





# InfoPoint The Bulletin

A Monthly Publication of Laikipia University



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#### **VISION:**

A University for valued transformation of society

#### MISSION:

To serve students and society through research, education, scholarship, training, innovation, outreach and consultancy

#### **CORE VALUES:**

Quality, Integrity, Respect

#### **MOTTO:**

'Seed of Wisdom'

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## Intellectual Property Rights Capacity Building Workshop

With an aim to provide an opportunity for the Laikipia University fraternity to be creative, innovative and to patent and commercialize their innovations, the Directorate of Research, Human Rights and Gender in conjunction with Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) conducted a virtual Sensitization Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights and Patenting on Ist November, 2023.

The facilitator during the Sensitization Workshop Diana was Amalemba Mambiri - Trade Mark Examiner at Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI). During the training session, the following topics were covered: Introduction to Patents and Utility; Models Industrial Designs; Patents & Utility Models; Trade Marks Protection in Kenya and Patents & Patent Procedures.

The aim of the workshop was mainly to enlighten and equip the staff and students with adequate knowledge and skills in the area of Intellectual Property Rights and was expected to increase the staff and students' awareness and empower them promote inventiveness and innovativeness in Laikipia University.

#### Staff Retirement Party

The University held a retirees party on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2023. The event was a celebration marking the culmination of years of their hard work and dedication. The event was attended by the University Management Board, staff from various departments and members of staff recently retired from service; all coming together to honour the retirees for their significant contributions.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kibett Rotich, in his remarks, recognized the effort put in by these members and the positive spirit they portrayed during their time of service. He further advised the staff to begin preparing for retirement early as this would make it easier at retirement. The retirees party was a resounding success, filled with heartfelt moments. It was a befitting tribute to the retirees, celebrating their achievements and marking the beginning of a new chapter in their lives. The ceremony was crowned by the sharing of a cake and a meal.

The retirees were awarded certificates of service and personalized gifts, a testament to their impact and legacy.

#### **Tree Planting Week**

In observance of the National Tree Planting Day which was held on 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2023, the University launched a three-day Tree Planting Exercise from 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 outside the New Administration Block.

The exercise was officially launched by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Kibett Rotich. Also in attendance were Ag. Deputy Vice Chancellor Administration, Finance and Planning Prof. Nicholas Kamau, Ag. Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, Research and Student Affairs Prof. Jacinta Ndambuki, Offices of the Registrars, Heads of Departments, Staff, Student leaders and students.

The theme for the exercise was "Together, let's plant 15 million tress for a Greener Kenya"

### International Men's Day Celebration

Laikipia University through the Directorate of Research, Human Rights and Gender organized a forum dubbed Men's Circle Forum on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 at Mandela Hall from 9am to 1pm to celebrate International Men's Day.

The forum was aimed at celebrating the positive value men bring to the world, their families, and communities. It highlighted positive role models and raised awareness of men's well-being.

## Sexual Reproductive Health Forum

The Office of the Dean of Students through the Counselling Services Section held a Sexual Reproductive Health Forum at Mandela Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.

The session was spearheaded by University Counselors lead by Ms. Evelyn Oketch, Mr. Benedict Musyoka and Ms. Faith Nyambura. The facilitators were Ms. Esther and Ms. Grace from Nyahururu General Hospital department of HIV/AIDS and TB Treatment. It was also attended by Student Leaders representative, Student Counselors and students.

The discussion topics concerning the Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) were Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI), HIV/ AIDS spread and prevention, Pre Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), Pregnancies and Abortions, Male and Female Anatomy and Sexuality, Contraceptions, of Methods Relationships, Drugs and Drug Abuse lead to Sexual and how it can Reproductive cases. In the future, sessions concerning the same will be organized at the University to cover the broad topic of Sexual Reproductive Health.

The students had an interactive session with the facilitators and student counselors.

## Class Representatives and Student Leaders Meeting

On 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 Laikipia University Class Representatives and Student Leaders had an interactive session with representatives from the Offices of the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Registrar – Academic Affairs, Dean of Students and Deans of Schools.

The meeting was initiated by the Laikipia University Student Association (LUSA) and was held at Mandela Hall. It was attended by Ag. Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, Research and Student Affairs Prof. Jacinta Ndambuki, Deputy Registrar Academic Affairs Mr. Francis Wanjama, Dean School of Education Prof. Enos Barasa, Dr. Florence Opondo from the Department of Commerce, and Mr. Alex Mukaisi from the Office of the Dean of Students.

The main aim of the meeting was to address some of the crucial pressing issues affecting the students' academic life. These issues ranged from Missing Marks; Units Registration and Challenges faced when registering; The new funding model for first year students; Class attendances and student's welfare.

Furthermore, exam irregularities and disciplinary issues, protocols of communication to follow for assistance, and good student-lecturer relations were

raised and addressed. While addressing the student welfare issues, the DVC reminded the class reps and the student leaders about the Okoa Comrade Initiative which is aimed at helping needy students in various ways. She further urged them to be financially prudent, budget the little they have wisely and live within their means.

During the meeting, position of students living with disabilities in the University was also addressed and the Chairperson of the Disability Mainstreaming Committee Dr. Florence Opondo noted that her team is working on improving ways of helping students with special needs for instance; sign language lessons are ongoing to train staff and students.

The Dean also reminded the students on the need to follow up with missing marks earlier to avoid last minute frustrations, prepare for exams on time because those who will be charged with exam malpractices with face the disciplinary actions as stipulated in the Student's Handbook.

## Laikipia University 2023-2027 Strategic Plan Internal Stakeholders Forum

he University held Internal Stakeholders forum for preparing its 2023-2027 Strategic Plan on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2023 at the Nelson Mandela Hall. The exercise was spearheaded by the Strategic Plan Review committee which was appointed by the Vice-Chancellor following the expiry of the previous Strategic Plan as required by regulations.

During the event, the internal stake-holders gave their contribution and feedback on the Strategic Plan. The event was attended by Deans, Directors, Chairs of Departments, Coordinators, Heads of Departments and other members of staff. The Strategic Plan is expected to chart the University's growth for the next five years and is aligned to Kenya's Medium Term Plan IV.

### Laikipia University Culture Week

Laikipia University through the Office of the Dean of Students in conjunction with Laikipia University Student Association (LUSA) organized the 2023 Culture Week event from 21st November, 2023 to 24th November, 2023. The four-day event took place at the University Pavilion Grounds with the last day culminating into a Gala Night at Vision 2030 Hall.

The theme for the year's Culture Week was; Fostering National Cohesion, Diversity and Sustainable Environment and was attended by the Dean of Students, who also stood in for the

the Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Research and Student Affairs Prof. Jacinta Ndambuki, Staff, Student Leaders lead by the Chairperson Dennis Tuikong, and students.

Several activities that splashed the week's daily schedule revolved around types of wears and outfits like professional and official wear, school wear, crazy wear, street wear and traditional/cultural regalia, competitions in poetry, spoken word, modern dances, art work presentations, clubs exhibitions, talent shows, pool table competition and eating competition.

Cultural presentations were also part of the week's activities and were organized under LUSA's Director Welfare docket. Internal judges were in charge of the above activities and awarded points to different groups with regard to what category they were representing from.

The Climax of the event was on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 with the Gala Night where the contests for Mr. & Miss. Laikipia and Mr. & Miss. Culture took place, the Launch of Okoa Comrade Initiative and Awarding of winners. With the validation and assessment of external judges, the winners of the contest were:

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S/No	Name	Title
MR. LAIKIPIA UNIVERSITY CATEGORY		
1.	Haron Njenga	Mr. Laikipia University
2.	Kerry Edwin	Ist Runners up Mr. Laikipia University
3.	Bill Yegon	2 <sup>nd</sup> Runners up Mr. Laikipia University
MISS. LAIKIPIA UNIVERSITY CATEGORY		
4.	Hodrey Onyango	Miss. Laikipia University
5.	Precious Nelly Okello	I <sup>st</sup> Runners up Miss. Laikipia University
6.	Winfred Ngina	2 <sup>nd</sup> Runners up Miss. Laikipia University
MR. CULTURE LAIKIPIA UNIVERSITY		
7.	Felix Njuki	Mr. Culture Laikipia University
8.	Enock Lesiompolo Toipo	Ist Runners up Mr. Culture Laikipia University
9.	Victor Murimi Muriithi	2 <sup>nd</sup> Runners up Mr. Culture Laikipia University
MISS. CULTURE LAIKIPIA UNIVERSITY		
10.	Bamum Matui	Miss. Culture Laikipia University
11.	Goko Luciana	Ist Runners up Miss. Culture Laikipia University
12.	Georgina Awuor	2 <sup>nd</sup> Runners up Miss. Culture Laikipia University

## Undergraduate Career Mentorship

On 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 Directorate of TVET, Career Placement, Alumni and External Linkages held an Undergraduate Career Mentorship at Mandela Hall.

The event was spearheaded by the Director TVET, Career Placement, Alumni and External Linkages Dr. Naftal Nyang'ara, Ms. Hellen Wambugu and Ms. Jane Otieno both from the Directorate. Also in attendance were Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Research and StNdambukiwho gave the

and Student Affairs Prof. Jacinta Ndambuki, who gave the Keynote address and the Dean of Students Ms. Beatrice Yogo.

The facilitators were Ms. Ayoti Kirkwood, Director - Wake na Vijana Initiative and Ms. Lily Ronoh, Laikipia University alumni who is also the Marketing and Communications Manager at Eden Reforestation Projects.

Topics tackled included: Resume Building; Professional Development; Navigating the 21st Century Work Place; Communication in the Digital Age; Climate Setting and Baseline Survey; Personal Branding; Interview Preparation and Mock Interview.

The session was well attended by students from various Schools within the University.

#### Inter-Faith Prayer Day

The Chaplain Section under Office of the Dean of Students organized a Thanksgiving Inter-Faith Prayer Day at Mandela Hall on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 at Mandela Hall.

The prayers were led the University Chaplain Rev. Fr. Dr. Peterson Kabugi and in attendance was the Dean of Students Ms. Beatrice Yogo, Rev. Benjamin Wanjohi from the Visions of Glory Church, Karuga, Student leaders and Students.

The guest speaker was Dr. Duncan Odhiambo, the Chaplain University of East Africa Baraton. The points of reflection came the books of Romans 12:2 and Acts 7:22. Teachings revolved around being instruments of transformation and the importance of living a balanced life. The speaker further reiterated the fact that apart from academics, students should also learn other importance skills in life and that above all, they should pray for wisdom from God as they go through life.

The event was attended by students from the four recognized religious

institutions in the University i.e. Christian Union, Seventh Day Adventist, Catholic Action and Muslim Students Association.

**Retirement Training** 

On 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 the Office of the Registrar – Administration and Human Capital conducted a retirement training for University Staff who are almost retiring. The training was conducted at the New Administration Block Hall.

The training was attended by the Registrar Administration and Human Capital Dr. Hezron Nyamwega, Deputy Registrar Administration and Human Capital Mr. Mugo Muriithi and University staff from various departments whose retirement days are approaching.

The facilitators of the training were Mr. Martin Muroki and Ms. Paula Nzioka from GenAfrica. The main aim of the training was to equip expected retirees with knowledge on how to handle pension money once they receive and also proper ways of preparing for retirement psychologically, socially, and financially.

The Retirement Training is an annual exercise conducted by the University to all the staff who are approaching retirement.

