



EGERTON UNIVERSITY

NEWSLINK

www.egerton.ac.ke

Issue No. 115

29 November 2024

The 48th GRADUATION

Celebrating 85 Years of Academic Excellence, Innovation, Research and Community Impact



- Egerton Students Share Transformative Experiences in Oslo
- My Legal Journey at Egerton
- Postgraduate Students Awarded International Scholarships



EGERTON UNIVERSITY

Welcomes all Graduands

OF THE 48TH GRADUATION CEREMONY TO JOIN
the

EGERTON UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Egerton University Alumni Association (EUAA) was founded in 1984 by former students of Egerton College. The Association serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas amongst members, staff, and students of Egerton University. It promotes the image and integrity of the University and engages the Alumni and other stakeholders in the physical development of the University.

VISION

To create and sustain a network of connected alumni who call others to action in support of Egerton University.

MISSION

The contribution of alumni to society represents the true value of any institution of higher learning. EUAA Alumni are present in all sectors of the economy and spread all over the world. They constitute a vast wealth of knowledge, experience, influence, and resources. They have a common bond – Egerton University. They can be of great value to one another. The Association endeavours to unleash this potential to the benefit of its members, the University, and the greater community, by cultivating life-long relationships, motivating participation, and creating opportunities for a continuous connection with the University, its Alumni, and the community.

MEMBERSHIP AND ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

Membership in EUAA is the gateway for Egerton Alumni involvement in the affairs of the University. It is a commitment that Members make to support the University and each other. The Association aggressively works towards increasing the number of Alumni Life Members and strives to offer valuable benefits and services to attract and retain alumni as Members. The Association recognises students as alumni in residence and therefore supports current students and works to improve the quality of the students' experience at the University.

The Association is open to the following as stipulated in its Constitution:

- Egerton University graduates;
- Egerton University academic and administrative staff
- Individuals and organizations interested in the development of Egerton University as a premier institution of higher learning ("friends of Egerton").

The Association focuses its efforts in ways that reach the largest concentrations of Alumni by actively engaging in programmes such as continuing education, career networking, student recruitment, and fund raising.

COMMUNICATIONS

As the voice for more than 80,000 Egerton Alumni worldwide, the Association strives to keep Alumni informed about the University and the Association affairs.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees are as follows:

- Ordinary Membership : Ksh 1,000.00
- Associate Membership : Ksh 1,500.00
- Life Membership : Ksh 7,500.00
- Corporate Membership : Ksh 15,000.00

While Ordinary Membership and Associate Membership fee is paid annually, Life membership and Corporate Membership fee is paid once.

Membership fees may be directly deposited in the Association's account at the Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB) account: EUAA No. 1139956078.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Alumni benefits include:

- Networking opportunities for professional development;
- Certificate of Membership and University Alumni badge (LAPEL);
- Access to discounted Alumni-branded items;
- Participation in the governance of the University and of the Alumni Association;
- Regular updates through Alumni newsletters, SMSs, emails, telephone, and social media;
- Recognition through Distinguished Leadership Awards.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Alumni Relations Office
Egerton University
P.O. Box 536 – 20115
Egerton, KENYA
Telephone +254 110 732343
Email: alumni.relations@egerton.ac.ke

Editorial i
 Message from the Chancellor 1
 Message from the Council 1
 Office of the Vice-Chancellor 2
 Message from the Vice-Chancellor..... 2
 Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilisation 3
 ISO Secretariat 5
 Directorate of Quality Assurance..... 6
 News from Across the University..... 8
 Vice-Chancellor Welcomes First-Year Students..... 8
 First Cohort of TAGDev 2.0 Students Begin Their Studies
By Nancy W. Mungai..... 9
 Egerton University Excels at Nakuru National ASK Show
By Musa Kurian 10
 Our Win Was Shaped by Learning at Egerton
By Agnes Mwangi 12
 Division of Academics, Research and Extension 15
 Message from the DVC (AR&E) 15
 Ph.D. Graduands 36
 Nakuru City Campus College 46
 Message from the Principal, NCCC.... 46
 Division of Administration, Finance and Planning 49
 Message from the DVC (AF&P)..... 49
 Egerton University's Partners and Sponsors..... 53

Front cover photo: Ph.D. graduands, accompanied by their Supervisors, with the Chancellor, Dr Narendra Raval (centre left) and the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage, pose for a group photo during the 47th Graduation Ceremony held on 27 October 2023 in the Graduation Square, Main Campus, Njoro.

GRADUATION STATISTICS	
Doctorates	31
Masters	172
Postgraduate Diplomas	5
Bachelors	3,180
Diplomas	152
Total	3,540

Egerton Should Work to Widen Its Pool of Partners and Sponsors

The *Newslink* for the 48th Graduation of Egerton University contains an elaborate list of the University's Partners and Sponsors. In publishing the list, the University wishes to acknowledge the role of partnerships as a cornerstone in its determination to fulfil its Vision of a world-class university for the advancement of humanity and its Mission to generate knowledge and offer exemplary education and training to society for national and global development. Equally importantly, the University would like to recognise the input of Sponsors in the success of its students.

We at the *Newslink* wish to take this opportunity to appreciate the University's decision to highlight its relationship with both its Partners and its Sponsors because, as it is well known, it is inconceivable for a university to function effectively in the twenty-first century in isolation. It is precisely within the context of a wide range of linkages and collaborations that institutions of higher learning like Egerton University can operate on the cutting edge of the origination, packaging, storage, and dissemination of knowledge.

It is critical that the University not only reinforces its relationships with its existing Partners but also works to bring in even more Partners for various reasons. To begin with, through partnerships with local and international institutions, Egerton will be able to exchange ideas with scholars and practitioners beyond the classroom and at the highest level possible. Secondly, through partnerships with the industry, the University can most effectively channel and/or transform its innovations into their practical counterparts on the ground. Third, partnerships are important because they offer opportunities for staff development as well as training of students through academic exchanges, field trips, field attachments, and internships. Finally, there is no way a university like Egerton can be truly relevant to society at large unless it engages with the world on a wide scale through community service and extension work.

The relationship between a university like Egerton and its Sponsors is equally important. The financial backgrounds of most Kenyan students and the many demands on government resources are such that the need for financial support for university education from beyond the government coffers is critical. Therefore, scholarships awarded by Sponsors to deserving students can fill the gap and enable students to access and complete their education on time.

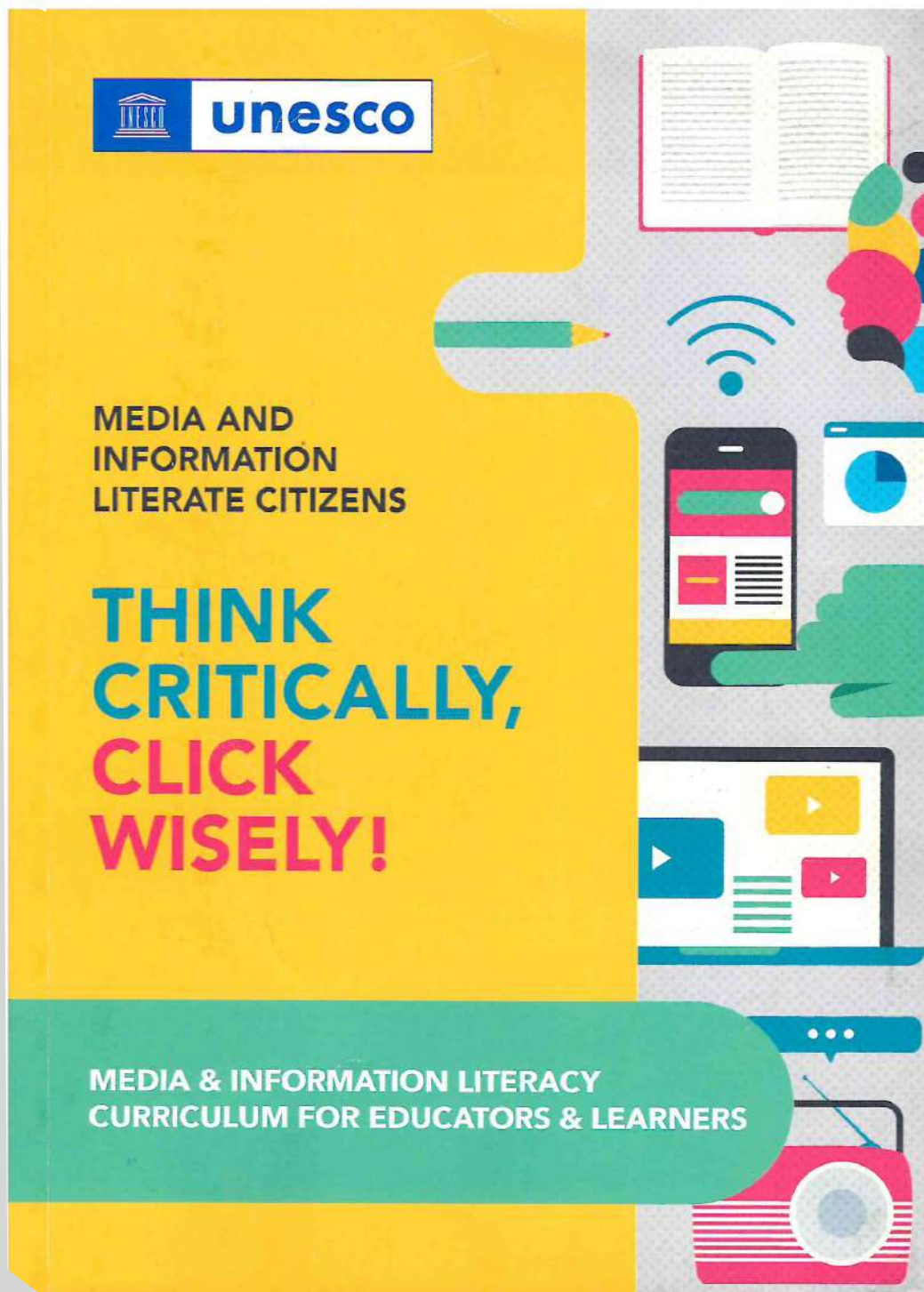
In view of the above, the University units that are mandated with establishing, maintaining, or building up relationships with Partners, as well as attracting Sponsors, should redouble their efforts in that respect. These include Research and Extension, the Directorate of Linkages and Collaborations, and the Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilisation.

VISION
 A world-class university for the advancement of humanity

MISSION
 To generate knowledge and offer exemplary education and training to society for national and global development

CORE VALUES
 The University's activities and decisions will be guided by the following core values:
 National unity and social fairness; Integrity, transparency and accountability; Professionalism; Internationalism; Passion for excellence and devotion to duty; Team work; Passion for environmental conservation; Innovativeness and creativity

UNESCO Pushes for Global Citizenship through Media and Information Literacy



Egerton University was among participating Kenyan Universities which attended a Workshop on Media and Information Literacy (MIL) held at the Eseriani Resorts & Hotels in Naivasha from 31 October to 2 November 2024. The Workshop, convened by UNESCO and the Commission for University Education, emphasized the need for universities to empower their students with the knowledge and skills required for them to become global citizens in the twenty-first century digital environment. The book pictured above, published by UNESCO, is a major resource from which universities can draw to introduce appropriate MIL courses in their curricular.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

A Journey of Achievement and Lifelong Connections



Dr Narendra Raval

On behalf of the entire Egerton University community, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each one of you for reaching this remarkable milestone. Today, we celebrate your success in earning Diplomas, Bachelors, Masters, and

Doctoral degrees. You have come to a significant turning point in your academic and professional journey, and we are immensely proud of your achievements.

For those of you graduating with postgraduate degrees, this day promises the beginning of a purposeful career. Your decision to pursue further studies at Egerton University was a wise investment in your future. Here, you have not only expanded your knowledge but also cultivated the skills and mindset necessary for leadership and innovation in today's dynamic world. To those who have completed undergraduate studies, I encourage you to consider returning to Egerton for your postgraduate education.

As you step into the next phase of your lives, I urge all of you to remain connected to this great institution by joining the Egerton University Alumni Association. The benefits of becoming a member are immense. Through the

Alumni Association, you can network with other successful alumni, engage in career development opportunities, and contribute to the University's future growth and success. The Alumni Association also provides you with a platform to give back to the community that has supported your academic journey.

As we celebrate your outstanding achievements, I would like to express my gratitude to your parents, spouses, children, and friends for their unwavering support and sacrifices. Special thanks are extended to our dedicated faculty and staff, whose contributions have been vital to your success.

Congratulations once again! I wish you all the best as you continue to make a meaningful impact in the world. ■

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL

Graduation is a Cornerstone in the Academic Life of a University

The Egerton University Council extends its warmest congratulations to you, our graduands, on your significant achievement. Today marks the culmination of your hard work, determination, and perseverance. We are deeply honoured to celebrate with you during this 48th Graduation Ceremony.

As the University Council, we are entrusted with ensuring that Egerton University remains a dynamic institution capable of contributing to building our nation. Through strategic decisions – whether in policy approvals, staff employment, or resource management – we work to provide a solid foundation for the University's growth and the success of its students. Our efforts are designed to

guarantee that the institution you graduate from continues to thrive, thus elevating the value of the education and credentials you have earned.

Graduation ceremonies, like this one, are a cornerstone in the academic life of any university. Each ceremony is not only a celebration of individual achievement but also a moment when the institution reflects on its contributions to society through the success of its graduates. These ceremonies remind us of the critical role we play in shaping the next generation of leaders, innovators, and thinkers.

As you move into the next phase of your life, you can be confident that Egerton University is evolving alongside you. The Council remains dedicated to

advancing our partnerships, collaborations, and innovations to ensure that Egerton University maintains its place at the forefront of higher education.

To you, our graduands, we wish you success and fulfilment in all your future endeavours. As you leave here today, know that you carry with you the values and skills necessary to make a meaningful impact in your workplace and the world at large. We trust that the education and experiences you have gained at Egerton will guide you as you pursue your future goals.

Congratulations once again!

Embrace the Future with Purpose and Courage



Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage

It is with immense pride that I congratulate you, our esteemed graduands, on completing your studies. You have reached a major milestone in your lives. Today, as you stand among the over 3,500 fellow graduands, we celebrate not just your academic accomplishments but your

resilience, determination, and ability to overcome the challenges of our time. The 48th Graduation Ceremony is a reflection of your tenacity, and we honour the courage that has brought you here.

Throughout your time at Egerton University, we have been committed to supporting your growth and success. From the renovation of our lecture theatres to the dissemination of cutting-edge knowledge, we have worked diligently to create an environment that encourages critical thinking, innovation, and collaboration. Our efforts were designed to equip you with the tools you need to thrive, and today's ceremony is a testament to how you embraced these opportunities.

Your time here has not only been about academic learning; it has also been about shaping you into leaders ready to make a difference in the world. Some of you have already begun this journey,

contributing to your communities through university-led projects that have fostered impact-driven leadership. You represent the very best of Egerton, and we are proud of the ways you have applied your knowledge to uplift others.

As you close this educational chapter, the world before you is full of potential. You are stepping into an ever-changing landscape that requires adaptability, creativity, and a bold spirit. Whether you choose to pursue entrepreneurship or bring fresh ideas to your chosen professions, I urge you to continue walking with purpose. The world needs your innovation, integrity, and energy now more than ever.

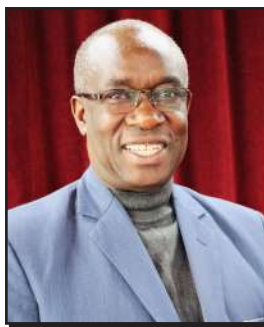
Remember, this is just the beginning. Move forward with confidence, knowing that you carry with you the values and education that will empower you to make a lasting difference.

Congratulations once again on your remarkable achievement! ■

Chief Officers of the University



Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage
Vice-Chancellor



Prof. Bernard O. Aduda
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Academics, Research & Extension)



Prof. Richard M.S. Mulwa
Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Administration, Finance & Planning)



Prof. Joshua O. Ogendo
Principal
Nakuru City Campus College



Prof. Mwanarusi Saidi
Registrar
(Academic Affairs)



Mr Leonard K. Chesang
Ag. Registrar (Human
Capital & Administration)



Prof. Isabel N. Wagara
Ag. Director
(Research & Extension)



Ms Janegrace Kinyanjui
University Librarian



Mr Charles K. Wanjohi
Ag. Chief Finance Officer

Varsity Initiates Collaboration with Safaricom Foundation



Prof. Nzula Kitaka

On behalf of the Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilisation, I extend heartfelt congratulations to the graduands of the 48th Graduation Ceremony. Your accomplishments fill us with pride. We invite you to remain connected to Egerton University through the Egerton University Alumni Association (EUAA) – a vibrant network that fosters opportunities for mentorship, professional growth, and meaningful contributions to the University and the society at large. Our Directorate has registered notable achievements across key areas, and we continue to uphold Egerton's Vision and Mission. Outlined below are some of our achievements this year.

Vice-Chancellor Hands Over Conserved Forest to Narok County Government

Earlier this year, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage, officially handed over the conserved forested area at the source of River Njoro in Entiyani, Narok North Constituency, to the Narok County Government. The event, attended by officials from the County Government, marked a milestone in the University's conservation efforts. The Chief Officer of Environment for Narok County, representing Governor Patrick Ntutu, received the forest site, signifying

a crucial partnership between academia and local governance in preserving natural resources. Hon. Soipan Tuya, then Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Climate Change, emphasized the importance of protecting water sources, urging the community to safeguard the river for future generations.

The University also transferred another conserved area at Ng'ondu to Nakuru County. The Nakuru County Executive for Environment, Hon. Nelson Maara, thanked the University for its proactive collaboration in environmental conservation, reinforcing the joint efforts between the University and local governments in the restoration of vital ecosystems.

Egerton University's 9th Annual Run for Mau

Conservation efforts were further celebrated during Egerton University's 9th Annual Run for Mau, held on 2 March 2024. This environmental awareness event drew attention to the critical role the University plays in preserving the

Mau ecosystem. A delegation of distinguished personalities was in attendance. The Run highlighted the success of community engagement in environmental restoration.

Resilience in Latest Webometric Rankings

Egerton University secured the 5th position in Kenya in the July 2024 Webometric Rankings, ranking 2876 globally. The Webometric Rankings assess over 30,000 institutions around the world based on web presence and academic influence, focusing on three key criteria: Visibility/Impact, Transparency/Openness, and Excellence/Scholar. In visibility, the University took 44th position in Africa. It made significant improvements in Transparency/Openness, rising to 131st in Africa. This improvement reflects the growing influence of Egerton's researchers and their contribution to academia. The University continues to focus on academic excellence, community engagement, and innovation,



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage (third from left, front row), and Assistant Chief of Entiyani Location, Mr Leposo ole Koila, inspect a livestock watering trough as part of the Njoro River Source Restoration project at Entiyani in Narok County. The inspection took place on 23 February 2024 during the handover ceremony of the rehabilitated site.



Participants take off at the starting line of the 9th edition of the Mau-Egerton University Cross Country, held on 2 March 2024 at the Sports Ground, Main Campus, Njoro.

striving to elevate its global standing further.

Safaricom Foundation on Benchmarking Tour

On 19 September 2024, Egerton University welcomed a delegation from the Safaricom Foundation. The benchmarking visit was intended to foster collaboration between academia and the corporate world. The tour, led by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage and coordinated by Director of Marketing and Resource Mobilisation Prof. Nzula Kitaka, explored the University's Income Generating Units (IGUs) and potential areas for partnership.

Safaricom Foundation, which sponsors students from high school to university, was impressed with Egerton's IGUs, including the Agro-Science Park, Dairy Unit, and ARC Hotel. The delegation was guided by the Director of IGUs, Prof. George Owuor, who showcased the University's ability to blend academic pursuits with real-world enterprise. The Safaricom Foundation was particularly interested in Egerton's sustainable resource mobilization efforts, recognizing the synergy between the two institutions.

The VC hailed the visit as a fruitful opportunity for mutual learning and collaboration. The Safaricom Foundation's dedication to social impact aligns closely with Egerton's objective of creating sustainable development through education, research, and community engagement. Both institutions expressed optimism about future collaborations, particularly in areas such as research, technological innovation, and community-focused initiatives.

The visit underscored the importance of partnerships in driving innovation and equipping students with the skills needed for future success. It highlighted the potential for long-term collaborations that extend beyond the University's walls, paving the way for transformative partnerships that benefit both academia and the corporate sector.

School Visit Programme Welcomes Over 21,000 Students

Egerton University's School Visit Programme has this year hosted a remarkable 21,803 students from 329 schools across Kenya. The programme aims to inspire young minds and introduce them to the diverse fields of study available at the University. High

school students toured all departments, gaining insights into their prospective career paths.

The visits include interactive sessions, demonstrations, and discussions with faculty members, showcasing the University's commitment to fostering an early interest in higher education and career development. The initiative also aligns with Egerton's goal to make impactful contributions to society by motivating the next generation of learners. This year's large turnout underscores the programme's growing popularity and its pivotal role in bridging secondary education with higher learning opportunities.

These notable achievements reflect the Directorate's unwavering commitment to advancing Egerton's strategic goals, fostering partnerships, and mobilizing resources for the institution's sustainable growth. As we celebrate the accomplishments of our graduands, we also look forward to expanding our collaborative efforts and strengthening Egerton's position as a leader in higher education and its societal impact. ■

Secretariat Embraces ERP Software Tools in Automation of ISO Standards Processes



Prof. Paul M. Makenzi

The ISO Secretariat congratulates the 2024 graduands for a job well done. As the Coordinator of the Secretariat, I take this opportunity to wish you all the best as you venture into the wider world subsequent to your graduation. I have no doubt in my mind that you will utilize the skills you have acquired from your education to stimulate positive change in the community of humanity at large.

The ISO Secretariat is mandated with the responsibility of coordinating the implementation of ISO standards at Egerton University and its campuses. In its strategic plan of 2018 – 2023, the University undertook to implement four ISO Standards, namely the ISO 9001:2015 – Quality Management Systems (QMS); the ISO 22001:2018 – Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS); the ISO 14001:2015 – Environmental Management Systems (EMS); and the ISO 2701: 2013 – Information Security Management Systems (ISMS). The University was certified in two of the above standards, i.e., QMS and FSMS. At the beginning of 2022, these standards were in the process of being implemented effectively, and, in addition, the process of transiting to the ISO 9001:2015QMS was already under way. However, due

to unforeseen challenges, most of the ISO secretariat tasks that had been scheduled to proceed to the next levels could not be sustained. Among them was the transition of ISO 9001:2008QMS to 9001:2015 and the completion of ISO 14001:2015 EMS and ISO 2701:2013 ISMS. But in August 2022, the University Management, through the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, embarked on ambitious efforts to revitalize the stalled processes.

Revitalization of ISO Secretariat Activities

The first step in realizing the University's commitment to ISO Standards was the appointment of a new ISO Secretariat by the Vice-Chancellor.

The new Coordinator, Prof. Paul M. Makenzi, was assigned the responsibility of ensuring that the University was back on course in securing the ceased ISO certificates. The process was expected to begin with the revitalization of the ISO 9001:2015 QMS, which is deemed to be the flagship ISO standard because it cuts across all the key sectors of the University operations.

Progress Towards ISO 9001: 2015 QMS Certification

In mid-2023, the ISO Secretariat Coordinator submitted a proposal to the Vice-Chancellor for recertification of the University's QMS, which was approved. Subsequently, the Coordinator approached the Management of the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), which is the ISO certifying body in Kenya, to provide the University with the requirements. In response, KEBS referred the University to KEBS's National Quality Institute (NQI). For its part, NQI provided the University with the required guidelines, which included the

quotation for the required trainings, a mandatory prerequisite for QMS certification.

Thanks to the University Management Board, a KEBS budget as per their quotation was approved, an ISO QMS Project Lead Team was appointed, and the certification and implementation process was kick-started.

I am glad to report that we are progressing very well towards ISO 9001:2015 QMS certification. We started in earnest on 15 May 2024 with a session in which the KEBS-NQI facilitators conducted a briefing /training session for the University Management Board. Subsequently, 112 ISO QMS implementers were trained. This was in addition to trainings of 20 internal auditors (17 others were already trained) and 10 lead auditors (5 others were already trained). Finally, a QMS Project Team was appointed and assigned the responsibility of undertaking QMS staff sensitization training. In this respect, the trainees included 223 academic staff members, 334 administration and technical staff members, and 91 support staff members.

These ISO QMS trainings, which are mandatory requirements on the part of University staff members, have been achieved. What is remaining now is the documentation of the Secretariat's achievements in that respect and the practical implementation of the Secretariat's findings.

Embracing the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software in the Automation of ISO Standards

The term “Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)” is used to refer to a type of software that organizations use for efficient and effective management of day-to-day activities. In addition, the

term describes the processes involved in enhanced productivity. A complete ERP outfit incorporates enterprise performance management through software that helps in planning, budgeting, prediction, and reporting on organizations' financial results.

The ISO Secretariat, working together with the University's Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilization, has been approached by the University's ICT Department to consider embracing the ERP software in the automation of activities and processes for ease and efficient way of operation.

Towards this effort, the ICT

Department has organized for needs assessment meetings with the ERP software service providers.

Upon the ERP software services providers' request to identify areas where ERP software can be applied in our ISO Secretariat, we have already prepared for submission of a detailed list of our ISO Secretariat activities of standards certification and implementation. These include trainings, documentation, audits (internal, external, surveillance, and certification), management reviews, and pop-up reminders. In each one of these respects, we have identified where ERP software will apply.

Our intention is to use the ERP equipment the University is currently putting in place to engage and work closely with the University's Procurement Department to provide external QMS auditing services on a consultancy basis to the University's large-scale external suppliers of goods and services. This will ensure that the goods and services that the University receives from these external suppliers will always meet the quality standards expected of them. In addition, it will provide an avenue through which the University will earn additional income.

DIRECTORATE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE

Message from the Director

Teaching Effectiveness Evaluation Reveals Academic Excellence



Dr Patricia Wambugu

As Director of Quality Assurance, it is my privilege to extend heartfelt congratulations to our outstanding graduating Class of 2024! Today we celebrate your dedication, hard work and resilience. Over the years, the Directorate of Quality Assurance (DQA) has remained committed to upholding the highest standards and

ensuring the exceptional quality of your education.

To our graduands, always remember that the quality of your character and the integrity of your actions are bound to define your success in the world out there. Be bold in your endeavours, remain curious, and continue to strive for quality and excellence in all that you do.

Our efforts in the Teaching Effectiveness Evaluation for the 2023-2024 academic year speak volumes. With an impressive 97.71% response rate, the results revealed a remarkable mean score of 4.26, translating to 85.2% teaching and learning effectiveness. This reflects the University's unwavering commitment to fostering faculty growth and academic excellence, shaping an enriching learning experience for all. And due to the foregoing, we extend our gratitude to our esteemed faculty for your unwavering commitment to delivering quality education and for nurturing the talents of the graduands. Your

consistent and creative hardwork made this achievement possible.

In the October 2023 Student Exit Survey, graduates from the 47th Graduation Ceremony shared insightful feedback. A standout 84.1% expressed satisfaction with the academic rigour of their programmes, while 98.9% of those who utilized career services (47.5%) found them highly beneficial. Among postgraduates, 74.7% praised their research guidance and 63.1% felt supported in their career and professional development. When it comes to facing real-world challenges, 73.8% felt fully prepared, with another 19.1% feeling somewhat ready. A resounding 76.0% of graduates would proudly recommend the University to future students, highlighting its strong impact.

The Directorate achieved 90% of its target by completing self-assessments for nine academic programmes. These evaluations produced insightful reports that will shape future curriculum updates, ensuring the programmes stay

relevant, innovative, and responsive to the ever-changing demands of the education sector and job market, as highlighted by the majority of stakeholders consulted.

Accreditation plays a key role in upholding the quality and prestige of our University. Between January and March 2024, DQA, in collaboration with various faculties, submitted eight programmes for accreditation to the Commission for University Education. These efforts included comprehensive curriculum reviews to align with the Competence Based Education Training (CBET) model and the development of cutting-edge programmes designed to meet both national and global standards.

External Examiners (EEs) play a crucial role in ensuring the University's examination processes meet acceptable academic standards. The DQA received reports from EEs for the academic year 2023-2024. Most EEs found the University's examination process and methods to be in line with both national and international standards. This feedback helps the University to maintain excellence in our examination processes.

In August 2024, the Directorate conducted a Student Entry Survey with 1,295 first-year students, revealing that 67.4% were enrolled in their dream programmes. The University's strong reputation (59.7%) and rich academic diversity (44.6%) were key factors in their choice to join Egerton University. Students are primarily focused on excelling academically (92.7%) and smoothly transitioning into university life (60.2%). However, they anticipate challenges like financial constraints (54.6%), adapting to the academic environment (47.5%), and juggling between academic and social commitments (37.5%). These insights shed light on the key needs and hurdles facing Egerton's newest cohort.

Graduates Achieve High Employability

A recent graduate tracer study (GTS) conducted by the Faculty of Science (FoS) and the Directorate of Quality Assurance (DQA) has revealed that graduates from FoS are enjoying

remarkable success in the job market, demonstrating high employability rates. This finding underscores the effectiveness of the University's academic programmes in equipping students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences needed to excel in their careers.

The study surveyed graduates from 2006 to 2023 in B.Sc. (Chemistry option), B.Sc. (Physics option), B.Sc. (Zoology/Botany option), B.Sc. in Biochemistry, B.Sc. in Actuarial Science, B.Sc. in Biomedical Science and Technology, B.Sc. in Statistics, B.Sc. in Computer Science, and B.Sc. in Applied Aquatic Science.

The study indicates that a significant percentage of graduates from FoS have secured employment within three years of graduation (77% of the respondents), with many securing positions in industries closely aligned with their fields of study. Among the employed respondents, 29.6% were working in the public sector while 70.4% were in the private sector. Additionally, 14.2% were self-employed. This impressive employability rate reflects the University's commitment to offering a curriculum that is not only theoretically robust but also practically relevant to current market demands. Employers consistently report high levels of satisfaction with these graduates, praising their technical expertise, critical thinking skills, and adaptability to various work environments.

Key competencies and soft skills that have contributed to the high employability of these graduates include problem solving (94.7%), team playing (94.2%), self-motivation (93.1%), collaboration (93.1%), and critical thinking (92.6%). For self-employed respondents, key competencies contributing to their success included creativity (88.9%), ability to work independently (88.9%), time management (82.2%), communication (82.2%), decision making (80.0%), entrepreneurial (80.0%), and problem solving (80.0%). The University has placed a significant emphasis on developing these competencies and soft skills which are increasingly being sought after by



The Directorate achieved 90% of its target by completing self-assessments for nine academic programmes. These evaluations produced insightful reports that will shape future curriculum updates...”

employers in a diversity of industries.

The high employability of FoS graduates is a testament to the University's strategic Vision of empowering students to succeed in an increasingly competitive job market. Through a combination of high-quality education, industry collaboration, and skill development, the University is shaping the future workforce, ensuring that its graduates are not only employable but also leaders in their respective fields.

The GTS affirms the University's role as a leading institution in producing highly capable science professionals, who are ready to meet the challenges of today's dynamic workforce.

Your success today is a testament to all our efforts and we are immensely proud of what you have achieved. At the DQA, we are committed to maintaining the highest standards of academic excellence and ensuring that the education you have received meets global standards. Our goal has always been to foster an environment that promotes intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and ethical leadership. As you step into the next phase of your journey, we trust that you will carry these values together with the knowledge and skills learnt with you and be able to contribute positively to the society in your chosen fields.

Congratulations once again, and may your future be filled with continued success and excellence!

Vice-Chancellor Welcomes First-Year Students

By Musa Kurian

The atmosphere at Kilimo Hall was filled with excitement as the first-year students (cohort of 2024-2025 academic year) gathered for the much-anticipated welcoming speech of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage. The event marked the culmination of a weeklong orientation exercise designed to immerse the new students into the academic and social culture of the University Community.

The Vice-Chancellor was flanked by a distinguished procession that included the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics, Research & Extension), Prof. Bernard O. Aduda; the Ag Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration, Finance & Planning), Prof. Richard Mulwa; Deans of Faculties; Members of Staff; Chairpersons of Department; and Egerton University Students Association (EUSA) leaders, including the President, Mr Phillip Nyayo, the

Director of Academics, Mr Teddy Omondi Odhiambo, and the Secretary General, Mr John Mutuma.

The Vice-Chancellor recounted a brief history of Egerton University, emphasizing its long-standing tradition as a training institution, beginning with its establishment as a farm school in 1939. Originally created to train individuals in managing large farms during the colonial era, the institution has evolved significantly. Egerton University became a constituent college in 1986, was chartered in 1987, and further rechartered in 2013 under the Universities Act 2012. Prof. Kibwage explained, highlighting the University's growth over the decades.

Emphasizing the importance of the Main Campus, the Vice-Chancellor noted that it was the University's policy that all first-year students be domiciled on campus. He also dwelt on Nakuru City Campus College and its functions.

He further outlined the wide range of academic offerings at Egerton, including 56 undergraduate programmes, 19 diploma programmes, 67 Master's programmes, and 50 Ph.D. programmes, across 10 Faculties, the School of Distance Learning, and the Institute of Gender and Women Studies.

The VC encouraged the students to aim high in their academic pursuits, expressing hope that their time at Egerton will be the beginning of a lifelong journey of learning and self-actualization. "I believe that you will graduate successfully and return to Egerton University to pursue your Master's and Ph.D. degrees to realise your highest ambitions", he said.

The VC stressed the importance of prioritizing academic work, time management, and timely completion of assignments. He referred to Dr Richard Rop, Chairman of the Egerton University Alumni Association, who



Egerton University students entertain the audience during the Vice-Chancellor's Address to First-Year Students. The event took place on 23 August 2024 in Kilimo Hall, Main Campus, Njoro.

was present to welcome the new students, as the official who will be the first to receive the students once they graduate.

The VC also humorously recounted incidents where students misunderstood their examination timetables, leading to avoidable mistakes, to emphasize the importance of attention to detail. He shared anecdotes of a student who went to a wrong examination room and another who overslept and missed his examination due to over-studying. These stories served as real-life examples to caution students against common mistakes.

The VC further counselled students on the proper use of social media, urging them to use it positively to enhance the University's reputation as well as their own. "Don't post photos that you may regret in the future when they are being used against you. Photos of nudity are

not good", he advised, reminding them to be aware of cyberbullying, cybersecurity, and data protection laws.

DVC Aduda echoed these sentiments, advising the newly admitted students to avoid behaviour that could lead to disciplinary action and instead focus on their academic goals. DVC Mulwa welcomed the students, urging them to view the challenges of university life as opportunities for personal growth. "At your age, you will see and you will be seen depending on which gender you are. Be ready to confront this challenge. Ensure you are seen in a positive way as young adults. And in 2028, let's celebrate your success", he said. He emphasized the importance of balancing academic and extracurricular activities and highlighted the support services available to students, such as counselling, chaplaincy, and security. "Don't do things that your parents

would disapprove of", he cautioned, reminding students to uphold values and ethics.

The orientation week, organized by the Dean of Students Office under the leadership of Dr Japhet Muthamia, ended on a high note, with students feeling excited and ready to embark on their university journey. The new students left Kilimo Hall with a sense of purpose and eager anticipation for the opportunities that lay ahead at Egerton University.

The author is the Communications Officer at the Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilization. The original version of this article was published in the August 2024 issue of Egerton University's Digital Newslink.

First Cohort of TAGDev 2.0 Students Begin Their Studies

By Nancy W. Mungai

Transforming African Agricultural Universities to Meaningfully Contribute to Africa's Growth and Development (TAGDev 1.0), a collaboration between the Mastercard Foundation and the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), was implemented at Egerton University (Kenya) and Gulu University (Uganda) from 2016 to 2024. The programme supported 188 students (50% female) with full or partial scholarships. During this 48th Graduation, 26 postgraduate students and 2 undergraduate students from different faculties who have been supported through TAGDev 1.0 scholarship programme are graduating.

During the eight years, the TAGDev programme supported student, staff, institutional, and community transformation in various ways. This was through capacity-building activities where over 500 students were trained in entrepreneurship and

experiential learning, and 330 staff retooled in community engagement and on tools for facilitating experiential learning. The programme also facilitated 219 student attachments and 144 internships, reviewed 4 B.Sc. and 1 M.Sc. curricula, and developed a University-Community Engagement Strategy. Over 5,000 farmers were reached directly and 10,000 indirectly through community action research projects, community outreaches, and the Egerton Radio "Kilimo Bora" programme. In addition, a business incubation hub was established with 32% of graduates starting their own enterprises.

Other achievements include publications of 3 book chapters, 6 case studies, 70 research papers, 96 theses, a Seed Potato Production Manual, a Cassava Cookbook, and 65 "Voices of Impact" pieces. TAGDev 1.0 engaged in 5 National Forums, 1 webinar, a Governors' breakfast meeting, and 2 policy dialogues. It also facilitated

infrastructure support, including renovating hostels and greenhouses.

The TAGDev 2.0 programme, a continuation of TAGDev 1.0, represents a significant advancement in higher agricultural education across Africa. Running from 2024 to 2034, this decade-long initiative is a collaborative effort involving the Mastercard Foundation, RUFORUM, the Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences (GCHERA), Egerton University, and 11 other universities across Africa.

TAGDev 2.0 aims to address three key objectives: expanding equal work opportunities for young women and men, improving climate adaptive agricultural production, and strengthening the quality of higher agricultural education. At Egerton University, the programme will provide comprehensive scholarships to 130 students, including both undergraduate and Master's students, covering tuition,

research, living expenses, and more. It will also involve reviewing and enhancing curricula and institutional policies to support transformative education.

Additionally, TAGDev 2.0 aims to create 15,000 job opportunities in agricultural value chains and train 68,500 smallholder farmers in climate-adaptive (CA) technologies and practices, including supporting 75 start-ups. The programme's environmental initiatives include planting 950,000 trees, and strengthening 6 farmers' cooperatives, alongside upscaling 15 CA technological innovations.

The programme's consortium approach includes partnerships with Karatina University, Pwani University, and the University of Embu, as well as TVET institutions like Nyandarua National Polytechnic and Baraka Agricultural College.

The first cohort of TAGDev 2.0 students for the 2024/2025 academic year has already begun their studies, marking the start of a transformative journey aimed at fostering inclusivity, resilience, and socio-economic development in Africa's agricultural sector.



Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Prof. Patience Mshenga, speaks during Egerton University's Additional Orientation for the TAGDev 2.0 Cohort 1 students, held on 29–30 August 2024 at the Main Campus, Njoro.

We therefore take this opportunity to congratulate all the graduands during the 48th Graduation Ceremony, and we are confident that they have been equipped with the skills required to transform their lives and create solutions to real-life problems in the

society.

The author is the TAGDev 2.0 Programme Coordinator, and Professor of Soil Science, Egerton University. ■

Egerton University Excels at Nakuru National ASK Show

By Musa Kurian

Egerton University was the winner of the Best Stand in Theme Interpretation at the Nakuru National Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) Show held in July 2024. The University also won the Best Stand in Research and Development. This is an outstanding achievement showcasing the institution's unique position as a trailblazer in training and knowledge management.

The theme for this year's Show was "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for Sustainable Economic Growth". Shortly after the Show, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage, expressed his great satisfaction at the University's effective interpretation of the theme. The event was graced by the Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture, Mithika Linturi. The CS

congratulated the Vice-Chancellor for leading the University to prosperity and stability. He toured the Egerton Stand and was greatly impressed by the innovations the University showcased in the agricultural exposition. He was accompanied by the Nakuru Deputy Governor, David Kones (representing Governor Susan Kihika), the Nakuru County Executive for Agriculture, Leonard Bor, the Nakuru ASK Branch Chairman, Dr Thomas Migwi, and the Nakuru County Secretary, Samwel Mwaura, among other dignitaries.

In his welcoming remarks at the Egerton Stand, the VC expressed gratitude for the efforts exhibited by the Egerton team. He thanked the CS Agriculture for visiting the University Stand and appreciating the University's unique innovations and research. The

VC acclaimed the Show's unwavering collaboration with the University, saying that the University has consistently showcased over the years except for the year when the COVID-19 pandemic hit the country. He thanked the Egerton Show Committee led by Dr Musa Njue for their dedicated and tireless work of preparation.

Present at the award ceremony were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics, Research and Extension), Prof. Bernard O. Aduda; the Ag Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration, Finance & Planning), Prof. Richard Mulwa; the Ag Director (Research & Extension), Prof. Nancy Mungai; and the Director, Marketing and Resource Mobilization, Prof. Nzula Kitaka, among other leading dons from the University.

In the category of the Best Stand in Research and Development, there were five learning institutions besides Egerton, i.e. the Kenya Forest Research Institute (KEFRI), Kabarak University, the Rift Valley Institute of Science and Technology, the Catholic University of Eastern Africa, and the North Coast Medical Training College.

Egerton University Tatton Farm also won the Jersey Champion. Led by Mr Gerald Otwabe Areba, the farm brought dairy cows to the ASK Show, winning the Best Udder of a cow. “This cow with the best udder in this show was a calf in last year's show”, said an elated Areba.

At the Show, the University showcased some of its other departments, including the Medical Department, which offered free medical screening, the ARC Hotel, the INCITIS food project, the Nakuru Living Lab led by Prof. Bockline Bebe, the Agro-Science Park, CESAAM project-sponsored innovations, CoELIB project-sponsored innovations, TAGDev project-sponsored innovations and research, the Alumni Office, the Gift Shop, the Egerton University Press, the Knitting Unit, the Dairy Department



Egerton University showcases the Boer goat and its kids at the Nakuru ASK Show opening ceremony on 5 July 2024. The University emerged as a winner in several categories at this year's event.

selling the newly repackaged yogurt, and the Nutrition Department showcasing the cake made of cricket.

Overall, jubilation and happiness greeted the University after the exhibition, with a determination to do even better in subsequent exhibitions.

The author is the Communications Officer at the Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilization. The original version of this article was published in the July 2024 issue of Egerton University's Digital Newslink.



The Egerton University team celebrates with trophies at the Nakuru ASK Show, held from 3–7 July 2024 in Nakuru City.

Our Win Was Shaped by Learning at Egerton

By Agnes Mwangi

A jubilant atmosphere filled Egerton University as Vice-Chancellor Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage proudly received the trophy from the triumphant team of law students who won the inaugural East African Moot Court Competition in Arusha, Tanzania. The winning trio—William Anthony Kanani, Pauline Nduta Kinyanjui, and Said Salim Jillo—credited their success to the comprehensive and supportive legal education they received at Egerton University.

The presentation ceremony, held on 2 September 2024, at the Main Campus, was an important occasion, celebrating both the students' achievement and the University's dedication to nurturing proficient legal professionals. The VC commended the students for their exceptional performance, stating, "This victory is a testimony to the quality of education and mentorship provided at the University. We are immensely proud of our students for showcasing such exemplary skills on a regional platform."

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics, Research & Extension) Prof. Bernard O. Aduda commended the students for their success, noting that it highlights Egerton University's strong focus on both academics and practical learning. Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration, Finance & Planning) Prof. Richard Mulwa highlighted the University's commitment to supporting student activities.

The students' path to victory was significantly influenced by Egerton University's legal curriculum, which integrates theoretical knowledge with practical experiences. Under the leadership of Dean Dr Ruth Aura, the Faculty of Law has proactively provided students with moot court opportunities, recognizing the importance of experiential learning in legal education.

Reflecting on their preparation, William Kanani emphasized the critical role of the University's learning environment. "The academics at Egerton offer a strong theoretical foundation, but it's the emphasis on practical experiences like mooting that truly set us apart," he noted. Pauline Kinyanjui added,



William Anthony Kanani, Pauline Nduta Kinyanjui, and Said Salim Jillo proudly display the trophy they had won at the East African Moot Court Competition. The ceremony took place in the Vice-Chancellor's Board Room, Main Campus, Njoro, on 21 September 2024.

“ The students' path to victory was significantly influenced by Egerton University's legal curriculum, which integrates theoretical knowledge with practical experiences. ”

"Engaging in these competitions has significantly improved my oral skills and ability to think on my feet. The rigorous training and support from our faculty have been instrumental in developing my capacity to construct and deconstruct arguments swiftly and effectively."

The journey to Arusha was not without challenges. Financial constraints posed hurdles, but the support from the University and faculty ensured the team's successful participation. "Despite the financial challenges, the support from Egerton University and our faculty members, especially Ms. Evelyne Mogere, enabled us to prepare meticulously and focus on our performance," said Said Jillo.

Dr Aura expressed pride in the students' accomplishments, stating, "Our goal has always been to produce well-rounded legal professionals, equipped

with both knowledge and practical skills. This victory showcases the effectiveness of our approach and the hard work of our students and faculty."

She added that moot court participation is a key component of the University's Law curriculum, with students being evaluated on their performance to ensure a well-rounded legal education.

As Egerton University celebrates this achievement, it reinforces its dedication to providing excellent education and equipping students to succeed as legal professionals in East Africa and beyond.

The author is the Communication and Marketing Manager, Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilisation, Egerton University.

University Unveils Renovated Lecture Theatres T1 and T2

By Agnes Mwangi

On 11 September 2024, Egerton University marked a significant milestone in its commitment to providing top-tier learning environments with the unveiling of the newly renovated Lecture Theatres T1 and T2 at the Main Campus in Njoro.

In attendance were Prof. Gilbert Obwoyere, the Director of Examination and Timetabling, alongside Estates Manager Mr Kepha Orina, Mr Kobia Mucheke, from Estates Department, and other key members of staff.

The renovation project, which began on 29 February 2024 and was completed on 5 August 2024, came at a total cost of Ksh. 4.9 million. The extensive overhaul involved several critical improvements designed to modernize the facilities and enhance student experience.

Key Upgrades and Renovation Work

The renovation process began with a thorough site clearance, which involved the removal of old computers and debris. This was followed by major structural upgrades, including the installation of new roof parapet walls and concrete gutters for improved water drainage. The drainage systems were overhauled to ensure that rainwater from the roofs would be properly discharged, preventing potential flooding or water damage.

The air conditioning units in the lecture theatres were repaired, tested, and recommissioned to ensure optimal performance. The ceilings received modern finishes that enhanced the aesthetic appeal and acoustics of the rooms, while the washrooms were fully



Front View of the Renovated T1 and T2 Lecture Theatres

renovated to meet modern standards.

Seating arrangements were upgraded, with timber seats and desks installed to provide durable, comfortable seating solutions. Additionally, the old parquet floors were replaced with new PVC tiles, which offer a more durable and easy-to-maintain surface. The lighting fixtures were also updated with modern electrical fittings to ensure proper illumination during lectures.

The VC expressed his satisfaction with the quality of the renovations, stating, “The transformation of these lecture theatres is remarkable. These spaces will now offer a more conducive learning environment, and I am confident that the students will appreciate the modern amenities.”

Future Prospects

Following the successful renovation of

T1 and T2, the University is already planning its next project—renovating Lecture Hall A1, which has an aging asbestos roof that needs replacing. The seats, which have been temporarily moved from T1 and T2 to A1, will be evaluated: those in good condition will be refurbished and reinstalled, while those beyond repair will be repurposed for use at the Student Centre. The Estates Department is responsible for overseeing these renovations.

The ICT Department ensured the public address system in T1 and T2 was restored to optimal working condition.

A New Era for T1 and T2

On 28 August 2024, classes resumed in the newly renovated halls. Students were welcomed into modern, comfortable spaces set to serve the University for years to come. With T1 accommodating 200 students and T2 holding 300, the combined capacity of 500 students is expected to support larger classes.

As Egerton University continues to invest in its infrastructure, the renovation of these lecture theatres is a testament to its dedication to academic excellence and student welfare. These improvements are part of a broader plan to upgrade the University's facilities and maintain its standing as one of Kenya's premier institutions of higher learning.



A newly refurbished lecture theatre at Egerton University, featuring upgraded timber seating, modern PVC floor tiles, and a restored public address system. The theatre, provides students with a comfortable, functional learning environment.

The author is the Communication and Marketing Manager, Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilisation, Egerton University.

Egerton University Alumni Association Awards Scholarships to Postgraduate Students

By Musa Kurian



The Egerton University Alumni Association awarded Ksh200,000 to two postgraduate students in a ceremony held at Main Campus, Njoro, on 2 October 2024. In this picture, the Association Chairman, Dr Richard Rop (fourth from left), poses with staff and students during the awarding of the scholarships.

The Executive Board of the Egerton University Alumni Association (EUAA), led by its Chairman, Dr Richard Rop, has awarded scholarships to deserving postgraduate students in a move to assist them in completing their research work. This year, two students, Brendah Machuki and George Njema, were each awarded Ksh100,000 under the Masters Grant Scholarship. During the ceremony held at the University's Main Campus on 2 October 2024, the Chairman emphasized

that the annual scholarship targets students with outstanding academic performance but who face financial difficulties.

Domiciled under the Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilization, the EUAA is actively seeking new partnerships with alumni members, corporate organizations, and non-governmental organizations to help expand the scope of the scholarship. The Chairman echoed the thoughts of the Director of Marketing and Resource

Mobilization, Prof. Nzula Kitaka, about expanding the scholarship. He expressed the Association's desire to grow the initiative and reach more students in the future.

The Secretary General of the EUAA, Dr Kuria Wamukuru, reflected on the intensive selection process that saw many students apply for the limited scholarships. The Director of Postgraduate Studies, Prof. George Ogendi, commended the EUAA's initiative, noting the value it brings in fostering academic excellence and promoting community engagement.

The EUAA has been instrumental in driving philanthropic activities at Egerton University, with the scholarship programme serving as a central part of their mission. Supporting postgraduate students in their research efforts is seen as a critical investment in the academic reputation of the University.

The awarded students, Brendah Machuki and George Njema, expressed their gratitude to the EUAA for the financial support, which they said will significantly aid their research work and help them progress toward graduation.



Ms Brendah Machuki (right) receives Ksh100,000 under the Masters Grant Scholarship from the Egerton University Alumni Association Chairman, Dr Richard Rop (second from right), on 2 October 2024 at the Main Campus, Njoro. Also present are the Secretary General of the Association, Dr Kuria Wamukuru (left) and the Director of Postgraduate Studies, Prof. George M. Ogendi.

The author is the Communications Officer at the Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilisation.

A Year Filled With Remarkable Achievements



*Prof. Bernard O. Aduda
DVC (AR&E)*

Congratulations! A new dawn it is to the graduands of the 48th Graduation Ceremony, as the event marks a milestone in your lives. You are now in a position to transit to the sphere of offering service to humanity. We celebrate you for the hard work, and your Lecturers, parents, guardians, sponsors, mentors, and families for the support offered. You are the reason we have organized this auspicious occasion.

Achievements

As the University marks its 48th Graduation Ceremony, allow me to share, in retrospect, some key achievements of the 2023/24 Academic Year. The Division has had the most successful and smooth Academic Year since the COVID-19 pandemic. Teaching and examinations were carried out in a timely manner as per the Senate schedule, without any disruptions, courtesy of a committed workforce, and the students' outstanding behaviour and resilience. This conducive atmosphere has enabled us to present to the society 3,490 well-rounded graduands, who are expected to stand out in the world of work. We are committed to staying this course.

In line with our resolve to offer relevant and quality education, the Division reviewed most of the academic programmes to align them with the market, the industry, and the Competency Based Education Training (CBET) requirements.

Research and Dissemination of Knowledge

In the course of the year, the Division has been involved in research, fostering a culture of innovation and dissemination of knowledge through extension, publications, and conferencing. In March 2024, the University organized the 15th Egerton University Biennial International Conference, themed “Research for Innovative Solutions in the 21st Century”. During the year, the University successfully won several research grants running into millions of shillings.

Notable is the Phase II of the “Transforming African Agricultural Universities to Meaningfully Contribute to Africa's Growth and Development (TAGDev. 2.0), which was built on the success of TAGDev. 1.0. The project covers many aspects, including providing scholarships, farm attachments, training programmes, and internships to students.

The University demonstrated its research prowess by securing the most awards at the National Outstanding Research Awards (NORA) during the Kenya National Research Festival, held on 19 – 23 August 2024. Five of the University's researchers, from different fields, were recognized under different categories as follows: Prof. Josphat Matasyoh (National Outstanding Researcher – Physical Sciences, Technology, and Innovation category); Dr John Olwande (National Outstanding Researcher – Social Sciences, Technology and Innovation category); Dr Oscar Donde (The Best Young Researchers Innovative Research in Biological Sciences, Technology and Innovation category); Prof. Nancy W. Mungai (Women Researcher – Biological Sciences, Technology, and Innovation category); and Prof. Patience Mshenga (Women Researcher – Social Sciences, Technology, and Innovation category).

We have put in place strategic initiatives to carry out Community Outreach/Extension, which is an important aspect of disseminating research findings to the society. The Outreach activities were through holding several farmer Field Days, whereby trainings on several value chains were conducted in several counties. For example, within Njoro Campus, a “Cassava Cook Fest,” through the TAGDev CVC CARP+ Project, was held in January 2024, which promoted cassava consumption by introducing new products from the crop, with farmers, students, youth, and the wider community educated on the importance of cassava as a food security crop.

The University, reputed as a premier Agricultural Institution in Kenya and the region, exhibited its research outputs, including inventions and innovations, and showcased its animals in the 2024 Nakuru National Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) Show, and scooped Position 1 in The Best Stand in the Research and Development category, an outstanding achievement, as well as several champions for dairy cows and goats. Indeed, a great year it has been for Egerton University.

In a bid to ensure that our students embrace different cultures, the office of the Dean of Students organized a University Cultural Week in June 2024 themed “Celebrating Biodiversity and Cultural Landscapes”. Besides the University community, other participants in the event came from the local community, including students from Kilimo Secondary School and pupils from Kilimo Primary School – an indication that the University is set in influencing

Turn to page 16

FoA Staff Win National Research Fund Awards



Prof. Patience Mshenga

As we mark Egerton University's 48th Graduation, the Faculty of Agriculture (FoA) extends warmest congratulations to all the graduands, parents, friends, and guardians. This is a momentous occasion that marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. To the graduands, as you stand on the threshold of a new chapter in your life, remember that this is just the beginning of a journey filled with endless possibilities and opportunities. Graduating is not just about receiving a certificate; it is about the knowledge, skills, competencies and experiences you

have gained along the way. Use these tools to navigate the path ahead, and never stop learning. Embrace challenges as opportunities for growth, and never be afraid to pursue your dreams. As you step into the world, remember that success is not solely measured by your accomplishments but by the positive impact you make on the lives of others. Be kind, compassionate, and empathetic, and strive to make a difference in your community and the world at large.

To your family, friends, and loved ones who are here to celebrate with you, I am grateful for the support they have accorded you over the past few years and may they take immense pride in your achievement.

Turn to page 17

Message from the DVC (AR&E)

Continued from page 15

positively the local community it part of.

Community Service

The University handed over the two rehabilitated sites of the Njoro River (which flows from the Eastern Mau escarpment) to the County Governments of Nakuru and Narok respectively on 23 February 2024. The sites, which the University has been rehabilitating since 2012, are as follows: (1) the St. Augustine Catholic Church site – Nakuru County, and (2) Entiyani (the source of the River) – Narok County.

On 2 March 2024, we successfully held the 9th edition of the Mau-Egerton University Cross Country, dubbed "Run for the Mau," which attracted 612 participants. The primary objective of the event was to raise environmental awareness and generate funds for the rehabilitation of the Mau ecosystem and the Njoro River. The event was supported by sponsorships from eight corporate institutions, including key partners like the KCB Bank Group, the Co-operative Bank of Kenya, the National Defense University – Kenya, and the Egerton University Alumni Association, besides the Nakuru and Narok County governments. This underscores our University's commitment to environmental conservation.

Recognitions and Awards

It is noteworthy that the Egerton University programmes are tailored to ensure that we transform our students to excel in service to the society. A testament of the quality training and mentorship offered at the University is the exemplary performance by three Bachelor of Law students during the inaugural East African Moot Court Competition held in Arusha, Tanzania, in August 2024. The three students who carried the University's flag high are Mr William Anthony

Kanani, Mr Said Salim Jillo, and Ms Pauline Nduta Kinyanjui. In addition, a Master of Science student in Natural Resources, Ms Petra Kienyiy Chui, was recognized for her contribution towards sustainable energy and environmental conservation and, consequently, was awarded the prestigious Eni Award 2024 in the Young Talents from Africa category.

Further, the University continued to provide resources to support the students to excel in their co-curricular activities. The students have made us proud in co-curricular activities, having won numerous awards at the National and Regional levels. For example, the Table Tennis (women's team), Tennis (men's team), and Hand Ball (women's team) scooped trophies for their good performance in the Kenya University Students Association (KUSA) games. The Rugby team emerged at position 1 and the Hand Ball teams – both men and women – emerged at position 2 respectively in the matches.

Adieu

Graduands, as you step out into the world to make your mark, do it with optimism and pride. I am confident that Egerton University has prepared you to think critically and independently in order for you to make decisions that will impact your ability to be great, as well as instilled in you the ability to adapt easily to changing circumstances. You have been moulded to make the best out of life.

May your journey be filled with endless opportunities, remarkable achievements, and profound fulfilment. Remember never to lose sight of the Egerton University values of transparency, passion for excellence, and innovativeness. You are our ambassadors. Fly the Egerton University flag high!

Message from Dean FoA

Continued from page 16

FoA continues to play its role in implementing the University's mandate of transforming lives through quality education through teaching and research. With regards to research, in the past one year, FoA has won several research grants. The “Transforming African Agricultural Universities to Meaningfully Contribute to Africa's Growth and Development” (TAGDev 2.0) is a programme aimed at training the next generation of AgLeaders. This is a ten-year-programme running from 2024-2034. The programme has so far provided 15 scholarships to undergraduate and postgraduate students.

FoA has been at the forefront in spearheading graduate training. To this end, Egerton University was part of the consortium that was awarded the Partnership to Strengthen Graduate Training and Research Capacity for Developing Climate Smart Agrifood Systems in Central and East Africa (CSAS) project by the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme of the European Union. In this mobility programme, five African Partner Institutions and one European Union Technical Partner will collaborate in the training of professionals in developing climate smart agrifood systems. The project has so far awarded 6 scholarships (2 Ph.D. and 4 Masters) to international students from Uganda, Ethiopia, The Gambia, and Lesotho. The project will see Egerton University strengthen its graduate training programmes and assert its position as the best African university in agricultural training. To enhance graduate supervision, a team from FoA has developed the “Postgraduate Supervision Manual”. This was facilitated by the Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Agriculture and Agribusiness programme.

In order to engage the youth in agricultural development, FoA hosted the official launch of the Kenya Agricultural Students Association on 27 March 2024 at Kilimo Hall. Several Agricultural students and Deans of Agriculture participated in the event.

On 23 August 2024, three staff members of FoA received the National Outstanding Researcher Awards

(NORA). The NORA awards seek to celebrate achievements of Kenyan researchers, spur economic transformation through cutting-edge research, and increase interest in research careers and opportunities for the young generation. Prof. Patience Mshenga, Prof. Nancy Mungai, and Dr John Olwande were NORA awards recipients in the 2024 maiden edition.

To enhance its effort in development facilitation, FoA has fostered partnership with the University of Seychelles to enhance agricultural training and research. To this end, the Associate Dean visited Seychelles from 26 September to 1 October 2024.

FoA has also participated in staff and student international mobilities. Two

Ph.D. students, Ms Carolyn Kisaka and Ms Naomi Chelanga, participated in an academic mobility in the University of Pavia-Italy in February-June 2024. Two undergraduate students, Mr Victor Odhiambo and Ms Eunice Waithe, are currently in HAMK University for a 4-month mobility until December 2024. Two staff members have also participated in the University of Pavia mobility by attending conferences and seminars held at the University of Pavia-Italy.

Moving forward, FoA will continue in its endeavour to foster more partnerships, to carry out research, and to engage with communities for the advancement of humanity.



Mr Victor Odhiambo (left) conducts fieldwork with colleagues at HAMK University in Finland, where he is currently on a 4-month academic exchange programme

Egerton Unlocked My Potential

By Mugo Gerishon, FoA Graduand

Egerton University is an awesome and exceptional institution. During my studies at the Faculty of Agriculture, I experienced a commitment to quality education that has profoundly shaped my academic and personal growth.

The curriculum offered a perfect balance between theory and practical experience, enabling me to handle real-world challenges with a sure touch. The lecturers were not only knowledgeable but also acted as mentors, encouraging critical thinking, innovation, and personal growth beyond the lecture hall.

Although difficulties occasionally arose, the University's focus on student success remained unwavering, fostering resilience and adaptability.

The institution created an environment where my potential was unlocked, my ambition was nurtured, and my abilities were honed. As I move forward, I carry with me the lessons learned and the confidence gained. I will be forever grateful for the foundation laid during my time at Egerton.

THANK YOU, EGERTON UNIVERSITY!



Mr Mugo Gerishon

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Message from the Dean

Over 100 South Sudan Master's Students Trained at FASS



Dr Augustus S. Muluvi

On behalf of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the graduating class of 2024. Your presence in this Graduation Ceremony is testimony to your success as a scholar, a Kenyan, and a human being in general. You are here

because of your ability to collaborate with other people towards common objectives within the context of a large and complex institution. While a student at Egerton University over the last three, four, or more years, you accumulated a wide range of skills, which you derived not only from your classroom experiences but also from extracurricular activities on campus or in the neighbouring communities. It is my belief that, equipped with this knowledge, you are now ready to take on the world as a professional in your respective discipline, a citizen of your nation, and a member of the human community. Your success as a student at this University brings with it many possibilities about your future, which you can take advantage of in many different ways, and I hope that you will make the right choices as you proceed beyond the academy and into the wider world of work.

I must also take this opportunity to congratulate all those who, in one way

or another, assisted you in your progression as a student while you were at Egerton. Among them were your parents or guardians, your Lecturers, and the communities that neighbour the University. Your parents and guardians provided you with the emotional and financial support you needed in order for you to function as a bona fide student of the University throughout your stay here. Your Lecturers instilled in you the intellectual skills you need in order for you to be of use both to yourself and to the society at large subsequent to your graduation. And the communities that neighbour Egerton either provided you with accommodation or made available to you other forms of amenities that were critical to you as a student living away from home.

FASS plays a critical role in the life of the University and the world as an epicentre of the origination, packaging, mediation, and consumption of knowledge relating to the humanities and the social sciences. Our students are

equipped with knowledge that is designed to resolve crises pertaining to social relations at large, whether these problems manifest themselves on the ground in terms of relations between individuals or groups of individuals, or whether they appear as ideas or concepts communicated to audiences through the written word. FASS has consistently excelled in producing graduates who are well-equipped to deal with issues that require superior intellectual input across the board, and we will continue to do so in the future.

In the course of the period of time that has elapsed since the last Graduation, a number of noteworthy developments have taken place in FASS that I wish to report. One of them has to do with the contribution that Egerton University has been making to the development of the Republic of South Sudan. Another has to do with achievements that some of our members of staff have been making in their respective disciplinary areas.

Since 2011, when the Republic of South Sudan won its independence from Sudan, the citizens of that country have been working hard to establish themselves as a modern, secure, and progressive post-independence African country. Among other things, they are determined to enforce security across the country in order to foster harmony among the communities and regions that constitute the nation. I am happy to report that FASS is contributing a great deal to those efforts through linkages that we have established with South Sudan in the area of security. Currently, the Department of Peace, Security, and Social Studies is overseeing the teaching and supervision of over 100 students from the country who are pursuing the Master of Arts degree in Security Management. It goes without saying that, armed with the knowledge that they will derive from the programme, these students will make a difference in the ongoing development of that country.

Besides establishing such linkages with other institutions or organizations, FASS has also been contributing considerably to the development of humanity through participation of its teaching staff in communal activities in the wider world. A good example is Dr David Nderitu of the Department of Philosophy, History and Religious

Studies. Dr Nderitu is the Coordinator of the UNESCO Chair on Bioethics and Regional Documentation Centre based at Egerton University. The Chair on Bioethics is part of the UNESCO/UNITWIN network which enhances excellence in universities' mandate of teaching, research, and community responsibility through promotion of bioethics knowledge, resource facilitation, and capacity building.

Dr Nderitu is also a Member of the Ethics Working Group convened by the African Centre for Disease Control (Africa CDC) to develop an African-centred framework that embraces dominant African principles and values that may guide ethical conduct or research in Africa during epidemic emergencies to prevent harm to participants and communities in which such research is conducted. Currently, Dr Nderitu is part of the Africa CDC Ethics Working Group that is collaborating with a team of African scientists and other international counterparts to review the scientific, ethical, and regulatory issues that underpin medical countermeasures for the Mpox outbreak that has been reported in various countries within the continent, including Kenya. The team is developing the "Kinshasa Accord: African Mpox Emergency Response

Research Agenda."

The UNESCO Chair on Bioethics welcomes scholars and students for consultation on issues related to bioethics and research ethics. The Resource Centre at the Chair is open to anyone who is interested in bioethics scholarship. The Chair is situated at the Egerton University's Main Campus, Njoro, in BH 36 on Mwalimu Road.

On 23 November 2023, Egerton University was the host for the UNESCO World Philosophy celebrations. The event was coordinated by Dr Nderitu and was organized and attended by representatives from the UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa based in Nairobi, the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO, the UNESCO Chair for Bioethics based at Egerton University, and the Bioethics Society of Kenya. The theme of the event was "Leveraging African Ubuntu and Eco-Philosophy Towards Attaining the Ideals of SDG 13 on Climate Action". The global theme for the event, which was celebrated on 16 November 2023, was "The Human of the Future". The Vice-Chancellor of Egerton University, Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage, was represented in the event by the Director of Research and Extension at the University, Prof. Nancy Mungai, who gave the Vice-Chancellor's remarks.



The front view of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences building at the Main Campus, Njoro, seen from the parking lot

AGED Partners with West Virginia University



Dr Flora Fedha

The Faculty of Education and Community Studies (FEDCOS) takes great pride in presenting its graduands for the 48th Graduation Ceremony. On behalf of the Faculty, I take this opportunity to congratulate each one of you on your academic achievement. We are proud of your accomplishments and join your family and friends in celebrating your success.

Your journey through FEDCOS has been marked by your exceptional commitment, consistency, determination, and the extra effort you have put into your studies. Your focus on learning, your thirst for knowledge, and your pursuit of excellence have made you stand out. You have not merely acquired knowledge; you have embraced it, nurtured it, and allowed it to blossom into wisdom.

As we come together today to celebrate the marvellous accomplishments of the graduands, we reflect on the vital aspects that have shaped their academic journey. We have seen you flourish not only in the classroom but also in the real world. Field Attachment, Teaching Practice, Internship, engagement in Mentorship, and the online enhancement programme on Competency Based Education and Training (CBET), have all enriched your education and prepared you for the challenges that lie ahead. You 678 students drawn from the 2018, 2019 and 2020 cohort underwent an online

enhancement programme from June to July 2024 to ensure your preparedness for the job market. This programme ran for five weeks with graduates attaining a CBET certificate.

Dear graduates, today marks the beginning of a new chapter in your lives. It is a chapter filled with promise, opportunities, and the potential for greatness. As you move forward, remember the lessons you have learned, the friendships you have made, and the values you hold dear. The future is bright, and you are poised to achieve the very best in life. On behalf of the entire Faculty, I extend our warmest wishes for your continued success and happiness.

FEDCOS offers quality education and produces competent professionals who become the principal vehicle for the socio-economic transformation of Kenya. It has four departments: Curriculum, Instruction and Educational Management (CIEM); Agriculture Education and Extension (AGED); Psychological Counselling and Educational Foundations (PSTCOEDFO); and Applied Community and Development Studies (ACDS). Each department has qualified academic staff who play a key role in imparting knowledge and sharpening learners.

The Faculty has prioritized activities and programmes in recognition of the Competency Based Curriculum. CBET workshops have been conducted for all staff, premised on the effective implementation of Competency Based Education (CBE). Our cohort of 2022 completed their first Teaching Practice in Junior Secondary Schools in May – August 2024, with Community Service Learning taking centre stage in line with the Commission for University Education Teacher Education Programmes Standards and Guidelines.

In the course of the past one year, FEDCOS has also been involved in workshops and review of curricula in our determination to ensure we are equipping students with the best

knowledge and linking them to the job market. On Education Inclusivity, in the 2023/2024 academic year, the Faculty through the Department of CIEM won a grant to receive a Visiting Professor from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, USA, under the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program, to design a special needs programme for our students. This collaboration, with support from the Ministry of Education, has culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Division of International Special Education and Services, Kenya Institute of Special Education, and Egerton University regarding a joint international conference in Kenya on 1–4 July 2025.

The Educational Management Society of Kenya, in collaborations with FEDCOS, co-hosted the 9th Annual International Conference on 12–13 October 2023 at Egerton University. The theme of the Conference was “Restructuring Education, Training, Research and Innovation for the 21st Century”. Other partners of the Conference included the Rift Valley Reading Association and the Social Sciences Association of Kenya.

Departmental Activities

The Faculty through the Department of CIEM are in collaboration with the Partnership of African Social Governance and Research and the German Academic Exchange Service to support Master of Research and Public Policy (MRPP) students through scholarships. The Department succeeded in securing full scholarship for six postgraduate students in the 2024/2025 academic year. Currently we have 12 postgraduate students who have benefited (six students in year two and six in year one): two students from Burundi, two from Uganda, one from Sierra Leone, one from Tanzania, and the rest from Kenya. In August 2024, four students got funding to attend a research training in three different universities in Germany.

AGED Partners with West Virginia University

The new education system – CBE – in Kenya is giving prominence to vocational and technical training with the intention of preparing learners practically for the world of work. To promote the learning of agriculture as a subject in primary schools, the government pushed for the rethinking of the role of 4K-Clubs in Kenya.

Jennifer Williams of West Virginia University (WVU), USA, offered to help in this task. Williams was a postgraduate student of renowned agriculturalist Robert Maxwell. In the 1960s, Maxwell, who served as the Dean, College of Agriculture and Forestry, at WVU secured a grant with USAID to support agricultural education in Kenya. He became the pillar of this endeavour. He aimed at making rural secondary education more practical and development-oriented. During this period, Maxwell worked in collaboration with Egerton Agricultural College, which was the only institution that offered agricultural education at the time, and trained the lead cohorts of teachers of agriculture in the country. His efforts were part of the broader collaborations between Kenya and the USA to enhance vocational training in agriculture. Nearly half a century after Maxwell left Kenya, Williams has taken up his mantle in helping to transform agricultural education through the youth by leading a collaboration with AGED. The partnership between AGED and WVU aims to change the perception of agriculture among the young pupils while equipping them



Jennifer Williams poses with pupils actively engaged in 4K and 4H Clubs during a school visit to promote the launch of 4K-Clubs.

with agricultural technologies for use in production and agriprenuership.

The journey that began in December 2023 led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding. Under it, ten primary schools have been recruited for participation. The staff from AGED, other members from FEDCOS, and Members from the Faculty of Agriculture will be Mentors in these schools, while the departmental Agricultural Education and Extension Student Association (AEESA) members will be the coaches. All the participants (school headteachers /deputies, club patrons, faculty, and AEESA members) were trained on volunteering and community service

learning by a team from WVU on 20 – 21 November 2024.

AGED and WVU are committed to transform learners' attitude towards agriculture and participate meaningfully in the agricultural food value across the two countries through School Gardens, Healthy Food for Schools, Utilizing Digital Agriculture for Engagement, FARMacy, Special Interest Clubs, Competitions, Events, Hackathons, and Cultural Understanding. Egerton University, through AGED, envisages to be the HUB for 4K-Clubs in Kenya. FEDCOS appreciates the support of the University Management in these efforts.

The Key to Success is Believing in Oneself and Chasing One's Dreams

By Dorothy Kyusya Kisilu, FEDCOS Graduand

I want to share a small part of my journey with you. Growing up in a humble background, I attended a local high school and worked tirelessly, ultimately achieving a B+. However, just as I was ready to pursue my dreams at university, my father, the breadwinner of our family of six, fell gravely ill, making higher education seem like an impossible dream.

Against all odds, I received a Kengen scholarship for top high school students, which allowed me to attend Egerton University and pursue the Bachelors of Education (Science) degree. Through perseverance and hard work, I transformed my challenges into a stepping stone for success. For with God everything is possible.

Throughout the years here in

Egerton, I have encountered countless challenges, both academic and personal. There were moments when I doubted myself, when the path ahead seemed uncertain, and the obstacles appeared insurmountable. Yet, through it all, I persevered. I found strength in my determination to have a better future

Turn to page 22

FERD Spearheads Tree Planting on Mazingira Day 2024



Prof. Wilkister N. Moturi

I am pleased to congratulate all the graduands on this Graduation Ceremony. Graduation time is one filled with nostalgia, as one remembers the long hours devoted to academic work and the struggles endured. It is a story of resilience and hope. As the Faculty of Environment and Resources Development (FERD), it is a joy to

present to you a total of 130 graduands who are well equipped to deal with diverse matters in Environmental Management.

As we celebrate our graduands, it is also important to celebrate achievements that have been made by staff and students of the Faculty as outlined below.

Two M.Sc. students from the Department of Environmental Science went for an Internship in Sorbonne University, France, from May to June 2024. Joseph Maira and Vararine Kipruto made the visit under the Erasmus+ (2023-2025) project, whose Principal Investigator (PI) is Prof. Wilkister Moturi.

The Egerton Climate Summit was a landmark event organized by Egerton University Environmental Association (EUEA) under the chairmanship of Mr Vincent Langat. It was held on 15 March 2024 at Education Theatre 2. It brought together environmental experts, academics, and activists to discuss the multifaceted challenges of climate change. The

summit was structured to foster an environment of learning, sharing, and planning actionable strategies for climate mitigation and adaptation. It was sponsored by TAGDev and CoElib of Egerton University.

During the 2024 Mazingira Day (marked on 10 October 2024), FERD spearheaded tree planting within the University. The activity was coordinated by student clubs in the Faculty, led by Mr Michael Obiya. Other clubs that joined the initiative include Peace Ambassadors Kenya-Egerton Chapter, One Health Club, Geographical Society of Egerton University, Youth for Green Action Kenya, Equity Leaders Club Egerton, Red Cross Egerton Chapter, and Faculty of Agriculture Students Association. The exercise was undertaken in Tatton Farm, and the main objective was re-forestation. The activity was funded by Equity Bank.

FERD has continued to spearhead the production of tree seedlings in the

Turn to page 23

Chasing One's Dreams

Continued from page 22

for myself and my family.

My family and friends, being my greatest supporters and my source of inspiration, encouraged me to pursue my passions. So did the Egerton fraternity, who made the four years possible through their unwavering dedication.

It is this unwavering perseverance that has brought me to this crucial moment. Each of us has faced our own unique set of challenges, but what unites us is our resilience and our ability to overcome adversity. Whether it was pulling all-nighters to finish a project, juggling multiple commitments, or tackling the intricacies of personal growth, we have proven to ourselves

that we can achieve great things.

Remember: Every obstacle is an opportunity in disguise. Your current challenges can lead to greater achievements if you keep pushing forward. Embrace your journey, learn from setbacks, and never underestimate the power of resilience. You hold the key to your future; believe in yourself and chase your dreams. The world is waiting for your unique contributions.

So, let us go forth with confidence, armed with the knowledge, skills, and resilience we have gained during our time here. Let us dream big, take risks, and make a difference in the world. Most importantly, let us never forget the power of perseverance in turning our



Ms Dorothy Kyusya Kisilu

dreams into reality, without forgetting that it is God who gives us the power to achieve great things. ■

Egerton University Students Share Transformative Experiences in Oslo

By Gilbert O. Obwoyere

Three Egerton University students have been enrolled for a semester at Oslo New University College (ONH) in Norway. The trio received Erasmus+ scholarships, which has allowed them to immerse themselves in Norwegian academic culture, research collaboration, and diverse cultural experiences. Their stay from August to December 2024 is expected to leave a lasting mark on their academic growth, cross-cultural learning, and mentorship from seasoned researchers and educators.

Brenda Mengich, a Master of Arts in Geography student, described her experience in Oslo so far as life-changing as follows: “The environmental consciousness in Norway is impressive, and I am able to study the political economy of sustainable resource management practices that are deeply integrated into everyday life. The Erasmus+ scholarship has opened my eyes to the possibilities of international collaboration in multidisciplinary and cross-cultural contexts.”

Beryl Adhiambo, pursuing a Master of Science in Natural Resources Management, emphasized the rich exchange of ideas at ONH. “I have had the opportunity to work on politicized natural resources conflicts in Norway. It is enlightening to explore these topics in a cross-cultural context. The seminars on gender equity, both in Norway and

globally, have been eye-opening. I have learned so much about how gender intersects with environmental policy in progressive societies. This scholarship has allowed me to gain new perspectives that I plan to integrate into my studies and future work,” she said.

Maurice Simiyu, a student of Agribusiness Management, noted the vibrant academic environment at ONH. “The University encourages a lot of independent thinking and research, which I find rewarding. The collaborative atmosphere at ONH has allowed me to network with students and researchers from across the globe. I have been able to enhance my knowledge of agribusiness management in relation to cross-cultural psychology and political economy, which are key issues back home in Kenya,” he recalled.

During their stay, the students were visited by Prof. Gilbert O. Obwoyere from the Department of Natural Resources and Dr Lilian Chesikaw from the Institute of Women, Gender and Development Studies at Egerton University. The visit, which took place between 12-21 September 2024, was part of a broader effort to strengthen research collaborations and foster long-term partnerships between Egerton University and ONH.

My observation is that these students have not only represented Egerton

University well but have also built bridges for future collaboration in the fields of natural resource management and gender studies. This partnership with ONH through the Erasmus+ programme has the potential to transform how we approach research and teaching at home. While at ONH. This author gave a seminar on “Politicized Natural Resources Conflicts in Africa”.

According to Dr Chesikaw, “The experience our students are gaining in Norway will enrich our own curriculum at Egerton University. Understanding how gender dynamics play out in different cultural and environmental contexts is key to addressing global challenges.”

The students' experiences reflect the transformative power of the Erasmus+ programme, which continues to provide invaluable academic and cultural opportunities for students across the world. As Brenda, Beryl, and Maurice return to Kenya, they will bring with them new skills, perspectives, and ideas that will contribute to their academic and professional journeys, as well as to the growth of Egerton University.

The author is Associate Professor of Landscape Ecology and Ecosystem Health, Department of Natural Resources, Faculty of Environment and Resources Development, Egerton University.

Message from Dean FERD

Continued from page 22

Agroforestry Nursery under the Department of Natural Resources. From July to October 2024, the nursery was able to raise 21,150 seedlings. These seedlings consist of Cypress, Casurina, *Olea Africana*, Blue gum, and Podo. The nursery has also been a source of fruit tree seedlings to the surrounding communities and beyond.

The Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) Mau Ecosystem Complex is a significant initiative focused on sustainable development and environmental conservation in the Mau

region of Kenya. It is housed in FERD. The Mau ecosystem is vital for biodiversity conservation and environmental sustainability in Kenya. It serves as a crucial watershed, affecting water supply, agricultural productivity, and the livelihoods of local communities. These are important services that help enhance the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Faculty hosted a workshop for stakeholders on 8 May 2024. Innovators, researchers, and practitioners under the auspice of the RCE congregated in

CMRT. Ongoing initiatives in the RCE regarding environmental sustainability were discussed, and research, practice, and innovations were showcased. Challenges facing the region were discussed and opportunities for collaborative activities identified. Different networks were formed to identify possibilities for the creation of synergies regarding the activities of the RCE. The workshop was sponsored using funds from an Alliance for Africa Partnership project, whose PI is Prof. Wilkister Moturi. ■

Dr Oscar O. Donde Wins 2024 National Outstanding Young Researchers Award

By Agnes Mwangi

Dr Oscar Omondi Donde, who teaches in the Department of Environmental Science, Egerton University, is the winner of the 2024 Outstanding/Best Kenyan Young Researcher and Scientist in Biological Sciences, Technology, and Innovation.

The Award was announced during the 2024 Kenya National Research Festival and National Outstanding Researcher Awards (NORA) ceremony held at the Edge Convention Centre, Nairobi, on 23 August 2024.

Dr Donde is an Environmental Microbiologist with a Ph.D. degree in Environmental Science from the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences. He has been a dedicated research scientist since joining Egerton University from Oduwo, a remote village in Muhoroni, Kenya, where he spent his childhood being raised by a single parent (his father) following the loss of his mother at a very young age.

At Egerton University, Dr Donde pursued a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Aquatic Sciences. He later received the Master of Science degree in

Limnology, also from Egerton.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Dr Donde serves as the Chair of the Department of Environmental Science in the Faculty of Environment and Resources Development.

Dr Donde is currently undertaking post-doctoral research at the University of Rennes, France, under the Make Our Planet Great Again (MOPGA) Programme. He dedicates his research achievements to his alma mater, Egerton University, his academic and research mentors, his family, all his research collaborators, and all young boys and girls from his home village of Oduwo who are currently engaged in the pursuit of academic excellence. He also expresses his gratitude to everyone who has been part of his research journey as well as to God.

The author is the Communication and Marketing Manager, Directorate of Marketing and Resource Mobilisation, Egerton University.



Dr Oscar O. Donde (right) receives a certificate recognizing his award as the 2024 Outstanding/Best Kenyan Young Researcher and Scientist in Biological Sciences, Technology, and Innovation at the Kenya National Research Festival held in Nairobi on 23 August 2024.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

Message from the Dean

FET Favourably Competes for Research Projects



Prof. Japheth O. Onyando

Congratulations to the graduands of the Faculty of Engineering and Technology (FET) and others during this 48th Graduation Ceremony of Egerton University. FET is proud of your success and wishes you great professional achievements as you continue advancing your career.

In addition to the graduation, FET has made a number of achievements in the recent past. These include recognition of its three engineering programmes by the Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK). These are Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, Civil

Engineering, and Electrical and Electronics Engineering. Following this development, former graduates who were not able to register with EBK can now take remedial courses, and upon successful completion they can apply for registration with EBK as graduate engineers. The first cohort started their studies on 7 November 2024.

On research, FET, with the support of the Centre for Integrated Water and Basin Management (CIWAB), has continued to favourably compete for research projects. A recent achievement

is Metro2SDGs, which focuses on nature-based solutions for metropolis. The project, which is funded by the National Research Fund, started at the beginning of this year and is implemented by a consortium of partners. These include Wagenigen University, Sun Yet-Sen University China, Egerton University, Eastern Switzerland University, University of Johannesburg, Beijing Normal University, and Vitens-Evides International (VEI, The Netherlands). It will last for three years and offers opportunities for postgraduate students at M.Sc. and Ph.D. levels. Another project that has been supporting postgraduate training in Agricultural Engineering and that is coming to completion soon is AfDB/Ministry of Education. Under this project 6 Ph.D.s out of a target of 8 with 2 graduating in the current graduation ceremony, and 10 M.Sc.s out of 14 have been trained. This is an overall completion rate of 73%, with the remaining candidates expected to

finish in the next two years.

On development projects, the Faculty, through CIWAB, has been implementing the Catchment to Tap (C2T) project, which focuses on transition of water from the catchment to the tap with emphasis on catchment protection to sustain water supplies. The consortium members in this project are WWF, World Waternet, VEI, KEWASNET, Acacia Watter, and Water Resources Authority. The current demonstrations sites supported by the project are in Kabatini Aquifer under Nakuru Water and Sanitation Company (NAWASCO) wellfield and upper River Kibos catchment under Kisumu Water and Sanitation Company (KIWASCO). In this project CIWAB is in charge of capacity development targeting the water sector and is currently developing a knowledge exchange platform supported by the Department of Computer Science. The platform will be used for blended training and also support the Ministry of Water in

monitoring achievement on SDG 6 which focuses on IWRM implementation. Under the same project, CIWAB has conducted short courses in various aspects of integrated water resources management to policy makers, managers, practitioners and end users.

The other project coordinated by CIWAB is training of tractor operators which has been going on for the last two years. The project implemented in conjunction with and supported by Hello Tractors has attracted a lot of attention from beneficiaries and organisations. One such organisation is the OCP group, which sponsored two staff members in the project to travel to China in August this year to participate in a conference on the use of Artificial Intelligence in farm machinery operations. Soon this technology will be incorporated as part of the training which has also continued to attract several dealers. ■

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Message from the Dean

Final-Year Students Benefit from Trauma Evaluation and Management Programme



Dr Samson Obure

Today, we gather not just to recognize your achievements but to reflect on the dedication, resilience, and passion that have

brought you to this moment. You have endured countless hours of study, participated in rigorous practicals, and engaged in meaningful discussions that have shaped you into the medical professionals you are becoming.

As you leave Egerton University, know that you carry with you not only the knowledge you have gained but also the values we uphold here. Integrity, dedication, and a commitment to excellence will be your guiding principles as you embark on this noble journey in healthcare.

The Faculty of Health Sciences, staff and students have been involved in various activities in this past year that have resulted in tremendous growth of the students and the Faculty as a whole.

One of the activities was to welcome

the first-year students after their admission into the University. Their faces beamed with the pride of having been admitted to a world-class university for the advancement of humanity as well as with hope. The Dean and the staff had an opportunity to interact and advise them on the importance of working smart. They were also cautioned to avoid bad company and anyone who would distract them in their quest for knowledge.

The Faculty was also involved in the management of patients who have undergone Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). The training is being rolled out for all final-year students in the MBChB, B.Sc. Nursing, and B.Sc. Clinical Medicine programmes in

response to the rising global challenge. This practice has increased and it affects the patient's morbidity and mortality especially during childbirth. The training is also meant to discourage health care workers from practising FGM.

The Department of Surgery, in collaboration with the Nakuru County Teaching and Referral Hospital, organized a two-day trauma course. Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) ought to be learned through observation and keen emulation. This could not have been made clearer than through the recently held Trauma Evaluation and Management (TEAM) programme. The event was attended by the Department lecturers, including Dr Nasio (Head of Department), Dr Mugenya, Dr Oduor, Dr Muchiri, Dr Makanga, Dr Onsomu; and visiting surgeons Professor Mcleod and Dr Omondi, and anaesthesiologist Dr Brenda. The attending students were final-year students in MBChB.

While our students get the chance to have clinical rotations at the Nakuru County Teaching and Referral Hospital, they do not always get hands-on surgical experience directly from the specialists at the hospital. As such, the Department, which is home to excellent specialists in the surgical field, sought



Dr Peter Oduor from the Department of Surgery conducts a lesson in Trauma, Evaluation and Management

to take the opportunity to sharpen the final-year students' surgical skills. This was not a matter of mastering new skills, but rather mastering the right techniques of the garnered skills and getting to push them to extra limits as they prepare to handle their patients in their next career phase in medical internship. The event was highlighted by the teachings on suturing techniques with the students' skills being tested,

corrected, and refined. Students were taught to intubate, chest tubes, fix pelvic binders and the correct gauze-packing technique in a haemorrhaging patient post-trauma.

Congratulations! Go forth and make your mark on the world. The future of healthcare is in your capable hands. We wish you well and we know you are ready to conquer the medical world.

FACULTY OF LAW

Message from the Dean

Egerton Team Wins Law Moot Court Competition



Dr Ruth Aura

Congratulations on reaching this significant milestone! This Graduation reflects the dedication, effort, and perseverance you have invested in preparing for a promising legal career. We acknowledge the invaluable support from your families and everyone involved in this journey.

As you step into a profession rich with opportunity, remember that integrity and discipline are vital. You are well-prepared to lead, serve, and represent your community, your alma mater, and the legal profession, which

holds you to high standards. Stay true to the values instilled in you, and continue to exemplify the excellence that Egerton University's Faculty of Law stands for.

Our students consistently engage in national and regional competitions, demonstrating their commitment to applying theory in practice. A highlight was the East African Law Students' Association Moot Court Competition held on 15–16 August 2024 at the East Africa Court of Justice in Arusha, Tanzania, where the Egerton University team emerged as champions, earning



Ms Anne Amadi, former Chief Registrar of the Supreme Court, shares her insights on the need for legal strategies to combat climate change conflicts in Baringo County during the Faculty of Law National Legal Aid Conference at Simba Lodge, Naivasha, on 23 October 2024.

the title of Inaugural Winner of the East African Community Law Moot Court Competition. One team member also ranked among the top four outstanding oral presenters.

Additionally, the Faculty of Law Legal Aid Project, supported by the United Nations Environment Programme, hosted the Fourth National Legal Aid Conference on Access to

Justice on 23–25 October 2024. With the theme “Climate Change and Environmental Justice”, the conference gathered stakeholders from regional and international institutions, academia, Civil Society Organisations, and development partners to advance environmental justice, particularly for disadvantaged and marginalized communities. The conference

concluded by reaffirming the shared responsibility to pursue climate justice as essential for addressing climate change globally. It also emphasized that achieving climate justice requires a collaborative and holistic approach that empowers all voices in the climate discourse.

As you move forward, let your passion to stand up for others guide you. ■

My Legal Journey at Egerton: Triumph and Gratitude

By Julius Lokosio Ebenyo, Best Law Student, 2020 Class

My journey at Egerton University can be described as an enlightening odyssey, which culminated in my first-class honours in law. My achievement is a testament to divine providence and unparalleled all-round support. For four transformative years, I immersed myself in scholarship and various enriching activities. These activities ranged from engaging in mooting, legal aid clinics that offered services to the community, debating, and in-depth research to utilizing a well-resourced library. I drew invaluable academic sustenance from both staff and students. Extracurriculars such as marathons, football, indoor games, and academic

trips offered a holistic experience, broadening my skills and perspectives.

I am profoundly grateful to the Almighty, whose guiding hand has steered me. My heartfelt thanks go to the University Management, whose dedication ensured a conducive academic environment; to the Dean and the Administrator, Faculty of Law, for their relentless insistence on academic excellence; and to my lecturers, whose mentorship honed my legal acumen. My appreciation extends to my senior and junior colleagues for their camaraderie and intellectual stimulation, and my parents, whose unwavering support fuelled my aspirations. ■



Mr Julius Lokosio Ebenyo

A Year Rich in Research Activities



Dr Steve O. Oduor

Dear graduands, the Faculty of Science takes this opportunity to congratulate you for your hard work and determination, which has culminated in your graduation today. We are proud to have produced over 320 graduating students, among the over two thousand graduands who are celebrating their academic achievement today.

Graduation is an exciting time, which marks both an ending of one's academic exploits and a beginning of a new life, as it ushers in the drive to go out and exploit the knowledge earned during the studies. The event gives warm memories of the past and brings in big dreams for the future. Today, as you receive the powers to read and do all that appertains to your respective degrees and diplomas, you have to look to the future with determination to succeed, as well as to be driven by a desire for even higher achievements.

Now that you have gotten hold of what you tirelessly and diligently worked for, we urge you to go out there and pursue your dreams. The training you have gone through in Egerton University has prepared you well to embark on the next phase of your life, be it through formal employment or informal placement as you build our dear country and the world in general.

The Faculty of Science has always endeavoured to provide its students with an excellent foundation in line with the institutional Vision, Mission, and Core Values. We remain committed to quality teaching, creation and application of

knowledge through pure and applied research, and dissemination of new knowledge through scholarly publications in forums that are locally and internationally recognized.

Apart from equipping our graduands with knowledge, skills, and attitudes that have enabled them to be here today, our staff have continued to contribute to knowledge generation through research. Our Faculty members are very active in research activities, through which they have continued to produce many publications in internationally peer-reviewed journals. They have also been actively participating in conferences and workshops, through which they have built strong networks and collaborations with their peers in respective areas of their expertise.

In the last one year, a number of our Faculty members have been out for academic and research visits. Dr Tabitha Amollo of the Department of Physics was away for a one-year postdoctoral fellowship at Michigan State University in the United States under the African Futures Research Leadership Programme, which is hosted by the Alliance for African Partnership. She has returned and resumed her duties in the Department. Dr Winfred Mulwa won a one-year postdoctoral fellowship by the Schlumberger Foundation, USA, and will be based in the Department of Physics, University of Texas at El Paso, where she has already travelled to. Dr Stephen A. Indieka of the Department of Biochemistry has also won a six-month postdoctoral fellowship within the Africa Institute for Capacity Development – the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB – AICAD) at ICGEB-New Delhi, India. He travelled to India to start the fellowship on 1 September 2024. Dr Mercy Wamalwa of the Department of Biological Sciences travelled to Vienna for research activities at BOKU, Vienna, between May and July 2024 under the Partner Exchange visit under the Africa- UniNet Project. Prof. Isabel Wagara and Dr Elick Otachi, both of the Department of Biological Sciences, together with partners from Bowie State University, won a USAID funded Fish Innovation Lab Project focussed on “Climate-smart

Integrated Agri-Aquaculture Systems for Food Security and Poverty Reduction in Kenya”. Prof. Josephat Matasyoh of the Department of Chemistry has been actively involved in a number of project activities with many visits to Germany and Austria for research work. Dr Geoffrey Ongondo of the Department of Biological Sciences had a two-month research visit to Mondsee, Austria, where he was based at the Research Department for Limnology, the University of Innsbruck, under the project “Next Generation Taxonomy (NGTax): Ciliophora and their endo-symbionts as proof of Concept”.

The Department of Biological Sciences has continued to run the international M.Sc. programme in Limnology and Wetlands Management together with BOKU University in Vienna, Austria, and UNESCO-IHE, Institute in the Delft, the Netherlands. In May 2024, we received 11 students under this programme who were joined by a group of five students from Ethiopia who were pursuing the M.Sc. degree in Aquatic Ecosystems and Environment Management (AEEM) course offered by Addis Ababa and Bahir Dar Universities for the Kenyan trimester of the programme. This programme was successfully concluded in October 2024 under the coordination of Prof. Nzula Kitaka. We are happy with this continued cooperation which has enabled a number of our students to benefit from the support given by the Austrian Development Cooperation, which is the key sponsor of the programme together with the Netherlands Government under the Orange Knowledge Programme that is run by Nuffic, the Netherlands.

We also continue to host a number of collaborators who periodically come for research visits and also give seminar talks on their research findings to our Faculty members. Generally, we have had a very successful year, with lots of academic activities.

Once again congratulations to you all, especially to our postgraduate graduands. We are truly proud of your achievements. Best wishes to you all as you embark on the next phase of career progression and further studies.

Happy Graduation Day!

Postgraduate Students Awarded International Scholarships

By Charles Muga

This year, a number of staff and students in the Department of Physics either participated in international conferences in various parts of the world or won scholarships that afforded them the opportunity to advance their academic goals within international contexts. There is no doubt that the knowledge that those concerned acquired from these experiences will go a long way in contributing to the development of Kenya and the world at large in their respective fields. Outlined below are details of the developments in question, including testimonies of the recipients of the opportunities.

Faculty Hosts Workshop

On 10 – 11 November 2022, the Faculty of Science held a workshop on materials for energy conversion and storage, information technology, environmental conservation, and radiation detection. The workshop aimed at fostering access to BESSY II, and the event opened up opportunities to fellowships for students in the Department of Physics.

Master of Science Student Undertaking Research in Germany

On 4th June 2024, Rohn Odhiambo Cephas, a Master of Science student in the Department of Physics, joined BESSY II, Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin für Materialien und Energie HZB, Berlin, Germany, for further research in his area of specialization. He testified as follows about his reaction to the development:

“I was more than happy to be listed among the International Summer School Students 2024 and to be afforded the opportunity to undertake the VIPERLAB project. In HZB, I am working on a project on perovskite solar cells, which I could barely do in Kenya, due to unavailability of the conditions required for their fabrication. A clean room and an inert environment are not something to even imagine in the labs I was working in back home. On the other hand, however, the unavailability of these conditions enables creativity in such countries. In Kenya, we are trying

to improvise similar apparatuses and materials in our labs – because science cannot be learned without practical and hands-on experience. Unarguably, the challenges are monumental, because some of these conditions are really difficult to improvise.

“As a young researcher from Kenya, I am grateful because of the opportunity to carry out research in well-equipped laboratories in HZB. I am interacting with renowned researchers from not just Germany but the world as a whole. The knowledge I am deriving from these interactions have sharpened my research capabilities as well as increased my knowledge about science in general. More importantly, I have obtained altogether new knowledge as well as modern skills in my area of concentration. I have evolved a love for research and an inspiration to pursue studies in the field of science that are greater than what I had before I came here. I feel that I have been inspired by an inner force to build up a powerful

forward movement that cannot be stopped by any external force, and I am convinced that I will continue to move forward in accordance with Newton’s First Law of Motion”.

Lecturer Wins Global Award

Dr Winfred Mueni Mulwa of the Department of Physics emerged as a global winner in the Schlumberger Foundation Faculty for the Future award. The value of the award, a research grant that comes with the opportunity to conduct post-doctoral research at the University of Texas at El Paso, is USD65,000. In her response to the grant, Dr Mulwa observed:

“Receiving the Schlumberger Foundation Faculty for Future award holds a special significance for me. I was more excited than ever to continue championing the Stem Agenda for secondary school girls as well as to play my role in stimulating a culture of change – because to make an impact on these girls is my goal. This is my full



Mr Rohn Odhiambo, a postgraduate student in the Department of Physics, Egerton University, conducts a research at a laboratory at the Helmholtz-Zentrum, Berlin, Germany.

circle moment, and it feels deeply fulfilling.”

Dr Mulwa's achievements in that connection were highlighted by the Nation Media group in a story published in the *Daily Nation* newspaper on 12 August 2024.

Master of Science Student Visits Russia's Rosatom Technical Academy

Ms Mercy Chebwogen, a Master of Science student in the Department of Physics, was among a group of female professionals drawn from around the world who were privileged to visit various high-level technical facilities in Russia. In her testimony, she stated as follows:

“I visited the Obninsk and Moscow branches of Rosatom Technical Academy with a group of 50 women from 25 countries. The visit aimed to equip female professionals in the nuclear sector with cutting-edge knowledge in the industry. The programme featured several female leaders from ROSATOM and EWAP, who helped the participants prepare strategies for their career journeys while advocating for equity, inclusion, and diversity in the nuclear industry. In particular, the programme helped me acquire innovative and career-building

skills in the field of Nuclear Science. Two tours in particular, one to the Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) at Obninsk and the other to the brand-new ATOM museum and knowledge hub in Moscow, provided me with insightful information relating the development and application of nuclear energy during its formative stages, as well as how nuclear energy has evolved towards its current relatively safe utilization. During discussions on the 70 years of operation of the NPP at Obninsk, I learned, among other things, that nuclear radiation and its practical application began a long time ago, and that its current usage should be directed towards innovation and advancements in various fields of application.”

Master of Science Student Participates in International Women's Day

Ms Janet Wamuyu Njoroge, a Master of Science student in the Department of Physics, was among those who participated in the International Women's Day Conference held in Vienna, Austria, on 8 March 2024. She observed as follows about the experiences she underwent at the event:

“I was privileged to participate in the International Women's Day Conference held at Vienna, Austria. It was

wonderful interacting with women from diverse academic, social, and career backgrounds. The main theme was women's inclusivity in scholarly discussions of nuclear energy, a male-dominated field. Among other things, the Conference paid homage to the most influential women in the field of nuclear science, most importantly Marie Curie and Lisa Meitner, who entered the profession of science at a time when very few women were pursuing higher education. Since then, quite a number of courageous and visionary women have climbed up the ladder, offering great leadership and contributing immensely to society in that respect.

“Through interactive sessions with such honourable women, I was convinced that I could give life a meaning by creating solutions to existing problems. I was exposed to many national and international organizations, networks, and platforms through which I could develop my profession beyond where I had reached at that point. I became aware of altogether new issues that are of concern to nations around the world that could be resolved through the application of nuclear energy to practical experiences. One of the lessons I acquired was about how I could balance equitably between my family and my career responsibilities. I was by no means the only one; many other women confessed that this was a challenge to them as well. In general, I received many tips on how to maintain a happy, thriving family while at the same time continuing to progress professionally – especially by maintaining a supportive family. In view of this, I call upon all of us to support our women to achieve their visions. Many thanks to IAEA, in collaboration with MSCFP and Lisa Meitner, for the opportunity.”

Student Wins IUVA Scholarship

Ms Marion Kerubo, a Master of Science student in the Department of Physics, was awarded the International Ultraviolet Association (IUVA) scholarship and, through which she was able to attend the IUVA conference held in the USA. She reacted to the development as follows:

“This year, I was honoured to receive



The main entrance of the Physical Science Complex at Egerton University's Main Campus in Njoro.

Turn to page 31

Egerton Transforming Lives through the RCV Fellowship

By Nzula Kitaka

Egerton University continues to impact lives through its Rotary Club Vienna (RCV) Fellowship, a programme that equips individuals with leadership, research, and community development skills. By promoting innovation and collaboration, the fellowship seeks to tackle key societal issues and encourage sustainable growth. Participants engage in practical projects, receive mentorship, and participate in capacity-building efforts that benefit both local communities and their own personal and professional development. The RCV Fellowship reflects the University's ongoing dedication to cultivating future leaders who are committed to making a positive difference. Below are brief stories of two RCV scholarship recipients from this year's graduating cohort.

Mr Alex Kidiva

A story isn't complete until it reaches its peak and conclusion. This Graduation marks a special day for me, because it is a true academic accomplishment. Reflecting on this moment, I'm reminded that "success is only meaningful and fulfilling when it's truly your own." Pursuing an M.Sc. degree in Limnology at Egerton University gave me a deep understanding of effective water conservation strategies, a critical skill as climate change increasingly threatens livelihoods. It also offered insights into the future of education and equipped me with the innovative skills I need in order for me to navigate the complex relationship between climate change, water, land, and food systems.

I am immensely grateful to my supervisors, Prof. Nzula Kitaka and Prof. Andrew W. Yasindi, for their mentorship and guidance. My heartfelt thanks also go to the Biological Science Department at Egerton University for their support.

Lastly, I express my deepest appreciation to the Rotary Club of Vienna, whose generous fellowship made my dream a reality. Above all, I thank the Almighty God for the strength and supportive network He provided. As it is said, "In his heart, a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps!"

Mr Japheth Tembo

I come from Kilifi North Sub-County, Kilifi County, a region marked by economic struggles and marginalization. Growing up in a family of eight, our main sources of income were casual labour and small-scale farming, which relied heavily on unpredictable rainfall. Despite these challenges, I persevered, balancing my studies with financial responsibilities during primary school. Education became my guiding light, and I recognized that earning a university degree was essential to breaking my family's cycle of poverty. Graduating in 2017 was monumental, not only as the first in my family to achieve this milestone but also as a beacon of hope for others facing similar struggles. Yet, I knew my journey was just beginning and that continued support was crucial for my growth.

My passion for nature and conservation was ignited during my undergraduate studies in Zoology and Botany, and it deepened as I volunteered in various conservation projects. Pursuing an M.Sc. degree in Limnology at Egerton University transformed my understanding of aquatic resource conservation. The programme provided me with invaluable hands-on experiences, for which I am immensely grateful to the Rotary Club of Vienna, led by Professor Nzula

Turn to page 32

Post-Graduate Students Awarded International Scholarships

Continued from page 30

the IUVA scholarship, which not only recognized my research in perovskite solar cells (PSCs) but also allowed me to participate in the 2024 IUVA Conference. My work specifically explores the integration of solar energy with UV technology as a sustainable solution for clean water access. By tuning the perovskite absorber layer, I aim to improve the efficiency and stability of the PSCs, making them a viable power source for UV disinfection systems in underserved communities. The conference brought together leading experts, researchers, and industry professionals from around the

world, all passionate about the potential of UV technology to address critical global challenges. I was impressed by the applications discussed, from water and air disinfection to medical sterilization and food safety. It was inspiring to witness how UV technology is being used to address some of the most pressing issues of our time, including public health, environmental sustainability, and clean energy solutions. During the event, I had the privilege of being included as a Member of the IUVA Young Professionals committee, a platform that allows emerging leaders in UV technology to

engage with the broader industry community. This role is an exciting opportunity for me to contribute to the future of UV innovation while building connections with peers and mentors in the field. The 2024 IUVA Conference has been an empowering experience as it offered not only technical knowledge and research insights but also personal and professional growth opportunities."

The author is the Chair, Department of Physics, Egerton University.

Collin Kipkurui Wins Students Research Project Award



Dr Caleb Oburu Orege

On behalf of the entire fraternity of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, I extend my hearty congratulations to all those graduating at this 48th Egerton University Convocation. I wish you well in your future life as you prepare to be part of nation-building, more so as you contribute to the growth of the animal resource industry. The Faculty continues to utilize its collaborations and partnerships, both at national and international levels, together with playing its contribution in community outreach and extension to assist the University achieve its mandate. Towards this end, a number of activities

have been undertaken recently, as outlined below.

The Faculty Dean was among the Egerton University delegation that were invited by the Minister of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment of the Republic of Seychelles to conduct a needs assessment for potential collaboration in Education and Agriculture with Egerton University. The event took place between 26 September and 2 October 2024.

The Faculty has successfully established a Memorandum of Understanding with Tuskegee

Turn to page 33

RCV Fellowship

Continued from page 31

Kitaka and Florian Demmer. Their fellowship enabled me to immerse myself in my studies and engage in significant conservation initiatives.

One of my most notable accomplishments was participating in groundbreaking research on freshwater eels in the Western Indian Ocean region. This project was the first of its kind in Kenya and East Africa, allowing me to publish the region's inaugural paper on eel conservation. This experience enhanced my knowledge and confidence as a researcher. The Limnology programme also provided opportunities for me to connect with the scientific community, improving my communication skills and fostering my independence in research.

Currently, I am applying my knowledge in the conservation sector, focusing on initiatives that empower local communities through marine resource conservation, sustainable ecotourism, and mariculture development. Looking ahead, I plan to pursue the Ph.D. degree in natural resource governance and sustainable fisheries management. The knowledge



Mr Japhet Tembo (centre) engages members of the Mtongani Kidundu Self-Help Group in Kilifi in a discussion of the socioeconomic aspects of mangrove ecosystems.

I will derive from the programme will enable me to contribute to innovative research as well as to address critical conservation issues while uplifting communities like mine.

The author is the RCV Fellowship Coordinator and Associate Professor in Aquatic Science, Egerton University.

2024-2028 University Academic Catalogue Out



Prof. Micah C. Chepchieng

On behalf of the Board of the Directorate of Undergraduate Studies, I take this opportunity to say congratulations to all the graduands of the 48th Graduation Ceremony. Your hard work and

determination have led you to this incredible achievement. May your future be as bright as your success today.

The Directorate of Undergraduate Studies plays a key role in the realization of the University's strategic objective of providing quality higher education and training. The Directorate ensures that the programmes offered at the University are competitive and aligned to market needs, through coordination of timely review and development of client-driven quality academic programmes.

To this end, in the 2023-2024 academic year, the Directorate coordinated the review of all the undergraduate academic programme curricula of the University by departments and faculties. The review process took into consideration the students' and other stakeholders'

feedbacks on our academic programmes. The review was also informed by the Commission for University Education new guidelines for designing curriculum of university academic programmes and the requirements of the Competency Based Education and Training (CBET).

The product of the review is the 2024-2028 University Academic Catalogue, which has been implemented with the 2024 First years. The catalogue will be the last catalogue for the 8.4.4 Curricula.

In due course, the Directorate will commence a comprehensive review of the University curricula in readiness for the Competency Based Curriculum, whose first cohort is expected to be enrolled at the University in the 2029/2030 academic year.

Kipkurui Wins Project Award

Continued from page 32

University in Alabama, USA, and Veterinary International with emphasis on Student/Faculty exchange programmes, grant writing proposals, and advanced training to Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine students.

The Faculty through the Department of Veterinary Surgery, Theriogenology and Medicine hosted the 8th cohort of capacity development training in Artificial Insemination in cattle from 5 to 30 August 2024 for the veterinary practitioners aimed at upgrading their skills. The training attracted 43 participants drawn from 21 counties of Kenya. One foreign participant was part of this training, a clear demonstration of the demand of this unique skill-based training across Africa. Being the second training in the year, the numbers add on to those registered in an earlier training in this year that attracted up to 27 participants. The training aims at equipping veterinary practitioners with hands-on insemination skills. Well-

trained inseminators are an essential resource in enhancing and improving the productivity in the dairy sector through proper sire and dam selection that suit the changing environmental conditions, thus improving the performance of dairy cows through their successive generations.

We are keen on mentoring students in research and to this end Mr Collin Kipkurui, a second-year Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery student under the guidance of Dr Samuel Nyaga of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology was awarded the Students Research Project Award by the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare. He will be conducting a study on Keel Bone Damage in Chicken. The laboratory work is being undertaken in the osteology laboratory of the Department. Further, the same Department will host the 1st Intensive Laboratory Animal Science course in collaboration with

“The training attracted 43 participants drawn from 21 counties of Kenya. One foreign participant was part of this training, a clear demonstration of the demand of this unique skill-based training across Africa.”

colleagues from Utrecht University between 18 and 29 November 2024. The course seeks to build capacity of researchers and technicians to enable them conduct scientifically sound and ethical experiments using animals as models. This will be the first of its kind in Kenya funded by the Laboratory Animal Limited. The training is being coordinated by Dr Samuel Nyaga. ■

You Are Now Experts in Your Fields



Prof. George M. Ogendi

Graduation marks the time when we celebrate the achievements of all our students. The event also provides an opportunity for us to reflect on the perseverance, determination, effort, and hard work, on the part of the entire University fraternity, that went into preparing the present group of students for graduation. This is why the ceremony is such an important milestone in the University calendar.

On behalf of the Board of Postgraduate Studies (BPGS), I take this opportunity to congratulate all the graduands of the 48th Graduation Ceremony, particularly the postgraduate students. You are all winners, since you never gave up even when everything seemed oblique and uncertain. You endured sleepless nights, despair, and absence from your families' activities, yet you have made it count in your professional journey. Your determination, dedication and perseverance kept you going.

Your graduation is a major milestone in your professional development because, with the skills and knowledge you have acquired, you are now ready to provide solutions to the many challenges that face our communities. I urge you to ensure that you utilize that expertise to make a difference in the world. In this respect, it is important

that you are always proactive and an integral part of the change you would wish to see in the world.

Special appreciation goes to the family members of the graduands, particularly their parents and guardians, for providing financial support to them, which enabled them to complete their studies. The many social and financial sacrifices you made in support of the dreams and aspirations of the graduands cannot go unnoticed. We appreciate you all!

At Directorate of Postgraduate Studies (DPGS), we continue to support and serve our post-graduate students with diligence. We are determined to make their studies comfortable while at the same time adhering to the Egerton University Statutes and the Commission for University Education regulations. As a Directorate, we are honoured to have walked with you in this eventful and rewarding journey. Egerton University has prepared you to go out into the world and face the challenges ahead of you successfully. The world today has become a global village, one that requires radical shifts, open mindedness, innovativeness, and actions that are solution-oriented and that have no boundaries. That is what you must ensure you achieve from now on in order for you to make the world more hospitable in line with Egerton's Vision of a world-class University for the advancement of humanity.

For the doctorate degree graduands, today's ceremony marks an important milestone in your career as a thinker, a problem solver, and a leader. This implies that whatever you say from today on will be listened to very keenly, since it will be uttered by an expert and a professional in their area of knowledge. For the Master's graduands, the opportunity to access the academic and professional superhighway has been opened up for you. Equipped with the skills and knowledge you have acquired from Egerton University, your journey has just started.

“We make it a point to continually follow up with Examiners to submit thesis examination reports on time and to schedule thesis defenses promptly.”

In recent times, DPGS has embarked on a number of measures that are designed to enhance postgraduate student's completion rates. Among them are the training and retooling of Supervisors on pedagogy and supervision of postgraduate students; continuous evaluation of Ph.D. proposals; timely submission of student progress reports; appointment of new Supervisors and Examiners on a continuous basis; and timely ratification of the accruing decisions in our Board meetings.

We make it a point to continually follow up with Examiners to submit thesis examination reports on time and to schedule thesis defenses promptly. We are confident that with these actions and interventions, more of our postgraduate students will complete their studies on time.

Lastly, I wish to thank all the BPGS and staff members, who work tirelessly to ensure that our postgraduate students not only make progress but also have access to all the documents required to facilitate their proposal and thesis submissions as well as to ensure that they meet our guidelines and requirements. This is ascertained by the quality of projects and theses being submitted to the Graduate School and to the University Library.

A special appreciation goes to all the Supervisors and Examiners for their tireless efforts in guiding the students to completion of their studies. ■

Directorate Enhances Postgraduate Student Completion Rates

By George M. Ogendi

The Directorate of Postgraduate Studies (DPGS) at Egerton University has come up with a number of interventions aimed at enhancing the completion rate of postgraduate studies. One of the measures consists of empowering Supervisors with the skills and knowledge required to successfully carry out the important responsibility of guiding students in their research proposal development, research design and data collection, and thesis writing and dissemination of research findings. Supervisors are not only expected to supervise the students' work but to also advise and mentor the students in their academic and professional life. Such is the role of a Supervisor, who, in most cases, plays various roles in steering the student towards completion of their studies within the prescribed time.

On 1 – 4 July 2024, in a move designed to address the concerns of both Supervisors and students with respect to supervision, the DPGS organized an inaugural three-day capacity-building workshop on postgraduate supervision and mentorship for senior academic staff from the University's eleven academic faculties and institutes. The training workshop was held in the University's Physical Science Theatre Room 3.

The need-driven get-together saw an impressive turnout, averaging 130 participants per day, with Monday 1 July 2024 recording the highest number of 150. The high turnout of the participants reflected the growing interest among Supervisors to enhance their supervision and mentorship capabilities.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration, Finance & Planning), Prof. Richard M. S. Mulwa, represented the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics, Research & Extension), Prof. Bernard O. Aduda during the opening ceremony.

“Egerton is part of the seven-institution cluster of comprehensive

universities in the country,” Prof. Mulwa observed in his closing remarks. “It is part of the global tertiary institutions providing quality education to scholars from all over the globe. I encourage supervisors to have a good relationship with postgraduate students since they are adults and could be your colleagues.”

Prof. Mulwa emphasized that student supervision should be conducted willingly and professionally, ensuring that the allocation of Supervisors is handled professionally at the department level, as guided by the Egerton University Statutes.

“Avoid loading one Supervisor with too many students,” Prof. Mulwa cautioned. “Match students' research interests with Supervisors' expertise and competencies. Postgraduate student completion will be improved if only the student and Supervisor work as a team, regularly consult with each other, and provide progress reports to DPGS.”

Prof. Nancy Mungai, the Director of Research at Egerton, who graced the event during the closing ceremony, commended the DPGS for organizing the training workshop, which she termed long overdue and a necessity. She pointed out that most academic staff hardly undergo skills development and training on postgraduate supervision. She was impressed with the turnout, pointing out that the workshop was bound to have a positive impact on the postgraduate student completion rate at the University.

Speaking at the same event, the Director of Postgraduate Studies noted that the theme of the workshop, “Workshop on Supervision and Mentorship,” provided an excellent opportunity for postgraduate Supervisors to learn about the importance of supervision and mentorship. It also allowed them to share their challenges and explore ways to improve postgraduate completion at the University.

He asked the participants to take an active lead role in supervision of their students, ensuring that they build relationships that are professional in nature, that will be long-lasting, and that will enhance career prospects for the University's graduates. He also emphasized the need for a social support system not only for postgraduate students but also for the supervisors, who, in the course their duty, face many socioeconomic and psychosocial challenges.

The training workshop was held courtesy of Egerton University's project Transforming African Agricultural Universities to Meaningfully Contribute to Africa's Growth and Development (TAGDev).

The workshop targeted senior academic staff members who are involved in teaching and supervising Masters and doctoral degree students. The demand-driven congregation tackled a good number of topics, including “Guidelines for Supervisor Selection,” “Ethical Issues in Supervision,” “Strategies for the Timely Completion of Postgraduate studies,” “Plagiarism,” and “Conflict Management.” Participants highlighted the need to manage conflicts between Supervisors and students, to address language barriers faced by international students, and to ensure proper access to research funds. In addition, they discussed the challenges of supervising local and international students, as well as the need for clearer postgraduate admissions criteria.

A number of issues that required resolution were raised at the workshop. Among them were the need to align postgraduate programme practices with University standards, the need to streamline the allocation of Supervisors to postgraduate students, and the need to overcome delays in processing of applications, proposals and thesis examination. In this respect, significant discussion focused on the importance of

adhering to the stipulated procedures and guidelines from the Directorate of Postgraduate Studies in proposal development, execution of the research, and thesis writing.

The participants were taken through the Guidelines for Research Proposal Development, Thesis Writing, and Thesis Examination Procedures. Supervisors were called upon to hasten proposal and thesis examination and defenses in order to enhance postgraduate student completion. Participants appreciated the mechanisms and procedures that have been put in place to ensure that the quality standards in proposal and thesis examinations are maintained.

Among the key recommendations from the workshop were the following: that regular workshops should be held (preferably once every academic year)

to build the capacity of Supervisors; that rubric-based assessments for thesis examinations, timely payment of both internal and external examiners should be adopted; and that more faculty members should be encouraged to participate in such trainings.

The workshop also highlighted the need for adequate financial resources to support these initiatives, as well as to embrace online and blended defenses so as to avoid delays such as those that are sometimes witnessed in cases where students and/or some of the examiners are out of the country.

The success of the training workshop marked a significant step towards improving postgraduate supervision and completion rates at the University. The interactive sessions between facilitators and participants

provided valuable insights and feedback, fostering a sense of collaboration and a shared commitment to academic excellence for our learners and academic staff.

The University will continue to ensure that its postgraduate Supervisors are well-equipped with the capabilities required to mentor and guide a new generation of scholars, who should be able to contribute effectively to national and global development.

The author is the Director, Postgraduate Studies, Egerton University.

Ph.D. GRADUANDS

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE



Abrehet Fisseha Gebremeskel

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Food Science

Thesis Title:
Crude Sesame (Sesame Indicum L.) Oil Quality Assurance through Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points and Application of Natural Antioxidant in Crude Sesame Oil Stability: The Case of the Small-Scale Processing Plants in Western Tigray, Ethiopia

Supervisors:
Dr Peninah N. Ngoda
Dr Elizabeth Kamau Mbuthia
Prof. Symon M. Mahungu



Janet Nyagucha Obanyi

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Crop Protection

Thesis Title:
The Role of Field Margin Vegetation and Natural Enemies in the Management of Bean Aphids on Dolichos Bean (Lablab Purpureus L.)

Supervisors:
Prof. Joshua O. Ogenko
Prof. Richard M.S. Mulwa
Dr Jane G. Nyaanga



Francis Gichuho Irungu

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Nutritional Sciences

Thesis Title:
The Effects of Magnetic Induction on Physicochemical, Nutritional, Glycoalkaloids, Antioxidants, and Postharvest Losses of Stored Potatoes

Supervisors:
Prof. Symon M. Mahungu
Prof. Francis G. Ndiritu
Dr. Chrysantus M. Tanga



Gidraf Onduru Okeyo

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Crop Protection

Thesis Title:
Management of Bacterial Wilt (Ralstonia Solanacearum) of Potato (Solanum Tuberosum) Using Plant Extracts and Host Plant Resistance

Supervisors:
Dr Miriam K. Charimbu
Dr Jane G. Nyaanga
Dr Thiago Mendes



Nangobi Racheal

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Agribusiness Management

Thesis Title:
Institutional and Management Factors Influencing Sustainability of Farmer Organisations in Uganda

Supervisors:
Prof. Patience Mshenga
Assoc Prof. Mugonola Basil



Atsiaya Obwina Godfrey

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Economics

Thesis Title:
Agrometeorological Information Access and Adaptation to Climate Variability Nexus: Case of Smallholder Sorghum Farmers in Busia County, Kenya

Supervisors:
Dr Eric Obedy Gido
Dr Kenneth Waluse Sibiko



Lilian Auma Okiro

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Biotechnology
Thesis Title:
Genetic Study of Resistance to Bacterial Wilt Disease (Ralstonia Solanacearum) in Potato and Characterization of Prevalent Pathogenic Strains in Kenya
Supervisors:
Prof. Richard M. S. Mulwa
Dr Maurice Oyoo



Virate Jepkogei Kiprop

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Food Science
Thesis Title:
Analysis of the Impact of Gum Arabic From Acacia Senegal Var. Kerensis on the Techno-Functional Properties of Maize and Cassava Flours and Starches.
Supervisors:
Prof. Symon M. Mahungu
Prof. Mary N. Omwamba



Obara Justus Anyieni

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Biotechnology
Thesis Title:
In-Vitro Regeneration, Genetic Transformation and Evaluation of Maize (Zea Mays L.) for Resistance to Maize Lethal Necrosis Disease
Supervisors:
Prof. Richard M. S. Mulwa
Dr Maurice Oyoo
Dr Miriam Charimbu



Fredrick Odiwuor Agutu

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Animal Sciences
Thesis Title:
Sustainable Use of Estrus Synchronization and Artificial Insemination in Sahiwal Cattle for Improved Performance of Pastoral Herds in Semi-Arid Kenya
Supervisors:
Prof. Bockline Omedo Bebe
Prof. James Ombiro Ondiek
Dr Samuel Mwanzia Mbuku



Binaissa Uassaleia Levene Castiano

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Breeding
Thesis Title:
Stability and Genetic Analyses of Common Bean (Phaseolus Vulgaris L.) for Root Traits and Seed Yield In Marginal Environments in Central Mozambique
Supervisors:
Dr Pascal O. Ojwang
Prof. Paul K. Kimurto



Lilian Atieno Ouma

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Agronomy
Thesis Title:
Influence of Genotype, Growth Stage and Temperature Variations on Anti-Nutritive Properties of Potential Fodder Sorghum in Kenya
Supervisors:
Prof. Erick K. Cheruiyot
Prof. Joshua O. Ogendo



Hezekiah Korir

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Soil Science
Thesis Title:
Native Rhizobia and Phosphate Solubilizing Bacteria as Potential Biofertilizers for Common Bean (Phaseolus Vulgaris L.)
Supervisors:
Prof. Nancy W. Mungai
Dr Victor W. Wasike



Mutyaba John Livingstone

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Economics
Thesis Title:
Effect of Information Links and Flow through Social Networks in Exposing Smallholder Farmers to Cage Fish Farming Technologies in Uganda
Supervisors:
Prof. Margaret Ngigi
Dr Oscar Ingasia Ayuya



Joseph Jabu Mbudzya

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Economics
Thesis Title:
Effect of Land Tenure Security on Household Food Security and Women Empowerment Among Small-Holder Maize Farmers in Narok County, Kenya
Supervisors:
Dr Eric Obedy Gido
Prof. George Owuor



FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Gilbert Harrison Muyumbu

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in History
Thesis Title:
Restraining the State from Excesses: the Role Played by the Law Society of Kenya, 1920–2022
Supervisors:
Prof. Reuben Matheka
Dr Dorothy Nyakwaka



Lawrence Okidi

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Food Science
Thesis Title:
Influence of Agroecology on Undernutrition and Microbial Safety of Foods Consumed by Children Under Five Years in Karamoja Sub-Region of Uganda
Supervisors:
Prof. Joseph. W. Matofari
Prof. Patrick. S. Muliro
Prof. Duncan Ongeng



FACULTY OF COMMERCE

Chirchir Francis Kipkoech

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Business and Management
Thesis Title:
Capital Structure, Firm Characteristics, Corporate Governance and Financial Performance of Non-Financial Firms Listed at Nairobi Securities Exchange in Kenya
Supervisors:
Prof. Fredrick M. Kalui
Dr Justus Tari

FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STUDIES



Lomonyang Ekwam

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction

Thesis Title:
Relationship between Cultural Factors and Secondary School Students' Performance in Chemistry in Samburu County, Kenya

Supervisors:
Prof. Fred N. Keraro
Dr Joel K. Ng'eno



Nyakwara Agnes Zilpher

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Science

Thesis Title:
Gender Roles and Environmental Risk Factors Associated with Fall Armyworm Mitigation Practices on Maize in Bomet County, Kenya

Supervisors:
Prof. Wilkister N. Moturi
Dr Moses Esilaba



Antony Mugira Arimba

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Science Education

Thesis Title:
Effects of Case Based Learning, Team Based Learning and Regular Teaching Methods on Secondary School Students' Achievement and Self- Concept in Chemistry in Maara Sub-County, Tharaka Nithi County, Kenya

Supervisors:
Dr Zephania Orato Anditi
Dr David Kuria Wamukuru



Jackob Haywood Jack Ondiko

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Geography

Thesis Title:
Drought Drivers, Projection And Effects On Cereal Yields and Smallholder Farmers' Adaptation Strategies In Makueni County, Kenya

Supervisors:
Dr Amon M. Karanja
Dr Obulinji W. Humphreys
Prof. Kennedy Nyabuti Ondimu



Naomi Ng'endo Muriuki

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Community Studies and Extension

Thesis Title:
Relationship Between Selected Communication Channels and Adoption Process of Hermetic Bags Storage Technology by Smallholder Maize Farmers in Nakuru County, Kenya

Supervisors:
Dr Catherine Ng'endo Munyua
Prof. Dolphine Odero-Wanga

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY



Samuel Otieno Abich

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Engineering

Thesis Title:
Modeling and Evaluation of Tractor Wheel Traffic Compaction Effect on Subsoiling Draft in the Agricultural Farm of Egerton University, Kenya

Supervisors:
Prof. Daudi Nyaanga
Prof. Ayub N. Gitau



Philip Kimutai Arap Kirui

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Management

Thesis Title:
Relationship between Selected School Characteristics and Principals' Perceptions on Cost Efficiency in Public Secondary Schools of Bomet County, Kenya

Supervisors:
Dr David Kuria Wamukuru
Dr Flora Fedha



Vitalis Kibiwot Ngelechei

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Engineering

Thesis Title:
Modelling Engine Performance and Emissions Fueled by Biodiesel Blends for Optimal Operation

Supervisors:
Prof. Daudi M. Nyaanga
Dr Musa R. Njue
Prof. George O. Owino

FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT



Margaret Nyabwari Mosse

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Natural Resources Management

Thesis Title:
Socio-Economic, Institutional and Ecological Dynamics of Crocodile Ranching in Lower River Tana, Kenya

Supervisors:
Dr Wilfred O. Odadi
Dr Grace W. Kibue

FACULTY OF SCIENCE



Divinah Kwamboka Nyamboki

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry

Thesis Title:
Antibacterial, Antidermatophytic and Cytotoxic Secondary Metabolites From *Bersama abyssinica* subsp. *abyssinica*, subsp. *paulliniodes* and Their Endophytic Fungi

Supervisors:
Prof. Josphat C. Matasyoh
Prof. Dr Michael Spittler



Chepkoech Beatrice Cheserek

Programme:
Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Science

Thesis Title:
Influence of Socio-Ecological Factors on the Dispersal of Greater Kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*, Pallas, 1766) in the Lake Bogoria Landscape, Baringo County, Kenya

Supervisors:
Prof. George M. Ogendi
Prof. Paul M. Makenzi

IWGDS Takes Extension Services to Schools



Dr Lilian Rotich Chesikaw

Take this opportunity, on behalf of the Institute of Women, Gender and Development Studies (IWGDS), to congratulate all the graduands for your great achievement. Your participation in this Graduation Ceremony is the result of the unwavering devotion and effort that you put into your studies over the period of time you were a student of Egerton University. Graduation signifies a newly acquired status, one that makes one look at the future from a new perspective. The virtues that you have acquired in the course of the period you have been at the University will afford you the opportunity to compete effectively in the job market. You are the change agents that the society is waiting for in order to enhance fairness and development, in the sense that you are all equal to the task. In this respect, IWGDS encourages all of you to further your education beyond your graduation, so that you can stand better opportunities to enhance the sustainability of our great nation.

IWGDS is a unique faculty in that, apart from the academic programmes we host, we also run other programmes as well. For example, we have outreach programmes, such as the Student League, whereby our students visit schools, especially in remote parts of Kenya, to encourage primary or high

school students to work hard so as to achieve better education as well as to address gender social issues that hinder them from achieving their potential. In addition, we have the Coffee Hour every Thursday, whereby our students discuss social issues under the guidance of experts, which helps some of them to address their social challenges, especially those that constraint their wellbeing and academic progress. Finally, we have the Adams Talk, during which our male students, under the leadership of an expert, learn about the responsibilities of young men in society, an input that our society so much needs today.

IWGDS also has a Student Mothers' programme, where our student mothers can leave their babies under a care giver as they carry on with their studies. This is informed by the fact that we subscribe to the ideology of, "Leave no one behind," since our core mandate is to promote equal opportunity for both boys and girls through education. We are proud that all the girls who went through the programme managed to complete their studies and joined others in building the nation.

IWGDS also carries out gender mainstreaming training to both University staff and the community at large.

The Institute has been collaborating with the County Government of Nakuru in addressing gender-based violence in the Nakuru East and West Sub-Counties. For example, this year, the Institute joined the County in the

“ We have the Adams Talk, during which our male students, under the leadership of an expert, learn about the responsibilities of young men in society, an input that our society so much needs today.”

Kuresoi South Sub-County in commemorating the International Women's Day.

IWGDS also collaborates with other like-minded institutions at the national and international levels in an effort to expand opportunities in the areas of research, policy-making, advocacy, transformational leadership, and community outreach.

This year, the Institute was represented in the OSLO New University College in Erasmus + exchange programme, during which our activities were showcased and we were accorded a full scholarship for one Master's Student.

IWGDS will continue to offer and maintain quality in both academic and community service delivery.

Once again, I wish the Graduands a prosperous future.

“ Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance.”

— Kofi Annan,
former United Nations Secretary-General

Students from Belgium, Germany, and Switzerland Study at Egerton



Prof. Charles M. M'Erimba

On behalf of myself and the Directorate of Linkages and Collaborations, let me join your colleagues, parents and guardians in congratulating you for your great achievement. An academic journey is not a walk in the park. It requires self-discipline, determination and sacrifice. Besides academics, I believe you have also gained other skills through interacting with your peers, the external community, and academic mentors. As you leave Egerton University, please carry with you the good memories, and be a good ambassador of this great institution. Our commitment as a world-class university is to continue transforming lives through quality education. It is on this basis that the Directorate was created to continue promoting local and international linkages and collaborations in education, and creating a synergy between the University and the Industry. The Directorate is also mandated to initiate, facilitate and sustain linkages between the University and other universities or similar institutions within and outside Kenya, besides promoting the University's academic programmes globally.

In 2024, beyond academic

endeavours, the international students at Egerton University, in collaboration with the Directorate, actively engaged in charitable activities both within and outside the campus. These initiatives extended to local orphanages like Malaika Children's Home at Njoro, where they provided essential supplies such as food items, clothing, basic school necessities like backpacks, and educational materials. Currently, the international community at Egerton is made up of 71 students pursuing various academic modules ranging from diploma to postgraduate degree programmes. These students represent a diverse group of 21 countries spanning across Africa and beyond, showcasing the University's global reach and commitment to fostering international collaborations

In a bid to globalize the institution, Egerton joined IAESTE-Kenya (International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience) on 15 February 2021. This is an affiliate of IEASTE A.s.b.l., a global organization established in 1948 with a membership of over 80 countries worldwide. The goal of the organization is to offer internships and student exchanges globally mainly in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Architecture. This year we received three students. Mr Guy Louis Loustalot is from Switzerland. His attachment period was between 1 April – 30 May 2024 at the Department of Human Nutrition and Dietetics. Ms Lisa Wilmes from Belgium arrived on 5 August 2024 and completed her internship on 30 September 2024. She was also attached to the Department of Human Nutrition and Dietetics. Ms Hanna Freund from Germany arrived on 3 October 2024 and got attached at the Department of Civil Engineering. She will be completing her internship on 30 November 2024.

Besides those three students,

Egerton University will be sending out two students, namely Victor Ababu, M.Sc. Food Science, and Rachael Muthoni, M.Sc. Agronomy, on internship to Sweden. The employing company is Oscom – Hallnas, and the internship will last from 24 February 2025 to 23 August 2026.

IAESTE works closely with universities all over the world to help provide valuable work experience to students. The benefits of joining IAESTE as a student include paid internship relevant to study area, networking opportunities with international students and employers, practical experience in a real work environment, life and work in another country, wholesome campus experience and improvement of language, social and communication skills.

IAESTE-Kenya comprises Egerton University, Jomo Kenyatta University of Science and Technology, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Murang'a University, Meru University of Science and Technology, Kibabii University, Karatina University, Technical University of Kenya, and Maasai Mara University. The last three universities joined the association this year.

In a bid to strengthen the association, IAESTE-Kenya held its 3rd Annual General Meeting on 31 May 2024 at Karatina University.

Finally, I take this opportunity to congratulate the newly elected Egerton University International Students Association (EUISA) Chairman, Mr Maxwell Ralpa Ochieng, and the entire leadership, following a peaceful election conducted on 29 April 2024. In the same breath, let me appreciate the outgoing leadership of EUISA, led by Mr Kebba Nyabally, for demonstrating good governance and teamwork during their time in office.

Chinese Ambassador Scholarships Doubled



Prof. Joshua O. Ogweni
Kenyan Director

On this 48th Graduation Ceremony of Egerton University, and on behalf of the staff and students of the Confucius Institute (CI) at Egerton University, we would like to say Congratulations, Class of 2024. We believe your sojourn at Egerton has transformed lives and provided a window for the realization of future dreams. You achieved great things just by being at Egerton University, and we are confident more will be accomplished. Best wishes of good luck to each one of you.

The CI has become a centre of excellence in teaching Chinese language, culture exchange, and transfer of appropriate agricultural technology from China to Kenya. During the year, the CI has organized HSK/HSKK tests two times, and nearly 100% of the candidates from CI at Egerton University passed the exams. The CI students with excellent grades are normally considered for award of the Confucius Institute Scholarship and the China Government Scholarships (CGS). During the year five students were awarded the International Chinese Language Teachers Scholarship and eight others were awarded a CGS in top universities in China to pursue their further education in teaching the Chinese language, Chinese culture,

Agriculture, Engineering, and other professional areas of interest.

For the first time, 276 pupils in our classroom at Lions' Primary in the city of Nakuru will sit for Youth Chinese Test (YCT) for pupils in Grades Three and Seven respectively. This will be the highest number of candidates taking the test since the introduction of Chinese language and culture teaching in Kenya.

During the year the CI at Egerton opened a classroom at Kabarak University. Over 60 students have registered for HSKK Level One examination at this new centre.

The new classroom at Kabarak has create an additional opportunity for young Kenyans who are interested in learning Chinese language and culture. The classroom brings our teaching sites to eight in Nakuru County.

For our cultural activities, CI, in collaboration with Zoom Lion tractor and other Chinese enterprises in Kenya, organized a successful and wonderful "Chinese Bridge" for primary school pupils for the second time in Kenya in 2024. The students of CI were trained and participated in the preliminary contest of "Chinese Bridge" Primary school pupils in Kenya. A pupil from Kilimo Primary School, Egerton University, Class Room was declared the winner and awarded the "Best Talent Award". The pupil and her guardian traveled to China to compete with other winners from other parts of the world in October 2024 in Beijing.

As the first Confucius Institute with agricultural characteristics in the world, the CI at Egerton University has always supported the transfer of appropriate and advanced agricultural technology from China to Kenya and Africa in general. The "Demonstration Village for China-Africa Agricultural Development and Poverty Reduction" at Matangi Tisa, Bahati, has continued to host farm-training for farmers and agricultural extension officers in Nakuru county. During the year, three trainings have been held at the village.



Prof. Li Yutao
Chinese Director

The joint project titled "Empowering Rural Youth through Innovative Horticultural Solutions in Tomato Value Chain in Kenya" between Nanjing Agricultural University and Egerton University, which is supported by IFAD, has trained 600 farmers and extension officers, as well as rehabilitated 14 greenhouses that were abandoned by farmers in Nakuru County. The farmers and the extension officers were trained on production of greenhouse tomato with a focus on the management of bacterial wilt on tomato through grafting and therefore showcasing the transfer of appropriate agricultural technology from China to Kenya. The 14 rehabilitated greenhouses have been used as on-farm training centres (farmers field schools) for transferring appropriate agricultural technology.

These courses, which were attended by both the extension officers and the farmers, provided an excellent opportunity for direct interaction between the farmers, extension officers, and experts from the University with a view to providing prompt intervention and solutions aimed at increasing the crop yield, reducing crop damage, decreasing the need for excessive use of pesticides, and reducing poverty through application of new

Turn to page 42

Library Subscribes to Journal of Visualized Experiments



Ms Janegrace Kinyanjui

The Library takes this opportunity to congratulate the graduands on their great achievement. The Library has continued to walk with the students admitted for various academic programmes at Egerton University throughout their academic journey by providing the information resources they require. Our main objective has been to Empower the Youth through Innovative Information Resources and Services. Outlined below are some of the achievements we made in the course of 2024.

Library Subscribes to Video-Based JoVE Resources

In a dynamic shift towards modern educational practices, the Library is transforming its collection development

from heavy reliance on print media to a more robust focus on electronic resources to reflect contemporary trends in digital publishing.

The University has subscribed to the Journal of Visualized Experiments (JoVE), a leading provider of video-based educational materials and peer-reviewed research articles, to enhance learning, research, and teaching experiences across various disciplines. The platform simplifies complex concepts through high-quality video demonstrations. We facilitate access to JoVE through the Library's website, making it easy for users to access and browse from wherever they are. Faculty members are now able to incorporate JoVE resources into their teaching and research activities to enhance course content and student engagement. To ensure seamless integration of JoVE into the curriculum, the Library organized training sessions on 2 – 4 September 2024 targeting faculty members and technicians. The training, facilitated by a JoVE representative, equipped participants with the skills to effectively utilize the resources and incorporate video and multimedia resources into the curriculum.

4th KLISC Biennial International Conference and AGM

The University hosted the Kenya Library and Information Services Consortium

(KLISC) International Conference on 22 – 23 May 2024 at the Sarova Woodlands Hotel, Nakuru. The event, themed “Empowering Libraries and Information Centres for Knowledge Ecosystems: Innovations and Transformations”, brought together information professionals, researchers, and policymakers from across the globe. The Conference explored the critical role of libraries and information centres in fostering knowledge ecosystems. Participants discussed emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities in the field, with a focus on innovative solutions and transformative approaches. During the Conference, the University Librarian and the Assistant Librarian, Mr Kenneth Rotich, presented a paper titled “Dissemination of Research Output through Open Access in Kenya: A Case Study of Egerton University Institutional Repository”. The Conference was followed by the KLISC Annual General Meeting, which was held at the University's ARC Hotel on 24 August 2024. KLISC aims to enhance library and information services across Kenya by fostering collaboration among its members. Its objectives include promoting resource sharing, advocating for information access, and supporting the professional development of library staff.

Turn to page 43

Message from the Directors CI

Continued from page 41

technologies to guarantee the food security and enhancement of the livelihood of farmers in Kenya.

The Chinese Ambassador Scholarship has been an annual event in our calendar for the last four years. This year, the number of beneficiaries were doubled to 20. These needy students who benefited from the scholarship will pursue their university education with reduced financial strain that would otherwise have hindered their academic progress. This continued support and

fostering of collaboration between Kenya and China has further solidified the bond between our CI and the Chinese Embassy.

In conclusion, since its establishment in 2012, the CI at Egerton University has held more than 42 trainings and short courses in Kenya and other African countries, and at least 1,800 trainees have benefited from the Institute's appropriate and advanced technologies from China. Over 60 students have also benefitted from the Chinese Ambassador Scholarships.

Moreover, the "Agricultural Technology Transfer to Africa" won the "Innovative Practice of Public Diplomacy in Kenya".

We hope to build more on these achievements and remain a centre of excellence in teaching of the Chinese language and culture, as well as in the transfer of appropriate agricultural technology from China to Kenya, as a way of nurturing the friendship and mutual benefit of our two peoples.

Message from the University Librarian

Continued from page 42

Empowering Youth and Strengthening Community Ties through Social Corporate Responsibility

The Library has a vibrant community outreach programme through which it engages in community-based activities, such as pitching reading tents in primary schools, children's homes, and hospitals

to promote and inculcate a reading culture and literacy among children. Recent activities included a bibliotherapy at the Nakuru Provincial General Hospital where the spirit and moods of the sick children were uplifted by the opportunity to read interesting story books. Other activities were held at

Lions Children's Home, and Tengecha Primary School.

The James Foster Library: A Collector's Labour of Love

In a June 2024 exhibition, the University Library showcased the James Foster Library Collection that is housed at the J.D. Rockefeller Research Library in Utafiti Building. The Collection was donated by Mr James Foster, who built this treasure out of his passion for the history and culture of Kenya, a subject he had dedicated himself to for over sixty years. The nearly 3,000 books and resources focus on Kenya's history, society, geography, and economy. By his donation, Mr Foster has ensured that his lifelong work will continue to inspire and educate future generations, solidifying his place within the rich tradition of knowledge-sharing and intellectual generosity. During the exhibition the Collection attracted many viewers.



The University Library Community Outreach Team at the Ananda Marga Academy in Njoro



The Principal, NCCC, Prof. Joshua O. Ogendo (third from right), accompanied by officials from Egerton University and the contracting company, poses for a picture in front of the new gate and perimeter wall at the Kokeb premises, Nakuru City, on 3 May 2024.

Egerton Hosts 2024 KUPAA Drama Festival



Dr Japhet M. Muthamia

At this Graduation, it is my pleasure to share some highlights and extend good wishes from the Office of the Dean of Students. Our mission is to support students in navigating university life outside the classroom, from admission to graduation, through a variety of programmes designed to enrich their experience at the University.

The Office of the Dean of Students is dedicated to promoting students' well-being in several key areas:

- **Psychological and Emotional Support:** We offer counselling services through professional and peer counsellors to help students manage their mental health and emotional well-being.
- **Spiritual Guidance:** Our Chaplaincy Department, led by the University Chaplain and representatives from various faiths, offers spiritual support and guidance to all students.
- **Physical Well-being:** We encourage students to participate in a variety of sports and games, promoting physical fitness and fostering teamwork and discipline.
- **Creative Expression:** The Office organizes and supports involvement in music, drama, and arts competitions, providing an outlet for students to explore their creativity and talents.

Key Achievements from the Past Year

This past year has been filled with exciting developments and achievements that have advanced the student experience at Egerton University:

Student Elections

In April 2024, the office successfully organized the Egerton University Student Association (EUSA) elections. For the first time, elections were conducted entirely online through a voting platform developed by the Department of Computer Science, Egerton University. This innovative system allowed students to exercise their voting rights with ease and efficiency, and it will continue to be used for future elections, streamlining the process for years to come.

Leadership Training for Student Leaders

Following the elections, the Department organized a leadership training programme for the newly elected EUSA leaders. Held from 24 – 26 June at the Kenya Education Management Institute, Nairobi, the three-day event covered key topics essential for effective leadership. Each day focused on different themes, with expert presenters providing valuable insights and practical skills to empower student leaders as they step into their new roles.

Culture Week Celebration

In June 2024, the University Community came together for the annual Culture Week, celebrating the theme "Beyond Conservation: Celebrating Biodiversity and Cultural Landscapes." Students, staff, and faculty participated in this vibrant event, which featured cultural performances, traditional foods, and a

showcase of diverse cultural attire. The week fostered a deeper understanding and appreciation of our rich cultural heritage, while strengthening the bonds within the University Community.

Participation in KUPAA Music Festivals

Egerton University had the honour of participating in the Kenya Universities Performing Arts and Film Festival (KUPAA) music competition, hosted by the Technical University of Mombasa. Our University excelled in the competition, presenting six entries and securing top honours in four categories. This success highlighted the talent and dedication of our students in the performing arts.

Hosting of KUPAA Drama Festivals

Egerton University was selected to host the KUPAA Drama Festival, scheduled for 8 – 16 November, 2024. This is a significant recognition of the University's contribution to the performing arts, both at the festival and on a national scale. We welcomed participants from universities across the country as we continue to promote artistic expression and cultural exchange.

As we reflect on these accomplishments, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the graduating class. Your journey at Egerton University has been marked by resilience, creativity, and growth, and I am confident that you will continue to thrive in all your future endeavors.

Warm regards!



The Dean of Students, Dr Japhet Muthamia (ninth from right), flanked by the Chief Finance Officer (seventh from left), staff members from the Office of the Dean of Students, and the newly elected students leaders of 2024.

Egerton University Stabilises Academic Calendar



Prof. Gilbert O. Obwoyere

Dear Graduands of the Class of 2024, on behalf of the Directorate of Examination and Timetabling, it is my utmost pleasure and honour to extend my heartfelt congratulations to you all on this momentous occasion of Egerton University's 48th Graduation Ceremony.

Today marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. Each one of you has faced challenges, embraced opportunities, and grown not only in knowledge but also in character. Your journey has been filled with long hours of study, rigorous examinations, and a commitment to excellence that has brought you to this remarkable milestone. We as a Directorate are proud to have been part of this journey, ensuring that your academic progression was smooth and that every assessment you undertook was conducted with the highest standards of integrity and fairness.

As you leave the halls of this great institution, remember that learning never stops. The world awaits your talents, your ideas, and your vision for the future. You are now ambassadors of Egerton University, and the knowledge you have gained here will serve as the foundation for the impact you will make in your respective fields.

As we celebrate your success today, we also look forward to the ways in

which you will shape the world of tomorrow. Continue to strive for excellence, remain committed to integrity, and never stop pursuing the path of lifelong learning.

Over the past academic year, the Directorate has introduced and implemented a range of significant reforms aimed at enhancing the University's academic environment. These developments are part of a broader initiative to create a more efficient, student-centred institution that embraces modern educational practices while maintaining the high standards the University is known for.

A cornerstone of these changes has been the harmonization of the academic calendar. This critical move ensures a streamlined and efficient use of time and resources, benefiting students, faculty, and staff alike. By standardizing semester timelines, the University has eliminated unnecessary overlaps and gaps, thus enhancing overall productivity. This has led to better planning for courses, examinations, and administrative activities, ensuring that students can progress in their studies without interruption or delays. More importantly, the harmonization process has provided predictability for key University events. Whether it is admission dates, examination timelines, or graduation ceremonies, the entire academic year now follows a well-structured and clear timetable, leaving no room for uncertainty. The University has developed a stable calendar for major academic events, allowing everyone to plan ahead efficiently.

In another significant development, the Directorate has overseen the regularization of semester activities, allowing for smoother transitions between academic periods. One key outcome of this has been the ability for students and faculty to take regular breaks during the academic year. The new framework now ensures that the University community can proceed on annual leave during the long end-of-academic-year break. By giving

students and staff a designated break, the Directorate has struck a balance between maintaining academic rigour and allowing for rest and rejuvenation. This initiative is particularly crucial in avoiding burnout while also encouraging innovative teaching and learning approaches. The long break also provides ample time for faculty to pursue academic research, attend conferences, and undertake professional development.

Among the most visible achievements of the past year has been the renovation of lecture theatres at the University. The refurbishment of Lecture Theatres 1 and 2 has set a new standard for teaching spaces at the University. These lecture halls, which are critical venues for large-scale teaching, have been modernized to provide a more conducive environment for learning. Upgraded seating, improved acoustics, and enhanced lighting are just some of the improvements that have transformed these spaces into vibrant centres of academic exchange. Feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive, with many praising the improved comfort and accessibility of the renovated lecture halls. Faculty members have also noted the enhanced teaching experience, with the upgraded facilities supporting clearer communication and more engaging interactions between lecturers and students.

Future upgrades will focus on incorporating digital platforms and modern teaching equipment, which are becoming indispensable in today's tech-driven learning environments. By investing in digital tools such as interactive whiteboards, projectors, and improved internet connectivity, the Directorate aims to provide students with access to cutting-edge learning technologies that will enhance their academic experience.

The Directorate is keen to embrace transformative developments in

Turn to page 46

Institutional Change Ensures Campus Academic Excellence



Prof. Joshua O. Ogendo

It is my pleasure and joy to heartily congratulate all the graduands for making the 48th Graduation Ceremony of Egerton University a reality. Your graduation today is a landmark milestone and achievement for you and the University at large, and is worth celebrating. The Nakuru City Campus College (NCCC) fraternity is proud to be associated with its graduands today. We note that today's celebration is courtesy of your hard work, determination, patience, and perseverance. These qualities were backed by the unwavering support from your Egerton University faculty, fellow students, parents, guardians, friends, sponsors, well-wishers, and many other

stakeholders whose contributions have culminated in great success stories being celebrated today. Today, you have completed an important phase in your professional development and thrust yourself into a new chapter filled with hope and promise of fulfilment as you apply the knowledge and skills so far acquired for the advancement of humanity. Be prepared for greater heights thus making your alma mater proud.

As the graduands bask in the glory of their success, it is important to acknowledge that this marks a transition into new opportunities and challenges in life. Equally you are

Turn to page 47

Message from the Director, Examination and Timetabling

Continued from page 45

delivery of education across spatial and temporal divides using online learning. Recognizing the growing need for flexible and remote learning options, the Directorate in conjunction with the School of Distance Learning has been instrumental in providing an enabling framework for online teaching, learning and examination management. This initiative has allowed University Core Courses to be delivered via digital platforms. The shift to online learning has been especially significant for Core Courses, which form the foundation of students' academic journeys. By offering these courses online, the University is catering to a diverse range of learners, including those who may have commitments outside of campus or who face challenges in attending traditional in-person classes. The online learning framework has been meticulously designed to ensure that the same academic standards and quality are maintained across both virtual and physical classrooms. The Directorate has worked closely with various faculties to ensure that instructors are

equipped with the necessary tools and training to deliver courses online effectively.

Maintaining the integrity of the examination process is a top priority for any academic institution, and Egerton University is no exception. To this end, the Directorate has spearheaded the drafting and consolidation of all examination policies and guidelines. This initiative is aimed at enhancing the efficient administration of examinations, as well as safeguarding the quality and integrity of the University's examination process. The consolidation of examination policies ensures that there is a unified and consistent approach to managing examinations across all faculties. This move is expected to streamline processes and reduce administrative burdens on both staff and students. In particular, the new guidelines emphasize transparency, fairness, and accountability, all of which are key to maintaining the high standards of academic assessment at the University.

The Directorate has also focused on ensuring that the examination process is efficient, from the scheduling of examinations to the marking and release of results. With these reforms in place, students can expect quicker and more reliable access to their results, enabling them to plan their academic futures with confidence. The Directorate is exploring the integration of digital platforms to improve both teaching and assessment. This will include investing in digital tools that facilitate online examinations and enable more interactive and engaging teaching methods.

In conclusion, through the harmonization of the academic calendar, modernization of learning spaces, and the embrace of online learning, the Directorate has helped to position Egerton University as a forward-thinking institution ready to meet the challenges of the future.

Once again, congratulations to the Class of 2024! May your future be as bright and promising as your achievements here today. ■

Message from Principal NCCC

Continued from page 46



The Principal, NCCC, Prof. Joshua O. Ogendo (second from left), and the Ag. Regional Coordinator, KRA South Rift Region, Mr. Jonah Ogaro (third from left), during a collaborative meeting at the KRA Offices, Nakuru, on 23 April 2024

reminded that this great milestone is testament that inherently you have what it takes to measure up to the expectations of society, job market, and any challenges that come your way. The NCCC is honoured to have been part of your academic journey and commit to celebrate your future success and encourage you to contribute towards building a better world. Remember that NCCC is strategically located in Nakuru City's CBD and with your participation is well-placed to exploit the enormous opportunities and contribute towards global development.

Since the last graduation in October 2023, the NCCC engaged in various strategic partnership initiatives aimed at supporting staff, students and the University's mandate. The College had fruitful collaborations with the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), South Rift Region. Through this collaboration, a students' Tax Club was launched in the Faculty of Commerce with the aim of educating Egerton University students on tax matters and KRA's objectives and strategies. The parties, Egerton University and KRA, agreed that KRA will annually offer paid internships to fresh Egerton University graduates and industrial/field attachments for continuing students. Additionally, the KRA, South Rift Region officials successfully facilitated Tax Education Training sessions at the Nakuru City and the Njoro Campuses to Egerton

University staff. In the same vein the NCCC is in the process of forging more strategic partnerships for the benefit the entire University.

NCCC has completed erecting a new gate and perimeter wall around the Kokeb premises. This perimeter wall has significantly improved security at the Kokeb grounds. During the same period since the last graduation, the University vacated the Gekonga building relocating all offices to the West Campus (Bawani) and also completed the renovation of the Faculty of Health Science building. All these infrastructural developments have eased the burden of running academic programmes and operations in rented spaces. This ensures that students and faculty enjoy a spacious learning environment conducive for academic excellence. As earlier promised, the University will complete renovation of the existing building with a view to creating additional three lecture rooms, a mini-library, and offices. It is expected that upon completion of the renovated buildings at Kokeb grounds, a total of six lecture halls with a sitting capacity of 600 students will fully support the teaching requirements by the Faculties of Commerce and Health Sciences. The Faculty of Health Sciences building is now operational and the Faculty can hold most of the lectures conveniently and comfortably within its spaces. Since January 2024, all learning has been

taking place at the Kokeb, West Campus, and the Faculty of Health Sciences. Once the renovation works is completed, the University will focus on mobilizing resources for the purpose of establishing an ultra-modern business hub that will boast of a restaurant, e-business and financial agency service point (FASP) at the Kokeb grounds to offer quality services to staff, students, Nakuru City residents, and visitors. Additionally, during the current financial year the University is embarking on the process of upgrading the Egerton Radio (101.7FM) from a community radio to commercial radio-media training centre.

Our announcement during the last graduation of the collaborative launching of short courses at the NCCC for professional and skills enhancement is now a reality. Jointly with the Confucius Institute, the NCCC is now hosting a short course on basic and advanced Chinese Language training. The first and second cohorts of learners underwent the basic Chinese language training in November 2023 and June 2024, respectively. The other short course which is due for launching soon at NCCC is environmental and social impact assessment and audit (ESIA&A) being offered by the Departmental of Environmental Science in the Faculty of Environment and Resources Development. It is envisaged that by the next graduation ceremony, at least three more short courses will be up and running. NCCC remains committed to assisting the University succeed in this ground-breaking initiative with short courses that are thoughtfully designed to provide accessible, affordable, and high-quality education opportunities to a diverse clientele in Nakuru City and its environs. By embracing diversity in its training opportunities, the NCCC reaffirms its commitment to fostering a rich learning environment that extends beyond traditional boundaries, ensuring that Egerton University faculty, students, and stakeholders explore new horizons and acquire valuable soft skills with global appeal.

NCCC takes this opportunity to share a significant achievement by the Principal, NCCC, Prof. Joshua O. Ogendo, has been honoured to serve as a member of the Executive Committee of EAC Regional Research and Development Working Group (RDWG) and member of the Research Grants Sub-committee of the RDWG. Through

the East Africa Science and Technology Commission (EASTEKO), the EAC is keen to promote and coordinate the development, management and application of science and technology in Partner States to support regional integration and socio-economic development. The EAC Common Market Protocol accords STI significant prominence as a driver for economic growth, with Article 42 articulating the cooperation of Partner States to facilitate co-operation in the development of science and technology to disseminate the results of activities in research and technological development. During the 1st Executive Committee meeting the RDWG (30 September – 1 October 2024 in Dar es Salaam) a clear roadmap was developed for the establishment of the Research Grants Platform, Resource Mobilization and Science Communication. As a member of the Research Grants Sub-committee, I promise to bring to the attention of Kenyan researchers, and in particular Egerton University, grant opportunities in good time.

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Prof. Fredrick Kalui for his election as the Dean, Faculty of Commerce. I request the Faculty to accord Prof. Kalui all the necessary support to enable him to lead the Faculty in realizing its vision in line with the University's vision. I wish to appreciate Dr Richard Nyaoga, the immediate former Dean, Faculty of Commerce, for his selfless service to the Faculty over the past two years (2022-2024). As Dr Nyaoga transitions to the next phase of

his life, the entire NCCC fraternity wishes him well.

During the period under review, NCCC received about 700 students enrolled in various degree programmes in the Faculties of Commerce and Health Sciences. Being the second cohort of students under the new funding model, the first year (2024) students reported on 19 August 2024 and underwent a rigorous one-week orientation that provided useful information on how to make their academic journey at Egerton University successful and memorable. In his remarks during the Vice-Chancellor's address, the Principal NCCC welcomed the first-year students to Nakuru City and reiterated the value of self-belief, personal discipline, being self-driven and embracing the culture of excellence at Egerton University. The students were thus urged to embark on their academic journey with realistic dreams and belief in themselves. I wish to assure all the students at NCCC of our unwavering support throughout their academic journey.

The Office of the Assistant Dean of Students plays a crucial role of providing welfare support system to students. We are pleased to report that during the period under review, through the coordination of that Office, NCCC provided bursaries to 20 needy students, courtesy of the Egerton University Students Work Study Programme. It is important to note that the NCCC students, besides their pursuit of academic excellence, are actively involved in extracurricular activities that enhance their talents and pursuits.

During this period the NCCC students participated in the Culture Week that was held at the Main Campus, Njoro, on 5 – 7 June 2024. In the sports arena, the sports men and women in the NCCC students participated in the Kenya University Sports Federation National Games at the University of Nairobi in December 2023. We are happy to report that our various sports team won 1st and 2nd positions in handball (women) and table tennis (men), respectively. Similarly, NCCC students were part of the Egerton University team that participated in Kenya University Sports Federation – Rift Conference held at the University of Eldoret in November 2023 where the University won 1st position volleyball (men) and tennis (men); and 2nd position in hockey (men) and netball.

Finally, as I conclude, may I take this opportunity to again heartily congratulate today's graduands and recognize your hard work, commitment to scholarly excellence and achieving your goal. On behalf of NCCC, I wish you every success in your endeavours, and urge you to be true ambassadors of Egerton University. And remember the word of Nelson Mandela: “When you are on the way to the top, be careful of the monster called GREED. Greed will make you impatient and make you steal or seek shortcuts.”

May you all enjoy a life full of hope and remember that your destiny is purely in your hands.

Have a blessed Graduation and Future Life.



Mr Duncan Kennedy of KRA (standing) facilitates a Tax Education Training at the Nakuru City Campus College on 24 May 2024

Enhancing the Learning Environment, Transforming the Natural Landscape, and Ensuring Security



*Prof. Richard M.S. Mulwa
Ag. DVC (AF&P)*

As we come to the 48th Graduation Ceremony, I take this early opportunity to congratulate the Class of 2024 on their momentous achievements. This is a reflection of the dedication, resilience, and hard work that each graduand here today has invested in their academic journey. Today, we not only honour your accomplishments but also the support systems that have helped shape your learning environment. From the Division of Administration, Finance and Planning, I am privileged to share updates on key initiatives that the University continues to engage in to improve our learning spaces, enhance our natural landscape, and bolster security across our campuses.

Significant efforts have been underway to restore once dilapidated key facilities to their optimal design status and functionality with a view to enhancing the quality of academic life for our students and faculty. Among the notable upgrades is the restoration of the T1 and T2 lecture theatres. Originally designed to facilitate an attractive learning experience, these theatres had been left to the elements for a long time and become an eyesore to our clients. The University Council and the University Management made a decision to invest in bringing them back to their original status, offering improved seating,

enhanced lighting, and restoration of the audio-visual equipment for interactive learning. We welcome the graduands to take a peep at the facilities to appreciate the latest efforts in infrastructure improvements. We also completed the construction of new learning facilities at Kokeb that have created space for both learning and examinations. This was followed by comprehensive repair works undertaken at the Faculty of Health Sciences complex in Nakuru City to bring it to proper use for the high traffic the building handles.

In an effort to translocate the Faculty of Commerce back to the main campus, we have concluded the repair and upgrading works at the VCT building across the Main Gate. This building that is located in a serene neighbourhood will provide office space for the Dean of Faculty and the two Chairmen of Departments. The building also has four small tutorial rooms that will be customized for use in faculty activities.

Targeted repair works have begun at the iconic Kilimo Hall with repairs of the roof, redesign of the high ceiling, the extensive repair of the stage and interior wall works. Completed works on this phase were handed over as scheduled on 5 November 2024. The next phase will involve the improvements of the floor surface and installing the attendant sound and vision equipment for the famous hall. I wish to assure the class of 2024 that Kilimo Hall will soon be the way it looked when their parents were students at Egerton University as we commit to providing a high-quality learning environment.

Given the recent heavy rains, the issue of asbestos on campus roofs has become a spotlight in the University and we are putting forward strategies to ensure all these roofs are systematically replaced. Looking into the near future, we have planned significant repairs for the enduring A1 Lecture Hall, the original Assembly Hall for the Egerton Agricultural College. These planned works aim to restore the interior aesthetics and overall appearance of the building by ensuring it wears a “mabati”

roof soon and that the floor is restored to its original polished parquet surface.

A major step in enhancing the campus experience for students is the ongoing restoration of the Ruwenzori hostels. This initiative is focused on returning these student residential facilities to their original design standards, providing students with safe, comfortable, and decent housing options. For the graduating comrades, Ruwenzori hostels are being transformed and I am inviting you to take a walk around the five blocks we have already upgraded.

These initiatives will not only address the immediate maintenance needs within the University but also safeguard our facilities against further deterioration through a regular maintenance programme.

Concerning the physical environment, the Estates Department has taken proactive steps in ensuring the enhancement and preservation of our surroundings. Through an aggressive tree planting and tree growing activity coupled with sustainable wood for timber harvesting, we are committed to enhancing the aesthetics of our campuses while preserving their natural attributes. These efforts are not only beautifying our environment but are also promoting ecological sustainability for future generations. We have embarked on the planting and growing of indigenous and exotic forest trees and also dotting the compound with suitable fruit trees. This is to align with Egerton University's longstanding leadership and stewardship in matters environment. This commitment to sustainability has so far achieved the reforestation of over 50 acres of university land along the swath that runs along Njoro River. This land is now thriving under agroforestry practices, where eucalyptus and Cyprus trees grow alongside ground covering food crops, contributing to a balanced ecosystem and supporting biodiversity.

As part of our commitment to ensuring a safe and secure environment, the University is further strengthening its

Turn to page 51

Directorate Guides IGUs toward Growth and Sustainability



Prof. George Owuor

The Directorate of Income Generating Unites (DIGU) takes this opportunity to congratulate all the students graduating during this 48th Graduation Ceremony. As you move out into the world beyond the academy, DIGU takes great pleasure in having been part of your nourishment through the services that it continues to offer to students and the society at large. Best wishes as you forge your dreams.

DIGU spans across various sectors and services, including Tatton Farm, Kenyatta Farm, Guilford Dairy Plant, Gift and Bookshop, Egerton Press, Knitting and Tailoring, Catering, Accommodation, Medical Care, Estates Department, Funeral Home, Bee Keeping at Chemeron, and several other dynamic initiatives. These units operate on the principles of demand-driven services, strategic innovation, and business acumen.

The Mission of the Directorate is to enhance income streams for quality service provision by the University. The Vision is even more ambitious, aiming to diversify products and services to create income streams that will fortify the University's financial foundation.

As we look back, new business

plans, market plans, and capacity building of staff in various categories have injected fresh momentum and efficiency into several units, contributing to a gradual uptrend in their performance. From available statistical evidence, the Directorate has successfully guided the Units with signs of sustainability.

Units such as Estates Department, visiting groups, Horticulture, and tree nursery have shown immediate promise. Meanwhile, established units like Medical, Funeral Home, and Egerton Press have also experienced an upswing in Quarter 4 of 2024, signifying a growth trend. Cumulative net returns across all IGUs demonstrate a consistent and steady rise in the last 3 years, standing at an impressive 45 per cent. The only units that still need a turn-around are Catering and Gift Shop.

Notable achievements include the positive turn-around at the Department of Dairy, Food Science and Technology, following the return of Egerton University Yoghurt to the shelves. The Yoghurt, which underwent strategic renovations in Quarter 4 of 2024, has new packaging.

These successes highlight the substantial potential for IGUs to contribute significantly to the University's operational costs in the future.

In conclusion, Egerton University's journey with DIGU is one of promise and potential. As we nurture growth and sustainability in these ventures, we reaffirm our commitment to providing quality services, expanding our reach, and securing a financially robust future



Egerton University Yoghurt, produced by the Department of Dairy, Food Science and Technology, returns to the market with refreshed flavours and new packaging. The Guilford Dairy Plant also serves as a practical training centre for Food Science students.

DMU Procures New Equipment for PWDs

By Josephine Khaemba

The Disability Mainstreaming Unit (DMU) has been working hard to ensure that Egerton University puts in place all the conditions required to enable persons with disability (PWDs) to pursue their objectives and aspirations as well as fulfill their responsibilities in their respective capacities while on campus. This year's achievements included the involvement of students in social and team-building activities both on and off campus as well as the procurement of critical equipment, services, and amenities.

Early in the year, DMU participated in the Para Sports, which were held at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology under the Kenya Universities Sports Association (KUSA), during which Egerton University PWDs students took part in various competitions.

In addition, in the course of the year, the Unit involved PWDs in extracurricular activities in various categories. For example, the office took part in the university-wide orientation for First Year students, during which it sought to induct and create awareness among members of the University Community on matters of Inclusivity. Secondly, the Unit organized various team-building activities (which were carried out at the Lord Egerton Castle); carried out an Accessibility Audit on three campuses, namely the Njoro Main Campus, the Nakuru City Campus



A new ramp provides easy access to the first floor of the TAGDev building, making it more inclusive for People With Disabilities. This addition aligns with the University's commitment to disability-compliant infrastructure.

College, and the Tegemeo Institute; took PWDs for assessment at the Provincial General Hospital (which afforded them the opportunity to receive the NCPWDs identification cards that allow PWDs to access government services and other benefits); and took PWDs students on a hike on Mt Longonot on 21 September 2024.

Besides involving students in such activities, the DMU also procured support services and equipment designed to correct various forms of disabilities among PWDs. Among them were a transfemoral prosthesis for one student with an amputated limb; a prosthetic glove for one student who has

a few missing fingers; and leg compensation raised shoes for two students.

In general, the Unit provides transcription services for the visually impaired, ensures large print materials for low vision persons, and provides transport services to ease movements from one point to another.

This year, a total of ten PWD students applied for the opportunity to work while studying at the University.

The author is the Coordinator, Disability Mainstreaming Unit, Egerton University.

Message from DVC (AF&P)

Continued from page 49

security measures. The completion of a modern gatehouse above the Njokerio bridge is one measure that will enhance security by ensuring proper scrutiny of those from the community who use the back route through Njokerio. Once completed, all traffic from Njokerio will have to come in through the checkpoint, reducing the porosity of our boundaries. Enhanced patrols and vigilant security

monitoring across all campuses further aim to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and property.

As we celebrate the graduating Class of 2024, as well as "Egerton @85", I wish to reiterate the University's commitment to the improvement of facilities and the physical environment to meaningfully contribute to the fulfilment of our stakeholders' requirements.

Once again, my congratulations to the class of 2024 for your academic achievements and for being part of the transformative agenda of Egerton University.

I wish you God's blessings in your future endeavours as you espouse the values of resilience, curiosity, and community action that have been central to your journey at Egerton University. ■

TAGDeV Sponsored Graduands



Agnes Ntabo
M.Sc. Agri- Enterprise Development



Anthony Emaru
M.Sc. Horticulture



Apollo Uma
M.Sc. Agribusiness Management



Caleb Wanyiri Oktoto
M.Sc. Animal Nutrition



Elvis Kalonzo Mutua
M.Sc. Horticulture



Emmanuel Mugwaneza
M.Sc. Food Science and Technology



Enoch Nyamira
M.Sc. Natural Resources Management



Fahad Lutthah Juma
M.Sc. Agribusiness Management



Gladys Jephchirir
M.Sc. Agribusiness Management



Judith Ikonya Engurat
M.Sc. Agribusiness Management



Kipkorir Bett
M.Sc. Animal Nutrition



Kipnetich Korir
M.Sc. Food Science



Mary A. Ouma
M.Sc. Animal Nutrition



Mathapelo Elizabeth Molapo
M.Sc. Agribusiness Management



Maud Boakyewaa Acheampong
M.Sc. Animal Nutrition



Millicent Anyango Owiti
M.Sc. Natural Resources Management



Navison Nyakapene
M.Sc. Agri-Enterprise Development



Naomi Chebet
M.Sc. Animal Nutrition



Omolara Latifat Alarape
M.Sc. Animal Nutrition



Onyango Lilian
M.Sc. Agri-enterprise Development



Petra Chui
M.Sc. Natural Resources Management



Racheal Gladys Nakiganda
M.Sc. Agribusiness Management



Roseline Kiama
M.Sc. Food Science



Ruth N Kundu
M.Sc. Agri- Enterprise Development



Scolastica Nanjala Nambafu
M.Sc. Agribusiness Management



Shepherd Gwiza
M.Sc. Agribusiness Management

About TAGDeV

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, Gulu University (Uganda), Egerton University (Kenya), Africa University (Zimbabwe), University of Free State (South Africa), Malawi University of Science and Technology (Malawi), University of Eldoret (Kenya), Uganda Martyrs University (Uganda), University of Port Harcourt (Nigeria), University of Cape Coast (Ghana), University of Bamenda (Cameroon), National University of Agriculture (Benin), and Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique (Morocco) are implementing a 10 year (2023-2033) Transforming African Agricultural Universities to Meaningfully Contribute to Africa's Growth and Development (TAGDeV 2.0) programme. The programme seeks to strengthen universities and TVET institutions to better serve communities by skilling and empowering Africa's young people and their institutions to drive inclusive, equitable and climate resilient transformation of agriculture and agrifood systems. The programme will support young African students that are economically disadvantaged but academically competent to enable them complete their studies. The scholarship is open to both female and male applicants. However, applications from females, refugees and persons with disabilities are highly encouraged.

EGERTON UNIVERSITY'S PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

Egerton University extends its deepest gratitude to the following funding agencies and partners, who continue to support ongoing projects in research, education, and community service at the University.

PARTNERS

AfricaUniNet
African Postdoctoral Training Initiative (APTI) Fellowship
AgriFI Programme
Alliance for African Partnership (AAP)
Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation
Austrian Development Agency (ADA)
Berlin University Alliance
BMBF (Germany Ministry of Education and Research)
BMBF & DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)
Bowie State University (USA)
CIMMYT (International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center)
Confucius Institute
Cooperative Bank of Kenya
DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)
Danida Fellowship Centre
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs OKP (through IHE Delft Institute)
ERAFRICA (EU-Kenya)
Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

Erasmus-European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)
European Commission
European Commission (Horizon 2020)
European Union
Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN
Finish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Flemish Government
FWO-Leuven
Future Africa-University of Pretoria
Germany Ministry of Education and Research
ICGEB (International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology)
ICRISAT (International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics)
IKEA Foundation
ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute)
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
KCB Group
KENIA (Kenya National Innovation Agency)
Mastercard Foundation (through RUFORUM)
Michigan State University
Micro Enterprises Support Programme Trust
M-PESA Foundation

Nakuru County Government
Nanjing Agricultural University
Narok County Government
National Defence University – Kenya
National Research Fund (NRF)
OeAD-GmbH (Austria's Agency for Education and Internationalization)
SDGC/A (Sustainable Development Goals Centre for Africa)
The Delft (Netherlands)
The Nature Conservancy
The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
The Rufford Foundation
UNESCO-TWAS (The World Academy of Sciences)
University of Notre Dame
USAID (United States Agency for International Development)
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech)
Volkswagen Foundation, Germany
World Bank
WWF-Kenya (World Wildlife Fund)

SPONSORS

A I C EOR EMAYAN CDC
A VD BERG JOINT SELF HELP G
ACCES KENYA
ACCRA TRADE CENTRE LTD
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF KENYA
AFRICA EDUCATION DEV. TRUST
AFRICA NEL CUORE RUMURUTI
AFRICAN CANADIAN CONTINUING EDUCATION
AFRICAN MISSION HEALTHCARE
AFRICAN NEL CUORE
AFRICAN POPULAT NAIROBI
AFRICA INLAND CHURCH
ALARMS COOPERATIVE SAVINGS
AMANI CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT PRGMM
AMICI DEL KENYA ACADEMY
AMSHARE KENYA
AN MISSION FELLOWSHIP KENYA
ANANDA MARGA UNIVERSAL RELIEF TEAM
ANNEXTER PRECIOUS GIRLS
ASANTE TIWI CHARITABLE TRUST
ASSUMPTION SISTERS OF NAIROBI
AVSI FOUNDATION
AZIMA SACCO LTD
BAMBURI KANAMAI EDUC. CBO
BAPTIST CHURCH CDC CASUARINA
BASE TITANIUM LIMITED
BEACON OF HOPE
BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY CENTRE
BEYOND LIMITATION COMMUNITY
BIG LIFE LTD
BIGOT SELF HELP GROUP
BILASHAKA FLOWERS SELF HELP GROUP
BOHEMIAN FAIRTRADE SELF HELP GROUP
BOOKS AND BRICKS GLOBAL KENYA
BORANA CONSERVANCY LIMITED
BUCKNER KENYA
BUNDA COLLEGE LILONGWE MALAWI
BUNGOMA HAMBURG FOUNDATION
CANADIAN HARAMBEE EDUCATION SOCIETY
CARING HEARTS HIGH SCHOOL LTD
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NAKURU-CDN
CCEA LOIS BULLEY BURSARY
CCI JOY FAMILY
CCI JOY FAMILY CDC

CCVI LOYOLA SCHOLARSHIP
CCVI LOYOLA SCHOLARSHIP FD
CENTENARY SACCO SOCIETY
CENTRAL RIFT COMMUNITY DEV PROGRAMME
CENTRUM NAROVINU KENYA
CERIUM CHEMICALS
CHILD CARE WORLDWIDE
CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
CHILD FUND KENYA
CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY OF KENYA
CHILDREN OF GOD RELIEF INSTITUTE
CHILDRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
CHRIST EVANGELISTIC CHURCH CDC
CHRIST FORMATION CHURCH
CHRIST IS THE ANSWER MINISTRIES
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS
CHRISTIAN MISSION FELLOWSHIP KENYA
CHURCH OF GOD IBINZO CDC
CMS AFRICA BANK
COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL ASSISTED PROJECT
COMPASSIONATE SOCIAL CARE ORG.
CONSOLATA SHRINE CHARITIES
COPTIC CHURCH
COUNTY OF UASIN GISHU
CPF TRUST FUND REGISTERED TRUSTEES
CREDIBLE SELF HELP GROUP
DASAI MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
DELIVERANCE CHURCH
DESAI MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
DIOCESE OF LODWAR DCF
DIVINE WORD CATHOLIC MISSION
DOCTOR BOBBY MACGUFFIE'S SPR
DR SHASHIKANT BADIANI
E A P C MZAMBARAUNI
E. U. MASTERCARD THRO' TAGDEV PROGRAMME
E.A.HMADIYYA MUSLIM MISSION KENYA
EAPC KANTHOROKO CDC
EAST KOCHIA DEVELOPMENT FORUM
ECO ROSES JOINT INITIATIVE CBO
EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN
EDUCATION IS POWER
ELGEYO MARAKWET COUNTY
EMBASSY CRYSTAL ENTER. LTD

EMBU COUNTY-NGAAF
EOR EMAYAN DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
EQUITY GROUP FOUNDATION
EU AERC PROJECT
EU EUSA BURSARY
EU MSCF S PROGRAMME
EU TRAN-PATH-PLANNING PROJECT
EU TWAS-UNESCO PROJECT
EWASO CONSERVATION COMPANY LIMITED
FAME CHILD RESCUE CENTRE
FASISEKA SACCO LTD
FATHERS OF HEART AND HOPE FOUNDATION
FULL GOSPEAL CHURCHES OF KENYA
FLAMINGO HORTICULTURE FAIRTRADE ASSOCIATION
FRANSISCAN SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH
FREE PENTECOSTAL
FRIENDS OF CANADA
FRIENDS SCHOOL KAIMOSI GIRLS
FUNDACION PRIVA CATALUNA
G N C A KYATUNE CDC
G.F.B.CHURCH NKONDI CDC
GABARTULA COMM CONSERVANCY
GAPEKA CHILDRENS HOPE CENTRE
GARISSA COUNTY
GCD LTD
GFB CDC NKONDI
GOOD HOPE MARKAZIL BANATIL CENTRE
GROUP FOUR SECURITY SACCO LTD
GULF AFRICAN BANK
HATUA NETWORK
HEALTH EDUCATION AFRICA RESOURCE TEAM
HEET PROJECT
HELPING HAND KENYA DEV.
HER CIRCLE INTERNATIONAL
HERITAGE INS CENTRE CHIROMO
HERITAGE INSURANCE COMPANY LTD
HOPE FOR THE SICK AND POOR ORG
HOPE WORLDWIDE KENYA
HUMANITY FIRST KENYA
IEBC WESTERN
IKM FOUNDATION
INSPIRE SPACES TRUST
INTER UNIVERSITY COUNCIL KAMPALA
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMALS WELFARE

INTER-UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR EAST AFRICA KAMPALA
 IRSS PROJECT
 JAM COMMUNITY INT. PROJECT
 JAMES FINLAY KENYA LTD
 JAMIA MOSQUE COMMITTEE
 JCC INTERNATIONAL
 JOINT BODY OF SIMBI FLOWERS
 JOSHUA IRUNGU FOUNDATION
 JUHUDI KILIMO CO. LTD
 JUMBO FOAM MATTRESSES
 KABARE GIRLS SEC SCHOOL
 KAG CDC NAROK
 KAG CHILD DEV CENTRE
 KAG MARALAL CDC
 KAG SIANY C.D.C
 KAKAMEGA ORPHANS
 KAKENYAS DREAM COMMUNITY BASED ORGAN
 KAPADIA EDUCATION FOUNDATION
 KAPSABET BOYS HIGH SCHOOL
 KAREN ROSES JOINT BODY
 KARENYAS DREAM COMMUNITY
 KASIGAU DEVELOPMENT TRUST
 KCB-FOUNDATION
 KENGEN FOUNDATION
 KENVO - EDUCATION IS POWER
 KENYA CHILDREN'S HOME
 KENYA EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND
 KENYA FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE
 KENYA KEYS
 KENYA WOMEN FINANCE TRUST
 KENYATTA TRUST
 KIBERA GIRLS SOCCER ACADEMY
 KIIO GOSPEL FURTHERING BIBLE CHURCH
 KISIMA CHILD CARE ACADEMY
 KISIMA PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
 KISIWA TTI
 KITUI PRO-POOR PROGRAMME
 KITUTU COUNTY PRO-POOR PRGM
 KONDITI DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
 KONGOWEA MCK CDC
 KO'OKETCH WELFARE SELF HELP GROUP
 KOWILI EDUCATION RECOVERY
 KUMBATIA WATAMU CBO
 KWALE COUNTY GOVT BURSARY
 KYUSO GOSPEL OUTREACH CHURCH
 L'ARCHE KENYA
 LAIKIPIA COUNTY
 LEMOFLO COMMUNITY BASED GROUP
 LEPARUA COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY
 LEWA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY
 LIA INTERNATIONAL COMPANY LTD
 LIFE FOR CHILDREN WELFARE
 LIFE IN ABUNDANCE
 LIGHT UP HOPE AFRICA
 LIMNOLOGY AND WETLAND MANAGEMENT
 LIMURU ZONE
 LION SELF HELP GROUP
 LIONIX MERCHANTS LIMITED
 LOISABA COMMUNITY TRUST
 LONGONOT HORT FAIR TRADE
 LOYPLA SCHOLARSHIP FUND
 LSOSF UKWELI HOME OF HOPE
 LVCT HEALTH
 M C S P A
 MAASAI GIRLS EDUCATION FUND
 MACHAKOS COUNTY
 MACHELE FOUNDATION
 MAJI MAZURI F.L.O SELF HELP GROUP
 MAJI MOTO GROUP RANCH
 MAKUENI COUNTY
 MAKUENI COUNTY AFFIRM ACTION
 MAKUTI SPRINGS AGENCY
 MALINDI SOLAR G LION CENTER
 MAMUJEE BROTHER MOMBASA
 MANDERA COUNTY
 MARA RIPOI CONSERVANCY
 MARANATHA ENOOSAEN CDC
 MARSABIT CHILDREN'S HOME
 MARSABIT COUNTY-NGAAF
 MARWANGA FOUNDATION
 MARYKNOLL FATHERS GIRLS PROGRAMME
 MASENO SCHOOL
 MASENO UNIVERSITY

MAYFAIR HOLDINGS LTD
 MCK MIOMPONI CDC
 MCK NGUSISHI CDC
 MELAKO COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY
 MENENGAI OIL REFINERIES LIMITED
 MERU COUNTY
 MGANGE NYIKA WELFARE SOCIETY
 MIER PAMOJA EDUCATIONAL CENTRE
 MIGORI COUNTY
 MIKINDURI CCCI PROJECT
 MINISTRY OF AGR ASMARAEITREA
 MISSIONS OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL
 MJCLARK LTD
 MKOMANI CLINIC SOCIETY
 MOI TEACHING AND REFERRAL HOSPITAL
 MOMBASA COUNTY
 MOTOROGI LANDOWNERS CONSERVATION LTD
 M-PESA FOUNDATION ACADEMY
 MULLY CHILDREN'S FAMILY
 MUNGOMA WARD BURSARY
 MURANGA COUNTY
 MUTUNGURU SEC SCHOOL
 MWACHABO DEVELOPMENT FORUM
 MWALIMU SACCO LTD
 NABOISHO LAND HOLDING COMPANY LTD
 NABULU OO ILMOKESEN
 NAIKUNGA UPPER CONSERVATION LTD
 NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY
 NAIROBI COUNTY
 NAIVASHA GIRLS SEC SCHOOL
 NAKURU CHILDREN TRUST
 NAKURU COUNTY
 NAMBAYA DAIRIES LIMITED
 NANDI COUNTY
 NAROK COUNTY
 NASHA MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AFFIRMATIVE
 NDOTO FOR AFRICA FUTURE
 NEW LIFE AFRICA INTERNATIONAL
 NEW NGARIAMA F.C S LTD
 NGARE NDARE FOR LEWA
 NGILAI CONSERVATION PROJECT
 NGONG ROAD CHILDREN FOUNDATION
 NIS STAFF SUPERANNUITY SCHEME
 NJOKERIO ENTREPRENEURS YOUTH GROUP
 NM-AIST HEET PROJECT
 NOAH SOCIETY
 NBOUND KISUMU PROJECT
 NYAMIRA COUNTY
 OACK ST ANDREW'S SIMENYA CDC
 OCTAGON TRUSTEE
 OFFICE OF THE BISMARCK MISSION
 OL-LENTILLE TRUST KENYA
 ONE GIRL CAN
 PAMOJA DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
 PARASH A SHAH AND ASHWIN A SHAH
 PARKLANDS BAPTIST CHURCH
 PARTNERSHIP FOR NGONG AVENUE
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EAST AFRICA
 PEFA CHURCH
 PEMA SELF HELP GROUP
 PIONEER CDC
 POLLEN LIMITED
 PRECIOUS BLOOD STAR OF HOPE
 PROF. HASSAN SAID MEMORIAL EDUC. FUND
 PUBLIC TRUSTEE TRUST ESTATES
 RATTANSI EDUCAT KENYA
 RGC CHULUNI CDC
 RIYAZ ABDULREHMAN EBRAHIM
 ROCK BRIDGE MINISTRIES
 RUNGETO FCS LTD
 SACHEN+JIWA F
 SAGALLA CONSERV. AND DEV. FORUM
 SAKARBEN P SHETH CHARITABLE TRUST
 SAKU FORUM FOR EDUCATION
 SAM ELIMU FOUNDATION
 SAMBURU COUNTY
 SAMOEI BOYS SEC SCHOOL
 SAVE THE ELEPHANTS
 SDA CHURCH CENTRAL RIFT
 SERA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY
 SHANKOE METHODIST CDC
 SHELLA BURSARY FUND

SHREE C L P CHARITABLE TRUST
 SIAN EQUATOR FLOWERS LTD
 SILOBREAKS
 SIMON KWAME OTIENDE FOUNDATION
 SISTERS OF ST FRANCIS-TIMAU
 SO THEY CAN
 SOILS FOR THE FUTURE AFRICA LTD
 SOLAI BAPTIST CDC
 ST MARTIN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
 ST OLOYSIUS GONZAGA SEC SCHOOL
 ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
 STAREHE GIRLS CENTRE-CCA SPONSORSHIP
 STICHTING KIDSH
 STONEX FINANCIAL LTD
 STREET CHILDREN'S NETWORK NAKURU
 SUBATI GROUP LTDRS
 SWALEH MWANGI AND COMPANY
 TANA RIVER COUNTY
 TATA CHEMICALS MAGADI LIMITED
 TAURUS PACKAGING
 THARAKA NITHI COUNTY
 THE ADVOCATES BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION
 THE AKBERALI CHARITABLE TRUST
 THE CHANDARIAN FOUNDATION
 THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR SCHOLARSHIP
 THE FAMILY GROUP FOUNDATION
 THE FLEISCHER FOUNDATION
 THE FREE PRESBYTERIAN MISSION SOCIETY
 THE GIRAFFE PROJECT
 THE GUNDUA FOUNDATION
 THE INITIATIVE OF TAKE HEART KENYA
 THE INTER UNIVERSITY KAMPAL
 THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 THE M PESA ACADEMY
 THE MAMA ADA FOUNDATION
 THE NAKURU SPECIALIST HOSPITAL LTD
 THE PURKO DEV. TRUST
 THE ROTARY CLUB OF VIENNA
 THE TURNING POINT TRUST
 TIM WANYONYI FOUNDATION
 TINADA YOUTH ORGANIZATION
 TONY COREN GATEGI PROJECT
 TRANS NATION SACCO SOCIETY LIMITED
 TRANS NZOIA COUNTY
 TRANSMARA SUGAR COMPANY
 TRANS-PATH-PLAN PROJECT
 TREASURY MAIN
 TREASURY THE QUADRAN
 TULAGA JOINT BODY SELF HELP GROUP
 TUMAINI INTERNATIONAL TRUST
 TUMAINI TRUST
 TURKANA COUNTY
 TURKANA COUNTY SKILLS DEV. FD
 TUUNGANE COMMUNITY
 TUYO SACCO SOCIETY LTD
 TWALIBALI MBARAK AND HAJI YEROW
 U N HIGH COMMISSIONER
 UG COUNTY
 UKOMO COOP SOCIETY
 UKWELI HOME OF HOPE
 UMOJA FOUNDATION
 UNBOUND SUB PROJECT
 UNITED NATIONS
 UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
 UWEZA FOUNDATION
 Van Doorn Sti 3/NL/NIJMEGEN 65
 VGG S LTD ICT
 VILLA EDUCATIONAL TRUST
 WAJIR COUNTY
 WELLS MOUNTAIN INITIATIVE
 WEST POKOT COUNTY
 WILDLIFE WORKS
 WILDLIFE WORKS CARBON TRUST
 WILFRED LAI FOUNDATION
 WINDLE INTERNATIONAL KENYA
 WIRIGIRO PROJECT
 WORLD VISION
 WORLDIFIRE FLOWERS FAIR TRADE
 WORLDREMIT PROJECT
 WVK NORTHERN REGION
 YIER EN TIM S.H.G
 ZARA CHATUR



The **NEWSLINK**

for everything you need to know about
Egerton University

The Chancellor, the University Council
and the
University Management Board
wish all staff and students

a Merry Christmas
and
a Prosperous 2025

The Graduation Special Issue of the Egerton Newslink is published by Egerton University. Telephone +254-51-2113700/01, E-mail dmm@egerton.ac.ke
Editors: Emilia Ilieva (Professor of Literature) and Joseph Walunywa (Senior Lecturer in Literature Department of Literature, Languages and Linguistics)
Production Coordinator: Agnes Mwangi (Communication and Marketing Manager)
Design & Layout: Roselyne Wamalwa (Graphic Designer)
Photos: Egerton University



BANK

T&Cs apply

Enjoy Convenient Banking with our Affordable **Transactional Accounts**



Mapato Account

- ✓ Minimum operating balance.
- ✓ Tiered monthly maintenance charges.

Bankika Account

- ✓ No minimum operating balance.
- ✓ No monthly maintenance or ledger fees.

Jiinue Account

- ✓ A low charge account:
- low maintenance charge of Kes 50.

Student Account

- For students in TVETS, Colleges & Universities
- ✓ No minimum operating balance.
 - ✓ No monthly maintenance or ledger fees.

For more information:

Call 0711 087 000 / 0732 187 000

Email: contactcentre@kcbgroup.com

or visit any KCB branch near you.

For People. For Better.



Regulated by the Central Bank of Kenya