MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN

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IN THIS ISSUE:

1. DeKUT launches the Mental Health and Psychiatric Nursing Book
2. Pioneering Africa's Future through AI and Frontier Technologies
3. The 3rd Forum of the Alliance of Entrepreneurial Universities in Africa (AEUA)
4. DeKUT Hosts i2B Innovation Storming Night
5. Launch of DeFTeNSA: A Milestone in Advancing Food Science and Nutrition at DeKUT
6. CeFoNa Pioneering the Future of Food Safety and Naturopathy
7. DeKUT Celebrates Customer Service Week
8. DeKUT Signs a Collaboration Agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad

DeKUT launches the Mental Health and Psychiatric Nursing Book



The DeKUT School of Nursing has launched a new Mental Health and Psychiatric Nursing textbook designed specifically for student nurses in mid-level training colleges and Universities. This essential resource and with its focus on local training needs, ensures that our nurses and allied health workers are well-equipped to meet the unique challenges of our region.

The book covers emerging mental health disorders and introduces East African-developed nursing models and frameworks tailored to the needs of our populations. To enhance the learning experience, the textbook adopts a highly interactive approach, featuring in-text assignments, thought-provoking questions, case presentations, and self-evaluation tests with answers. This structure is designed to facilitate active engagement and deeper understanding.

Join us in celebrating this significant contribution to nursing education and mental health care in East Africa.





Pioneering Africa's Future through AI and Frontier Technologies



The Origin Fest Hackathon 2024 started with a speech from Prof. Esther Magiri, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Administration and Finance, setting an exciting tone for exploring Artificial Intelligence (AI) and cutting-edge technologies. The event gathered innovators, entrepreneurs, and researchers, all dedicated to addressing Africa's key challenges and paving the way for a sustainable future.

Participants gained hands-on experience with advanced data science and AI tools while learning about critical topics like intellectual property rights, the University Fund (UF), and strategies to protect their ground-breaking ideas. This immersive experience strengthened problem-solving skills and fostered valuable connections within Africa's growing tech and entrepreneurial sectors.

One of the event's highlights was the chance for participants to pitch their innovative ideas to a panel of experts.

The four most impactful projects earned the opportunity to showcase their concepts at the Third Forum for the Alliance of Entrepreneurial Universities in Africa, alongside ongoing mentorship and collaborative support from Origin and challenge sponsors to refine their solutions further. Throughout the hackathon, participants engaged in active brainstorming, collaborative forums, and open discussions, creating a space where all ideas were welcomed and refined with feedback from peers and mentors. This cooperative atmosphere nurtured creative solutions and cultivated a strong community of innovators eager to tackle Africa's pressing issues.

The Origin Fest Hackathon 2024 is a powerful example of how innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship can drive transformative change. As participants continue to develop their projects, they bring the continent closer to sustainable solutions tailored to Africa's unique challenges. The Origin Fest's efforts to empower the next generation of innovators are laying the foundation for a brighter future for Africa.



Some of the participants during the Hackathon



Participants listening
to their trainers



Participants following the procession



Participants listening to their trainers



A group photo of the participants, their trainers and the Head, Research-Innovation Ecosystems and Entrepreneurship Education, Prof. P. Ndirangu Kioni

The 3rd Forum of the Alliance of Entrepreneurial Universities in Africa (AEUA)



The 3rd Forum of the Alliance of Entrepreneurial Universities in Africa (AEUA) recently convened to promote African startups and innovation, bringing together academics, industry leaders, government officials, and entrepreneurs from Africa and beyond. Hosted by the Origin Research and Innovation Lab, East Africa, and supported by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the event focused on the theme "Towards One Million Start-ups & $100 Billion Revenue." The keynote address, delivered by Dr. Juma Mukhwana, Principal Secretary of the State Department for Industry, Ministry of Trade, Investment, and Industrialization, highlighted the transformative impact of entrepreneurial Universities on African economies.

Held over two days, the forum encouraged dialogues on creating sustainable, long-term collaborations, strengthening inter-University partnerships, and aligning academia with industry and government to address Africa's specific needs. The AEUA's mission centres on fostering job creation, wealth generation, and sustainable growth by building robust ecosystems that nurture start-ups. DeKUT, a leader in entrepreneurial ecosystem development, showcased its Science & Technology Park, which hosts Kenya's first semiconductor industry, demonstrating its commitment to promoting innovation and equipping students and startups with the tools to develop advanced technological solutions.

The forum's theme, "Forging Reliable, Sustainable, and Long-Term Partnerships," guided discussions on leveraging public-private partnerships to enhance academia's capacity to solve societal issues. Experts emphasized how academic institutions can drive national growth by adopting collaborations beyond traditional academic roles, positioning African innovations to make a global impact. Participants shared knowledge and strategies, united by the vision of establishing African Universities as key players in the growth of local industries and expanding entrepreneurship on the continent.

This forum, led by Origin and AEUA, underscores the critical role of Universities in fostering a thriving entrepreneurial environment. Africa is paving the way for global competitiveness and empowered youth by combining research, innovation, and enterprise. Concluding with a call to action, the forum urged all stakeholders—academia, industry, government, and the public—to actively support the continent's innovative and entrepreneurial future.



Participants listening
to a procession



The PS State Department of Industry in The Ministry of Investments, Trade, And Industry (MITI), Dr. Juma Mukhwana, CBS, receiving a gift from the VC, Prof. Eng. Peter. N. Muchiri
DVC A&F presenting a gift to the PS



Participants listening to the procession

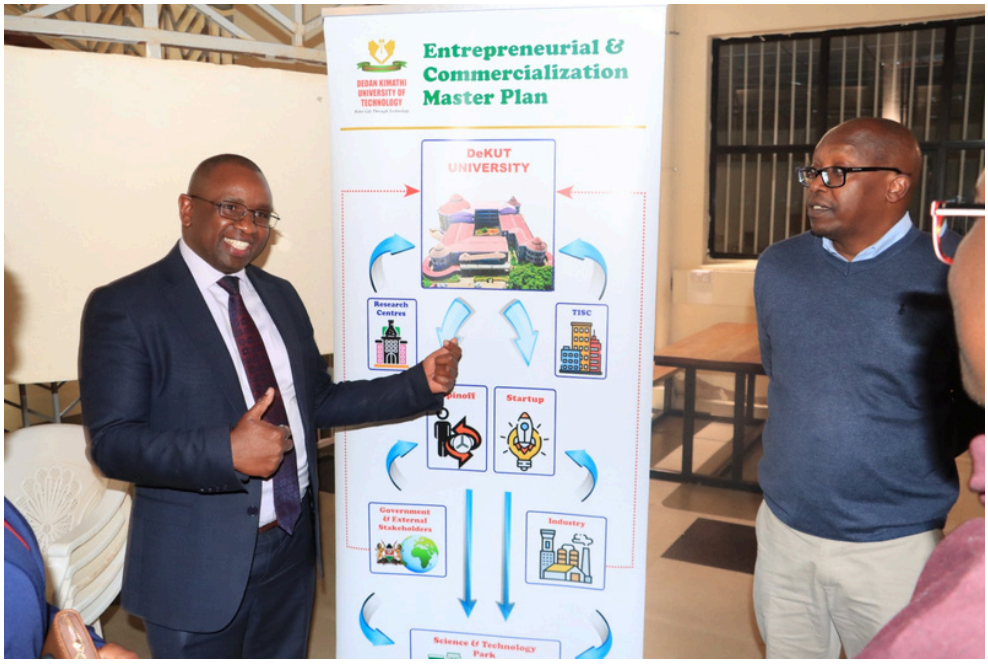


Participants listening to the procession



Participants listening to the procession

DeKUT Hosts i2B Innovation Storming Night



DeKUT is committed to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in its community. In line with this vision, the Dedan Kimathi Start-up and Incubation Center (DeSIC) hosted the i2B (Idea to Business) Innovation Storming Night. The event aimed to familiarize participants with the start-up process and to actively engage them throughout the journey, focusing on critical aspects such as beginning with the end in mind, business modelling, mindset shifts, and pitching.

The i2B Storming Night is highly effective in promoting a mindset of innovation and entrepreneurship among the students. It also fosters interdisciplinary collaboration in problem-solving, sharpens entrepreneurial skills, and unveils the students' innovative potential within the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Through this experience, DeKUT continues to shape future business leaders equipped with the tools to thrive in today's dynamic world.





Launch of DeFTeNSA: A Milestone in Advancing Food Science and Nutrition at DeKUT



DeKUT has established the DeKUT Food Technology & Nutrition Students Association (DeFTeNSA), a groundbreaking initiative designed to foster a vibrant and innovative community among students passionate about Food Science & Technology and Nutrition. This launch marks a significant milestone in DeKUT's ongoing efforts to drive excellence and innovation in these critical fields.

DeFTeNSA represents a platform where students, faculty, and industry professionals exchange knowledge, collaborate on cutting-edge research, and explore new growth opportunities. The association aims to create an environment that nurtures academic development while preparing students for real-world challenges in the food and nutrition sectors. By fostering collaboration, DeFTeNSA seeks to bridge the gap between academic learning and industry practices, ensuring students are well-equipped to contribute meaningfully to the rapidly evolving fields of food technology and nutrition.

During the launch, key stakeholders—including industry leaders, faculty members, and students—shared insights on the latest trends and innovations in food science and nutrition. The event provided a valuable networking opportunity, bringing together experts from various disciplines to explore collaborative possibilities and share best practices. Through DeFTeNSA, students can access internships, workshops, and mentorship programs to enhance their professional development and broaden their understanding of global food and nutrition challenges.

The formation of DeFTeNSA aligns with DeKUT's mission to cultivate leaders and innovators who are well-prepared to address contemporary issues such as food security, nutrition-related diseases, and sustainable food systems. With this initiative, the University reaffirms its commitment to producing graduates who will make meaningful contributions to food technology and nutrition.

CeFoNa Pioneering the Future of Food Safety and Naturopathy



The Centre for Food Safety and Naturopathy (CeFoNa), a unique applied food science research consortium in collaboration with Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) and the food industry, recently held its 2nd Open Day. The event provided a platform to showcase the Centre's innovative research activities and cutting-edge advancements in food safety and naturopathy.

The Open Day was attended by distinguished guests, including representatives from AGRA Kenya, Meadows Food Processing, the International University Network on Cultural and Biological Diversity (IUNCBD), and St. Mary's Kariguini Secondary School. These esteemed partners joined CeFoNa in exploring the vital intersections of food science, safety, and naturopathy, highlighting the Centre's role in advancing sustainable and health-conscious food systems.

CeFoNa continues to push the boundaries of applied research, contributing to developing safe, nutritious, and sustainable food solutions.





DeKUT Celebrates Customer Service Week





"To keep a customer demands as much skill as to win one." – Berry Gordy.

DeKUT would like to thank all our students, guardians, and internal and external stakeholders as we embark on this year's Customer Service Week. This week was a time to celebrate the essential role of customer service and reinforce our unwavering commitment to exceptional service for every individual within our community.

At DeKUT, we understand that customer service is not merely about resolving issues or addressing concerns – building relationships, fostering trust, and continually striving for excellence. We are dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of our students, their families, partners, and everyone who engages with us. Our commitment is to ensure that each interaction is handled professionally and efficiently, enhancing satisfaction and adding value to each experience. Your feedback has been instrumental in shaping our approach to customer service, allowing us to refine and elevate how we engage with you. Every suggestion, question, and comment is a valuable insight that propels us to grow, improve, and innovate our processes.

Looking to the future, we are excited about the progress and achievements we will accomplish together. By prioritizing service excellence, DeKUT aims to meet and exceed expectations, ensuring that each interaction is positive and impactful.

Thank you for choosing DeKUT and being an integral part of our journey. Together, we celebrate Customer Service Week 2024 and reaffirm our commitment to serving you better every day.

DeKUT Signs a Collaboration Agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad





DeKUT signed a collaboration agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad, focusing on student and faculty exchange in emerging technologies.

This agreement, formalized during an exchange visit coordinated by the Kenya Innovation Agency (KENIA), establishes the India-Kenya Innovation Nexus. It will enable DeKUT to engage in applied research, foster innovation, and promote the commercialization of innovations by exchanging students and staff with IIT Hyderabad.

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