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MONTHLY BULLETIN
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
VICE CHANCELLOR

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DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

In this issue

1. Visit by the Competition Authority of Kenya
2. Climb to Educate 3rd Edition
3. The 5th Graduation Ceremony
4. Capacity enhancement Workshop
5. Celebrating and marking the end of the year 2016

MOTTO

Better Life through Technology

VISION STATEMENT

A Premier Technological University Excelling in Quality Education, Research, and Technology Transfer for national development.

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide academically stimulating, culturally diverse and quality learning environment that fosters research, innovation and technology development towards producing relevant technical and managerial human resource and leaders to contribute to attainment of national development goals.

Visit by the Competition Authority of Kenya

The Competition Authority of Kenya is created by the Competition Act No 12 of 2010 which came to force on 1st August 2011. Her mandate is to promote and safeguard competition in the national economy and to protect consumers from unfair and misleading market conduct. On 7th December 2016, officials from the authority visited DeKUT to create awareness of the existence of the body and how it carries out her mandate. Of importance was the knowledge shared on consumer involvement and right. All are welcome to take part in the Competition Authority of Kenya Essay Writing Competition.

For more information about the competition visit
http://www.dkut.ac.ke/index.php/notices/competition-authority-of-kenya-essay-

Climb to Educate 3rd Edition

The 3rd edition of Climb to educate marked our (DeKUT'S) 6th, 7th and 8thexpeditions to Mt. Kenya with the last group leaving for the mountain on 1st December 2016. A total of 105 out of the targeted 200 students and staff members scaled the heights of Mt. Kenya along the Sirimon and Naromoru routes. While training for the third season of climb to educate started way back in July, 2016, a handful of continuing students, exchange students and several up-skilling students made it for practice every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The three diverse groups harmoniously participated in evening exercise programs and also weekend excursions based on outdoor learning and endurance.

The first team of climbers comprised of 4 exchange students and 5 of our regular students that hiked along Naromoru route between 22nd -25th of September. This was a special trip to accommodate our exchange students whose flights back to their countries had been scheduled for early October. With the assistance of guides, porters and the leadership of the outdoor instructor, the team waded and wallowed across the moorland bog while persevering torrential rains on all the 4 days. In the early morning of Saturday, 24th of September, the team triumphantly summated point Lenana. The previously diverse students returned to campus thoroughly bonded and having bridged their cultural gaps.

The next 2 expeditions were flagged off by the Vice Chancellor and the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs. The two teams of 58 and 38 students encountered and waded through tight classes and exam schedules and harsh training requirements to be equipped for the 7th and 8th DeKUT expedition to Mt. Kenya. The entire team made it to point Lenana.



Note:
The following requirements have to be met before anyone considers climbing a mountain as serious as Mt. Kenya:-

- Authentic personal climbing gear (Find a complete gear check-list with the captain).
- Group gear-Water-proof or 4 season tents, Kitchen gear, first-aid kits, Foot-repair kits, general repair kits, maps and compasses.
- Sleeping bags that withstand at least -10 degree temperatures and below.
- Park and camping fee.
- Food reserves and water.
- Transportation to and from the base camp.
- Medical Fitness.
- Physical conditioning.
- Comprehensive logistical and time control plans.



The 5th Graduation Ceremony

DeKUT held a second graduation ceremony in a year for the first time on 16th December, 2016. This was the 5th graduation ceremony and special for it was held to cater for those students who completed their studies immediately after the fourth graduation ceremony in April. The two main groups are the Criminology and Security Management and the Electrical and Electronic Engineering degree students. Some of the Electrical and Electronic Engineering degree graduands (now graduates) were also conferred with degrees in Telecommunication and Information Engineering. They will thus be able to register with the Engineers Board of Kenya and at the same time pursue their dream careers. Among the 348 graduands at the ceremony, was the first PhD in Computer Science graduand and also nine pioneer Bachelor of Business in Information Technology graduands. The other programmes which had graduands were: B.Sc. Nursing, B.Sc. GIS, Diploma IT, Diploma Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Management, Diploma Building Technology, Diploma in Fashion Design and Interior decoration, Certificate in Coffee Technology and Quality Management and Certificate in Building Technology.



Capacity Enhancement Workshop

DeKUT, in August this year, made a milestone achievement by winning funding from Belgium's Flemish Inter University Council (VLIR-UOS) for teaching and research enhancement in Masters in Industrial Engineering, in collaboration with the University of Leuven, Belgium. The funded proposal is titled "Capacity enhancement for teaching, research and extension for management of critical medical devices at public hospitals in Kenya". The purpose of the funded project is to facilitate capacity building through exchange of staff and students from the two Universities and technology transfer in Bio-medical Engineering. The project, spearheaded by Prof. Peter Muchiri (School of Engineering, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) and Prof. Liliane Pintelon (Faculty of Engineering, University of Leuven (KU), Belgium), will also enhance quality of teaching by implementing a state of the art computer lab for Post Graduate training and research.

Among the areas where DeKUT will benefit in the collaboration with the University of Leuven is the establishment of Bio-Medical engineering program, which will be offered by the School of Engineering and School of Health Science, in collaboration with Hospitals in Kenya. Through the VLIR funding, DeKUT in conjunction with The University of KU Leuven, Belgium facilitated a two-day capacity building workshop for Medical and Engineering staff on the asset management of health care equipment on 20th and 21st December 2016.

The key speaker was Prof. Walter Sermeus from University of Leuven, Belgium. The workshop brought together a multi-disciplinary team of medical stakeholders comprising of Medical Superintendents, Biomedical Engineers and Nurses from seven hospitals in four counties. The Nyeri County Government was represented by the Director, of Medical Services while DeKUT Staff were drawn from the School of Engineering, School of Health Sciences (Nursing Department) and Medical Practitioners.

The key outcomes through the Workshop were:
i) Medical staff Capacity Building
ii) Knowledge and Technology Transfer
iii) Community Linkages
iv) Development of a collaboration platform for further training, research, capacity building and new curriculum development.

Celebrating and marking the end of the year 2016

Starting and ending the year is something worth celebrating at an individual and collective level. DeKUT fraternity held a thanksgiving luncheon to mark a successful end of year on 23rd December 2016 at the University Conservancy. During the ceremony, a meal was shared, staff recognition awards given and a highlight of the main activities in 2016 given. The Vice Chancellor in his remarks, on his own behalf and that of the University Management and council, thanked all the staff for the cooperation accorded in the year 2016. He then urged for more of the same in the following year (s) as he pointed out some of the Institution's development plans for the year 2017. This was a good forum for each to wish the other a happy holiday!

2017 Calendar Events:
- DeKUT 2nd Annual Golf Tournament
- Kimathi week, Celebrating Mashujaa
- Climb to Educate 4th Edition
- DeKUT 6th Graduation Ceremony
- January, May and September Intakes
- DeKUT 3rd Annual Conference on Science, Technology, Innovation & Entrepreneurship

