Dedan Kimathi University of Technology Newsletter

Better Life Through Technology

3rd Quarter Newsletter

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DeKUT Science and Technology Park

DeKUT recognizes the role of research and development as an important pillar for development at the national level. The University also emphasizes its strategic focus to provide technical education and create unique structures for research, innovations, extension and technology transfer. In pursuit of transforming Kenya into a knowledge economy, the Ministry of Education, State Department of University Education is supporting the establishment of a Science and Technology Park at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology. On 22nd March 2019, Industrialization Principal Secretary Ms. Betty Maina, Nyeri Deputy Governor, Dr. Caroline Karugu and Nyeri Member of Parliament, Hon. Ngunjiri Wambugu visited the University to learn more about the proposed Dedan Kimathi Science and Technology Park. The purpose was to encourage cooperation and synergy between Universities, research institutions, and private sector and create a favorable environment for innovation, renovation, and training and also to create high- tech clusters that serve as catalysts to technology development, economic transformation, and wealth creation with a link to university knowledge generation.



Talk with DeKUT Statistics and Actuarial Science Department

At DeKUT, we not only offer Academic Programs but also enrich our students with knowledge and skills useful in the professional field. It is in this line that the DeKUT Statistics and Actuarial Science Department together with their alumni organized a talk on 22nd March 2019,to inform the ongoing students in the department of the available opportunities in the job market. As a result of this, our graduates are highly sourced and are doing well in various industries.



Visit by the Korean Ambassador

On 21stMarch this year, DeKUT in collaboration with the Korean government hosted the Korean Ambassador to encourage people to be trained and meet thigh levels in security matters while at the same time benefit from the police field. This was also to increase the capacity of students studying security related courses such as criminology and security management. It is during this visit, that the Vice-chancellor in collaboration with the Korean Government promised to give an opportunity to the best students to visit Korea and learn more from them. They also agreed to introduce new units to the criminology students to equip them with more knowledge related to their field of study.



Capital Markets University Challenge

To be a premier technological university that fosters research and innovation towards the attainment of national development goals, DeKUT had the privilege of participating in the Capital Markets University Challenge to equip them with business skills and become future entrepreneurs. Jared Makario, an ongoing 5th-year student, won the Capital Markets University challenge stage 3. Other participants also included Charles Marangu, Victor Nyagito and Benson Karoko.



Central and Eastern Regional Universities and Technical Colleges Drama Festival

Early March this year, we were privileged to host the 7th Edition of the Central Region Universities and Colleges Drama Festivals from 7th-10th March2019. The theme was Promoting Moral Responsibilities among The Youth through Drama and Film. 29 institutions (both universities and technical colleges) participated. DeKUT Travelling Theatre staged the following items; Choral Verse, Solo Verse, Narrative, Mime, Comedy, Spoken Word, Modern, and Creative Dance. Ambenge Francis Odero, a 3rd-year student won and later on represented the University at the Kenya National and Drama Festival with a spoken word item on Youth Regime.



Endowment Fund Golf Tournament

On Saturday,23rd February 2019, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology winded up the Kimathi week with an Endowment Fund Golf Tournament at the Nyeri Golf Club. Dedan Kimathi University of Technology Endowment Fund (DeKUTEF) was established to support talented students to access and complete the highly competitive programs offered by the University through the provision of scholarships and bursaries. The fund will be developed further to support the wider mandate of the University and her goal to run as a world academic center of excellence. To this end, the fund has a framework for the University supporters – be they individuals, members of the University's alumni association, foundations, corporate entities, and development partners-, to generously contribute. The initial target is Ksh.100 million. The general idea of the endowment fund, as

practiced around the world, is that a contribution is not utilized directly but is put in an appropriate investment instrument, and the yields of that investment are utilized in the course for which the principal contribution was made. Consequently, a contribution will have an impact on perpetuity. Under the same framework, capital contributions, such as buildings and equipment, which can benefit the institution for many years in the future, are also made. The fund will considerably aid the University to operate truly to her historical foundation and heritage of being an Institution of society and working for the improvement of the people.





Launch of Local Language Books

DeKUT is a Premier Technological University Excelling in Quality Education, Research and Technology Transfer for National Development. It is in line with our vision statement that we hosted Prof. Ngugi wa Thiong'o together with Nyeri Governor Hon. Mutahi Kahiga as he launched some of his local language books."If you know all the languages of the world but not your mother tongue that is enslavement." Knowing your mother tongue and all other languages too is empowerment. These were sentiments by the Distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literature Prof. Ngugi wa Thiong'o during the launch of local language books.

Kimathi Week

DeKUT was founded as a community initiative to create opportunities for young people from all walks of life. The founders recognized that the appropriate weapon for the war is to create a prosperous society which would now be science and technology; transforming Kenya and beyond. Established to improve the material well-being of ordinary people, DeKUT commemorates the liberation struggle in Kenya. It is the spirit of the likes of Dedan Kimathi Wachiuri which led to independence; Dedan Kimathi's vision, ideas, life-time engagements, actions, and outcomes are attributes which this University strongly identifies with in pursuit of our mission to bring about improvement in the society. DeKUT is therefore named after the freedom fighter Dedan Kimathi Wachiuri, and serves as a living commemorative monument to this phase of Kenya's history; the struggle for independence - as we strive to be a great contributor to change. Every year, we have the Kimathi week as a way of recognizing our heroes. We celebrate our hero (Dedan Kimathi) after whom we are named during this week. As part of this, we also get to commemorate his death and learn more about him such as his early life, legacy, the Mau Mau movement and why we are named after him.

Kukkiwon Collaboration

When we hosted the KUKKIWON Taekwondo Demonstration team for a live demonstration last year, we promised to roll out a plan to introduce this art to a wide group of people as a way of instilling certain valuable tenets in as many people as possible and enhancing the culture of discipline and teamwork.We hosted a vigorous Taekwondo training here at the University under the program "Taekwondo Peace Corps." The training was being conducted by experts from Korea and was scheduled to take one month. We had trainees from prisons, National Police Service, Kenya Defense Forces, Counties and our staff.This program provides a platform for learning, interaction and instilling discipline among the trainees. As a way of recognizing the trainees, certification was awarded, empowering the trainees to expand these skills and train others. The purpose of the collaborations is to expand the Taekwondo program in the region by making the university an educational center for a martial art in Africa.



Next Founder Program

DeKUT is a Technological University excelling in quality education to provide innovation towards producing relevant leaders that contribute to the attainment of National Development Goals. In line with this, training was conducted on February 8thto equip students with entrepreneurial skills such as innovation and creativity. The training under the program "Next Founder Program" is a short term activity that trains students to focus on what they are giving out to the competitive world.



The unveiling of the busts of Dedan Kimathi and Nelson Mandela

On 16th January 2019, at the Heroes and Heroines Garden, in collaboration with the South Africa High Commission, we unveiled the Busts of Dedan Kimathi & Nelson Mandela as we continued to provide education that draws inspiration from contributions of our forefathers to inspire our students and the society at large.The Chief Guest was the former Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Education and Research, Amb. Amina Mohamed who together with the South African High Commissioner to Kenya, H. E Koleka Mqulwana unveiled the busts. The busts were installed in the heroes and heroines garden of the University. This garden, which is approximately two acres, is reserved for the installation of commemorative works of art that will continually remind and educate the University community, and particularly the youth, on the history of Africa and Africans in their quest for freedom and liberty. It is the goal of the University to provide education that draws inspiration from contributions of our forefathers to inspire the students who enroll in this University, and through them, society at large.

