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MONTHLY BULLETIN
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
VICE CHANCELLOR

DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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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.

Quote of the month

"The world is full of abundance and opportunity, but far too many people come to the fountain of life with a sieve instead of a tank car, a teaspoon instead of a steam shovel. They expect little and as a result they get little." - Ben Sweetland

Possible collaborations
Canadian TVET inception mission

Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan) is currently developing a program funded by Global Affairs Canada that will support Kenya in the current revitalization of the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system. CICan champions education, training and innovation on a global scale. As the national and international voice of Canadian colleges and institutes, CICan links Canadian institutions to those in developing countries, helping to transform their education systems. The goal of the five-year program is to assist Kenya as it develops a competency-based, quality-assured, industry-responsive training system. Towards this purpose, Moritz Schmid and Catherine visited the University to discuss possible collaboration areas. DeKUT is one of the TVET stakeholders and admitted the first cohort of students under TVET in August this year.

Launch of VLIR project in the University of Leuven, Belgium



The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eng. P. N. Kioni, accompanied by Prof. Peter Muchiri visited the University of Leuven (UZ Leuven), Belgium for the launch of a joint South Initiative project funded by Flemish Inter University Council, Belgium (VLIR). The project titled "Capacity enhancement for teaching, research and extension for management of critical medical devices at public hospitals in Kenya" is coordinated by Prof. Liliane Pintelon - Mechanical engineering department and Prof. Walter Sermeus, Department of Public Health and Primary Care in the University of Leuven. The local project coordinator is Prof. Peter Muchiri, School of Engineering, DeKUT. The project will run for two years. The Vice-Chancellor extended his visit to His Excellency Johnson Weru, the Ambassador, at the Embassy of the Republic of Kenya to the Kingdom of Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and Mission of the European Union. During the visit, the Vice-Chancellor discussed with the Ambassador strategies and opportunities for collaboration with Institutions in Belgian and European Union. These will extend the ongoing activities with the University KU Leuven.

Visit by National Hua University



We hosted students from the National Tsing Hua University (Taiwan) on 15th July, 2016. This was their 3rd visit under the collaboration between DeKUT and their University. The visit was to enable them learn more about DeKUT. During the visit, the students also gave a presentation to DeKUT students about their University, academic programmes and scholarship opportunities in their Institution.

Counselors' workshop

The Kenya Universities Professional Association (KUPCA) Conference was held in the University's Conservancy. It was a two day event, 20th -21st July organized by KUPCA but sponsored by the University. More than twenty two Universities were represented. Some of the highlights of the forum were:-

- Empowerment of peer counselors
- Need of Individual, Peer and Group Counseling
- Participation in disaster management
- Offering assistance in Local and National disaster
- Sensitizing the students and staff on need of Counseling
- Importance of spirituality in the lives of people
- Encouraging students on reading culture
- Research on radicalization and terrorism
- Partnership with other similar organizations e.g Red Cross
- Need of uniforms for Identification

Emerging issues:

- National cohesion
- Gambling
- School fires
- Rising rate of students' deaths



High Schools visit

Over time, we have used our institution to offer career guidance to high school students. Teachers bring their students to the University to have a glimpse of what to expect in the institutions of higher learning as well as help channel their interests to careers. During the months of July and August, several schools visited as follows: Thome Day, Mutara Secondary School, Moi Forces, Kite Secondary School, Kairuthu Secondary School, Gathumbi Secondary School and Ilpolei Secondary School.







Public Lectures

Lecture on Climate Change
Lecture on African Manufacturing and Frugal Engineering



Dr. Andrew Carruthers, a senior lecturer in Operations Management in the faculty of Engineering and Informatics at the University of Bradford, delivered a lecture on the above subject to the 5th year Mechanical Engineering Students on 27th July 2016.

Dr. Carruthers was invited by Eng. Kimari as a guest lecturer to expose the students to manufacturing as a bridge to the industry. The lecture exceeded the aim as the students were really inspired by the aspect of cheap yet effective and efficient manufacturing. It added value to what they have learnt through 1st to 5th year and gave them an insight of an area to venture in as young engineers and be drivers towards manufacturing in Kenya and Africa.

MAISHA project

Maternal Access and Infant Survival Health Advancement (MAISHA) project is a collaboration between Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) and College of the Rockies (COTR). The project addresses fundamental shortcomings in Kenyan maternal and child health care by targeting two specific regions: Nyeri County in the central part of Kenya and Migori County in former Nyanza Province. MAISHA is undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada.

The goal of MAISHA partnership is reduced maternal and infant mortality in Nyeri and Migori counties in Kenya, which face significant ongoing health challenges. By training facility staff and community health workers, as well as supporting other health efforts, MAISHA partnership is increasing the ability of women in these communities to access quality health care during pregnancy and delivery. Working closely with experienced community members, the partnership is also focusing on education and awareness of maternal health and gender equality issues. MAISHA activities are developed through the partnership with DeKUT, and implemented in close cooperation and communication with the Government of Kenya, to align with the ongoing national initiatives and to ensure long-term sustainability.

Training for capacity building

There has been two training sessions in the month of August with the aim of building the capacity of personnel in the different sectors in Nyeri County: Training on Electronic for Single Business Permit (e- SBP) and training on Land Information Management System. Credit to the School of Computer Science and Information Technology (SCS&IT), our Innovation and Incubation Centre (DeHUB) and Institute of Geomatics, GIS and Remote Sensing. We are using our Institution not only to transform our students but our community through technology.

2016 Intake

The 2016/2017 admission date was 29th August 2016 with the orientation beginning on 30th through 2nd September. This year we admitted 1,339 students through KUCCPs, 479 Self Sponsored students and 43 who successfully applied and qualified for inter-varsity transfer. We wish the new students well as they pursue their career at this level and as we deliver on our mission. This is growth which comes with responsibility and we fully embrace it



Sports

DeKUT emerged among the top 20 universities in the recent ranking of Kenyan university based on their sports activities in a research conducted by survey company CPS Research International between April and July this year and position 8 among the public universities.

DeKUT managed this position because of the active participation of the various teams. However, DeKUT's Sports Officer Mr. Benson Gathoni feels that this position can be improved if more focus is accorded to the sports activities in form of budgetary allocation, maintenance of sporting courts and pitches. The main sports activities in the months of July and August were:

The ongoing football league



DeKUT FC moved from 7th to 4th position in the ongoing Mt. Kenya football league after beating Kosmos FC 3-0 and Nyahururu Yanga FC 1-0 on 7th August 2016 . The team (DeKUT FC) now stands at position 4 with 24 points after 12 games and with 22 more to go.

IGGReS faculty football competition

Institute of Geomatics, GIS and Remote Sensing (IGGReS) soccer tournament finals played on 3rd August, 2016 at the University grounds. The finalists were the 4th and 2nd years and the 4th years emerged as winners after defeating 2nd years 4-1 on penalties. The two sides had battled to a two-all draw in normal time. The faculty sports are usually towards enhancing cohesion among students outside class



Staff Vs Students friendly match

DeKUT staff members had a football friendly match at the University grounds on 28th July, 2016 where the staff won 3-0. The match was first of its kind in DeKUT's history and was organized by the head of sports department Mr. Benson Gathoni with the aim of enhancing integration and cohesion among the staff and students. The staff later had a friendly volleyball match with Nyeri High School staff on 3rd August this year where they won 3-2 sets.





