

Mount Kenya University

Unlocking Infinite Possibilities



MKU at a Glance

Featuring

25th Graduation Ceremony

FRIDAY 2ND AUGUST, 2024

Theme: University Sustainability through Research and Innovation

LIVE STREAM ON

tv47
HOME OF THE UNTOLD STORIES



Panoramic view of Mount Kenya University, Main campus, Thika.



Former Meru Governor Kiraitu Murungi (center) with Mount Kenya University Parklands Law Campus Director Dr. Nelly Wamaitha, Judy Ngayu, Associate Dean of Students (left) and Dr. Mutubwa Wilfred, Dean, MKU Parklands law campus (2nd right) joined by MKU staff and senior management during the first Alma Mater luncheon organised by the MKU School of Law themed 'Journey Beyond Alma Mater'.

Mount Kenya University



VISION

To be a Global Hub of Excellence in Education, Research and Innovation

MISSION

To Provide World-Class Education, Research and Innovation for Global Transformation and Sustainable Development

PHILOSOPHY

To harness knowledge in applied Sciences and Technology for the service of humanity

CORE VALUES

Innovation • Equity • Integrity • Academic Freedom • Competitiveness

ACADEMIC CHARACTER

With an emphasis on science, technology and humanities, Mount Kenya University offers an all-rounded education including moral and professional education to all persons irrespective of religion, race, gender or political affiliation, social or cultural background. It endeavours to develop well-trained manpower equipped with technological scientific knowledge and capacities from certificate, diploma, undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses.



UNLOCKING INFINITE POSSIBILITIES



MKU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Deogratus Jaganyi (left) and Ahmed Dagane Chief Executive Kenyatta University Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital exchange documents after signing an agreement that will enable them collaborate to enhancing training of healthcare professionals in the country.

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DR. BEATRICE M. INYANGALA, PhD,
Principal Secretary, State
Department for Higher Education
and Research, Ministry of Education



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MA (Hons), MPhil, FRSA, FHEAS
Chancellor, MKU



DR. VINCENT GAITHO, PhD
Chairman, University Council, MKU



PROF. DEOGRATIUS JAGANYI,
PhD, MSc, DIC, MRSC
Vice-Chancellor, MKU

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Message from the Chief Guest

Dr. Beatrice Muganda Inyangala, PhD
Principal Secretary, State Department for Higher Education and Research,
Ministry of Education



It gives me great honour to join the Mount Kenya University fraternity during the 25th Graduation Ceremony.

I recognize in a very special way the incredible journey of this great University. Determined to augment the Government's efforts to increase access to affordable, relevant and quality university education, Mount Kenya University chose the path less travelled.

I congratulate the University for making great strides over the 25 years of its existence to build an international brand. Today, the University has partnered with several universities across the continent and globally not only to provide quality education but also to facilitate a seamless transition of graduates into the labour market, at home and internationally.

As you are aware, Kenya has embraced the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as the African Union's Agenda 2063. It is, therefore, gratifying to note that Mount Kenya University is physically playing a critical role in support of the country's international commitments. Mount Kenya University is hosting the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) SDG 10. Specifically, the University has been hosting the Hub on Reduced Inequalities for the past three years. The milestones achieved are attributed to the University's innovative programmes in teaching, research and community engagement.

Indeed, Mount Kenya University is a key pillar in the Kenyan Research, Science, Technology and Innovation ecosystem. Emerging innovations by staff and students drawing on ICT are poised to revolutionize production and service delivery in this country. The State Department for Higher Education and Research will continue to support similar initiatives in our universities.

We commit to provide a conducive policy environment for scaling innovations to achieve notable outcomes that address our local challenges and enhance livelihoods.

As government, we are working closely with a wide spectrum of stakeholders in the Research,

Science, Technology and Innovation ecosystem to catalyze progress towards attainment of the targets set out in our Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda around: Healthcare; Agriculture; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs); Housing and Settlement; and, the Digital Superhighway and Creative Economy.

Our graduands are our beacon of hope. They are the positive change agents that this country needs – now more than ever. I challenge the 2024 MKU graduands to use the knowledge and skills acquired in this university to make a difference in the future of this country. Let us focus our energy towards attainment of the development goals articulated in our economic blueprint - the Kenya Vision 2030. Together, we have the capacity to steer this country to become a middle-income country with all citizens enjoying a high quality of life in a secure environment.

Positive change begins with you and me, it begins with our youth, even as they aspire to become global leaders in future. I, therefore, urge MKU 2024 graduands to seize every opportunity to promote peace, self-reliance, and, to engage in activities that foster economic prosperity for themselves, their families, communities and the country at large.

Message From THE CHANCELLOR



**PROF. JOHN J.M. STRUTHERS,
MA (Hons), MPhil, FRSA, FHEAS**
Chancellor, MKU

MKU has forged a new partnership with Cape Media Limited's Talent Academy that will enable youth to innovatively develop their talents and fully benefit from the fast growing Creative Economy which will contribute to job and wealth creation among the youth.

conference by MKU was a testimony to MKU's expanding commitment to internationalization, which goes hand-in-hand with the continuing roll-out of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) agenda at the University. This also comes along with many new partnerships involving the university across the world.

Locally, MKU has forged a new partnership with Cape Media Limited's Talent Academy that will enable youth to innovatively develop their talents and fully benefit from the fast growing Creative Economy which will contribute to job and wealth creation among the youth. In addition, among other achievements in institutional and industry linkages, the university has formalized its partnership with the Kenyatta University Teaching, Research, and Referral Hospital (KUTRRH), which is not only a milestone achievement for the College of Health Sciences but also for MKU in general and indeed for the entire East African region.

Against this positive background, I wish all of the graduands at today's ceremony God's blessings in abundance as they move on to serve their local and global communities in many and diverse capacities. MKU has undoubtedly trained them well enough for the local and global labour market.

Asanteni Sana na Mungu Awabariki

Already, 2024 has been another productive year for Mount Kenya University (MKU) and especially on the partnership with the University of the West of Scotland (UWS). We witnessed the successful hosting by MKU of the UWS-based Centre for African Research on Enterprise and Economic Development (CAREED) 8th International Conference, which was the first CAREED Conference to be held in Africa. The Head of the Division of Health and Migration at the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr. Santino Severoni, and the renowned Kenyan social entrepreneur Professor Charles Mully of the Mully Children Family (MCF) were the Keynote Speakers. The hosting of this year's

Message From

THE CHAIRMAN, UNIVERSITY COUNCIL



DR. VINCENT GAITHO, PhD
Chairman University Council, MKU

I take this opportunity to welcome all of you as we celebrate the 25th Graduation ceremony of Mount Kenya University. With a view to enhancing learning and research at the University, the Council has continued to support the University initiatives in various spheres. Therefore, the University Council has undertaken:

1. Approval of the Establishment of the Alumni Relations Directorate

Given the importance with which MKU holds its alumni, and in order to respond to emerging issues and support the growing number of alumni, the operations of the alumni office have been strengthened by separating it from Students Welfare by establishing a stand-alone directorate of Alumni Relations. Subsequently, the management of alumni affairs has been moved to the Divisional Unit of Corporate Services, Communication & Alumni Relations, under the Directorate of Alumni Relations. The coordination of Student Career Services intended to promote career guidance has been

moved to the Directorate of Student Recruitment, Admissions, Registration & Career Services.

2. Development of Academic Resources

The Council appreciates the unequivocal support by the Board of Directors towards the improvement of academic resources that will boost the delivery of teaching, learning, research and innovation. Towards this end, there are notable developments.

- **State-of-the-art Pharmacy Laboratories - Nakuru Campus**

Four Pharmacy laboratories have been developed and designed to support Pharmacognosy, Pharmacology, Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Pharmaceutics research and training in Nakuru City Campus of MKU. To authenticate the facilities, Pharmacy and Poisons Board inspected the laboratories for accreditation and to confirm them fit for use to offer Pharmacy training and related skills and knowledge.

- **Nursing Skills Laboratories – Thika (Main) Campus**

The skills laboratories include emergency, theater and triage. The University has acquired two high fidelity simulation mannequins. These improvements will improve the quality of the practical training of health professionals and support the expansion of the School of Nursing admission capacity.

- **Refurbishing of Students Centre**

Purpose of Students Centre in a University is to enhance the overall student experience by providing an environment that supports both academic and social aspects of Campus life. The refurbishing of the Student Center was meant to ease delivery of service and promote a student life experience outside the lecture halls. It is meant to unlock the holistic person MKU targets to release to the world of work and service.

Conclusion

Dear graduands, as you embark on the next phase of your journey, remember that sustainability is not just a goal but a responsibility we all share. With the knowledge and skills, you've gained here, you have the power to innovate, research, and lead towards a more sustainable and just future for all. On my own behalf and that of the MKU Council, accept our Congratulations and may you carry the spirit of sustainability, innovation and solution making with you as you step into the world of work and service.

Message From

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



PROF. DEOGRATIUS JAGANYI,
PhD, MSc, DIC, MRSC
 Vice-Chancellor, MKU

The United Nations recognizes the pivotal role of research and innovation in human development. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9, which focuses on Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, calls for increased investment in research and innovation to enhance technological capabilities and improve access to information, dissemination, and communication. This goal underscores research and innovation as key drivers of socioeconomic development, vital for improving the well-being of Kenyans and Africa.

Kenya Vision 2030 acknowledges the significance of research in enhancing competitiveness, driving industrialization, improving education and skill development, and ensuring sustainable management of Kenya's natural resources, especially in the circular and blue economies. Additionally, Kenya's Science,

The university has continued to invest in applied research and innovation through the Vice-Chancellor's Research and Innovation Grant, which supports faculty and students in their endeavors.

Technology, and Innovation (STI) policy envisions accelerating the transition to a knowledge-based economy.

Mount Kenya University's strategic plan positions the institution as a leading research university in the region and across the continent. The university has continued to invest in applied research and innovation through the Vice-Chancellor's Research and Innovation Grant, which supports faculty and students in their endeavours. We have forged strategic partnerships and collaborations that have significantly increased our research outputs, particularly with the US, EU, UK, Japan, and Africa institutions. Notably, these collaborations have led to the construction of state-of-the-art facilities such as the Malaria Elimination Centre and the hosting of international conferences like CAREED. Our efforts have attracted prestigious awards, such as the SEPT-Competence Centre & AGEA Award by the University of Leipzig. These achievements are reflected in improved web rankings and global recognition of our research and innovation achievements.

Our postgraduate and postdoctoral programs have grown, attracting students and fellows by offering platforms for conducting cutting-edge research. The university remains committed to supporting its faculty, students, and the community to enhance living standards through research and innovation.

As you peruse the highlights of our research activities in this bulletin for 2024, I hope we will continue to harness our intellectual capacities to provide homegrown solutions leveraging sustainability for continued prosperity.

University Council



DR. VINCENT GAITHO, PhD
Chairman University Council, MKU



PROF. DEOGRATIUS JAGANYI,
PhD, MSc, DIC, MRSC
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PROF. STANLEY W. WAUDO, PhD
Member



DR. FELIX KIRUTHU
Member



COMMISSIONER DR. MARY GATURU
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Member



DR. KEN RAMANI
Member



MR. THOMAS NG'ANG'A
Member



COMMISSIONER NJOKI KAHIGA
Member



MARY OLUBAYI
Member

University Management



PROF. DEOGRATIUS JAGANYI,
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Dean, School of Business and Economics

Dean of Students



DR. EMMANUEL OWUOR
Dean of Students

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Honouring our Nation...

MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY ANTHEM

*Inspired by modernity
Exuding great abilities
Mount Kenya University
Unlocking infinite possibilities.*

We gather on your slopes to build our capabilities

And stand at the peak to view our opportunities

With joy and pride we hail your credibility

Transforming our world with stunning versatility

United we strive to serve the great humanity

With passion and hope; excellence and integrity

We trust in God for wisdom and prosperity

Achieving our goals in science and technology.

THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY ANTHEM

Ee Mungu twaomba uilinde
Jumuiya Afrika Mashariki
Tuwezeshe kuishi kwa amani
Tutimize na malengo yetu.

*Jumuiya Yetu sote tuilinde
Tuwajibike tuimarike
Umoja wetu ni nguzo yetu
Idumu Jumuiya yetu.*

Uzalendo pia mshikamano
Viwe msingi wa Umoja wetu
Na tulinde Uhuru na Amani
Mila zetu na desturi zetu.

Viwandani na hata mashambani
Tufanye kazi sote kwa makini
Tujitoe kwa hali na mali
Tuijenge Jumuiya bora.

THE KENYA NATIONAL ANTHEM

O God of all creation
Bless this our land and nation
Justice be our shield and defender
May we dwell in unity
Peace and liberty
Plenty be found within our borders.

Let one and all arise
With hearts both strong and true
Service be our earnest endeavour
And our homeland of Kenya
Heritage of splendour
Firm may we stand to defend.

Let all with one accord
In common bond united
Build this our nation together
And the glory of Kenya
The fruit of our labour
Fill every heart with thanksgiving.



Mount Kenya University Titans rugby team players (in blue) battling it out with Zetech University players (in white) during the Kenya Rugby Central Region playoffs.



WELCOME TO

MKU at a Glance

A SNEAK PREVIEW OF OUR MILESTONES

MKU SCOOPS GRANT WORTH KSHS. 11 MILLION



From Right: Prof. Michael Gielnik (STEP Project Principal Investigator Leuphana University); Mr. Bonface Joel Malala (STEP Project Coordinator/Co-Investigator Mount Kenya University); Dr. Anyway Mikioni (STEP Project Coordinator/Co-Investigator UOV); Mr Christopher Chidiabere Uwakwe (STEP Project Coordinator/Co-Investigator GOU); Mr. Paul Jasper Hermann (STEP Programme Director) & Ms. Janina Peschmann (STEP Programme Coordinator) Leuphana University.

Mount Kenya University staff, Prof. Peter Wanderi and Mr. Bonface Malala have won a grant worth Ksh 11 million in collaboration with Leuphana University (Germany), University of Venda (South Africa) and Godfrey Okoye University (Nigeria). The project is a 3-year project (2024-2026) funded by German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

The focus of STEP sustainability (STEP-S) project is to offer new sustainable entrepreneurship co-curriculum courses that are rooted in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to both undergraduate and postgraduate students of partner universities. The project will be implemented through coaching, mentoring, and internship

programmes in collaboration with industries/other international partners who will offer hands-on experience to beneficiaries.

Leuphana University is the grant administering institution tasked with undertaking overall responsibility of coordination/implementation/grant management as well as spearheading the research component of the project among partner institutions.

Mount Kenya University, University of Venda and Godfrey Okoye University will be tasked with training undergraduate students, postgraduate students and secondary/tertiary students respectively and hosting research workshops within the project period.

From the workshop, three key STEP-S activities were scheduled to take place at MKU in 2024:

- 1. 8th – 12th July, 2024 - Train the Trainer Workshop (TTT):** targets 13 MKU faculty members (12 trained to become STEP-S instructors and 1 to be Master STEP-S trainer).
- 2. 15th – 19th July, 2024 - Postgraduate Research Workshop:** PhD/Masters students participated in a research skills workshop held at MKU Thika.
- 3. September – November 2024 – STEP-S training for undergraduate students:** 100 MKU undergraduate students will be trained on entrepreneurship, trainees will be given seed capital to practice business for 12 weeks within MKU.

Student's Testimonial - Innovation

MKU STUDENT WINS GLOBAL HUAWEI ICT COMPETITION, CHINA

The Huawei ICT Competition, initiated in 2015 as part of the Huawei ICT Academy is a collaborative effort to enrich the ICT talent pool by transferring the latest knowledge from a global technology leader. The 2023-2024 edition featured four distinct tracks: cloud, computing, network, and innovation, reflecting Huawei's dedication to diverse technological fields.

Daniel Apolo Ochola, an Information Technology student at Mount Kenya University was among a team of 18 Kenyans who won during the competition held in China in May 2024. My success story with the Huawei ICT Talent Academy competition began unexpectedly while scrolling through Twitter one evening. The announcement of the competition caught my eye, offering tracks in cloud computing, networking, and computing. Recognizing the opportunity, I immersed myself in self-study from August to November 2023, focusing on cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and big data.

The preliminary examination in November marked the beginning of an intense journey. I advanced to the national level, securing second place in the cloud track. This achievement propelled me to the regional finals, where I represented Kenya in the Southern Africa Region. Training at the Huawei office in Lavington enhanced my knowledge and gave me practical insights into the IT industry.

Traveling to Shenzhen, China, for the global finals was an eye-opening experience. The city's advanced



National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetangula flags off the team of Kenyan students headed for Shanghai china to take part in the Huawei ICT Global competition. Among the competitors is Daniel Apolo Ochola, a Bachelor of Science in Information technology at Mount Kenya University, Thika campus.

infrastructure and disciplined, organized society left me in awe. Visits to Huawei's exhibition halls showcased innovations like self-driving vehicle systems, generative AI, and super 5G technology. These experiences broadened my understanding of technological trends and reinforced my passion for IT.

The global finals were a blend of professional growth and cultural exchange. Engaging with peers from various countries enriched my perspective and forged new friendships. Winning third prize was a testament to our hard work,

supported by Huawei and our universities. The teamwork with Ian Omwenga and Mark Omaiko from Machakos University was pivotal in our success.

MKU played a crucial role in my journey. The support, resources, and vibrant community at the university were instrumental in shaping my academic and professional path. The recognition and encouragement from the university, including a meeting with the Vice-Chancellor, were moments of pride.

This journey has been about perseverance, collaboration, and the pursuit of excellence. I am deeply grateful for the unwavering support from my family, especially my brother Thomas. As I aspire to become a Huawei ICT Academy student ambassador and a Google Developer Student Club Lead, I am excited about the future and committed to making a meaningful impact in the IT industry.



Daniel Apolo Ochola

Congratulations to all graduands.

FIRST CANCER IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

Researchers, university faculty, policy advocates and students converged at the Alumni Plaza of Mount Kenya University on 19th and 20th of June 2024 for the first ever of its kind cancer implementation science symposium. The symposium brought together faculty and students from Mount Kenya University, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, visiting faculty from universities in the USA, the National Cancer Institute – Kenya and Kilele Health Association. The symposium was graced by MKU's Vice-Chancellor, Prof Deogratius Jaganyi, who in his remarks challenged the participants to discuss programmes that would translate into cancer prevention and early detection in Kenya. Prof. Jaganyi noted that the prevalence of cancer in Kenya has increased, affecting almost every family and impact communities negatively. He further



Group photo of Mount Kenya University, Vice-Chancellor and symposium participants.



Dr. Elias Melly, CEO -National Cancer Institute -Kenya presenting at the symposium.

noted that MKU has prioritised cancer as one of areas of research focus by faculty and students.

Implementation science focuses on research to implementation of programmes at community level. It accelerates adoption of solutions since it focuses on testing possible solutions in communities, where they are really to work. The symposium focused on cervical cancer prevention and early detection. Cervical cancer is the second most frequently diagnosed in Kenya but is the leading cause of cancer associated deaths in Kenya. Cervical cancer is preventable through vaccination of girls (and boys if resources allow) aged between 9 and 14 years old, and through screening of sexually

active women for presence of pre-cancerous lesions. These lesions, if present, are treated to prevent them from developing into cancer. The protective vaccine is against the Human papilloma virus (HPV), which is associated to over 95% of all cervical cancer cases. HPVs are common sexually transmitted infections, with most of them getting resolved by the individual's immune system without causing any disease. HPV has different strains, with HPV 16 and 18 being the main agents causing cervical cancer. The HPV vaccine targets these strains and assist the immune system to clear future infections and stop the development of cervical cancer.

ELEVATING PUBLIC HEALTH: MKU'S Role in the Ayana Project to Eliminate Cervical Cancer

Mount Kenya University (MKU), in its unwavering commitment to community service and academic excellence, is proud to co-found the Ayana Project (<https://www.hpv.ke/about>). This groundbreaking initiative aims to boost Human papillomavirus (HPV) testing to achieve the World Health Organization (WHO) targets for eliminating cervical cancer. The Ayana Project is a collaborative endeavor that brings together MKU, the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), The Pathology Network, and the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND). Together, these institutions share a vision of eradicating one of the most preventable yet deadly cancers affecting women globally.

Central to this initiative is the newly established Institute of Tropical Medicine (ITM) at MKU, led by Dr. Jesse Gitaka. The ITM serves as a hub for advanced research and innovation, housing state-of-the-art infrastructure designed to support cutting-edge work in public health. The Ayana Project is domiciled at this institute, leveraging its capabilities to effectively address the cervical cancer burden. Cervical cancer remains a significant public health challenge, especially in low- and middle-income countries where access to preventive care and diagnostic services is limited. Globally, cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer among women, with an estimated 604,000 new cases and 342,000 deaths reported in 2020. In Kenya, cervical cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women, with approximately 5,250 new cases and 3,286 deaths annually. These statistics highlight the urgent need for effective screening and early diagnosis programs.

The Ayana Project aims to address this pressing health challenge by enhancing HPV testing, a crucial step in the early detection and prevention of cervical cancer. HPV is the primary cause of cervical cancer, and early detection through reliable testing can significantly reduce the disease burden. The WHO has set ambitious targets to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem, including 90% of girls fully vaccinated with the HPV vaccine by age 15, and 70% of women screened with a high-performance test by age 35 and again by 45. The Ayana Project aligns perfectly with these targets, aiming to increase HPV testing coverage and ensure timely interventions.

MKU plays a pivotal role in the Ayana consortium, leveraging its academic and research expertise to drive the project's success. The university's involvement encompasses several critical areas. MKU's robust research infrastructure facilitates cutting-edge studies on HPV and cervical cancer, contributing to the development of innovative diagnostic tools. Through its extensive network of community outreach programs, MKU plays a vital role in raising awareness about cervical cancer, promoting HPV vaccination, and encouraging women to undergo regular screening. Additionally, MKU is committed to training healthcare professionals in advanced diagnostic techniques, ensuring a skilled workforce capable of addressing cervical cancer effectively.

The Institute of Tropical Medicine (ITM) at MKU stands as a beacon of progress in strengthening public health research and implementation research capacity in Kenya and globally. Fostering interdisciplinary collaborations and providing

an environment conducive to groundbreaking research, the ITM is poised to make substantial contributions to the fight against cervical cancer and other tropical diseases. The institute's advanced infrastructure, including modern laboratories and research facilities, supports high-impact studies that can inform policy and practice in public health.

The Ayana Project exemplifies MKU's dedication to its core mandate of serving the community through education, research, and healthcare initiatives. Addressing the cervical cancer burden not only contributes to improving public health but also enhances the quality of life for countless women and their families. The university's involvement in this project reflects its broader commitment to fostering sustainable development and empowering communities through knowledge and innovation.

The Ayana Project is a testament to what can be achieved through collaborative efforts and a shared vision for a healthier future. Mount Kenya University's role in this initiative bolsters its reputation as a leader in academic and research excellence and reaffirms its commitment to making a tangible impact on public health. Advancing HPV testing and working towards the elimination of cervical cancer positions MKU at the forefront of a transformative movement that promises to save lives and build healthier communities.

As we celebrate our graduates, we also celebrate the strides we are making in public health through initiatives like the Ayana Project. Together, we are not just imagining a future free of cervical cancer—we are making it a reality.

MKU's Innovation Programmes

Hultz Prize Regional Innovation Competition

The following four student's innovators at the university hub pitched their innovation alongside other contestants from 30 countries at Strathmore University

1. Bettinah Maruti
2. Abdi Mohammed
3. Esbon Ogetto

In the first round of competition, they emerged among the Top 8 Finalists. They are waiting on Second Round Results. Top 2 will compete for 1M USD in London in August 2024.



CLEAN Energy Innovation

As part of the students quality innovations, emanating from the Clean Energy-Kenya Bootcamp in April 2024, the students have been invited to participate in the Digital Solution in Clean-Energy call which is a fully sponsored programme by Start-up Energy.



Precious Mbinya, Student Innovator/Founder Nutriblend Farm Fresh poses with her products at the Innovation and Incubation centre.

ASK Participation

10 student innovators participated in ASK Shows. MKU was Awarded Best Innovation Stand in Meru and Machakos while 3 Students participated in CUE Exhibition at KICC Nairobi.



Former CS, Education, Hon. Ezekiel Machogu Congratulates MKU student innovation during Commission for University Education Exhibitions.

EXIST FUNDING PROPOSAL & ERASMUS + PROGRAMME SUPPORT



Awarded Participants at Born Global Award Africa 2024.

The African German Entrepreneurship Academy Business Idea competition focused on engaging Science and Technology based start-ups with prototypes based on research conducted at Higher Education Institutions. Mount Kenya University Researchers submitted two business concepts for Exist proposal (Eco Trace - Refill & Reuse Model Powered by Digital Passports and Wema herbal bathing black Soap).

The Herbal Soap concept was selected for the competition and two researchers, Dr. Jared Onyancha and Dr. Henry Yatich were selected to present the concept during the training held at Leipzig University in German from 27th May to 8th June 2024. The aim of the training was to empower the participants to develop business plan proposals for EXIST start-up funding in Germany by August 2024.

The MKU team participated in the Bonn Global Start-up Festival and received an International Innovators Award for Africa 2024. The MKU team attended the Machen Festival that offered a platform for exhibitions for companies, founders, start-ups, developers, creatives, institutions and projects from central Germany.

- The WEMA soap was nominated by Leipzig University to proceed for EXIST funding by August 2024 out of the 4 prototype products presented.
- Two staff members from Leipzig were nominated to support the business plan development and the technical aspect for the soap production.



Dr. Yatich, Principal, College of graduate studies & Research handing over the award to Vice-Chancellor, Mount Kenya University.

ACADEMIA & INDUSTRIES COLLABORATION TO ENHANCE GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY



TOT participants (Industry and Academia) at Mount Kenya University.

The ACCESS Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop, held in 2024, brought together participants from nine local universities and small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs) to address the pressing need for stronger University Business Linkages (UBL) and improved career enhancement strategies. The workshop aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry, focusing on how to better prepare students for the job market.

1. Academia-Industry Linkages:

The workshop participants emphasized the importance of structured collaborations to align educational programs with market needs. Universities must define the skills and knowledge students should acquire during industrial attachments to ensure alignment with industry expectations.

2. Lessons Learned: Key takeaways from the workshop included:

- Continuous and structured engagement between universities and industries is crucial for bridging gaps and keeping educational programs relevant.

- Implementing well-defined career enhancement programs to equip students with practical skills, better preparing them for the job market.
- Revising the entrepreneurship curriculum across the nine participating higher education institutions (HEIs) is essential.
- Building strong networks and partnerships with industry players enhances the learning experience, providing students with valuable real-world insights and opportunities.

3. Recommendations: To further these goals, the workshop recommended:

- Promoting the concept of Service Learning (SL) and documenting career enhancement activities within universities.
- Identifying industry partners who can support SL and career enhancement initiatives.
- Forming ACCESS Student Clubs for undergraduates and reviewing postgraduate modules to involve students in SL projects, ensuring practical experience and industry exposure.

- Developing a national universal undergraduate curriculum in entrepreneurship.
- Training faculty and staff on effective industry engagement and UBL strategies to better support student career development.

Conclusion

The ACCESS 1.0 highlighted the critical need for stronger linkages between universities and industry to enhance career development for students. Addressing the identified challenges and implementing the proposed strategies will enable universities to better prepare their graduates for the competitive job market, ensuring they possess the necessary skills and knowledge to thrive in their careers. The consortium of 6 African HEIs and University of Leipzig has already applied for ACCESS 2.0 which will see each partner university implement unique programmes towards addressing graduate unemployment in respective countries and Africa, 2025-2029.



Dr. Yatich, Stressing a point during the TOT session.

INNOVATION HUB BENEFITS FROM WORLD BANK FUNDED PROJECT



Research and Innovation facilities, Housing the Innovation Hub, Malaria Research Centre and the university Research centre.

Mount Kenya University innovation and incubation Centre was recently named among the Top 8 innovation hubs in country that won a highly competitive grant to nurture MSMEs across the country and also implement its own performance improvement plans. This culminated in the university signing a grant agreement with the Ministry of Investments,

Trade and Industry (State Department for Industry) and Spineberg Limited with E4Impact Foundation. The KIEP –SKIES initiative that’s funded by world bank aims at strengthening Kenya’s innovation ecosystem through the Kenya Industry and Entrepreneurship project.

This partnership will enhance the university innovation Hub’s capacity in systems, processes, and position it as a hallmark of excellence in SME support across the country. “In the project we will incubate 40 early stage businesses and offers technical business support for 6 months” says the Project lead, Donatus Njoroge.

The project targets government priority areas in the manufacturing, value addition, agriculture, creative economy, health, and digital technologies. The recently released call for application has attracted close to 400 applications, which demonstrates Kenyans ingenuity and the importance of such business acceleration programs.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS WORKSHOP

Mount Kenya University hosted a dynamic one-day workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) on 1st March 2024. The event aimed to instil a deeper appreciation for the significance of IPR in today’s competitive landscape, attracting over 60 representatives from every faculty and innovations incubated at the university’s innovation and incubation centre.

In his opening remarks, the Principal, College of Graduate Studies and Research Dr. Henry Yatich sensitized participants on university Intellectual Property Policy which is critical in providing guidelines on issues that are pertinent in research activities and commercialization of research findings.



Group photo of participants of IPR workshop.

Mr. Fred Otswong’o, a patent attorney under Fred Otswong’o & IP associates guided participants through four insightful sessions covering patents, copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets, Intellectual property rights management in academic, challenges and opportunities for patenting in Kenya and ethics

of intellectual property rights. According to Donatus Njoroge, the Head, Innovations, Intellectual Property and Community Engagement, the workshop left participants not only well-informed but also imbued with a heightened sense of responsibility toward safeguarding intellectual property.

Partnerships

MKU AND JAPAN SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF SCIENCE (JSPS) STRENGTHEN THEIR COLLABORATION

The Director of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Nairobi Research Station, Kenya, Dr. Yumi Yamane, visited Mount Kenya University to explore possibilities of more collaborative engagements with MKU.

Dr. Yumi was accompanied by Prof. Xiaojie Tian, who is working at the Institute of Health and Sport Sciences at the University of Tsukuba. During their visit a number of areas of current and future collaborations were discussed. Prof. Tian and Dr. Yumi also expressed their desire to join Mount Kenya University in future academic engagements where a few forthcoming and other ongoing activities were also explained.



A Courtesy Call to MKU on 31st January 2024 by Dr. Yumi Yamane, Director of Japanese Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS), Nairobi Research Station, and Prof. Tian Xiaojie, Associate Professor, Institute of Health and Sport Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan. (The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration and Institutional Advancement (APIA), Dr. Peter Kirira, and Prof. Peter Wanderi, Principal Corporate Services, Communication and Alumni Relations accompanied by James M. Njoroge, the Head of Department, Natural Sciences representing the Dean, School of Pure and Applied Sciences, received the guests at the DVC APIA's Office).

Media, creative arts, humanities, languages, and all other academic disciplines at universities are viable

areas of collaboration that could be brought on board in the MKU-JSPS strengthened partnership.

INTEGRATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AGENDA IN 2024

Mount Kenya University (MKU) hosted Tanzania Institute of Accountancy (TIA) between 15th and 19th January 2024. This was in line with the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the two universities in 2021 which highlights staff and student exchange among the joint activities. TIA's 24 students and 5 members of staff interacted widely with MKU staff and students, members of various student clubs, .

LIONS International members of the Thika Kilimambogo Club who a lecture to the visitors and MKU students at Mwai Kibaki Convention Centre at Thika Campus on 18th January 2021 under the topic of "Leadership Experience Opportunities (LEO)". The LIONS International Thika Kilimambogo Club members fully support the MKU Thika Campus LEO students

club of close to 50 students drawn from different faculties. Dr. James Njagu, a former Diplomat of the East African Community, where he worked for 15 years, gave a virtual lecture on East African Integration. The TIA and MKU teams visited TV 47 and Radio 47 studios and were hosted by Mwalimu Mashuhuri wa Lugha ya Kiswahili, Yusuf Wambugu.

The MKU and TIA students expressed their support towards the East Africa

Integration as well as support to the SDGs 2030 Agenda. (MKU in the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) Hub University for SDG10 on Reduced Inequalities. The TIA team promised to host MKU within the year for a reciprocal visit and for a workshop to be graced by, among others, key regional leaders including the EAC representatives, as well as by LIONS Clubs of Dar es Salaam (there are 2 LIONS Clubs in Dar es Salaam).



Mount Kenya University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi (Centre) with TIA students.

MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY HOSTS FACULTY FROM NAGAOKA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



Visiting faculty from Nagaoka University of Technology, UNESCO joined by the MKU representatives pose for a photo during their courtesy visit to Dr. Mercyline Kamande, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic & Research Affairs.

Mount Kenya University and Nagaoka University of Technology (NUT) of Japan have had so far, a good relationship under their joint UNAI SDGs 9 and 10 Hubs platforms. Following this joint collaboration on 21st March 2024 the University hosted Prof. Takahashi Kohske, Vice President (NUT), Dr. Mami Katsumi – Chief Education Administrator (NUT), Dr. Yumi Yamane Director Research Station, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), Monica Dongre -Program Director, CDS International, Mr. George Njoroge – KNATCOM – UNESCO Representative.

The NUT team joined UNESCO, Mullys Children's family (MCF), Communis, Capemedia, attended a workshop conducted at Mount Kenya University which was guided

by the Theme: ***Use of Innovation, Technology and Infrastructural Development in Climate Change Mitigation for Reduced Inequalities.***

The NUT team delivered an address on SDGs and UNAI SDG9 Hub (on Innovation, Technology, Industry and Infrastructure) sharing their experiences and key SDGs stakeholders in the community also shared varied experiences and possible strategies towards the global achievement of the SDGs.

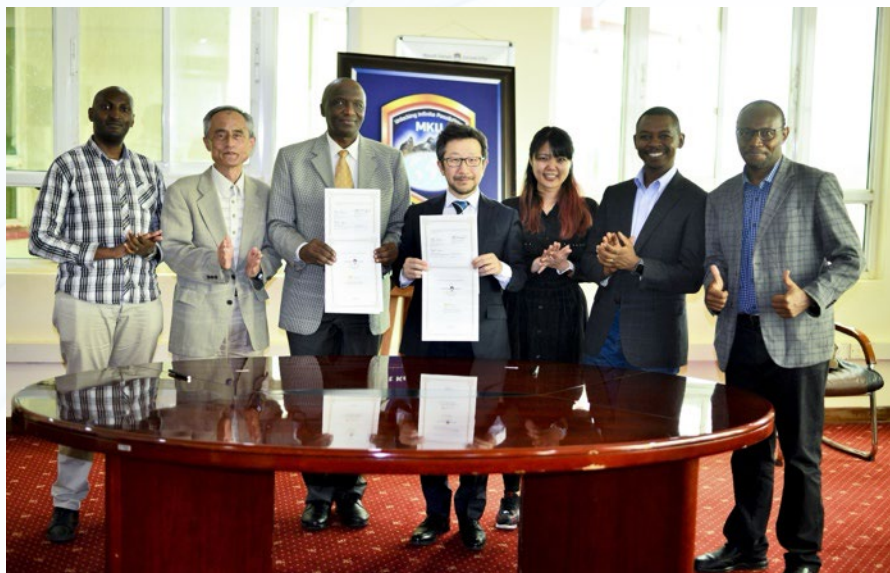
During the workshop, participating members marked two International Days as guided by United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and International Day of Forests. To mark the international day of trees the team planted memorial tree at

Thika Main campus and proceeded to Mullys Children Family Yatta farm where they planted trees and were taken through training on the sustainable biointensive tree planting method implemented by MCF where they have over 30 acres of tree garden

The Nagaoka University of Technology is the UNAI Hub for SDG 9 on Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure while Mount Kenya University is the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities Hub.

Mount Kenya University continues to offer quality academic training, research and exposing the students to projects impacting the community through Corporate Social Responsibility and outreach programs.

MKU'S PIONEERING RESEARCH AND GLOBAL COLLABORATIONS



Mount Kenya University signed a collaborative MOU with Ehime University.

Mount Kenya University has robust research ventures and partnerships with partners across the globe. These collaborations underscore our commitment to addressing global health challenges, particularly malaria, through innovative research and community-oriented solutions.

Our partnership with **Ehime University, Japan** has led to important studies on malaria. We are working together to understand how different genetic makeups of malaria parasites affect their growth in and outside the human body. This research could help develop new treatment to stop the parasites from growing. Additionally, we have discovered new parts or proteins of the malaria parasite that specifically help the parasite to cause serious infections in pregnant women. The findings are critical in developing interventions and better methods to protect pregnant women and babies from the adverse effects of malaria. In May 2024, MKU hosted

a workshop where these and other findings were shared.

Pioneering Community-Based Malaria Control with Osaka Metropolitan University

MKU is at the forefront of evaluating innovative malaria control strategies. One notable project involves assessing the protective efficacy of Olyset®Plus ceiling nets in reducing malaria incidence among children in Homa Bay County, Kenya. This cluster-randomized controlled trial aims to provide evidence on the effectiveness of these nets in real-world settings. Additionally, we are exploring community-oriented malaria control strategies in the Lake Victoria basin. These initiatives are vital in developing sustainable and locally adapted malaria control measures.

Our collaboration with **Osaka University** focuses

on defining malaria infection outcomes through immunoprofiling individuals affected by malaria parasites, *Plasmodium* spp. This research is part of a broader project that integrates sociological, economic, and medical approaches to tackle malaria eradication in tropical Africa. By understanding the immune responses of affected individuals, we aim to develop targeted interventions that can significantly reduce malaria transmission and morbidity.

MKU is also collaborating with other esteemed Japanese institutions such as Nagasaki University, Kobe University, Tottori University, Tohoku University, among others. These collaborations span various research projects, all aimed at understanding and mitigating the impacts of malaria and other infectious diseases.

Fostering International Exchange

Beyond research, MKU is committed to fostering international exchange programs. This year, under the Sakura Science Exchange, a team of six researchers from MKU visited Ehime University for a three-week exchange program. Additionally, one

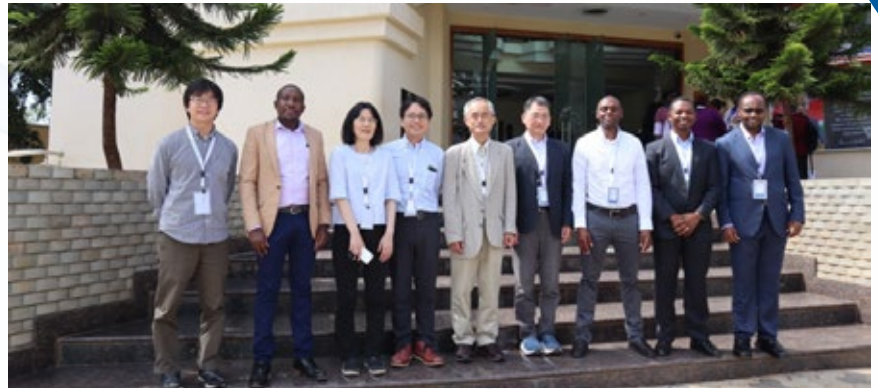


Dr. Shiluli explaining a point during a workshop at the MKU Centre for Malaria Elimination.

student visited Nagasaki University for training on working with malaria parasites. MKU also hosted a total of seven Japanese professors from various universities who visited MKU for collaborative research and discussions on how to strengthen this collaboration. The Sakura Exchange Program and these visits provide our students and faculty with invaluable opportunities to gain new perspectives, enhance their skills, and contribute to global knowledge exchange.

Looking Ahead

“We celebrate our global partnerships and the significant strides we are making in research and innovation. Together with our Japanese counterparts, MKU is not only contributing to the global fight against malaria but also enhancing our academic and research capabilities. We look forward to continuing this journey of collaboration, discovery, and impact.” Says Dr. Bernard Kanoi, a Biomedical scientist and a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Malaria Elimination, Mount Kenya University.



Dr Henry Yatich (2nd left), Principal College of graduate studies and research MKU, with several professors from Japanese universities.



A team of MKU researchers, led by Dr. Kanoi (front row, 3rd right), visited Ehime University January/ February 2024 and were hosted by Prof Eizo Takashima (front row, 4th right).

KENYAN RESEARCH GROUP VISITS EHIME PREFECTURE FOR JOINT RESEARCH WITH EHIME UNIVERSITY

A research group from Mount Kenya University, visited Ehime Prefecture and has begun joint research aimed at eradicating malaria at the Ehime University Proteoscience Center.

MKU is conducting research on early diagnosis and treatment of malaria. The Center entered into an academic exchange agreement with Mount Kenya University in May 2023. The purpose of the joint research is to establish a serodiagnostic method that can detect asymptomatic infected

individuals. Using the center’s wheat cell-free protein synthesis technology, the company will be

able to easily and quickly test for antibodies that develop in the body of malaria patients by measuring antibodies and analyzing data.



MKU, CAPE MEDIA LAUNCH TALENT ACADEMY

Mount Kenya University and Cape Media have launched a Talent Academy, to train creatives in a bid to enable them to progress their careers within the industry that is increasingly becoming a key sector for Kenya's economy.

The Cape Media Talent Academy will be domiciled at MKU. The two institutions also inked a pact where MKU will provide the Cape Media Talent Academy with creative content as developed by the students.

Prof Deogratius Jaganyi, Vice Chancellor MKU, noted that the creative industry has potential to offer employment to many young people and at the same time transform young people into entrepreneurs in the creative industry. This is an innovative strategy in job creation within the continent of Africa and in other developing countries across the world. The creative arts industry is a popular engagement and given the increasing interest across the world of persons who turn to the entertainment industry for

leisure, the Cape Media's Talent Academy becomes a very important intervention in youth skills development and jobs creation. This will allow the talented students to be engaged by the Academy in various and different ways, hence leading to job creation.

Mwenda Njoka, Chief Executive Officer, Cape Media, which owns the fast-growing TV47 and Radio47, encourages students to give the creative a stab even as they pursue their education in different areas, which may not necessarily be related to the creative industry.

"The idea is to give young, talented students an opportunity to utilise their talent in all spheres of creative industry even as they go about their academics," says, Njoka.

"We would like to encourage you to pursue your dreams even if it is not in the field, you are currently undertaking in school."

The programme will be targeted at students in universities and beneficiaries will acquire professional hands-on training, as well as employment opportunities, among other key incentives.

"I applaud the thought behind the initiative, for it is no doubt key to addressing the mismatch of skills that has been a hindrance for young people pursuing careers in the creative economy," said Nelly Muluka, Ag. Chief Manager, Corporate Services and Administration, Kenya Film Classification Board (KFCB)

This initiative is in line with the Government's resolve to spur the growth of the creative space through talent development and monetization. Talent Academy at MKU is expected to play part in moving forward this goal. The creative industry has been tipped to hold immense potential but remains unexplored in Kenya. It contributes three percent to the global Gross Domestic Product.

The Creative Economy has the potential to transform Kenya's fortunes and improve the livelihoods of our youth through job creation and income generation.

"I call upon you to be observant of the trends in the creative space, work closely with industry experts, and above all leverage on technology to monetize and tell your authentic stories." asserts, Muluka.



Cape Media Chief Executive Officer Mwenda Njoka, (left) with MKU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi (Right) display a document after the two institutions signed a memorandum of understanding to set up the Cape Media Talent Academy. The academy aims at tapping and nurturing new talent in all spheres of creative industry.



Kenya Film Classification Board acting Chief Manager, Corporate Services and Administration Ms. Nelly Muluka (center), during the launch of the Cape Media Talent Academy. She had earlier witnessed the signing of an MOU between MKU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi (right) and Cape Media CEO Mwenda Njoka on training and nurturing creative talent.

MKU Maritime Academy

VASCO DAGAMA PILLAR IN MALINDI

Mount Kenya University Maritime Academy, Malindi as a beacon of knowledge and innovation in maritime studies, is at the forefront of shaping Africa's maritime destiny. The academy comes at the opportune time when the government has embraced the blue economy and maritime affairs with heavy infrastructural developments to facilitate maritime trade development, maritime safety and security, maritime education and labour. This will empower Kenyan and regional youth to soar as global leaders in the maritime industry. MKU maritime academy opens its doors to cultivate the next generation of maritime professionals, ready to navigate the challenges and seize the boundless opportunities in the world's oceans delivered in a dynamic learning environment where innovation meets tradition.

The Vasco da Gama Pillar in Malindi, Kenya, stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of maritime exploration and the historic voyages of the Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama. Erected in 1498 - 1499, this iconic monument commemorates da Gama's pioneering journey from Lisbon to India via the Cape of Good Hope (1497-99). His first visit to Malindi, from April 15 to 24, 1498, marked a significant moment in the Age of Discovery, symbolizing the beginning of a new era of global maritime connections.

In this spirit of exploration and maritime excellence, MKU Maritime Academy, positioned in the

historic coastal town of Malindi, seeks to build on this rich legacy by fostering a new generation of maritime professionals. Offering state-of-the-art training and educational programs, aligned with the University's vision "To be a Global Hub of Excellence in Education, Research and Innovation," the Maritime Academy is committed to providing top-tier

education, cutting-edge research opportunities, and fostering innovative solutions in the maritime field. The academy will not only honor the historical significance of Vasco da Gama's voyage but also propel forward the university's mission of shaping global leaders and innovators.



Training facilities at Maritime Academy, Malindi.

Infrastructural Boost

MKU ACQUIRES INTERACTIVE DISPLAYS TO ENHANCE INNOVATION IN TEACHING AND LEARNING



Chairman, Board of Directors, MKU Prof. Simon Gicharu hands over interactive displays.

In response to the growing demand for more engaging and collaborative learning environments, Mount Kenya University has integrated the use of Interactive displays and smart classrooms to enhance learning experiences and elevate the e-learning and conference experience. These interactive displays support a dynamic platform for content delivery, fostering participation, and interactivity. The university intends to build Smart classrooms across the campuses and recording studios for content development. This complements earlier developments where the university began a journey of self-paced content development and digitization

Chairman, Board of Directors, Mount Kenya University, handed over to the Vice-Chancellor 18 interactive displays that will enhance lecturer-student interaction virtually. The devices were acquired from China at a cost of KSh 28 million.

“The interactive displays allow lecturers to incorporate a range of

useful apps or teaching aids that support in simplifying different concepts in class, hence enabling lecturers to be more effective in training students virtually,” he adds.

Prof. Gicharu observes that the traditional model of “brick and mortar universities” would most likely be replaced by Open Universities that offer programmes through virtual platforms and retain only small administrative offices.

“As a University, we need to ensure that we are alive to where the world is going, embrace technological transformations, and integrate digital technologies with Artificial Intelligence (AI) and optimize on the positive contribution to improve livelihoods. He maintains that the digital transformation agenda will be embraced in all Open and Distance Electronic Learning (ODEL) platforms and that MKU students will be among the first in the country to benefit from this technology.

“We expect that these interactive displays will be fully integrated in our training in Thika main campus

and also in all our campuses and ODEL centers. We are fully committed to ensure that our students have the best learning experience,” the Chairman stated. The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Deogratus says, it is high time for MKU to fully embrace the fourth industrial revolution by entrenching technology mediated modalities of teaching and learning in order to meet the needs and expectations of the current generation.

“MKU has already embraced digital transformation and we are well aware that pacing up growth in digital technologies will give us a competitive advantage in a turbulent and highly competitive higher education environment,” The interactive Displays will support content delivery and enhance interaction between the students and their lecturers.

The interactive displays will be useful in supporting collaborations, conferencing and presentations for postgraduate students hence promoting a vibrant research ecosystem in the University. All this will go a long way towards enhancing the transformative quality of teaching in e-learning and conferencing experiences at MKU,” Prof. Jaganyi added.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic and Research Affairs Dr. Mercyline Kamande notes the University has more than 12,000 registered students under Open, Distance and e-learning mode who will immensely benefit from the digital interactive displays.

Climate Action

CLEAN ENERGY INNOVATION BOOTCAMP 2024



Participants of the bootcamp pose for a group photo.

Startup|Energy a joint initiative of Stiftung Solarenergie (Germany) and the University of Freiburg sponsored a clean energy boot camp in Nairobi from 10th-15th April 2024 for selected universities in Uganda, Kenya and Germany. The following four universities were involved in the boot camp:

- **Germany:** Albert-Ludwigs-Universität, Freiburg
- **Kenya:** Mount Kenya University
- **Kenya:** Kenyatta University
- **Uganda:** Makerere University Business School, Kampala

The main objective of the boot-camp was to spur innovation and commercialization of clean energy innovations, through training, industry tours and direct access to an international network of the most relevant partners, investors, and mentors in their field.

The Head of Department accompanied three students for the week-long event. Bettinah Maruti presented her project – EcoFroz, a solar powered cold room to preserve fresh produce, Esbon Ogetto’ project dubbed Solar Quench is

on solar-powered atmospheric water harvesting system and Abdi Mohammed’s Eco-H2 is on green hydrogen

The boot camp kicked off with an intensive training program, by local and international coaches and professionals. As a kind of “reality check”, the participants visited four local start-ups on the third day and were able to discuss about the practical experiences with the founders. These are:

- Llyord Mwaniki Gitau, Co-Founder of Zuhura Solutions, which has developed for the first time in East Africa a food vending cart powered by renewable energy: the “Halisi Trolley”
- James Mulatya, Co-Founder of Drop Access, whose flagship product is a mobile solar refrigerator for medicines and vaccines
- Omondi Makalliwa, Founder of TryKe Group Limited: a booming startup in the e-logistics sector in Kenya
- Chris Maara, Founder of Kiri EV, operating with a disruptive business approach for electric bikes.

The Bootcamp concluded on April 15 with a public pitch event at Kenyatta University where MKU Officials (Dr. Henry Yatich and Prof. Peter Wanderi) and other officials from Kenya climate Venture, Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI), National Environmental Management Authority, ICT Authority of Kenya and hosts of seasoned entrepreneurs participated.

“The bootcamp has proven to be an exceptional program to help us to take first steps in launching our startups. The team has been extremely supportive to help us to validate our ideas, as well as to develop our pitching skills, I feel a foot taller as an entrepreneur, I learnt things I didn’t even realise I need” says Ms. Bettinah Maruti, a Mount Kenya University Engineering Student.

The three innovators are set to continue receiving mentorship from the German-based organization in addition to the ongoing accelerator program at the university’s innovation and incubation centre.



MKU Picture Speak



Romanian ambassador to Kenya Amb Gentiana Serbu during her courtesy call to the university.



The joint delegation from the Polish Chamber of Commerce, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI), also representing the University of Bialystok in Poland who visited Mount Kenya University (MKU) on 15th July 2024 and discussed possible areas of collaboration.



Mount Kenya University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi (left) and Ahmed Dagane Chief Executive Officer Kenyatta University Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital after signing an agreement that will enhance training of healthcare professionals in the country.



A high fidelity mannequin for practice at the nursing skills lab.



Expansion of Mount Kenya University Mosque, Main campus Thika.

MKU Picture Speak



From Left: Ms Janina Peschman (Leuphana University), Mr. Bonface Joel Malala (Mount Kenya University), Prof. Dr. Michael M. Gielnik (Leuphana University), Mr Christopher Chediebere Owakwe (Godfrey Okoye University), Meggy Kernt (Godfrey Okoye University) and Dr. Anyway Mikioni (University of Venda) posse for a group photo during the STEPS-S workshop at Leuphana University, Germany held in April 2024.



Equip Africa institute Executive Director Prof. Evans Kerosi (center) Mount Kenya University Transport Manager, Josphat Muchomba (center) and Equip Africa institute center manager Peter Njenga (right) after receiving a new bus. The bus is an infrastructural boost and will enhance practical training students taking medical and healthcare courses at the Kitale based institute.



ACCESS TOT Workshop at Mount Kenya University to discuss the Service-Learning Framework and development of Common Entrepreneurship Curriculum to be rolled out in 10 Local Universities.



Equip Africa Institute - Kitale Director Prof. Evans Kerosi (left), Mount Kenya University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi (center) with Captain Stanley Kirui, the County Executive Committee (CEC) member for Education and Vocational Training in Trans-Nzoia County, unveil the new logo for Equip Africa institute Kitale center, during the second graduation ceremony at the Equip Africa institute, the middle-level training college affiliated with Mount Kenya University. More than 200 graduands were awarded .



PhD Graduates 2024



Some of the PhD graduates for the 25th Graduation ceremony.

1. Stephen Mwangi Mucheru

Reg. No.: PHDBAM/2014/76563

Thesis Title: Analysis of Corporate strategic options on sustainable competitive advantage in cement manufacturing companies in Kenya.

Supervisors: Dr. Evans Nyamboga & Dr. Evans Mwiti

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration and Management

School: Business & Economics

2. Ahmed Ali

Reg. No.: PHD/2013/54375

Thesis Title: Analysis of the Socio-Economic Determinants of Household Food Insecurity in Juba River Basin, Somalia

Supervisors: Prof. Kennedy Mutundu & Prof. Grace Wamuyu Ngare

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Development Studies (Thesis Only)

School: Social Sciences

3. Christine Nyirahimana

Reg. No.: PHDNS/47028/2016

Thesis Title: Adaptation of stress management model for students studying in selected schools of nursing Rwanda

Supervisors: Dr. Rosemary Okova & Dr. Connie Mureithi

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing Science

School: Nursing

4. Joshua Nzyoka Mbithi

Reg. No.: PHDRS/2014/76384

Thesis Title: Use of media platforms on enhancing youth ministry among protestant churches in Kesses Sub-County, Uasin Gishu, Kenya

Supervisors: Dr. Regina Kinuthia & Dr. Alex Kamwaria

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Religious Studies

School: Social Sciences

5. Alfayo Odongo Wamburi

Reg. No.: PHDBA/2019/48002

Thesis Title: Value discipline strategies on organization's competitiveness in tier III category of commercial Bank in Kenya

Supervisors: Dr. Lucy Kibe & Dr. Henry Yatich

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration and Management

School: Business & Economics

6. Jean Bosco Kagame

Reg. No.: PHDLJ/2018/28376

Thesis Title: Community Policing and Security Enhancement in Gasabo District, Rwanda

Supervisors: Dr. Joyce Muchemi & Dr. Ruth Thinguri

Degree: PHD in Law enforcement and Justice Administration

School: Social Sciences

7. Joseph Njuguna Kamunjiga Njiru

Reg. No.: PHDBAM/2015/25326

Thesis Title: Influence of Corporate Competitive Strategies on Organizational Performance of Mobile Service Providers: A Comparative Analysis of Safaricom PLC and Airtel (K) LTD in Kenya

Supervisors: Dr. Erastus Thoronjo & Dr. Phelista Njeru

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration and Management

School: Business & Economics

8. Boswell Omondi Owuor

Reg. No.: PHDELT/2018/36713

Thesis Title: Linguistic Strategies According to Gender as Reflected in the Kenya National Assembly

Supervisors: Dr. Ngugi Beth (PhD) & Dr. Kanyi Charles

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in English Language and Linguistics

School: Social Sciences

9. Khalif Issack Hassan

Reg. No.: PHDED/2014/64976

Thesis Title: Influence of Principal's Power Utilization on Teachers' Empowerment in Public Secondary Schools In Garissa County, Kenya

Supervisors: Dr. Ganatusanga Haroon Sinan & Prof. Wanjiru Mugai

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Management, Administration and Leadership

School: Education

10. Ali Mohamud Adan

Reg. No.: PHDED/2014/65515

Thesis Title: Influence of Examinations Management Practices on Academic Integrity in Public Tertiary Institutions in Mandera County, Kenya

Supervisors: Dr. Ruth Thinguri & Dr. Anne Muiri

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Management, Administration and Leadership

School: Education

11. Marypiah Wairimu Gatura Kuria

Reg. No.: PHDCOUNS/2014/62550

Thesis Title: Family attributes on Alcohol Use-Disorder Among Recovering Clients in selected Rehabilitation Centers within Nairobi City County, Kenya

Supervisors: Dr. Florence K'Okul & Dr. Elijah Kirimi

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Counselling Psychology

School: Social Sciences

12. Jane Kanyuuru Simon Kiugu

Reg. No.: PHDCOUNS/2014/60010

Thesis Title: Relationship between psychosocial variables and delinquency among adolescents in selected public rehabilitation schools in Kenya

Supervisors: Dr. Jane Karimi & Dr. Wilfrida Olaly

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Counselling Psychology

School: Social Sciences

13. David Ndethya

Reg. No.: PHDED/2014/74310

Thesis Title: Influence of Self-Image on Learning Efficacy among the Learners with Physical Impairments in Public Regular Primary Schools in Kitui County

Supervisors: Dr. Susan Macharia & Dr. Cecilia Kimani

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy in Education

School: Education

14. Emmanuel Timothy Thwol Onak

Reg. No.: PHDPH/2020/68781

Thesis Title: Determinants of Utilization of Reproductive Health Services Among Women of Reproductive Age in South Sudan's Selected Public Health Facilities

Supervisors: Dr. Alfred Owino Odongo & Dr. John Kariuki

Degree: Doctor Of Philosophy In Public Health

School: Public Health

Testimonial

GRADUATE WORKING IN AUSTRIA



Caroline Mwihaki, Bachelor of Science in Nursing graduate.

I am immensely proud and honored to be one of the nursing graduates from Mount Kenya University to be deployed to Lebenshilfe Tirol in Austria. This milestone reflects the hard work and dedication that I, along with my fellow graduates, have invested in our studies. It also highlights the strong international partnerships that MKU has fostered. Throughout my training at MKU, I have been committed to achieving excellence in both nursing and mastering the German language. This rigorous preparation has equipped me with the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in the Austrian healthcare system. MKU's high educational standards and vision of creating global citizens have

been instrumental in my journey. The collaboration between MKU and Lebenshilfe Tirol has provided us with exceptional professional opportunities, comprehensive training, and cultural competence. This opportunity is not just a personal achievement but also a testament to the quality education and international pathways that MKU creates for its students. I look forward to making significant contributions to the community at Lebenshilfe Tirol and embodying the values and skills honed during my time at MKU. I am excited to embark on this new chapter in my professional journey, and I am confident that this experience will be a cornerstone of my career in nursing.

Enhanced Career Opportunities

MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY SENDS NURSING APPRENTICES TO WORK IN GERMANY



Mount Kenya University first cohort of five students celebrates after receiving their apprentice contracts.

Mount Kenya University has sent the first cohort of five students to Germany to offer healthcare services in the European country. The graduates were presented with their work permits, visas, and air tickets, all fully funded by Caritas Hospital (Germany), one of the project's partner institutions in Germany. The partnership between MKU and Hochschule Koblenz University of Applied Sciences of Germany offers paid apprenticeships and jobs to young Kenyans. Students interested in the opportunities are required to have German Language proficiency and pursue a preparatory programme in Nursing apprenticeship for German hospitals.

Study in Kenya work in Germany

Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi, MKU Vice-Chancellor said the project aligns with the government's quest to

increase work opportunities for Kenyans abroad. The government has signed bilateral labour agreements with different countries to allow the country to export their skills. On May 25, last year, President Willam Ruto announced that Germany had opened doors for 250,000 Kenyans to work in Germany.

"As a training institution, it is upon us to support the President's initiative by actualizing this endeavor. In this regard, MKU in partnership with the German university, aims to establish structures and processes that will prepare 5,000 Kenyans to work in Germany in various sectors expanding the job horizon for our people aligns very well with our motto of unlocking infinite possibilities," Prof. Jaganyi said.

The 1st pilot cohort has successfully gone through the German language B2 Level of proficiency and

completed preparatory course". The cohort is made up of Gekonge Mogambi, Aisha Wacuka, Hellen Okwaro, Bonciana Chepkorir, and Teresiah Muthoni. AG-Career Hub founded by Kenyan Professionals based in Germany supports the beneficiaries of this project to integrate with their new environment and culture as they commence their paid apprenticeships in Germany to support the labour market.

MKU has a similar Australia partnership with Lebenshilfe Tirol of Austria that also enables nursing graduates from the Kenyan university to work in Austria. MKU expects to initially have 60 nursing graduates to travel to Austria. Graduates are required to have German language B1 Level. MKU curricula is continuously reviewed to meet national, Regional and market needs of the industry and commercial sectors.

ERASMUS PLUS MOBILITY GRANT FOR STAFF & POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

Mount Kenya University and University of Ss. Cyril Methodius (UCM) in Trnava (Slovakia) won Erasmus Plus mobility grant (Ref: Erasmus+ project 2022-1-SK01-KA171-HED-000069533) for both faculty members and postgraduate students. The aim of the project is to promote internationalization through exchange programme activities to capacity-build faculty members between the two collaborating institutions.

In April 2024, a team of 3 faculty members from the University of Ss. Cyril Methodius visited Mount Kenya University on an exchange programme. The visit to MKU was led by Prof. Katarina Slobodova (Vice-Chancellor), Prof. Andrea Kajcova (Deputy Vice-Chancellor) and Dr. Pavel Miskarik (Principal investigator). During their visit, the two institutions were able to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) under the leadership of Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi (Vice-Chancellor, MKU). This aimed at promoting collaboration in research activities between MKU and UCM.

In May 2024, a team of 5 members of staff from MKU participated in the second mobility at the UCM for 14 days. The team included; Dr. Serah Kimaru, Dr. Judy Mwangi, Bonface Malala, Prof. Peter Wanderi and John Ngotho. While at UCM, the team participated in several capacity-building activities including; departmental benchmarking, proposal development, publications, supervision and also participated in an international workshop on: *Social sciences in Africa - ethical*



From Left: Dr. Sera Kimaru and John Ngotho (MKU), Geofrey Emmanuel Ntobi (Dar es Salaam University College of Education), Prof. Peter Wanderi and Dr. Judy Mwangi (MKU), Dr. Stephano Lazaro Ayo (Dar es Salaam University College of Education).

aspects of research on specific cases. Participants presented various research articles focused

on improving research ethics for quality research output.



Participants during the international workshop held at the UCM, Slovakia.

24th Graduation Highlights



Vice-Chancellor's Merit Awardees.



Happy graduands celebrate with their awards.



Mount Kenya University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi (left) MKU Chancellor Prof. John Struthers, Council Member Jonah Aiyabei, Dr. Juma Mukhwana, Principal Secretary for Industry at the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, and MKU Council Chairman Dr. Vincent Gaitho (right) MKU council Member Njoki Kahiga and MKU council member Mary Olubayi.



Dr. Juma Mukhwana, Principal Secretary for Industry, Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry receives a gift of appreciation from MKU Council Chairman, Dr. Vincent Gaitho.



Esther Akoth "Akothee", (left), Mike Gitone, (2nd left) Hon Sunkuyia George, MP, Kajiado west and Karondo Kamau, Chairman Athi Water Works Development (right) among the 5763 graduands conferred Degrees and awarded diplomas and certificates.

MKU Picture Speak



Kenya Red Cross Society, Kiambu County Coordinator Ms. Susan Maina, handing over the Certificate to MKU Red Cross Chapter Patron Mr. Jeremiah Masasi for winning the University Chapter of the Year 2023 at the Kenya Red Cross National Volunteer Awards. Witnessing the event are members, led by then-chairperson Elias Chirchir.



Students from the College of Health Sciences offer health checkup services to the principals during the annual Kenya Secondary Schools Heads Association conference, 2024. The school of Law also offered free legal clinic to the conference participants.



Cultural dance-students performing during a past graduation ceremony.



Nick Vujicic delivers a sermon during his visit to the University.



Hon. Harriet Chiggai, Office of the Women's Rights Advisor to the President and Advocate of the High Court, addresses law students during the School of Law Class of 2024 finalist dinner.

MKU TIGERS RUGBY TEAM RECEIVES SPORT KITS DONATION FROM NATION MEDIA GROUP

Mount Kenya University Nairobi Campus rugby team (MKU Tigers) has received sports kits and equipment from Nation Media Group, a move expected to help the club improve on its performance. The MKU Tigers is among the best in the region and participates in many tournaments.

MKU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi, who received the kits together with the rugby team, said the university is committed to promote sports among students at all levels. “The University aims at helping to create a society whose originality encompasses



Mount Kenya University Tigers Rugby club players and officials celebrating after receiving the sport kits.

the values of sport not only as a recreational activity but also as a source of livelihood,” he said.

While presenting the sports kit, Mr. James Sogoti, the Nation Media Group General Manager -Commercial Business, lauded the long-standing cooperation between the two organizations and committed to partnering with the University in other areas of mutual interest.

Rugby is a popular game at MKU, it attracts seasoned players such as Martin Owila who plays for KCB and the Kenya National Rugby Sevens team. Late last year the university won the overall best University in Sports in Kenya during the Kenya Universities Sports Association (KUSA) 2023, also the University’s different teams bagged a total of 30 gold medals, 13 silver medals and 19 bronze medals totalling to a total of 62 medals while participating in

different tournaments in Kenya and the region.

Also present at the event was celebrated Nation Media’s Sports journalist, Elias Makori who encouraged Students to take sport as a business, citing many

sportsmen who earn a living from sports. MKU has been running Programmes that encourage students to explore other talents as they pursue education while Nation Media Group has been supporting young talents through sport scholarships.



Dr. Charles Karuga, Director, MKU Nairobi Campus(left), Vice-Chancellor, MKU, Prof. Jaganyi (2nd left) and Nation Media Group team pose for a group photo after presentation of the sport kits to MKU rugby team.

MKU STUDENTS EMERGE SECOND BEST IN KENYA CFA RESEARCH CHALLENGE



University of Agriculture and Technology, Kabarak University, The Cooperative University of Kenya, African Nazarene University, Pioneer International University, and African Nazarene University.

Mount Kenya University is a member of the Association of African Business Schools (AABS).

Mount Kenya University School of Business students have scooped second position in the recently concluded CFA Institute Research Challenge 2023/2024. MKU was competing to represent Kenya in the EMEA Sub-regional Competition. The challenge, which took place on 27th February 2023, was also happening concurrently in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda.

The CFA Institute Research Challenge is an annual global competition that provides university students with hands-on mentoring and intensive training in financial analysis and professional ethics. Each team was tested on their analytical, valuation, report writing, and presentation skills. They gain real-world experience as they assume the role of a research analyst.

Mount Kenya University managed to have two teams compete in the final round out of the three teams drawn from the Thika and Nakuru campuses. Other Universities that participated include; Strathmore University, Jomo Kenyatta



Mount Kenya University Nakuru Campus students during the CFA Research Challenge.



Mount Kenya University students during the CFA Research Challenge pose for a photo with Ms. Rose Masibili (centre).



Mount Kenya University students from Thika main campus. The team had three groups.

Connecting Dreams to Opportunities

MKU FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP BENEFICIARIES EXCEL IN THE JOB MARKET

For nearly a decade, Mount Kenya University Foundation (MKUF) has enabled a diverse tapestry of students achieve their academic dreams by offering full or partial scholarships. These scholarships, which are issued after a thorough application and vetting process, are open to all bona-fide students of Mount Kenya University. MKUF also engages in other programmes whose overall goal is to advance the course of education, and serve

the community. In early July, MKUF sponsored the procurement and installation of cutting-edge recreational sporting facilities for students with special needs. The centre will be equipped with a showdown table and bats, opaque blindfolds and goalball balls. MKUF also donated a 100-seater tent to Huduma Centre-Thika. The Centre serves about 1,300 Kenyans per day and the tent comes in handy in shielding them from rain or scorching sun.



TESTIMONIALS

MERCY CHELAGAT

Place of work: Elite Group of Schools, Murang'a County

Programme: Bachelor of Education (Special Needs)

I was a recipient of the Mount Kenya University Foundation scholarships in semester 3.2. The scholarship enabled me to finish my education and graduate on time, alongside my peers. The high quality education from MKU enabled me to get a job soon after graduation. Being at MKU was also a good experience, especially networking with different people. Upon graduation, I furthered my training by undertaking a sign language course at Kenya Institute of Special Education. I now teach multiple classes and subjects at my school, namely English literature to Grade 7 and 8 pupils, and to Form Four candidates. I also teach Agriculture and Nutrition. I have a passion in working with children who have special needs. My dream is to work at United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

CYNTHIA MUTHONI**Place of work:** Ruiru Hospital, Kiambu County**Programme:** Bachelor of Counselling Psychology

I work at the hospital's psychology department and at the Comprehensive Care Centre. Clients are referred to us when in need of counselling over various issues such as loss and grief, and psychological trauma. We also provide counselling to HIV patients who are in denial, and students who are referred to us.

Initially, I wanted to become a lawyer. At Graceland Girls in Nyeri, where I undertook my secondary education, I was a very good debater. It was while researching on one debate topic that I came across the subject of psychology. I found it very interesting and decided to study it at Mount Kenya University. The scholarship from Mount Kenya University Foundation enabled me complete my studies. I am now volunteering at Ruiru Hospital as I prepare to pursue my Masters in Forensic Psychology. I am also pursuing a German language course.

**MAENYA MAKORI JOASH****Place of work:** Wayara Secondary, Homa Bay County**Programme:** Bachelor of Education (Special Needs)

I hail from a humble background in Kisii County. My parents are peasant farmers. The scholarship from Mount Kenya University Foundation enabled me to complete my studies. I graduated with a Second Class-Upper Division. Even before my graduation, I had resolved that hard work and pursuit of excellence would be my pillars as I entered the job market. I was therefore not selective in the places of work. When I got this opportunity in Homa Bay, I jumped at it. I teach English and Literature to students from Form One to Form Four. At 23, I believe I am on the right course professionally. I hope to go back to MKU soon to pursue my Masters degree. I am grateful to MKU Foundation for making my dream come true.

MKU FOUNDATION SPONSORS CUTTING-EDGE SPORTING EQUIPMENT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

Mount Kenya University has sponsored the procurement and installation of cutting-edge sporting equipment for students with special needs. The equipment will enable students at Thika Main Campus engage in an array of recreational activities as they pursue their studies. The signature equipment is a Showdown table, popular worldwide for the visually-impaired. It is similar to table tennis and players bat a ball off the side wall of a table, along its edges, and under a centre screen aiming for the opponent's goal. Each player serves two times in a row. The first player to reach eleven points, leading by two or more points, is the winner.

“Our aim to ensure Mount Kenya University is the most friendly and accommodating institution of higher learning in Africa for those with special needs,” says Mount Kenya University Foundation patron Prof. Simon Gicharu.

In December 2023, MKU's affiliate in Rwanda Mount Kigali University won the '2023 Disability Inclusion Award' by the National Council of Persons with Disabilities for its support to students and staff with special needs.

The games equipment will be installed at the newly-refurbished and expanded Students Centre in Thika. John Mwangi Ndungu, the University Braille Transcriber who works closely with the students with special needs says they will increase the variety of games to accommodate the diverse category of students with special needs. Currently, the campus hosts 73 students with special needs.



Improvise showdown table - A skeleton of an Improvised Showdown Table.

The 'Sector Policy for Learners and Trainees with Disabilities' (MoE, 2018) identifies 11 categories of learners with special needs and disabilities: Hearing impairment, Visual impairment, Deaf-blindness, Physical impairment, Intellectual and developmental disabilities, Specific learning disabilities, Cerebral palsy, Speech and language difficulties, Multiple disabilities, Autism and Albinism.

The June 2023 report of the Presidential Working Party on Education Reform in Kenya highlighted “lack of appropriate learning resources to suit learners” as one of the factors limiting access to education for students with special needs.

Over the years, MKU has been actively providing the appropriate learning resources. In partnership with Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa,

the university has made available Orbit Reader 20 devices for use by students. It also has numerous braille machines, for use by both the visually impaired and students undertaking programmes in Special Needs Education. Students who cannot read or write in braille also have access to a customized IT-software that enables them to write their exams with ease.

“We are in the process of benchmarking with other institutions of higher learning, locally and internationally, to enhance inclusion of students and adaptation of facilities available,” adds Mr. Mwangi.

Through its patron, MKU Foundation ensures students with special needs of continuous support as they engage in various curricular and co-curricular activities that'll enable them actualize their dreams.



Accessories - Wooden bats, synthetic opaque protectors and showdown balls.

Student Leadership

MKUSA INAUGURATION



MKU Dean of Students Dr. Emmanuel Owuor (far left) and Deputy Dean of Students Madam Purity Thuo join outgoing MKUSA cabinet members (standing) and current cabinet members (seated) for a group photo.

MKUSA CABINET MAIN CAMPUS, THIKA.	
Eric Ochieng	- Chairperson
Decrah Mecha	- Vice Chairperson
Carlos Abich	- Secretary General
Rashid Hassan	- Finance Secretary
Wycliffe Chacha	- Academic Secretary
Nicodemus Mutuku	- Sports Secretary
Stephen Kanoti	- Social Welfare & Entertainment Secretary



MKU Dancers perform during the MKUSA Inauguration ceremony.



A student delegate exercising his mandate as a voter. (The university prides itself on conducting an e-voting).



Outgoing MKUSA Chairman Ibrahim Ahmed hands over the constitution (one of the instruments of power) to the incoming president, Eric Ochieng.



The 2024/25 MKUSA cabinet members pose for a photo after taking the oath of office.

Message From

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR MOUNT KIGALI UNIVERSITY



DR. MARTIN KIMEMIA
Vice-Chancellor, Mount Kigali University

Dear Graduands, Esteemed Faculty, Honourable Guests, and Proud Families, we are here to celebrate a special occasion.

Deserved congratulations to our graduands! Today is a celebration of your hard work, determination, and success. You have reached a significant milestone, and we are incredibly proud of you. As you step into the world as skilled professionals, remember that you belong to a special community that will always cherish and support you.

In April 2023, our institution became Mount Kigali University, fully accredited by the Government of Rwanda. This transformation reflects our unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation. It marks a new chapter in our journey, filled with promise and potential. We are excited about the future and confident that our graduates will continue to uphold the values and standards synonymous with our name.

We are pleased to announce that today, 1,077 undergraduate and postgraduate students will graduate in fields such as Business, Health Sciences, Education, IT, Hospitality, and Social Sciences. Your achievements are a testament to the quality education we provide and your dedication and resilience. Each of you has worked tirelessly to reach this moment, and your success is a source of immense pride for all of us.

Your education has prepared you to be global citizens, ready to make a positive impact anywhere in the world. Last month, the United Arab Emirates ambassador to Rwanda visited our campus and encouraged our students to explore job opportunities abroad. You are not limited to Africa; better opportunities may await you elsewhere. Additionally, our recent agreement with an Austrian firm offers our nursing graduates employment opportunities in Austria. These opportunities highlight the global recognition of your skills and the quality of education you have received.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the Government of Rwanda, parents, guardians, sponsors, and other stakeholders for their unwavering support. To them all, I say: Your belief in our mission and trust in our institution have been invaluable. Special thanks to our Chairman and Founder, Prof. Simon Gicharu, for his visionary leadership and dedication. His tireless efforts have been instrumental in guiding our university to where it is today.

As you embark on this new chapter, remember to stay connected with Mount Kigali University and your fellow alumni. Join our strong, dynamic global network. This community will be a source of support, inspiration, and opportunities as you navigate your professional journey. Use your skills and knowledge to make a positive impact in the world. Your journey is just beginning, and we believe in your potential to achieve great things.

As you step into this new phase of your life, know that Mount Kigali University is always here for you. Congratulations once again, Class of 2024. We wish you success, happiness, and fulfillment in all your future endeavors.

God bless you all.

Message From

THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR MOUNT KIGALI UNIVERSITY



DR. EUGENIA IRECHUKWU
Deputy Vice-Chancellor,
Mount Kigali University

On behalf of Mount Kigali University, I am delighted to celebrate with all the Mount Kenya University graduands. This is a moment of joy for them and their families as they receive their hard-earned reward and are ushered into the world to be forces of development nationally and internationally. I take note of this year's 25th Graduation theme, 'University sustainability through research and innovation'. Teaching, research and innovation should be both inter- and transdisciplinary, leading to mutual learning. A university is sustainable when it realizes sustainability in all its dimensions especially in teaching, research, extension and management. Mount Kigali University is following in the footsteps of its mother, Mount Kenya University, in its commitment to teaching and research.

As we continue to roll out the remaining cohorts of Mount Kenya University students by 2026/7, our

mission is to consistently provide transformational training, research, innovation and community service for socio-economic development in Health Sciences, Business, Social Sciences, Hospitality and Tourism, Media/Communication, and Technology.

We recently introduced new programmes in Dental and Nursing to strengthen the government initiatives aimed at enriching the healthcare system. These are our niche academic programmes, and over the years, we have invested heavily in continual improvements in infrastructural facilities, teaching and learning, student welfare and research and innovation, to keep our standards high.

On infrastructure, for example, we now boast a modern state-of-the-art campus with adequate science and computer laboratories. Our Nursing Skills Laboratory is among the most advanced in East and Central Africa. We also have a well-equipped University Medical Centre (UMC) that serves the public and the university community. It is also used as a centre for learning by our health sciences students.

Our journalism students enjoy access to the university's Royal FM radio station, which has well-equipped studios for practical lessons.

The latest addition to our infrastructure is Kigali Paramount Hotel. Ear-marked to be opened this year, the hotel will play a big role in hands-on hospitality training. It will be the first of its kind in Rwanda and a regional centre of excellence in hospitality training.

All learners have access to our well-stocked library. Its operations are automated using the Library Information Management System (KOHA). It has an Online Public Access Catalogue. The library has over 11,000 books and 100,000 e-books. On accommodation, our hostels are designed to be student-friendly, and therefore feature additional recreational facilities such as a swimming pool, and facilities for indoor games.

One of our objectives is to nurture great thinkers with independent minds. Towards this, we require our undergraduate and graduate students to undertake independent individual research that can be published in academic publications. This is a path to innovation.

In a nutshell, our teaching and learning strategy is central to achieving our mission of transformational training, research and innovation.

In Africa, Rwanda is a showcase of economic and social progress in many respects, including the internationalisation of education. Mount Kigali University mirrors this disposition. While a majority of our students are Rwandans, scores from other African nations, as well as from Asia and Europe study at or have graduated from Mount Kigali University. We are committed to empowering generations throughout the world through quality education.

I congratulate the Mount Kenya University Class of August 2024 for making it in their studies. The sky's the limit. May your dreams come true!

MKU PARKLANDS LAW CAMPUS GETS INFRASTRUCTURAL BOOST TO ENHANCE PRACTICAL TRAINING AND STUDENTS' WELFARE



MKU School of Law staff and students celebrate after receiving their new bus.

In a significant boost to students' welfare initiatives, MKU Parklands Law Campus has increased its fleet by acquiring a dedicated bus to support academic field trips and extra-curricular activities. The move comes as a response to the campus's expanding student population, which has seen a steady rise in numbers over the past few years. The acquisition of the bus addresses the pressing need for reliable transportation to support various academic and extracurricular

activities. Notably, the bus facilitates student participation in prestigious events such as moot court competitions, where the campus



has demonstrated remarkable success. In a recent regional moot court competition held in Rwanda, 40 students from MKU

Parklands Law Campus showcased their legal prowess and emerged victorious, further highlighting the campus's commitment to academic excellence. MKU School of Law has also participated in the Manfred Lachs International Space Law moot court competition held in Pretoria, South Africa. Moreover; the bus enable student clubs like the Red Cross, Wakili wa Watoto, and KMUN to engage in legal clinics, community service, and advocacy efforts.

Mwanga Mwadziwe, Chair of the Mount Kenya University Students Council, expressed profound appreciation for the University's responsiveness to students' needs. He emphasized the significance of the campus long-awaited dream coming to fruition.

Mt. Kenya University Sacco

MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY REGULATED NON-WDT SACCO SOCIETY LTD



The Mount Kenya Sacco has recently acquired new office space, a significant step towards enhancing efficiency in service-delivery and addressing the increasing number of members. This development is poised to greatly benefit the organization by streamlining operations and catering for the growing demands of its members.

The Sacco envisions attaining significant growth in various key performance indicators in its strategic plan, such as growth in core capital, deposits, loan book and

management of loan-defaulting. Recently the Sacco opened its common bond to allow other members outside Mount Kenya University to join. The Sacco loan services include Development Loan, Education Loan, Loan Repurchase, Emergency Loan, Jiendeleze Loan, and Super Okoa Loan. Further, the Sacco has invested heavily in ICT where recently a Mobile Loan product dubbed MKU Express was launched. By dialling *483*040# members can easily access the loan instantly without completing physical forms.

Contact Us:

**Mount Kenya University
Main Campus, Adjacent to FLT
Block**

P.O. Box 342-01000,

General Kago Road. Thika, Kenya

Mobile Number: 0791-360-892

Website: <https://mkusacco.co.ke/>

DIRECTORATE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

TUITION FEE Waiver

Enjoy Alumni Tuition and Application fees waiver



1. TUITION FEES WAIVER - POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

Mount Kenya University Foundation is the charitable arm of the University with programmes geared towards harnessing support that benefit the educational, research and the community service mandate of the University.

MKU Foundation will support the advancement of education and research through discretionary tuition fees waiver to the alumni who wish to advance their education from undergraduate to postgraduate level. This incentive has been advocated for by the College of Graduate Studies and Research to encourage the alumni of Mount Kenya University to pursue their postgraduate studies and promote research and innovation.

The University management has continued to give recognition to the university graduates in building the Mount Kenya University brand. In view of this, the University will waive to all alumni who will register for the postgraduate programmes the following;

1. **Up to a maximum of 10%** of the tuition fees waiver to alumni who register for postgraduate training within Mount Kenya University
2. **Up to a maximum of 100%** application fees for alumni registering for postgraduate programmes
3. Alumni advancing from certificate to diploma, diploma to bachelor's degree, will receive a waiver of application fees only **up to a maximum of 100%**

To all our graduates we welcome you back to the university to advance as your University of choice.

2. USE OF UNIVERSITY FACILITIES/ SERVICES

The university has continued to invest in infrastructure to support academic, research and curricular activities. Alumni who wish to use such facilities/ services may enjoy discounted rates from the market rates.

3. INFORMATION

The directorate of Alumni Relations will assist students and alumni in acquiring information, knowledge and competencies that enhance individual career development, academic success and employability.

4. BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH EMPLOYERS

The directorate of Alumni Relations will develop synergetic relationships with employers, commercial and industrial partners for the purpose of exploring attachment, internships and professional employment and wealth creation opportunities for students and graduates.

ENQUIRIES

For more information, please contact;

**The Principal, Corporate Services,
Communications and Alumni Relations**

Thika, Main Campus

P.O. Box 342 01000 Thika

Tel: 020 287 8000 | Cell: +254 709 153 000

Whatsapp: +254 722 495 895

Email: alumni@mku.ac.ke

Facebook: MKU Alumni Association

Website: Alumni.mku.ac.ke

MKU CENTRE FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

S/N	COURSE	EXAMINER	ENROLMENT DATES
1.	Certified Human Resource Professional (CHRP)	HRMPEB	January and July
2.	Certified Public Accountants (CPA)	KASNEB	January, April and August
3.	Certified Secretaries (CS)	KASNEB	January, April and August
4.	Certified Investment And Financial Analysts (CIFA)	KASNEB	January, April and August
5.	Certified Forensic Fraud Examiner (CFFE)	KASNEB	January, April and August
6.	Certified Procurement and Supply Professional (CPSP)	KSIM	January and July
7.	Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM)	CIM-UK	January, July and October
8.	Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment	CISI -UK	January, April, July and October
9.	Certified Associate in Project Management	PMI-USA	January, April, July and October
10.	Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)	ISACA	January, April, July and October
11.	CCNA certification CISCO (Certified Network Associate)	CISCO	January, April, July and October

S/N	SHORT COURSES
1.	ICDL – International Computer Digital Literacy
2.	Cyber-security
3.	Web-design

S/N	FOREIGN LANGUAGE
1.	German language
2.	French language
3.	Swahili language

To enroll contact us through telephone number **0709 153 194** or email us at **cpd@mku.ac.ke**

VARSIY KICKSTARTS ENGLISH CLASSES - IELTS



Dr. Christopher Mutembei extends a warm welcome to students from the Union of the Comoros who have enrolled with the Centre for Professional Development for English in preparation for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination. The IELTS examination is a globally recognized test for assessing English language proficiency.

Welcome to

MWAI KIBAKI CONVENTION CENTRE (MKCC)

**MKCC is a centre for Meetings, Incentives,
Conferences and Exhibitions**



Mwai KIBAKI CONVENTION CENTRE SEMINAR ROOMS



The Mwai Kibaki Convention Centre has a capacity of 2000 people accommodated in three deck levels. It also has seminar rooms, offices and utility areas. It is designed to be used as a Convention Centre to serve a variety of purposes such as staging of plays, music, presentations, speeches etc. The design concept is a timeless shell where ideas and innovations are enveloped. The structure also rises gradually from a focal point of knowledge and graduates dynamically towards new inventions. The science behind the structure has taken into consideration high level of acoustics and design of detailed sight lines to ensure an all-inclusive audience participation. Whereas there is use of local materials, there is also incorporation of modern materials to ensure the audience enjoy best ambience.

**To book or Reserve the facility
Contact Samuel Muchemi:
+254 708 212 204 or Email: multimedia@mku.ack.ke**

Equip

Africa Institute

KITALE CENTRE

Promoting Competence, Innovation and Excellence

Equip Africa Institute - Kitale Centre is a TVET-accredited institution and an affiliate of Mount Kenya University offering quality competence-based training at Diploma, Certificate, and Artisan levels in Medical and Health Sciences. We nurture, inspire, and equip our trainees with knowledge, competencies, and values to offer top-notch medical and health-related services.



INTAKES: JANUARY, MAY & SEPTEMBER

DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATE & ARTISAN COURSES

PROGRAMME	MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Artisan in Community Health	KCSE D- or an equivalent artisan qualification recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Health Records and IT	KCSE mean grade C-, C-(minus) in Eng/Kis, D+(plus) in Bio, D+(plus) in Maths/Physics
Certificate in Community Health	KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) or an equivalent certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Nutrition and Dietetics	KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) D plain in Eng/Kis, Bio, Chem, and D plain in Maths/Physics/ Agriculture/Home Science/Computer Science
Certificate in Science Laboratory Technology	KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) or an equivalent certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Perioperative Theatre Technology	KCSE Mean Grade D (plain) or an equivalent certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Community Health and Development	KCSE Mean Grade C-(plain) or an equivalent certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Health Records and IT	KCSE Mean Grade C (plain) C (plain) in Eng/Kis, C-(minus) in Bio, C- (minus) in Maths/Physics
Diploma in Nutrition and Dietetics	KCSE Mean Grade of C- (minus) D+ (Plus) in Eng/Kis, Bio, Chem, and D+ (Plus) in Maths/Physics/ Agriculture/Home Science/Computer Science
Diploma in Perioperative Theatre Technology	KCSE Mean Grade of C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Science Laboratory Technology	KCSE Mean Grade C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Kenya Registered Community Health Nursing	KCSE Mean Grade C (plain) and C (plain) in Eng/Kis C(plain) in Bio, C- (minus) in Chem/Math/Physics

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For more information, please reach us through the following contacts:
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Graduands procession during 2nd graduation ceremony, December 2023.



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INTAKES: JANUARY, MAY & SEPTEMBER

DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATE & ARTISAN COURSES

COURSE	MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Artisan in Fashion Design (Level 4)	KCSE Certificate (any grade) or an Equivalent Artisan qualification recognized by KNQA
Artisan in ICT Technician (Level 4)	KCSE Certificate (any grade) or an Equivalent Artisan qualification recognized by KNQA
Artisan in Social Work and Community Development (Level 4)	KCSE Certificate (any grade) or an Equivalent Artisan qualification recognized by KNQA
Artisan in Electrical Installation (Level 4)	KCSE Certificate (any grade) or an Equivalent Artisan qualification recognized by KNQA
Artisan in Community Health (Level 4)	KCSE Certificate (any grade) or an Equivalent Artisan qualification recognized by KNQA
Artisan in Food Production and Culinary Arts (Level 4)	KCSE Certificate (any grade) or an Equivalent Artisan qualification recognized by KNQA
Certificate Health Records & I.T. (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Animation & Digital Media (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Business Management (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Community Health (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Criminal Justice Management (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Cyber Security (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Electrical Installation (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Food Production Culinary Arts (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in ICT Technician (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate In Nutrition and Dietetics (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA

COURSE	MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Certificate in Science Laboratory Technology (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Social Work and Community Development (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Tour Guide (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Tourism and Travel Management (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Certificate in Perioperative Theatre Technology (Level 5)	KCSE D(Plain) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma Broadcast Journalism (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma Community Health and Development (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma Health Records & I.T (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Animation & Digital Media (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Business Management (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Cyber Security (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Electrical Installation (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Food Production Culinary Arts (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in ICT Technician (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Social Work and Community Development (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Tourism and Travel Management (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA
Diploma in Perioperative Theatre Technology (Level 6)	KCSE C-(minus) or an Equivalent Certificate recognized by KNQA



For more information, please reach us through the following contacts.

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