Dedan Kimathi University of Technology Newsletter

Better Life Through Technology

December Newsletter

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Digital Twin Technology

DeKUT Siemens Centre is establishing a Digital Twin Technology. The Digital Twin Technology is a virtual model of a process, product or service. This pairing of the virtual and physical worlds allows analysis of data and monitoring of systems to head off problems before they even occur, prevent downtime, develop new opportunities and even plan for the future by using simulations. The data collected can then be used to create a ‘twin’ which can accurately predict how these processes, products or services work. This has become a staple in modern engineering and is used to drive innovation and performance.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FxAkJH7401Y

Project Based Capacity Building for Laikipia Staff

Project management skills and competencies are among the most sought after many emerging economies. Unfortunately, the industry alludes to a growing shortage of these skills. Our postgraduate diploma project seeks to provide students with an opportunity to apply the competencies in project management programme during the course of the training. The project enables a student to apply project based learning in a particular course in depth. It also aims at equipping students with competencies of solving practical problem in a discipline.



DeKUT Coffee

Nyeri Deputy Governor, Dr Caroline Karugu encouraged Kenyans to start consuming DeKUT coffee during her interview on spice fm radio. As part of Vision 2030 flagship project, DeKUT has acquired Coffee Pilot packaging plant for value addition and capacity building of stakeholders on coffee value chain development. The Center has also trained farmers and cooperative management boards on best practices in Coffee Technology and Quality Management through customized short courses e.g. Othaya Coffee Cooperative. The staff and students are continuously carrying out adoptive research and innovations on best practices along coffee value chain towards improved quality and price.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GbzwY4iG9MQ

Memorandum of Understanding with the County Government of

Laikipia

Earlier this year, DeKUT signed a memorandum of understanding with the County Government of Laikipia to train entrepreneurs on business skills. The goal of this project was to produce graduates equipped with multidisciplinary competencies to manage projects effectively and efficiently in a rapidly changing environment. This collaboration will also help provide our students with an opportunity to apply for the upcoming opportunities and competencies of solving practical problem in a discipline. On 18th December this year, a 3 day training began for the project based capacity building involving our staff members as well as Laikipia staff members. The key focus being how to sell an idea to the whole world and solve some of the challenges we have in development.



DeKUT Siemens Centre

DeKUT Siemens Centre was established to offer training in Siemens Mechatronic Systems Certification Program (SMSCP) in partnership with Siemens-Berlin. The partnership agreement between Siemens and DeKUT started by organizing a successful Level 1 & 2 Instructor Certification course that was held at Siemens Technik Akademie Berlin (October 4-28, 2016) where one instructor was trained. The center is very well equipped with modern equipment ideal for teaching mechatronics engineer. DeKUT Siemens Training Center is planning to bring portable mechatronics systems to industries and carry out in-house training for SMSCP. In 20 days an engineer will be able to sit for SMSCP examination and be certified by Siemens Germany.



Capacity building for the establishment of Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI)

DeKUT signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) to operate a

Technology and Innovation Support Centre (TISC). The centre will provide a ready pool of science and technical experts with competence to conduct patent search, patent drafting as well as assist in patent prosecution and benefit from the IP capacity-building interventions of KIPI which will ultimately result in increased IP creation, protection and commercialization in the local community. In line with this, the directorate of Research, Innovation Management and Community Linkages held a training on capacity building for the establishment of the center.



Climb to educate season 6 luncheon

Apart from providing logistical and technical information and skills to summit Africa's second highest mountain, the Outdoor Section uses this opportunity to enhance integration and free communication among its participants. The outdoor section also trains a few volunteering students in wilderness first-aid and Outdoor leadership so as to be able to serve other Students and staff members as Outdoor instructors and guides during climbing expeditions and also recreational excursions in the local back-country. The participants have gained the following lessons and skills: organization, thoroughness, Preparedness, taking care of themselves, positive expedition behavior, judgment and decision making, letting go of seemingly important things, Perseverance at difficult things, learning to use new tools and equipment and living simply. So far more than 1000 students and staff members have participated in the program, including 570 participants for Mt. Kenya climbing alone and more than 700 for other excursions, including repeat visitors.



DeKUT Challenge Course (DCC)

At DeKUT we have a challenge course. For most people including our own staff members, the first challenge is to find out where the DCC is located. The course is built on a 5 acre plot of land lying between Nyandarua Hostel and the BCW and behind the New Freedom Hall. The first landmarks that capture your attention are the 40ft Climbing wall and the steel cables that run across the tallest trees which can easily be mistaken for power cables. Then, you get to encounter a stair cased foot entrance after which you have a choice between stepping into the gorgeous lawns using steps or the more preferred wild bridge. Some of the activities that are carried out during the challenge course are; tent pitching in five minutes, camp craft, bush-craft and survival skills, commando crawl, myriads of initiative games such as sunny side up and aerobic and endurance exercises. This fitness programs has attracted immense participation from local and international students. The outdoor activities assist in a variety of ways such as boosting our focus, help us to feel better about ourselves; members get to learn good communication skills as well as cooperation needed in a team work activity.

