



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

»» NEWSLETTER ««

THE VOICE OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



TOP NEWS OF THE MONTH

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MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY HOLDS A COLOURFUL 11TH GRADUATION CEREMONY 2023

The University held its eleventh (11th) graduation ceremony on Friday the, 8th December 2023 where a total of one thousand seven hundred and forty six (1476) graduands were conferred with degrees and awarded Diplomas and Certificates of Maasai Mara University. The ceremony was graced by the Guest of honour Mr. Fredrick Ndambuki who represented the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education Hon. Dr. Ezekiel Machogu. Other dignitaries who were present included the Deputy governor of Narok county Hon. Tamalinye K. Koech, who represented the governor of Narok county Hon. Patrick Ole Ntutu;

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FROM LEFT: Dr. Susan Chebet (Ag. Chair of Council), Prof Godrick Bulitia (DVC SA), Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (Ag. Vice Chancellor), The Guest of honour Dr. Fredrick Ndambuki, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei, and Prof. James Nampushi (DVC A,F & S)



From left front row, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei, (Ag. Chancellor), Dr. Susan Chebet (Ag. Chair of council) and Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho (Ag. Vice-Chancellor).

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Hon. Tamalinye K. Koech Deputy governor, Narok County.



The Guest of honour Dr. Fredrick Ndambuki



Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei, (Ag. Chancellor), and Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho (Ag. Vice-Chancellor).



Prof. Beatrice Manyasi, Dean School of Education

Mr. Zang who is the Chairman, Chinese Tourism Association; Madam Faiza Egge, the CEO of AmaniHoiva nongovernmental organization based in Finland and Vice-Chancellors of various universities amongst other dignitaries who graced the occasion.

The degrees conferred during the graduation ceremony consisted of twelve (12) doctorates, sixteen (16) Masters and one thousand five hundred and sixty-six (1566) Bachelors; while Diploma and Certificate level consisted of eighty-seven (87) and Sixty-five (65) graduands respectively. As a tradition of the University, in every graduation ceremony, the best overall student in academic excellence (valedictorian) is recognized. In the 2023 class, Mr. Garvir Singh, a student of Computer Science from the department of Computer and Information

Sciences was the graduation's valedictorian. We congratulate him once more for the sterling academic performance over the four years of his study. Overall, the gender distribution of the graduands comprised of nine hundred and forty-four (944) male while their female counterparts were eight hundred and two (802) graduands translating to 54% male and 46% female graduands respectively.

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Children entertaining crowd.



PhD Graduatnd with her supervisors Dr. Daniel N and Dr. Newton M.



Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei (Ag. Chancellor) awarding PhD during the graduation ceremony.



Chief guest with other VIPs



PhD Graduands during the graduation ceremony.



Mr. Garvir Singh, the best overall student in academic excellence (valedictorian) in the 2023 class,

MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY SHINES AT THE KENYA INNOVATION WEEK-COMMONWEALTH EDITION

Universities being the home of knowledge have been identified as key among the stakeholders that will see the Vision 2030 realized. To hasten the achievement of this vision, the country set up the Kenya National Innovation Agency (KeNIA) to work with other support agencies including NACOSTI and NRF to facilitate the development of the innovation culture in the country. One of the initial pathways was for KeNIA to establish the Kenya Innovation Week that has been an annual event since 2021 with this year being the Kenya Innovation Week 2023, Commonwealth Edition. The event took place at the Edge Convention Centre in Nairobi from 27th November to 1st December, 2023

The event brought together participants from Commonwealth states from across the globe with one shared slogan: 'Innovating to unlock our commonwealth'. This year's event was merged with the Youth Scientists Kenya Innovation Week that brought together young innovators from secondary schools around the country to showcase their innovations and interact with other innovators. A number of private and public universities including Maasai Mara University also registered to showcase their innovations. The event was opened by His Excellency the President of Kenya, Dr. William Ruto. In his introductory remarks, President Ruto expressed his excitement for the occasion, emphasizing its function in honoring the inventiveness of the Commonwealth while tackling obstacles and prospects in the realm of innovation. He emphasized how crucial it is to use innovation in order to realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

While citing the innovation masterplan, the president promised to support the key pillars identified as enablers to drive this masterplan including human capital, access to finance, access to markets and policy and regulation. Other keynote addresses were from Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs, Creative Arts and Sports Hon. Ababu Namwamba, EGH and The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth among others.

Maasai Mara University was not left behind as it showcased some of the patented innovations based on: Climate action and ICT inclusion for development from the university innovators. Through networking side events, fireside chats, keynote speeches, panel discussions, seminars, and exhibitions, the university shared knowledge and developed relationships that will aid in her innovative journeys.

Through the Innovation week and discussions between the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho and the CEO of KeNIA, Dr. Tony Omwansa, Maasai Mara University was privileged to be encompassed within an Institutional support program (IS) that will see the university develop a platform to support innovators and researchers commercialize their ideas. Already an inception meeting was held on December 13, 2023 to discuss the work plan for the development of the Institutional Entrepreneurial and commercialization masterplan with Maasai Mara University represented by Prof. Justus Simiyu, Mr. Omuse Galfen and Mr. Marjan Abdallah.

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A meeting between the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (Middle) and the CEO of KENIA, Dr. Tony Omwansa (Right) and the Director of Research and Innovation, Prof. Justus Simiyu. (Left)



Ag. Vice-chancellor Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho signing in at the Maasai Mara University KIW booth with Janet Kaelo, Prof. Justus Simiyu and Reinford Nyachio,



Mr. Reinford Nyachio Ateya a first-year innovator from Maasai Mara University at the Maasai Mara University Booth



Maasai Mara University team (From left, Mr. Marjan Abdallah, Mrs. Janet Kaelo, Mr. Galfen Omuse and Mr. Peter Burgei)



Mr. Marjan Abdallah, Mr. Galfen Omuse together with Dr. Tony Omwansa-CEO KeNIA and some of the KeNIA team members after the closing ceremony of the Kenya Innovation week.

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The CEO-KeNIA, Dr. Tony Omwansa challenged Maasai Mara University to spearhead a summit within the next Kenya Innovation Week based on her niche and strongholds. This was highly welcomed as Maasai Mara University has more than enough to showcase and partner with relevant stakeholders to foster and champion the R2C (Research to Commercialization) initiative.

In conclusion, Maasai Mara University must strongly hold the networks created during the Kenya Innovation Week and partake in the commercialization of innovations as well as

her research outputs with the expression of interest to join the cohorts of institutions that are moving towards building a conducive entrepreneurial enabling ecosystem. Maasai Mara University has started the journey towards Entrepreneurial University with support from top leadership. Already the Directorate of Research and Innovation has made steps by seeking to enjoin internal operations known as The Porter's Value Chain for Innovation commercialization.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY ANNUAL PRAYER DAY



The Chief Guest, Reverend Dawson Mudenyoo (3rd from Right) flanked by the Chairman of Council, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei (3rd from left), Acting Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho (2nd from Right), Bishop Augustine Rugutt (Extreme Right), Bishop Simon Monka (Extreme Left) and Bishop Abraham Sietenei (2nd from Left)

On 16th September 2023 the Acting Vice-Chancellor appointed a committee to plan for and execute the Maasai Mara University Annual Prayer Day whose theme was: Maasai Mara University, the University of a New Beginning. This followed the exhortation by the First Lady Her excellency Rachael Ruto that the university adds Maombi kwa Wote to the 4Ms that comprise the University's Community Impact model. The First Lady visited the university on the 7th August, 2023. The university has started the process of the implementation of the 5Ms Community Impact Model whose pillars are:

- i. Mau Forest conservation,
- ii. Maa Culture (a celebration of its various dimensions)

- iii. Maasai Mara National Game Reserve (Conservation and training)
- iv. Mara River (its sustainable management), and;
- v. Maombi Kwa Wote (fostering peace and reconciliation through prayer).

The Prayer Day, held on the 17th of December, 2023 was organized to launch the 5th M which is Maombi Kwa Wote as one of the pillars of the Community Impact Models (CIM). The Prayer Day was also organized to spiritually oversee the birthing of the prophesy of Prophet Cindy Jacobs who accompanied the First Lady, Her Excellency Mama Rachel Ruto during her visit to the university.

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The Chief Guest during the event was Reverend Dawson Mudenyio who is the Head of Faith Diplomacy at the Mama Doing Good while the hosting religious leader was Bishop Augustine Rugutt who led the congregation in a prayer of repentance. He shared that for the university to have a new beginning then both staff and students need to repent their sins.

He reiterated that the 5th M which was being implemented will be a game changer at the university. Other Religious leaders present included Bishop Samuel Monka and Bishop Abraham Sietenei.



Bishop Augustine Rugutt leading the congregation on a repentance prayer



Part of the congregation on their knees repenting their sins

Reverend Mudenyio read the speech of the First Lady which echoed the importance of the Religious Community in solving societal challenges such as climate change and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. In his preaching, Reverend Mudenyio reminded the congregation that throughout the Bible, the Kings who determined to enquire of God succeeded.

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Chief Guest, Reverend Dawson Mudenyio receiving a gift from the Chairman of Council, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei. Looking on is the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho.

The Prayer Day was attended by the Chairman of Council, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei, the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, The Dean School of Pure and Applied Sciences, Prof. Jonathan Oyaro also representing the Acting DVC (AF&S). Others included the Registrar (A&S), Mr. Samuel Partoip (Moderator of the programme), Registrar (AA), Dr. Otieno, Senators, Staff and Students.



The Chairman of the Prayer Day Committee, Dr. Belinda Kisia (in White with raised hand) during deep prayers.

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The Chief Guest Reverend Dawson Mudenyó (Middle) flanked by the Council Chair and Acting Vice-Chancellor during testing of the borehole commissioned by the First Lady, Her Excellency Rachel Ruto

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MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY COUNCIL VISITS UNIVERSITY LAND PARCELS

Between 18th and 20th December, 2023, the University Council visited three university parcels of land at Oletukat, Leshuta and Sekenani. The objective of visiting the pieces of land was to establish their location and possible utilization. The visits led by the Chairman of Council, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei started with the land at Oletukat in Narok North on the 18th of December where members held a meeting with the local community members who donated the land. It was observed that the land has great potential but there is no road leading to the land. The MCA of the area promised to look into the issue of the road. Council members also tasked the Acting Vice-Chancellor to follow the matter with the County government. The community expressed concern that the land was donated sometime back but the university has not utilized it. Council chairman promised them that the university will follow

up the construction of the road to facilitate utilization of the land.

The second visit on 19th December was to the land at Leshuta in Narok West. Again the Council members held a meeting with community leaders. They were happy that the university started fencing part of the land and has started some development on the land but lamented that the pace is too slow. They encouraged the council members to hasten development projects on the land to create more job opportunities for the locals. Community members were promised that they are going to see more activities by the university in the near future.

The visits concluded with the parcel of land at Sekinani, near the Mara Game Reserve on the 20th December, 2023.

The land has not been fenced but is strategically located. Members toured the



Council members in full Maasai regalia at Leshuta land. Left to Right: Ms. Agnes Busienei, Prof. P. Aloo-Obudho, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei (Council Chair), Ms. Elibeth Ayoo, Dr. Susan Chebet and Amb. Peter Nguraiya

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parcel of land after which a meeting was held to review the locations of the parcels of lands and possible utilization of each. Council members noted that each of the parcels has

unique features and should be put in to use to generate income for the university. They proposed the possible utilization of each parcel of land.



Council members led by the Chairman, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei (in White shirt) taking a break at Keekorok Hotel after the tour of Leshuta Land.



Some council members take a walk through the breaths taking river bank at Leshuta land

MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY ACTING VICE-CHANCELLOR PROF. PENINAH ALOO-OBUDHO JOINED NAROK GOVERNOR IN TREE PLANTING EXERCISE AT ENOOSUPUKIA



Agnes Busienei- University Council member and the Acting VC, Prof. Peninah Aloo- obudho in a tree planting Exercise at Enoosupukia Forest

On November 13, 2023, Maasai Mara University Vice-Chancellor Prof. P. Aloo-obudho joined H.E. Patrick Ole Ntutu, Governor of Narok, in a huge tree-planting initiative directed by His Excellency the president of the Republic of Kenya, Dr. William Ruto.

The Governor of Narok , His Excellency Patrick Ole Ntutu and Principal Secretary Abubakar Hassan Abubakar of the State Department for Investment Promotion oversaw the planting of 100,000 trees at the Enoosupukia Forest alongside a member of Council, Ms. Agnes Busienei, members of the senate, university management, staff, students, other county leaders and members of the local community. The university donated 5,000 tree seedlings for planting, as well as the opportunity for around 50 staff members and a minimum of 100 students to take part in the activity.

Under the direction of the Acting Vice-Chancellor, who is passionate about



Participants planting trees at the Enoosupukia Forest

environmental conservation, Maasai Mara University is leading the way in Narok County's environmental conservation efforts, and this event demonstrates the dedication of the university towards the Presidential directive of planting 15billion trees by the year 2032.The University is currently undertaking a project on Greening Narok County. In addition to improving the environment, the Narok County tree planting project will help improve the socioeconomic standing of the neighborhood. The project will equip schools, youths and women groups with skills to establish a tree nursery as a source of income.

Given that the world is currently experiencing a climate catastrophe and that immediate action is required to lessen its impacts, the significance of this event cannot be

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Participants planting trees at the Enoosupukia Forest

over-emphasized. To counteract deforestation, safeguard watersheds, and enhance soil quality, the nation plans to plant 15 billion trees, of which Narok County will plant 100,000.

Additionally, the planting of trees will directly improve the biodiversity and environment of the area. Planting trees will lessen soil erosion, improve degraded areas, and create habitats for wildlife. By removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, the planting of trees will also aid in

reducing the effects of climate change. Maasai Mara University hosts the region's Center of Excellence in Tree Nursery Management with a modern Model Tree Nursery which is a project of partnership between 'Mama Doing Good' and organization associated with the First Lady. The facility is poised to produce 1,000,000 tree seedlings annually and with the support of Mama Doing Good, KEFRI NEMA and other organizations. Speaking after the exercise, the Ag. VC assured the country of her commitment to lead the University and South rift region in reclaiming the Mau forest and establishing 100 environmental clubs in schools in Narok County. PS Abubakar called on the people of Narok to plant trees as a means of addressing climate change. He spoke on behalf of Honorable Rebecca Miano, Cabinet Secretary for Investment, Trade, and Industry. The Governor of Narok affirmed his commitment towards the Presidential Directive and appealed to members of the community surrounding the forest to take care of the trees.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PLANT TREES IN THE UNIVERSITY



Maasai Mara University Council Chairman Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei, council members, the Ag. VC Prof. Peninah Aloo-Obudho and staff members launching tree planting exercise in the University on the 30th November, 2023

As an extension of the tree planting day, the Chairman of Council, Dr. Kennedy Ole Kerei led the council members to plant trees at the university.



He committed that the council will support the tree planting initiative by the university

ACHIEVEMENTS BY MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS



In the year 2022 – 2023, Maasai Mara University researchers were involved in a number of research activities that have greatly contributed to increased global visibility of the University. These include attraction of research grants, publication and attendance of conferences.

Prof. Romulus Abila is a Professor of environmental biology in the School of Natural Resources, Environmental Studies and Agriculture. He is currently involved in National Geographic Society (NGS) and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) funded research project studying the ecology of water pans in the Narok socio- ecological systems. Water pans in Kenya's arid and semi-arid Narok socio-ecological system provide vital sources of water to humans, wildlife and livestock. Land use changes such as increased conversion of pastoral land into crop farming are a major source of nutrient inputs into these limnetic systems and with increasing temperatures episodes of algal blooming may

be experienced. Proliferation of toxin producing algal blooms may heavily compromise quality of these water bodies and their ability to provide life supporting ecosystem services.

During the year we received a 6 physical – chemical YSI Sonde parameter from TWAS as part of the research grant equipment support.

Conferences participation: Attended the 3 week 2023 International Workshop on the Frontiers in Ecohydrology at the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chongqing, China.

Ecohydrology is becoming a fast rising multidisciplinary approach to tackling emerging climate change induced water based environmental challenges such as urban flood management, wastewater treatment, lake, river and reservoir management and agricultural production by developing and applying scalable and transferable sustainable nature based approaches.

Prof Abila attended the 13th African Network for Internationalization of Education (ANIE) Conference in Zanzibar 4th -6th October 2023.

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His presentation explored the need to strengthen postgraduate studies in African universities if our universities are to produce skilled researchers in the continent. It is noted that Africa still does not produce critical masses of master and PhDs especially in the STEM disciplines to spearhead research and innovations to address existing and emerging development challenges in the continent. There is need for paradigm shift in the way postgraduate training is conducted in Africa.

Mutually beneficial collaborations initiated and led by global South universities, establishment of Centres of research Excellence (CoEs), enhancing intra and inter African mobility of scholars including virtual based mobility, training of postgraduate supervisors, joint postgraduate programmes and promoting high impact Africa based research journals are some envisaged strategies that can contribute to training of high numbers of globally competitive African scholars.

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING HAS ENHANCED GOOD PERFORMANCE BY THE STUDENTS IN MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY.



Maasai Mara University students engaging in Group discussions. Photo/Samwel Bwire

Maasai Mara University adopted the present-day education system by shifting from a teacher-centric approach, where the teacher is the sole holder and diffuser of knowledge, to a more student-centric approach with each student being at the helm of their learning process and this has brought overall development of students making them not only to be ready for examinations but also for the future.

Collaborative learning is an approach that involves two or more individuals coming together to understand a common learning concept and complete a common task. Through collaborative learning, students can bank upon each others resources, expertise and skills to fulfil the task. Through collaborative learning, students can bank upon each others resources, expertise and skills to fulfil the task. There is always joint ownership of responsibilities and

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failures, if any. Students work independently on different parameters and evaluate each others work to improve the quality of output. Collaborative learning can occur peer-to-peer or in larger groups. Peer learning, or peer instruction, is a type of collaborative learning that involves students working in pairs or small groups to discuss concepts or find solutions to problems. Similar to the idea that two or three heads are better than one, educational researchers have found that through peer instruction, students teach each other by addressing misunderstandings and clarifying misconceptions. Truly, group discussions have brought good performance by the students in their studies in the higher learning institutions. Often indirectly students have been forced to memorization at time to often which curtails their critical thinking, creativity, and cognitive abilities since major focus is on the result but with the adoption of collaborative learning, the majority of the time, student are gaining understanding, solutions, and creating something together thus overcoming the shortcomings in traditional methods of education that includes memorization techniques for learning, and a lack of important skills among the students such as. Research shows that educational experiences that are active, social, contextual, engaging, and student-owned lead to deeper learning. The collaborative learning methods in the University includes, group discussions, working on projects, conducting plays/Drama, Games and competitions among many others and they have enhanced celebration of diversity, interpersonal development, confidence and communication among the students. The lecturers are playing a key role in achievement of this success by forming groups in a way that involves diversity, giving opportunities and tasks that promote collaborative learning.

They also offer resources and materials through the University Library to the students and they conduct assessment of the students in groups. In conclusion, Henry Ford correctly pointed out that: coming together is the beginning, keeping together is progress. Collaborative learning is gaining importance in various institutions of higher learning in Kenya as it helps to focus on various learning aspects of the students. It helps them to improve teamwork, cognitive skills, public speaking skills, and critical thinking. Further, the students are responsible for the ideas and concepts that they build along with better learning outcomes.

EMBRACE CREATIVE WRITING TO IMPACT SOCIETY POSITIVELY



L-R; Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic and Students Affairs Prof. Bulitia Godrick Mathews receive copies of 'Majini wa Mijini na Hadithi Nyingine' from a Kiswahili Senior Lecturer Dr. Nancy Ayodi and Third-Year Student Kevin Akuti.

Students and members of staff have been urged to embrace creative writing as a means of exposing societal evils as well as broadening search for solutions to values erosion in the society.

Speaking during the official unveiling of copies of a Kiswahili publication of short stories dubbed 'Majini wa Mijini na Hadithi Nyingine' at his office, the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic and Students Affairs Prof. Bulitia Godrick Mathews, called on scholars and university students to use creative writing as a tool to inspire positive outcome in people's lives. He officially received hard copies of the book whose two main stories have been contributed

by a member of faculty and an undergraduate student.

"It is encouraging to see a lecturer mentoring a student into the creative world not just teaching them on creative writing at class level. As the Academic Division and Maasai Mara University in general, we are proud to notice such talents that are nurtured and well utilized. We commit to fully support creativity and literary innovations especially those emanating from our students. I have bought a number of print copies so that many will access the knowledge from the University Library,' Prof. Bulitia lauded. He further advised undergraduate students to grasp creative writing ventures following the

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footsteps of Kevin Akuti, a Third-Year student pursuing Bachelor of Arts with Guidance and Counselling (Kiswahili and History), whose story 'Machozi ya Majuto' carries weighty messages and lessons to campus students on living a meaningful University life.

Dr. Nancy Ayodi is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Languages, Linguistics and Culture -School of Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Creative Industries. She wrote a story: 'Wimbi la Sokomoko', a short story that reveals the inhumane acts and events that surrounded the post-election violence in Kenya. It also serves as a wakeup call to those leaders and citizens who preach divisive politics.

"I am thrilled to witness my student and co-author celebrate his first literary work. Kevin's passion for creative writing is an embodiment of talents that we can tap and thus enhance database of our future scholars," Dr. Ayodi marveled.

She affirmed the need for increased awareness on the role of electronic books in enhancing reading culture dismissing the belief that reading culture declines with technological advancements in the publishing industry.

Kevin has braved the odds associated with People Living with Disabilities proving that he is abled differently by realizing this achievement. He has great leadership traits as he also serves as a class representative for both Kiswahili and History classes.



"I developed my passion in creative writing after reading several Kiswahili titles of my mentor the late Professor Ken Walibora. This short story that I have published (Machozi ya Majuto) will catapult my dream of becoming a renowned global writer and therefore mentor other young imaginative writers," Akuti expressed optimism. Nurturing and maximum utilization of talents in campus against engaging in immoral or illegal activities in Universities, is a call that Kevin made to his peers saying that it is the only move that can assure them of unwavering academic excellence and integrity dominance.

OPEN DOOR POLICY ENHANCES SERVICE DELIVERY



The DVC ASA Prof. Bulitia Godrick Mathews (R) leads a Performance Contract targets achievement consultative forum with Deans of Schools and Directors of Directorates at his office boardroom

Members of faculties, students, staff and visitors enjoy an open-door policy embodied by the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic and Students Affairs Prof. Bulitia Godrick Mathews. This leadership approach has bred smooth day-to-day running of office and thus realising the core mandate of Maasai Mara University through spearheading actualization of the University Niche: "Tourism, Environmental Resource Management and Conservation". Visitors often stream in from across the globe seeking to pitch partnerships and collaborations with the University, benchmark on academic excellence strategies, share compliments and diverse concerns among other numerous enquiries. Additionally; students, parents and guardians too often find pleasure leaving the

office relaxed and relieved of burdens they were carrying before being ushered into the office. Indeed, the office serves as a one stop shop for crucial information on student academic fineness and welfare matters.

Staff unions and Maasai Mara University Student Association (MMUSA) enjoy being received even for impromptu consultations and meetings meant to handle urgent and pressing matters. A case in point is the University Academic Staff Union (UASU) and the Kenya Universities Staff Union (KUSU) and MMUSA who often make courtesy calls and walk-ins seeking guidance on issues associated with quality of teaching and learning, research, creativity and innovation, consultancy services.

THE INAUGURATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (APSOMMU) OF MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2023.

The Association of Political Science and public administration of Maasai Mara University thrives within the dynamic domain of the Humanities and Public Administration section, operating under the esteemed umbrella of the Social Studies Department. Guided by visionary leadership from the Head of Department Dr. Kungu Ndungu a lecturer of political history and an advocate of good governance, and Patron, Dr Towett Geoffrey , a lecturer of political science, this Association was inaugurated in collaboration with Association of political science of the University of Kabianga under the leadership of Dr. Thomas Juma, lecturer of political science and public administration. The inception of this association marks a significant stride towards fostering inter-university linkages and collaboration. Serving as a pivotal hub for professional exchange, the department facilitates a vibrant community of scholars dedicated to the rigorous exploration and advancement of political science and public administration. The Association of political science and public administration of Maasai Mara University stands as a testament to the institution's commitment to academic excellence, providing a platform for intellectual exchange, research collaboration, and the cultivation of a rich academic community. As it continues to grow and evolve, the association plays a crucial role in shaping the future of political science and public administration, public policy and research within the university and beyond.

MOTTO:

“The culmination of meticulous planning, dedication, and a shared commitment to intellectual advancement, setting the stage for a vibrant community of scholars at the forefront of political thought and public governance”.

VISION AND MISSION:

The Association of Political Science and Public Administration of Maasai Mara University is a beacon of intellectual curiosity, fostering critical thinking and analytical skills. The association is a hub of intellectual discourse and a driving force for innovative policy solutions, aiming to bridge the gap between theory and practice. Through seminars, workshops, and collaborative research projects, it seeks to enrich the academic experience of its members while contributing valuable insights to the broader community.

STI DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP PARTNERSHIP INKED

Research in scientific, technology, innovation (STI) development as well as entrepreneurship strengthening and streamlining is set to flourish at Maasai Mara University after it inked a collaboration with Hubei University of Economics.

This was actualised through signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by the Acting Vice Chancellor Professor Peninah Aloo-Obudho and the Vice President to Hubei University of Economics Professor Fu Hong.

The collaboration bores: exchange programs for both undergraduate and postgraduate students, enhancing joint conferences, workshops and seminars; boost research outputs among other academic oriented mutual benefits.

The colourful ceremony was held at the Maasai Mara University Conference Hall, witnessed by members of the university senate led by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic and Students Affairs Professor Bulitia Godrick Mathews and tens of delegates from Hubei University of Economics.

Unique gifts that have high value and admiration to each partner were exchanged as a sign of goodwill and affirmation to implement and uphold terms of the collaboration.



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DESIGNED AND DEVELOPED BY:
MR. ANIL KUMAR

CONTACT

MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY
P. O. BOX 861-20500
NAROK, KENYA
TEL: (254) 20 5131400
Email: newsletter@mmarau.ac.ke