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UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

**VARSAITY FOCUS**

A General Information Sheet from the Vice-Chancellor

No. 48

31st July 1984

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1. STAFF MATTERS

1.1. NEW APPOINTMENTS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>
Miss B.A. Odwako	Tutorial Fellow	Medicine
Dr. Benson B. Estambale	Tutorial Fellow	Medical Microbiology
Dr. M.S. Masinde	Lecturer	Surgery
Dr. (Mrs.) M.N. Wambugu	Lecturer	Diagnostic Radiology
Mr. D.O. Oriko	Estate Manager	Estates
Dr. Benjamin Okech	Lecturer	I.D.S.
Mr. E.R. Ndabarasa	Assistant Lecturer	Philosophy
Dr. M. Ollunga Odhiambo	Lecturer	Agricultural Economics
Dr. C.S. Rao	Lecturer	Human Anatomy
Dr. D.A. Sharad	Lecturer	Human Anatomy
Dr. V. Orinda	Lecturer	Paediatrics
Dr. B.C. Msamati	Lecturer	Human Anatomy
Dr. (Mrs.) G.W. Kitonyi	Lecturer	Human Pathology
Dr. C. Kotie Daddieh	Lecturer	Government
Dr. F.M. Nganga	Lecturer	Paediatrics
Mrs. N. Kapila	Lecturer	Inst. of Adult Studies
Dr. E.L. Shivutse	Lecturer	Inst. of Adult Studies
Dr. R.L. Odhiambo	Lecturer	Paediatrics
Dr. H. Macilwaine	Senior Lecturer	Advanced Nursing
Dr. I. Ahmed	Assoc. Professor	Pharmacy
Dr. J.K. Sharma	Assoc. Professor	Dental Surgery
Prof. G. Miller	Visiting Professor	Chemistry

1.2. PROMOTIONS

Dr. E.W. Kibugi	Lecturer	Dental Surgery
Dr. J.K. Imungi	Lecturer	Food Science & Technology
Dr. E.G. Karuri	Lecturer	Food Science & Technology
Dr. E. Maina-Ayiera	Lecturer	Physics
Mr. George Ngugi	Lecturer	Urban & Regional Planning
Mr. P.S. Thatthi	Lecturer	Architecture
Dr. A.M. Adam	Lecturer	Medicine
Dr. W.K. Sitonik	Lecturer	Crop Science
Mrs. Rosemary Kiathe	Sen. Asst. Librarian	Library
Dr. D. Kinuthia	Senior Lecturer	Paediatrics
Dr. F.E. Onyango	Senior Lecturer	Paediatrics
Dr. D. Ndetei	Senior Lecturer	Psychiatry

1.3. RE-APPOINTMENTS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>
Mrs. A.N. Guantai	Tutorial Fellow	Pharmacy
Mr. D. Okoth-Okombo	Tutorial Fellow	Linguistics & African Languages
Mrs. Joyce M. Olenja	Junior Res. Fellow	Inst. of African Studies
Mr. G.H. Nyamasyo	Tutorial Fellow	Zoology
Miss Beth Mbaka	Tutorial Fellow	Literature
Mr. Justus Mwanje	Tutorial Fellow	Geography
Mr. F.M. Muthuri	Tutorial Fellow	Botany
Mrs. Mabel O. Imbuga	Tutorial Fellow	Biochemistry
Mr. Patrick M. Wanjohi	Tutorial Fellow	Biochemistry
Dr. Sein Win	Lecturer	Mathematics
Dr. A.R. Tindimubona	Lecturer	Chemistry
Mr. J.N. Tripathi	Lecturer	Electrical Engineering
Mrs. Christine Fayad	Asst. Lecturer	Forestry
Dr. V. Jaccarini	Senior Lecturer	Zoology
Dr. A.J. Rodrigues	Senior Lecturer	Mathematics
Dr. D.R. Basiime	Senior Lecturer	Crop Science
Mr. R.C. Soper	Senior Res. Fellow	Inst. of African Studies
Dr. D. Kayongo-Male	Senior Lecturer	Sociology
Mr. W. Schulthess	Vis. Senior Lecturer	Food Science & Technology
Prof. M.S. Patel	Assoc. Professor	Mathematics

1.4. RESIGNATIONS/EXPIRY OF CONTRACTS

Mr. H. Ellen	Visiting Lecturer	Agricultural Engineering
Dr. P. Ranasinghe	Lecturer	Geography
Dr. R.S. Raja	Senior Lecturer	Diagnostic Radiology
Mr. J.D. Rubadiri	Senior Lecturer	Literature
Mr. D.M. Ngumo	Senior Asst. Registrar	Academic Section
Dr. R.L. Sharma	Senior Lecturer	Economics
Dr. H. Nzanze	Professor	Medical Microbiology

2.

NEW LIAISON OFFICER FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI/  
CALIFORNIA LINK APPOINTED

Prof. G.M. Miller has taken over as the new Director of the University of California/University of Nairobi Exchange Link. Under the Education Abroad Programme of the University of California, an exchange arrangement exists between the two universities whereby students from University of California visit the University of Nairobi for a period of one academic year. In return, members of staff of the University of Nairobi, under staff development programme, go for postgraduate degree studies in any of the nine campuses of the University of California.

The University of California maintains a liaison office here - the Education Abroad Programme Study Centre, under the headship of a Director who has always been a senior member of the academic staff of University. Apart from his duties as Director of the Study Centre, Prof. Miller has been appointed Visiting Professor in the Department of Chemistry with effect from July 1984. He takes over from Dr. P.E. Sinclair, who was the Director as well as a Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Dental Surgery.

Currently, the following academic staff from the University of Nairobi are pursuing Ph.D. degree courses at the University of California under this programme:- Mr. P.M. Ngau, Department of Geography, Mr. L.K. Motumah, Department of Civil Engineering, Mr. J.K. Gathuru, Department of Biochemistry, Mr. P. Amuka, Institute of African Studies, Mr. M. Marete, Department of Economics and Mr. R.A. Ameu, Department of Pharmacy. Others who have gone through the programme include Dr. J. Akonga; Department of Sociology, Mr. G. Akwabi, Department of Mathematics, Mr. G. Ngugi, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Mr. S. Kebathi, Department of Architecture, Mr. A. Ngue, Department of Botany, Dr. S. Njuguna, Department of Botany and Dr. T.J. Njoka in the Department of Range Management.

3. DATES OF TERMS FOR 1984/85 ACADEMIC YEAR

At its 70th Meeting held early this year, the University Senate approved the dates of terms for 1984/85 Academic Year as follows:-

1st Term:

Monday, 1st October 1984 - Saturday 15th December 1984  
(11 Weeks)

2nd Term:

Monday, 7th January 1985 - Saturday 23rd March 1985  
(11 Weeks)

3rd Term:

Tuesday, 22nd April 1985 - Saturday 6th July 1985  
(11 Weeks)

4th Term: (where applicable)

Monday 8th July 1985 - Saturday 31st August 1985  
(8 Weeks)

FOURTH AND FIFTH YEARS MEDICINE - 4TH TERM:

Fourth Year:

Monday 8th July 1985 - Saturday 21st September 1985  
(11 Weeks)

Fifth Year:

Monday 8th July 1985 - Saturday 27th July 1985  
(3 weeks)

4. NAIROBI UNIVERSITY PRESS

At their last meeting, the Board of Directors of Nairobi University Press (NUP) resolved that the Press's publishing role will be given priority over all other activities of a printing and publishing press. And they also decided that University staff and students be urged to write quality books for publication by NUP.

Noting that the Primary objectives of a University are to develop new knowledge through research, to process and store knowledge through library services and to disseminate knowledge through publications, the Board further resolved that the publishing priorities of the Press will be as follows:-

- (i) Distance and Continuing Education Texts
- (ii) Text Books aimed at University and College Students
- (iii) Other Academic Books
- (iv) Technical Journals

The Board also decided that College Principals, Deans of Faculties and Directors of Institutes be admitted to the Membership Board of NUP. Drawn mainly from all the Faculties of the University and including members from outside the University, the Membership Board will advise and recommend to Directors any matters within the competence of the Board. It will also receive annual reports and statements of accounts during annual general meetings. Chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. J.M. Mungai, the Board of Directors of the Press include Mr. L. Sagini, Chairman of the University Council, Prof. P.M. Mbithi, Prof. F.A. Mutere, Dr. J.M. Mbindyo, Mr. P.E. Kinyanjui, Mr. J. Ndegwa and Mr. J. Nottingham.

Meanwhile, the necessary infrastructural arrangements are being made to enable the Press start its publishing and printing activities as soon as possible. All inquiries concerning the Press should be addressed to the Secretary, Nairobi University Press at the Main Campus.

5. BIOLOGICAL NITROGEN FIXATION CONFERENCE HELD IN NAIROBI

The Departments of Soil Science and Botany of the University of Nairobi organized the first conference of the African Association for Biological Nitrogen Fixation running from July 23rd upto 27th July 1984. The conference incorporated the first meeting of the recently formed African Association for Biological Nitrogen Fixation (AABNF) whose headquarters are at the University of Nairobi.

Participants were invited from 28 African countries including those from nine countries in the Micro-biological Resources Centres (MIRCEN) Network and 20 other countries represented in the AABNF association. Funded by UNESCO and other donors, the conference brought into contact scientists from African countries working in all aspects of biological nitrogen fixation (BNF) to share experiences and information, to evaluate what has been done and to chart out a course for efficient exploitation of BNF in the farming systems of Africa.

It was officially opened by the Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Development, Hon. W.O. Omamo on Wednesday, 25th July 1984. The conference attracted over 100 participants representing 28 African countries and 12 other non-African countries. 10 Keynote speakers representing organizations like FAO, NIFTAL, IAFA, USAID, Rothnstead as well as scientists from developed and non-developed countries were invited.

5. CHEMICAL INDUSTRY CONSULTANCY UNIT TO BE ESTABLISHED

The Department of Chemistry will launch a Chemical Industry Consultancy Unit (CICU) if plans now underway come into fruition. In a project document already drafted and discussed by the Department of Chemistry it is proposed that the unit will act as a bridge through which the

Department's expertise in Chemistry will be effectively channelled to serve the technical needs of local industries and other public institutions.

Noting that the Department of Chemistry has in the past contributed to the Development goals of Kenya through traditional university activities such as teaching, training research and through participation in various committees, panels and consultancy services, the document indicates that the Department plans to strengthen and regularize these activities by establishing the CICU. Among the major objectives of the Unit will be to provide consultancy services to local industries in:

- process improvement and trouble-shooting
- raw materials substitution and utilization
- waste disposal recovery and pollution control
- development of new products
- quality control and assurance
- in-service technical training.

The Unit will also provide consultancy on the choice of available technologies and process know-how on various manufacturing activities in the form of feasibility studies and literature survey reports. It will also establish and maintain a computerized register of chemicals produced and used in Kenya together with their end-uses, qualities, toxicology data and environmental effects. Equally important will be the unit's role as a national focal point for innovation in chemical industries in carrying out pilot-plant studies on various processes specially those developed in Kenya.

Noting that the chemical industry relies heavily on Research and Development (R & D) in order to increase process efficiencies and to develop new raw materials, the document points out that the industrialization



strategy in Kenya has faced problems partly because negligible R & D is undertaken in Kenya's industries. The document further states that a deliberate effort to utilize local, competent manpower for R & D and for technology assessment can have a major positive impact in the country's industrialization policy.

In order to fill this gap, the Department of Chemistry, through CICU, intends to organize a series of sectoral seminars involving industrial, Government and University personnel to identify priority areas for R & D. If funds permit, the Department will also establish facilities for pilot-plants of various products for process development in food manufacturing and processing, agricultural chemicals, paints, inks, surface coatings and polishes, printing and photography chemicals, dyes and textiles, etc. The project document further indicates that the Department has trained about 500 B.Sc. Chemistry students and 31 M.Sc. and doctoral students.

7. UNIVERSITY NEWS THROUGH VARSITY FOCUS

If you have any news items concerning any Public Lectures, seminars, workshops, symposia, conferences, research projects, presentations and any other miscellaneous events and activities, please send information to Mr. G.G. Wainaina in the Vice-Chancellor's Office for inclusion in future issues of the Varsity Focus.

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