



UON ALUMNI

A Publication of the University of Nairobi Alumni Association

Revitalizing Alumni Chapters





UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

VISION, MISSION & CORE VALUES

VISION OF THE ASSOCIATION

To be a leader in promoting active, visible leadership in the community and to foster interaction between alumni, the students of the University of Nairobi and Industry.

MISSION OF THE ASSOCIATION

To safeguard the best interests of its members, to use the talents and resources of the alumni and friends of the University to support the University in achieving international distinction in quality teaching, research and service.

CORE VALUES

- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Courtesy
- Honesty

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UoN Alumni Newsletter is a biannual publication of the University of Nairobi Alumni association.

We encourage brief comments or articles on topical issues from our alumni partners and stakeholders.

Send in your articles to
Executive Director
Email: alumni@uonbi.ac.ke

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Welcome to the 12th issue of the University of Nairobi Alumni Association (UONAA) Newsletter.

Over the past one year, since the publication of the last newsletter, the University of Nairobi Alumni Association(UONAA) has made major achievements in its efforts to meet its obligations to the alumni, the student community and the alma mater.

In March 2018, the Association welcomed its 16th ‘baby’, the school of Dental Sciences Chapter, in a launch held with pomp and fanfare at the Sarova Pan-Afric Hotel. We capture the reunion, which brought together the alumni of the school, sister universities, guests and partners of the Association. The School of Dental Sciences, has a long history in producing dentists for Kenya, and the region. To date it has graduated over one thousand dentists, contributing to training approximately 70 per cent of Kenya’s dentist population. Prof. Thairu was Dean, Faculty of medicine where the department of dental surgery was incepted in 1974.

In this issue, we capture the life and times of Prof Kihumbu Thairu, one of Kenya’s most outstanding scholars, and his illustrious career in medicine spanning several decades, and his diverse achievements in service to humanity.

The edition also laud the pace set by our alumni at the School of Medicine, who are in the fore-front in giving back to society. In June, a team of surgeons, under Prof Stanley Khainga, successfully restored mobility to hand and leg amputees. The foot re-implantation was the first such surgery in Kenya.

We have also captured the dreams and aspirations of one of our young alumni, Dr Joyce Omuok, a final year Masters of Dental Surgery student specialising in Pediatric Dentistry.

In other areas the University of Nairobi made history by launching into orbit Kenya’s first satellite in May 2018. We capture the event for you.

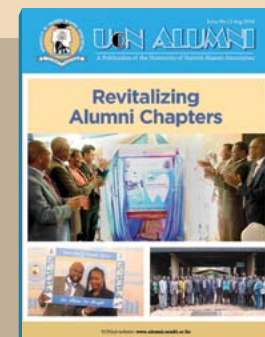
From the international arena the University of Nairobi Alumni Association (UONAA) hosted a delegation from Huaqiao University, Quanzhou /Xiamen China, in an initiative spearheaded by the Vice-Chancellor’s office together with UONAA.

The edition also highlights various bench marking visits by local universitys alumni associations and our contributions to UoN Sports Day, Nairobi Innovation Week and Prize Giving Day, among other activities.

I hope you enjoy reading and welcome feedback,



J K Kirimania
Editor



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI



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Chancellor



Prof. Peter M. F. Mbiti
Vice-Chancellor



Prof. Julius Ogeng'o
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Newsletter Critical Tool For Communication



Mr. Isaac Awuondo, CBS
Chairman UONAA

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Association, I welcome readers to the 12th Issue of the UONAA Newsletter.

Over the years, this Newsletter has been a critical tool for communicating with alumni, the University of Nairobi community and the general public. As an Association, we continue to take pride in the steps that we have made in supporting our alma mater over the last 13 years.

Indeed, I congratulate the Executive Committee and the Secretariat for the sacrifices they continue to make in support of the Association's activities.

Recently, we revamped the alumni portal to make it more interactive, user friendly and in tandem with 21st century portals. The alumni portal is a home away from home for alumni since they will be able to get the latest news from UONAA and UoN; they can also register online via our new Alumni Information Management System, besides watching short videos of the Association's events and activities. The portal URL is alumni.uonbi.ac.ke. We urge all alumni to make good use of this platform and engage us on the best practices for growing the Association.

It is my pleasure to report that the Association has continued to play its rightful role in supporting the alma mater. In the 2017/2018 academic year, we donated Ksh.2 million towards the University Bursary Fund, as support for bright but needy students in the University. To date, the Association has donated

“It was delightful to see members of the Dental chapter come together to celebrate their achievements, network and socialise.”

Ksh.21 million towards the Bursary Fund kitty and it is our desire to grow our donation to over Ksh. 50 million, in the near future.

In addition, the Association continues to support key University events. For instance, in 2018, we donated Ksh. 500,000 towards the annual University Open Day, bringing our total support to the event, over the last two years, to Ksh.800,000. We also contributed Ksh. 500,000 towards the Nairobi Innovation Week, bringing our total support, to this event, over the last four years, to Ksh. 2,000,000. We also contributed Ksh.240,000 towards the Annual University Prize Giving day. The recipients of the Alumni Awards were the top two students from the six Colleges, each of whom received a cash award of Ksh.10, 000, as a token of appreciation for their excellent performance. To date, we have supported the University awards to a tune of Ksh. 1,050,000. We encourage alumni to continue supporting students through mentorship and providing awards to the top performers.

As part of integrating and engaging with students and the alma mater, the Association joined the University community during the inaugural Annual Sports Day held in February 2018. The Association donated the overall trophy awarded to the best team of the day. The event brought together teams from all the colleges of the University.

We wish to congratulate the College of Health Sciences for emerging the overall winner of the day. We pledge to continue supporting sporting talent in the University in order to nurture teamwork and a spirit of competition, among students.

On March 28, 2018, we witnessed the “birth “ of our youngest baby in the Association, the School of Dental Sciences Alumni Chapter, during a ceremony held at the Sarova Pan-Afric Hotel. It was delightful to see members of the dental fraternity come together to celebrate their

achievements and to network and socialise. On behalf of the Association, I wish to most sincerely thank the Chief Guest, Hon. Ambassador Jacob Kaimenyi, Kenya's Representative to the Permanent Mission at UNESCO, Paris, France, the Chancellor, Dr. Vijoo Rattansi, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi and Prof. Henry Mutoro, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Affairs for attending the ceremony and supporting the Association.

I wish to encourage alumni from the School of Dental Sciences to ensure that their proposed project of the construction of a Post-Graduate Centre is realised in the near future. As members of the Executive Committee, we will continue to nurture our chapters to ensure that they play their rightful role in the advancement of their alma mater.

Finally, I wish to request our alumni, spread across the globe to join us in supporting the alma mater. It is through your generous contributions, through payment of your subscription fees, and cash and in-kind donations towards our projects that make our Association ranked among the best, globally. Indeed, It is through your support that in the month of May, the Multimedia University Alumni Association, TaitaTaveta University Alumni Association, Co-operative University Alumni Association, Eldoret National Polytechnic Alumni Association; and in July, 2018 Laikipia University deemed it fit to visit our offices to bench mark and learn about best practices in Alumni Relations. As members of the Executive Committee, we will continue engaging you through the forums that we organise in order to share ideas on how to make our association the best globally.

I wish you all the best as you enjoy reading this 12th Issue of UONAA Newsletter.

Thank You

Mr. Isaac Awuondo, CBS

UONAA

our strongest partner



On behalf of the University, I wish to express our appreciation of the support that the Association continues to give in the development of our institution. Indeed, the Association has had a strong relationship with the University, since its founding 13 years ago. The Association has also become a key partner in the implementation of a 10-point Transformative Agenda, unveiled when I took over as Vice-Chancellor.

I wish to thank UONAA Executive Committee and alumni for joining my administration in seeking to transform this institution to World Class status; helping in resource mobilisation, mentorship of students and other ventures as envisaged in my agenda. “Through mentorship and coaching, the Association continues to help the University nurture and develop young leaders, well empowered with the requisite skills and mindset to deal with the challenges that come their way”.

Prof. Peter M.F. Mbithi, PhD, EBS.
Vice - Chancellor

“ *Global research universities are identified by their distinct contribution in providing thought leadership in policy formulation, research, innovations, growth in incomes and environmental conservation.* ”

The Association has been part and parcel of the Transformation Agenda of the University and I want to appreciate your generosity in contributing to the Bursary Fund to support bright students from needy backgrounds, sponsorship of University events such as the Nairobi Innovation Week, UON Open Day, UON Prize Giving Day, and UON Sports Day. Your contributions have gone a long way in enabling the University maintain consistent good performance in Varsity Global Rankings by various institutions like QS, Webometrics and The Times Higher Education. This makes us all proud of our institution and I challenge the alumni to do all that they can to help us improve on this score.

I have noted that one of the Association’s goals is to set up a Kshs1. billion Endowment Fund. This fund will go a long way in supporting graduate training and research, which are the key pillars of any World Class University. Indeed, global research universities are identified by their distinct contribution in providing thought leadership in policy formulation, research, innovations, growth in incomes and environmental conservation to finance research carried out by students and staff. It is my special appeal to all alumni to chip in to make this goal a reality. Indeed, through this fund, you will help us continue churning out transformative leaders who will shape the development trajectory of this nation through continuous innovations and inventions.

The alumni have remained our true ambassadors who project us positively in work and in their character. The challenge is for all members of the University community to emulate the alumni, espousing a collective responsibility to zealously protect the integrity, professionalism and reputation of this great institution.

The Association remains a key partner in helping the University to rise up to claim its rightful place among the best universities in the world. I appeal to the alumni heading corporate bodies to partner with us, in the modernisation of both learning and accommodation infrastructure at the University. I also urge our over 240,000 graduates to register as members of the Association and take advantage of the forums the Association has put in place for networking and career development. As alumni of this great University, you remain our strength and we have faith in you. I urge you all to remain our worthy goodwill ambassadors in the market place as you pursue your different career paths”.

Finally, I wish to salute the School of Dental Sciences, following the unveiling of the Dental Sciences Alumni Chapter. The challenge is to make your chapter vibrant, more so you have your work cut out in mobilising funds to set up the Post-Graduate Training Centre. I pledge my total support for all your initiatives”.

Thank You and God Bless You.
Prof. Peter M.F. Mbithi, PhD, EBS.

Realising major milestones



Keneth Sawe
Executive Director (UONAA)

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the 12th Issue of the University of Nairobi Alumni Association (UONAA) Newsletter. This Newsletter has over the last 13 years, kept our alumni, University fraternity and members of the public abreast with the Associations activities.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Executive Committee for their unwavering support and commitment to the secretariat and alumni, which has enabled us realise major milestones in the past one year. The secretariat is working hard to continuously bring the alumni together to participate in the governance and development of their alma mater, as they socialize and network, in line with our mission and vision.

We have enhanced our partnership with the University, in supporting it to realise various aspects of its Transformative Agenda through cash and in kind support. Among activities that we supported include: the Annual University Open Day, Annual Nairobi Innovation Week, Annual Sports Day, the Student Prizes and Bursary Fund.

Abraham Lincoln said, “give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe”, borrowing from this, the secretariat, over the last few months has developed tools for reaching out to all the alumni spread across the globe. Among such tools is an online interactive, user friendly and attractive platform for reaching out, efficiently and effectively to the over 240,000 alumni spread across the globe. I am proud to inform alumni, that, with the support of the Executive Committee of UONAA and Management of the University of Nairobi, our online platform has been revamped to enable the alumni reach out to us, register online, and send feedback immediately. We will continue to leverage on technology to engage our alumni, sponsors and partners across the board. Our portal URL is alumni.uonbi.ac.ke.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate the School of Dental Sciences for successfully launching their chapter on March 28, 2018. This is the 16th chapter to be unveiled since the inception of UONAA, in 2005. The challenge is for the interim officials, chaired by Dr Tom Ocholla, to ensure that the Chapter remains vibrant and relevant through organising events and activities for members and partners.

I am particularly excited about the proposed construction of a Post-Graduate Centre, at the Dental School, which the alumni have committed to support. As UONAA, we support the Chapter, nurturing it to realise its objectives.

We are planning to bring on board two other alumni chapters namely; School of Nursing Sciences and the Diaspora alumni chapters. We are confident that with the support of the teams from these schools and units, we will be able to achieve this goal.

The impact of alumni associations in the development of university education world over cannot be understated. The associations play key roles in the development of key infrastructure and facilities. Indeed, historically, alumni associations have made significant contributions to the growth of some of the world-famous universities and other educational institutions. At the secretariat, we are committed to making UONAA one of the best alumni associations in the world. To affirm this, our team has hosted alumni associations from TaitaTaveta University, Multimedia University, the University of Eldoret, the Eldoret National Polytechnic and Laikipia University for bench marking. We shared our successes, challenges, and best practices on the role of the Association in supporting the alma mater.

In conclusion, it is pleasing to note that our alumni continue to command a lot of respect among their peers in the job market and continue to represent our University with pride and honour. Let us all join hands in making UONAA strong as we live our motto; Our Alumni, Our Strength.

I hope you enjoy reading this 12th Issue of our Newsletter.

Mr. Keneth Sawe
Executive Director , UONAA

Propagating excellence in the discipline



*Dr. Regina Mutave, PhD,
Dean, school of Dental sciences*

The School of Dental Sciences, University of Nairobi has to date graduated over one thousand dentists, contributing to training an estimated 70 per cent of Kenya's dentist population. This contribution is a far cry from the initial intake of 18, when the school was incepted as a Department of Dental surgery in the Faculty of Medicine in 1974.

The School acknowledges the funding and resources leveraged from the Federal Government of Germany. The support also included the installation of 52 complete dental units, and a 30 unit skills phantom head laboratory, and a fully equipped prosthetic laboratory.

In 2000, the school initiated postgraduate training, and so far, over 70 specialists in pediatric dentistry, oral and maxillofacial surgeons, periodontists and prosthodontists have graduated from the school.

As part of its calling to train for the University staff development, the school's postgraduate programmes have been instrumental in developing academic disciplines and enhancing the development of other dental schools in the region, namely; Moi University and Makerere University's department of dentistry as well as providing manpower for specialised dental service provision in Kenya and the eastern Africa region.

The School is living up to the challenge to develop more special training programmes as part of equipping more health personnel with the requisite knowledge and skills to move dentistry in the region to a higher level.

“As part of life-long learning that keeps up with the rapidly changing technology, the alumni have remained an important and large resource base for assisting the School to conduct continuing professional development sessions across the country.”

Currently, the school has the highest concentration of highly specialised consultants, in various oral health disciplines, in the region. As part of its culture of excellence, the school has embraced the practice of intense clinical and practical rotations in the training of dentists, and students, thereby sharpening skills.

As part of life-long learning that keeps up with the rapidly changing technology, the alumni have remained an important and large resource base for assisting the school to conduct continuing professional development sessions across the country.

A majority of staff, students and alumni actively participate in scientific conferences at local, regional and international level, raising the flag of the school as a centre of excellence. The school will be embarking on an elaborate “Alumni Tracer” journey, as many alumni also practice in many parts of the world.

Populations residing in Nairobi County and its environs have benefitted over the years from the dental services offered at the school during the teaching clinics, where the

costs of treatment are far below market rates. About five thousand patients benefit from these services annually. In order to cater for the growing premium customer who desires the quality products offered at the school, the Dental Plaza, a three dental-unit outpatient facility was opened to the public in 2010. This facility offers services to customers who would like to be treated at the dental school, but may not afford the time required to be served at the teaching clinics. Additionally, the Dental Plaza operates for extended hours including weekends, and caters for customers from a wide range of insurance cover, including those from the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF).

The practice of good dentistry is largely based on apprenticeship. We wish therefore to call upon the alumni to develop and maintain a mentorship role of the younger alumni in order to ensure that the spirit of the excellent dentistry graduates is propagated.

Given that our country also has large segments of society who are less endowed with financial resources to support their children/siblings through University; the alumni can ensure that children from disadvantaged backgrounds are identified and supported through school. This has been happening, albeit in an unstructured manner, and can be greatly improved to ensure that no student joining the course at the school fails to graduate due to financial difficulties.

The inception of postgraduate training at the school relied on infrastructure that was set up to train undergraduate students. With time, this has proved to be inadequate to cater for more postgraduate students and meet the growing demand. As we officially launch the Dental Sciences Alumni Chapter, it is evident that proposals for a Postgraduate Centre need to be actualised. If we create more room and accommodate more postgraduate students and run other speciality programmes, this will be a plus in enhancing the culture of research and cutting edge clinical care.

Dental Sciences Alumni Chapter launch



Unveiling the plaque to officially launch the Chapter.

The Dental Sciences Alumni Chapter was unveiled at a colourful ceremony held on Wednesday, March 28 at the Sarova Pan-Afric Hotel, presided over by Prof. Jacob Kaimenyi, Kenya's Representative to the Permanent Mission (UNESCO), Paris, France.

The ceremony was a perfect platform for a reunion of the alumni of the School, the university, guests and partners of the Association to network and reminisce over their days at the University of Nairobi, Dental School.

In his speech, the Chief Guest, Prof. Kaimenyi recalled with nostalgia his days at the institution which he proudly noted moulded him into what he is today and pledged to continue being a great ambassador of the University of Nairobi, which empowered him with the relevant knowledge, skills and competencies that he has used over the years in his professional life.

He saluted UONAA for its accomplishments in the last 13 years since its inception, and called on the alumni Executive Committee to focus on the vision of the Association which is to be a leader in promoting active, visible leadership in the community and to foster interaction between the alumni and the students of the University of Nairobi and the industry.

"This will go a long way in improving the image of the University, equipping the students with relevant 21st century skills, mentoring the students in readiness for the job market and giving them exposure in translating theoretical learning into practice," he said.

Prof Kaimenyi challenged the dental sciences alumni to support the alma mater through cash and in-kind towards projects and activities lined up by the School. One of the projects is the construction of a Post Graduate Centre that students, lecturers and alumni will use to engage with one another locally and with the rest of the world.

In a speech, read on his behalf by the Chairman of the Medicine Alumni Chapter, Dr. Amit N. Thakker, UONAA Chairman, Isaac Awuondo enumerated the chapters launched so far, including Journalism, Range Management, MBA, Veterinary Medicine, IDIS, Human Medicine, Agriculture, Pharmacy, Chiromo, Computing and Informatics, Education, Engineering, Architecture, Design

and Development, Mombasa, and Law, adding that the Dental Sciences Alumni Chapter is the sixteenth Chapter to be launched since the establishment of the Association in 2005.

Awuondo noted that the chapters are not only a source of income for the Association but also a forum for alumni to re-unite, interact, network and chart the way forward in assisting their alma mater in infrastructural development, mentorship, internship/job opportunities, curriculum development and review, among other activities of the University. Further, it is the Association's desire to launch two more local and one diaspora chapters in 2018.

The Chairman listed UONAA's support to the University. This year, the chairman disclosed, UONAA has set aside Ksh.1 Million towards the Research Award and Reward Programme that will reward top researchers from schools and faculties of the University of Nairobi.

Awuondo urged the alumni and well-wishers to help the Dental School construct and equip the Post-Graduate Centre that will consist of state-of-the-art laboratories, surgeries, clinics, seminar rooms, lecture theatres, a post-graduate library and a conference facility, pledging the Association's support to ensure the project takes off and comes to fruition.

The Chairman encouraged the officials of the Dental Sciences Chapter to organise regular re-union events, mentorship sessions for students and constant engagement forums with alumni.

"It is important that the spirit of camaraderie that started off during your days at the Dental School should continue as you come together as alumni to support your alma mater," he said.



Chief Guest Prof. Jacob T. Kaimenyi, gives a speech during the Dental Sciences Alumni Chapter Launch

Awuondo revealed that UONAA is continuing to improve its online platforms, especially the Alumni Information Management System (AIMS),

"This system has been revamped to among other aspects, allow alumni to subscribe, register and pay their subscriptions online and make donations in the comfort of wherever they are, in the world. We see this as being a very critical aspect of driving recruitment and connectivity among the many University of Nairobi Alumni all over of the world," he noted.

In brief remarks, Dr. Vijoo Rattansi, Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, described the alumni as key cogs of the institution as they have continued to play a critical role in the growth and development of their alma mater. She noted that through the Association, alumni have been enabled to come together to re-connect, network and support their university.

Dr Rattansi saluted the Dental Alumni for being pacesetters in the health sector in the region and encouraged them to support students through coaching and mentorship. She appealed to the Association to

continue with the good work of bringing on board alumni who are spread across the globe, noting that it is only in this way that "we can all work together for the betterment of the university".

In a speech read on his behalf by Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Affairs, Prof. Henry Mutoro, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Peter Mbithi described the Association as a key cog in the attainment of the ten major strategies he unveiled during his inauguration which included strengthening UONAA. The other strategies are: fundraising, resource mobilisation and sustainability strategy, infrastructure development, graduate skills enhancement programme, students' experience in campus, university research; and the development of visionary, innovative and creative leadership.

While pledging his total support to UONAA, the Vice-Chancellor noted that all world class universities across the globe boast of having alumni associations, and therefore UONAA must be in the forefront, partnering with the University, to help it achieve the goals. One way of doing



Some of the Dental Sciences Alumni pose for a photo during the Launch of Dental Sciences Alumni Chapter

this is to enhance the financial resources of the University.

"The University has proposed the establishment of an Endowment Fund, Creation of University Foundation, Partnering with Private Sector to finance capital projects and increasing involvement of Alumni in fundraising for our alma mater," he said.

The Vice-Chancellor thanked the Association for the support it has continued to offer the University on a yearly basis and further challenged the Association to jointly work with schools, and faculties, while at the same time seeking partnerships with industry for internships, industrial attachments and job placements for graduates.

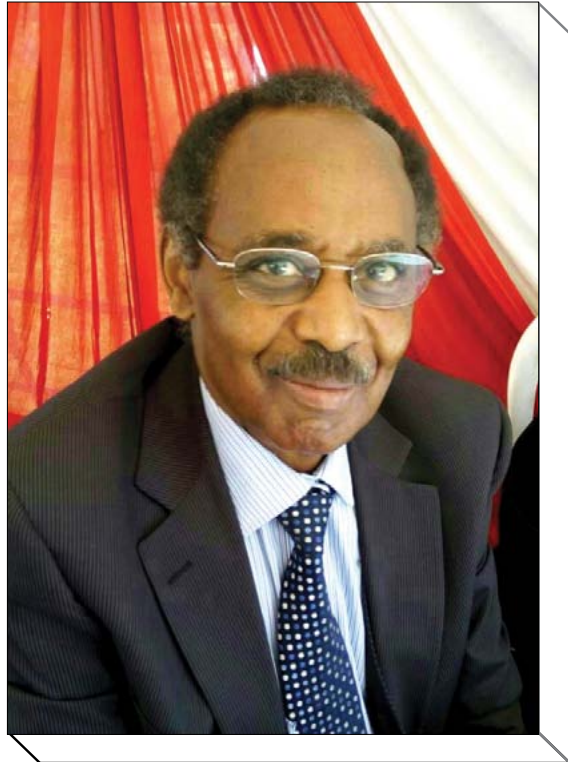
"Such opportunities will equip the graduates with relevant skills and offer them requisite exposure, nurturing and development of a future generation of young leaders". he added

In his remarks, the Chairman of the Medicine Alumni Chapter, Dr. Amit N. Thakker, urged UONAA to leverage on technology to reach out to alumni across the globe. Indeed, dentists must embrace tele-dental services, which is one

way of creating jobs. Dr Thakker noted that the healthcare sector in Kenya was getting the attention it deserves and was among the Big Four in Kenya's transformation agenda. Indeed, this is an opportunity now for the Dental School, which has graduated over 1000 dentists, since its inception, to harness the capacities of the dentists, who are serving in different capacities both in the public and private sector in Kenya and the region.

During the ceremony, the Association's Executive Director, Mr. Ken Sawe, outlined the accomplishments that UONAA has made since its inception in 2005, and shared on the categories of membership open to prospective members.

Among the guests who graced the launch included former Deans led by Dr. Sopiato Likimani, Prof. Gladys Opinya and Prof. Wilfred Rotich Lesan, and famous footballer, Dr. Joseph Masiga. Others included the Ministry of Health Chief Dentist, Dr. E. Onyiego and Mr. Makau Matheka who is in charge of Referral Hospitals in Kenya.



Down Memory Lane With Outstanding Medical Alumnus

Prof Thairu Kihumbu, one of Kenya's most outstanding scholars with an illustrious career in medicine spanning several decades, has worn many feathers in his cap. In this issue of UoN Alumni Newsletter, he takes us through his life experiences and outstanding contributions to the medical profession and society.

The dream to ensure minimum requirements for civilised living for Africans has been the driving force behind Prof Thairu's determination to acquire knowledge and resources in order to change the fortunes of Africans.

Thairu Kihumbu, a Professor of Medical Physiology at the School of Medicine, University of Nairobi has crossed local and international borders in search of knowledge and resources to actualise his dream of ensuring minimum requirements for civilised living for Africans.

In his words, each African should be assured of access to food, shelter, medical care, clean water and education, besides other basic human requirements, which the citizens of developed countries are guaranteed.

But the life of the don, and especially in academia, has not been easy, it has had its ups and downs. Indeed, when he was a young boy, in Rukubi, in the current Kikuyu town,

he constantly pleaded to be allowed to go school but his pleas were turned down by the school administration on the basis that he was too young.

As the last born in the family, the young Thairu spent much time with his father herding livestock and constantly pestered his father to teach him English and arithmetic, the lessons that other children were learning in school.

Being a fast learner, he quickly absorbed the concepts. Two weeks after joining school, the young Thairu vowed that one day he would be a professor after learning that it was the highest academic rank.

Thairu sat his 'O' levels or rather the Cambridge School Certificate, at Thika High School in 1959, emerging the second best candidate in Kenya. He was admitted to Makerere University College, where he pursued his undergraduate and postgraduate studies in medicine.

“With a team, he developed and oversaw the establishment of the Space Department of Dental Surgery in the Faculty of Medicine in 1974. That year, 18 students were admitted to pursue a course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) of the University of Nairobi”

At the Makerere Medical School, he bagged several awards including: the Sir Alexander Galloway Prize in Anatomy (1964); Uganda Medical Association Prize in Anatomy, Physiology and Biochemistry (1964); Nestlé Prize in Pediatrics (1965), Makerere University College Demonstration Prize (1966-67) and the Louis and Mitchell Prize in Medicine and Surgery (1966).

His academic pursuit continued, when he was admitted to the University College London for his PhD studies in neurophysiology, which is the study of the functioning of the nervous system.

Thairu emerged top of the neurophysiology course. On completion of his studies, Thairu commenced an active life of teaching at various institutions including the University College London and University of Nairobi. This service did not go unnoticed and indeed, in 1976, Thairu became a professor, as recommended by the Commonwealth Inter-University Council (London), at the tender age of 33 years. In recognition of this contribution, he was elected Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Nairobi.

While serving as Dean of the School of Medicine, Prof. Thairu developed a passion to fight the notion that dentistry training was too expensive for Kenya. He was fired with the ambition of championing the establishment of a dental school at the University of Nairobi, to ensure that Kenyans, like citizens in the developed world, also get proper dental care.

Working with his team, he developed and oversaw the establishment of the Department of Dental Surgery in the Faculty of Medicine in 1974. That year, 18 students were admitted to pursue a course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) of the University of Nairobi.

In 1977, Prof Thairu led a team through the process of acquiring, equipping and renovating the building structures of the former Princess Elizabeth Maternity Wing, into what is now known as Dental School.

This was not an easy journey, at it evolved negotiations

with government officials for funds from international development partners to equip the new school.

“We travelled to many European countries to seek funds but it was not a walk in the park as some partners rejected our proposal while others offered materials that were not useful. In the end however, we secured funding from Germany.

“I acknowledge specially, Dr. Sopiato Likimani, and officials from the Treasury, at the time, Dr. Gutuchu Tessame, H. Githinji and Alfred Vienna for their support in seeking funds to establish the school”. he reminisced

Apart from a teaching school, Prof Thairu says, there was need for a dental hospital to provide dental care for the country. At the time, those seeking dental services had to travel to the famous “Kabete ya meno”. Initially, the Department had only nine dental seats, but these soon grew to 52, distributed in various clinics.

Prof Thairu recalls the difficulties that they had in getting staff for the school. Many dentists did not want to join the teaching fraternity, and the University administration was challenged to develop a strategy that allowed the lecturer-dentists, to practice within the dental school. The result was that the students got hands-on experience.

During his four year tenure as Dean, he contributed immensely to the education sector in Kenya. For instance, he served at the Ministry of Education as a key member of the Human Biology Curriculum Panel for three years, where he helped to develop the biology curriculum studied in secondary schools, and which is still taught to date.

Prof Thairu has been a keen and committed advocate for establishing centres of excellence in medical research. It is such commitment that saw him play a key role in the establishment and steering of the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) to a medical research facility, and a centre of excellence in the developing world. At the time, KEMRI was a virtually non-existent entity occupying two rooms in the Ministry of Health.

“Each African should be assured of access to food, shelter, medical care, clean water and education, besides other basic human requirements, which the citizens of developed countries are guaranteed.”



Working in collaboration with Trusts mainly the Dutch, Japan, and also the British Wellcome Trust, and the USA based CDC, Walter Reed, Prof Thairu mobilised resources for the development and sustenance of KEMRI.

Further, he was in charge of the development of new curricula of international standards for pharmacy, dentistry and nursing courses at universities. Here, he collaborated with the Ministry of Health to develop 16 courses including paramedical courses in food inspection, meat inspection and radiography, as well as medical specialist courses in anesthesiology, community health, orthopedic surgery, psychiatry and sports physiology, among others.

He popularised the idea of decentralising health services in the 80s with the aim of ensuring that the health system catered for the rural areas, instead of having most of the health personnel concentrated in huge hospitals both in government and private institutions in Nairobi.

Prof. Thairu served as Chairman of the then Commission for Higher Education (CHE) now Commission for University Education (CUE) for six years, where he helped streamline the Commission's operations and reduce the time taken for the Commission to approve programmes or accredit institutions of higher education without lowering standards. At the time, it took about six years to accredit a university but today it takes about two-and-a-half years.

He was also founder member of the Presbyterian University of East Africa (PUEA) and its Vice-Chancellor for three-and-half-years.

He also organised and co-ordinated health activities, projects, meetings and training workshops for the Commonwealth in Asia, Pacific Region, Europe, Africa, Caribbean, Europe and North America. This required fundraising from the private sector and external agencies.

As a scholar and philanthropist, Prof Thairu has not only served as the chairman of the Commonwealth Secretariat's Think-Tank on Human Resource Development, but more importantly served at a time when the Think

Tank was the first International group to identify poverty alleviation as one of the most important national and international issues, even long before the International Community recognised it.

Besides working on excellence in university education, Prof Thairu has been in the forefront in championing technical and vocational training to equip the youth with skills relevant in the job market. He joined hands with other like-minded scholars to establish the Kiambu Institute of Science and Technology, in 1977, to offer skills-based training to youths to enable them manufacture local products. The don believes that “policy makers need to change the mode of training given that the Kenyan education system tends to focus on theoretical rather than technical ability. The end result is that Kenya is relying heavily on imported machinery and loses heavily in developing its own.

Away from championing the establishment of the Dental School, Prof Thairu's footprints are also felt in the literary world, where he has written two books; ‘The African and the AIDS Holocaust’ and ‘The African Civilization’, published in 2003 and 1978, respectively.

In the first book, the African and Aids, Prof Thairu chronicles how the Western world has been using disease as a weapon for ‘wiping out the black and other marginalised communities in order to take over their land and other resources’.

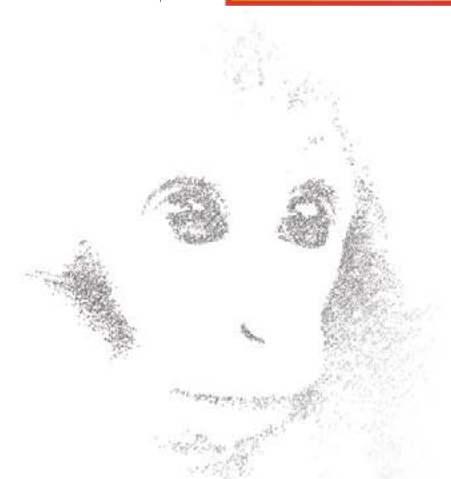
He observes that disease such as HIV/Aids were deliberately introduced to wipe out the black and other races the white consider inferior. The second book chronicles the racist comments that Thairu endured while learning in foreign lands during the colonial era and after. The content is part of his endeavour to liberate the African mind.

Prof Thairu is also a gifted artist, and he recalls how his ability to use both hands saw him pick up drawing, a skill he possesses to this day.



“Transforming Life Science”

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A UNIQUE PRIMATE CENTER IN AFRICA

TRANSLATING LIFE SCIENCE INTO PRODUCTS & SERVICES

The Institute of Primate Research (IPR) is a bio-medical research institution located at the end of Karen Road, Karen - Nairobi. It carries out basic, preclinical and translational biomedical research in virology, major & emerging infectious diseases, human reproduction and non-communicable diseases. Key deliverable areas are preclinical research using monkeys, zoonotic diseases, biodiversity research, human African trypanosomiasis, snakebite disease, venom research & quality control and breeding animals for health research.

A long-time World Health Organization Collaborative Centre and the first Organization in Africa to obtain AAALAC (Association of Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care) international accreditation. It is also recognized as an African center of excellence for preclinical research by the African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Initiative (ANDI). IPR is involved in collaborative and contract research in association with academic and industry at local and international level.

MAIN EVENT

Institute of Primate Research (IPR) together with International Primatology Society (IPS) will be holding the **27th International Primatological Society Congress**

Venue: United Nations Organization Nairobi Offices (UNON) Gigiri

Date: 19th to 25th August 2018

Time: 8.30am- 4.30pm

PRE EVENT

IPR wishes to announce a pre- and post IPS congress training on 17th and 26th August 2018 respectively. The theme for the pre-congress is “best practices in primate conservation” and that of the post-congress is “best practices in primate research”.

Venue: IPR Karen Campus

Date: 17th to 26th August 2018

Time: 8.30am- 4.30pm

Charges: Favourable cost which caters for transport, meals, facilitation and Institutional overheads.

NB: Ten scholarships will be available for MSc and PhD students with the organizing committee at IPR.

ALL ARE INVITED TO SIGN IN FOR THIS INTERNATIONAL EVENT!!!

Contact us on: info@primatereserach.org or at 020 2606235/6

Alumna rates her alma mater with an Excellent tag

Dr. Joyce Omuok, a final year Masters of Dental Surgery student.



Dr. Joyce Omuok, a final year Masters of Dental Surgery student specialising in Pediatric Dentistry is the quintessential scholar with a passion for community service. In this issue of Alumni News, Dr Omuok shares her journey and thoughts on dental education in Kenya.

Q. Briefly share with us the typical journey of a student at the University of Nairobis Dental School?

A. The first year of study is considered the pre-clinical year and is spent at the Chiromo Campus. Here a student learns medical physiology as well as human anatomy. The second year of study is considered clinical and a student is geographically transferred to Kenyatta National Hospital (teaching hospital) for clinical exposure. The third and fourth year of study are clinical sessions spent at the Dental School whereby the student clerks and treats patients under the supervision of teaching staff.

Q. What attracted you to pursue dental sciences ?

A. I was driven to the course after having interactions with students at the Dental School. In addition, the intakes of students are in small numbers which makes it possible for one on one interaction between lecturer and student for detailed understanding and thus my passion increased.

Q. What were the most memorable experiences while at the Dental School?

A. Scaring experiences with cadavers which students are required to use as study subjects. Also, use of Phantom-heads (artificial heads with teeth) which students use for study. In order to gain confidence in injecting patients, students used each other as experimental subjects just to get the real feel.

Q. Who is your role model in the dental profession?

A. My role model is a county paediatric dentist in Nakuru who has inspired me in the treatment of children. My motivation in paediatric dentistry is to build confidence in children so that they do not have phobia during dental treatment, especially injections. My contribution towards childrens treatment is to inculcate in them a health-seeking behavior whereby they visit the dentist on a regular basis for check-up.

Q. How can the dental sciences alumni assist the School of Dental Sciences?

A. I observe that the teaching facilities at the School have not expanded to cope with the ever increasing student numbers. The solution to this impasse is to expand the teaching facilities. Therefore, the need to involve the alumni to contribute towards the required resources especially infrastructure development and dental equipment is critical as we grow our School.

Q. What are your expectations after graduating from your current academic programme?

A. I believe I will have acquired the necessary skill set to enable me impart them to my students (currently serving as Tutorial Fellow at the Moi University School of Dentistry) and involve myself in intense research and community service. In addition, I would like to continue with personal development and grow professionally in my area of expertise.

Q. How do you rate the training you are currently getting at the School of Dental Sciences on the scale of 1 to 10?

A. 8 out of 10.

Q. What is the way forward?

A. The University of Nairobi befits world-class status and I would recommend prospective students to join this University of choice due to its top notch academic programmes. The University is meeting the ever growing demand for competent professionals in the job market, but I want to encourage my fellow students, teaching staff and alumni from the Dental School to continue with research activities bringing about new inventions and innovations towards solving global issues; and commitment to community service.



Members of the UONAA Executive Committee hand over their donation of ksh 500,000 towards the Innovation Week to the Vice-Chancellor

UONAA donates Ksh 500,000 towards Innovation Week

The Alumni Association recently contributed Ksh.500,000 towards the Nairobi Innovation Week 2018 held between 5th to 9th March at the Great Court, University of Nairobi. Since 2015, UONAA has contributed Ksh.500,000 annually, towards the Innovation Week, so far contributing a total amount of Ksh.2 million.

The innovation week, brings together partners from government, private sector, development partners and research centres with the aim of providing a platform for show-casing and encouraging innovation and recognising innovators. It was conceptualized by the University and to date, has attracted a number of partners, sponsors and young innovators seeking mentoring, capital commitments and opportunities for incubation.

During the event, UONAA recruited new members, and sensitized the public on its roles and functions.



UONAA donates towards the University of Nairobi Open Day

The Alumni Association is one of the supporters of the University of Nairobi Open Day. The event has been held over the years in the Main Campus, Kisumu and Mombasa Campus as part of sensitising the public and prospective students on the programmes and services offered at the University.

The Association uses the forum to sensitize the public on its activities and projects and how they can be involved as key stakeholders. This is in line with its mission and key mandate of acting as a link between the alumni, the University as well as the industry and in the same breath, to support the University in its growth and development.

The Association has contributed a total of Ksh.800,000 towards the University of Nairobi Open Day. In 2018, UONAA contributed Ksh.500,000, while in 2017, the Association contributed Ksh.300,000.

During the Open Day, UONAA, showcased its activities, interacted with alumni, members of the general public, and students, as part of raising friends and funds.

UoNAA Team Presents a Gift Hamper to a Newly Registered Alumna





UONAA Treasurer Mrs Mildred Owuor(Right) presents an award to a student.



UONAA Chairman Mr Isaac Awuondo (Right) presents an award to one of the top students.

Uonaa Rewards Best Performers

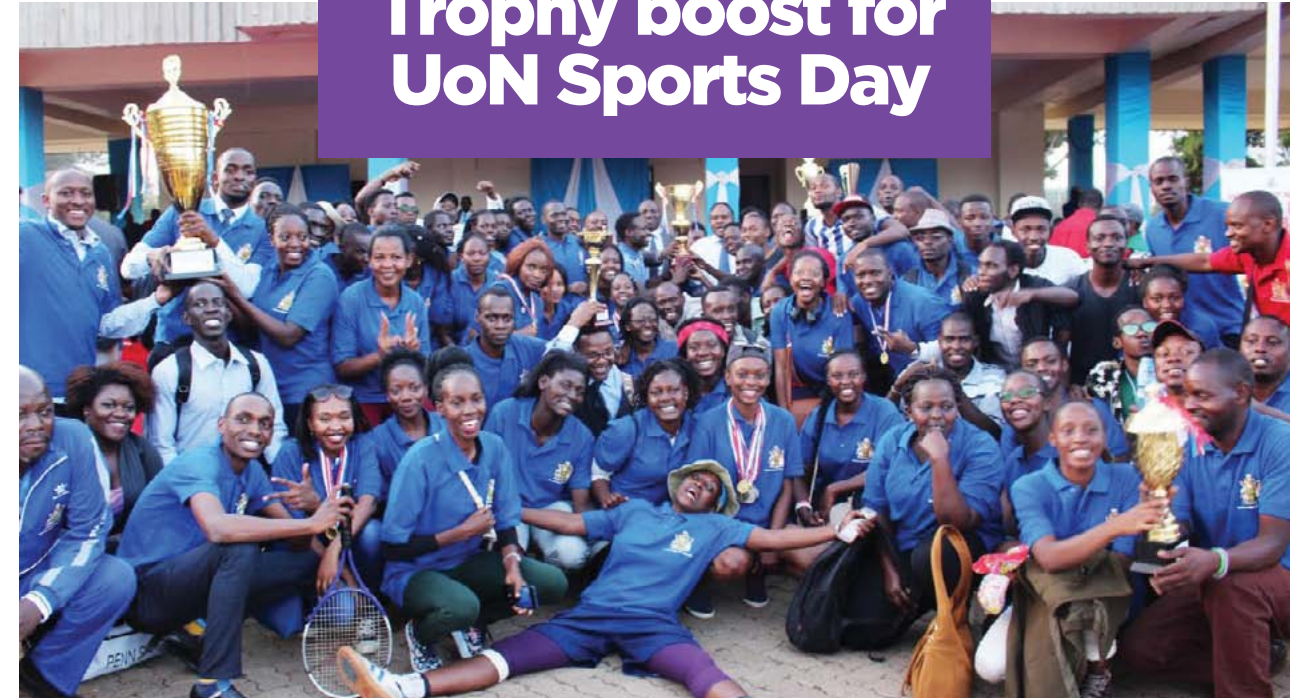
Since its founding in 2005, the University of Nairobi Alumni Association (UONAA) has contributed a total of Ksh1, 050,000 towards the annual University of Nairobi Prize Giving Ceremony, an event where outstanding students from various disciplines receive awards from different organisations.

During the 2018 ceremony held in Taifa Hall, Main Campus and presided over by the Chancellor, Dr.Vijoo Rattansi, the Associations chairman, Mr Isaac Awuondo, presented the UONAA award to 24 students, drawn from the Colleges, who had excelled in their studies, with each student receiving a cash award of Ksh.10,000 and a Certificate of recognition.

The UONAA award was classified into: Best student of the year per college, and breaking with tradition, three awards for the College of Architecture and Engineering covering: Best final year project; Best fourth year in fluid mechanics and Best final year female student.

The UONAA award has risen consistently , over the years, for instance, in the 2014-2015 Academic Year, UONAA donated Ksh240,000 while in 2012-2013, the Association gave Ksh.260,000. In 2010-2011 Academic Year Ksh120,000 was donated while in 2008-2009 and 2006-2007 the Association donated Ksh130,000 and Ksh.160,000, respectively.

Trophy boost for UoN Sports Day



UoN College of Health Sciences team members celebrate after winning the Overall UONAA trophy during the 2018 UoN Sports Day.

The Alumni Association joined the University community during the inaugural sports day held on February 28, 2018 at the University of Nairobi's sports field by donating the best team trophy. The trophy was handed over by UONAA Deputy Secretary, Dr. Fronica Monari, Executive Director, Mr. Keneth Sawe and Administrator, Mrs. Jane Mogaka.

In his opening address, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi praised UONAA and other donors for their gesture which had made the event a success. He revealed that apart from being a giant in academics, the University was a powerhouse in sports. "At the University, sports and games are taught as a discipline, and our students engage in many sporting activities, taking part in tournaments and competitions in rugby, basketball, hockey and volleyball".

The Vice - Chancellor noted that the Department of Physical Education had continued to contribute to the development of sports through training of teachers/ instructors and research in the field of sports. He urged the government to give more attention to sports, so that

the youth with talent can be nurtured. "the trainers that the university is producing form part of the critical mass required for the success of sports training schools and academies that are being operationalized in some regions of the country. Indeed, the University of Nairobi is mentoring the Koitalel Samoei University in Nandi County to develop sports related courses in line with recommendations on niche focus, made by the Commission for University Education".

The Vice-Chancellor noted that corporate and well-endowed individuals, including the alumni, should be encouraged to invest in the sports industry by providing incentives. "There is a growing interest in students to take sports as a career and we will seek partnerships for sports scholarships and sponsorship to motivate the budding sportsmen and women".

Besides UONAA, other donors included Techno Mobile, Kwese Pay TV, Kericho Gold, Cytonn Investments and Prime Wood.

Kenya's first satellite finally deployed into the orbit

In yet another trailblazer the University of Nairobi made history, following the successful deployment into orbit, of Kenya's first satellite.

The satellite, named 1st Kenya University Nano Satellite Precursor Flight (1KUNS-PF) was successfully deployed from KIBO, the Japan Space Agency (JAXA) Tsukuba Space Centre in Tokyo, Japan in May 2018. 1KUNS-PF is the result of scientific and technological collaboration between the University of Nairobi's School of Engineering, the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), University of Rome (Italy), and the Kenya Space Agency.

Speaking during the launch ceremony, Amb. Ms. Amina Mohammed, the Cabinet Secretary for Education noted that the successful deployment of the satellite will go a long way in helping Kenya to advance in space science because the data collected by the satellite will be key in helping the government to make key decisions on weather forecasting and disaster management. This is because the satellite will enable earth mapping, earth observation, land use and environmental monitoring, weather forecasting, food security mapping and forecasting, communication, disaster management, coastline and border monitoring, outer space observation, management of forests, livestock and wildlife monitoring and management.



The Kenyan team led by Education Cabinet Secretary Amb. Amina Mohammed after the successful deployment of the satellite.

The Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Amb. Macharia Kamau revealed that the satellite was one of the deliverables and an outcome of the TICAD 6 conference that took place in 2016 in Nairobi. It is expected that the country will embrace a technology driven economy, and the data gathered is robust and reliable in early warning for disaster preparation, and data marking.

The successful deployment of 1KUNS –PF heralds the next phase for UoN/Kenyan scientists and engineers to develop bigger high resolution satellites (3U CubeSat) with serious scientific and technological value for the country. The Principal Investigator, Prof. Jackson Mwangi Mbutia, current Dean School of Engineering, University of Nairobi revealed that the genesis of the deployment of the satellite, stems from the University winning a UNOOSA international competitive grant in 2016 for the development of a satellite. "The next phase is to build on the human capital because satellite development requires a long term commitment to a space science programme. Indeed, the 1KUNS–PF project has created the opportunity for the University of Nairobi to work with JAXA as the satellite launch partner and Kyushu Institute of Technology

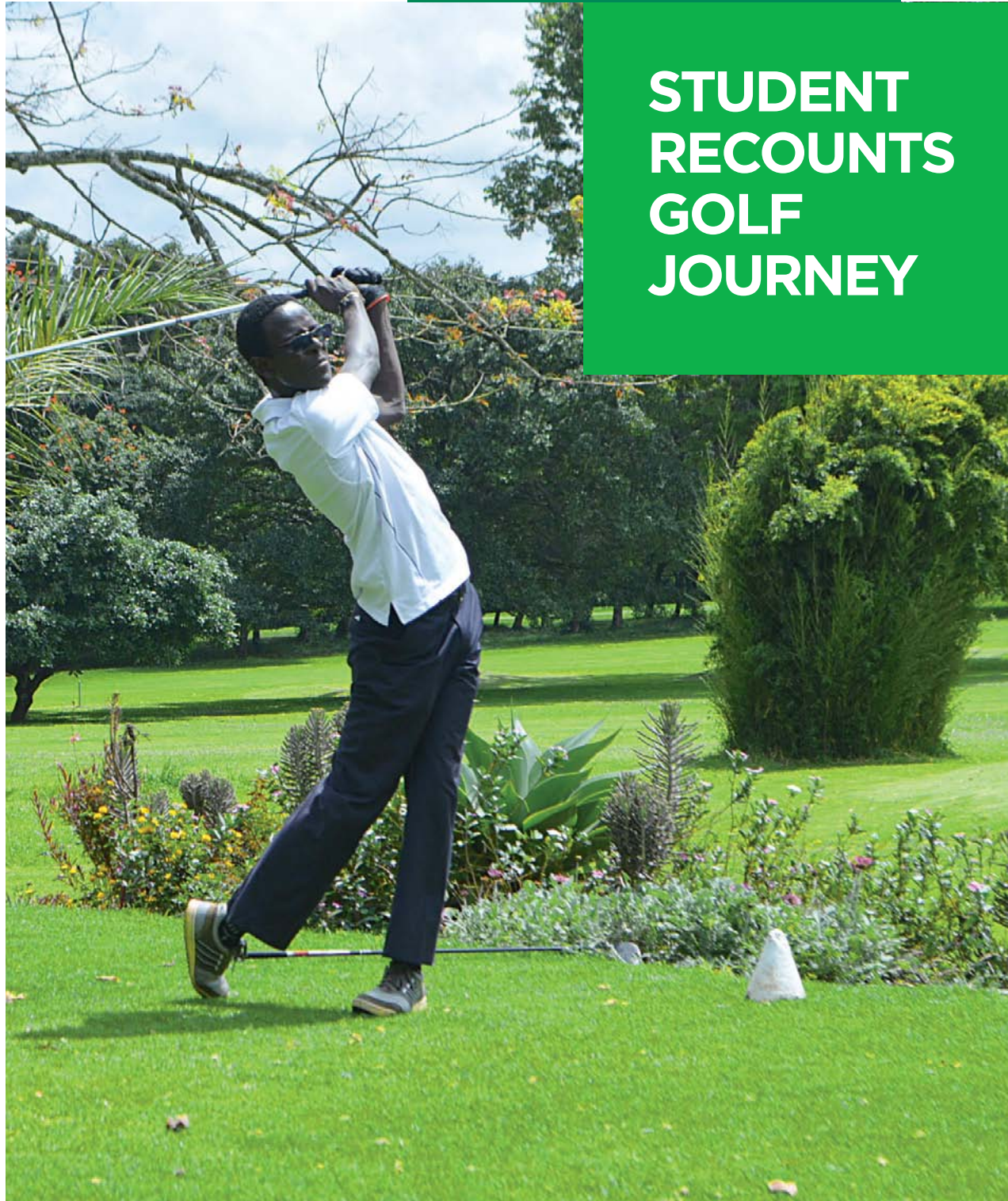
of Japan as the technology partner for human resource development in satellite design, manufacture and testing to meet the quality standards set by JAXA for nanosats launch from ISS using KiboCUBE2".

Depending on the mission goals for each year of the space programme, the cost of design, manufacture, launch per nanosat and gradual setting up of the requisite laboratories will require a financial commitment ranging from 0.5Million to 1.0Million USD per year.

The satellite development activities in each year will incorporate new mission goals. It is envisaged that every year, M.Sc. and Ph.D. students who show great passion for space science will be recruited to join the satellite design, manufacturing, launch and mission operations teams.

The University of Nairobi thus invites interested collaborators and partners, from the public and private sector to join in this work, a very important programme that will yield enormous benefits for Kenya. Collaborating partners can leverage financial support for the design, manufacture and launch of the nanosat constellation.

STUDENT RECOUNTS GOLF JOURNEY



Maina Iraki, a student at the University of Nairobi, has a keen love for the game of golf, a game which has inspired a passion in him to pursue not only as a way of life but also as a personal getaway. He talks to Alumni News about his love for golf and its illuminating experiences.

“I remember the day that we went to the airport to pick up my dad, he was returning home after his studies in the US; I was excited by his coming back and even better, when I peeked into his luggage, at the airport, and spied a brand-new set of golf clubs, I was in heaven”. This was 11 years ago, and it was the beginning of a journey, in which Maina has competed in many tournaments.

“My father taught me how to play golf, at the time I was nine years old, and I guess my father was very excited at the prospects of having his son join him on the golf course. Dad has always idolised renowned American golfer, Tiger Woods and over the years, whenever we talk about golf, he always circles back to him. I think the fact that I look up to him and he in turn respects and follows Tiger Woods has sparked the golf light in me and since I started playing golf, I have never looked back,” says Maina.

According to Maina, golf can be viewed as the game of life; life has its ups and downs, and so it is in golf, where one can win a game here, lose another, or lose a series of games. What is important is that one understands the consequences of one’s actions immediately. “I started playing the game at the Nyahururu Sports Club. My desire to excel combined with my dad’s unrelenting support bore fruits, because I have competed in many tournaments. Initially, I was not playing consistently as I had to attend school, classes but nevertheless I put in as many rounds as I could during school holidays”.

After his high school, in his gap year before joining university and with this consistency of playing, his handicap went down from 28 to 16. “When I joined the University of Nairobi to study Mechanical Engineering, I hoped to apply the laws of physics to golf, and while balancing between playing a round of golf and attending all my classes is always an uphill task, I have derived great satisfaction from the challenge”, he notes.

So, though the days Monday through to Friday is meant for school, Maina is always happy to practise in between but most of the time it is not possible. Weekends and especially Saturdays, he reserves for a round of golf.

“I play in the Nairobi Golf League for Vet Lab Sports Club, my club, on Sundays. The league games have taught me a lot

especially since my partner for the last two years, an 11 year old lad, also happens to play off at handicap 11. This has clearly debunked the myth that golf is an old man sport. Most of our opponents are usually shocked when beaten by “boys”, he says.

Maina has pursued the game vigorously, and has not been content to rest on his laurels, rather, he aims to do better. He recounts how after his first year of study at the university, he spent the long holiday honing up his skills, and it paid off. By the time that he was going back to school to commence his second year of study, he was playing off a solid handicap 11.

“During school days life was tough and I kept swinging from handicap 11 to 12. By the time that I was into my third year of studies at university, I had managed to drop off two strokes and I was into single handicaps.”

So what important lessons has Maina learnt about life, inspired by golf? “Golf, has taught me to make decisions, think under pressure, and respect the rules and etiquette and thus appreciate hierarchy and authority. These are lessons that my dad appreciated in his life and which, I thank God, he decided to pass on to me in the only way he saw fit, through golf. My journey in golf has been long, and there have been setbacks and sacrifices made. The world has used the word sacrifice until it seems to be a cliché, but once you see how much time and work one invests in to achieve an elite class in a sport or literally anything in life, then you recognise that sacrifices have value,” he adds.

Maina’s mother is one of his greatest cheering squad, and even though she does not play the game, she is always on his side, encouraging him and telling him to believe in himself. This belief and encouragement has challenged him to do well, indeed, as this piece is being written, Maina is playing off at handicap 7, having won a series of back to back tournaments. “Don’t tell anyone he whispers, my dad is still playing off at handicap 11.”

Maina passionately believes that while Kenya is yet to get a Tiger, Rorys, Days, Johnsons, Spieths and others, and despite golf being in its infancy, there is no reason why it cannot generate as much money as athletics is doing for talented youth.

Alumni give mobility back to amputees

Our Alumni at the Medical School are at the fore-front in giving back to society. Indeed, early this year, a team of surgeons, under Prof Stanley Khainga, were involved in efforts to restore mobility to hand and leg amputees.

The leg amputee made history by being the story of the first foot re-implantation surgery in Kenya.

The patient, who had been involved in a traffic road accident, suffered traumatic amputation of the left leg. He was dashed to the nearest health facility for first aid, with the help of a Good Samaritan.

After medical staff administered first aid, a decision was made to transfer the patient to Nairobi for further management. A surgical team was assembled by the lead doctors and they began to prepare for surgery while the victim was en-route to Nairobi.

The medical staff at the first point of aid had preserved the amputated foot in ice, and the surgery team was ready to commence work when the foot was received.

The patient was stabilised with blood transfusion and resuscitation lines, a catheter and lab and x-ray work was carried out to establish his condition. This took about four hours, after which re-implantation surgery commenced.

The re-implantation involved exposing the wound while the patient was under epidural anaesthesia, preparing

blood vessels in the leg, preparing the foot-bones for re-attachment, attaching the foot, connecting the vessels, restoring blood supply, soft tissue coverage and dressing the leg.

The surgery lasted 11 hours and involved a multi-disciplinary surgical team and nursing staff of 18 persons.

The patient required 10 units of blood during surgery. After the operation, the first dressing of the foot was carried out after three days, subsequent seven days after the operation, the second dressing was carried out, while nerve grafting was carried out 20 days after the operation and after the soft tissue was covered with skin grafts.

The leg re-implantation followed in the wake of a previous surgery, again led by Prof Khainga with consultants Dr Wanjala Nangole, assisted by two post-graduate surgery students, to re-implant the hand of a young man, whose right hand had been amputated by a chaff cutter.

The patient was first attended to by staff at the Kiambu County Referral Hospital, who managed the wound by applying a mild analgesic, and then administering tetanus



A team of surgeons from the College of Health Sciences University of Nairobi led by Prof. Stanley Khainga pose for a photo after a successful leg and hand implant

toxoid injection, IV fluids and a plain radiograph of the stump. The severed hand was wrapped in a cloth, put in ice and the patient referred to Kenyatta National Hospital.

The patient's history did not indicate any predisposing conditions, and it was therefore decided that he could be operated. The surgery team first stabilised the patient by applying IV fluids, analgesic and morphine for pain management, applied pressure dressing and administered antibiotics.

Once stabilised, the surgical team carried out surgical toilet and debridement of the hand and stump, then the team identified, tagged and prepared the neurovascular structures and tendons.

The team also osteotomised the distal radius and ulna bones as well as the stump and the distal carpal bones.

Fusion of the wrist with K wires was carried out, after which neurovascular anastomosis was carried out on the ulna artery and its venae comitantes, the radial artery, the cephalic vein, the ulna and median nerve.

The tendons, except the tendons of the wrist were repaired en bloc. The wounds were closed primarily, but

there was loss of tissue on the dorsal aspect where the wound could not be closed primarily for skin grafting later but the anastomoses were protected. The hand was then splinted.

Post-operative care included elevation of the right upper limb, splinting the hand with no movement allowed until three days after the surgery. The patient underwent three hourly reviews of the hand in the first 48 hours then reviews were carried out twice a day. The patient was medicated with antibiotics, anticoagulants, analgesics, IV fluids with change of dressing on the fifth day after surgery with post-operative physiotherapy recommended and carried out.

The dedication of our medical alumni, their profile and standing, their preparation and attention to detail, suggests that this able team of people, who grafted the hand back to the arm, who re-implanted a foot, in what was said to be the first in the country, did very well. As an Association we are proud of our Alumni.

“ Indeed our Alumni our Strength”

Uonaa Hosts Chinese Delegation



Prof. Wu Jihuai, Vice-President Huaqiao University, interacts with students and staff on physics, material sciences and development, at the Chiromo campus.



Prof. Wu Jihuai, Mr Li Yonguen of the Huaqiao University, and UONAA Executive Committee members led by Dr Anne Assey, after their interaction on alumni relations, operations,

The Alumni Association recently hosted a delegation from Huaqiao University, Quanzhou /Xiamen China.

The Chinese delegation had come to Kenya on invitation of the UoN Vice-Chancellor's office together with the Alumni Association led by the Vice Chairperson Dr Anne Aseey.

The Chinese team comprised Prof. Wu Jihuai, - Vice President, Huaqiao University, Mr. Hong Xuehui, Director, Admission Office, Li Yongquan, -Dean, International School, Liu Hongguang, Section Chief, Office of International Exchange and Cooperation.

The visitors had an interaction with UONAA Executive Committee members, secretariat and Alumni on alumni relations, operations, empowerment and marketing among other areas of interest.

During the visit, the Huaqiao University officials signed a memorandum of understanding with UoN to collaborate on various areas.

According to Wu Jihuai, professor of materials and chemistry and the vice-president of Huaqiao University, through the MoU, the two universities will collaborate on

research and students and staff exchange programmes.

"We will discuss the MoU in detail where we can, for instance, have students from UoN visit our university and vice versa," he said.

Prof Wu gave the remarks when he visited UoN's College of Biological and Physical Sciences, where he gave a presentation on material science.

He specifically talked about research and development on energy, one of the United Nation's sustainable development goals. The UN targets at having access to affordable, reliable and modern energy for all by 2030.

Christopher Nyamai, Dean of UoN's School of Physical Science, said they will invigorate the collaboration with Huaqiao University. He said the future looks brighter as the two universities look forward to collaborating on various fields.

Prof. Julius Mwakondo, chairman of the department of physics and professor of solid state physics, challenged both students and lecturers to take advantage of the collaboration and identify research areas where they can work with their counterparts from Huaqiao University.



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Alumni Chapters are key pillars of the Association. The chapters are created based on discipline and any other criteria that the Association deems appropriate within or without the Republic of Kenya.

The chapters operate and conduct their affairs under the aegis of the Association. To date the Association has launched the following sixteen (16) Alumni Chapters:

1

Journalism & Mass Communication

2

Veterinary Medicine

3

Masters of Business Administration

4

Human Medicine

5

Range Management

6

Agriculture

7

Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies

8

Engineering

9

Architecture, Design and Development

10

Computing & Informatics

11

Pharmacy

12

Chiromo

13

Education

14

Mombasa Campus

15

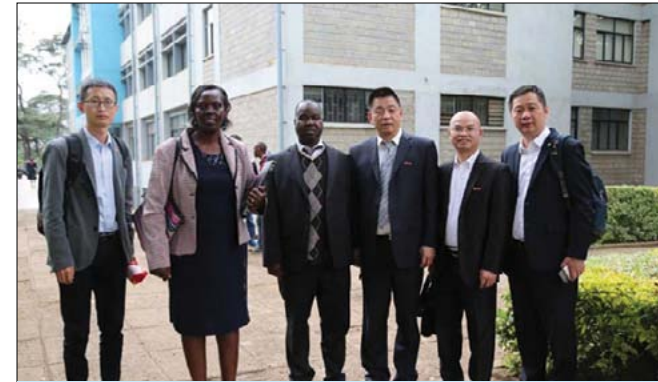
Law

16

Dental Sciences



Dr. Amit Thakker, Chairman Human Medicine Chapter hands over a gift to the Chief Guest Prof Jacob Kaimenyi during the launch of Dental Science Chapter.



Prof Wu Jihuai - Vice President Huaqiao University (Middle) and his team, with UONAA administrator Mrs Jane Mogaka during the collaboration and links meeting hosted by UONAA and the University of Nairobi.



University of Nairobi Graduands during the 57th Graduation Ceremony



It was total excitement for this alumna.



A perfect re-union for alumni.



The Dental Sciences chapter planning committee after a meeting.



Proud Alumni during a past Graduation Ceremony.



UoN Chancellor Dr Vijoor Rattansi (Centre) with two of the guests.



Dental students and guests during the occasion.



Taita Taveta University Executive committee visits UONAA.



University of Nairobi Alumni Association Chapter Chairpersons and Executive Committee Members after a meeting.



A perfect re-union by alumni.



University of Nairobi Graduands during the 58th Graduation Ceremony



UONAA team receive a delegation from University of Eldoret Alumni Association..



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Invest in the future

thro' Scholarship, Mentorship and Internship Programme

**BE OUR MEMBER OR
PARTNER TODAY**



<http://alumni.uonbi.ac.ke>

Register and remain connected to the fountain of knowledge

Join us today in

Investing for the future

thro' Scholarship, mentorship and Internship Programme

1. Who can be a member?

A person who has graduated from or working with the University of Nairobi. The following shall be eligible for membership upon payment of the prescribed fee: -

- All persons who have successfully completed their studies at the University
- Persons granted honorary degrees by the University
- Full time permanent staff members who are not former University of Nairobi students and who obtained a degree from another recognized institution,
- The members of the University of Nairobi Council
- The Chancellor of the University of Nairobi



2. Who can be a partner?

Persons or corporates of goodwill who would like to partner with the Alumni Association of the University of Nairobi in advancing the goals of the Association or the University at large. Such partners includes but not limited to:

- Individuals of goodwill
- Philanthropists and foundations
- Government institutions
- Private corporations
- Multinational Corporations
- Bilateral and multi-lateral agencies
- Universities (local and foreign)
- International Organizations
- Others (specify)



Our Financial Target (2014 - 2016)

KSh. 1 Billion (US\$ 12 Million) - Alumni Centre (AC)

KSh. 100 Million (US\$ 1.2 Million) - Scholarship Fund (SF)

KSh. 1 Billion (US\$ 12 Million) - Endowment Fund (EF)

Be Our Member Or Partner Today!

3. What are the Benefits of Being a member/partner?

a) Membership Benefits

The persons who register with the Association benefits enormously by staying connected to the University of Nairobi through:

- Networking opportunities for professional development
- Certificate of Membership and University Alumni badge (lapel)
- Membership Smart Card that gives you access to services in and outside University e.g. Library and Retail outlets
- Access to discounted Alumni branded items sold at University UNES Bookstore
- Participation in the Governance of the University and Alumni Association
- Regularly updated through Alumni Newsletters and sms/email alerts
- Recognition through Distinguished Leadership Awards



b) Partnership Benefits

The individuals or institutions that partners with the Association benefits through:

- Developing the Next Generation of Leaders through Alumni Scholarship, mentorship and internship programme
- Certificate of recognition to all Corporate and Individual partners
- Recognition in form of individual or corporate branding on donated facilities/items
- Invitations to Alumni networking meetings and forums
- Invitation to Vice Chancellor and Chancellor's breakfast meetings with partners
- Opportunities to hold career fairs and graduates recruitment drive at the University
- Corporate/individual partners to be included in the Alumni Centre Hall of Fame
- Regularly updated about the University and the Alumni Association's activities and programmes through newsletter, annual reports and regular updates through official letters.

For more information, contact University of Nairobi Alumni Association offices at Kenya Science / Main Campus Admin Wing Rm.107
P.O. Box 30197-00100 Nairobi, Kenya | Tel: +254 20 231 9182 | E-mail: alumni@uonbi.ac.ke | Website: alumni.uonbi.ac.ke



University of Nairobi Alumni Association

Customer Care No. **0724 820 908**



#UON Alumni



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

1. Personal Details

Title (specify) e.g. Prof, Dr.

First Name: Middle Name: Surname:

Gender Male Female

Place of Graduation University of Nairobi (Alumni) Other Institutions (specify)
(UoN Staff/Council/Chancellor)

Name at Graduation (Surname, First, Middle):

Year of Graduation:

Degree(s)/Diploma/Certificate awarded:

Faculty/Institute/School/Department:

For other institutions please specify your qualifications and year

2. Contact Details

National Identity Card / Passport No.:

Current place of Employment: Position:

Physical Address:

Postal Address: Postal Code:

Tel: Email:

3. Membership Subscription

Membership Category (New Members) Please tick accordingly	Membership Upgrade (for Registered Members only) Please tick accordingly		Payment Frequency/ Amount
	From	To	
Gold Life Member- Ksh.100,000 <input type="checkbox"/>	Annual Member <input type="checkbox"/>	Bronze Member <input type="checkbox"/>	Once Ksh. _____
Silver Life Member- Ksh.50,000 <input type="checkbox"/>	Bronze Member <input type="checkbox"/>	Silver Member <input type="checkbox"/>	Monthly Ksh. _____
Bronze Life Member- Ksh.25,000 <input type="checkbox"/>	Silver Member <input type="checkbox"/>	Gold Member <input type="checkbox"/>	Quarterly Ksh. _____
Full Annual Member- Ksh.2,000 <input type="checkbox"/>	Gold Member <input type="checkbox"/>	Corporate Member* <input type="checkbox"/>	Annually Ksh. _____

*Gold Life members are encouraged to upgrade their membership to corporates (Ksh. 1 Million)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

4. Payment Details:

Membership subscription is payable to UON Alumni Association A/C No. 271520761, KCB University Way
Modes of payment are by **M-PESA** PayBill No. **826300**, a/c No. **Name & Membership Category** (eg **Mary John - Gold**)
bank deposit, EFT, standing orders, check-off system, personal cheque or VISA-Master Card methods.

Thank you for registering as a member of the UON Alumni Association, a letter of acknowledgement, receipt, sms and email will be sent to you to confirm the receipt of your membership application form and payment followed by regular updates on the Association's projects and activities.

Be our Member today!

For more information, contact University of Nairobi Alumni Association offices at Kenya Science / Main Campus Admin Wing Rm.107
P.O. Box 30197-00100 Nairobi, Kenya | Tel: +254 20 231 9182 | E-mail: alumni@uonbi.ac.ke | Website: alumni.uonbi.ac.ke

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NOT PAYING TODAY MAY AFFECT BORROWING TOMORROW !

#TwendeTulipeHELB

This is to notify all HELB loan beneficiaries who are not servicing their loans that HELB levies penalties of KSHS. 5,000 for each month that remains unpaid since maturity of loan. Loans accounts that are not active regardless of whether partial payments were previously made will attract a penalty. Please note that this information will be shared with the Credit Reference Beaureus and Debt Collectors at the loanee's cost.

The penalty will not affect those currently repaying their loans. Lumpsum payments are encouraged and may attract a **penalty waiver** up to a maximum of **80%**

To start/ resume repayments and for general repayment enquiries, check your loan statement, collect your Loan Clearance Certificate or explore our numerous loan payment options, visit our website www.helb.co.ke

EMPOWERING DREAMS

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TRANSITION

This year, the University of Nairobi has lost several members of staff through the cruel hand of death. The UONAA Executive Committee extends its condolences to the families, friends and the entire Alumni fraternity following the loss of the following, who were working in different capacities at the University of Nairobi.

Prof. Kisia Seth Marande of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology

Prof. Moses Frank Oduori of the Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Prof. Solomon Monyenye of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

Dr. Juma Ndohvu of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

Mr Magayu K Magayu of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication

Mr. Lamuka Peter Obimbo of the Department of Food Science and Nutrition

Dr. RMB Otieno of the University Health Services

Mr. Samuel Muriuki Gituru of the Finance office

Mr. Mulaku Constant Okoth of the Department of Electrical and Information Engineering

Mr. Jakoyo Naftali Otiende of Library and Information Services

Mr. Gakera Kimani Peter of the Department of Educational Studies

Mr. Felix Muthaura Joshua of the University Halls Department

Rest In Peace



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI ENTERPRISES & SERVICE LTD (UNES)

UNES is a Consultancy and Commercial Enterprise Arm of the University of Nairobi. UNES provides Quality Consultancy Services, Hospitality Products, Bookstore Services, Medical Services, Real Estate, Agribusiness and Other Commercial Initiatives.



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other Public and Private Organizations including Non-Governmental Organizations and Donor Agencies. The Consultancy Unit draws Consultants from the large pool of highly qualified Experts amongst the University of Nairobi Staff and Associate Consultants. The product line includes: Contact Research, Capacity Training and Building, Project & Partnerships.



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It has a sitting capacity of 120 and 150 patrons respectively located at the serene environment of the University of Nairobi Chiromo and Main Campus both are open to the public.

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Chiromo Conference center is tastefully decorated providing an ideal environment for hosting your workshops, seminars, conferences, trainings and short courses. The center provides a tranquil environment away from the noise, hustle and bustle of the city. It is a 1km from the Central-Business District.

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UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



CONGRATULATES THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2018

2005

Inception of
the UoN Alumni
Association

Over
240,000

Alumni permeating
every sector of the
economy

UoN Alumni
Association Ranked
Position 66
by QS University
Rankings.

16

Alumni Chapters
Launched since
Inception



Globally
competitive
Alumni

Over **50%**
of the **Kenyan Cabinet,
Judiciary and Parliament**
are UoN Alumni

Over

30 ↑

UoN Alumni serving
as **Chancellors,
Vice-Chancellors
and Chairmen** of
Councils of several
Public & Private
Universities

Ksh. 21 M

Bursary Fund
Disbursed to
support Needy
Students at UoN



Alumni offer Mentorship
and Coaching to our
Students

Our Alumni, Our Strength

JOIN US TODAY AND REMAIN CONNECTED TO YOUR ALMA MATER

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