MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN

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DeKUT Recognized for Supporting Student-Led Innovation Clubs at CEIL Summit





DeKUT has once again demonstrated its leadership in nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship, after receiving a prestigious award during the Commercialization, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Leadership (CEIL) Summit held at Pride Inn Paradise, Mombasa.

The award was presented by the Head of Public Service, Hon. Felix F. Koskei, EGH, to the University's Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eng. Peter N. Muchiri, EBS, the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs and Research, Prof. Eddy Owaga, and the Director of the DeKUT Startup and Incubation Centre (DeSIC), Dr. James Wakiru. The recognition highlighted DeKUT's outstanding support of student-led innovation clubs, which serve as incubators of creativity, problem-solving, and entrepreneurship among the youth. Through initiatives such as the DeSIC, DeKUT has positioned itself as a hub for innovation and commercialization of research. By empowering students to establish and grow innovation-driven enterprises, the University contributes significantly to Kenya's knowledge economy while cultivating a generation of solution-oriented leaders.

This recognition at the CEIL Summit affirms DeKUT's commitment to its mission of being an entrepreneurial University that not only advances academic excellence but also transforms ideas into impactful solutions for society. The University's continuous investment in student innovation aligns with its vision of commercializing research and fostering sustainable development through technology and entrepreneurship.

DeKUT Welcomes the Inaugural PhD Cohort in Civil and Environmental Engineering



Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) has achieved yet another historic milestone with the admission of its inaugural cohort of PhD students in Civil and Environmental Engineering. The momentous occasion was presided over by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Administration and Finance, Prof. Esther Magiri, who officially welcomed the pioneering group of doctoral candidates into the University community.

This development underscores DeKUT's continued growth as a hub of multidisciplinary research and innovation. The University has established itself as a leader in fostering knowledge creation, shaping impactful leaders, and driving ground breaking solutions to address society's most pressing challenges. Central to this vision are DeKUT's specialized Centres of Excellence, which provide cutting-edge research environments and mentorship opportunities. These Centres play a critical role in nurturing scholars and innovators who not only push the frontiers of knowledge but also contribute directly to solving real-world problems.

In line with becoming an entrepreneurial University, DeKUT places strong emphasis on technology development and transfer. The institution is dedicated to transforming research outputs into commercialized innovations that can make a tangible impact on communities, industries, and the economy at large.

The launch of the PhD programme in Civil and Environmental Engineering is a significant step toward achieving this mission. It reflects DeKUT's commitment to producing highly skilled professionals and thought leaders who will contribute to sustainable infrastructure development, environmental conservation, and societal advancement both locally and globally. With this bold move, DeKUT continues to strengthen its position as a transformative institution, paving the way for academic excellence, innovation-driven growth, and societal impact.

President Ruto Engages Vice Chancellors on Sustainability and Quality in Public Universities



The President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH, held a consultative meeting with Vice Chancellors of Public Universities to deliberate on strategies for strengthening financial sustainability and enhancing quality service delivery within the higher education sector.

Among the leaders present was the Vice Chancellor of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT), Prof. Eng. Peter N. Muchiri, EBS. The meeting provided a platform for open dialogue between the government and higher education leaders on the pressing challenges facing public universities, including funding models, governance structures, and the need to align institutional priorities with national development goals. President Ruto underscored the government's commitment to ensuring that universities remain centres of academic excellence, innovation, and skills development. He emphasized the importance of sustainable financing mechanisms and the role of Universities in driving Kenya's social and economic transformation.

For DeKUT, participation in this consultative forum reaffirms its dedication to contributing to the country's knowledge economy through quality teaching, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship. By aligning with National priorities, the University continues to position itself as a transformative institution committed to empowering students and driving solutions that impact society positively.

DeKUT Hosts Prof. Helen Nabwera for Inspiring Public Lecture on Successful Research



DeKUT had the privilege of hosting Professor Helen Nabwera, a distinguished MRC/FCDO African Research Leader (2020), for a highly engaging Public Lecture titled "Navigating the World of Successful Research."

The lecture brought together students, faculty, and researchers from across disciplines, offering a unique platform to learn from Prof. Nabwera's extensive expertise and ground breaking work at the Aga Khan University's Centre of Excellence in Women and Child Health. In her address, Prof. Nabwera emphasized that research, leadership, and innovation are critical pillars in advancing knowledge and shaping healthier futures for generations to come. She highlighted the importance of mentorship, collaboration, and persistence in research, encouraging young scholars to pursue excellence and contribute to solving global health challenges. The interactive session provided participants with practical insights into building successful research careers, bridging academia and practice, and leveraging innovation to drive societal impact.

By hosting thought leaders such as Prof. Nabwera, DeKUT continues to strengthen its research ecosystem and reaffirm its commitment to nurturing a new generation of scholars and innovators dedicated to transformative solutions for society.





DeKUT Hosts DIES Africa Regional Workshop on Management of Internationalization



DeKUT is pleased to have hosted the Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies (DIES) – Management of Internationalization Africa Regional Workshop, bringing together participants from across the continent to engage in knowledge exchange and collaborative dialogue on advancing internationalization in African higher education.

The opening day began with welcoming remarks and official opening sessions, setting the stage for insightful discussions. Dr. James Jowi, speaking virtually, gave a presentation on the African Network on Internationalization of Higher Education (ANIE), highlighting the importance of regional cooperation in strengthening global academic networks.

Participants also engaged with perspectives from both local and international students, providing a unique lens on the lived experiences of mobility and academic integration. This was followed by a series of project presentations showcasing diverse institutional initiatives.

Among them were:

- Integrated Internationalization Policy Framework (Debre Markos University)
- Streamlining Internationalization Processes in Agriculture (University of Ghana)
- Promotion of Internationalization Services (Technical University of Mombasa)
- The GIQE Project on Growth, Inclusion and Quality Education (Malawi Assemblies of God University)
- Global Cultures Exchange Initiative (Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University)

In the afternoon, further presentations featured innovative approaches such as the TUT Global Connect@Home COIL Acceleration Program (Tshwane University of Technology), Capacity Building for Sustainable Internationalization (Moshi Co-operative University), Internal Relational Strategies for International Students (University of Kisubi), the LIUTEMB Internationalisation Strategy in Nursing (LIUTEBM University), and the Mukuba University Internationalization Policy.

Beyond academic exchange, participants enjoyed an excursion to the DeKUT Wildlife Conservancy, offering a chance to experience the University's commitment to conservation and environmental stewardship. The day concluded with a colourful Farewell Dinner and Cultural Extravaganza, celebrating Africa's cultural richness and fostering camaraderie among participants.

Jointly organized and supported by Leibniz University Hannover, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and the German Rectors' Conference (HRK), the DIES Africa Regional Workshop continues to strengthen dialogue and partnerships, advancing innovative strategies for sustainable internationalization in African higher education.

DeKUT Siemens Centre Hosts TVET Training Programme

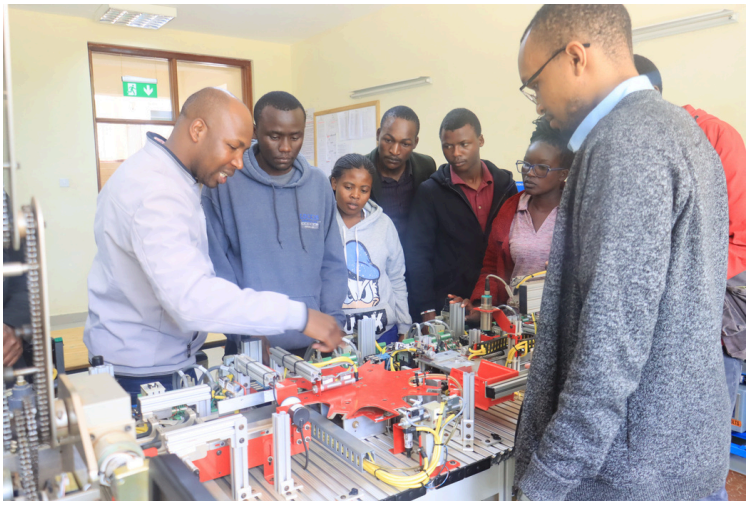


The DeKUT Siemens Centre recently hosted an immersive training programme at its Virtual Mechatronics Labs (VML), bringing together 22 Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) students and 11 trainers from institutions across Kenya. The initiative combined both physical and virtual learning experiences, underscoring DeKUT's commitment to equipping the next generation of engineers and technicians with future-ready Industry 4.0 skills.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Prof. Sir Jean Bosco (PhD, KNIGHT), after which participants toured the Mechatronics and Electrical Laboratories. They engaged with physical machines, virtual simulations, and ongoing projects at the labs. The second day focused on strengthening theoretical foundations, with trainers who had previously undergone training at DeKUT in April, delivering sessions on Electrical Components, Mechanical Components, Electro Pneumatic and Hydraulic Systems, and Digital Logic Fundamentals and PLCs.









Students later transitioned to practical sessions, applying their knowledge through hands-on interaction in both physical and virtual environments. This experiential learning approach ensured participants not only understood core concepts but also gained practical problem-solving skills relevant to modern industry.

This transformative programme was made possible through collaboration with Skills Initiative for Africa – Financial Cooperation, AUDA-NEPAD Africa Policy Bridge Tank, the African Union, African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO), Siemens Centre – DeKUT, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, the Alliance for Industry 4.0 and Smart Manufacturing in Africa (AISMA), and the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA) Kenya. In partnership with these stakeholders, DeKUT Siemens Centre also successfully conducted the SIFA Market Validation Exercise (TVET, TOTs and Students), aimed at aligning training with market needs and preparing participants for the future of work.

Adding to the momentum of the week, DeKUT Siemens Centre had the privilege of hosting Alex Ntale, CEO of the Rwanda ICT Chamber. Guided by Prof. Sir Jean Bosco, Dr. Ntale explored a wide range of ongoing projects, including the Anatomy VR Project and Industry 4.0-driven automation systems. His visit showcased how the Centre is leveraging VR/AR, AI, and mechatronics to revolutionize education and training across Africa.

The Siemens Centre continues to stand as a beacon of innovation, collaboration, and skills development, reaffirming DeKUT's mission of fostering Africa's growth through technology, industry partnerships, and transformative education.

DeKUT Hosts the 2nd Career Fair, Empowering Students for the Future of Work





DeKUT held its 2nd Career Fair, a three-day event that brought together industry leaders, professionals, and employers to engage with students on career readiness, industry expectations, and emerging opportunities. The Career Fair, which featured company showcases, mentorship sessions, mock interviews, and specialized breakout discussions, was a major step in bridging the gap between academia and industry while equipping students with essential employability skills.

The opening day featured presentations from distinguished speakers across sectors. Maureen Gatimu, Digital Channels Manager at Absa Bank Kenya PLC, addressed students on "Bridging the Gap Beyond the Degree," while Christine Mandala, Head of Human Resources and Administration at Trufoods Limited, delivered a session on CV writing and interview preparedness.

Other speakers included Wilfred Kipkazi, County Employment Officer at the National Employment Authority, who discussed the NEA mandate, foreign labour migration, and local placement; Diana Leden, Marketing Manager at Unicomnect; Brian Otieno, Project Officer at Laikipia Wildlife Forum; Michael Kamau, Public Relations Officer at Huawei Technologies Limited; and Eliud Thiong'o, Director at Braymell Traders Limited, who spoke on "Being Future Ready: Are You Plug and Play?"

The highlight of the day was a keynote address by CHRP (K) Susan Imisa Kakai, Head of Human Capital at Sanlam Life Insurance, who presented on "From Campus to Career: Equipping Students for Emerging Industries and Lifelong Success." She emphasized the adaptability, skills, and mindset needed to thrive in today's dynamic job market.

The second day began with another insightful session by Ms. Christine Mandala, setting the pace for a day of hands-on learning. Students participated in a Mock Interview exercise led by Ms. Faith Mutheu, Head of Public Relations at DeKUT, alongside a panel of industry experts that included Ms. Mandala, Florence Rukenya (TruFoods), Judith Odhiambo (Odoo), Lameck Mito (ACCA East Africa), Eric Mithamo (Licensed Land Surveyors Ltd.), Samuel Otieno (Engineers Board of Kenya), and Dr. Daniel Njoroge (Head of Career Services, DeKUT).

In the afternoon, students attended specialized breakout sessions across schools and institutes. Facilitators included Maximilian Mugambi (Balora Design Group), Bernard Wanjau (Britam), Thomas Kabanya (National Nurses Association of Kenya), Brian Otieno (Laikipia Wildlife Forum), and Ummekulsum Bohari (Odoo). These sessions focused on entrepreneurship, professional ethics, career pathways, and industry trends, offering mentorship and practical guidance tailored to different fields.



The final day kicked off with an interactive session led by Margaret Muthura, Corporate Affairs Officer at Old Mutual, which explored the Thrive Wellness App and the importance of mindfulness in professional life. This was followed by an engaging Employer-Brand Showcase and Career Mentorship session led by Breneen Maloba, Culture and Change Lead at Old Mutual, who outlined the company's Employer Value Proposition, pathways to the Old Mutual Academy, and key industry insights. Nicholas Mutuku, Senior Training Facilitator at Old Mutual Life Business, later delivered a Financial Education session on personal finance, investments, and entrepreneurship for young professionals.

The day also featured another Mock Interview session facilitated by Old Mutual, with panellists Christopher Karani (Group Head of Talent and Organisational Effectiveness, Old Mutual EA) and Dr. Daniel Njoroge, who provided real-time feedback to students. The Career Fair concluded with a closing keynote speech by Christopher Karani, followed by remarks from DeKUT Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eng. Peter N. Muchiri, EBS. In his address, the Vice Chancellor emphasized the University's commitment to producing well-rounded graduates equipped with the skills, knowledge, and networks to succeed in the world of work and entrepreneurship.

The 2nd Career Fair was a resounding success, offering students invaluable exposure to industry leaders, career pathways, and practical employability skills. By bringing academia and industry together, DeKUT reaffirmed its role as a transformative institution preparing students not only for jobs but also for leadership, innovation, and lifelong success.



The Vice Chancellor DeKUT Prof. Eng. Peter Muchiri, EBS, the DVC A&F Prof. Esther Magiri and the DVC AA&R Prof. Eddy Owaga pose for a photo with the speakers

Matriculation Ceremony for First Years 2025/2026



The Matriculation Ceremony, presided over by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eng. Peter N. Muchiri, EBS, marked the culmination of the 2025/2026 First-Year Students' orientation, which began on Monday, 25th August 2025.

During this significant event, the freshmen took the matriculation pledge, formally declaring their loyalty to Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) and their commitment to upholding the institution's policies and guidelines. This solemn act signified their official welcome to the University community.

In his closing remarks, the Vice Chancellor shared inspiring words of wisdom with the students. He emphasized that, "The secret to career success is not necessarily in doing what you love, but loving what you do. Many times, you may not get what you liked, but if you learn to like what you get, you will succeed. What you love, you nurture, you cultivate, and it grows. Love your degree program and you will excel in it." His message served as a reminder that passion can be cultivated through dedication, persistence, and a positive attitude toward one's chosen field of study.



Prof. Eng. Muchiri also offered another vital life lesson on setting priorities right, referencing the Eisenhower Matrix as a practical tool for managing tasks and responsibilities. He encouraged the first years to distinguish between urgent and important matters prioritizing what is both urgent and important, scheduling important but not urgent tasks, delegating urgent but less important responsibilities, and eliminating what is neither urgent nor important.

He further urged the students to "major on the majors and minor on the minors", making the most of their time at DeKUT to build valuable skills, learn new languages, and acquire competencies that will prepare them for the global world of work.

The 2025/2026 Matriculation Ceremony not only marked the formal entry of the new students into the University but also provided them with valuable guidance to shape their academic and personal journeys. It is our hope that they will carry the Vice Chancellor's words with them as they embark on this exciting chapter of their lives at DeKUT.

Karibuni DeKUT!

DeKUT Hosts KUSF Sports Student Leaders' Boot Camp and IDUS Celebrations



Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) is proud to have hosted the Kenya Universities Sports Federation (KUSF) Sports Student Leaders' Boot Camp, an event that coincided with the global celebration of the International Day of University Sports (IDUS). This year's theme, "Shaping Confident Leaders of Character Through Sports," highlights the critical role of sports in nurturing values, leadership, and personal growth among students.

The Student Leaders' Boot Camp, supported by the International University Sports Federation (FISU), is designed as an annual initiation and orientation programme for university sports leaders. It equips participants with fundamental leadership and management skills while fostering collaboration, networking, and experience-sharing among peers. This year's boot camp attracted vibrant participation from Kenyan Universities as well as student leaders from neighbouring countries in the Eastern Africa region. Through interactive sessions, workshops, and sporting activities, the camp provides a platform for student leaders to gain insights into effective sports governance, organizational management, and the promotion of inclusivity in University sports.

By hosting this transformative initiative, DeKUT reaffirms its commitment to holistic student development, fostering not only academic and research excellence but also leadership, character-building, and cultural exchange through sports. The event underscores the University's mission to empower students to become well-rounded leaders who can make meaningful contributions to society.





DeKUT Explores Global Collaboration with the University of Parma Through Courtesy Visit



Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) was delighted to host Professor Roberto Valentino from the University of Parma, Italy, on a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eng. Peter N. Muchiri, EBS.

The visit provided an opportunity to strengthen academic and research ties between the two institutions, with discussions focusing on potential areas of collaboration in research, innovation, and internationalization. Such partnerships are key to expanding opportunities for faculty and students while enhancing DeKUT's global presence. Also present at the meeting were Dr. Mark Boitt, Director of the Institute of Geomatics, GIS and Remote Sensing (IGGRES); Dr. Patrick Kariuki, Director of the Geothermal Training and Research Institute (GeTRI); Dr. Ann Kirugumi from the International Office; and Dr. Daniel Nyangweso of IGGRES. Their participation highlighted DeKUT's commitment to multidisciplinary collaboration and its pursuit of meaningful partnerships with leading global institutions.

The University looks forward to building on this engagement with the University of Parma to advance research excellence, innovation, and knowledge exchange for mutual benefit and societal impact.

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