth Muse and Mr. Macharia their coach, the job of teaching and training the new sport seems to be progressing well.

The team can be seen training tirelessly on weekdays from 5.00-6.30pm in the upper Cassandra field next to the Arts complex. However, lack of adequate equipment to cater for the growing numbers and only one demarked pitch are some of the problems cited by their captain, Paul Kamau 4th year (Sports Science). He adds that KU being the centre for sporting excellence that it is should facilitate a cross country awareness campaign on the sport for its growth in Kenya. He would also like the sport to be included in the KUSA games.

Softball is sport that involves a batting and a fielding team. It is similar to baseball except that the pitching style is different. Here an underarm method is used as opposed to the throwing motion as seen in baseball. The field is also smaller and contrary to what most people think, the ball is not softer than a baseball but rather it is considerably larger. With growing interest from the student body that come out in their number to support them. There is hope that softball will grow to become the cornerstone sport on campus.

The Giver of Gifts

Giving a gift places the giver in a position of power and the receiver owes the giver. In the bible, the men of God Jeroboam refuses the King's gift and gives on to state that he will not eat or drink in the territory of Israel. The man of God says "No" to making true worship with idolatry. God's people should not be for sale. They should walk a different route.

In the book of 2Kings 5:14-16, states clearly that the man of God dipped seven times in the Jordan and the flesh was restored like that of a little child. He was then offered a gift but refused to take it. Daniel is another person in the bible who refused a gift from king Nebuchadnezzar. The king requested Daniel to be brought to him, because Daniel was wise and was filled with the holy spirit to interpret to the

BY GEORGE MONAYO

SPIRITUAL LINES

king what the astrologer had for him. The King promised Daniel that if he would interpret the writing and make known to him the message, he would give him a gift of purple cloth, and a chain of gold around his neck and be a ruler in the kingdom. Daniel refused all these gifts and said before the king, "Let the gifts be for yourself and give rewards to another".

This was a political move aimed at neutralizing the effects of the message to the people. God's people are never on sale. They owe their allegiance to God and cannot let their messages from God, be modified by whoever might manipulate them. In many societies the paying of bribe or giving of special gifts is part and parcel of all business, legal and political deals. How can we as Christians survive in such societies?

Shairi

Hongera twakupa, chuo umekiongoza hadi kilele.
Kwako tumeridhika, kamwe hatuna kelele.
Ombi letu kwa Manani, uongoze chuo hadi milele.
Hongera twakupa, ongoza chuo kwa ushupavu.

Maendeleo twayaona, kwa mfano mijengo.
Japokuwa tulikusema, hatukufahamu lako lengo.
Muda wa kuhudumu kaongezwa, kakosa wa kuziba lako pengo.
Hongera twakupa, ongoza chuo kwa ushupavu.

Chuo umekirembesha, kimazingira twasifika.
Kwa kweli si rahisi, imetugharimu hapa kufika.
Kenya nzima twajulikana, nduniani twasikika
Hongera twakupa, ongoza chuo kwa ushupavu.

Wafanyikazi kwa wanafunzi, sote twakuunga mkono.
Tu nawe bega kwa bega, hadi utamatishe wako mkondo.
Tujiepushe na uvivu, kwani ni adui wa maendeleo.
Hongera twakupa, ongoza chuo kwa ushupavu.

HARRISON NJENGA
MOI LIBRARY



TRIBUTE

The Mr. Benjamin Muli died on 15th February 2011. Until his demise, Mr. Muli worked as a Driver in the University since 1984.

He was a hardworking employee who was committed to his work. All who knew him, his colleagues and friends will miss him greatly.

The Late
Benjamin Sila Muli
Transport
Department

The University appreciates Mr. Muli's 27 years of dedicated service

Bereavements

1. Dr. Christine Wasanga, the Chairperson of the Department of Psychology lost her father on 15th February 2011.
2. Dr. Jacob Omolo from the Department of Applied Economics lost three members of his family through a tragic road accident on 12th February 2011. Three who included Dr. Omolo's Brother, Sister in-law and Nephew were laid to rest on 12th March 2011.

The Vice-Chancellor sends messages of condolence to the bereaved families on behalf of the Kenyatta University Community.

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)

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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.