

## **REPORT FROM SCHOOL OF LAW**

### **UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI SCHOOL OF LAW**

#### **A: INTRODUCTION**

The Faculty of Law was established in 1970 and is one of the original faculties of the University of Nairobi, currently referred as School of Law. The main task of the School is to run a national training Programme for the legal profession, leading to the degree of Bachelor of Laws (LL.B). The Faculty also runs Master of Laws (LL.M) and PhD Programmes for students wishing to specialize in specific branches of law.

Although law studies at the University Level are by tradition, of theoretical character, pedagogical efforts have been made to encourage active participation in class and to introduce mock trials and moot court competitions locally and internationally. The School also runs a Clinical Programme under which students are attached to courts in order for them to appreciate the workings of the law and gain practical experience.

The training at the School provides students with knowledge of the law required in professional practice, business, industry as well as service in local and central governments. Since its establishment, the School has maintained a distinctive character in contribution to the legal profession and the legal fraternity in Kenya and is the leading source of legal knowledge and skills in the country. Graduates of the School are serving as senior members of government, judges of superior courts, magistrates, senior legal officers in the State Law Office, public corporations, local authorities and private entities. Others are law instructors in many institutions.

This premier law School has evolved steadily from its earlier status as a department of the Faculty of Commerce in the 1960s to one of the largest law Schools in East and Central Africa. Today, the School has staff strength of 5 full professors, 9 Associate professors, 10 Senior Lecturers, 41 Lecturers, 1 Assistant Lecturer and a team of administrative and support staff. The student population stands at slightly over 2,259.

The School of Law has achieved several milestones in terms of ICT services and usage by maintaining seamless internet connectivity in the offices, halls of residence and the library.

The library has been elevated into a connectivity center over this period through WIFI networks. This has increased usage of the library electronic resources including the latest acquired LexisNexis online library among other online databases. This has gone a long way in complementing the existing research facilities available to both the School of Law students and the lecturers.

Installation of teaching equipment to support content delivery through use of ICT has also been realized in both Sheria hall and the Lecture theatre. This enables the lecture to deliver content with ease through the use of technology.

In the same period the school of law managed to equip all the teaching and non-teaching staff offices with computers to facilitate service delivery and research activities. The rolling out of the E-learning platform has enhanced the student lecturer interaction in terms of content sharing.

The school of law is also in the advanced stages of establishing a state-of –the-art moot court facility. The impressive facility will be fitted with the latest ICT systems for the moot court management including live video streaming and recording through the existing ICT/WIFI networks attached to a storage infrastructure which shall be used to record proceedings.

Without emphasizing on the importance of this facility and mootings as a learning method in a 21<sup>st</sup> century law school, the law graduates from the School of Law shall not only be internationally competitive, but fully conversant with the latest technologies employed in a modern court room configuration. The facility shall also be used for international moot court competitions.

The School of Law has three Campuses: Parklands, Nairobi Law Campus, Mombasa Law Campus and Kisumu Law Campus. The School also has three Departments: Commercial Law, Private Law and Public Law.

## **B: COURSES OFFERED**

1. Bachelor Of Laws (LLB)
2. Master of Laws (LLM) in various thematic areas
3. PhD in various thematic areas

**C: STUDENT ENROLMENT IN 2010/2011**

	<b>Course</b>	<b>No. Enrolled in 2011/2012</b>
1	PhD	6
2	Master of Laws (LLM)	104
3	Bachelor of Laws (LLB)	2149
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2259</b>

**D: INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMPONENT IN 2011/2012**

- Students from Iran, Malawi, Sudan and Uganda at various levels.

**E: RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Law Governance and Democracy
- Public Finance and Financial Services Law
- International trade and Investments Law
- Law in Society
- Gender and the Law
- Public International Law
- Environmental and Natural Resources law
- Intellectual property Law
- Law, Science and Technology
- Corporate Governance and the Law

**F: INTERNATIONAL LINKS AND COLLABORATIONS**

- Financial & Legal Sector Technical Assistance Project (FLSTAP): Emerging trends Workshop.
- International Development research Centre (IDRC) Canada.
- Ford Foundation.
- Norwegian Agency for International Development.
- Norwegian Research Council.
- South and Eastern Africa Research Centre on Women's Law, University of Zimbabwe.

## **G: PUBLICATIONS FOR 2011/2012**

- Book chapters
  1. Ben, Sihanya. (2012). Constructing Copyright and Creativity in Kenya: Cultural Politics and the Political Economy of Transnational Intellectual Property (due 2012); doctoral dissertation, Stanford Law School (being converted into a book). *FAO Plant Protection Bulletin*, Vol. 30: 161-162
  2. Kaviti, LK. (2012). Tensions between Children's Rights and Culture: The Case of Child Participation in Kenya. *Human Rights, African Values and Traditions: An Interdisciplinary Approach*. Haki Book Series No. 1-sponsored by the Danish Institute of Human Rights (DIHR). , Nairobi: Focus Publishers
  3. Patricia K. Mbote, Anne Hellum & Pauline Nyamweya. "Pathways to Real Access to Land-Related Resources for Women: Challenging and Overturning Dominant Legal Paradigms", in Amy Tsanga and Julie Stewart (Eds.), *Women and Law: Innovative Regional Approaches to Teaching, Researching and Analysing Women and Law*, (The North-South Legal Perspective Series No. 5, Weaver Press, Harare, 2011) pp. 333-369
  4. Ben Sihanya. "Media law in Kenya in the era of digital broadcasting," *The Media Observer* a publication for Media Council of Kenya, July-October 2012, pp. 12-14.
- Articles in refereed journals
  1. Patricia K. Mbote 'Challenges to Sustainability in Africa', *Development*, Volume 54, Number 2 (February 2011) pp.243-246
  2. Patricia K. Mbote & Collins Odote "Avenues for Climate Change Litigation in Kenya", in Brunnée Jutta et al eds., *Climate Change Liability: Transnational Law and Practice*, Cambridge University Press, London, (2011) pp. 296-318
  3. Peter Wasamba & Ben Sihanya (2012) "What do Kenyan artists get for their skill? Reforming compensation under copyright," 24:2 *Journal of African Cultural Studies* 171-183 (Routledge; SOAS, London). Prof Wasamba is Associate Professor, Department of Literature and Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Nairobi.
  4. Ben, Sihanya. (2012). "Digital copyright in Kenya," Vol 8 2012 No.1 *Law Society of Kenya Journal* pp. 119-148

5. Ben Sihanya. (2012). "Constitutional implementation in Kenya, 2010-2015: challenges and prospects," A study under the auspices of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), Occasional Paper No. 5, Nairobi, January 2013, ISBN: 9966-957-20-0.
6. Migai Akech. *Is the Vetting Process Really Fair to Judges?* Nairobi Star, Monday, 25 June 2012; Nairobi Law Monthly, July 2012.
7. Sarah Kinyanjui. *Best Practices in Administration of Criminal Justice: A case of Mombasa Law courts (2011)* Resource booklet published in 2012 by Muslim for Human Rights (MUHURI)

**H: CONSULTANCIES**

- Legal Clinics by student organizations such as Kenya Law Students Society (KLSS) and Student Organization of Legal Aid (SOLAD)
- Fulbright Fellowship, Council for International Exchange Studies
- Devolved Governments in Kenya: Reflecting on and Planning for County Assemblies
- National Assembly's Draft Standing Orders
- Judiciary Transformation Framework (JTF)

**I: NUMBER OF GRADUANDS 2011/2012**

	<b>Graduands</b>	<b>Number</b>
1	PhD	2
2	Masters	47
3	Bachelors	330

**J: PAPERS PRESENTED AT CONFERENCES**

- Paul Wambua Musili. 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> September 2012, attended a seminar organized by the Law Society of Kenya at the Waterbuck Hotel, Nakuru whose theme was *The EAC, International Laws & Treaties, How Much Do You Know?* Presented a paper titled *Aborted Monism; An analysis of treaty Practice under the new constitution*

- Paul Wambua Musili. 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> December 2012 attended a two day seminar at the Ocean Beach Resort, Malindi on the theme *Laws, International Treaties & Facts In this Century* and presented a paper titled *Aborted Monism; An analysis of treaty Practice under the new constitution*.
  
- Paul Wambua Musili. 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2012 attended the Annual Maritime Conference organised by the National Maritime Foundation at the IDSA New Delhi on the theme Indian Ocean Challenges-A quest for cooperative Solutions and delivered a paper titled *The Scourge of Piracy: Cooperative Frameworks and Capacity Building*
  
- Migai Aketch. (2012). *Globalization, the Rule of (Administrative) Law, and the Realization of Democratic Governance in Africa*, Paper Prepared for “globalization: The Next Twenty Years,” 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Symposium of the Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies, Indiana University Maurer School of Law, 5-6 April 2012 (INDIANA JOURNAL OF GLOBAL LEGAL STUDIES, forthcoming).