

MKU



Newsletter

FOCUS ON

ELDORET CAMPUS

A PUBLICATION OF MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY

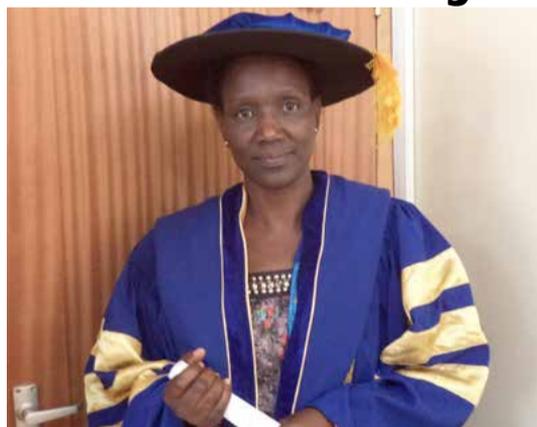
Deputy President unveils Alumni Plaza, presides over graduation of 6,603 students



Deputy President William Ruto (left) officially opens the ultra-modern, Sh1 billion Alumni Plaza (right) at the Mount Kenya University main campus in Thika. Varsity Founder and Chairman, Prof Simon N. Gicharu, applauds. The DP proceeded to preside over the university's 12th Graduation ceremony on the same day.



Varsity appoints new campus boss, boosts staffing to lift service delivery



MKU has strengthened staffing at its Eldoret Campus (left) after a positive audit report by the Commission for University Education (CUE) early this year. It has appointed career educationist Dr Emily Kirwok (above) campus Director. She takes charge beginning 1 August and will lead a strong administration team comprising a host of PhD holders... Full story on Page II.



MKU Chancellor Prof Victoria Wulsin confers a PhD degree on graduand Betty Wanjiru Karanja.

THE ROLE OF ETHICS AND VALUES IN SUSTAINABLE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Scalis Altitudines Educationis

MKU Eldoret Campus

Dr Kirwok takes the mantle

Dr Emily Kirwok, formerly the Acting Director, Kitale Campus, is the new Eldoret Campus Director effective 1 August. This is after the Commission for University Education (CUE) audited the campus early this year and awarded it full accreditation.

The Mount Kenya University management moved to appoint a new director with a PhD, and further strengthened the staff compliment. The campus now has a huge concentration of PhD holders in various top management and teaching positions.

Dr Kirwok holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Administration and Management (Moi University, 2016). She boasts a 24-year experience in teaching and administration at high schools and tertiary institutions.

"I intend to improve the working environment for the campus family that includes students and staff. I will also enhance dialogue with the Eldoret community and engage its members in activities that uplift them," she says.

"In my new position I am responsible



Dr Emily Kirwok, New Eldoret Campus Director

for organisation and administration, and planning, implementing and promoting research, innovation and best governance practices," she explains. "I am ready and

up to the task," she adds.

Dr Kirwok is a member of the Society of Educational Research and Evaluation in Kenya (SEREK).

Veteran scholar takes charge at School of Postgraduate Studies



Dr Paul Edabu, Coordinator, School of Postgraduate Studies MKU Eldoret Campus

Dr Paul Edabu is the coordinator, School of Postgraduate Studies at MKU Eldoret Campus. He has a PhD in Management Studies (Educational Planning and Management). He is also a lecturer.

Dr Edabu has taught in Kampala International University (KIU), Uganda, and at Kenya Methodist University (KeMU).

"My vision is to attract, educate, train and transform postgraduate students and thoroughly equip them with adequate and timely knowledge in specialised skills in research and innovation," he says.

Dr Edabu has 15 years of experience in teaching, administration and supervision of postgraduate students in East Africa.



Dr Anne M. Kalei, New Deputy Director, Academics and Research Affairs

Dr Kalei appointed new deputy director

Dr Anne M. Kalei is the new Deputy Director, Academics and Research Affairs at MKU Eldoret Campus, starting 1 August, 2017.

Passionate about excellence, Dr Kalei aims to maintain productive and lasting relationships with customers.

She believes in bringing excellence through sanctification of work, giving personalised attention and being ethical in her practice. She is keen to see the campus gain further competitive advantage.

Dr Kalei holds a PhD in Business Administration and Management

(HRM Option), a Master's degree in Business Administration (HRM option), and a Bachelor of Education in Business Studies and English Language.

She joined MKU in August 2015 as a lecturer. She had served in similar capacity at Presbyterian University of East Africa and at Daystar University.

On 1 January 2016, she was appointed Coordinator, School of Postgraduate Studies, Eldoret Campus, and was promoted to senior lecturer at the School of Business and Economics on 1 March 2017.

Keeping an eye on quality delivery

Ms Suzanne Standa, the Coordinator for Quality Assurance at MKU Eldoret Campus, is a trained internal and external auditor. She is currently studying for a Master's degree in Public Administration at MKU, and holds a Bachelor of Human Resources Management degree from Kenyatta University.

In addition, she has a wide experience in public relations and marketing of up to seven years at MKU.

Ms Standa has a keen interest in effectiveness and efficiency of quality delivery, specifically in teaching and examination administration.

Her main objective is to streamline quality delivery of services and to enhance intra-marketing across all departments. Most importantly, she is passionate about teamwork.



Suzanne Standa, Coordinator for Quality Assurance, MKU Eldoret Campus

Meet new business school coordinator



Dr Ibrahim M. Nyaboga, New coordinator, School of Business and Economics, MKU Eldoret Campus.

Dr Ibrahim M. Nyaboga is the new coordinator, School of Business and Economics at the Mount Kenya University Eldoret Campus.

He holds a PhD in Organisational Development and Transformation. He is also a senior lecturer.

Dr Nyaboga has taught at MKU Rwanda, University of Kigali, Rwanda and University of Kibungo, Rwanda, among many others.

He has vast experience in teaching, administration and supervising postgraduate students, having practised in East Africa for the last 12 years.

"My vision is to provide a memorable and transformational business and management programmes for the global business professionals of the future and for the emerging leaders within East Africa and beyond," Dr Nyaboga says.

He adds that he will promote best practices at the school by applying well researched, business and management tools, methods and strategies for teaching students.

THE ROLE OF ETHICS AND VALUES IN SUSTAINABLE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Scaling the Heights of Education

MKU Eldoret Campus

MKU support of RCEA Kiplombe School delivers extended benefits

Two years ago, Mount Kenya University (MKU) donated modern printers and computers to RCEA Kiplombe Secondary School in Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County. The school's administrators remain grateful to date for the fortunes and the good name that the gesture by MKU founder Prof Simon Gicharu has brought upon the school.

When Prof Gicharu made the donation in 2015, he stated: "I urge the school to share the printers and the computers with the community of Kiplombe instead of people travelling to Eldoret town (13km away) to seek the services." This has come to pass.

Apart from the school and its primary section having been enabled to comfortably print examination papers and other office documents, community members have benefitted from printing and photocopy services.

For instance, in June 2017, the school assisted over 50 beneficiaries of the government's welfare pay for the elderly to access free printing and photocopy services. This is according to the Deputy Principal Mr Isigi Ronald.



Computers and printers that MKU donated to RCEA Kiplombe Secondary School serve the institution and the surrounding community.

MKU additionally offers free career, motivational and counselling sessions to students at the school as part of the partnership.

The benefits of the collaboration do not flow in one direction though. MKU benefits too. Mr Isigi says, for example, that the school has employed three MKU students under the Board of Manage-

ment employment scheme. And every year, the school takes in MKU students for attachment.

"So far, MKU students have demonstrated a high level of professionalism and competence. As the school management, we are really proud of MKU students," says Mr Isigi.

Growing talent the MKU Eldoret way

Swift Jay Entertainment is an organised group founded this year by students of MKU Eldoret Campus to promote performance arts in schools (primary, secondary and colleges).

The group identifies talents in singing, dancing, poetry, comedy, public speaking and modelling, among others, and provides guidance. The university also rides on the group's invitations and events to offer motivation, career and counseling sessions to participants.

Swift Jay Entertainment recently performed at Langas and Uasin Gishu primary schools in Eldoret town, Uasin Gishu County. They organised a contest and awarded winners with writing materials, books, shirts and other prizes.

The university used the opportunity to distribute its newsletters and prospectuses to the audience.

Mr Kevin Wambongo, a member, says: "The support of the marketing office has helped the crew to participate in such activities and nurture various talents in different schools."

Mr Nesmus Ingolo (Nestar Msafi), the MKU Students Association Social Welfare Minister, says that nurturing of talents is a major way of appreciating God for



The Swift Jay crew in action

the given gifts.

"It also creates one's personality in the social and economic sector, which is one of the university's mission and goals in impacting ethical values in society," he adds.

Mr Ingolo continues: "On behalf of Swift Jay Entertainment and MKU Beat Breakers dance crew, we take this oppor-

tunity to thank the university management for supporting talent growth. We also thank the university founder, Prof Simon N. Gicharu, for his tireless efforts in supporting MKU students' outreach programmes. MKU. My university, my pride, my affordable fees, my future. God bless MKU."

Student Council Officials

Ms Brigid Chepkosgei is taking Bachelors of Development Studies at the School of Social Sciences.



As the Organising Secretary at the MKU Eldoret Student Council, she coordinates the activities of the council and its various committees, issuing notices for all meetings, circulating relevant information, and filing copies of communication and minutes with dean of students.

Brigid is also the custodian of the council's constitution and chairs the Ethics and Conduct Committee. She sits in for the chairperson in his absence.

"I want to remind all of us that we are born to be something important in the world... You were born to make a difference and not a living," says Brigid. "MKU is the university that makes dreams to be realised," she adds.



Ms. Nancy Jeptoo is studying for a Bachelor of Education in Arts, English and Literature degree at the School of Education.

"I always believe in offering quality services to students, ensuring that there is transparency and accountability in any transactions I undertake on their behalf," she says of her role as Finance Minister.

"I am also committed to marketing the university by initiating marketing strategies with the support of the Marketing Office, the students and the management. We

have visited various schools with my fellow students for career talks. The latest was the visit to Koitabut Secondary School in Nandi County, where I am an alumnus.

"I am always driven by MKU founder's quote, Prof Simon Gicharu, that, 'We train our students to be job creators and not job seekers.' I believe one day I will create job opportunities to many Kenyans. Thank you and God bless MKU."



Nesmus Ingolo, MKUSA social welfare minister, is pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce degree (Accounting Option) at the School of Business and Economics.

He describes himself as "a visionary leader who believes and strives for transparency, equality, democracy, responsibility and accountability, both at campus level and also in society as a whole".

His role as Social Welfare Minister, he says, is to represent students' social affairs, ensuring that their social rights are protected and respected.

"I also encourage talent growth through social activities such as Mr & Miss University pageantry, talents shows, cultural concerts, etc," he adds.

Nesmus is himself talented in singing and playing the piano. He is a founding member of the Swift Jay Entertainment Enterprise, which promotes talent growth through school tours in Uasin Gishu County.

"I urge students outside there to join and be part of MKU Eldoret Campus as we scale the heights of education and talent. God bless MKU for being outstanding among the outstanding. #MKUEldoretthebestplacetobe."

MKU Eldoret Campus

Marketing campus' state-of-the-art facilities

MKU Eldoret customer care and marketing officers are working creatively to popularise the university in the area.

Part of the strategy is to organise for secondary school students to tour the campus and get a feel of its state-of-the-art facilities. These include the modern library and laboratories, the ICT section and the journalism studio, among many others.

In July, for example, business students from Sin'gore Girls High School visited the campus.



Students of Sin'gore Girls High School being received by Eldoret Campus taff members Mr Monoi Amos (right), Head of Marketing, Ms Jael Samoei Marketing officer and Dr Ibrahim Nyaboga, Coordinator, School of Business and Economics.

Growing a community of critical thinkers

Bett Kipkoech is studying for a Bachelor of Education (Arts) in English and Literature degree at the School of Education. He is the current chairman of the MKU Student Association, Eldoret Campus.

His vision as MKUSA chairperson, he says, is to grow "a learning community committed to developing the ability to think critically, solve problems creatively and collaboratively, and communicate effectively".

He is pursuing this by promoting student activities that immerse his colleagues in "exciting experiences and opportunities".

Bett defines his specific goals as follows:

- To participate in establishing marketing and branding strategies that communicate the value of being an MKU Eldoret student.

#MKU MY UNIVERSITY MY CHOICE



Bett Kipkoech, MKUSA Chairperson

- To establish new ways for students to gain leadership capabilities.
- To contribute to the improvement of administrative processes and services.
- To increase student participation in academics and co-curricular activities.

Foreign students at Eldoret Campus

Mr Emmanuel Malual Makuach is among the foreign students enrolled at MKU Eldoret Campus. He is taking Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication and Journalism, specialising in electronic media.

Currently, he is an intern at Sayare Radio and TV in Eldoret. He is also working as a freelancer, and covers conflicts in South Sudan.

Malual has had stints with international media houses, such as Aljazeera and DW (Deutsch Well)



Bett Kipkoech, MKUSA Chairperson

media house in Germany.

"I can say that MKU is the only university that can bring up people regardless of their tribe, origin, race, gender or religion," he says.

Vision of education coordinator

Dr Stephen Tomno Cheboi holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education (Educational Administration). He joined MKU on 1 September, 2015. Before then, he had taught at Kabarak University, Moi University, Kisii University, and others.

On 1 October 2015, he served as Acting Deputy Director (Finance, Administration and Planning) at MKU Eldoret Campus. He was appointed the Coordinator, School of Education at the same campus on 1 May 2016.

His vision? "To offer client based services and nurture



competent, competitive and professional teachers who have the disposition to facilitate life-long learning in educational institutions and society," he says.

Experienced hand now head of marketing at Eldoret Campus

Mr Monoi Amos is the Head of Marketing at MKU Eldoret Campus, starting 1 July 2017. His appointment follows marketing experience gained in other MKU campuses, including Kabarnet, Thika and Nakuru.

Monoi was first employed on 24 May 2012 on temporary contract at MKU Nakuru Campus. He had by then managed to enrol several students for the campus on voluntary basis from 2011.

On 1 July 2013, he was employed full-time as Marketing Officer for Kabarnet Campus. From 2015 to June 2017, he worked at Thika Main Campus and Nakuru Campus before his appointment on 1 July 2017 to head marketing



at MKU Eldoret.

"If you are searching for a university to go to, then your search has come to an end. MKU is your home. It is ISO certified, chartered, approved by the Commission for University Education... and well equipped with state of the art facilities," says Monoi, always marketing.

Accessing MKU Eldoret library

The MKU Eldoret campus library is located on the fourth floor of MKU Plaza on Ronald Ngala Street in Eldoret town.

The ambiance is conducive for learning. The library is well ventilated with all the sections well defined and labelled. The seating capacity is 600, and it can serve up to 1,800 users per day.

"Our library information resources are organised according to the Library of Congress scheme (LC), using the latest version of Anglo American Cataloguing Rules (AACRZ)," says Librarian Omwanja Alex Gesuge.

The library's Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) can be reached via the university website.



MKU Eldoret Students in library

No regret for choosing MKU

Mr Koech Joseph is the Baringo County Assembly Clerk. He has previously served as town clerk and clerk to council in various counties and municipalities in Kenya. His experience stretches beyond 26 years.

To add more knowledge, he is currently studying at MKU Eldoret for a Master's degree in Public Administration and Management.

He says: "I chose MKU because of the following reasons: Flexible learning modes;



Koech Joseph, Baringo County Assembly Clerk

students finish their courses within the stipulated time; MKU past students employed

in various county assemblies that I have worked in are very competent and professional in their duties; the fees are affordable and the payment mode is very flexible."

Koech adds that he also realised MKU programmes were market driven. "Therefore, I recommend all prospective students to join MKU, and if you are an employer, consider MKU graduates and your organisation won't regret it," he offers. "MKU, My University, My Choice, My Future."

MKU Eldoret Campus Alumni

My learning experience at MKU

Mr Nicholas Kirwa Biwott, the director and CEO of Kabiyeet Dairies in Nandi County, is an alumnus of Mount Kenya University (MKU) Eldoret Campus.

He completed his studies for Bachelor of Business Management (Accounting option) in 2012. He had joined in 2010 at year two through credit transfer. He tells the story of his study experience at the university:

"Mount Kenya University became a university of choice because they kept their promise of giving me credit transfers, which they did because I had attained CPA (K) earlier.

"The best thing I can talk about the faculty is that they were always committed and dedicated towards imparting knowledge to their students. I am one of the beneficiaries throughout my third and fourth years.

"I remember the days with nostalgia; the university founder Prof Simon Gicharu visiting us in our campus and encouraging us 'to be great men and women in the society'. He would treat us to lunch or dinner. May God bless him abundantly for his generosity.



Nicholas Kirwa Biwott, Director and CEO, Kabiyeet Dairies in Nandi County

"While at the university, I got an opportunity to participate in sporting activities and became the volleyball captain. With the university management support, we got an opportunity to participate in leagues and managed to

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Mount Kenya University became a university of choice because they kept their promise of giving me credit transfers, which they did because I had attained CPA (K) earlier

win the KUSA games 2016.

"I completed my studies and graduated in the year 2012 with a First Class Honours (degree) from the School of Business and Economics.

"After graduation, I furthered my leadership role by participating in socio-economic empowerment programmes, and I was elected as a director of Kabiyeet Sacco Society Limited in Nandi County in 2013. I served for a year.

"On 2 January 2014, I became General Manager and CEO of Kabiyeet Dairies Co. Ltd after emerging victorious in an interview attended by graduates from other universities. I am still working diligently with the same organisation.

"Big thanks to MKU for being student-centred, since this helped me complete my studies very well without any financial difficulties. MKU mode of paying fees is flexible and affordable to everyone.

"As a CEO, I have constantly attached students in my organisation, and I can attest that they have been properly prepared.

"Therefore, I urge all the prospective students to enrol with Mount Kenya University and feel the state of the art facilities and highly qualified personnel.... Studying in MKU is studying in a world class university. May God bless the MKU founder Prof Simon Gicharu and the entire university."



John Kipkorir Komen

Top athletes explain why they chose MKU

John Kipkorir Komen is an alumnus of MKU Eldoret Campus. He graduated in July 2016 with a degree in criminology and security. He specialises in long-distance running, and is one of the internationally feted Kenyan athletes.

On 27 May 2017, Mr John Komen Kipkorir participated in the Luxembourg marathon and came second. This was after a competitive and impressive performance in France in 2015, where he broke a course record.

How was he able to accomplish such performances amid studies?

"I preferred taking my studies at MKU because the mode of learning was flexible. MKU Eldoret Campus organised for me and my friends a flexible learning mode – the Distance and Institution-Based Learning," he explains.

"Our lecturers were very consistent and competent, and thus the skills we acquired from MKU will take us far," he continues. "I was convinced by my colleagues who had finished their studies at MKU to study there. I am now a well-rounded person. I can handle several issues on security in this country."

Wilson Kipsang Kiprotich specialises in long-distance running, competing in events ranging from 10km to the marathon. He was the bronze medallist in the marathon at the 2012 Summer Olympics.

In 2013, Kipsang set a new record at the Berlin Marathon after finishing in 2:03:23 hours.

Kipsang is a two-time winner of the

Frankfurt Marathon (2010 and 2011), and has also won the London Marathon. He won the 2014 London Marathon in a record time of 2:04:29 hours. He also won the New York Marathon the same year.

Wilson Kipsang is studying for a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology and Security studies at MKU Eldoret Campus.



Wilson Kipsang Kiprotich

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