

Inside



PUBLISHED BY
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PRINTED BY
Impress Communications
Printers & Stationers
Tel: 312850-312846
Fax: 312850-312846

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Editorial

This edition of the Varsity Focus provides the reader updates of the University in the recent past. It is also a celebration of the 40th graduation ceremony during which, over 3,795 graduands mainly from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the College of Health Sciences, and a few who missed the last graduation. The other four Colleges constituted the 39th graduation whose highlights among others were: the conferment of honorary degrees to the Head of State, H.E. President Mwai Kibaki, the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Raila Odinga and H.E. Dr. Kofi Annan for their role in restoring peace in the country after the disputed 2007 presidential election. This graduation saw 4618 graduands receive various awards.

The edition also brings you updates on other activities. The University joined the rest of the world in commemorating the World Aids Day with many activities. The event which brought together students and staff, focused on creating awareness about the pandemic, responsible social behaviour and positive living for those infected. The celebrations came in the wake of a University HIV/AIDs Policy and the development of curricula for all undergraduate students in the University. Other developments include HIV research by the Kenya Aids Vaccine Initiative (KAVI) at the School of Medicine, College of Health Sciences and other stakeholders.

We have also continued to develop and strengthen links with our international partners. This has earned the University scholarships for our students to study locally and in international institutions. Notable among the donors are the Tianjin Municipal Government which availed 20 scholarships for further studies in the Chinese Language and Chinese culture.

Locally, Basco Paints and the Tile and Carpet centre have donated scholarships to support students pursuing Engineering and Architecture. The biggest local contribution however came from the Sir. Michael Blundell Trust who extended funding to equip our libraries at the cost of 13 million. They have supported our libraries at various levels in the past years. The Rattansi Educational Trust on its part, gave scholarships to needy students. This Foundation has supported needy students for the past 12 years. We thank all our partners for this generosity and assure them of our continued cooperation for the mutual benefit of all parties.

Our scholars have continued to distinguish themselves through publishing with Prof. Charles Okidi, Prof. Kamiri-Mbote and Dr. Migai Akech releasing a book on environmental governance. These, and many other stories, make up this edition, which we hope you will enjoy reading.

This being our last issue this year, *Varsity Focus* takes this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Charles E. Sikulu

From Chancellor

2008 was quite an eventful year. We started off on a rather turbulent note following the post-election violence which delayed our resumption after the Christmas holiday. Thankfully, things normalized after the intervention of the international community which resulted in the power-sharing agreement between the two principals.

The University of Nairobi was able to recover the lost time because of the commitment and hard work of our staff and disciplined conduct of our students. It is because of this that we were able to have the hugely successful 39th graduation ceremony in October involving College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, College of Architecture and Engineering, College of Biological and Physical Sciences and College of Education and External Studies.

The 40th Congregation, which we are celebrating, involves graduands from the College of Health Sciences and College of Humanities and Social Sciences. I congratulate the graduands on this most auspicious occasion.

The University of Nairobi is committed to providing quality university education and training through creation, preservation, integration, transmission and utilization of knowledge. The fact that we are able to hold two graduation ceremonies this year, despite the events that took place in January is a clear indication of our determination to continue giving our clients quality service. We are proud of our graduates because they have been excellent ambassadors. Through their success they have ensured that the University of Nairobi flag continues to fly high.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all staff and students of the University of Nairobi for working tirelessly to ensure that 2008 is a success. I also wish to thank all our stakeholders for continuing to partner with us in our endeavor to transform the University into a world-class institution of higher learning.

May I once again congratulate all the graduands parents, teachers on a job well done and wish everyone a merry Christmas and happy new year.



Dr. Joseph B. Wanjui, Chancellor, UoN,
CBS, B.A. (Wesleyan), M.Sc (Columbia), Hon D.Sc
(Nairobi) FKIM

Book on environmental governance and policy launched

A seminal book on environmental governance in Kenya was launched in October 2008. The book titled *Environmental Governance in Kenya: Implementing the Framework Law*, is produced and published under the aegis of the Centre for Advanced Studies on Environmental Law and Policy (CASELAP) at the University of Nairobi.

The CASELAP Director, Prof. Charles Okidi, Professor of Environmental Law at the Institute for Development Studies (IDS), Prof. Kameri-Mbote and Dr. Migai Akech, were the volume co-editors.

The book is an appraisal of the extent to which Section 148 of the Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) has been implemented through harmonization of different sectoral statutes relevant to environment. It has 20 chapters, authored by distinguished experts, each chapter critically analyses selected sectoral environmental laws with a view to identifying the convergences and divergences between them and the Environmental Management and Coordination Act, (EMCA) 1999. The book contains a sophisticated stream of thoughts, critical analysis of institutions and bottlenecks, and identification of solutions for implementation. The complex mix of its authors and variety of issues handled makes the book a must read for a range that cuts across scholars, educationists, policy makers, practitioners and students.

The Guest of Honor at the launch held at the Vice-Chancellor's Parlour was the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Medical Services, Prof. Joseph Legelisho Ole Kiyiapi, formerly Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Environment and Mineral Resources who has also written the preface.

In a speech read on his behalf by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs)

Prof. Jacob Kaimenyi, the Vice-Chancellor praised the publication which has show-cased "an advanced level of outreach" for the University as the authors included academia, government and civil society,



and two PhD students, who are being "mentored". "Mentoring younger fellows on the path of scholarly excellence through publication is an important approach to succession management, the University is fostering this approach in order to develop other senior scholars of the University". He commended the support and partnership of the British Department for International Development (DFID). The Vice-Chancellor said that the institutional capacity of CASELAP has inherently been boosted through its absorption within the structure of the University of Nairobi. "The University has allocated land for building accommodation for CASELAP and I would like to see it move to its new premises with sufficient staff by the end of the year 2009", Prof. Magoha said.

Calling on scholars to influence public opinion, Prof. Ole Kiyiapi said that the book was a "timely and bold action that will influence and shape public dialogue on environmental issues" since it blends theory

'Vision 2030: Actualizing a national dream

'Vision 2030: Realizing the goals and objectives' was the theme of a public lecture organized by the Economics Students Association (ECOSA) – a student organization under the School of Economics. This event took place at the Education Lecture theatre II (ED II) on Friday the 14th November 2008.

The lecture was delivered by the International Development Policy Advisor, Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of State Planning, National Development and Vision 2030, Prof. Michael Chege.

Prof. Chege, kicked off his presentation by comparing Kenya and Malaysia through using different economic indicators such as population, GDP growth rates and human development trends and gave reasons why Kenya has lagged behind Malaysia – a country that it was at par with in the 1960s.

Prof. Chege highlighted the Vision in three key areas that is Economic, Social development and Politics. In the economic area, there is emphasis on competitiveness and value addition in agriculture, livestock and fisheries. According to Chege, increased inflow, quality services and infrastructure, and reach to richer markets, are critical for improving the tourism industry which is one of Kenya's major foreign currency earner. In the manufacturing sector, improvement of regional, wholesale and retail market is deemed necessary. Most importantly, is the need to improve Kenya's balance of payment and make it a financial hub.

From the social development angle, Chege stated that the Kenya Vision 2030 outlines the improvement of secondary and tertiary education to be more skill oriented. It argues further for concentration on preventive health care rather than curative, it emphasizes urban planning and housing, gender equity, provision of water and sanitation and preservation of the environment.

In any economy, governance and politics are paramount. According to Chege, raising the overall governance indicators such as freedom, public service, accountability, development of mechanisms to curb in Kenya's own terms is a must. Chege therefore highlighted the importance of the management of ethnic diversity by addressing equity in opportunity across income groups and regions. However, constitutional and legal reforms are necessary to realize the goals and objectives of Vision 2030.

To finance the Vision 2030, Kenya needs to double its current investment percentage from its current 18 per cent to 36 per cent in order to achieve South East Asian growth standards. This can be done by raising the domestic savings ratio of Government, private and households to 10per cent of GDP from the current 8 per cent. There is also need to increase Direct Foreign Investment (DFI) from 0.3 per cent of GDP to about 4 per cent. According to Prof. Chege, tapping into international portfolio flows, debt forgiveness and increased ODA as percentage of GDP to 12 per cent by 2012 from the current 4 per cent of GDP is important, he said.

The Principal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) Prof. Isaac Mbeche commended ECOSA for organizing the talk which in his view will act as an eye opener to the students and give them an out of class exposure on current economic issues.

In brief remarks, the Chairman of the Economics Students Association (ECOSA) Abdulkarim Gitonga Mohammed noted that the students were required to interrogate Kenya Vision 2030 , and their role in achieving its goals and objectives.



Prof. Michael Chege during the vision 2030 talk.

Busy Year for the School of Economics

The School of Economics, the successor to the former Department of Economics in the Faculty of Arts, had a very active year. The School admitted its batch of Module II students in May 2008, with this group due to embark on their Semester III in January 2009. The School also inaugurated to evening PhD Programme and admitted its first group of more than 300 Module I students in October this year.

The School was also involved in efforts towards the re-launch of the Kenya Economics and Statistics Association (KESA) with many of its officials coming from the School. A meeting was held on May 29 in Taifa Hall that re-launched KESA. During that meeting Prof. Mwangi Kimenyi delivered a lecture titled University on "Building sustainable Institutions in Kenya"

The School also facilitated the Economic Students Association (ECOSA) to organize a public Lecture on, Vision 2030: Realizing the Goals and Objectives". The guest speaker was Dr. Edward Sambili, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Planning, National Development and Vision 2030, who was represented by Dr. Michael Chege, a United Nations Development Programme Advisor in the Ministry. The Lecture was well received by the students and members of staff.

The School plans to continue its restructuring programme with the ultimate objective of creating three departments (Econometric Theory, Quantitative Methods and Applied Economics) to it "a leading centre of excellence in instruction and research in the field of Economics."

School of Business: Building bridges to reality

The School of Business quickly recovered from the hiccups of post poll chaos in terms of enrollment and new projects. This was the year which saw the school ranked as Kenya's top business school by Eduniversal.

The flagship programmes, Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com) and Masters in Business Administrations (MBA) remain popular courses at our three campuses – Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu. The Module III programme or distance learning is now on the 5th semester and has provided a rare opportunity to students who may not physically come to the three campuses.

Soon, the Module III programme will be fully online to enhance the student-lecturer interaction. This programme will be one of the greatest beneficiaries of the digital villages and the optic fiber layout. As usual the School of Business, like any other business, believes in taking the lead, picking the ripest and the lowest lying fruits in the orchard before the competitors. It envisages easy conversion of distance learning to online learning once the ICT infrastructure is ready.

The other very successful program is BCom Module II day programme. This was a success



Ms Stella Kilonzo, CEO, Capital Markets Authority (CMA)

beyond our expectations particularly at Lower Kabete Campus. Lots of students seem to prefer day

German Ambassador talks to students

The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Kenya, His Excellency Walter J. Lindner paid a visit to University of Nairobi on November 13th 2008 to interact with students about the relationship between Germany and Kenya. It was an interactive session with students in an open door policy between the Germany Embassy and Kenyan students and in the process stimulate more students to undertake German language studies.

This was not his first visit to the University as he has visited before to participate in other activities. This time, through the Department of Linguistics and Languages, gave a talk to students of German Studies and staff in the department. German is one of the languages that are offered by this large department. Others are Kiswahili, Arabic and Chinese.

Mr. Lindner also paid a courtesy call to the Vice-Chancellor who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof. Peter Mbithi. The visit was organized by the Dean, Faculty of Arts, Prof. Enos Njeru, the Chairman, Department of Linguistics and Languages, Dr. Mwenda Mbatiah and the Coordinator of the Ger-

man Studies Programme, Dr. Tilo Weber. Dr. Weber, a German national, is also the current DAAD scholar in this programme. In his well-known informal style, the Ambassador talked to students in a well attended session held at the Exhibitions Hall, Jomo Kenyatta Memorial Library, on a broad range of issues including the role of the youth in strengthening democratic culture and the protection of human rights. He was quite at ease in an interactive exchange where students raised questions and made comments on his presentation. The Germany Embassy has been involved in various activities involving students in the country to promote the use of German Language.



German Ambassador, H.E. Walter J. Lindner interacting with students at the Exhibition Hall

classes instead of evening. Our MBA program also provides more flexibility in terms of day classes in addition to evenings and the weekend.

PhD programs continue to provide high level manpower to our nation. This year, six candidates will graduate with a PhD. The demand for high level manpower far outstrips the supply and the School of Business is taking the challenge of closing this gap very seriously. Through the three modules, and programmes from bachelors to PhD, the School of Business will endeavor to be customer oriented and be the best in whatever we do.

The other initiative is building bridges to reality. In this regard, the School started a public lecture initiative in which outstanding corporate leaders come to the University to speak to our students on topics that are of national concern.

This semester, two guest speakers were invited to give insights into the current global economic crisis. They spoke long before the Central Bank reduced the ratio of money banks keep at the central bank from 6% to 5%, in order to encourage borrowing and therefore stimulate the economy. The two guest speakers were Ms Stella Kilonzo, the CEO, Capital Markets Authority (CMA) and Prof. Michael Chege, an adviser in the Ministry of Planning National Development and Vision 2030. The lecture was sponsored by the National Economic and Social Council (NESC). The Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) CEO, Julius Kipng'etich also gave a lively talk to the MBA TQM class on how he has transformed KWS in three years. We shall invite more guests next year to share their insights with our students. Such practitioners greatly help the school in building bridges with the real world. In addition the School is continually revising the curriculum to reflect the dynamics in the business world.

The School of Business through the Department of Management Science also hosted a very success-

Scientific-cum-policy workshop on water management

Kenyan researchers, policy makers and post-graduate students involved in water resources management research gathered for one week in a workshop organized by the Department of Geology entitled “Scientific-cum-Policy Workshop on Water Management.”

The workshop was held at the Chiromo Conference Centre, University of Nairobi, from 18th – 21st November, 2008 brought together stakeholders to discuss results obtained by Kenyan researchers and students on the on-going MAWARI project research on hydrogeology and water resources management in the Kenyan part of the East African Rift System.

MAWARI is an acronym coined from “Sustainable Management of Water Resources in the East African Rift System”. It is a regional project involving the participation of three Eastern African countries, Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti, which share the East African Rift System.

Mawari is sponsored by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the International Centre for Training and Exchanges in the Geosciences (CIFEG) of Orleans, France, headed by Mr. Francois Pinard as the Managing Director. The institutions involved in Kenya are University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Kenya Agricultural Research Institute and Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development. It is based at the Department of Geology, University of Nairobi, and is headed by Prof. Justus O. Barongo.

The project started in 2006 and comes to an end in December, 2009. The MAWARI project provides funds for research in hydrogeology and water resources management and scholarships to Kenyan students for postgraduate training in the same fields. Its main aim is to contribute to the improvement of knowledge and understanding of the groundwater life cycle and, consequently, to set guidelines to help decision makers in a sustainable management of the water resources in the Rift System.

The five-day workshop was officially opened on Tuesday 18th November, 2008 by the Dean, School of Physical Sciences, Prof. Paul Shiundu, on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor. Participants drawn from the University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, UNESCO, UNEP, government ministries, departments and parastatals, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. The objectives of the

workshop were to give an opportunity to MAWARI project researchers and students to: present results of their three' year research on hydrogeology and water resources management in the Kenyan part of the East African Rift System; meet and share ideas with policy makers and experts in the water sector and commissioning of an electrical resistivity tomography equipment donated by the French Government.



French Ambassador, H.E. Elizabeth Barbier signing the visitors book in Principal's office, Chiromo campus.

The equipment worth Kshs 5 million was donated by the French government through the Ambassador, H.E. Elizabeth Barbier to the Department of Geology early this year in a well attended and colourful function witnessed by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. George A. O. Magoha and the Principal, College of Physical and Biological Sciences. The workshop was closed by Dr. Emmanuel Naah, UNESCO Regional Hydrologist and Representative of the Scientific Committee, MAWARI Project.

The MAWARI project provides funds to researchers from the five partner institutions in Kenya to conduct research in hydrogeology and water resources management in the Rift Valley. A good number of research instruments and materials have been donated and postgraduate scholarships provided.

The project has provided scholarships to a good number of Kenyan students to pursue postgraduate studies in hydrogeology and water resources management both locally and in France majority of whom are from the Department of Geology. The University of Nairobi is very grateful for this generous support from the Government of France.

The University of Nairobi signed a memorandum of understanding with the Tile and Carpet Centre under which, the Centre will grant scholarships based on academic excellence to four students in the 2008/2009 academic year, and to five students in the 2009/2010 academic year. The recipients of the scholarships are drawn from the College of Architecture and Engineering (Departments of Architecture & Building Science, and Department of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering). The memorandum, which takes effect in the academic year 2008/2009, will run for two years.

The total value of the scholarships awarded for the academic year 2008/2009 will be up to Kshs.171,000 while the total value of scholarships to be awarded 2009/2010 will go up to Kshs.231,000.

The selection of students for the award of these scholarships will be based on their final year's academic performance as elaborated in the Tile and Carpet Scholarship Application Forms.



Tile & Carpet management with College of Architecture and Engineering officials after the scholarship presentation ceremony

WOSWA and AIESEC in an active season

When people think about students' activities at the University, what comes to mind is usually the main Students' Organization of Nairobi University (SONU). While it is true that SONU is involved in some activities that are mainly focused on the student leaders themselves, there are other students' organizations that are involved in positive activities that contribute to the overall growth of the students concerned.

Women Students Welfare Association (WOSWA) works at lifting the standards of women students by involving them in activities aimed at building their confidence and creating links. During this year, in collaboration with the medical school, and as part of their social responsibility, they organized a medical camp where they served a large number of women and children from the Mathare slums. In September this year, some members attended the National

Youth Convention at the Bomas of Kenya where they interacted with other young leaders all over the country and participated in the formulation of the Youth Agenda.

WOSWA has a programme for orienting the first years. The programme focuses on the incoming young female students and welcomes them to their fraternity (sisterhood). This year they created a big sister chain in which the older ladies were required to orient at least one first year lady. Taking the bull by the horns, WOSWA has developed a creative theme this year dubbed "in the footsteps of achievers" initiative. This entails an orientation programme in which university women students will have an opportunity to interact with women who have already achieved leadership and success in various fields of our national life.

The University of Nairobi chapter (the National office is also hosted here) of A.I.E.S.E.C. has been working steadily, through global exchange programmes, networking with the corporate world and acquiring skills in leadership development. Recently they collaborated with the Nairobi Stock Exchange in a competition that was organized by Smart Youth Investment Ltd. This exercise was aimed at educating university students on how to invest in the stock market.

Out of the 18 Universities that participated, AIESEC-UON took first and third positions. This



AIESEC officials with Dean of Students Fr. Dr. Dominic Wamugunda (3rd left)

Tianjin Municipality donates scholarships

The University of Nairobi has received 20 scholarships from the Tianjin Municipal Government, China to support the teaching of the Chinese language at the Confucius Institute. The scholarships were presented to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. George Magoha by the Tianjin Municipal Government Vice-Mayor, Mrs. Zhang Junfang during a colourful ceremony organized by the



Tianjin Municipal Government Vice-Mayor, Mrs. Zhang Junfang (second left) arrives at the Main Campus. Below: in a joint photograph with top management.

Confucius Institute to celebrate its third anniversary in the Education Lecture II.

Among those present at the celebrations included the Chinese Ambassador to Kenya H.E. Zhang Ming, a Senior Assistant Director, Higher Education, Mr. Omino Ong'onga, who represented the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, senior members of the Tianjin Municipal Government, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Affairs, Prof. Jacob Kaimeyyi, Principal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Prof. Isaac Mbeche, Principal, Kenya Polytechnic University College, Prof. Francis Aduol and other University officials.

In her brief remarks, Vice-Mavor

tween Kenya and China, these relations, it is hoped can be strengthened further by supporting the development of the Confucius Institute at the University of Nairobi.

Prof. Magoha thanked the Vice-Mayor for the donation noting that it would go a long way in improving academic programmes at the University. He said that in the three years the Confucius Institute has been in existence, it has transformed the relations between the University and Chinese Institutions of higher learning.

The Vice-Chancellor has made several working trips to China which have been beneficial to the University. Through these contacts, the University of Nairobi has been able to make many friends including the Tianjin Municipal Government.

Mr. Ong'ong'a praised the long and friendly relations that have existed between Kenya and China noting that, Kenya's independence struggle received a lot of support from the Chinese people. He said that many Kenyan students were currently studying in China, while the amount of business transactions between the two countries was also on the increase.

The Chinese Ambassador H.E. Zhang Ming commended the University management for the positive changes that are taking place. He noted that the Campus was well maintained with beautiful flowers and manicured lawns creating the right environment for learning. He expressed his desire to

see the Confucius Institute expand and offer more courses. During the ceremony, the Ambassador presented certificates to the graduating class.

'Varsity Focus' takes this opportunity to congratulate the Confucius Institute as it marks its third anniversary.



Building capacity in HIV research

The Kenya AIDS Vaccine Initiative (KAVI) a unit in the Department of Medical Microbiology was set up in 1999 for research and development of preventive HIV vaccine. This was with the realization that only a preventive vaccine can end the HIV epidemic, as it had done in other viral infectious diseases such as small pox, measles, polio etc.

KAVI has since built sufficient capacity in terms of both personnel and equipment to be equal to the task of HIV vaccine research and development. KAVI presently boasts of 52 full time employees and part-time consultants including doctors, pharmacists, IT specialists, laboratory technologists, nurses, counselors, data specialists, administrators, accountants and procurement specialists, just to mention a few. The staff is highly trained in good clinical practice, ethics of research, data management and very specialized laboratory techniques.

KAVI also boasts of state-of-the art laboratories and data management facilities, comparable to the best research centres in the world. Thanks to the enormous support given by the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI).

To date KAVI has conducted clinical studies testing combinations of 4 candidate HIV vaccines. All these vaccine studies have been funded by the IAVI, for which KAVI is most grateful.

The most promising of this was a vaccine developed by the Vaccine Research Centre (VCR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the United States of America. This vaccine produced the desired immune response in more than 70% of the volunteers who were vaccinated. It was due to go to the next stage of finding out if these responses were capable of preventing someone from becoming infected with HIV, but following poor response from a different vaccine developed by the pharmaceutical giant Merck Pharmaceuticals, which used a similar design, the international scientific community (including KAVI researchers) thought it wise not to go ahead with the next phase of the study but to go back to the basic sciences to better understand the basics of the HIV vaccine, in an effort to design better HIV vaccines.

As a result, KAVI has now transitioned to basic HIV research to contribute to the knowledge required for vaccine research and development, but continues to follow up participants in previous HIV vaccine studies, the so called Long Term Follow-up study. The knowledge gained in basic research will be invaluable to the efforts of developing better designed HIV vaccines.

KAVI's contribution to basic research in HIV

ment of neutralizing antibodies in patients infected with HIV for long periods of times but who have not progressed to AIDS. It is thought such these neutralizing antibodies prevent the subjects from developing disease and that information obtained from the antibodies would be useful in designing better HIV vaccines. This study involves other countries such as Uganda, Rwanda, Zambia and South Africa. To date several Kenyans with these neutralizing antibodies have been identified. More studies are being developed to look at these antibodies in greater detail.



A student undergoing a HIV test during the World AIDS day

A few individuals who are repeatedly exposed to HIV as a result of their life style appear to be protected from becoming infected. Earlier studies by scientists including those at KAVI showed that these individuals had a type of white blood cells that appeared to protect them. This formed the basis of most of the current HIV vaccines in development.

Scientists are now beginning to ask themselves if there are other markers of protection which have earlier not been identified. KAVI is involved in one of these studies looking at new markers of protection among these individuals. This information will be crucial in designing vaccines that when given to uninfected people, would make their bodies produce this markers of protection.

It is still not clear what takes place in a HIV infected individuals during the early stages of infection. What is known however is that during this stage, the body's natural immune responses fight very hard to prevent infection establishing. The details of these responses would be useful in develop-

Victoria



- 1, 3 President Mwai Kibaki, & Dr. Kofi Annan receive Honorary Degrees during the 39th graduation ceremony for their role in restoring peace in the country early this year.
- Rt Hon Prime Minister Raila Odinga addresses the congregation after receiving his Honorary Degree.
- 4, 5, Graduands during the 39th graduation ceremony.



at page



- 1. German Ambassador Walter Lindner with Deputy Vice- Chancellor (A&F) Peter Mbithi when he paid a courtesy to the Chancellor
- 2, 3 Top performing students from Engineering & Architecture receive awards from Basco Paints
- 4. University of Nairobi Choir.



The University of Nairobi joined the rest of the world in commemorating the 20th World's Aids Day in a colorful event held on 1st December 2008 at the Chancellor's Court.

The event brought together students, staff, top management and invited guests who took part in various activities organized to mark the occasion. The day began with sporting activities in the morning which included a soccer match, concerts and other games. There was a continuous VCT programme throughout the day.

Performances from leading local musicians, Jua Kali, Meja and Wabwa, were sensitized youth on the importance of undergoing HIV tests and living responsibly. There were also testimonies from people living positively with HIV.

Among the highlights of the event, was a speech by the Vice-Chancellor read on his behalf by the Principal, College of Health Sciences, Prof. Isaac Kibwage. In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor noted that the University of Nairobi has taken great steps towards combating the pandemic,

there is a University Policy that among others stipulates that HIV/AIDS curriculum is offered to all undergraduate students.

The University has also made the fight against HIV/AIDS part of its performance contract targets. Among the deliverables, the University has placed increased sensitization of staff and students, increased number of staff and students

who undergo voluntary counseling and testing and to increase the number of those infected who seek treatment and more importantly to reduce new infections.

HIV/AIDS remains a burden to many countries in sub-Saharan Africa with official records showing the highest prevalence rates in the world. Through joint effort by various



Local Musician Wabwa Kagwi entertains students

at World AIDS Day

stakeholders, important milestones have been achieved. In particular, the stigma towards HIV/AIDS has markedly reduced as awareness and sensitization across the country increases. The number of people living positively

on treatment has also increased and the government is now providing treatment options for those with opportunistic infections.

The celebrations were organized by the University Health Services (UHS) led by the Acting Chief Medical Officer, Dr. M. Otieno. Various

Cont. from page 11

ing a vaccine. KAVI is participating in the efforts of elucidating the processes that take place in acute HIV infection and has an ongoing study in this regard.

Is it possible to tell either from examining blood or on physical examination a HIV infected individual who is going to progress faster or slower to develop AIDS? Nobody knows! Researchers at KAVI are involved in a study to assess laboratory and clinical markers of HIV disease progression over a period of time, and when to begin treatment in these individuals. KAVI is also involved in a study to estimate the rate of acquiring new HIV infections in the community, to evaluate the risk factors for acquiring this HIV infection and to detect these infections early.

Other studies in the Department of Medical Microbiology include a study to determine the distribution of HIV-1 sub-types in Nairobi, also examining for the presence of cross-clade immune responses in HIV-infected individuals and looking at the frequency of drug resistance.

An HIV vaccine study among children born to HIV infected mothers for safety of the vaccine and to determine if the vaccine interferes with the childhood vaccinations. An HIV vaccine that is able



Addressing international health issues

The College of Health Sciences comprises the Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, Nursing Sciences, Dental Sciences, the Institute of Tropical and Infectious Diseases (UNITID) and a Centre for HIV Prevention and Research (CHIVPR). There are 21 teaching departments inclusive of 13 thematic units.

The College offers highly competitive academic programmes, which attract a large pool of brilliant students. The academic programmes are ably run by 300 highly qualified scholars, who are committed to academic excellence through teaching, research, health care as well as mentoring of students. Consequently, there exists a stimulating intellectual culture within the College. In the past one year, the staff had 159 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

The College runs varied postgraduate programmes, these range from postgraduate diploma to doctorates in various health disciplines. The current student enrolment stands at 2,322 undergradu-

ate, 33 Postgraduate Diploma, 552 Masters and 18 PhD candidates.

The College has extensive physical facilities for teaching and research backed with efficient ICT connectivity enabling our staff and students easy access to electronic library and general Internet. It is therefore the preferred institution for local and international collaborations and linkages. Currently the College has 39 international partnerships and linkages.

Pursuant to addressing current national and international health issues, the College is engaged in relevant health and social behavioural research, which attracts the largest research funding to the University currently at Ksh.400m annually. The most notable are those involved in HIV/AIDS, which have gained international recognition. In this connection, leading in HIV/AIDS Research is the Kenya Aids Vaccine Initiative (KAVI) and Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) in the School of Medicine and the Centre for HIV Prevention and Research. The School of Pharmacy has two leading Research Units in Drugs, namely Drug Analysis and Research Unit and the Mitishamba Drug Research Centre. At UNITID, an ultra-modern level III Laboratory has been built to cater for the emerging and re-emerging pathogens especially the viral haemorrhagic fevers. This facility is the third of its kind in Africa.



The College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) is the largest of the six colleges of the University of Nairobi. The college was established in 1985 following recommendations of the Presidential Visitation Committee headed by Geoffrey Kariithi. The College comprises the Faculty of Arts, School of Business, School of Law, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, School of Economics, Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies, Population Studies and Research Institute, the Institute for Development Studies and the Institute of Anthropology, Gender and African Studies. The College has about 50 percent of the total student enrolment in the University. It operates in several locations: Main Campus, Parklands, Lower Kabete and the National Museum. The other locations are in Mombasa and Kisumu Cities. The institutes, schools and faculties offer over 60 disciplines from certificate to doctoral level programmes. The current student enrolment stands at 18,937 and is supported by a large pool of highly qualified and experienced academic members of staff led by 73 professors in various areas of specialization and research.

The vision of the college is to be a leading institution that promotes excellence in teaching, training, research and consultancy in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

College offers demand driven programmes

tory for teaching Chinese and other languages has also been put up.

CHSS regularly reviews its curricular as well as introduces demand-driven programmes, which meet the expectations of students. Through various collaborations and linkages with industry, opportunities have been made available for staff and students to make teaching and learning more relevant to the needs of the society.

The students in the College have organized themselves into professional organizations through which they interact with various professional bodies and individuals and this forms an important step in the preparation of students for work in both the public and private sectors.

The College is proud to be part of a system that meets international standards in the provision of service to its customers.

Level – 3 Bio-containment Laboratories

The Universities of Nairobi (UoN) in collaboration with the University of Manitoba has recently constructed and equipped new and modern laboratories housed in the Institute of Tropical and Infectious Diseases (UNITID) building. The complex, which is located at the College of Health Sciences, Kenyatta National Hospital Campus comprises laboratories, teaching facilities and administrative spaces. The laboratory wing occupies an area of 1,115 sq. m. It has 12 highly specialized laboratories with functions ranging from molecular diagnostics to basic research. Two of these labs are Level 3 (P-3) bio-containment facilities. The first is a retro-virology lab (41 sq. m) which will handle research and diagnosis of various infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS. The other is an enhanced Level 3 emerging pathogen (EP) lab covering an area of 44 sq. metres. It will perform diagnostics for haemorrhagic fever viruses (such as Rift Valley fever, Yellow fever, Marburg and Ebola). The level 3 labs have clean and dirty dressing rooms, showers, autoclaves, research areas, waste treatment facilities and mechanical support spaces.

The University of Nairobi is proud to be the hosting institution for these state-of-the-art laboratories, which are sure to be important new resources for the East and Central African region, which is short of facilities for the diagnosis and safe handling of emerging but highly pathogenic micro-organisms such as viral haemorrhagic fever

viruses which have been causing frequent epidemic outbreaks in the region in recent times. Currently, suspect samples from the endemic areas, or those taken during epidemics in the region, are either assessed by mobile teams using field containment devices and shipped to places outside Kenya. This is soon to change as the country will now have a regional reference laboratory which will also be used by the East African countries as well as other countries in sub – Saharan Africa.

Access to the level 3 labs will be highly controlled using physical, procedural, human and electronic security systems. The labs will be under negative air pressure, and the exhaust air will be filtered to ensure that air leaving the lab is safe. All of the work in these labs will be performed in biosafety class II and class III cabinets that filter the air to ensure no pathogens are released, while protecting the specimen, the researcher and the environment. Class III cabinets have portals that allow the researcher to reach in using attached gloves for the safe handling of highly infectious material. The labs will be supported by an array of mechanical equipment and electronic systems, including high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters; bubble tight dumpers; exhaust fans, diffusers and grills; air handling unit; air condenser unit and control systems. All of these systems are designed with back-up systems to ensure a safe environment for the workers and the broader community.



Sections of level 3 laboratory at the UNITID building.

Human rights and peace education takes root in the University

Friday, 25th October 2008 stands out as one of the milestones in the history of the University of Nairobi, it is on this day that human rights and peace education was established in the University of Nairobi following the official launch of the Kenya Chapter of HAKI Afrika.

HAKI Afrika is an association of university teachers of human rights and peace education; the association has in the past three years made considerable effort to mainstream the teaching of human rights and peace education at the University. One of the outcomes of the launch of the Chapter is the establishment of a Center for Human Rights and Peace education, with the goal of contributing to the understanding, appreciation, internalization, practice and realization of human rights and peace in Kenya and in the region at large through multi-disciplinary academic research, teaching, publica



Dr. Ludeki Chweya (centre) PS, Office of the Vice President during the launch of Haki Africa. With him is Dean, Faculty of Arts Prof. E.H.N. Njeru & Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Affairs Prof. J.T. Kaimenyi

tion, documentation, outreach and training.

The launch, which was held at the Arziki Conference Center, Chiromo Campus, brought together representatives from the University, development partners and various stakeholders. In his official remarks, the Chief Guest, Dr. Ludeki Chweya, Permanent Secretary in the office of the Vice President and Ministry of Home Affairs emphasized the need for a multidisciplinary effort in the human rights discourse. Indeed, Dr. Chweya alluded to the need for empirical research and rigor in the area of human rights pointing out that although there has been a vibrant human rights movement in Kenya, the movement has been limited because it lacked a mechanism to create synergies and cross fertilization between human rights institutions and the academia

Dr Chweya lauded the formation of the Chapter and emphasized the need for the University to take academic leadership in the development of human rights teaching, training and research so as to contribute to a knowledge base in human rights and well-trained personnel in the same.

He challenged the proposed Center to develop and offer short courses targeting the public sector offices, this he noted would go a long way in mainstreaming human rights and a culture of peace in Kenya.

The Vice-Chancellor, in a speech delivered by Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Affairs, Prof. Jacob Kaimenyi, affirmed the support and commitment of the University in enhancing the capacity of the Center. He emphasized that the Center had the potential capacity to provide a rich curriculum and advice to institutions and agencies in Kenya. He singled out units such as : Schools of Law, Economics , Journalism and Mass Communication; Departments of : History, Philosophy and Religious Studies, Literature, Linguistics, Political Science; and the Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies fro the academic cooperation and inter disciplinary approach taken in the planned human rights and peace program.

The Vice-Chancellor urged the Centre and HAKI to move beyond rhetoric and to translate their mission and vision into tangibles “the challenges not withstanding, we as an institution will oversee and develop training strategies for action, a responsibility that we are able to facilitate.”

The HAKI initiative has yielded an MA program on human rights and peace., this has been approved at college level, further, in collaboration with IDIS, a BA program on peace studies is in the pipeline.

In a separate development, HAKI Kenya, and the Centre have been developing a curricula and teaching modules for human rights with a focus on development, conflict management and peace. The Danish Institute for Human Rights, The Raul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights of the University of Lund, Sweden, and the Kenya Institute for Human Rights support this activity by the Centre. The Centre has brought different stakeholders top explore the linkage between Human rights and peace and to discuss the development of effective teaching curricula in human rights and peace education.

Book donation to the library

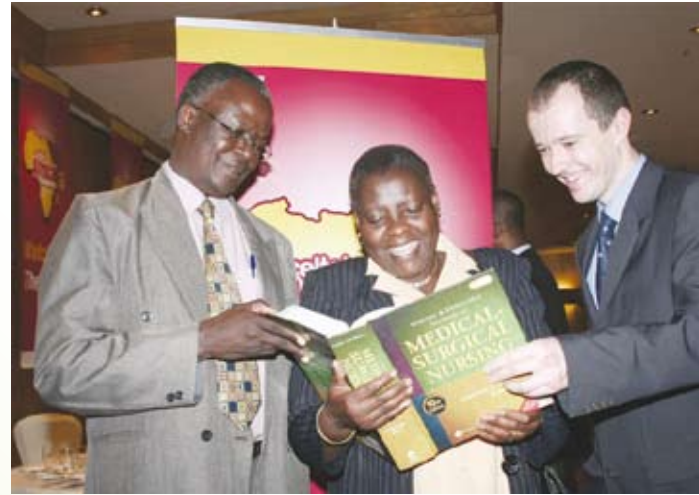
The University Library enjoys tremendous support from local and international donors, individual as well as corporate donors whose contributions have gone a long way in improving its book collection estimated at more than 710,000 volumes. In late 2007, Celtel (now Zain) donated books worth US\$10,000 after the University's participation in the 2007 Celtel Challenge Africa. In the same year, the Sir Michael Blundell Trust Fund committed KShs 10million, for book purchases, again in 2008, the Trust increased the donation to KShs 13 million. The Sir Michael Blundell Trust Fund has supported the University for more than five years.

As donors continue to play a key role in improving the Library, the University has also redoubled its efforts with increased departmental allocation rising from Kshs 65 million in 2007 to KShs 80 Million in 2008. Of the 2008 budget, more than Kshs 65Million is dedicated to the purchase of books.

Local institutional donors including the Kenya Bureau of Statistics, the East African College of Ophthalmologists, Kenya Land Alliance, the Commission for Higher Education, the National

and Kituo Cha Sheria continue to collaborate with the Library. In the category of international donors the Universities of Nebraska, Minnesota and Georgetown University Law centre are some of the collaborators, while editors of several journals have also been sending free copies to the Library, some which include the Hastings Law Journal and Kaitiba News among many others.

The University of Nairobi Library wish to thank all donors and invites other stakeholders to partner with us and equip the Library to offer the best services to our clients.



UoN Librarian with one of the books donated by Celtel Kenya (Zain).

UNISA holds elections

The newly formed University of Nairobi students Association (UNISA) held their elections recently. The peaceful elections Dr. Mugabo Rafabr, a Postgraduate Medical student from Rwanda was elected Chairman. He was previously serving as the Chairman of the interim committee. The Vice-Chairperson position went to Bonifasius S. Singu, a pharmacy student from Namibia while Martha Lomberdt, another Pharmacy student also from Namibia clinched the position of secretary. Winchester Mvula from Malawi who is taking Veterinary Medicine was elected as treasurer while Sophia Shiguedha, a Pharmacy student from Namibia took the position of Events/Activities Co-ordinator. The post of publicity/Liaison Officer went to James Maluol, a Crop Protection student from Sudan. Esther Mula, a pharmacy student from Namibia clinched the position of Editor/Technology Officer.

For college representatives, only two colleges were able to carry out elections since the other four were not adequately represented. Hilda Nchunga from Botswana and who is a student at the School of Dental Studies, was elected as the College Representative for College of Health Sciences (CHS) while Collist Kayigamba from Rwanda and a student at Population Studies and Studies and Research Institute (PSRI), was elected as the representative for College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS).

It was agreed that the other College would elect their representatives at a later date. The returning Officer for the elections was Dr. Jerry Githang'a, the then Ag. Director, Centre for International Programmes and Links (CIPL). She was assisted by Mr. Kihoro Magu Senior Assistant Registrar and Mr. Ndungu wa Munywe, Assistant Registrar.

Obama, Oniang'ó and the Grant Park

They both have been at the Grant Park albeit at different times and for different reasons.

For Barack Obama, the President-Elect of the United States of America, Grant Park was the place to be for the victory speech following his landslide win over the Republican Party candidate John McCain in November 2008 US Presidential Elections.

For our very own Prof. Clement M.P. Oniang'ó, the veteran Professor of Philosophy, Grant Park was the natural place to be as the coach for the Loop College Soccer team way in early 70s..

The Grant Park, which was originally called Lake Park, is a massive outfit. It occupies 319 acres or 1.29 Km2. It is located in the Loop Community area of Chicago, Illinois, USA. It has a big population of African Americans. The Loop College did not have its own sports facilities and therefore used the Grant Park for many sporting activities.

Prof. Oniang'ó was at the Loops College between 1972 and 1973 where he was work-



Prof. Clement M.P. Oniang'ó.

ing as an Assistant Professor of Philosophy. He joined the Loops College after his postgraduate studies at Washington State University. It was during his tenure at the College that he also became the coach of the Loops College soccer team.

As he went through the motions of convincing his team that they could actually beat other soccer teams, he had no idea that 35 years later, one Barack Obama would be in the same park leading the American people and all those with "the audacity of hope" in declaring a resounding "Yes, we can"



US President-elect Barack Obama with Vice-Chancellor, Prof. George Magoba when the former gave a lecture on democratic governance at UoN in August 2006.

Scouting: The best new thing in campus

There is one thing that majority of us who have gone through the education system can connect with; scouting. Those days of marching, saluting, tying ropes and a whole lot of challenging activities are still vivid in our minds, which brings me to the task of explaining why scouting at campus level very different from what you thought. But first a sneak preview of scouting at UoN. In the past there were on and off formation of scout units at UoN but at no time did we have an active unit in the University.

On 22nd of May 2008 a meeting was convened at Y.M.C.A by the Westlands Area Scouts Commissioner, Mr. Daniel Mwemba which was attended by seven students – all from Chiromo Campus. This group initiated the formation of the Scouts movement at the University now called Kili Rover Troop. Scouting is thus a concept that is new at the

The Kili Rover Troop is active and six members participated in the East African Rover moot at Rowallan Camp, Nairobi from 10th to 15th August 2008. This moot brought together scouts from six Eastern African nations for common activities and was a rehearsal for the World Z Rover moot to be held in Nairobi in 2010.

The group participated in the Nairobi River cleaning drive on 29th August 2008 and played a prominent role during the 39th Graduation Ceremony that featured the Head of State among other VIPS. The unit also organized a three-day Investiture camp in Naivasha where 19 members were officially inducted into scouting. The members helped facilitate the blood drive organized by Bloodlink Foundation on 27th and 28th November 08 by mobilizing students and staff to donate blood.

As the New Year approaches, the movement in-

Getting most from daily work

It was Thoreau who wrote, “If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be, now put the foundations under them.” The journey towards ISO certification for the University is greatly exemplified in those words. Once the management focused on the process, what remained, and perhaps the challenging bit, was to remain committed to the end. It was hard work, “this ISO thing” but more importantly are the lessons that we have all collectively learnt as an institution.

When the University managers embarked on the journey towards the ISO process they were making a courageous public commitment, and taking a difficult stand, given the level of freedom of academic thought and inquiry that is embedded in all University operations, and by the sheer large size of the institution, it can be an uphill task to put all the people on a path, on one or program towards one goal. As we celebrate our certification, perhaps, greater is the joy in knowing that an institution, with over 4,500 employees, 44,900 students and a wide community can embark on and successfully complete rigorous steps involved in the ISO process.

The journey towards certification in itself teaches us that there is still a great deal to be learnt. Those simple rules of drawing flow charts and diagrams continue to live again today. At the time, we went from one seminar to another most of us had

as drawing, using their touch pads is not that easy. Then came the internal audit, it was interesting to face your colleagues and explain not just your work but how it fits into the University mission and vision. Additionally one had to reassess the working methods and simplify them into a flow chart. One of the most important lessons perhaps was the interrelatedness of the departments of the University. This interdependence is positive, it thrives on spreading experiences, training and education latent in one department over the entire University.

The external audit was eventful, it provided an external assessment of our operations. The verdict was impressive, but a number of non conformities were identified to be corrected within 21 days. For once, the various sections of the University were on one page. An urgent item was treated as urgent throughout its approval and implementation process. I dare to say that more work was done in those 21 days than has ever been done at any other time. Ultimately, ISO is about the customer. Customer mindedness has been a preoccupation within the University for a while now. In a way, ISO crowned these efforts by linking up the internal processes to the eventual customer value proposition. It is hoped that with continued and sustained improvement in the Quality Management Systems, a seamless interaction of processes will be sustained so that all our customers continue to enjoy world-class services.

The challenge, as aptly put by the managing director KEBS, Eng. Mang’eli, is in sustaining the efforts on ISO. “It is not an event; it is a process remains the clarion call”. For me the unity of purpose exhibited in the ISO process deserves to be replicated each day we come to work at this great institution – the University of Nairobi.

tends to focus on the motto of the World Rover scouts: SERVICE. The motto of the UoN unit is “Service to all races of men”. The unit intends to undertake projects geared towards benefiting the communities and provide students with a chance to engage in corporate social responsibility while still at the University.

An idle mind being the devil’s workshop, the unit has also started sporting groups in swimming, drama and chess clubs where members are given a chance to exploit their talents during their free time.

The unit is making arrangements to equip scouts with appropriate skills and partner with several organizations and government departments in offering training in special fields in the upcoming year. These will include disaster management, leadership, and life skills.

Within the short period of its existence, the Scouts Unit has recruited over 80 members in four campuses with female students comprising 54 percent. Recruitment in other campuses is on-going. It has also formed interest clubs such as drama, swimming and chess to nurture other talents among



The evening craze

As the country contemplates about creating a 24-hour economy, it should perhaps borrow a leaf from the University of Nairobi. Here on any one evening, a time when most people are capering here and there for their transport, and a little unga in the safety of their



home environments, the University is just coming to life.

Psst psst wazzup, this from a group of young men dressed in either tight or sagging jeans with over size t-shirts emblazoned with all manner of branding names, slogans and even insults, this group is just about to stamp its presence in one of the evening classes.

Round the corner, behind a column, a threesome, lap top open are trying to put their heads together to complete a rather

difficult assignment for one head.

In another corner, facing the National Theatre is another group, haggling over the prices of samosas, cakes, mandazi, mineral water, apples, bananas, sausages and cold milk. This is the group working up an appetite for classes.

Not very far from the hagglers, is another group, that solemnly gathers in the middle of the Great Court, where they remove their shoes and wash their feet before ambling to stand behind a leader. Facing the east, they kneel down in prayer, asking God to help them through their daily struggles.

Its fascinating and mind boggling, listening, watching the frenzy of activity at UON each evening. Amazingly amidst the slovenly on one end, the diligence on the other, there is yet another group that simply sits on the benches, neither talking nor moving into class.

In all this melee, walking slowly, sedately and with a level of concentration suitable for years gone by, strides the lone professor, separate from his underlies (the Tf's) he makes his way into a lecture theater, hoping to connect with all of these groups and make his contribution to the 24 hour economy. One only hopes that he will impact on the slovenly, the greedy, the hungry, the prayerful and the soulless quiet ones, in ways that will make the economy glow and grow. This is a lesson he can teach those in the planning docket of the nation.

The grandee - a tale of the University of Nairobi

The French have a lovely name for old mature ladies; they call them le grandee mere, so I address you all, this is the grand warrior speaking. Hello, my name is University of Nairobi, I was born in 1956, in the metropolis of Nairobi. My father was Julius Kabarega and my mother was known as East Africa. Julius, who came from Tanzania, was an important man in the federal offices, in Dar es Salaam, while East Africa was from Kenya. I remember my beautiful mother; she had a real African Queen look-she was ample in size, had clear eyes, a clear skin that shone in the way only African women glow, and most important of all is that she had a compassionate and kind

heart.

I was the third child; my older sisters were Dar es salaam and Makerere. In later years, my mother gave birth to Eldoret, our baby brother. All of us are now married; we live in different corners of what is now Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. We meet often, laugh, and remember our childhood, in-between visits we write often.

My parents had a good marriage and they were hard workers, they wanted the best for the girls, this was a quality that many did not share- many did not believe in the quest of education for girls- but thank god that Julius and East Africa cared so much.; they worked hard and always believed in a good education for us girls. We had good friends, this included Rocke from Feller, Lever of Hulme, Dul from Everton, and young Ford Foundation. Old man Carnegie was one of my mothers' best friends. Carnegie was kind hearted and generous, arranging subsidies and a flow of monies that enabled our school to get equipment and enough money to pay the salaries of our teachers. Our head teacher for a long time relied on Carnegie for support on the recurrent budget of our school. We grew and flourished.

I was betrothed when I was quite young. It was in the traditions of my fathers people to look out for an enterprising and hard working young man to marry ones daughter to, therefore in 1967 I was promised in marriage to a young handsome man. His name was Kenya, his father was a fierce man called Jomo Kenyatta. Jomo was quick to pay my dowry, in fact he paid it in full, an unheard of event in the time, he assured my parents that he was eager and fervently wishing for me to join his home. Therefore in 1970, as soon as I was ripe, I was married in a full ceremony. This ceremony with its lavish feasting and rejoicing meant a change in my status; I took on a new name-University of Nairobi. For good measure, Jomo took out a deed poll that reserved the names Nairobi and University to me.

I have never been able to pay my debt to my mother East Africa, and to London, the midwife at my birth. These women allowed me , for a long time to stand on their shoulders, if I have achieved much it is because of these grand women, they were careful and diligent of my upbringing; they ensured that I had a good social education, and that I attained a full measure of academia and research.

You know, through the years, Kenya has relied on me to justify the hopes that first Jomo, and then

his people had for our union. Throughout my marriage then, I have integrated in the life of Kenya. I say it with pride, that I have indeed been a woman of fortitude and insight, I have made optimal use of all the resources within our union, and by seeking intellect and technology for my children, I have overcome many struggles. It has not been easy, over these 50 years, but thank God that I have been able to abundantly justify the hopes and sacrifices of Jomo's people; I have remained a woman of substance, with deep pride and great honor.

In mid 1984, I delivered my first child Kenyatta, and while he was still young, I fostered young Egerton. Egerton had been orphaned and needed caring and loving parents. With my own breast milk, I was able to care for the two youngsters, they shone with health; they flourished and grew very quickly. In spite of my busy schedules, I assisted my brother Eldoret on his big nursery. Eldoret wanted to plant trees that would give him a good yield, the scion that I crafted has grown into a beautiful tree, called Moi. Moi is in fact one of my daughters, she is gifted and youthful enough such that her leaves are both food and foliage for academics from the regional western part of Kenya.

Stuffy, upper crust gentlemen will say often that ..it is all in the genes... this is true for me, indeed one of the genes that I possess is the ability to draw and attract people . Another gene is the uncanny ability to expand my assets and to raise friends. I use my assets chiefly for mentoring and training young people, within the city of Nairobi I have eight centers while I have another 14 outposts which I use to counsel up country youth. I have acquired business interests in Mombasa, Kisumu, Maragua, Isiolo, Meru ,Malindi, Lamu, Embu, Kibwezi and Ngong. Outside Kenya, I have raised and sustain friendships with people and groups in 100 locations in Europe, the Far East, the US, and Asia. If you go to these places do not be surprised to if they ask you to pass their warm regards, my praises ring out wherever you go, but of course I hardly discuss my popularity...

Life oh life, life oh life, a full circle, a kaleidoscope for the achievements of a life time. I have little regret, and even less time to reflect on what might have been, you see I am in my golden phase. This is a real time tale of the University of Nairobi ,true it is an abridged version, but it remains a true story, and of course a really tall story.

	NAME	POST	DEPARTMENT	QUALIFICATIONS
1.	Dr. M.B. Sebit	Senior Lecturer	Psychiatry	MBChB/Med/PhD
2.	Mr. Spencer M. Muthoka	Intellectual Property Officer	VC's Office	BS/MSc
3.	Dr. C.K. Jandu	Senior Medical Officer/ Paediatrician	University Health Services	MBChB/Med/MSc Paediatric and Adolescent Endocrinology
4.	Dr. Kaksha N.N. Hirani	Lecturer	Psychiatry	BA/PhD
5.	Dr. Zackary B. Awino	Lecturer	Business Administration	BCom/PhD
6.	Dr. Oliver K. Toroitich	Lecturer	Business Administration	BCom/PhD
7.	Mr. Raphael O. Nyonje	Lecturer	Extra Mural Studies Kisumu	BEd/MEd
8.	Mr. John O. Nyaega	Lecturer	Extra Mural Studies Kisumu	BEd/MEd
9.	Mr. John R.Chandi	Lecturer	Extra Mural Studies Mombasa	BEd/MEd
10.	Dr. Moses M.M. Otieno	Lecturer	Extra Mural Studies Mombasa	BA/PhD
11.	Mr. Robert M. Kihara	Deputy Co-ordinator	Transport & Garage	NIT/Ed

Recent Promotions

NAME	POST	DEPARTMENT	QUALIFICATION	EFFECTIVE	DATE
Prof. Fredrick N. Were	Associate Professor	Paediatrics and Child Health	MB.Ch.B., M.Med., MD	1/2/08	
Prof. Solomon Monyenye	Associate Professor	Philosophy and Religious Studies	B.A., M.A., Ph.D.	05/208	
Prof. Jack A. Odhiambo	Associate Professor	Philosophy and Religious Studies	B.A., M.A., Ph.D.	05/208	
Dr. Fred I. Mugivane	Senior Lecturer	Agricultural Economics Economics	B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.	3/2/08	
Dr. James W. Muthomi	Senior Lecturer	Plant Science and Crop Protection	B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.	2/2/08	
Dr. George N. Cheminingwa	Senior Lecturer	Plant Science and Crop Protection	B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.	2/2/08	
Dr. Ayub N. Gitau	Senior Lecturer	Environmental and Biosystems Engineering	B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.	08/208	
Dr. Alfred Burugeya	Senior Lecturer	Linguistics and Languages	B.A., PGD, M.A., Ph.D.	3/2/08	
Dr. Josiah M. Kinama	Senior Lecturer	Plant Science and Crop Protection	B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.	2/2/08	
Mr. Dismas M. Bulinda	Snr. Assistant Registrar	DVC (A & F)'s Office	B.Ed., M.Ed.	2/2/08	
Mr. David N. Bernard	Snr. Assistant Registrar	DVC (A & F)'s Office	B.A., PGDMC, M.A.	2/2/08	
Mr. B.M. Kiigeh	Snr. Assistant Registrar	DVC (A & F)'s Office	B.A., M.A.	2/2/08	
Dr. Kepha O. Bosire	Lecturer	Pharmacology and Pharmacognosy	B.Pharm., M.Pharm..		24/4/2008
Dr. Regina Kitiabi	Lecturer	Business Administration	B.A., MBA, Ph.D.	14/7/2008	
Mr. Nicholas Bailasha	Lecturer	Physical Education and Sports	B.Ed., M.Ed.	16/208	
Dr. James N. Michira	Lecturer	Linguistics and Languages	B.Ed., M.Ed., M.A., Ph.D.	18/6/2008	
Mr. Patrick I. Mwangi	Lecturer	Linguistics and Languages	B .Ed., M.A.	16/6/2008	
Mr. Kenneth Mwinami	Chief Technologist	Biochemistry	Dip. UND, M.Sc.	17/208	