DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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Courtesy visit by a team from Zetech University to discuss possible opportunities for different Linkages and Partnerships



On 24th June 2021, a team from Zetech University paid a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ndirangu Kioni, to discuss possible opportunities for various linkages and partnership programmes that aid in assisting students with the relevant skills to fit in the job market. The team was led by the Vice Chancellor, Zetech University, Prof. Njenga Munene, the Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Academics, Research, Extension and Student Affairs Dr. Alice Njuguna and the ICT Manager Mr. Cyrus Baraza. "Skills development is essential for increasing the productivity and sustainability of enterprises and improving working conditions and the employability of graduates. In order to secure that first job and navigate the job market, young women and men need the technical skills to perform specific tasks and core work skills: ability to learn, communication, problem-solving and teamwork among others. Development of core skills, awareness of employees' rights and understanding entrepreneurship are the building blocks for lifelong learning and the capability to adapt to change" - stated Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ndirangu Kioni during the deliberations.

In addition to the deliberations, the team also had the chance to tour various sections of the University, such as the coffee lab, mechatronics lab, film hub, ICT Directorate and the University's Siemens Center.

DeKUT SIEMENS Centre trains staff members from the Kenya Pipeline on the Flow Control Valves

The Siemens Mechatronic Systems Certification Program is an international industry standard comprehensive skills certification in mechatronic systems and Siemens SITRAIN Germany. DeKUT Siemens – a centre established at the University through collaboration with Siemens Germany and accredited by the Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK) as a Centre for Continuous Professional Development of Engineers, is founded on independent scholarship and learning freedom while fostering a culture of innovation and collaboration. The Centre is committed to equality of opportunities, engendering inclusivity, and supporting staff and trainees wellbeing; ensuring that the very best trainees and staff benefit society on a local, regional, national and global scale. Likewise, the centre's collegiate structure and interdisciplinary nature of programmes provides it with key aspects of its training strength and its highly attractive trainee experience.

On 22nd June 2021, the center trained staff members from Kenya Pipeline Company on the Flow Control Valves. This is to help them learn how to distribute the fluid all over the country in their day to day activities.







Rotaract Club of DeKUT in partnership with the Rotaract Community – Based Club (in formation) and Rotary Club of Nyeri hold a two day blood donation at the University

Since the pandemic, the country's blood situation has been challenging and hence the need to restock. Last year, the Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS), Ministry of Health, Dr. Rashid Aman disclosed that the Kenya National Blood Transfusion Service (KNBTS) used to collect about 450 pints of blood every day. However, with the onset of COVID-19 in the country, the situation changed, and the figures dropped between 70 and 80 per cent. "KNBTS is now collecting about 250 pints of blood, which has caused a major strain on our blood bank", he stated.





In line with this, the Ministry of Health under the Kenya National Blood Transfusion Service (KNBTS) partnered with the Rotary Clubs across the country and New Generations such as the Interact and Rotaract clubs sponsored by Rotary to carry out blood donations. The Kenya National Blood Transfusion Service undertook a National 5-day blood drive in various locations to reach all members



On 16th and 17th June 2021, the Rotaract Club of DeKUT, in partnership with the Rotaract Community – Based Club (in formation) and Rotary Club of Nyeri held the blood donation drive at the University. The two-day event was successful as the turnout was great. We appreciate the effort of the students and the staff members who participated in the activity.

More DeKUT programmes meet the Commission for University Education accreditation threshold



At DeKUT, we note that technological development requires not only the masterly of techniques but the ability to establish and run successful enterprises. It is only then that technology can contribute to wealth creation of a country. Our mix of academic programmes are spread over Engineering, ICT, Food Technology, Health Sciences, Applied Sciences, and Business Studies fit for this purpose. The University continues to make sure that all the programmes offered meet the standards as required by the accreditation boards. Following a site inspection for verification of academic resources that was held on 16th June 2021 by the Commission for University Education (CUE), the following programmes were approved as having met the accreditation threshold:

1. Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science.
2. Master of Science in Computer Science
3. Postgraduate Diploma in Technical Education
4. Bachelor of Science in Polymer Chemistry

We applaud the effort of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. P.N Kioni, and the management towards the successful accreditation processes.

DeKUT Football Ladies Team thrashes Tharaka and Karatina University 4:0 and 1:0 respectively

The University participates in games and sports at both friendly and competitive levels and the sports and games activities have continued to increase as the University continues to develop her sports facilities. These segments of co-curricular activities have continued to play a crucial part in nurturing talents among students and staff.

On 12th and 13th June, DeKUT ladies football team thrashed Tharaka University 4:0 and Karatina University 1:0 at the Tharaka University College. Congratulations to the team. On the same note, DeKUT also held a friendly match with the Rock Star FC Nanyuki later that week.





DeKUT signs a grant agreement with Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

On 14th June 2021, the University and the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) signed a grant agreement for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project which is being implemented by the DeKUT Centre for Biomass Energy Studies. The Green Climate Fund Project (GCF) is a unique global platform that responds to climate change by investing in low-emission and climate-resilient development. GCF was established by 194 governments to limit or reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in developing countries and to help vulnerable societies adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. Given the urgency and seriousness of this challenge, GCF is mandated to make an ambitious contribution to the united global response to climate change.

The Center for Biomass Energy Studies (CBES) is an autonomous, self-sustaining body under Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, GREEN Institute, established in October 2019 with a focus in, but not limited to, research and consultancy work in:

i. Sustainable Biomass Production
ii. Sustainable Bioenergy Systems (SBES)
iii. Bioenergy Conversation Technologies
iv. Biomass-Based Thermal Energy Systems
v. Biomass-Solar Thermal Hybrid Systems
vi. Energy Management/Energy Efficiency
vii. Energy Auditing

As far as research is concerned, CBES specializes in research and development (R & R&D) in biomass biochemical conversion technologies, biomass thermal-chemical conversion technologies, biomass-based chemical production technologies, waste treatment technologies/circular production/economy and bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS) technologies. Key research focus areas include biodiesel, fuel ethanol, biomass pyrolysis and gasification, biomass gasification and power generation, synthesized fuels, municipal solid waste (MSW) treatment, and utilization.



Besides research and development, the centre also carries out projects in:

- Capacity development through approved and accredited technical and professional education and skills training, seminars, workshops and conferences
- Biomass fuels strategy (sustainably managed woodlands, sustainable consumption) development and implementation
- Biomass-based thermal (steam, hot water, hot air) energy systems design, simulation, performance audit and optimization, inspection, and certification, amongst other services.
- Biomass resources mapping and potential evaluation
- Biomass projects carbon offset assessment
- Policy, legal and regulatory support on biomass fuel projects
- Knowledge management and awareness-raising amongst stakeholders
- Investment and business promotion along biomass energy value chain
- Green economy advancement

Being the anchor Centre of the GREEN Institute, it carries the institute's mandate and offers services covering all energy sources, energy efficiency/energy management and other sustainability projects.



DeKUT Enterprises Company (DeKUTES) gifts the volleyball men team with uniforms to facilitate them during their sporting activities

DeKUT Enterprises Company (DeKUTES) which is fully owned by Dedan Kimathi University of Technology is the vehicle through which the University commercializes her innovations and responds to the community needs. Through DeKUTES, University professionals are provided with a platform to bring together their expertise with an objective of providing appropriate business, research and innovative solutions as well as mobilize resources for the University. Sports and Outdoor activities at DeKUT are not just for formality but avenues to enhance teamwork, integration and cohesion. Through these activities, students have developed different skills. As part of the company's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, on 10th June 2021, DeKUTES issued out uniforms to the DeKUT volleyball men team to facilitate them during their sporting activities.



DeKUT admits the 2nd cohort of the East African Scholarship Programme

The East Africa Community Scholarship (EAC) Programme is an initiative of the EAC, the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) and German Development Bank-KfW. The project begun in 2018 when the EAC and IUCEA entered into a memorandum of understanding with KfW geared towards the training of students within the EAC Region. This Project aims at creating future change agents, who identify themselves with the integration agenda of the EAC and are willing to share economic and development-oriented expert knowledge.

DeKUT has a number of vibrant student exchange programmes that align with the University's vision of producing globally competitive graduates and building international linkages to grow her profile as a global Premier University of Technology. To date, the University has had quite a good number of international students seeking internships and further studies at the University. This year, the University received nine students for the 2nd cohort of the East Africa Community Scholarship Programme. The students are from Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan and Rwanda and are pursuing Master of Science degrees in Geothermal Energy Technology, Food Science and Technology, Leather Technology and Advanced Manufacturing and Automation Engineering. This indicates the trust and confidence the East African Community (EAC) has in Dedan Kimathi University of Technology.



The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ndirangu Kioni holds a dialogue meeting with the class representatives to discuss students' grievances

At DeKUT, we ensure that the needs of our students are heard and acted on. On Friday, 4th June 2021, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ndirangu Kioni and other administration members held a dialogue meeting with the class representatives to discuss various matters arising from the students.





DeKUT Students from the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE) club present a token of appreciation to the Vice Chancellor

The DeKUT IAESTE Club students presented a token of appreciation to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ndirangu Kioni, on Friday 25th June, 2021 to appreciate his role in supporting their activities. During the ceremony, the VC congratulated the students for maintaining an active role in creating awareness on international exchange opportunities in the University. He also encouraged them to continue scaling up awareness on the IAESTE programme to register more students for international exchange across all departments in the University.





Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies (DIES) Management of Internationalization Training Programme sponsors give a token of appreciation to the University for her Contribution

DeKUT is a co-host of the DIES Africa Regional Workshop on Management of Internationalization training programme jointly organized by the Leibniz University of Hannover, Germany, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Rectors Conference (HRK). This year's programme took place virtually from 6th April to 16th April 2021 and drew participants from ten different countries in Africa and Europe. As appreciation to the University for her role in hosting the workshop, DAAD, through the DIES Programme Management Team, presented a HP Laptop Computer and a Power Extension Cable. The VC formally received the equipment from Ms. Ann Kirugumi – Co-Host of the DIES Management Training Programme, on Friday 25th June, 2021.

