DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

UNIVERSITY

Souvenir Magazine

15TH Graduation CEREMONY



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DESIGN, LAYOUT & PRINT BY:
Magfre Enterprises Ltd.
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Message from
THE CHANCELLOR



General (Rtd) Dr. Julius Waweru Karangi EGH, CBS, DCO, LOM
Chancellor, DeKUT

As we stand on the brink of this momentous occasion, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to everyone. Today marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. You have navigated the academic challenges with resilience and embraced the growth opportunities; for that, you should be immensely proud.

Today is a celebration of your academic achievements and a testament to your commitment to personal and intellectual growth. The knowledge you have acquired, the friendships you have formed, and the challenges you have overcome have shaped you into who you are today.

As you prepare to embark on the next chapter of your journey, whether it be further education, entering the workforce, or pursuing other passions, remember that you carry with you the skills and knowledge gained from this great institution. Be confident in your abilities and use the lessons learned to impact the world positively.

The challenges and uncertainties of the future may seem daunting, but your time here has equipped you with the tools to face them head-on. Embrace change, continue to learn and grow, and always strive for excellence.

Once again, congratulations on reaching this significant milestone. May your future be filled with success and endless possibilities. As you step into the world as graduates of this premier University of Technology, carry the spirit of curiosity, determination, and resilience.

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2023!

The challenges and uncertainties of the future may seem daunting, but your time here has equipped you with the tools to face them head-on. Embrace change, continue to learn and grow, and always strive for excellence.

Message from
THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN



Dr. James Kariuki
Council Chairman, DeKUT

We have equipped you with the tools to take on this challenge, so make us proud. Be good ambassadors of the University; carry yourself with integrity discipline, and work hard as you build strong careers and enterprises to build the nation.

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the 15th Graduation Ceremony, honoring the achievements of our graduates. I take this opportunity to congratulate the Class of 2023. I join the Dedan Kimathi University of Technology community in celebrating the fruits of passion, perseverance, inspiring ability, and consistency displayed by our graduates in pursuit of excellence. As a renowned institution of higher learning, we are committed to fostering an environment of academic excellence, innovation, and personal growth. You are now part of an essential human resource necessary for the expansion and development of our country.

Our graduates continue to lead in the industry, a testimony to the quality of education they receive from the University. As you join the industry, remember that the world is competitive and dynamic; those quick to adapt to change and adopt new technologies will thrive. We have equipped you with the tools to take on this challenge, so make us proud. Be good ambassadors of the University; carry yourself with integrity, discipline, and work hard as you build strong careers and enterprises to build the nation.

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2023!

University Council Members



Dr. James Kariuki – Council Chair

PhD (JKUAT), MBA (UoN), BSc (UoN), Dip (KIM), ACCA (KCA University)



Ms. Pauline Jeruto - Council Member

MBA (UoN), BSc (Moi University)



Dr. Davidson Mghanga – Council Member

CPS, DBA, MBA, Dip. In Law, LLB



Ms. Linet Muganda - Council Member

MBA (KU), Dip HRM (Maseno University), BA (Hons) (KU). She is a Certified Human Resource Practitioner (CHRP) K.



Ms. Esther Nyamoko - Council Member

BA (University of Eastern Africa, Baraton), MSc (Andrews University, USA)



Prof. Eng. Peter. N. Muchiri – Council Secretary

PhD (University of Leuven), MBA (University of Leuven), BSc (JKUAT)

Message from
THE VICE CHANCELLOR



Prof. Eng. Peter. N. Muchiri
Vice Chancellor, DeKUT

Welcome to the 15th graduation magazine. We are proud to be graduating over 700 graduands in this cohort. This is a significant milestone in the University as we celebrate a decade of academic excellence, significant strides in research and innovation, and a continuous commitment to technology development advancement for better life. I want to extend my congratulations to the graduating students.

In the last 10 years, we have witnessed significant milestones for the University. In February, 2023, the University celebrated its 10th Anniversary since its award of charter in December 2012. The University has come a long way since then to become a premier technological University, leading in technology education, research and innovation not just in the country but in the region. It has grown in leaps and bounds in terms of programmes, infrastructure and student population over this first decade.

The University has expanded its wings, soaring great heights to foster research and innovation in Africa. This has seen the University expand into new areas by first establishing the Origin Research and Innovations Labs, a transformative initiative aimed at addressing intricate challenges across the continent. Origin embodies a Problem-Solving Partnership, acting as a conduit between industries seeking solutions and a diverse pool of solution providers. This collaborative model encompasses individual entrepreneurs, innovators, research labs, specialized companies, and start-ups, tapping into the brightest minds across the continent and beyond.

Origin serves as a catalyst for Facilitating Collaborative Innovation, offering a centralized hub where innovators and entrepreneurs can expand their research, connect with key partners, and expedite the journey from idea to market. The initiative provides access to state-of-the-art laboratory facilities, supports research and development, facilitates testing, nurtures networking, streamlines access to funding markets.

On 8th July, 2022 Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (Kenya-AIST) was established as a legal entity through publication in Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 117, Legislative Supplement No. 55, under Legal Notice No. 130; as a Constituent College of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology. Kenya-AIST is envisioned as the engine for moving Konza Technopolis; and that all companies in the Technopolis will develop a symbiotic relationship with the Institute. Given the foregoing, Kenya-AIST will contribute to realization of the Government's commitment to strengthen KoTDA by bringing together industry, academic institutions and other innovators to co-invest in emerging technologies and to create high-quality jobs that leverage on artificial intelligence, robotics and other technologies; and thus enhance Kenya's regional and global competitiveness.

The University has enhanced her Internationalization agenda through the International Office that runs the Students and Staff Exchange Programs thus ensuring international exposure to as many students as possible while also hosting international students to learn from and with our own. This is in line with the University's focus on being globally competitive and molding the University into an Institution known for world-class research, academic excellence, exceptional staff and students, and one that harbors the highest level of innovation and progressiveness.

To the graduands; As you cherish the fruits of your hard work, I wish that success keeps following you in everything that you do. The University has equipped you with the best education to tackle any challenge that you encounter. Go forth with confidence and embrace the journey with courage and determination needed to last the course.

Congratulations, Class of 2023!

DeKUT Welcomes the New Chancellor



On 1st November 2023, Gen (Rtd) Dr. Julius Karangi was appointed Chancellor of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya, the Commander-In-Chief of Kenya Defence Forces. On this Fifteenth Graduation Ceremony of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, the University is pleased to inaugurate its second Chancellor since its award of Charter on 14th December 2012, General (Rtd.) Dr. Julius Waweru Karangi. It is a great honour for the University fraternity that the General accepted this appointment.

General (Rtd) Dr. Karangi is a highly decorated citizen and has been trained in Kenya, the United Kingdom (UK), India, and the United States. He holds a Master of Science (MSc) in Security and Risk Management from the University of Leicester (UK), an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters (Honoris Causa) from Kenyatta University. He is the recipient of the United States of America Award of Degree of Commander, the Legion of Merit (LOM), he is the third African to receive that honour. He also holdsnational Honours and Awards of Elder of the Order of the Golden Heart (EGH), chief ofthe Order of the Burning Spear (CBS), and Distinguished Conduct Order (DCO).



DeKUT at 10 Anniversary Celebrations!



By: Maureen Wairimu

We celebrated ten years since the University was awarded a charter on 14th December 2012. Since then, the University has blossomed into a Premier University of Technology in the Country and the region, attracting students from across the continent. In 2019, the University was ranked as the most preferred University in the Country, with a 98 per cent uptake of its declared capacity being occupied, and in 2020, this rose to 98.8 per cent.

Currently, the University offers a wide range of programs both at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels in various Schools and Institutes that are approved by the Senate and the different designated bodies like the Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK) and the Commission for University Education (CUE). To name but a few, we have Computer Science and Information Technology, Engineering, Applied Sciences, Food Science and Technology, Health Science, Business Management and Economics, Geothermal Energy Technology, Geomatics, Geospatial Information Systems and Remote Sensing, Tourism and Hospitality and Technical and Professional Studies. The University also offers diploma and Certificate courses for mid-level technical skills.







The number of programs offered has grown since the University was awarded a charter. In 2012, we had five programs, and now we have over 50 programs accredited by the Commission for University Education. 71 per cent of our programs are also STEM-based. The University is also steadily increasing its postgraduate enrollment in Master of Science (M.Sc.) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programs to continuously increase innovation and intellectual property output. The University has introduced a Postgraduate Diploma in Technical and Vocational Education (PGTVE) Training under the Centre for Excellence in Competency-Based Education Training (CCBET). The programme aims to provide prospective trainers with pedagogical skills and strategies for Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) programmes in TVET institutions. Among other skills, the programme will equip the student trainers with the knowledge, skills and attitude required to train in TVET institutions.

Over the years, the University has also received several awards for its exemplary performance. To name but a few, In 2022, the Film, Animation and Gaming Hub emerged as the winner in the Best Kids Production Category during the Kalasha International TV and Film Awards. In 2021, the University was nominated as the Digital Brand of the Year, competing alongside other strong brands such as Safaricom, Government of Kenya, Jambo Jet and EABL. Some of our staff members have also been recognized at regional and Country levels for their outstanding performance in research and innovation. The University also launched its 2023-2028 Strategic Plan and the DeKUT Vision 2040 to guide the University in its development phase.

It is a significant milestone in the University as we celebrate a decade of academic excellence, significant strides in research and innovation, and a continuous commitment to technology development & advancement for a better life.

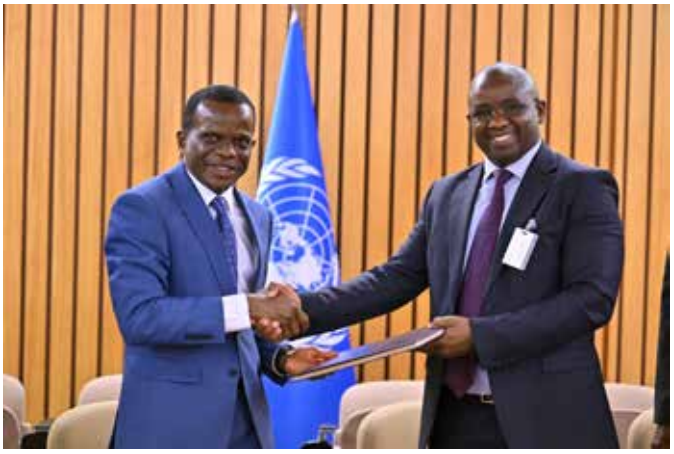
The Cabinet Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Ezekiel Machogu, and the Deputy Governor of Nyeri County, H.E Kinaniri Waroe, graced the event.







Origin Research and Innovations Labs, the New Baby in Town



Mr. Antonio Pedro, Acting Executive Secretary of UNECA and Prof. Peter N. Muchiri, Vice Chancellor of DeKUT

In a ground-breaking move towards fostering research and innovation in Africa, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) has solidified its commitment by entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). This collaboration has given rise to the Origin Research and Innovations Labs, a transformative initiative to address intricate challenges across the continent.

The formalization of this partnership occurred under the auspices of Prof. Peter Ng'ang'a Muchiri, the Vice-Chancellor of DeKUT, and Mr. Antonio Pedro, the Acting Executive Secretary of UNECA. The agreement describes establishing the Origin Research and Innovations Labs Physical Hub of East Africa at DeKUT, a pivotal milestone announced during the Second Forum of the Alliance of Entrepreneurial Universities in Africa (AEUA). Dr. Victor Konde from UNECA unveiled plans to replicate similar hubs in South Africa, Central Africa, West Africa, and North Africa, underscoring the far-reaching impact of this initiative.

The Origin concept, expounded by Dr. Victor Konde, revolves around a cross-disciplinary research and innovation framework tailored to surmounting Africa's multifaceted challenges. Positioned at the nexus of idea generation, product development, testing, commercialization facilitation, and innovation management, Origin's mission is to harness Africa's top talent for pioneering research, development, and innovation. Structured on three foundational pillars, Origin embodies a Problem-Solving Partnership, acting as a conduit between industries seeking solutions and a diverse pool of solution providers. This collaborative model encompasses individual entrepreneurs, innovators, research labs, specialized companies, and startups, tapping into the brightest minds across the continent and beyond.

Furthermore, Origin catalyzes Facilitating Collaborative Innovation, offering a centralized hub where innovators and entrepreneurs can expand their research, connect with key partners, and expedite the journey from idea to market. The initiative provides access to state-of-the-art laboratory facilities, supports research and development, facilitates testing, nurtures networking, and streamlines access to funding markets.

Underpinning its commitment to Future-Focused Initiatives, Origin initiates research projects, anticipating Africa's future needs. Encouraging free thinking, creativity, and collaborative creation, Origin incentivizes the development of minimally viable products. It attracts top talents with visionary ideas that could transform industries such as energy, transport, health, and distribution through technology.

Origin is set to collaborate with the AEUA to revolutionize Africa's research, innovation, and entrepreneurship landscape. The AEUA Forum's ambitious objective of establishing 1 million startups generating a total revenue of US$100 billion within a decade aligns seamlessly with Origin's catalytic role in achieving this commendable goal.

Prof. Eng. Paul Ndirangu Kioni, Ag. Head Research-Innovation Ecosystems and Entrepreneurship Education Office, DeKUT, is spearheading the establishment of the Origin Research and Innovations Labs. Origin Labs is poised to shape Africa's future of research, innovation, and entrepreneurship. The alliance between DeKUT and UNECA marks a pivotal moment, heralding a new era of collaborative excellence to tackle the continent's challenges head-on and foster sustainable development through research and innovation.



Mr. Antonio Pedro, Acting Executive Secretary of UNECA and Prof. Peter N. Muchiri, Vice Chancellor of DeKUT signing the MoU

DeKUT wins Entrepreneurial University of the Year Award



DeKUT prides itself as an entrepreneurial University. We recently won the Entrepreneurial University of the Year Award 2023 during the Commercialization and Entrepreneurial Institutions Leaders' Summit (CEIL), titled 'Getting it Right on Commercialization of Research Outputs and Ideas'.

During the Summit, the Kenya National Innovation Agency launched the Institutional Support program Cohort II, where DeKUT was admitted after a successful bid. The Occasion was flagged off by the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, Hon. Ababu Namwamba, the PS, State Department for Higher Education and Research, Dr Beatrice Inyangala, and PS, State Department for Youth Affairs, Mr. Ismail Maalim graced the Occasion.

As a University, we are dedicated to providing an all-inclusive supporting infrastructure to assist businesses in setting up, innovate, and grow. It is on this premise, a National Science and Technology Park (STP) was established. It is an engine for innovation, incubation, development and commercialization of technology. STP creates opportunities to commercialize Agro-tech research outputs through technology transfer from the rich human resource at the University. Further, by enabling networking and collaboration through well-structured processes and networks between suitable partners for innovation, DeKUT STP promotes investment opportunities for developers to realize significant returns. It is envisaged to stimulate the development of entrepreneurship, which will drive job creation in the country and develop self-reliant youths.

DeST-Park has created an Entrepreneurial platform that leverages research and innovation to generate intellectual property (IP) rights, spin-off companies and entrepreneurship to promote sustainable economic growth of the University and the Nation. DeST-Park was established to intensify the application of science, technology and innovation through interplay among the Government, the Industry, the Academia and the Society. This will be realized by pursuing three thematic areas, which are Agri-tech (Food bio-resources and natural products value-addition), Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Design, Materials and Manufacturing (DMM). DeST-Park has attracted anchor clients, such as Asytec LTD, Semiconductor Technologies Limited, and ten self-generated companies from research within the University.

It is a significant milestone for DeKUT and DeST-Park as the University and the Park endeavor to launch more startup companies.

DeKUT Hosts the Worldskills Kenya National Competition

The WorldSkills Kenya National Competition is the peak vocational skills competition for young people worldwide. It was started in Spain in 1950 and is currently in 85 countries across the globe. On October 13, 2020, WorldSkills Kenya (W.S.K.) was ratified as the 84th state to host skills competitions. On 14th August to August 18th, 2023, we hosted the participants to assess their readiness for the World Skills Competitions, which were held in DeKUT from the 28th August to September 1st, 2023.



The Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) as one of the TVET institutions approved by the Ministry of education, science and Technology was tasked by TVETA to organize WSK National Competition in Mechatronics and Industrie 4.0 skill areas in the Siemens Mechatronics Certification Centre. The Siemens Centre at DeKUT is fully equipped and accredited by Siemens Germany to offer certification in the field of industrial digitization. This Centre has a proven record of accomplishment of training industrial professionals and Universities in Africa such as the Pan African University Institute for Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation (PAUSTI). One of its notable achievements is the creation of a generic virtual reality 3D biomedical modelling platform.

The WorldSkills Africa Competition commenced on 28th August to September 1st, 2023, under the theme "Promoting Skills Development in the 21st Century for Sustainable Economic Growth and Africa Ownership". Over 100 participants competed in 19 different technical and vocational trade areas at the event, including an international conference and career exhibition.

DeKUT emerged position one in the Industrial 4.0 and the Mechatronics category and they will represent Kenya during the WorldSkills International Competition that will be held in Lyon, France from 10th to 15th September 2024.





The 7th DeKUT International Conference on Science, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship



The 7th DeKUT International Conference on Science, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship was held from 8th -10th November, 2023. The conference theme was "**Leveraging Science, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Sustainability and Development.**

The conference provided a forum for research peers from local and international institutions to showcase innovations and discuss, share, and publish research findings. The conference sub-themes were: Engineering Technologies and Innovations, Business Management and Entrepreneurship, Basic and Applied Sciences, Agricultural Sciences and Technologies, Water, Energy, GIS and Remote Sensing, Health Sciences, Community Development and Post Covid-19 Dynamics, ICT and Data Science, IOT, AI and Emerging Technologies, Tourism, Wildlife, Hospitality Management, Environment and Climate Change, Security Management, Forensics and Contemporary Crimes, Trends in Technical Education and Training, Project Management for Micro-Public Project. This year's conference attracted participants from Kenya, Nigeria and Japan, with over 89 papers presented.

DEKUT SCIENTIFIC AND ETHICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (DEKUTSERC)

DeKUT Scientific and Ethical Review Committee (DeKUTSERC) was accredited by the NACOSTI in March 2022 with the responsibility of promoting, reviewing and regulating research at the University and is domiciled in the Directorate of Research, Innovation Management and Community Linkages (RIMCL). The team is drawn from various schools in the Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, the community, and representatives of collaborative institutions. Members are appointed for three years and may be reappointed at the University's discretion.

The goal of DeKUTSERC is to objectively assess all research proposals in the University to ensure that the research is scientifically valid and the benefits of the research outweigh the risk of harm to human participants, experimental animals, and the natural environment and approve research proposals for and on behalf of NACOSTI.

In line with the NACOSTI guidelines, the committee membership includes a multidisciplinary team of medical scientists, public health specialists, implementation scientists, sociologists, laypersons, and clergy.

The committee has been able to conduct a scientific and ethics review of 55 proposals and has so far issued approval letters for ethical clearance for 80% of the proposals submitted. The remaining 20% is still undergoing the review process.

Inclusion of Every Child in Environmental Conservation



Group photo of the workshop participants.

By: The Remote Sensing Research Group (RSRG)

The continued realization of the threat posed by climate change has provided the much-needed impetus for various stakeholders to consolidate their efforts towards mitigating these threats. This year's World Children's Day on the 20th of November,2023, with the global theme **"***For Every Child, Every Right.*" provided a platform for learners to take climate action. The University hosted a workshop under the sub-theme «Inclusion of every child in environmental conservation» to commemorate the day. Over 140 participants graced the workshop. These included 83 learners from 19 schools within the Muringato Sub catchment area, 19 teachers from the represented schools, the Kenya Forest Service (KFS), the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), the Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI), the Muringato Water Resources Users Association (M-WRUA), the Kenya Forest Club (KFC) and the University's Environmental and Wildlife Club.

The workshop, was officiated by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration and Finance (DVC A&F) Prof. Esther Magiri and the e-learning book: "Let's *save our environment*" was launched. The book provides a case study of the Aberdare forest within the Muringato sub-catchment area in Nyeri County, Kenya, and how it has gradually degraded through deforestation between 1990 and 2020. The book utilizes animated formats to make learning both enjoyable and impactful, capturing the attention of young minds and fostering a sense of responsibility toward the environment. It draws its content from the country's Competency Based Curriculum (CBC), ensuring the developed book content is aligned with the learners' curriculum. Thus, the animated book covers the basics of environmental conservation and introduces children to the power of technology in addressing environmental challenges. It serves as a valuable tool for instilling a sense of ecological responsibility in young learners, nurturing a generation that is aware of their rights and actively engaged in safeguarding the planet.

Afterwards, the participants proceeded to a tree-planting exercise within the university farm. Each participant planted at least 2 of the indigenous trees provided and ensured that they tagged them. Over 300 tree seedlings of different indigenous species were planted.

The day's activities were carried out as part of the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) funded project 'Participatory Approach to Environmental Conservation of the Muringato Catchment Area for Sustainable Management and Ecosystem Health,' seeking to enhance learners' involvement in environmental conservation. The research project is being undertaken in collaboration with the Ruhr University Bochum (RUB). It is envisioned that through these workshops, environmental conservation awareness will be created within the learners at a very tender age, and platforms will be provided through which they can be engaged in the conservation of the environment.



Official opening of the workshop by the DVC A&F Prof Esther Magiri



Official launch of the book "Let's Save Our Environment" by the DVC A&F Prof Esther Magiri



Display of launched book "Let's Save Our Environment"



Participants keenly following the workshop proceedings



The Water Resources Users Association chairman Mr Gikonyo being assisted by Ms. Gladys and Ms Brenda from the Kenya Wildlife Service



Learners been assisted in the tree planting exercise by one of the teachers Mr Kamunya from Nyarugumu Primary School.



Mr Gichuru from Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI) Nyeri, demonstrating how to plant the tree seedlings.



Planting and labelling of the tree seedlings by one of the participants



Participants after the tree planting exercise

Aligning Hospitality and Tourism Training to the 21st Century

By Dr. Peninah Chege
Director, Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management

In the dynamic landscape of the 21st-century hospitality industry, the demand for skilled professionals has never been more pronounced. As the industry continues to evolve, so do the expectations placed on the workforce. Recognizing this, the Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management is at the forefront of revolutionizing hospitality education, aligning it with the skills needs of the modern era.

Competence-Based Training: A Vision of TVETA

In response to the changing demands of the job market, the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA) envisions competence-based training as the key to preparing professionals for career success. At the Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, this vision is a guiding principle and a commitment embraced by the Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management.



Full-fledged Modern Kitchen



African culinary

By aligning training with the skills needs of the 21st-century hospitality industry and incorporating practical experiences, cultural celebrations and real-world scenarios, the department is not just producing graduates; it is shaping future leaders who are not only knowledgeable but, more importantly, capable of translating that knowledge into tangible, impactful actions in the dynamic world of hospitality.





Part of Dedan Kimathi's field training lab

In today's job market, it's not just about what you know; it's about what you can do. This philosophy drives the institute's educational approach, emphasizing practical lessons and hands-on experiences. By doing so, the university ensures that its graduates are equipped with theoretical knowledge and possess the practical skills necessary to excel in the real-world scenarios of the hospitality industry.

Practical Emphasis: Where Theory Meets Reality

A state-of-the-art modern kitchen designed specifically for food and beverage training is at the heart of the department's commitment to practical education. This facility provides students with a real-world setting to hone their culinary skills, preparing them for the challenges of a professional kitchen.

A Unique Field Training Lab in a Conservation Oasis

Beyond the kitchen, the department has taken a bold step to bridge the gap between theory and practice by establishing a comprehensive field-based training lab. Nestled within the university's Conservancy, this lab supersedes the traditional training setups. It features a modern campsite, cottages, and a diverse assemblage of flora and fauna, all of which create a vibrant learning environment. The field training lab provides a perfect setting for hands-on hospitality training and serves as a research station for experimenting with various conservation approaches. Students training in this distinctive lab gain insights into hospitality management and environmental conservation—an invaluable combination in an era where sustainability is at the center of the 21st-century hospitality industry.

In addition to the rigorous curriculum, Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management students actively engage in cultural celebrations that spotlight the richness of African culinary art. Moreover, students take charge of organizing bush dinners under the expert supervision of their lecturers. This hands-on experience is vital as it prepares students for the job market and the evolving demands of the 21st-century hospitality industry. These events not only showcase the students' culinary skills but also instill in them the confidence and adaptability required for success in the ever-changing world of hospitality.

Shaping versatile and skilled professionals

As the hospitality industry continues to evolve, so does the need for adaptive and skilled professionals. Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management is pioneering a transformative education approach beyond textbooks and classrooms. By aligning training with the skills needs of the 21st-century hospitality industry and incorporating practical experiences, cultural celebrations and real-world scenarios, the department is not just producing graduates; it is shaping future leaders who are not only knowledgeable but, more importantly, capable of translating that knowledge into tangible, impactful actions in the dynamic world of hospitality.

The Second i2B Innovation Weekend



By Dr. James Wakiru, Director-DeSIC
desic@dkut.ac.ke

Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) has consistently prioritized cultivating innovation and entrepreneurship within its academic community. The Dedan Kimathi Startup and Incubation Center (DeSIC) is an integral center fostering student creativity and entrepreneurship. Functioning as a catalyst for transformative ideas, DeSIC plays a pivotal role in incubating these concepts until they evolve into viable startup ventures.

The i2BTM (Idea to Business) concept was developed to address this vital need, providing a platform (Innovation Weekend) for students and staff to conceive, ideate, design, and refine innovative ideas for starting a business. Hence, the i2B (Idea to Business) Innovation Weekend emerges as a biannual flagship event. Held on the 3rd and 4th of November, 2023, at the Satima Block, this event served as a platform where innovators, primarily students, explore the intricacies of innovation. DeKUT Vice Chancellor Prof Peter Muchiri officially opened the event on the 3rd of November 2023 and ran for 28 hours.

DeSIC organized the i2B Innovation Weekend with esteemed partners, including DeKUT faculty members, Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship Management (CIEM) and Dedan Kimathi University Science & Technology Park (DeST-Park), Konza Technopolis, Equity Bank, and Semiconductor Technologies Limited. The collective goal is to provide participants with a comprehensive and enriching experience beyond theoretical knowledge.

The DeKUT i2B Weekend was a great networking opportunity since the participants met with like-minded individuals, founders, investors, and other influential people and gained exposure to local startups. During the two-day event, 63 elevator pitches were presented, which were voted for; the selected 13 elevator pitches had participants grouped around and could generate the product prototype and business model and, ultimately, the pitch deck with the help of mentors and coaches. Eventually, the winners (runners-up and second runners-up) were recognized and awarded. The judges and organizers noted a marked improvement in our students' maturity and knowledge in the innovation and entrepreneurial space based on the ideas, innovations, and pitch decks presented during the event.

The overarching goal for the i2B weekend was to entrench the startup process in the mindset of the participants and involve them throughout the entire process. Key aspects included starting with the end in mind, business modelling, mindset shift and pitching. The DeKUT i2B weekend was very effective in creating a mindset change towards innovation and entrepreneurship among the students, enhancing multidisciplinary collaboration in problem-solving while sharpening entrepreneurial competencies and exposing the innovative side of our students in the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Guardians of the Hills:

Understanding Landslides and Preparing for the 2023 El Niño in Kenya's Vulnerable Regions

By Mary Karanja
SEG DKUT Chapter
Geothermal Research Training Institute

Adorned with picturesque landscapes, Kenya bears witness to a dance between climatic forces and geological vulnerabilities. El Niño, an atmospheric enigma orchestrating global weather patterns, profoundly impacts regions vulnerable to landslides. Its influence on rainfall patterns is a precursor to potential disaster, particularly in Kenya's undulating landscapes such as Murang'a and West Pokot. As a nation, we must learn from past examples as cautionary tales while offering insights into preparing for the anticipated El Niño of 2023.

El Niño is a climate phenomenon characterized by the periodic warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean. This warming can have significant impacts on weather patterns around the world. El Niño events typically occur every two to seven years and last several months. In regions like Murang'a and West Pokot, its impact on rainfall patterns becomes crucial, setting the stage for potential landslides. The relationship between El Niño and landslides is tricky, where meteorological shifts can trigger catastrophic geological events.

Murang'a, home to the Aberdare Ranges, has witnessed the consequences of this dance between El Niño and landslides. In 2018, heavy rainfall led to a devastating landslide in Gitugi village. West Pokot, with its majestic hills, faced the wrath of heavy rainfall-induced landslides in 2019. The mountain, saturated by tremendous rainfall, succumbed to gravity, displacing communities and leaving scars on the landscape. The scars left by this catastrophe serve as a reminder of the vulnerability inherent in the union of hilly terrains and climatic anomalies.

While El Niño sets the stage for landslides, human activities often play a pivotal role. Unsustainable land-use practices, deforestation, and inadequate infrastructure worsen the impact of landslides. A delicate balance between natural forces and human interventions often favours disaster.

Kenya needs to take various steps to get ready for El Niño. Here are some actions that our country can take:

Community Engagement and Education: Empowering communities through comprehensive education is a cornerstone of effective mitigation. Informing residents about the potential risks associated with El Niño, the specific measures they can take to protect themselves, and the importance of early warnings fosters a sense of preparedness and resilience.

Early Warning Systems: The enhancement and expansion of early warning systems play a pivotal role in minimizing the impact of El Niño-related events. Leveraging technology, meteorological data, and community engagement, these systems can provide timely alerts, allowing for swift evacuation and response measures.

Infrastructure Resilience: Investing in resilient infrastructure is a crucial component of mitigating the impact of El Niño. Roads, bridges, and other critical structures should be designed to withstand extreme weather events, reducing damage risk and ensuring essential services' continuity.

Sustainable Land Use Practices: Implementing sustainable land-use practices, including reforestation initiatives and measures to prevent deforestation, contributes to slope stability and minimizes the risk of landslides. Preserving natural barriers and ecosystems is crucial for maintaining environmental resilience.

Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans: Developing and regularly rehearsing emergency response plans at various levels, from local communities to regional authorities, is essential. Preparedness ensures that evacuation procedures are well understood, resources are strategically deployed, and the response is coordinated and efficient.

International Collaboration: Recognizing that climatic events transcend national borders, fostering international collaboration is crucial. Kenya can benefit from sharing expertise, resources, and best practices with neighbouring countries and global partners to address the challenges El Niño poses collectively.

As Kenya stands on the brink of the anticipated El Niño in 2023, the experiences of past landslides offer invaluable lessons. By looking at El Niño's vulnerable landscapes and implementing sustainable practices, Kenya can confront nature's challenges with resilience and preparedness. The 2023 El Niño should serve as an opportunity for united action, transforming the narrative from fear to community strength and environmental stewardship. The hills are not just landscapes; they are the guardians of our collective well-being. May the force be with you as Kenya stands united in the face of nature's dance, emerging more potent and resilient.

KENYA'S VIBRANIUM



By Zumeya Omari
SEG DKUT Chapter
Geothermal Research Training Institute

If you are in the mood for a sci-fi fantasy film with a great soundtrack, fantastic cast, compelling story, and stunning visuals, I give you Black Panther. The 2018 film is set in the fictional country of Wakanda. Wakanda is the most technologically advanced country in the world. It is the most powerful nation with the best education, health, and gender parity. There is a point with the Dora Milaje being an all-female elite group of warriors that serve the black panther (the king) as his bodyguards. All this is enabled due to the asteroid that crashed in the small country. The asteroid comprises Vibranium, the most robust metal in the Marvel Cinematic Universe and the energy source of Wakanda's. This is what makes Wakanda such a utopia of a place.

How can Kenya as a country aspire to create such a utopia? How can we blend our cultures with technology seamlessly? How can we create a flawless health system? How can we reach an age where no woman or man of any class is overlooked? We can't, but we can try, and if any lessons are to be taken from a fictional movie inspired by comic books, we need a lot of energy. A lot of clean energy. Luckily, we have geothermal energy and are still catching up in understanding its importance in the grand scheme of things.

Kenya is the world's seventh top producer of geothermal energy. As of 2023, Kenya has 891.8MW of installed geothermal capacity. It has several plants to exploit the Olkaria geothermal resource with Olkaria I(268.3MW), Olkaria II (105 MW), Olkaria III (139 MW), Olkaria IV (140 MW), Olkaria V (158 MW) and Wellhead generation plants (75 MW) and an additional pilot wellhead of 2.5 MW being commissioned at Eburru and two small scale plants have been built by the Oserian Development Company to power their rose farm facilities with a total of 4 MW.

Geothermal energy is the type of energy obtained from Earth's heat. This energy can be tapped into hot water or steam and can only be harnessed through geothermal resources. It is also a clean form of energy and a renewable source of energy. Other clean, renewable energy sources include solar panels, hydroelectric energy sources, and wind as a form of energy. But unlike these forms of energy, it is not dependent on weather and climate for efficiency. It only depends on the heat from beneath the Earth, and since it is not going anywhere anytime soon, we are in plenty.

Geothermal accounts for about 47% of the country's total energy production. The resource is mainly found on the East African Rift System that runs from the North of Kenya from Lake Turkana to the South on Lake Natron on the border of Kenya and Tanzania. The Rift continues to run along South. Globally, geothermal resources are found along tectonic boundaries. Along the Pacific Ring of Fire, where the sub-plates of Africa, Nubian and Somali plates, split, creating a rift for 6400 kilometers from the Gulf of Aden in Djibouti before ending in Mozambique. This stretching causes the formation of magmatic hotspots. These hotspots are the ones where the geothermal resources can be tapped. Kenya has several such hotspots along its rift system, and Kenya has an estimated potential of 10000MW from its geothermal resource.

The only other geothermal energy producer in Africa is Ethiopia, which has an installed capacity of 7.5 MW, although it has an estimated potential of 10000MW too. Dedan Kimathi offers a master's of Science in Geothermal Energy Technology. Further, KenGen, in collaboration with the Icelandic-based GRO Geothermal Training Program and Kenya's Geothermal Development, has been training university students, energy professionals and government officials within East Africa on geothermal resource exploration and development, sharing our expertise, just like Wakanda in the movie.

Africa has a significant potential for geothermal use, with about 14 good prospects around the continent, not just East Africa. These areas with high potential include Northernmost Africa, the Gulf of Suez, the Gulf of Aqaba in Egypt, the Red Sea access, Liberia and Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Main Ethiopian Rift, Kenyan Rift, Lake Albert Rift in DRC and Uganda, Lake Kivu Rift, Tanzanian Rift, Northern Rift, Central Zambia, Botswana/South Africa border and Namibia. In most countries, geothermal resources could be used for industrial applications like direct heating rather than electricity generation.

Energy is one significant component that drives a nation's social structure, industrialization, and economy. Massive investment is needed, especially in new, clean, renewable sources such as geothermal. Kenya is a frontrunner in its use on the continent and globally. Kenya, with support from government institutions and aid from international compatriots, we are one step closer to creating the utopia of Wakanda.

The DeKUT Office of
CAREER SERVICES

In recent years, the Government of Kenya has taken initiatives to improve service delivery to all stakeholders. As the country continues to battle youth unemployment and under-employment crises, the Ministry of Education directed that universities and tertiary institutions set up career offices to guide young people on career choices and job market demands. From this directive, the DeKUT Office of Career Services (DeKUTOCS) was established and launched in February 2022. The Office of Career Services strives to achieve the much-needed objective of preparing and empowering students for the world of work and entrepreneurship and linking them to this world. Our services include mentorship, skills and professional development, career guidance and empowerment, developing frameworks for student advisory and attachment, building valuable networks and facilitating linkages, sharing information on opportunities, and training on the identity of DeKUT students and alums.

Ajira Digital Program

In March 2022, the University welcomed the activation of the Ajira Digital Program. The program is domiciled in the Ministry of ICT and Youth Affairs and aims to promote digital and digitally-enabled jobs for the youths in Kenya. The training provided to our students by Ajira Digital has enabled them to navigate the world of online work, with many having started earning. Further, the Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of ICT Innovation and Youth Affairs Ms. Maureen Mbaka on 24th June 2022 launched the DeKUT Ajira Club to reach more youths and expand the footprints of the Ajira Digital Program across the country.

The club is an avenue for creating a community of peer online workers, where they can help each other navigate the online space, network, grow, and earn a decent amount while maintaining their commitment as students in the different programs at the University. So far, more than 800 DeKUT students have benefited from virtual and physical training sessions conducted by Ajira Digital.

The Jitu

The Jitu is an I.T. staff augmentation firm based in Nyeri. The Company has partnered with the University to provide industry-focused training to students in Computer Science and I.T. programs. DeKUTOCS is the contact office for The Jitu within the University, and so far, four cohorts have undergone training, with the next group scheduled for training in January 2024. We look to meet the Company's staffing needs by hiring highly skilled students. The Jitu are also our partners in TECH CAREER TALKS, a series of quarterly career guidance sessions at DeKUT.

Absa's ReadytoWork

The ReadytoWork program was designed and developed by Absa and aimed at helping students transition from academia into the world of work. ReadytoWork provides learning material designed to help young people develop work skills, people skills, money skills, and entrepreneurial skills. At DeKUTOCS, we are keen on creating and maintaining an ecosystem and frameworks that enable mentoring, career guidance & counselling, skills & professional development, industrial exposure, and empowerment of our students towards producing graduates ready for the world of work and entrepreneurship. In September 2023, Absa launched the 2023 ABSA Graduate Trainee Program at DeKUT. ReadytoWork was founded with students getting an opportunity to join the program through the ReadytoWork App, which is available on the Play Store.

Centre for Food Safety and Naturopathy (CeFoNa)



By Dr Monica Mburu
Director, CeFoNa

The Centre for Food Safety and Naturopathy (CeFoNa), hosted by the Institute of Food Bioresources Technology, is an applied food science research consortium comprised of Dedan Kimathi University and the food industry. In collaboration, it allows stakeholders to develop and exchange knowledge, experience and expertise in food safety management systems, food defence assessment, food fraud assessment, food hygiene pre-requisite programs and quality management systems.

Naturopathy advocates for natural and functional foods to the innate healing power of nature. Chia and other natural herbs have been promoted as therapeutic foods through an ongoing project and student club, "Green Thumb Movement." Through the Centre, an organic medicinal herbal garden has been set up to promote naturopathy through innovations and capacity building.

The Centre mandate:

- Commercialization of products rich in bioactive compounds, including Chia and Oyster mushroom products
- Coordinate food safety and naturopathy research relevant to Kenya under the Institute of Food Bioresources Technology.
- Develop and commercialize natural functional foods to the innate healing power of nature.
- Conduct training on food safety that is relevant to the modern food industry.
- Research to protect and promote the right to safe food and the environment.

Food safety is central to public health, food security and improved livelihoods through trade facilitation and sustainable development. Access to safe food is a fundamental right as prescribed in Article 43, as read with Article 46 of the Constitution of Kenya. Food safety is vital for achieving food and nutritional security in Africa. Unsafe food contains microbiological, chemical or physical hazards that can make people sick, causing acute or chronic illness that, in extreme cases, can lead to death or permanent disability.

CeFoNa Mandate

1. **Research food-nutrition security and safety**

Research aiming at identifying new food products and establishing a demo herbal garden of functional foods with the innate healing power of nature

A demo farm has been established for growing chia. Oyster mushrooms, herbs and vegetables with functional properties. The chia-oyster mushroom demo is under the project **"Integrated Chia and Oyster Mushroom System for Sustainable Food Value Chain in Africa (CHIAM)", funded by** NRF amounting to **KES 9,600,000** under the ERA-NET Cofund on Food Systems and Climate (EU Horizon 2020). The project is under the partnership of research institutions in six countries: Hungary, Germany, Egypt, Morocco, Algeria and Kenya. DeKUT is the Coordinating Partner in this project.

2. **Patronage of Agricultural Clubs for students:**

- Seed To Table Innovators (STT) registered on January 21, 2020
- DeKUT Agricultural Club (DeKUTAC) registered on June 19, 2023

Under Dr Monica Mburu's patronage, the two clubs have been functional and actively involved in setting up the therapeutic garden at the CeFoNa Demo facility. They have established applicable food crops, including yacon, herbs, fruits and vegetables, that are used to process different therapeutic products and neutraceuticals, spearheaded by Dr Monica Mburu.

The two clubs are comprised of students from different faculties passionate about smart agriculture for sustainable development. This pool of students is from the Institute of Food Bioresources Technology (IFBT), School of Science, School of Business, and School of Engineering. They are also joined by Masters Students from the IFBT, some of whom pioneered the STT Club during their undergraduate studies.



Yacon (*Smallanthus sonchifolius*) crop at the Demo Farm. The roots are rich in fructooligosacharides and inulin.





Club Students working at the CeFoNa Demo Farm

3. Food Safety Training

CeFoNa offers training assistance to food processors, ranging from beginner to advanced levels.

It also plans to build the capacity of teaching staff and final year BSc students on voluntary private food safety standards, including but not limited to HACCP, ISO 22000, FSSC 22000 and BRCGS Issue 9.

A wide range of certified food safety courses are on offer:

- Prerequisite Programs (ISO/TS 22002 series)
- HACCP
- ISO 22000:2018 requirement
- Food Labelling and branding
- Auditing and Inspection Skills
- Training Skills and Practice
- Updating with the new BRCGS Issue 9 Standard

The courses can be delivered to a group of delegates at their place of work or in our dedicated training facility at DeKUT. Courses offered hybrid (Virtual and physical) to interested participants.

Consultant Expert: Dr Monica Mburu is a Lead Auditor certified in BRCGS Food Safety issue 9 and FSSC 22000 and has significantly been involved in food safety and quality audits while at times contracted by certification firms. She is an expert in food safety management systems, with over 20 years of experience in training, implementing and auditing food safety management systems, including FSSC 22000, ISO 22000, ISO 22002 series, BRCGS and Global GAP in Africa.

She has a working knowledge of HACCP and food safety, having worked as a quality assurance manager for eight years in food processing companies in Kenya. She has been involved in establishing food safety management systems for various companies and has a wealth of experience in research in the fields of food chemistry, microbiology and safety. She is also involved in training and implementation of fair trade and organic standards. Monica is a trainer expert with the EU-based Committee Linking Entrepreneurship-Agriculture-Development (COLEAD) programs. Monica has a Ph.D. in Food Science and Technology from Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) and a Master's in Food Science and Post-Harvest Technology from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology.

She is currently a Senior Lecturer at DeKUT, specializing in food microbiology, chemistry and safety and a researcher in food-nutrition science.

4. Commercialization of Innovations

CeFoNa is commercializing various ideas/innovations/prototypes in "Alternate foods and production" under the upcoming startup company Afyalishe Ltd.

The products include:

1. Chia seeds
2. Chia seeds powder
3. Salvia hispanica Chia seed oil
4. Chia Leaves powder
5. Dried Pearl Oyster Mushrooms
6. Yellow Oyster Mushroom Powder
7. White Sapote Herbal Probiotic Detox
8. Pepino Herbal Probiotic Detox
9. Yacon Herbal Probiotic Detox
10. Yacon Sage Probiotic Detox
11. Dates Sage Probiotic Detox
12. Purple Tea Probiotic Oxymel
13. Hibiscus Herbal Boost Tisane
14. Chia Composite Flour
15. Yacon Composite Flour
16. Yacon Oatmeal Bar
17. Potted herbs and Garden grow bags with assorted herbs

CeFoNa contributes to DeKUT's vision of leading agricultural innovation and sustainable development through food science and technology.

Cyber Security Club of DeKUT: ONE YEAR AND COUNTING

By P. Theuri | J. Masara | P. Wambua | M. Tanui

Semester Activities and Weekly Sessions

Time has woven a tapestry of growth and learning as we mark ***'One Year and Counting'*** since the **CYBER SECURITY CLUB OF KIMATHI** launched on September 22, 2022, when we embarked on a journey of knowledge, skill-building, and shared passion for cybersecurity.

The club has impacted the university in several positive ways, including:

1. Promoting cybersecurity awareness and education: The club has provided students with opportunities to learn about cybersecurity threats, vulnerabilities, and best practices. It has helped reduce the risk of cyberattacks when utilizing DeKUT's network and data.
2. Developing cybersecurity skills: The club has provided students with opportunities to develop their cybersecurity skills through hands-on activities, such as CTFs, capture-the-flag competitions, and security assessments, helping them prepare for careers in cybersecurity.
3. Creating a community of cybersecurity professionals: The club aims to provide a forum for students, faculty, and staff to connect and share their knowledge and experience in cybersecurity. It helps create a more secure university community.

Conducting cybersecurity research: With the rise in cyber-attacks and threats related to it, the club is strategizing on

1. Providing students with opportunities to conduct cybersecurity research on new threats, vulnerabilities, and mitigation strategies. This can help advance the cybersecurity field and protect the DeKUT from emerging threats.

Every Wednesday, the members meet, share ideas, and help each other solve cybersecurity-related challenges. The club leaders organize these meetings and usually cover diverse cybersecurity topics, including *penetration testing*, *forensics*, *reverse engineering*, etc.

The members also play capture-the-flag challenges to perfect their knowledge and practice skills on the topics covered. These sessions are led by the more experienced club leads and any members of the club who have knowledge and are willing to share it on the topic to be covered.

CTFs and Competitions

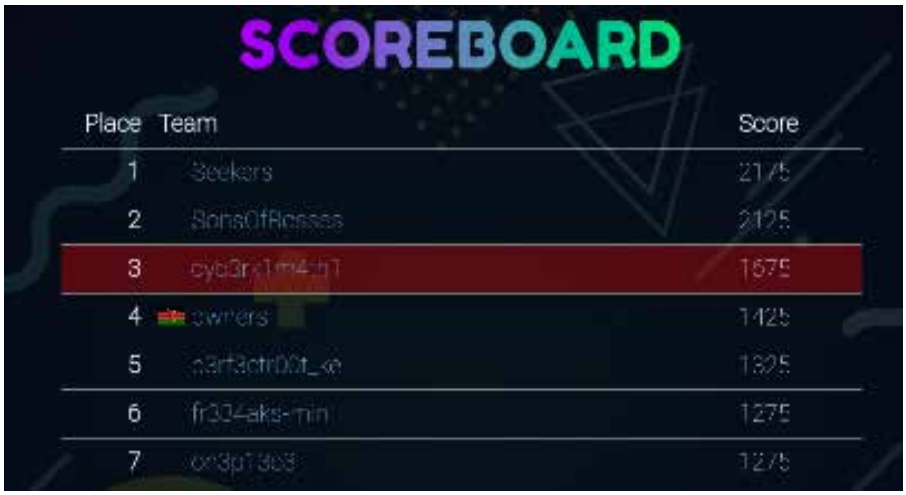


We have also been participating in Capture The Flag competitions. Our team, ***Cyb3rK1m4th1,*** has participated in competitions across the country against other universities and non-student teams. The Capture The Flag (CTF) competitions engage participants in multiple challenges to test their skills in solving security-related problems, enhance their cybersecurity skills, learn new techniques, and apply their knowledge.



This year, we had a team representing the club in two main CTF competitions: an Intervarsity competition organized by SheHacks, where our team remarkably ranked 3rd, and another at BsidesNairobi, where our team once again emerged in 3rd position.

Attending CTF competitions was a great way to test and improve our skills and connect with the broader cybersecurity community. It was an excellent accomplishment to be recognized among the top teams in these competitions, and it speaks to the dedication and expertise of our team members. The team members participating in the CTFs included **M. Tanui, P. Wambua, J. Masara, V. Mwirigi, N. Gikunju, and K. Kimaiyo.**







DeKUT Hosts the 5th KUPAA Drama Festival

By Kelvin Mburu

Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) prides itself on hosting the 5th Kenya University Performing Arts Association (KUPAA) Drama Festival from Friday, 3rd November to Friday, 10th November 2023. The event was held under the compelling theme "Supporting Economic Transformation Through Performing Arts."

DeKUT was transformed into a dynamic hub of creativity, welcoming participants from various Universities to showcase their talents. The festival served as a vibrant platform for students to explore and express the intersection of Performing Arts, Film and economic development.

The festival's canvas was rich and diverse, encompassing drama, film, beauty pageantry, and visual arts theatre. Each of these categories provided a platform for students from different Varsities to demonstrate their creative prowess, emphasizing the inclusive spirit of the event.

The DeKUT Drama Club led in showcasing their talents during the KUPAA event. They excelled in various activities, including oral narrative, mime, modern dance, solo poetry show, cultural creative dance, choral poetry show, English play, and shadow play. The club emerged in the top position, demonstrating their exceptional skill and dedication in each category.



Mr. & Miss Kimathi, the distinguished representatives of DeKUT in the Beauty Pageantry, captivated the audience with their grace and poise. Among the contestants, Miss Kimathi, the radiant Liza Nduruhu, showcased elegance and earned the coveted title of Miss Congeniality. Her charisma and charm shone brightly, leaving an indelible mark on the pageantry stage and reflecting the essence of DeKUT's beauty and brains.

DeKUT actively participated in the 3rd and 4th Editions of the Kenya Universities Performing Arts Association (KUPAA) Drama Festival, showcasing exceptional talent and contributing significantly to the vibrant cultural landscape of the academic community. Their consistent success in these events underscores the University's commitment to fostering creativity and artistic expression among its students, solidifying its reputation as a dynamic and influential presence in the performing arts within the academic sphere.



DeKUT takes pride in hosting an event that celebrates artistic excellence and contributes to the ongoing discourse on leveraging the performing arts for economic advancement.

DeKUT takes pride in hosting an event that celebrates artistic excellence and contributes to the ongoing discourse on leveraging the performing arts for economic advancement. KUPAA 2023 will be remembered as a testament to the boundless potential of creativity in fostering positive change and transformation.



DeKUT Takes Center Stage as Host of the 95th Edition of the Kenya Music Festival



By Kelvin Mburu

Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) proudly hosted the 95th Edition of the Kenya Music Festival from Friday 11th to Sunday 20th August 2023, marking its second time organizing this prestigious event. Against the backdrop of this illustrious occasion, the festival embraced the theme "Nurturing Talent for Innovation and National Development." The University's selection as the venue was attributed to its exceptional features, including a serene environment, state-of-the-art infrastructure, and expansive fields

Renowned as one of the country's premier institutions, DeKUT provided an ideal setting for the festival, boasting modern structures and spacious grounds. The University's commitment to creating an environment conducive to artistic expression and performance excellence made it the natural choice for hosting the Kenya Music Festival once again.

The 95th Edition of the Kenya Music Festival brought together over 130,000 students from both public and private schools across the nation. This significant gathering provided participants with a unique opportunity to interact, explore different facets of the country, and engage in cultural exchange. The serene surroundings offered an ideal backdrop for participants to practice and deliver outstanding performances, showcasing their musical talents to the fullest.



Dedan Kimathi University of Technology's Music Club made a resounding impact at the 95th Kenya Music Festival, securing an impressive position one in seven different items and earning a total of six trophies except from one which was not awarded. The club's outstanding achievements reflected not only the dedication and talent of its members but also the University's commitment to excellence in the realm of music and cultural expression.

The Music Club's stellar performance included victories in the following categories:

1. **Class 656 - Choir Item on Communication Authority of Kenya**
2. **Class 660 - Choir Item on Kenya Tourism Board**
3. **Class 665 - Choir Item on National Police Service**
4. **Class 815M - Borana African Traditional Cultural Dance**
5. **Class 817M - Giriama African Traditional Cultural Dance**
6. **Class 841M - Zulu African Traditional Cultural Dance**
7. **Class 1351M - French Solo Verse**

On Friday, 11th August,2023 during the official opening day of the Kenya Music Festival received distinguished guests, showcasing a remarkable blend of government officials and festival organizers. Among the honored attendees were Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs, Sports, and the Arts, Ababu Namwamba; Ismail Maalim Maday, the Permanent Secretary for the State Department for Youth Affairs and Arts; Mutahi Kahiga, the Governor of Nyeri; Prof. Frederick B.J.A Ngala, Chairman of the Kenya Music Festival National Executive Committee; and Janet Langat, the Executive Secretary Kenya Music Festival.

These notable figures not only attended the event but also took a proactive initiative by participating in a tree-planting ceremony. Their involvement in this environmentally conscious activity highlighted a commitment not only to the cultural and artistic aspects of the festival but also to sustainable practices and environmental stewardship.

DeKUT takes immense pride in hosting the 95th Edition of the Kenya Music Festival, recognizing the profound impact it has on building the institution's image and advancing its marketing endeavors. Hosting of such grand events adds to the institution's stature and solidifies its position as a hub for cultural and artistic enrichment.

The 95th Edition of the Kenya Music Festival reverberate through the campus; it becomes more than just an event—it becomes a record etched in the annals of DeKUT's history. This memorable occasion serves as a testament to the University's capability to organize and host large-scale events, leaving an indelible mark on the minds of participants and onlookers alike. The DeKUT looks forward to future opportunities to host such significant gatherings, contributing not only to the cultural fabric of the institution but also to the broader landscape of academic and artistic collaborations.







The HacktoberFest 2023



On 28th October 2023, the Cyber Security Club of Kimathi, in partnership with CeDReCs (Center for Data Research & Cyber Security) and CTFRoom, held its inaugural HacktoberFest, a cybersecurity event in honour of the cyber security awareness month. It was a successful 2-day event with a capture-the-flag competition on the first day and the actual event on the second. Multiple cybersecurity professionals attended as speakers, all DeKUT alums, and a total of 70 students were able to join the event. The members gained insights into the professional side of cybersecurity and had the opportunity to ask broader cybersecurity questions from the panel. CTFRoom extended an offer to collaborate with the school to offer students a great learning platform where they can be taught and practice cybersecurity at a fair price.

Contacts: Email: cybersecurityclub@dkut.ac.ke
X/twitter: @CyberKimathi

Our members

"The club came through for me. I did have some training before, but working alone was not cutting out. I wasn't even sure about engaging in CTFs. However, the club has given me good exposure to interaction during the sessions, and the Hacktober event was informative since I am set on being a petitioner. I can proudly say I am less inclined to read and write up, unlike before, cause the sessions helped me tackle challenges".

Vincent Gichomo, BBIT 1.1

"Being a member of the security club has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my school life. I learned a ton from the experts and mentors who visited our club, where I've been able to share my knowledge and skills with others. I have participated in several competitions and challenges, where I honed my problem-solving and teamwork abilities. I've made friends and connections through the club and discovered new opportunities and possibilities for my future career. I am grateful for being part of this fantastic community and securing cyberspace."

Kelvin Ngugi, TIE 5th year.

"I am a student at Dedan Kimathi University and a CyberKimathi member. I have been a member for one year now under the leadership of Mark Tanui and Amanda Flavia, who have guided me and pushed me to improve daily. We have evening sessions on Wednesdays to network with other cybersecurity enthusiasts. We participate in everyday challenges on picoCTF and TryHackMe, which have made me practice the skills learned during the sessions. I recently attended and participated in a CTF competition hosted by CTF Room and came 3rd place, which was inspiring. CyberKimathi has become a home where I have grown, and I hope to grow even more. I am very grateful."

Dorcas Nkirote, Computer Science 3rd-year

The Future of the Club

As we continue to evolve and grow, we aspire to impact cyber security significantly here at DEKUT. We aim to attract more students interested in cybersecurity, fostering a continuous learning environment. Additionally, we aim to expand participation in Capture The Flag (CTF) competitions by increasing the number of teams. Furthermore, we seek to strengthen our partnerships with CeDRECS and even more industry professionals. Through these endeavours, we aim to enhance the club's influence and contribute to the broader cybersecurity landscape at DEKUT.

AIESEC Global Volunteering



By Allan Waithira

My name is Allan Waithira, a Dedan Kimathi University of Technology graduate and an AIESECer who did a volunteering project in Gashora, Rwanda, between May and July. My project focused on implementing quality education, as outlined by the United Nations under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) program. As a person passionate about creating a more united African continent, going to Rwanda was a dream. I would get to benchmark and enjoy the mutual and friendly relations shared by Kenyans and Rwandans. Additionally, I was looking forward to sharing my culture and learning the Rwandan culture while at the same time leveraging the challenges facing Gashora village into sustainable solutions.

As a volunteer, I had the opportunity to immerse myself in Rwandan culture, interact with local students, and learn about the traditions, languages, and customs of the community I was serving. Working in a kindergarten school, Journey of Success, I assisted in classroom activities, including teaching basic literacy, numeracy, and life skills. I engaged in interactive teaching methods, games, and creative exercises to make learning enjoyable for young children.

I also had the chance to improve my language skills, particularly in Kinyarwanda and French, as I communicated with the children, fellow volunteers, and community members. Since Kinyarwanda is essentially Bantu, it was easy for me to learn it, a thing the local community members appreciated.

I was often involved in community development initiatives beyond the classroom. I participated in community outreach programs, organized events, or collaborated on projects to improve the local community's well-being, including visiting families to get a gist of the life some Rwandans lead.



Fortunately, I joined an artist's club in the same organization where I worked and learnt a lot about expressing myself through art. I forged meaningful connections with local students, teachers, and fellow volunteers during my exchange, creating lasting friendships and professional networks. In that regard, even after my return to Kenya, I am working on collaborative projects with friends from Rwanda, Ghana, and Belgium. My volunteering project in Rwanda was a transformative experience. I developed leadership skills, gained a global perspective, enhanced my problem-solving abilities, and cultivated empathy and social responsibility through my interactions and experiences.

In conclusion, volunteering with AIESEC in Rwanda allowed me to explore the country's diverse landscapes, visit notable attractions, experience local cuisine, and engage in cultural excursions during free time or organized trips. I am thankful to Rwanda's kind and fantastic people for their immense love and warm welcome, AIESEC Kenya and Rwanda for facilitating this exchange in the hope of global connectedness and fulfilment of the UN SDGs, and Journey House Actions Rwanda for their generous accommodation.



The School of Business Management Gala 2023

As the curtains closed on a four-year academic expedition, the School of Business Management and Economics students recently gathered for a spectacular gala to commemorate their journey. This remarkable event was a testament to the perseverance, triumphs, and collective spirit that defined their time at the university.

The graduating class of 2023 holds a unique distinction as the pioneers of online education in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the challenges posed by unprecedented circumstances, the students navigated through their academic pursuits with unwavering determination. The dedicated cadre of lecturers played a pivotal role, ensuring a seamless continuation of education during a time of global uncertainty.

The SBME Gala 2023, a carefully planned affair, was designed to honour the four-year expedition, celebrate the collective achievements of the class of 2020, and express gratitude to the School's Administration, lecturers, and staff. Their relentless support and commitment were acknowledged as instrumental in the students' smooth transition from their freshman to senior year.

Beyond the festivities, the gala became a platform for valuable insights as students seized the opportunity to glean wisdom from their esteemed lecturers. The focus extended to preparing for the imminent transition into the professional realm, with faculty members sharing wisdom on navigating the job market post-campus life.

The event was not merely a celebration but an investment in the future. The memories created during the gala will undoubtedly linger in the hearts of the graduating class, serving as a reminder of the challenges conquered and the camaraderie forged during their academic journey.

As the graduates stand on the threshold of a new chapter, they do so confidently, armed with the competence cultivated over the years. The SBME Gala 2023 was not just a farewell; it was a resounding tribute to resilience, success, and the bonds that will endure beyond the confines of academia.

1st DeKUT International Day

Over the years, DeKUT has been broadening its efforts towards providing an academically stimulating and culturally diverse learning environment to become a premier university. The increased number of students with different cultural backgrounds from Kenya and outside Kenya is evidence of this. The establishment of the DeKUT International Day is a strategic initiative aimed at strengthening internationalization activities and promoting cultural diversity and integration in the University.



The International Day brings together and celebrates different cultures, educates students about the benefits of international linkages and gives them an insight into diverse cultural traditions. It allows international and Kenyan students to share their culture, heritage and experiences. The International Day offers a platform for international students to showcase their culture and traditions while also providing an opportunity for them to learn more about Kenyan culture.

The International Office organized the 1st International Day on 5th October, 2023. The International Day provided a forum for international students to share their culture, heritage, and experiences at DeKUT and for DeKUT students to share their experiences in exchange. It was also an opportunity to enlighten the DeKUT students about the various exchange programs and motivate them to enroll.



The Goals and Objectives of establishing the International Day were to:

1. Provide a forum for students, both Kenyan and international, to share their culture, heritage and experiences at DeKUT
2. Enlighten the DeKUT students about the various exchange programs available and motivate them to enroll
3. Improve the profile of the University locally and internationally
4. Strengthen linkages with guest institutions and provide an avenue for continued engagements
5. Good avenue to market DeKUT programs







Some of the activities on this day included the official launch of the DeKUT International Students Handbook, presentations from the DeKUT Drama Club, and presentations from International students and DeKUT students.

The International Day will be held annually.

My Student Exchange Experience at Deutschland, Germany

By Bathsheba Morang'a

"To get something you never had you have to do something you never did", these are the words that sent me packing stepped out of my comfort zone and left my home country Kenya to a country I have never been before, for opportunity, for multicultural experience and most importantly for "why not?". But my story is not unique because every year tons of people immigrate to new countries to explore new opportunities just like I did meaning there are many great inspiring stories out there and you are reading one of them.

I had the opportunity to intern in Deutschland and as you may already know it, Germany this was made possible through the help of IASTE DEKUT whom I am entirely grateful to. My internship was based in Garching, Bavaria, Germany at the Technical University of Munich (TUM) which is one of the best Universities in Europe and I was working under the material science department.

I participated in a research project with the goal of purposefully introducing inhomogeneity in additive manufactured components. The scope of the project was to elaborate the current limitations faced in the conventional topology optimization software and especially in its in-built multi-material topology optimization capabilities. My problem-solving skills were magnified thanks to the internship and my supervisor who guided me through this research



Nurnberg Germany

I would highly encourage students to take up this kind of opportunities because all in all, there is another dimension once you are out of your comfort zone.

project. I also grew my career horizons more than I could have ever imagined because it was also a great networking opportunity for me.

Apart from work I had other exciting experiences like travelling to other European countries like Switzerland and Austria to experiencing the Bavarian culture since I attended the Munich Oktoberfest which is the world's largest Volksfest, featuring a beer festival and a travelling carnival I also visited the BMW museum in Munich and went to the many Bavarian castles including the Neuschwanstein Castle which is an inspiration castle for Disney. I was intrigued by the beautiful architecture in Europe and its sophisticated transport system. The IASTE community in Munich organized social events for the interns in Munich hence I was able to interact with various nationalities cutting across almost all continents where we shared our cultural dynamics including cook outs where I experienced different cuisines in the world and through this, I was able to make new international friends.

My time in Munich was entirely amazing apart from a few challenges during the first few weeks of trying to integrate in a new country like understanding the transport system and the German language but this are minor issues anyone can overcome because within no time I was up to speed. I am thankful for Dedan Kimathi University of Technology in collaboration with IASTE for granting me this opportunity because it really has inspired me to pursue my postgraduate masters in Germany. I would highly encourage students to take up this kind of opportunities because all in all, there is another dimension once you are out of your comfort zone. A world previously unknown, a totally new experience full of possibilities you never knew could exist and also, it's never scary as it looks just do it!

National Cohesion Poem

By Miriam Amwayi
BBA Student 4.2

In unity,
Stands a peaceful community
A shared decree
A quilt of togetherness, a jubilee
A nation strong and free
Cohesion's art
Binding every part

War's absence, a tranquil art
Peace reigning in every heart
Just peace, a promise we keep
In the silence, love runs deep
Cohesion's art
Binding every part

Social justice, a cornerstone
A pledge to every heart known
Together we stand, resolute
In unity, our strength absolute
Cohesion's art
Binding every part

Freedom's anthem, so grand
Echoing across this united land
Liberty's flame so bright
With each step, guiding us right
Cohesion's art
Binding every part

Respect, a democratic creed
Equality sown in every seed
Voices heard
In ballots power conferred
Democracy our source of might
Painting a harmonious sight
Cohesion's art
Binding every part

Patriots arise, their spirits high
A united spirit, never to shy
Flags soaring in the azure sky
resolve held tight
A shared insight
Cohesion's art
Binding every part

In industries progress in the air
Economic bloom beyond compare
Talents unite
A shared foresight
Innovation a forward spin
Progress weaving the nation in
Cohesion's art
Binding every part

As books unfold, so do hearts
Ensuring empathy imparts
Lessons and tales of the past
Forge a collective identity that will last
Cohesion's art
Binding every part

In learning, a nation's alloy
In education, bonds deploy
Through history, a common lore
With shared narratives, Connections galore
Cohesion's art
Binding every part

EVOLUTION OR CREATION: A Theological Reflection

By Rev. Fr. Dr. Vincent Wambugu
Senior lecturer and head of Chaplaincy

A reflection on the scientific theory of evolution is like a plunge into the deep sea. Furthermore, this short article can barely tackle the essentials, though it raises some fundamental insights. A reflection on the theory of evolution and the doctrine of divine creation is the best way to discover a possible encounter between Science and Theology. Do they embrace or do they exclude one another? Suffice it to say that evolution as a scientific theory complements the theological teaching and faith in divine creation, though the latter is superior. However, the New Age Movement introduced a new and radical meaning to the theory of evolution that negates divine creation. This new claim is the cause of theological unrest.

Evolution has revolved mainly around scientific theories attempting to explain life's origins from inorganic forms and the emergence of human beings from primate evolutions. The Encyclopedia of Christianity defines evolution as an idea of emergence by which novelty arises from preceding entities and processes. This theory has been considered in biological, human sciences, and cosmology. We need to consider its multifaceted, interdisciplinary character to address it adequately.

Charles Darwin, the founder of the theory of evolution, calls it descent with modification. However, in a later publication, he introduced some additions to the scope of evolution, a move that dismissed divine intervention. This new idea suggested a plausible mechanism [natural selection] by which adaptation could take place without divine intervention. The attempt to challenge any divine intervention sparked heated debate among theologians.

A serious debate about evolution theory can be traced to 1858/1859 when Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel published the new evolution theory that proposed natural selection as a process that could explain the continually directed change in populations. This proposal tended to deny the role of divine intervention. However, there is speculation that some remote agitation existed before Darwin's publication, perhaps encouraging the publication. Notably, David Hume, a philosopher of the Enlightenment, attempted to fight the Christian theory of creation. He [Hume] challenged the credibility of received religious views of the existence of a special deity and the ethical implications of living without such beliefs. This development prompted the attention of theologians.

The theological debate started seeking to confirm the teleological question of evolutionary thinkers that seeks to understand ultimate origins. The question was thus, "What existed before the famous Big Bang? The question went beyond curious scientific concerns to a question that challenged the Christian story of creation and faith in God as the transcendent Creator. What was hitherto a mutually complementary theory became the subject of mutual disagreements. At this point, controversy between theologians and scientists ensued. Two irreconcilable positions emerged, one denying God and the other refuting evolution. The emerging positions necessitated the response of the Christian theologians.

Theological conversations and arguments were to last many years from 1950 to date. Many theological expositions emerged. It became clear that there is no conflict between the truth of divine creation and the theory of evolution, provided Christians believe that the individual soul is a direct creation by God and not a product of purely material forces.

Unfortunately, the Christian today has to deal with the New Age movement that denies God as the sole Creator of every individual soul. Accordingly, an inherent power within human beings would propel them towards superior spiritual life forms. The danger in this claim is that the effort to divinize human power compromises the truth of creation by God as absolute and all-powerful. Evolution becomes not only a divinization process but ultimately replaces God. Theologians have since opposed this theory as fundamentally false and misleading.

Evolution as a purely scientific theory is legitimate to the extent that it probes the origins of matter. However, if the theory goes beyond these scientific parameters, it starts creeping into the immutable truths of faith, including God's indisputable creation of every soul. The theory of evolution and the reality of divine creation coexisted peacefully until the former was taken beyond its clear limits to include a process of divinization and reincarnation. God is replaced by the inherent power that propels this evolution; such teaching denies the person's ultimate dignity as the image and likeness of God (Gen.1:27). However, kept within its essential scientific meaning and tenets, the scientific theory of evolution sits well with the theological principle of divine creation that supersedes it. It is within these parameters that evolution and religious creation enjoy a mutual embrace rather than negating each other.

Anger, Aggression, and Violence Among University Students

By Sammy Njenga
BSC Nursing student
ADA peer educator and Peer Counsellor DEKUT

Anger is an emotional response to frustration of desires, a threat to one's needs both emotional or physical, or a challenge. It can be a motivator or an aid in survival (Kassinove & Tafrate, 2006), but problems begin to occur when anger is expressed through aggression or violence.

Anger is also defined as an emotion characterized by antagonism towards someone or something one feels has done them wrong deliberately (American Psychological Association, 2012).

Aggression is an action or behaviour that results in a verbal or physical attack. Aggression tends to be used synonymously with violence; however, aggression is not always inappropriate and is sometimes necessary for self-protection. On the other hand, violence is always an objectionable act that involves the intentional use of force that results in or has the potential to result in, injury to another person (APA,2012).

In Kenyan universities, there has been an uptrend in the number of murders and deaths which has been linked to anger rage and aggression with most cases involving love and betrayal.

Over the past few years, some universities have been in the news for mysterious deaths. They include Moi University, Egerton University Laikipia University, Kaiboi Technical Institute KMTC Karen campus, Kisii University and Rongo University (*Nation Africa, 2022*).

In another article by Nation Africa, the university deaths had risen to 5 deaths in less than six months (Nation Africa 2020 August). In a statement captured during an interview with one of the perpetrators, he confessed to killing his girlfriend out of anger.

In a study done in Canada in the last 10 years established that most cases of anger and aggression were experienced in institutions of higher learning especially the universities and colleges (*Medicine Baltimore, 2023).*

The overall prevalence of anger in the general population is estimated at 7.81%. Furthermore, the odds of anger have been reported to be higher in men than women (*M Okunda, 2015*).

Worldwide, an estimated 176 000 homicides occur among youths aged 15-29 years thus a third leading cause of death in the age category of above (WHO, 2023)

Etiology/ Causes

Biological Factors- For example, certain brain tumours, Alzheimer's disease, temporal lobe epilepsy, and traumatic injury to certain parts of the brain result in changes to personality that include increased violence. Many clients with brain injury have severe behaviour disorders, including aggressiveness, that disrupt their lives.

Psychological Factors-. More recently, Menninger (2007) asserted that the struggle for control over our lives is fundamental in every person. If that control is threatened, we experience trauma, and it is from that trauma that anger, and aggression.

Diagnosis/ Case Identification

Other clients may have a pattern of maladaptive coping that is marginally effective and consists of a set of coping strategies that is unhealthy and may increase the possibility of anger and aggression.

Anger or aggression, Risk for other-directed violence, Risk for self-directed violence, Ineffective coping (overwhelmed or maladaptive), Stress overload, and Impaired impulse control are important nursing diagnoses to consider (Herdman, 2012).

Interventions

Psychosocial Interventions- telling the client that you are concerned and want to listen, reassurance that others are interested and willing to help. When anger and aggression are the priority problems, de-escalation of anger is the primary nursing intervention.

Considerations for Staff Safety by keeping safe and eliminating anything that can be used as a weapon by the person.

De-escalation Techniques:

- Maintain the client's self-esteem and dignity.
- Maintain calmness (your own and the client's).
- Assess the client and the situation.
- Identify stressors and stress indicators.
- Respond as early as possible.
- Use a calm, clear tone of voice.
- Invest time.
- Remain honest.
- Establish what the client considers to be his or her need.
- Be goal-oriented.
- Maintain a large personal space.
- Utilize a nonaggressive posture

Navigating Through Campus Life as a Man

By Shelton Ombachi N.
BSc. Electrical and Electronics Engineering
Empowered Men DeKUT Club

It has never been easy for the Boy-child/ man when it comes to figuring out what life in general while alone in campus should be like. It is a difficult moment especially given that you join when you are in your late teens and much is expected of you but there's nobody to show you what to do; let's say there is no manual. Navigating campus life as a man involves mastering a delicate balance between academic responsibilities, social engagements, spiritual and personal growth. The campus experience is a transformative period where individuals forge lifelong connections, develop essential skills, and lay the foundation for their future.

With social pressure from peers, classmates, parents and mentors it becomes difficult to achieve the equilibrium of life. The 'being a man' theory is more negative than positive for so many people especially when one is not informed. Everybody in social media is a predator and only a small percentage of what one feeds is worth, the big Q is though, how do you know? Which is the right path? How can you become a man that society will be proud of?

To make the most of this journey, here are ten strategies that can help you navigate through the complexities of campus life successfully.

1. Participate in Extracurricular Activities

Joining clubs like the Empowered Men DeKUT Club, sports teams, or student organizations can enhance your campus experience. Not only do these activities provide opportunities to meet new people and make friends, but they also help develop leadership skills, build your confidence, provide a safe space to share with people of similar goals and minds and expand your interests beyond the classroom.

2. Health and Wellness

Prioritize your physical and mental well-being. Most men don't prioritize themselves. Regular exercise be it home workouts or going to the gym, adopting a balanced diet, and sufficient sleep are essential for maintaining good health. This health involves mental wellness, always take advantage of counseling services for any mental health concerns and one thing to note is that you don't have to be mentally unwell to seek counselling services as they are free and open for all. A healthy lifestyle positively influences academic performance and overall satisfaction with campus life.

3. Communication Skills

Effective communication is a vital skill in campus and beyond. Hone your writing and public speaking skills through coursework by utilizing the communication skills unit and extracurricular activities. Joining different clubs, participating in public speaking events, or taking communication courses which are free online can enhance your ability to convey ideas clearly and persuasively. Reading books, productive books that are aimed at helping you master the masculinity journey and life at large helps you build confidence with facts and open-mindedness at large.

4. Time Management

The key to thriving in campus is effective time management. Time waits for no man! All successful men have mastered the art of time management. Create a weekly schedule that allocates dedicated time for classes, studying and extracurricular activities. By prioritizing tasks and setting realistic goals, you can avoid the last-minute rush and reduce stress.

5. Networking

Your network is your net worth. Actively build a positive network by attending career fairs, networking events, and informational interviews. Establishing connections with professionals in your field of interest can open doors to internships, job opportunities, and valuable insights into your chosen industry. Most people mistake networking with having a Professors contact but it's not entirely it, networking starts with those around you, learning to build bonds and how to start conversations and above all the art of pitching.

6. Cultivate Relationships

Relationships, it's not only about intimate relationships, Building positive relationships with professors, advisors, and classmates is crucial. Attend classes, meetings, participate in class discussions, and collaborate on group projects, go out on hikes and fun days.

These connections can lead to mentorship opportunities, valuable advice, and potential recommendations for character development, view of way of life, internships or jobs.

7. Academic Focus

While campus offers various social opportunities and freedom that you have yearned for from primary through high school, academics should remain a top priority. Attend classes regularly, engage with course material, join group discussions, be part of academic-oriented clubs and seek help when needed. Developing strong study habits early on will contribute to long-term success in your academic pursuits. Above all avoid exam multi- practices and study-distractors

8. Financial Literacy

Campus often involves managing finances independently. We are always privileged to have financial literacy training by the Students' Welfare and its key for everyone to attend and learn because nobody will teach you how to spend, save or invest. Create a budget, be mindful of expenses, and explore opportunities for scholarships or part-time work (Work study) which are offered by the FAO department. Developing financial literacy will empower you to make informed decisions and avoid unnecessary debt.

9. Respect and Consent

Gender-based Violence, harassment and disrespect start with the little things. Respect for others and understanding the importance of consent are fundamental aspects of campus life especially when it comes to intimate relationships. Treat your partner, peers, faculty, and staff with courtesy and kindness. Be aware of the importance of consent in all interactions, especially in social situations, and actively promote a culture of respect within the campus community.

10. Dating life

We can't run away from the fact that people engage in relationships in campus and navigating the intricacies of sex and dating life on campus requires communication, respect, and a keen awareness of personal boundaries. Firstly, open communication with potential partners is essential. Clearly express your intentions, listen actively, and establish mutual consent before engaging in any intimate activities.

Respect for individual boundaries is paramount. Understand that everyone has their comfort zones, and consent should be enthusiastic, ongoing, and freely given. Consensual communication fosters a healthy dating culture on campus. Being mindful of the diversity of perspectives and experiences and engaging in open conversations about expectations and desires to ensure compatibility.

Finally, prioritize personal well-being. Practice safe sex, get regular health check-ups, and be aware of available resources on campus, such as sexual health clinics and counselling services.

Keep in mind that campus environments often encourage exploration and self-discovery. Therefore, approach dating with an open mind, learn from experiences and foster connections that contribute positively to your personal growth. Ultimately, creating a respectful, consensual, and communicative dating culture on campus is integral to a fulfilling and healthy sex and dating life.

In conclusion, life in Campus is not easy for the man and the risk of falling into depression and other mental health issues is high but all it requires is a holistic approach that encompasses academic excellence, social engagement and personal development.

By mastering time management, prioritizing academics, participating in extracurricular activities, cultivating relationships, embracing diversity, prioritizing health and wellness, developing financial literacy, networking, honing communication skills, and promoting respect and consent, you can make the most of your campus experience and lay the groundwork for a fulfilling future. University is not just about obtaining a degree; it's a transformative journey that shapes your character, skills, and perspectives for years to come. It's a molding place to make you the MAN society needs you to be.

AN ACT OF KINDNESS

In a world often filled with discord and division, hustle and bustle, a simple act of kindness, the simple yet profound act of kindness, can shine like a beacon of hope. It is a force so potent that can reshape perspectives, dismantle barriers and challenge the status quo. It is the spirit of benevolence extended to outreach projects that leave indelible marks on our collective consciousness. As we navigate the currents of a society often veering towards indifferences, it's very important to embrace the transformative power of compassion. Understanding the need of showing an act of kindness can make the world a happy, peaceful and harmonious place.

As indifferences persist in many spheres of our lives, from the casual neglect of environmental concerns to the lack of empathy towards the less fortunate, our collective efforts and commitments to make acts of kindness become an integral to success as any other strategic initiative, can shatter all these indifferences. Every single one of us has something to share, spread and give to the world, to make it a better place for all. It starts with a smile extended to a stranger, a helping hand offered to someone in need, volunteering time, offering a kind word- these seemingly simple acts create a ripple effect. They also pave way for a future where compassion is embraced and the world transformed, one act of kindness at a time.

The beauty of every act of kindness lies not only in the immediate help provided but also in the ripple effect extended on everyone involved beyond that single moment. It simply inspires others to carry it on in the following days and finally spreads like confetti as kindness knows no boundaries. It also creates a sense of gratification, self-satisfaction and happiness. In the world where you can choose anything, the beauty of choosing kindness is that it not only enriches the lives of others but also paints your own soul with vibrant colors of compassion.

Kindness is a necessity and not a luxury, it is the only spur to societal healing and the only compass that can guide us all through the complexities of life, reminding us of the transformative power of compassion. Let our hearts be enriched with empathy and may we transform to be agents of positive change in a world that solely needs it. It is only a kind gesture that reaches a wound that only compassion can heal. No matter how simple or small a kind act may seem it has the most significant impact on someone else's life.

To wrap it up, give light by loving one another and being positive because you never know when one kind word or smile can turn someone's day around and light them up. Use all ideas and inner light to brighten all the dark places in the world. Choose light especially when it seems hard. Kindness ripples, do not be afraid to give and receive it again and again.

Crafting Dreams: The Inspiring Journey of Denis Karanja Njuguna

Meet Denis Karanja Njuguna, a fourth-year Mechatronics student with a passion that extends beyond the realms of circuits and gears. In the quiet corners of his wood workshop, Denis transforms raw timber into bespoke masterpieces, blending the precision of Mechatronics with the artistry of Creative Woodworking.

Hailing from the E022-01-1030/2020 batch, Denis has seamlessly woven together the worlds of academia and craftsmanship. His workshop is a symphony of saws and sanders, where each piece of wood tells a story waiting to be carved into reality. From intricately designed furniture to captivating wood arts, Denis's creations are a testament to his dedication and skill.

But Denis is not just a craftsman; he's a visionary on a mission. Beyond the chisels and routers, his main goal is to inspire his fellow youths and students. In a world often dominated by screens and algorithms, Denis advocates for the timeless value of hands-on skills like woodworking.

"I want to show my peers that there's beauty and fulfillment in creating something tangible with your hands. Woodworking is not just a craft; it's a journey of self-discovery and innovation," says Denis.

Through workshops and mentorship programs, Denis channels his passion for woodworking into a beacon for aspiring artisans. He encourages his fellow students to explore their potential beyond textbooks, nurturing a generation that values the artistry of craftsmanship.

Denis's story is not just about creating wooden wonders; it's about crafting a path for others to follow. As he enters the final stretch of his Mechatronics studies, Denis envisions a future where the fusion of technology and traditional skills is not just harmonious but transformative.

So, the next time you encounter a finely carved wooden masterpiece, remember that behind it might be a fourth-year Mechatronics student with a heart dedicated to inspiring and shaping the dreams of the next generation. Denis Karanja Njuguna stands as a beacon, reminding us all that true innovation knows no boundaries and that the future is crafted by those who dare to dream.

TEEING OFF EXCELLENCE: The Grand Relaunch of DeKUT Golf Club



In the tapestry of Dedan Kimathi University of technology, where academic pursuits intertwine with the vibrant hues of extracurricular activities, a resplendent addition has unfolded—the renaissance of the DeKUT Golf Club. This revival marks a significant stride in promoting physical well-being, strategic thinking, and community engagement within our esteemed institution.

The seeds of the DeKUT Golf Club were sown in June 2023 when a passionate group of students, fueled by a shared love for the sport, set out to create a haven for golf enthusiasts within our academic sanctuary. United by a vision of promoting camaraderie, skill development, and friendly competition, our humble golf club was born.

The Birth of a Dream

After few months, the dream of establishing a golfing legacy materialized into reality. The crisp autumn air bore witness to the first swings and shared laughter as students, faculty, and staff came together to lay the foundation of what promised to be a remarkable journey.

A Chapter of Thanks

In the heart of our Golf Club's revival, heartfelt thanks go to the visionary students who ignited this community and the supportive staff who nurtured its growth. From concept to acquiring our relaunch, their dedication forms the backbone of our club, embodying unity, ambition, and shared success, this chapter of gratitude is a tribute to dreamers and supporters—a testament to the collaborative spirit defining our golfing community.

Celebrating Milestones

This semester marked a pivotal chapter in our club's story. With unwavering dedication, we procured our first set of clubs, an investment that not only symbolized our commitment to the sport but also opened the doors to a myriad of possibilities. The resounding clink of glasses and shared smiles during the celebration of this milestone echoed the unity and collective enthusiasm that define the spirit of our Golf Club.

A Shared Vision

Our Golf Club is more than an assembly of individuals wielding clubs on manicured greens; it is a collective vision of fostering physical well-being, nurturing strategic thinking, and creating a community bound by shared values. As we pen this chapter in our institution's history, each member, be it student or staff, contributes to the vibrant narrative of our club.

Coming up

1) Competitive Tournaments

Brace yourselves for thrilling tournaments that showcase the talent within our institution. From intercollegiate competitions to friendly matches, the relaunched Golf Club aims to establish itself as a force to be reckoned with in the collegiate golfing circuit.

2) Social Events and Networking

Beyond the greens, the club will host a variety of social events, fostering networking opportunities and a sense of camaraderie among members. Golf isn't just about the game—it's also about building connections that last a lifetime.

3) Community Outreach

The club will actively engage with the local community through outreach programs and charity events. By giving back, we not only strengthen our ties with the community but also highlight the positive impact sports can have on individuals and society.

In conclusion, In the spirit of formality, excitement, and heartfelt invitation, we extend our warm welcome to every member of the Dedan Kimathi university family. The DeKUT Golf Club is not merely a sports club; it is a testament to the ethos that defines our institution—a commitment to excellence, community, and the pursuit of passions that elevate us collectively. Join us as we stride into this exhilarating chapter, where every swing signifies a step toward a legacy of sporting greatness. The journey has just begun, and we invite you to be a part of it.

The Dedan Kimathi University of Technology Wildlife Conservancy Activities









By Ranger Saidi Rashid

The Dedan Kimathi University of technology Wildlife Conservancy covers 126 acres portion of the larger Nyeri forest with a mosaic vegetation between the Aberdare National Park and Mt. Kenya National Park. To access the conservancy, it's a ten (10) minute walking distance from the University's Main campus gate B.

Dedan Kimathi University of technology Wildlife Conservancy is a Section of the Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management (IToHM), and also serves as one of its Laboratory to impact practical skills to students taking Tourism and Hospitality Management Courses.

What comes to some one's mind when you hear the word Conservancy?... Yes, obviously it's all about








wildlife (fauna and flora). There are several aspects of tourism which are very vital like Amenities, Attraction, Accommodation, Accessibility and Activities. Any Tourist or Guest activity in a place starts with Attraction. The DeKUT conservancy boasts of its virgin indigenous forest and wildlife as attraction to guests whom their visits provide a good practical experience to our Tourism and Hospitality students.

Diverting from wildlife attraction, the conservancy provides an Ample environment for meetings and conferences hosted in the Tented Conference facility, VIP tents are also set to offer accommodation to our guests, conservation education also given to other visiting primary, secondary schools, other learning institutions and organized groups. Other Green Tourism activities include: Camping,Team building, Picnicking, Cycling and a state of art monthly Themed Bush dinners which are meant to promote Culture, Heritage and Education.

Bush dinners and luncheons are also more of social events where different people from difference social back grounds engage each other as they enjoy the natural beauty of our country and its cultural or local delicacies.

DeKUT Wildlife Conservancy is "Home away from home".









DEKUT ENTERPRISES COMPANY

The Diverse Offerings of DeKUT Enterprises Company

The creation and sale of value-added products are important aspects of modern business. It involves taking raw materials and processing them into finished products that are of higher value and quality than the original materials. DeKUT Enterprises Company is an example of a company involved in the creation of value-added products. Our products include coffee, yoghurt, detergents, personal protective gear, and branded corporate wear. These products are designed to meet the needs of the local community and offer them high-quality products at affordable prices.

DeKUT Coffee

At the heart of our offerings lies DeKUT Premium coffee – a standout product derived from locally sourced coffee beans cultivated at the esteemed DeKUT farm. Each bean is handpicked and masterfully processed on-site, ensuring utmost freshness and premium quality. Our commitment to excellence extends to roasting and grinding, employing cutting-edge technology to produce a rich, full-bodied coffee with an unmatched smoothness. Available in whole bean or ground form, it's a convenient delight for homes and offices alike. Not just a beverage, DeKUT coffee embodies a unique flavor profile cherished by coffee enthusiasts globally.



DeKUT Premium Coffee

DeKUT Yoghurt

Another gem is DeKUT Yoghurt – crafted from fresh, locally sourced farm milk. Packed with essential nutrients, this wholesome snack supports our local dairy industry while offering a variety of flavors, including strawberry, vanilla, coffee, vanilla-chia, and natural. It's our commitment to providing a nutritious and affordable choice for our community's well-being. Indulge in the rich flavor of our blended coffee yogurt crafted with natural coffee liquor extract sourced from DeKUT coffee, ensuring an authentic and natural taste. Savor our chia seed-infused blended yogurt, delivering delightful blend rich in fiber, antioxidants, minerals, and heart-healthy omega-3 fatty acids.



DeKUT Chia Yoghurt



DeKUT Coffee Yoghurt

Multi- purpose Detergent

Our eco-friendly detergent stands testament to our dedication to sustainability. Gentle yet highly effective, our detergent cleanses without harming fabrics or the environment. From the gentle touch of our Hand Wash to the versatile cleaning power of our Multi-Purpose Detergent, cleanliness merges seamlessly with environmental responsibility.



Multipurpose detergent and handwash

Protective Apparel

DeKUTES provides an array of protective clothing for students and staff with dustcoats and overalls prominently stocked. These provisions enhance safety, creating a conducive learning environment for students and staff. Additionally, these products, along with other branded items, are available for purchase by the general public. We ensure that every item receives proper branding.



Dust Coat



Overall



Polo Shirt

Conference Facilities

Our exclusive conference facilities, equipped for various gatherings and activities, accommodate groups of up to 1,000 participants. With a commitment to flawless execution, we tailor every aspect of events, providing services such as catering, accommodation, and transportation. Our track record includes hosting esteemed organizations, receiving accolades for our facilities and delectable meals.

Consultancy Services

DeKUTES is committed to elevating organizational productivity and performance through consultancy services, including strategic planning, business advisory, feasibility studies among others. Our approach involves tapping into a diverse pool of professionals from various fields within the University, utilizing versatile facilities and expertise to deliver customized solutions for both private and public sectors.

Visit our Main Campus and Nairobi Campus or place an order for any of our products / Services.

DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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Marketing Office

PROGRAMMES OFFERED AT DeKUT

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

- Ph.D. Mechanical Engineering
- Master of Science in Civil Engineering
- Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering
- Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering
- Master of Science in Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- Master of Science in Machine Tool Design and Manufacturing Engineering
- Master of Science in Advanced Manufacturing &Automation Engineering
- Master of Science in Industrial Engineering and Management
- Master of Science in Telecommunication Engineering
- Master of Science in Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Mechatronic Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in (Telecommunication Information Engineering)
- Bachelor of Education in Technology (Civil Engineering)
- Bachelor of Education in Technology (Electrical and Electronic Engineering)
- Bachelor of Education in Technology (Mechanical Engineering)
- Bachelor of Technology in Building Construction
- Postgraduate Diploma in Technical and Vocational Education

SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Ph.D. in Computer Science
- Master of Science in Computer Science
- Master of Science in Cyber Security
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
- Bachelor of Business Information Technology (BBIT)
- Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (IT)

SCHOOL OF NURSING

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Direct Entry)
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Upgrading)

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND ECONOMICS

- Ph.D. in Business Administration & Management
- Master of Science in Supply Chain Management
- Master of Science in Project Management
- Master of Science in Business Analytics
- Master of Science in Economics
- Master in Business Administration
- Bachelor of Purchasing and Supplies Management (BPSM)
- Bachelor of Commerce (BCOM)
- Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Project Management
- Diploma in Business Administration (DBA)
- Diploma of Purchasing and Supplies Management (DPSM)

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

- Ph.D. in Chemistry
- Master of Science in Chemistry
- Master of Science in Applied Statistics
- Master of Science in Leather Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Industrial Chemistry

- Bachelor of Science in Leather Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science
- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Modeling Process
- Bachelor of Science in Polymer Chemistry
- Bachelor of Science in Medical Physics
- Diploma in Leather Technology

INSTITUTE OF TOURISM HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

- Master of Science in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Management
- Bachelor in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Management
- Diploma in Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality Management
- Certificate in Institutional Accommodation and Catering Operations
- Mountaineering and Outdoor Expeditions Guiding

INSTITUTE OF FOOD BIORESOURCE TECHNOLOGY

- Ph.D. in Food Science and Technology
- Master of Science in Food Science and Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics
- Diploma in Food Science and Technology
- Diploma in Coffee Technology and Cupping
- Certificate in Coffee Technology and Quality Management

INSTITUTE OF GEOMATICS, GIS & REMOTE SENSING (IGGReS)

- Ph.D. in Geomatics & Geospatial Information Science
- Master of Science in Geospatial Information Systems and Remote Sensing
- Bachelor of Science in Geomatics and Geospatial Information Systems
- Bachelor of Science in Geospatial Information Science and Remote Sensing

GEOTHERMAL ENERGY TRAINING AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE (GETRI)

- Master of Science in Geothermal Energy Technology
- Post Graduate Diploma in Geothermal Energy Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Geology

INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY, FORENSICS AND SECURITY STUDIES (ICFoSS)

- Master of Science in Forensics and Security Management
- Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Security Management
- Diploma in Security Management

INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (ITPS)

- Diploma in Building Technology
- Diploma in Fashion Design & Interior Decoration
- Diploma in Electrical &Electronics Engineering (Power Option)
- Certificate in Building Technology
- Certificate in Fashion Design and Interior Decoration
- Certificate in Electrical and Electronics Engineering (Power Option).

PROFESSIONAL AND CERTIFICATION COURSES

- Level 1 (Siemens Certified Mechatronic Systems Assistant)
- Level 2 (Siemens Certified Mechatronic Systems Associate)
- Level 3 (Siemens Certified Mechatronic Systems Professional)

For enquiries:

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Linkedin: Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT)

Better Life through Technology

DeKUT is ISO 9001: 2015 Certified



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