DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN

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# DeKUT hosts the Seeds of Gold Coffee Farm Edition in partnership with Nation Media Group




In partnership with the Nation Media Group, we hosted the Seeds of Gold- Coffee Farm Edition on Saturday, October 29 2022, under the theme "Road to Quality Coffee".

Seeds of Gold Coffee Farm Edition is an annual event held in October. Like in the previous editions, the event included training, knowledge sharing, exchange of ideas for better agribusiness practices, exhibition, and demonstrations on the best farming practices and technologies to enable farmers to enhance efficiency and farm productivity.

This year's event attracted over 300 farmers countrywide and aimed at training farmers on coffee, from obtaining certified seeds/ seedlings to quality agronomy, processing/ value addition, marketing, distribution, and retail. Some of the key topics of the day included; advances in coffee breeding, advances in coffee fertility and management, management of insects and pest threats in coffee, coffee quality, marketing, and value addition, among others.

The function also allowed farmers to directly engage with some of our experts and network with other key stakeholders.












## University signs a cooperation agreement with Elewa Company Limited to prepare students and alumni for the world of work



To prepare our students and alumni for the world of work, we signed a Cooperation Agreement with Elewa Company Limited on October 13 2022.

Elewa is an education innovation & training company based in East Africa that has developed a model for cost-effective and highly-scalable continuous professional development for teachers, school groups, and any large-scale training audience within companies and organizations.

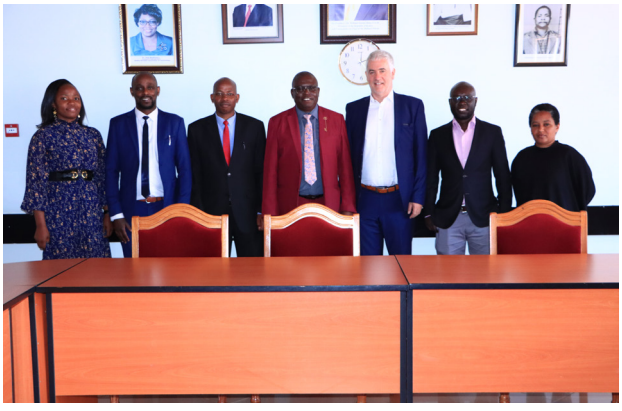


The Elewa training model is based on a toolbox of content and technology innovations supported by a strong layer of human support. Through its iTalanta and Hama Talanta programs, Elewa recently ventured into technology education and training. Doubling as a training institute and software agency, iTalanta offers world-class technology training to highly-skilled individuals through a unique on-the-job apprenticeship.

This partnership will provide our students and alumni with the requisite skills and knowledge needed for the job market and create attachment and internship opportunities for them.

Aside from that, the team also had a chance to visit our Software Development Centre, Centre for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, and the Dedan Kimathi Innovation and Incubation Hub (DeHUB).





## Office of Career Services partners with ABSA Bank Kenya in the Absa ReadytoWork Program




DeKUT Office of Career Services (DeKUTOCS) strives to prepare students for work and entrepreneurship and link them to this world. One of the University partners working with the office towards this goal is Absa Bank Kenya, a partner in the Absa ReadytoWork Program. This program is designed to equip young people with work, people, money, and entrepreneurial skills to prepare them for work, a core focus of DeKUTOCS.

On Tuesday, October 25 2022, Absa Bank representatives had a hangout session with the recruited DeKUT Student Ambassadors. During the session, the program was demystified further, and students who had already enrolled in any of the modules shared their experiences. The representatives and personnel of De-KUTOCS emphasized the need for students to have a big picture and a broad perspective of the value such a program can add to them in positioning themselves for the job/business world as they go through higher education and prepare for life after. From the discussion, it was clear that it's a much-needed program for skills development beyond the classroom.

For more information about the program, to register and enroll, visit this website https://readytowork.absa.africa/#/.











## The President's Award Kenya recognizes DeKUT as the only Centre of Excellence University in the country



As part of the road safety civic education event held on Friday, October 28 2022, by The President Award -DeKUT, in partnership with the Road Safety Committee and NTSA, we were honoured to be announced as the only Centre of Excellence University in the country.

Speaking during the event, President's Award Kenya representative stated that the University had been selected as a Centre of Excellence for effectively and efficiently delivering the award to young people and providing guidance to other Universities running the award in the country. He also noted that DeKUT was the only University in the country selected in this category and congratulated the University for its excellent work.



Centres of Excellence are institutions of learning, community youth centres or youth organizations that model an ideal award centre. For an institution to be considered as a Centre of Excellence, it must meet the following requirements; must be licenced by the President's Award Kenya to deliver the program and be committed to meeting the standards outlined within their licence, the Institution's management should be aware of the basic principles of the award, what it entails and are supportive of the award; the award should have been existing at the Institution for more than two years, the Institution must have an office or the potential to provide an office for the award leaders, the Institution must have an annual budget for award activities such as adventurous journeys and residential project, Institution must have at least 1000 young people within the award age bracket of 14 to 24 years and finally must have access to good internet connectivity or is in a location that has potential for internet infrastructure to be deployed.

As part of the recognition, the Presidential Award Kenya representative handed over two desktop computers and one laptop to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ndirangu Kioni, to be used by the award participants and leaders.

## National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) and The Presidential Award Club of DeKUT hold a Road Safety Civic Education to educate students and staff members on the fundamentals of road safety



The President Award -DeKUT, in partnership with the Road Safety Committee and NTSA, hosted a road safety civic education on Friday, October 28 2022, at the University grounds. The training aimed at educating all road users on the proper and safe use of roads to change user attitudes and behaviour and to stimulate awareness of the need for improvement in road safety. DeKUT was incorporated into the association in the year 2013. After completing the necessary application processes, DeKUT was admitted to IAESTE as a cooperating institution. This opened up new opportunities for students to take up internships abroad and gain life-changing global experiences. It also allowed students from around the world to take up internships in Kenya at DeKUT.







## DeKUT partners with WhiteBox and Kijiji to train students on entrepreneurship skills



As an entrepreneur, you must align your business with sector-specific standards and adhere to accreditation and professionalism requirements on a global scale. In partnership with Whitebox Kenya and the Kijiji, we organized an entrepreneurship Bootcamp on Friday, October 28, 2022, to provide our students with the fundamental business skills they need to succeed in the future.



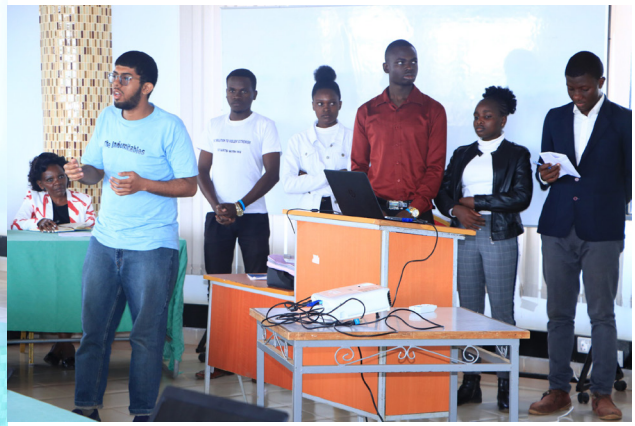
The Whitebox Entrepreneurship Bootcamp is an initiative under the Huduma Whitebox program spearheaded by the ICT authority with the Kijiji as an implementation partner. The platform was conceptualized as a forum for professionals such as academicians, lawyers, techies, and innovators, among other intellectuals, to share ideas and drive conversations that can be pursued to offer solutions for local problems. It targets to link these groups of people and create a space where they can gather and brainstorm ideas and innovations that experts can test in the government. If feasible, the ideas can be absorbed in whichever sector they serve.



Vice Chancellor Prof. Ndirangu Kioni, Peninah Kanyua, a start-up strategy and business model trainer, and Ruth Muriithi, the head of DeKUT Science and Technology Park, were among the day's prominent speakers.

## Directorate of Students' Welfare partners with the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) to execute student-led projects on avoiding and combatting violent extremism in Kenyan universities





Since January 2022, the Directorate of Students' Welfare and the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) have worked together to execute student-led projects on avoiding and combatting violent extremism in Kenyan universities. The projects were completed successfully, and on Monday, October 17 2022 we held a close-out session officiated by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Administration and Finance, Prof. Esther Magiri.

The Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) is the world's oldest and the UK's leading defence and security think tank to inform, influence and enhance public debate to help build a safer and more stable world.

## 6th DeKUT International Conference on Science, Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship




We will be hosting the 6th DeKUT International Conference on Science, Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship from 9th -11th of November 2022 with the theme, "Leveraging Science, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Sustainability and Development".

The event aims to create a platform for researchers and practitioners to present, discuss, engage and publish research on national development. This being the first time we will be having this event post-pandemic, it will be both physical and virtual. The conference proceedings will be streamed live via our DeKUT Web TV Channel (dekutchannel.dkut.ac.ke) and the University's official YouTube Channel (Dedan Kimathi University of Technology).

To participate and for more information, visit https://stieconference.dkut.ac.ke/ or contact (+254)0719311223 (+254)0612020000 or email: sti.conference@dkut.ac.ke.

## In other news;

## Cyber Security Awareness Month

This being Cyber Security Awareness Month, in collaboration with the Cyber Security Club of DeKUT, we hosted a one-hour-long capture the flag competition on Thursday, October 13 2022, at the resource centre (RC 015). The competition tested how well we know and can use the Linux commands.



We also hosted a Cyber Security Awareness Event in collaboration with the Technical University of Kenya to confront cyber-bullying among University students in Kenya. This was part of a project funded by Facebook Inc. to make its platforms safer, especially for vulnerable populations.

The Directorate of Information Communication Technology also hosted several webinars to create awareness among staff and students on internet-related threats and safeguards.

## Customer Service Week

On Tuesday, October 4 2022, as part of customer service week, we hosted a team from Kenya power care led by Eng. Charles Mwaura, General Manager, Network Management.



During this week, Michael Kimeu, a 2nd-year student pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology, also received an electric wheelchair from the KCB foundation.

We culminated the Customer Service Week with a free photo shoot for our students.





## Inter-Sector Competitions

The inter-sector competitions for this year were held on October 1, 2022, on the University's premises. DeKUT students from various areas (sectors) participated in the event, where they competed in sports like football, the egg and sack race, eating contests, and athletics. The objective of the competitions is to promote cohesion among students and staff, nurture different talents and give a sense of belonging.









## Enhancing International Opportunities through Fellowships and Grants

To create awareness and provide training on Fullbright Scholarships & Funded Proposals to our members of faculties and postgraduate students, we hosted a public lecture with the theme "Enhancing International Opportunities through Fellowships and Grants" by Prof. Rajgopal Sashti, a Fulbright Advisor on Fellowships and Sponsored Programs from the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.






St Anne's Lioki Secondary School - Kiambu academic trip for best performers and most improved students.



Coffee Technology/Food Science Students during a practical session with their lecturer.

Being a Tech Wizard requires you to know and understand your electrical components. To implement this, the Innovators Club holds a session to educate innovators on fundamental elements that one often interacts with as a techie.



