



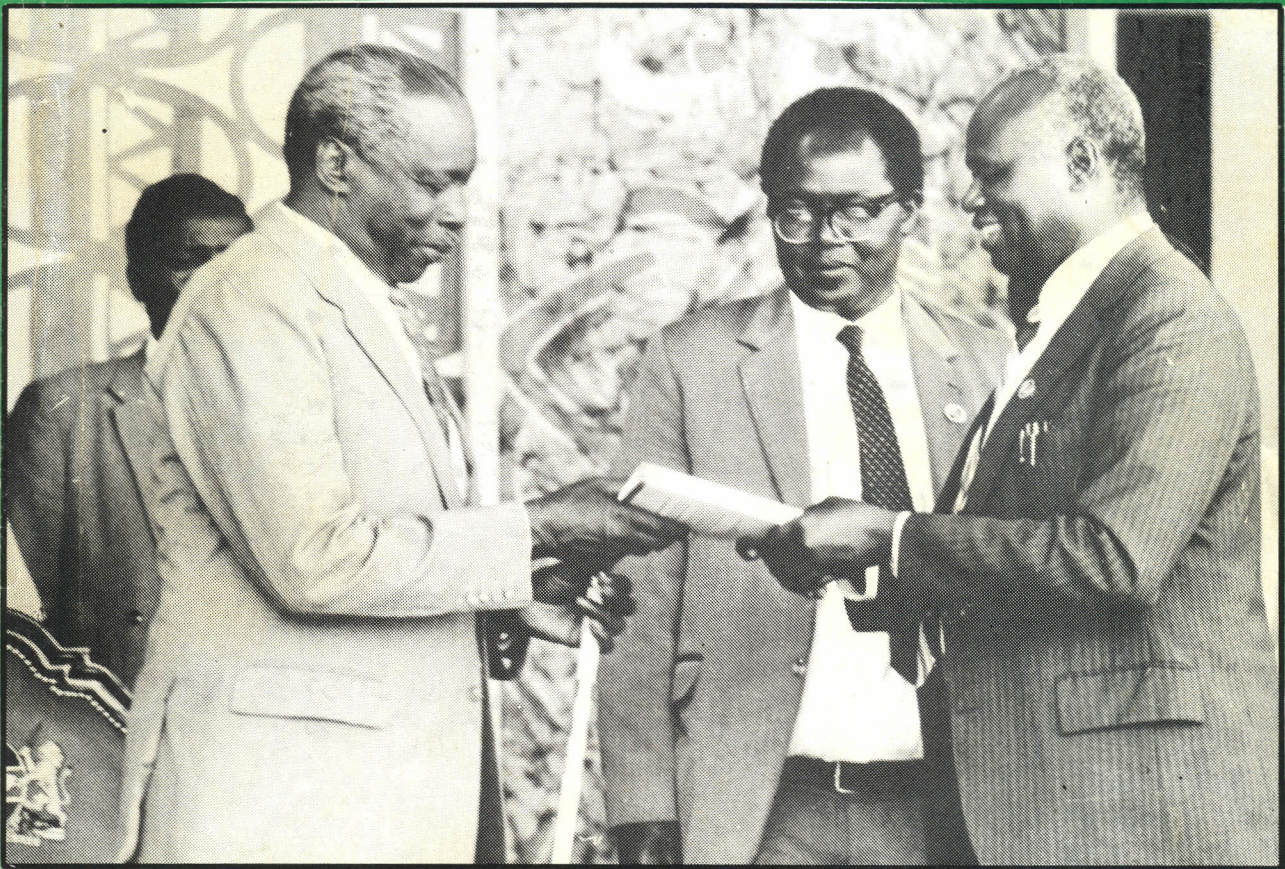
Varsity Focus

A Newsletter from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor

No. 63

University of Nairobi

February, 1988



The Chancellor receiving the first book from Nairobi University Press entitled "Casebook on Kenya Customary Law" from Prof. Mutere. Looking on is the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P.M. Mbithi.

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Chancellor receives first title from NUP

The Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, His Excellency, President Daniel arap Moi, received the first copy of "Casebook on Kenya Customary Law" published jointly by Nairobi University Press and Professional Books of London. The book, which is the first to be published by Nairobi University Press, was handed over by Prof. F.A. Mutere, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, (Academic).

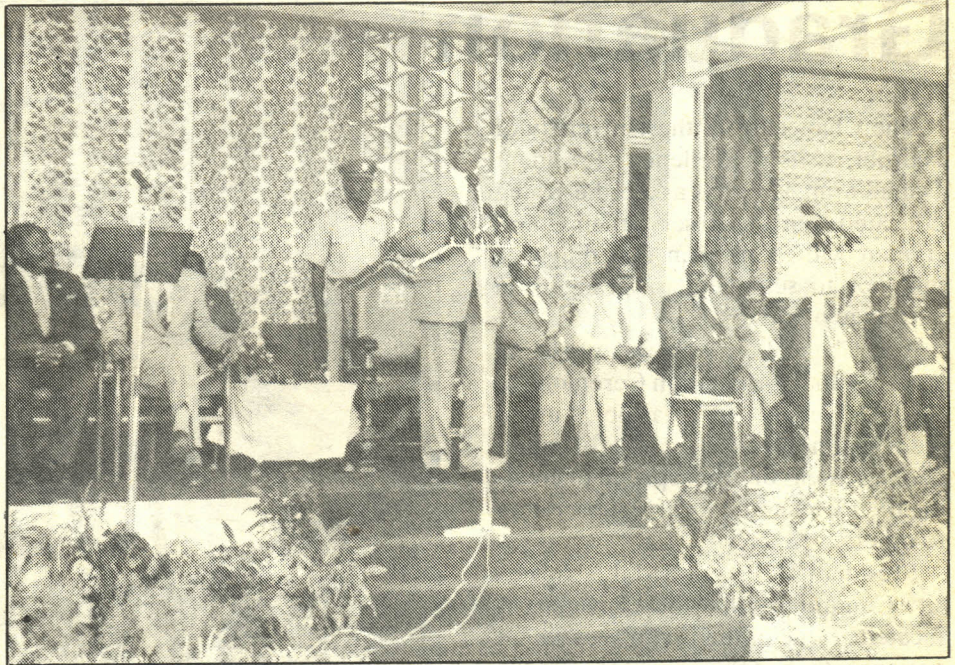
Addressing the University Community at the Great Court where he joined them for tea, the President announced that Kenya had obtained very encouraging results from Oil exploration in Northern Kenya. He said that a well sunk by the Total Oil Company at Ndovu in Isiolo District had yielded a mixture of gas and oil but the tests would have to continue for 45 days to determine the amount of the reserves.

The Chancellor said he deliberately made the announcement at the University because he mooted the idea of oil exploration at the same venue while taking tea with students in 1983. Since then Amoco International and a French Company, Total, have been exploring for oil in North Eastern Province and Eastern Province. Said the President: "Fortunately, we have discovered gas associated with oil".

He told a cheering crowd that the Country would diversify into mineral exploration and the development of other resources instead of solely relying on agriculture.

The president conceded to a request made by the students that they be forgiven following last year's disturbances. He called upon students to concentrate on studies as luck strikes only once in a lifetime. He announced amid applause that he had forgiven those University students who had fled to Tanzania and that they were free to return.

On arrival at the main campus, the Chancellor was met by the Chairman of the University Council, Mr. L.G. Sagini, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Philip Mbithi, the two Deputy Vice-Chancellors and Senior University Staff.



President Moi addressing the University community when he visited the university recently.

V-C thanks Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Philip Mbithi, has thanked President Moi, who is also the Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, for his continued interaction with staff and students of the University. Prof. Mbithi noted with appreciation that since the beginning of this term, the Chancellor has met and held audience with over 700 students. Said the Vice-Chancellor: "We are very grateful for these fatherly opportunities you afford our students and I am very sure they are extremely instructive and fulfilling."

In a Vote of thanks during the Tea Party presided over by the Chancellor at the Great Court, Prof. Mbithi expressed the appreciation of staff to the President for appointing them to various Government Organisations. This, he said, demonstrates, the President's commitment to academic excellence and high regard to staff who demonstrate high proficiency in their chosen fields.

He announced that the Vice-Chan-

cellors of the four public Universities have already prepared a draft document on the proposed Universities' Research Foundation saying it will soon be tabled for discussion by the various University Senates before being approved.

On the proposed Tenant Purchase Housing Scheme for University Staff, the Vice-Chancellor requested permission for the University to use the 50 acres near Kasarani. Prof. Mbithi appealed to the Chancellor to assist the University acquire more land to develop the scheme.

In his speech during the occasion, the Chairman of the University Council, Mr. L.G. Sagini thanked the Chancellor for finding time in his busy schedule to visit the University. He said the University of Nairobi greatly values the President's guidance to enable it evolve as a unique institution modelled along the needs and requirements of the Kenyan people.

Chancellor presides over 16th Graduation

The Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi, has asked the young educated Kenyans to serve their Countrymen with patriotism and diligence and not to sell them to strangers in exchange of money.

The Chancellor, who was presiding over the 16th Graduation Ceremony of the University of Nairobi, urged Kenyans not to be slaves of other peoples' ideas but to be proud of creating their own and not to be subservient to others.

President Moi reminded the University Community that the University is located at one of the first places where nationalists shed their own blood in the struggle against foreign domination in 1922.

He called for a change of heart and a revival of nationalism. The President reiterated that the African must be himself and learn that nobody will come to develop the continent for him.

The Chancellor told the students at the national Universities to promote progress and nationalism and not chaos. He particularly cautioned University Students against succumbing to and promoting foreign ideologies.

He said Kenyans will remain Kenyans and should endeavour at all times to promote their own country and not make the people slaves of foreign ideas. He said Kenyans are proud of their nationhood and are not subservient to outsiders.

President Moi said the situation at the University is a matter of great concern to the Government and all Kenyans.

He regretted that despite the efforts he had made since he took over the leadership of this country, to advise university students, a few misguided ones have allowed themselves to fall easy prey to Kenya's detractors.

"It must therefore be understood by all that no government would sacrifice the welfare of her people to accommodate the selfish interests of a few mis-



The Chancellor presiding over the 16th graduation ceremony.

guided individuals," he said.

President Moi urged all students at the country's Universities to stand out firmly against activities of a few unruly elements in their campuses. He told them that as a community, they should not stand aside and act as spectators when a few individuals attempt to interfere with peace and stability which he said are crucial for development.

"I am fully convinced the university would not have been closed if the silent majority had come out forcefully and opposed the machinations of the few," the President said.

He urged those who were re-admitted to observe the rules of organised society and not to permit themselves to be side-tracked from the major aim of being at the University.

The development of high-level manpower remains a major concern of any modern state, President Moi said, adding that in Kenya, the main objec-

tive of the educational policy is to equip the country's Universities to produce the high-level manpower necessary for development.

He called on universities training to emphasise the production of men and women with the necessary skills required for exploring new frontiers of knowledge. He said research is an essential tool of development in any modern state.

Saying the Government has always been committed to the policy of enhancing the country's research capabilities, the President thanked those who have contributed generously towards the Universities' Research Fund which he initiated in September this year.

He said the enthusiasm displayed by wananchi in supporting the fund is a challenge to the national Universities and research institutes.

A total of 1,881 students graduated during the ceremony.

Graduation Day: A dream come true

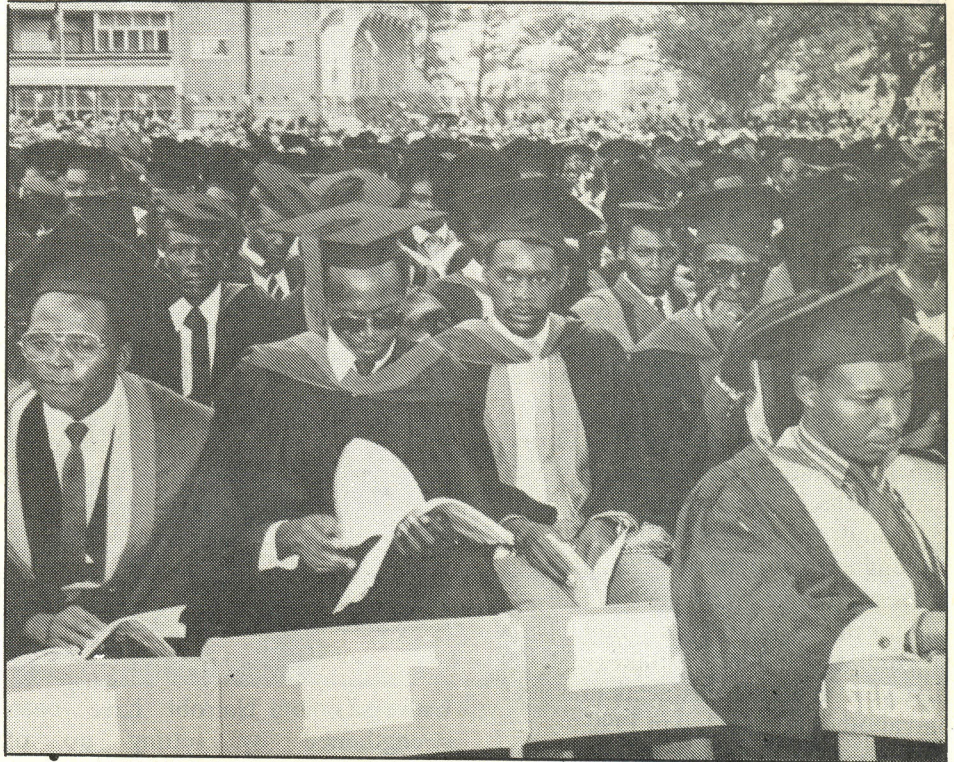
The 16th Graduation Ceremony lived up to the tradition which has made the occasion a landmark in every academic year. As early as 7.30 a.m. Parents, friends and spouses of the graduands had started arriving from all parts of the country. They came in all manner of vehicles-matatus, buses and taxis. By 10.00 a.m., the Various parking areas were full to capacity. The joy of parents as they accompanied their sons and daughters during the great occasion was evident everywhere.

In an interview with Varsity Focus, Mr. Joseph Talum, whose son was one of the 1881 odd graduands, said that the occasion was for him a dream come true. He said he has been longing for the day his son would be awarded a degree and become "a man among men". The 54 year old father had left Kericho at 3.00 a.m. accompanied by his wife to be in Nairobi early enough to secure a place in the Great Court.

Varsity Focus spotted a graduand driving in a convoy of five matatus bedecked with bananas and sugar-cane cuttings. Interviewed, the Bachelor of Agriculture holder, said the occasion was a landmark in his life. He said he had no option but to bring all his Kinsmen to witness him receiving the power to read from none else but the Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, His Excellency, President Daniel arap Moi.

All those Varsity Focus interviewed had very high regard for the University administration. A mother of one of the graduand and a second year law student thanked the administration for keeping the public constantly aware of what goes on at the University. She singled out the Open Days saying that they offered an opportunity for the Public to contribute to the running of the University.

The ceremony marked the Public graduation of 1,881 candidates who successfully completed their studies during the 1986/87 Academic Year. Out of this total 1,546 were awarded Bachelors degree and diplomas, 318 Masters and Postgraduate Diplomas

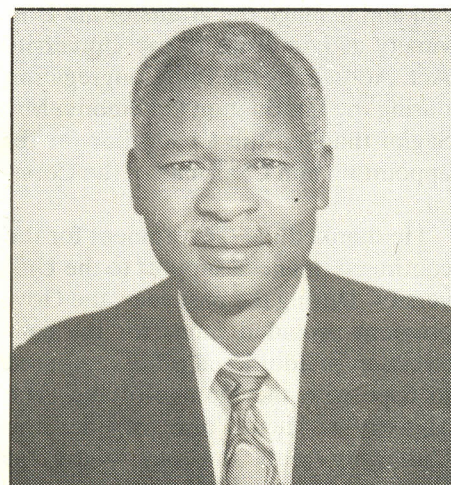


New graduates anxiously wait to be given the power to read by the Chancellor.

and 16 Doctor of Philosophy degree. One candidate, Dr. Arthur Othieno-Obel was awarded Doctor of Medicine in Medicine. During the occasion two

candidates graduated in Bachelor of Science in Medical Physiology for the first time.

President appoints a new Council



Mr Sagini: Re-appointed Chairman.

His Excellency, President Daniel arap Moi, who is the Chancellor of the University of Nairobi has appointed a new University Council for a period of three years upto 1990.

Mr. L.G. Sagini was re-appointed Chairman, Mr. Kpng'eno arap Ng'eny, Vice-Chairman and Mr. Erick Kotut who is the Governor of the Central Bank, Honorary Treasurer.

Other members of the Council are Mr. C.S. Mbindyo, Mr. B. Kipkulei, Mr. B. Mwangi, Mrs. T.M. Oduori and Mr. A. Mwakere. The chancellor also appointed Mr. T. Ole Naikuni, Rev. J.M. Kaleli, Mrs. K.M. Gikonyo, Mr. Silas Ita and Dr. B. Kipkorir Members to the new University Council.

Varsity modernises its teaching methods

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Philip Mbithi, has said that the University is now using closed circuit television in teaching to cope with the high enrolment due to the present double-intake. He said the system had already been installed in the Faculty of Medicine where Video Microscopes and Screens are being used in human anatomy classes.

Addressing the Congregation during the 16th graduation ceremony which marked the public graduation of 1,881 graduands, Prof. Mbithi said that although the system was expensive, it was essential in preparing the University for the larger intakes. The University took its first double-intakes of 4,400 first year students this academic year and another is expected in 1990.

He however assured Kenyans that the double-intake would not result in declining of standards. "Our students get more contact hours in teaching than other University," he said.

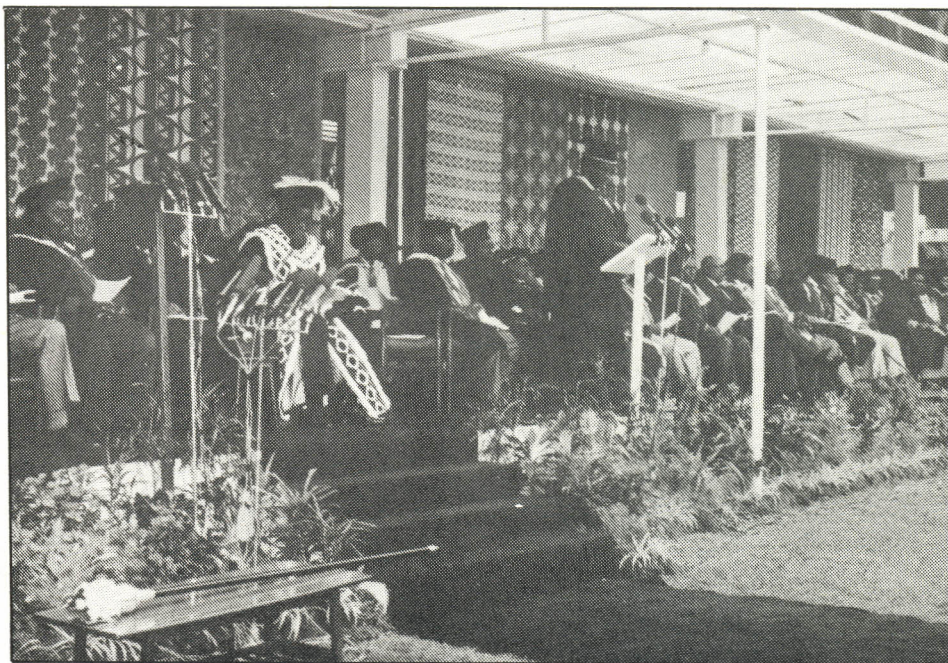
The international average number of teaching hours before graduating is 1,200 for a three year degree course but University of Nairobi graduates get from 1,300 to 3,000 for the same period.

Prof. Mbithi said the newly created Board of Postgraduate Studies (BPS) has streamlined Postgraduate Studies to the statutory period of two years for Masters and three years for Ph.D. degrees.

In the past postgraduate students used to take a long time to complete their studies. The University of Nairobi has the highest postgraduate enrolment in East and Central Africa. Currently, there are 1,300 postgraduate students.

The Vice-Chancellor thanked the Chancellor for establishing the Universities Research Fund and raising the students allowance by KShs. 300/- per month. The University has already received KShs. 6.6 million from the fund for applied research in progress.

He said that research activities at the



V-C. addressing the Congregation.

University of Nairobi have been strengthened by setting up of specialized teams to develop processes and products necessary to foster faster Industrialisation and economic development. These include engineering teams, Bio-technology teams and

teams working on reproductive technology.

He thanked the Government for supporting the University and encouraging it to run its own affairs and providing funds to effect promotion outside the establishment.

Council Chairman thanks Moi

The Chairman of the newly appointed University Council, Mr. L.G. Sagini has thanked the Government for giving the Council and the University Authorities a free hand to run and manage the affairs of the University as laid down in the University Act. Addressing the 16th Congregation during the Graduation Ceremony, Mr. Sagini thanked the Chancellor for re-appointing him Chairman of the Council.

He thanked the Government for the continued financial support to the University. During the past year, the Government provided funds for the construction of additional offices required to cope with the Double-Intake. The Ministry of Health also provided the University with the old Wards at Kenyatta National Hospital to house the Departments of Pharmacy and

diagnostic Radiology.

The Council Chairman noted with appreciation that during the same year, the University acquired new plants and equipment such as Kibwezi Dryland Station and University Forest, Ngong. He appealed to the Government to intervene and resolve the boundary issue at Kibwezi Dryland Research Station.

On the warm relationship existing between the Chancellor and the students, Mr. Sagini said it gives the students proper Orientation in terms of our national aspirations and the role of black man in International relations. He thanked the Chancellor for increasing the students allowance by KShs. 300.00 per month and for appointing the University personnel to serve in various parastatals and other Public offices.

Department benefits from book donation

The Department of Dental Surgery has received 2,960 books worth KShs. 88,000 from Dr. J.E. Nicholas, a practising Dentist at Poinway Medical Centre, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A. The books cover various fields of dental surgery such as Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology, Orthodontics and Paedodontics, Prosthetic Dentistry and Dental Mechanics. This is the largest consignment of books the College of Health Sciences has ever received.

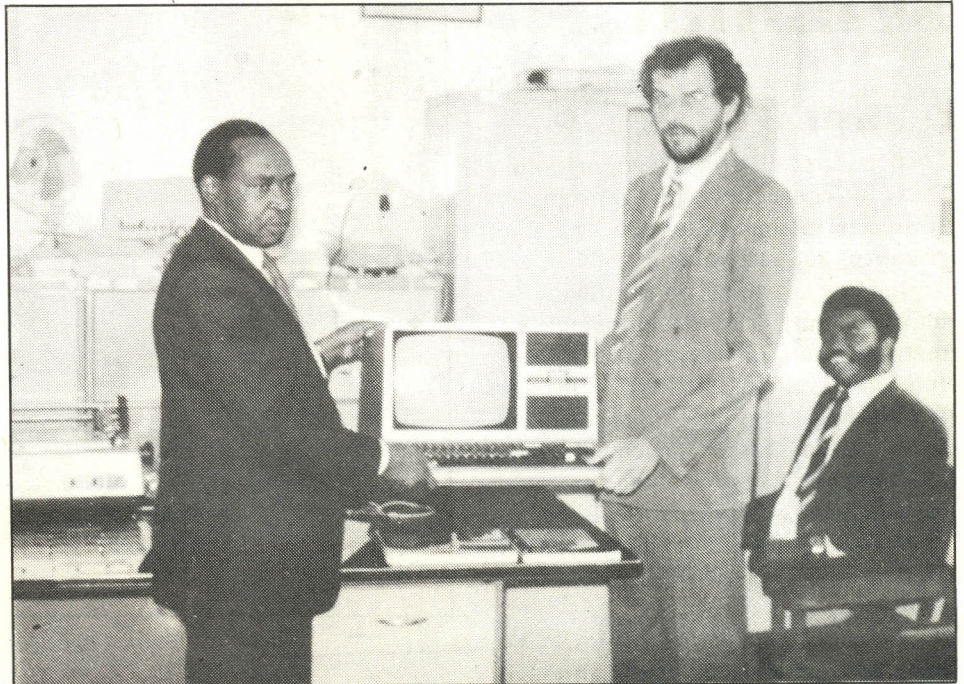
Presenting the books on behalf of the American Ambassador to Kenya, Colonel Dale Ackles, said his Government was very happy to be associated with the University of Nairobi. He noted that over the years, the American people have assisted the University acquire books and equipment for research and teaching purposes.

Receiving the books, Prof. N.O. Bwibo, the Principal of the College of Health Sciences, thanked all those who donated the books and the American Airforce for air-freighting them from Washington to Mombasa. The Principal noted with appreciation that the College of Health Sciences continues to receive assistance from various donor organisations. On behalf of the college, he thanked all those who continue to assist the college to fulfil its objective of training high-level Medical personnel.

Those present during the occasion included Prof. H.O. Pamba, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. G. Opinya, Chairman of the Department of Dental Surgery, and Mrs Kimani, Acting Deputy Librarian.

Meanwhile, the Department of Medicine has received a CATIMED Computer with tape recorder, a printer, 94 Catimed Programmes and Reference Manuals. The Computer, which is worth KShs. 500,00, was donated by Roche pharmaceuticals through their regional manager Dr. Alberto Galachi.

Dr. Galachi praised researchers at the College and hoped the new compu-



Prof. Bwibo receiving the computer from Dr. Galachi.

ter will boost their research activities. He observed that the results of such

research went along way in improving the Living standards of Kenyans.

Secretaries hold seminar

Secretarial staff from the College of Health Sciences recently attended a one-day in-house seminar to improve their performance at work. The seminar was attended by all secretaries from the College's 16 academic departments and the Principal's Office.

Opening the seminar, the College Principal, Prof. Nimrod Bwibo, said the decision to hold the seminar was taken by the College Management Board to expose secretaries to the latest developments in their profession. He said that the College will soon acquire modern equipments and it is important for secretaries to know how to use them.

The Principal said a good secretary is one who runs the office in the absence of the boss, organises the boss and portrays a good image of the organization she works for. He observed that secretarial staff working in the University should appear learned and knowledge-

able.

Answering a question from a participant, Prof. Bwibo said that grading of secretarial staff was a matter of central administration.

Presenting a paper on Public Relations and the Role of a Secretary, Mr. Zeke Waweru, a Lecturer in the School of Journalism, said a secretary should always be polite, alert and courageous. He said rude and inept secretaries give a negative picture of the organisation they work for.

Mr. Waweru said a secretary must always strive to be polite and helpful even when dealing with rude people.

Others who addressed the participants included Dr. Lore, Lecturer, Department of Medicine, Mr. Awori Wa Kataka, Senior Assistant Registrar, (recruitment and Training) and Mr. R. Onyango, Assistant Registrar, Personnel.

Department hosts engineering seminar

The principal of the college of architecture and engineering professor F.J. Gichaga has called on developing countries to come up with appropriate strategies in the use of the available resources and technologies.

Opening a seminar on 'strategies for improvement and development of metal working industries' at the Institute of Development Studies, Professor Gichaga told the 25 participants that the days when machinery and design products were being imported are gone and added that metallurgical bawed industries are the foundation of the industrial sector in any country's economy.

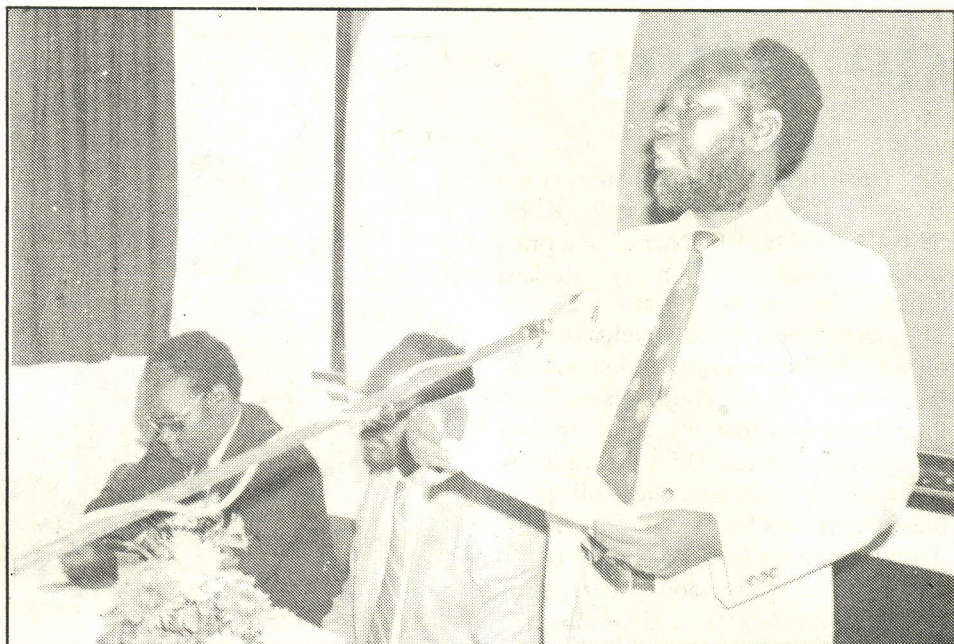
Kenya's metal industries, he observed were expanding although they were faced with the tasks of selecting appropriate technology and the dilemma of whether to go for basic or advanced technology.

Professor Gichaga, however, explained that the country has not exploited fully the existing knowledge and resources to expand and improve her industries. "To achieve the goal", he continued, "there is need for co-ordinated efforts of the industry and the University.

The industry he said, should have information on a range of processes and products available in a particular line of specialization.

Earlier on, the Chairman of the Department of Mechanical Engineering Dr. S.M. Maranga, informed the participants on the progress made since the Faculty held the first seminar two years ago. Several recommendations, he said, have been implemented among them, the involvement of industry in the industrial attachment of engineering students and in organising seminars and short courses.

Dr. Maranga announced that all 58 second year students in the Department got places in industry during their long vacation this year and thanked the Kenya Association of manufacturers which absorbed the majority of the



Prof. Gichaga opening the seminar.

students.

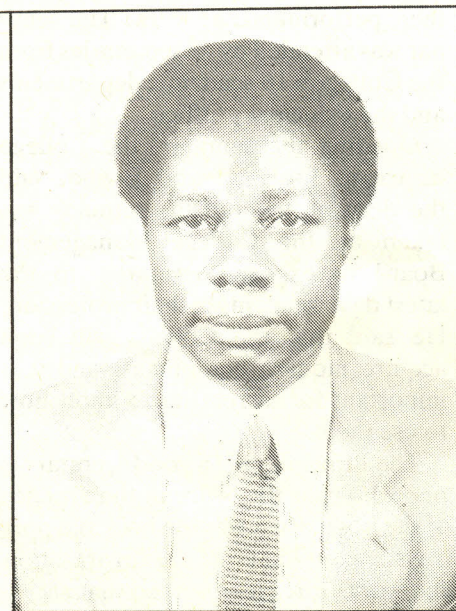
The three days seminar was sponsored by the National Council for Science and Technology to formulate strategies and guidelines for the improvement and development of

industries.

The workshop attracted participants from the University of Nairobi, UNESCO, local polytechnics, Kenya Bureau of Standards and the industrial sector.

Dr. Ackello appointed chairman

The Vice-Chancellor has appointed Dr. C. Ackello-Ogutu Chairman of the



Dr. Ackello: Appointed chairman.

Department of Agricultural Economics for a period of three years upto 1990. He replaced Prof. W.M. Mwangi who is on leave of absence.

Dr. Ogutu, Senior Lecturer in the Department holds B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Agriculture from the University of Nairobi and Ph.D. from the University of California.

He joined University service in 1976 as Tutorial Fellow and promoted to Lecturer in 1982. In 1986, he was promoted to Senior Lecturer. His Ph.D. dissertation received an honourable mention by the American Agricultural Economic Association as one of the best six dissertations submitted to the U.S. and Canadian Universities in 1982.

Dr. Ogutu thanked the Vice-Chancellor for appointing him Chairman and pledged to do his best to make the Department run well.

V-C stresses role of prizes

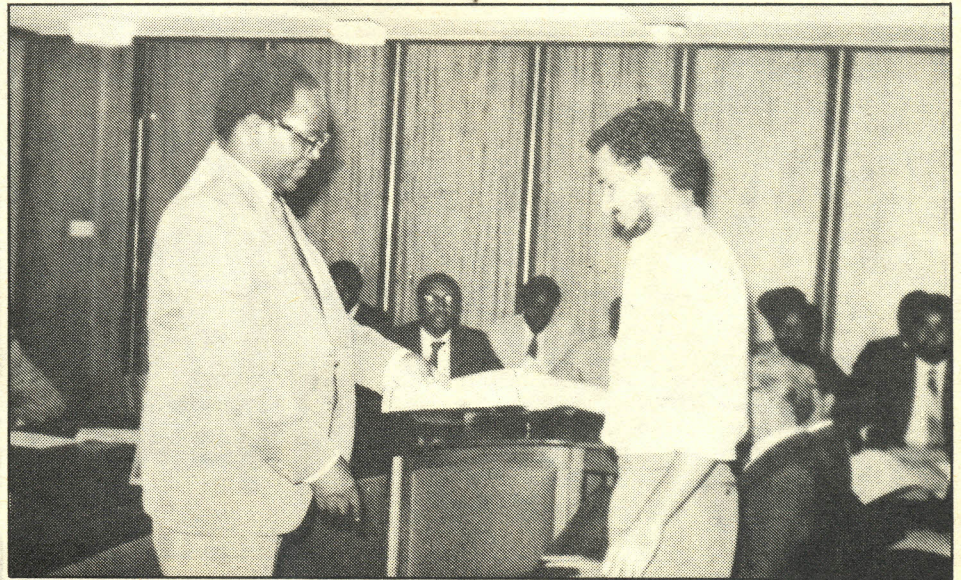
The Vice-Chancellor Professor Philip Mbithi, has stressed the importance of prize giving to undergraduates as it is aimed at improving their performance in their areas of study.

Addressing donors and recipients of various prizes during last year's prize giving ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor noted with satisfaction that 'it is another occasion for the university to express its commitment to the pursuit of excellence'.

Since its inception two decades ago, the University of Nairobi has trained and produced over 30,000 graduates in various disciplines who are contributing to the country's development in various sectors.

Professor Mbithi informed the gathering that those receiving the prizes had excelled throughout in their areas of study and added that 'we shall watch closely to see if they will follow their predecessors in achieving distinction in their chosen fields.'

The prizes worth over Shs. 50,000 mainly in cash included a visit to U.K and Europe for a period of one month



V-C. presenting prizes during the ceremony.

for the best third year student in the Department of Architecture. The donors were among others, the Gandhi Smarak Trustees, the Kenya Medical Association, the Institute of Surveyors of Kenya, East African Institute of Architects, Asian Commercial community, Institute of Engineers of

Kenya, Kenya Reinsurance Corporation and the Upjohn International The Gandhi Smarak Trustee also offers scholarships for both undergraduates and postgraduates.

Professor Mbithi thanked the donors and urged other agencies and well wishers to come forward and donate prizes to the best candidates in other disciplines especially in the fields of natural sciences, agriculture, veterinary medicine and in humanities which he observed were not represented.

President decorates Varsity dons

Prominent University Scholars were among Kenyans who were decorated with awards by His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi for their distinguished Public Service. The honours were given at State House Garden Party during celebrations to mark the 24th Anniversary of Kenya's Independence.

Among those honoured was Prof. F.A. Mutere, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, (Academic) who was decorated with The Third Class – Moran of the Burning Spear, MBS. Others who were awarded the same honour were Prof. S.K. Imbamba and Prof. J.C. Kiptoon.

Also decorated with the order of the Grand Warrior of Kenya (O.G.W.)

were Prof. G.S. Were, Prof. R.B. Ogendo, Prof. M.H. Abdulaziz and Prof. A.I. Salim. Prof. D.G. Gatei and Mr. S.M. M'Ikiara were also decorated with the same honours.

Meanwhile, Prof. F.C. Kiptoon has been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor, (Administration and Finance) of Egerton University. Until his appointment, he was the Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in the College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences.

Prof. J.C. Kiptoon is an able academician and administrator who ran the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine effectively. The entire University of Nairobi community wish him well in his new appointment.

Bereavement

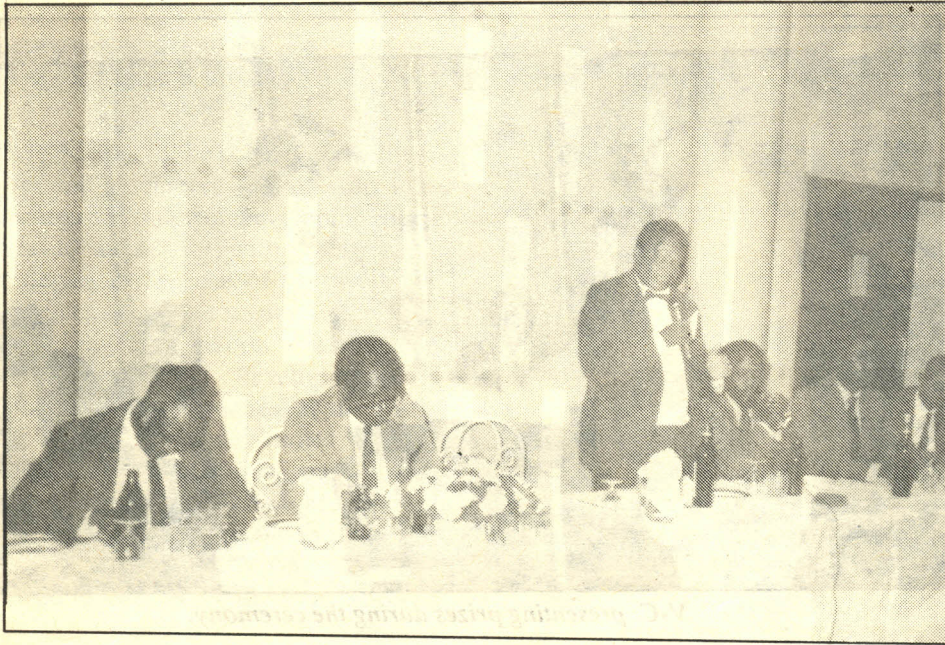
The University of Nairobi Community has learned with deep sorrow the untimely death of Mr. Charles Onguss on 6th December, 1987 after a short illness.

The late Mr. Onguss had just finished his 'O' level examinations. He was the son of Mrs. E.M. Ndiege who works at the Faculty of Commerce.

In his message of condolences, the Vice-Chancellor said the death of the late Mr. Onguss was a big loss not only to his family but to all of us.

We all join the bereaved family at this time of sorrow.

V-C attends SCR annual party



V-C. during the SCR party.

The Vice-Chancellor has thanked the academic staff for their continued sacrifice and dedication to make the double-intake a success. Addressing lecturers and Senior administrative staff during the Senior Common Room Annual Members Party, Prof. Mbithi said the Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, His Excellency, President

Daniel Arap Moi, has expressed his appreciation for the manner staff has worked since the double-intake was launched.

On consultancy, the Vice-Chancellor said every department should have a consultancy unit to ensure that all members of staff benefit from consultancy work. He said that consultancy is

an important aspect of training which every academic member of staff must be exposed to. He however asked staff not to devote all their time to consultancy at the expense of teaching.

Prof. Mbithi said the SCR would be strengthened to serve the interests of all senior members of staff. The Vice-Chancellor, who is himself a paid-up member of the club said the University should develop an identity of its own and noted with appreciation that members of staff continue to use the club as a forum of intellectual discussion.

Welcoming the Vice-Chancellor, the Chairman, Mr. Maina Mwema, thanked the Administration for renovating the SCR. He said that as a result of the excellent relations between the club and the Administration, the club is now in a healthy financial position which made it possible to host the members Annual Party.

He said the SCR is a social organization which caters for the welfare of the Senior University Staff. Membership is open to any person in those grades who is willing to fulfill the laid down obligations such as good behaviour and conduct.

Students boost University Research

Fund

Undergraduate Students from the University of Nairobi have contributed Kshs. 240,000 to the Universities Research Fund. Receiving the money at State House, Nairobi, the Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, President Daniel arap Moi, said political independence could not survive without economic independence. To attain economic independence, research was vital.

The money was raised by seven students who cycled for 500 Km. from Nairobi through Nyeri, Nyahururu, Nakuru and back to Nairobi. The six students were also present during the

presentation.

He praised the students for the sacrifice they made to promote research in the Country and advised them to discard everything that alienated them from society.

President Moi told the Kenyan Youth to take seriously the advise given to them by their elders. He added that what they did now determined their future.

According to Mr. P.K. Mwangi, the Organiser of the Cycling Team, the students decided to cycle to practically thank the Chancellor for launching the Universities Research Fund. University of Nairobi students were their main sponsors while the University Administration bought the bicycles.

The other participants were Mr. W.G. Mwangi, Mr. J.G. Ndung'u, Mr. G.K. Gitau, Mr. A.N. Berenju, Mr. P. Musichi and Mr. J.N. Kabeni.

Present during the occasion was the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Philip Mbithi and Prof. Shem Wandiga, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration and Finance).

Norwegian firm donates dental tools

THE Department of Dental Surgery recently received 9,000 pieces of hand instruments from the Jordan Company of Norway. The equipments were handed over to Prof. S.O. Wandiga, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration and Finance) by Prof. J. Valderhaug who was a Visiting Professor in the Department during the 1985/86 academic.

On behalf of the University, Prof. Wandiga commended Prof. Valderhaug for his initiative to secure the equipments noting that they will help in improving the quality of teaching and research not only in the Department of Dental Surgery but also in the entire College of Health Sciences.

He said that the Department of Dental Surgery has so far trained 250 dentists since its inception in 1974. This, he observed, is far short of Kenya's dental health requirements. Prof. Wandiga said the University is committed to training of more dentists. He thanked donor organisations and individuals who have continued to supplement the efforts of the University in equipping the Department with modern equipments.

Prof. Wandiga thanked all those who assisted in the acquisition of the equipments particularly the Norwegian Embassy in Kenya, the Jordan Company of Norway and NORAD. He lauded the warm and friendly relationship existing between these institutions and the University of Nairobi.

On behalf of Jordan Company, Prof. Valderhaug said he was delighted to be associated with the University of Nairobi. He said that the one year he spent at the Department of Dental Surgery was very rewarding and praised the existing relationship between the Department and Oslo University.

Present during the occasion was Prof. F.O. Mutere, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. N. Bwibo, Principal of the College of Health Science, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Prof. H. Pamba, the Chairman of the Department of Dental Surgery, Dr. G. Opinya and academic staff from the Department of Dental Surgery.



Prof. Wandiga receiving dental equipments.

Lunch time Seminars make a comeback

Lunchtime seminars have been arranged as follows. The seminars take place from 1.00 – 2.00 p.m. A light lunch is available for a small charge from 12.30 on a first come first served basis.

- 13 January** Irrigation decision support systems Mr. Francis N. Gichuki, Utah State University.
- 27 January** Prospects for irrigation in Africa; Report from a UNEP/USAID conference. Mr. Francis N. Gichuki, Utah State University
- 10 February** Observations on agriculture and irrigation in Crete Prof. James L. Smith, Head, Department of Agricultural Engineering, University of Wyoming
- 24 February** Mechanical properties of granular materials as related to loads in silos Dr. Lawrence O. Gumbe, Department of Agricultural Engineering
- 7 March** Impressions from 5th International Conference on Soil Conservation, Bangkok, Thailand. Mr. Elijah K. Biamah, Department of Agricultural Engineering

Anyone interested in presenting a seminar in the third term is invited to contact the undersigned.

**Prof. D.B. Thomas
Seminar Programme Coordinator**

INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE; TWO DECADES OF ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION IN A RURAL COMMUNITY

This study utilizes insights from the new institutional economics to understand the endogenous demand the Orma are suddenly experiencing for institutional change. A number of factors in their environment have created pressure for new contractual arrangements and new property rights, which in turn have necessitated that the Orma draw upon the institutional resources of the national government to provide third party monitoring and enforcement. According to the theory, if such institutional change does indeed lead to decreased transaction costs for the Orma and more efficient allocation of economic resources, the stage could be set for a period of economic growth, even in the absence of technological change. As such processes are undoubtedly underway in many other societies

all over the developing world, this study should have important general implication for economic development.

What makes this an unusual case study is the existence of a large quantitative database for the period just before the most recent institutional changes. Together with the study, these data will afford the rare opportunity not only to document the extent of changes in production, consumption, and social structure, but to actually measure their impact upon the quality of life of the population. As there appears to be widespread ideological support for the institutional changes, it proposed that they have benefitted a large sector of the population. The analysis will provide specific data on the extent to which this holds for all sub-sectors of the population and all measures of the quality of life. The data will also indicate the strength of specific relationships between important economic, nutritional and health variables, thus allowing government policy planners to more effectively allocate scarce resources to social services.

THE POLITICS OF GOVERNMENT – NGO RELATIONS IN AFRICA

Non-government organizations (NGOs), deservedly or not, have established a reputation as the leading practitioners of rural development in these new agencies in their midst, on the one hand valuing the economic resources NGOs can raise, but resisting the political pluralization implied by popular development action. This paper describes the growth of NGOs in Africa and proposes a framework for analysing the dynamics of NGO–government relations. By means of examples drawn mainly from Kenya and Zimbabwe, the paper illustrates the strategies used by governments to exercise control and by NGOs to development, and the determination of government attitudes towards the voluntary sector, are determined more by political than economic considerations.

Deans' Committee awards

The Deans' Committee continues to assist academic members of staff to travel overseas to attend and present papers in international conferences. Recently the following were given travel grants to attend important conferences and workshops in their fields of specialisation:

Mr. F.N. Ngugi, Games Department KShs. 32,205.00 as travel and subsistence allowance to Lisbon, Portugal to attend and present a paper entitled "The Structure of University of Nairobi Games Department", at the 25th World Conference on Human Kinetics.

Mr. Magayu K. Magayu, School of Journalism, KShs. 4,610.00 to travel to Arusha, Tanzania, to attend and read a paper at a Joint Consultative Meeting of Journalists Trainers.

Mr. Gitonga Aritho, Department of Land Development. KShs. 38,177.00 travel grant to attend and present a paper at the 1988 International Research Conference on Housing Policy and Urban Innovation at

Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Dr. J.P. Patel, Department of Physics. KShs. 9,636.00 travel grant to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to attend and present a paper on "Rock Magnetic Properties of Neogene Volcanic Rocks of Kenya" at the 2nd Regional Seminar in Physics.

Dr. B. Mochoge, Department of Soil Science, KShs. 12,678.00 to travel to Harare, Zimbabwe, to present a paper at the Inaugural Symposium on Science and Technology.

Dr. W. Lore, Department of Medicine, KShs. 14,030 travel grant to attend and present a paper at the 33rd Annual Meeting and Scientific Conference of the Association of Physicians in Lusaka, Zambia.

Prof. L.S. Otieno, Department of Medicine KShs. 14,030 travel grant to attend and present a paper at the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Scientific conference of the Association of Physicians of East and Central Africa in Lusaka, Zambia.

Prof. G.B.A. Okelo, Department of Medicine KShs. 14,030 travel grant to attend and present a paper at the 33rd Annual Meeting and Scientific conference of the East and Central Africa Association of Physicians in Lusaka, Zambia.

*Dr. J.R. Aluoch, Department of Medicine KShs. 12,700 to attend and present a paper at the 33rd Annual Meeting and conference of the East and Central Africa Association of Physicians in Lusaka, Zambia.

Dr. G. Lule, Department of Medicine KShs. 2,700 to travel to Lusaka, Zambia, to attend and present a paper at the 33rd Annual Meeting and Conference of the East and Central Africa Association of Physicians.

Dr. S.O. Mc'ligeyo, Department of Medicine KShs. 12,700 travel grant to Lusaka, Zambia, to attend and present a paper at the 33rd Annual Meeting and conference of the East and Central

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STAFF MATTERS

New Appointments

New Appointments	Post	Department
Mr. E.K. Liku	Chief Technician	Architecture
Dr. C.M. Mwikamba	Lecturer	Religious Studies
Dr. I. Arap Rop	Lecturer	Agric. Economics
Mr. M.K. Mukuvi	Ass. Registrar	D.V.C. (Academic)
Dr. T.P. Wolf	Lecturer	Government
Dr. W.M. Kudoja	Lecturer	Zoology
Dr. E.J.K. Banda	Senior Lecturer	Physics
Dr. V.M. Kiveti	Tutorial Fellow	Orthopaedic Surgery
Mr. M. Kashorda	" "	Electrical Engin.
Mr. V.N. Konji	" "	Biochemistry
Mrs. H.R. A. Mwenesi	Junior Research Fellow	I.D.S.
Mr. D.W. Makanda	" "	I.D.S.
Mr. J.G. Wahome	I.D.S.	
Mr. M.A. Swazuri	Tutorial Fellow	I.D.S.
Mr. S.M. Masu	" "	" "

Resignation

Name	Post	Department	Date
Mr. P.D. Krishnan	Lecturer	Civil Engineering	10/10/87
Mr. J. Karanja	Asst. Registrar	College of Biol. & Physical Sciences	9/10/87
Dr. W.A. Kipng'eno	Lecturer	Animal Production	6/1/88
Dr. S.G. Gatere	Lecturer	Psychiatry	30/9/87
Dr. O. Ooko-Ombaka	Lecturer	Public Law	31/12/87
Dr. Z.O. Ebangit	Lecturer	Economics	31/12/87
Dr. V.P. Onyango-Otieno	Lecturer	Mathematics	12/10/87
Dr. F.B. Sebbowa	Lecturer	Mech. Engineering	31/12/87
Dr. G.M. Mwabu	Research Fellow	I.D.s.	30/10/87
Dr. A. Patel	Lecturer	Paediatrics	10/2/87
Dr. S.G. Kuria	Lecturer	Human Anatomy	31/10/87
Dr. A. Williams	Senior Lecturer	Food Science & Tech.	13/10/87
Prof. K. Lindquist	Vist. Professor	Public Health	31/12/87

Promotions

Name	Date	Department
Dr. Sebbowa	Senior Lecturer	Mechanical Engineering
Dr. J. Bhattacharjee	Senior Lecturer	Veterinary Anatomy
Dr. L.O. Gumbe	Lecturer	Agricultural Engineering
Mr. H.A. Liyai	Senior Asst. Librarian	Library
Prof. A.G. Tumbo-Oeri	Assoc. Professor	Biochemistry
Prof. D.B. Thomas	Assoc. Professor	Agricultural Engineering
Dr. B.W. Ogana	Assoc. Professor	Mathematics
Dr. M.G. Charalambus	Assoc. Professor	Mathematics
Mr. E.W. Khakame	Finance Officer	Finance Department

Re.Appointments

Name	Post	Department
Mr. E.M. Mwangi	Tutorial Fellow	Electrical Engineering
Mr. L.M. Muia	Tutorial Fellow	Centre for Nuclear Science Techniques
Dr. E.M. Ndiritu	Tutorial Fellow	Clinical Studies
Dr. G.O. Yongo	Tutorial Fellow	Medicine

STAFF MATTERS

Dr. Y.R. Begumya
 Dr. E.K. Alemu
 Dr. G.N. Lule
 Dr. B. Imalingat
 Dr. A.P. Tyagi
 Dr. M. Dadphale
 Dr. K.L. Sharma
 Prof. M.S. Alala

Lecturer
 Lecturer
 Lecturer
 Lecturer
 Lecturer
 Senior
 Senior Lecturer
 Professor

Medical Physiology
 Food Technology & Nutrition
 Medicine
 Dental Surgery
 Crop Science
 Psychiatry
 Economics
 Mathematics

Visitors to the Vice-Chancellor's office

Name	Date	Address
Mr. George Zeidemstein	8/10/87	President of the Population Council, New York
Mr. Richard Moore	8/10/87	" " "
Mr. William S. Saint	12/10/87	Ford Foundation
Hon. S.K. Arap Ng'eny	14/10/87	Deputy Speaker of National Assembly
John C. Caldwell	15/10/87	Demography Dept. Australian National University
Pat Caldwell	15/10/87	" " "
Mr. David Court	15/10/87	Rockefeller Foundation
Mr. F. Schwamborn	21/10/87	DAAD German Academic Exchange Service
Mr. R. Jacob	"	" " "
Hans M. Helfer	"	Director, DAAD Regional Office for Africa Nairobi
Hiroyuki Yanagksubo	22/10/87	" " "
Sanae Oda	23/10/87	The Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation
Henry D. Weaver	19/11/87	University of California



The University Choir formed recently strikes a happy note in a Turkana traditional song.

Bayreuth University donates equipments

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Prof. F.A. Mutere, has hailed the Link Programme existing between the University of Nairobi and the University of Bayreuth of West Germany. Receiving books, laboratory and field equipment from Mrs. E. Platt of West Germany Agency for External Aid (GTZ) at the Department of Botany, Prof. Mutere stressed the importance of Inter-Universities Links saying they encourage research and training for both staff and postgraduate students.

The agreement on research cooperation between University of Nairobi and the Botanical Institute of the University of Bayreuth was signed in Nairobi in 1986 by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Philip Mbithi and Dr. K. Wolf.

Phase one of the agreement involved the Study of the Vegetation of the Mt. Kenya Region and the preparation of a Vegetation Map. The Second Phase shall attempt to study the Medicinal plants of Kenya and training of a number of postgraduate students in the field of Botany.

The donations worth Kshs. 1 million included a VW Minibus, two Binocular



Prof. Mutere receiving equipments from Mrs. Platt.

Microscopes, two Dissecting Microscopes, one Drying Oven, two refrigerators, two Electric Balances, a Photometre, a P.H. Metre and a Mill Mixer. The Minibus, which is already in use, was cleared duty free.

The occasion was attended by among others the Deputy President of the University of Bayreuth, Prof. Erwin Beck,

Acting Principal of the College of Biological and Physical Sciences, Prof. M. Hyder, Dean of the Faculty of Science, Prof. R. Munavu, the Press Attache in the West Germany to Kenya, Mr. Bock and the Chairman of the Department of Botany, Prof. J. Kokwaro.

BOOK CORNER

Varsity Press releases first title

The first book published by Nairobi University Press has been released. The 348 page legal text is authored by Dr. Eugen Cotran, a former High Court Judge in Kenya. Judge Cotran was also Lecturer in African Law at the University of London.

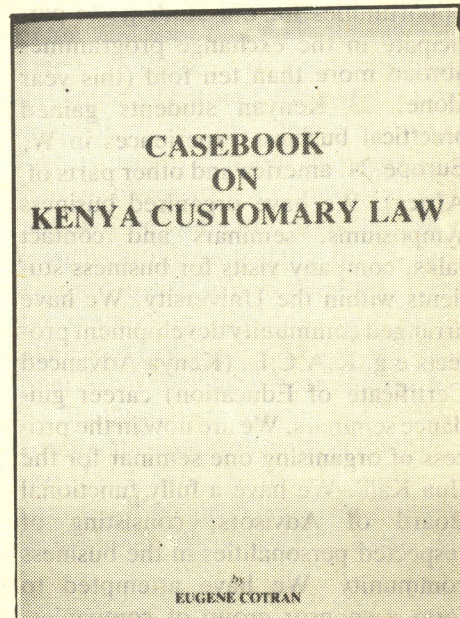
In his forward, the Attorney-General, Hon. Mathew Muli, says the book is very useful to advocates jurists, scholars and Law students. The principal aim of the casebook is to illustrate the subject by decided cases, thus placing it within a social and practical context. It is a continuation of the work towards making Customary Law more easily ascertainable which commenced with the research carried out by the author for the "Restatement of African Law,

Kenya" published in 1968/69.

The book is arranged by subject matter and includes High Court and Court of Appeal decisions for each of the issues covered. Judgements of inferior Courts are also reported to give the reader a clearer picture of how those courts operate in customary law cases.

In his introduction, Prof. A.N. Allot, a prominent scholar in Customary Law, says the book is a significant contribution to the ongoing debate on the status and possibilities of Customary Law in Africa and the objectives and techniques of Customary Law research.

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AIESEC: The most active student body

AIESEC was founded in 1948, by students from seven European countries to meet a specific need. A post war society of young people felt that world war II had created a frightening gap among the people of the world. They wanted to bridge this gap through the education of future business leaders. As a direct consequence AIESEC evolved as 'non-political' association to ensure its success. With this, it aimed at promoting 'a friendly relationship among students'. AIESEC expanded beyond Europe to all continents, improving its exchange programmes and projects. By the end of the 1960's, AIESEC had grown to be the largest non-political totally student ran association in the world. During this time, AIESEC internationally organised major seminars, the most successful being ITOMS, the conference on the International Transfer of Management Skills in Turin, Italy. The proceedings of ITOMS, which includes contribution from the then member countries, are now official documents of the UN in the field of transfer of management skills.

AIESEC IN KENYA:

AIESEC in Kenya has been quite successful in the last two years. We have increased the number of vocational job opportunities, increased the opportunities for our students to participate in the exchange programmes abroad more than ten fold (this year alone, 23 Kenyan students gained practical business experiences in W. Europe, N. America and other parts of Africa). We have organised business symposiums, seminars and contact talks, company visits for business students within the University. We have arranged community development projects e.g. K.A.C.E. (Kenya Advanced Certificate of Education) career guidance seminars. We are now in the process of organising one seminar for the 'Jua Kali'. We have a fully functional Board of Advisors, consisting of respected personalities in the business community. We have attempted to form a sponsor group of companies.



*Mr. Lewis Ng'ang'a, B.A III.
AIESEC Chairman.*

We have won mandate to host the congress for 1988, we have extended to new Universities. The list is quite big. By February, 1988, AIESEC will be existing in 3 Universities in Kenya and will be fighting in the International congress in Boston to create 60 job opportunities for local students.

This success can be attributed to a number of factors first and the most important, a stable and peaceful student environment that has allowed trust and confidence to grow and subsequently support from the business community. Secondly, support from the University. Thirdly the existence of dedicated members. The lack of these and especially the first factor before 1984 hindered AIESEC expansion and growth tremendously. The question however is, has AIESEC been relevant to the student community? I try to imagine how the student community would be without AIESEC and other professional associations e.g. Medical students, Engineering students etc.

In many developing countries, AIESEC in conjunction with such associations not only being involved in wide educational projects but also in many cases the only channel to provide students with practical experiences both locally and abroad. An example is

Philippines where AIESEC organised business from scratch to the final phase. All of these have been reported success and are thriving. In Ghana, AIESEC is leading in irrigation project which is expanding to semi-arid areas. Going further to Australia, AIESEC recently hit headlines after their concluded seminars came up with recommendations that led to the Governing Bank to devalue the Australian Dollar.

The question then becomes, do we fully realise our potential? The answer in my opinion is not at all.

THE RELEVANCE OF THESE ASSOCIATIONS:

It is the purpose of Universities to educate functionaries relevant to the development of the country. Their educational role and effort is a qualified one. As academic associations we can help in promoting what has been passed on to us. Like in AIESEC, we want to develop people who can think in broad international terms, adapt to different cultures, stand on their own two feet, be innovative and deal with problems constructively. AIESEC - Kenya has a manpower of 800 - 1000 members that can seriously tackle any of the most crucial issues of our present time.

The complexity of our country's problems requires the development of new, appropriate solutions. These can only be the result of interdisciplinary public sectors. We therefore have to strive for some achievements.

THE CHALLENGE:

We as academic associations must make it clear to our members that we have to be much more attentive to the needs of our environment, and develop new and improved projects. As student associations, we do not have the academic background to develop solutions for today's problems. However, with our credibility, we can create appropriate forums for discussion. I am

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The trials and tribulations of a graduate

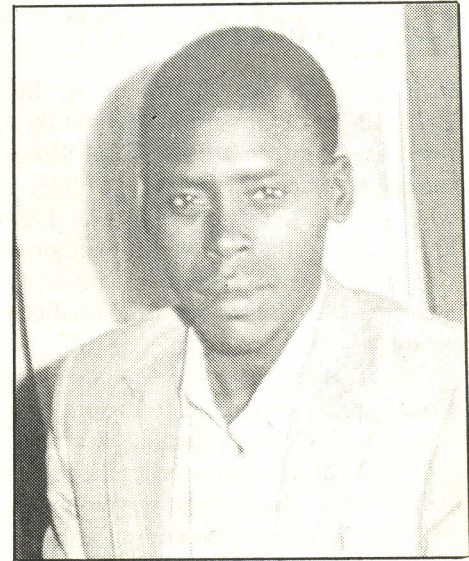
THE Graduation Day, the ceremony for the Conferment and presentation of degrees and diplomas is most certainly the graduate's most memorable day in his academic life. It is a day that comes after a lot of hard work and struggles through various institutions of learning right from the nursery school to the University. It is therefore only natural that every graduate can not help reflecting on what has happened over the past years of school life, the friendships which suddenly grew so strong and then died, examinations set that eliminated thousands of other students at various levels of the Education process, some of the teachers through whom Education was acquired and of course, the unique personal experiences undergone at the University of Nairobi.

At the University's Main Campus, just a few days before the D-Day, the graduates, most of whom are already employed, make arrangements to procure ceremonial academic gowns, invitation cards and other necessary items all in preparation for the graduation Day. As we move closer to the Day, the University Administration holds lengthy consultations and arrangements at various levels just to make sure that nothing is missing on the big day. Then just a day or two to the cere-

monial day, the Voice of Kenya Television Screens the now traditional T.V. Programme curtain raiser which highlights some of the important aspects and achievements of university education with special emphasis on research and technology. The programme is intended not only to inform the public but also to bring in the graduation mood in preparation and readiness for the occasion. There are repeated announcements over the radio on when the graduation is taking place, time and order of proceedings. The same information is also carried in the three daily newspapers.

In the city streets and common city bus stations the academic gowns become a familiar sight, thus reminding all that the degrees are just around the corner. In Hotels, Theatres and Coffee houses, graduands meet to exchange views all having one thing in mind: the graduation.

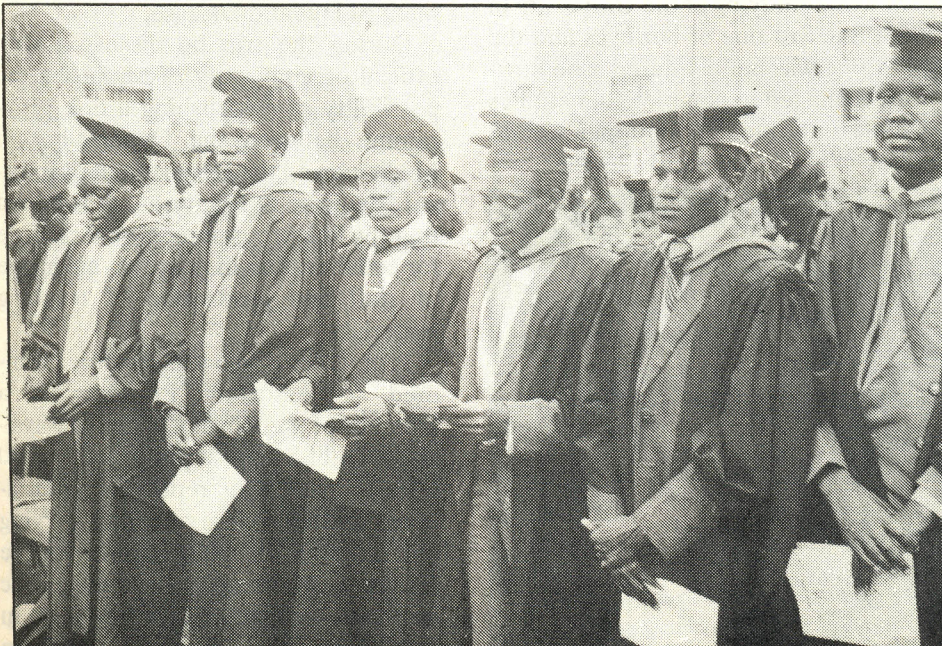
Parties are held either on the day before or the day after the ceremony or on both days. Relatives and friends meet to congratulate the graduate on his grand achievement. They give presents to the graduates as a sign of appreciation for his academic excellence. Those who still have strong ties in the village hold more interesting parties. In the village, where the graduate



Mr. Mboyo Mutua: LL.B II

began the education process, the "Old Man" may be minded to slaughter a goat to announce and celebrate the end of the education process signified by the acquisition of a degree. The son has read all there is to read and understood all there is to understand, and now is the time to receive the highest certificate in learning — the Degree.

Immediately after graduation most parents expect their sons to shoot out of the University like a "hot cake", a rare competitive commodity of international reputation and to set great things happening in the family after selling at a high price in the Labour Market. Actually most parents share a common feeling and hope that every Bachelor of Arts graduate is automatically appointed a District Officer (D.O.) on completion of his degree course. Parents usually contend that, now, all their problems are over, there is no day they will be bothered again by petty financial problems. All that they will be required to do is to pass them over after the graduation day and have them taken care of once and for all. For them, what they have been waiting for has finally come to happen and its time to enjoy the beautiful fruits of their vineyard. Relatives and friends have their own load of problems which have always been there because somehow



Graduands during the graduation ceremony: Will their dreams ever be realised?

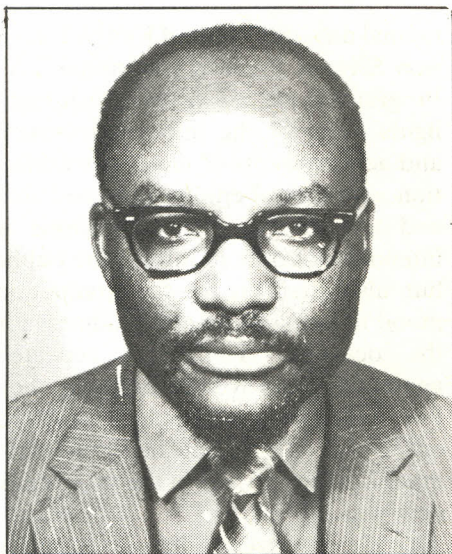
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Prof. Oyugi takes over as 8:4:4 Co-ordinator

Prof. W. Oyugi, Chairman of the Department of Government, has taken over as Co-ordinator of 8:4:4 Programme in place of Prof. M. Addulaziz who is on Sabbatical leave. As 1990 approaches, the 8:4:4 Management Committee is expected to intensify efforts to have all the required facilities ready.

In particular the 8:4:4 Management Committee is expected to ensure that the various Colleges finalise draft syllabi and admission criteria and ascertain whether the current development of office spaces is proceeding as planned and whether they will be adequate to meet the needs of the current staff and the expected one-third staff increase by 1990.

The Committee is also to liaise with the Clerk of Works to ensure that plans



Prof. Oyugi: Appointed Co-ordinator.

for the necessary structures at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and College of Biological and Physical Sciences are ready.

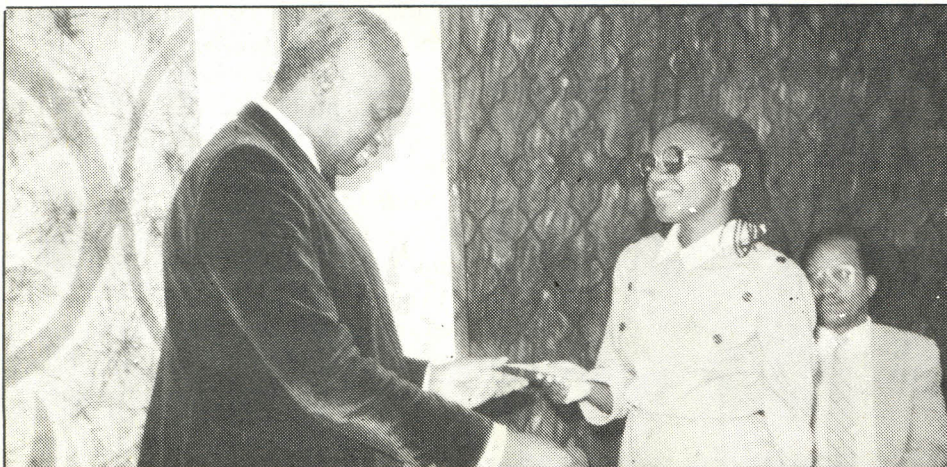
Anne thanks Varsity community

Miss Anne W. Mwangi, a graduate of the University of Nairobi, has thanked the University of Nairobi Community for donating generously to enable her meet Medical expenses in London. In an open letter, Miss Mwangi said that she was successfully operated on at the old court Hospital London, in September. It is expected that she will regain her eyesight upon recovery.

Following her appeal for funds to travel to London for specialised eye treatment, the University Community donated KSh. 44,580.00. The money

was handed over by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic who praised Miss Mwangi for her courage. Prof. Mutere observed that some people lose hope upon encountering very trivial problems and fail to use such moments to bring out the best in them.

Miss Mwangi was involved in an accident while studying at the University in 1983. She lost one of her eyes and the other one was badly injured. She however, managed to complete her studies in 1984 and obtained an upper second in Bachelor of Commerce degree.



Prof. Mutere presenting cheque to Miss Mwangi.

Institute gets Rockefeller assistance

The Rockefeller Foundation has granted the University 22,000 U.S. Dollars to enable the Population Studies and Research Institute develop indicators by which to measure Family Planning effort in Kenya. The money will be used for personnel, local transportation, office services and supplies.

The grant is in response to a proposal developed by Dr. Gatara, Dr. Muganzi and Dr. Musyoki last year to study Kenya's Family Planning Programme in phases. The preliminary phase has already commenced and will run upto February 1988. It is anticipated that the main phase will be funded by other donor agencies.

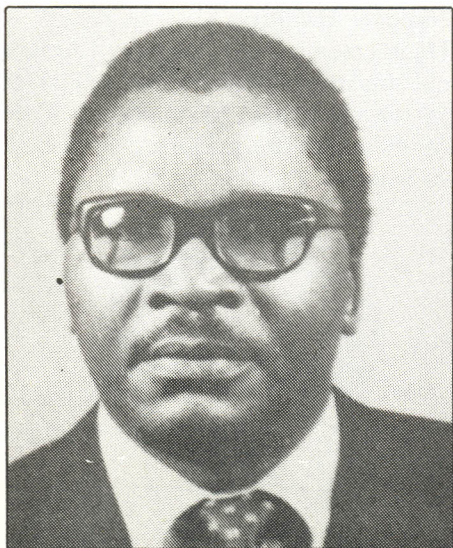
Prof. Okello visits Canada

Prof. G.B.A. Okello, Chairman of the Department of Medicine, recently visited Canada and U.S.A. where he gave a series of Lectures. In September, 1987 he was invited by the Canadian Royal College of Physicians during its Annual Scientific Conference to give a lecture on Recent Advances in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Hydatid Disease.

During the trip he discussed with official of University of Manitoba the possibility of establishing a link programme between the Department of Medicine and the Department of Internal Medicine at Manitoba. It is hoped that the link programme would provide for collaboration in research, exchange of staff and production of teaching materials.

Prof. Okello, who was recently promoted to Associate Professor is a member of the Royal College of Physicians, Dublin and has published over 60 learned papers in reputable international journals. He is currently carrying out research on DNA probes for the Kenya Echinococcus as a diagnostic tool with implications for treatment in collaboration with case Western Reserve University, Ohio, U.S.A.

Professorial appointments



Dr. Ogana: promoted from Senior Lecturer to Associate Professor.

Dr. B.W. Ogana

Department of Mathematics

Educational Background:

Dr. Ogana, 41, holds B.Sc (Mathematics) from the University of Nairobi and M.Sc. and Ph.D degree from Stanford University U.S.A. Both degrees are in applied Mechanics. His fields of specialisation are fluid Mechanics, numerical analysis and Mathematical Modelling.

Teaching and Supervision Record:

Dr. Ogana joined the University of Nairobi in 1977 as a Lecturer and promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1980. He has successfully supervised two Ph.D and three M.Sc. Students. Before joining the University of Nairobi, Dr. Ogana served as a Research Associate at NASA AMES Research Centre, California, U.S.A.

Publications:

He has published 17 scientific papers which have appeared in learned local and international journals and has contributed creative articles in Literary publications such as *Busara*, *Yard Bird Reader* and *Days of Glamour*. He has authored a book on numerical modelling.

Current Research:

Dr. Ogana's current research, which is

sponsored by National Council of Science and Technology, is on wind energy potential in Kenya. Other research projects that he has undertaken include Geothermal Reservoir modelling and Boundary element methods application to three-dimensional transonic small-disturbance flow.

National Activities:

He is a Director of Kenya Power and Lighting Company Limited and member of several professional associations in his field of specialisation. He has served as External Examiner in the Universities of Dar-es-Salaam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Mr. D.B. Thomas

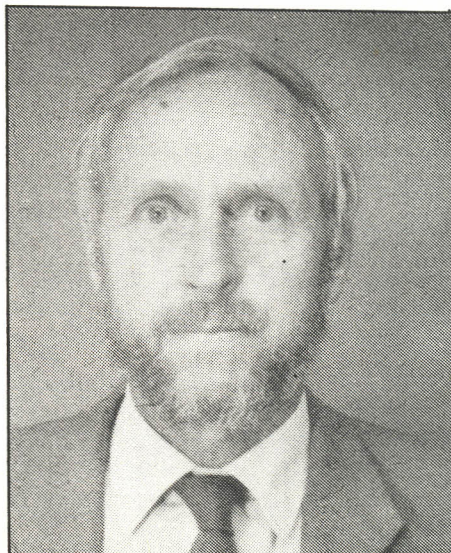
Department of Agricultural Engineering

Educational Background:

Mr Thomas, 58, holds a B.A. in Natural Sciences, Diploma in Agriculture from Cambridge University and M.Sc. in Agricultural Engineering from Reeding University.

Teaching and Supervision Record:

He joined the University service as a Lecturer in 1971, and promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1978. Mr Thomas



Mr. Thomas: Promoted from Senior Lecturer to Associate Professor.

teaches Agricultural Engineering to both Undergraduates and Postgraduate Students. He has successfully supervised several M.Sc. candidates.

Publications:

He has published numerous articles in learned local and international journals.

Current Research:

Mr Thomas is currently carrying out research on the Effectiveness of narrow grass strips in the control of runoff and soil loss and Alternative methods of stabilising terrace banks.

National Activities:

He is a member of several Professional organisations including the National Committee on soil and water conservation. Mr Thomas has been External Examiner of Egerton University since 1980.

Dr. A.G. Tumbo-Oeri

Department of Biochemistry

Educational Background:

Dr. Tumbo-Oeri read for B.Sc. at the University of Nairobi and Ph.D. at the University of Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia. His thesis was entitled Immunological and structural consequences of Vasectomy.

Teaching and Supervision Record:

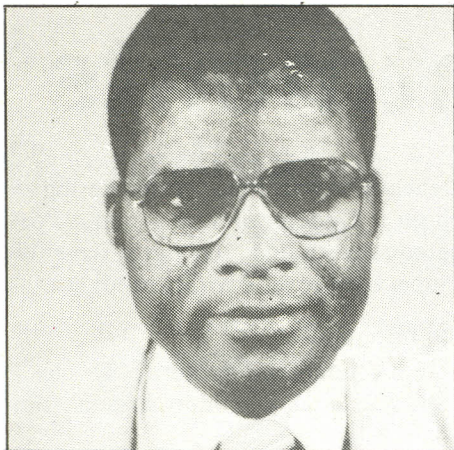
Dr. Tumbo-Oeri was appointed Lecturer in the Department of Biochemistry in 1981 and promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1984. He is currently supervising four postgraduate Students, three for M.Sc. and one at Ph.D. level.

Publications:

Dr. Tumbo-Oeri has published 27 papers and prepared four consultancy reports. He has also read papers at Local and International fora.

Current Research:

He is currently undertaking research in spermatogenesis in Kenyan Men, Isolation and characterisation of Human sperm Membrane and Pathogenesis of



Dr. Tumbo-Oeri promoted from Senior Lecturer to Associate Professor.

experimental Allergic Orchitis in the Guinea Pig.

National Activities:

He is a member of several professional organisations which include African chapter of international society for the study of immunology of Reproduction and Interim Committee for Kenya Society for Immunology.

The trials and tribulations of a graduate

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they have been able to ignore and postpone them in the past but which now they kindly want to pass them over to the graduate so that they can be taken care of in such a way that they do not recur in the days to come; all in the true spirit of African Brotherhood!

The Government of the republic of Kenya views graduation with a lot of seriousness. Its a major national occasion presided over by the Head of State and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces. Its welcome news to the government and the nation at large that highly qualified professionals in various disciplines are finally ready to be deployed in various economic sectors to utilise the available natural resources in the production process.

When finally the day does arrive and all the graduates, fully dressed and the congregation is assembled in the Great Court, the graduate ought to reflect over the past experiences at the University and whether the same estab-

Dr. M.G. Charalambus

Department of Mathematics

Educational Background:

Dr. Charalambus, 41, obtained his B.Sc. (Mathematics) and Ph.D in Topology, from the University of London. His academic fields of interest are Dimension Theory and Topology.

Teaching and Supervision Record:

Dr. Charalambus joined the Department of Mathematics as a Senior Lecturer in 1979. Prior to that he taught Mathematics at Ahmadu Bello University and University of Lagos, Nigeria. He was also a visiting Professor at the Institute of Mathematics, University of Campinas, Brazil.

Dr. Charalambus has supervised several M.Sc students

Publications:

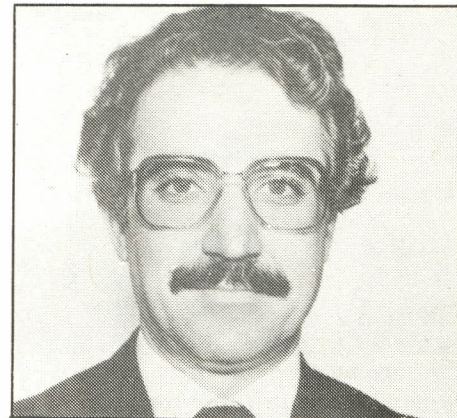
He has published 17 learned papers on Mathematics in reputable journals.

Current Research:

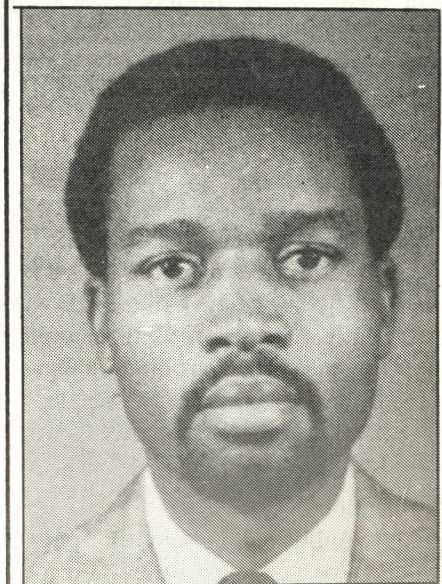
Dr. Charalambus research interest is in the fields of Dimension Theory and General Topology.

National Activities:

He is a member of London and American societies of Mathematics and serves as an External Examiner in Pure Mathematics in the University of Dar-es-Salaam.



Dr. Charalambus Promoted from Senior Lecturer to Associate Professor.



Mr. Liyai has been promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian. He is a graduate of the University of Nairobi and holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies from Manchester Polytechnic and is presently heading the I.D.S. Library.

lishes a concrete foundation for the future. Experiences in Gilgil, the orientation week, the Vice-Chancellor's speech, Boom and CCU. Within a short while the ceremony is over and the dreams of all must soon either mature to realities or slowly die and be buried altogether.

Although there is nothing particularly new about each congregation for the conferment and presentation of degrees in the Great Court – it has happened for over a dozen times – each time it happens is a unique fulfilment of not only an individual dream and aspiration which nothing elsewhere can fulfill but also a great national achievement in the field of training and utilisation of human resources. The Chancellor's words as he says "I admit the persons....." are the most important words to the graduate. Put in their shoes I would feel the same. But the graduation ceremony is neither the end nor the beginning of the Learning process.

Dr. Mugambi authors Philosophy book

GOD HUMANITY AND NATURE IN RELATION TO JUSTICE AND PEACE

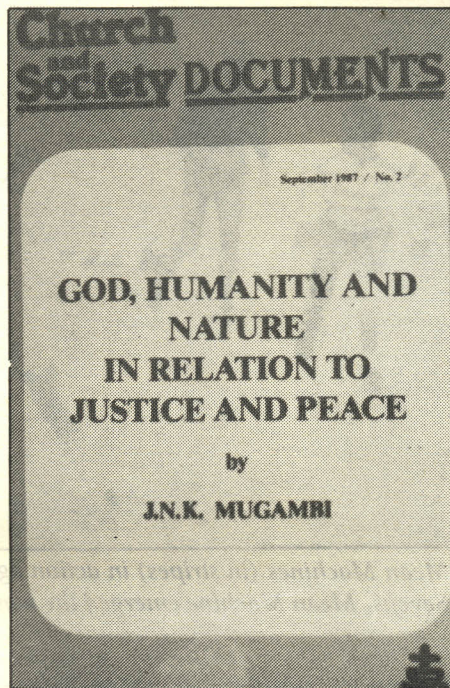
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RESUME

The purpose of this book is threefold. First author, who is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies, emphasises the need to relate the current discussion concerning God, Humanity, and Nature, to previous ecumenical debates and studies on similar themes. The first two chapters of the book are intended to meet this objective in an introductory manner. They are not exhaustive but they provide references which the interested reader may follow up. The first chapter is entitled "God Humanity and Nature in Ecumenical Discussion", while the title of the second chapter is "Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation in the Ecumenical Agenda."

Secondly, the book responds to the observation in the Report of the Programme Unit on Faith and Witness, submitted to the Central Committee of the WCC, dated Geneva, July 1984, (p. 26): "The fact that justice and peace are often isolated from the integrity of creation may partly be due to a western philosophical and theological tradition which distinguishes sharply between God and humanity on the one hand, and the rest of creation on the other. If this is the case, then the search for more environmentally sensitive, appropriate and holistic science and technology may be assisted by more culturally diverse theological studies of the relationship between God, humanity and nature." The third chapter of the book is entitled "The African Experi-



ence of God, Humanity and Nature." It is intended to contribute new insights into the search for a more ecologically integrated theology, appreciating the African world-view. The fourth chapter reinforces these insights by presenting the author's "Reflections on Man's Valuation of Matter in relation to Duration and Space." This chapter emphasises that Substance, Duration and Space are not independent concepts; they can only be defined and understood in terms of one another, within a particular world-view. Therefore, it is necessary always to appreciate the world-view which is presupposed whenever a perspective or value system is proclaimed as a favourable option. The so-called scientific world-view, is culturally conditioned by the intellectual tradition in which it has been developed and propagated — but there are other world-views which also deserve to be taken seriously.

Thirdly, chapters five and six deal with the alleged conflict between empirical science and Christian theology. The author's approach is philosophical, and the objective is to show that epistemologically there ought to be no conflict between empirical science and Christian theology, because each of these represents a distinct "mode of thought and expres-

sion." At best, empirical science and Christian theology ought to be epistemologically complementary, with philosophy also adding another dimension to man's quest for comprehensive knowledge. Unfortunately, empiricism especially in the twentieth century, has tended to frown upon theology, metaphysics, ethics and aesthetics, through an incomplete dichotomy between "fact" and "value" Dr Mugama argues that there is no rational ground for placing *fact* above *value* in epistemology. Therefore, science cannot rightly claim a monopoly to valid knowledge.

In the concluding chapter the author offers a critique of what he calls Euro-Hellenic epistemology. The title of his seventh chapter is "Between Subjectivity and Objectivity." He suggests that Theology, as an epistemological enquiry, falls between subjective response and objective analysis. Its role cannot be replaced by any other discipline, and any society or culture that dispenses with theology would lack an important dimension in its epistemology. He concludes the book by favourably quoting from Archbishop John Habgood's book *Religion and Science*, which strikes cautious balance between the claims of empirical science and those of Christian Theology.

Dean's Awards

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Association of Physicians.

Dr J.O. Midiwo, Department of Chemistry, KShs. 27,010 to travel to Bangkok, Thailand to attend and present a paper entitled "A-ring only tetra and tri-oxygenated Chalcones in Kenyan Medicinal Polygonum Senegalense Va Senegalence" at "The First Princess Chulabhorn Science Congress 1987".

Mr. E.K. Biamah, Department of Agricultural Engineering KShs. 30,724 to enable him travel to Manchester, England to attend a conference on Project implementation in developing countries.

Games Department set for a busy season

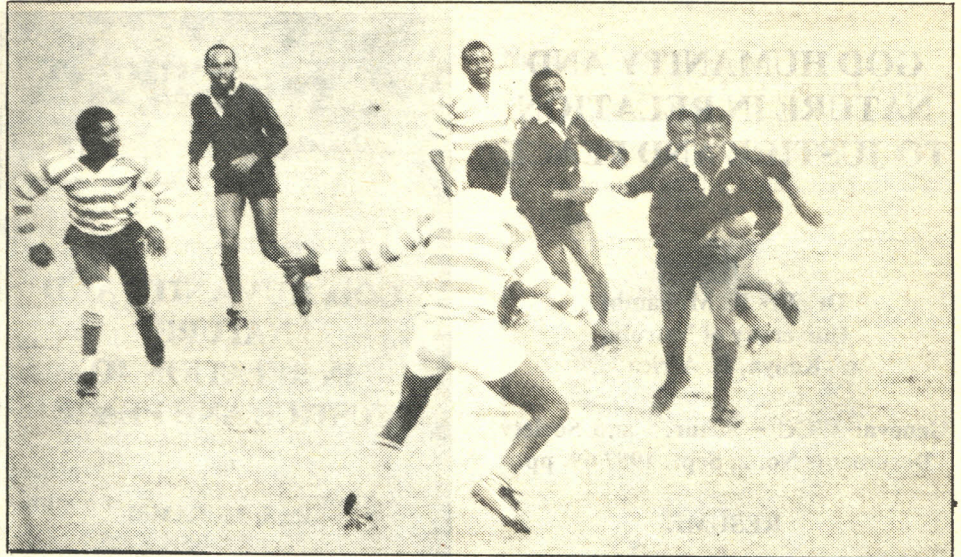
The Games Department has a busy sporting schedule this term that will see University of Nairobi teams feature in local, national and international assignments.

In athletics, University sportsmen and women participated in the first KAAA meet this year at Moi International Sports Centre. On 30th January they travelled to Kisii to take part in a national Cross-Country championships held at Cardinal Otunga High School.

In another development, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, (Academic) Prof. F.A. Mutere has asked the Games Department to start a Cycling Club. Welcoming seven students who cycled 500 km to raise funds for the Universities Research Fund, Prof. Mutere said the Games Department should use the four bicycles bought by the University as a basis of starting the club.

Cycling as a sport was one of the major highlights in the 4th All African Games. It is anticipated that the club will get support from the national cycling body.

Meanwhile there is excitement within



Mean Machines (in stripes) in action against Black Blad recently during the Coke Sevens. Mean Machine emerged the winners.

University sporting circles as teams prepare to participate in Olympic qualifying meets. Already the Athletic team is busy training for the selection meets.

During the 4th All Africa Games, University sportsmen and women were selected to represent Kenya in athletics, basketball, handball, volleyball and rugby.

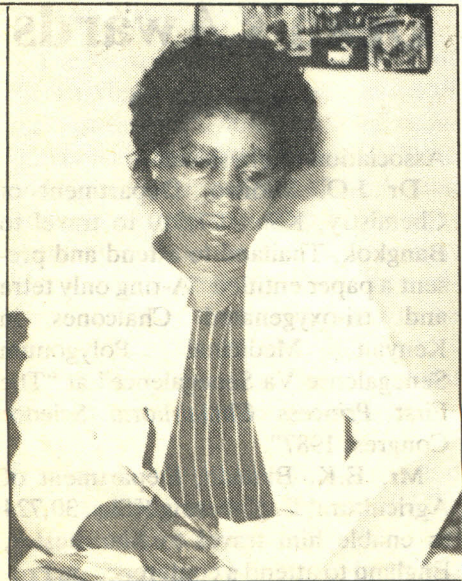
AIESEC

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convinced that the best available experts would co-operate with AIESEC and other associations as they did in ITOMS in 1967.

The future is ours, no one can ignore us. We have to meet the challenge and make use of our potential in a constructive manner. We have to stop wasting time in senseless risks. We have associations to help us realise our potential. Leaders and individuals have already shown the willingness. His Excellency the President, also the Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, has given the lead in launching the Universities Research Fund. Some students have already supported this cause by cycling to increase this Fund. The regulation of the University senate states that the new college organisations shall promote the development of worthy traditions of social and academic interests from being 'political' to more constructive ideas e.g. the Medical students Association can run health clinics in villages on weekends, such a project has once been done in conjunction with AIESEC. These association have a relevance in creating a better campus. It is with this anticipation that we can look forward to a more stable academic atmosphere.

Mwagiru moves to Dean's office



Miss Mwagiru: New assistant Dean of Students.

THE Vice-Chancellor has appointed Miss Agnes Mwagiru, Assistant Games Tutor, acting Assistant Dean of Students to take over from Mrs. J.W. Kamau who is on study leave for two years to undertake a Master of Education Degree in Counsellor Education at Pennsylvania State University, U.S.A. Miss Mwagiru will, however, carry on her games duties on part-time basis.

Talking to Varsity Focus, Miss Mwagiru thanked the Vice-Chancellor for appointing her and pledged to do her best to live up to the challenges of her new responsibilities. She said her new role in the Dean's office will bring her closer to the students and make her work as a games tutor easier.