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SECOND EDITION

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LU *Info Point*

VISION 2030

VICE CHANCELLOR VISION

INSIDE FEATURES:

'BIG FOUR' AGENDA PROJECTS

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

2019



Laikipia University-KE



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Welcome to the Second Edition of *LU Info Point*. This issue focuses on the VC vision for LU, University Council Retreat and 'Big Four' Agenda Projects. This edition also captures an inspiring story of one of our prominent alumnus and a captivating article on the environment from the Laikipia University Students Environment Club.

Thank you LU Community for appreciating *Info Point*. Let us continue telling beautiful narratives about our university.

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LU *Info Point*

VC VISION FOR LAIKIPIA UNIVERSITY

Prof. Kibet Rotich, Ph.D
Professor of Biostatistics and Informatics
VICE CHANCELLOR

Laikipia University is capable of being a world class institution. The aspiration to serve the students, and society through research, education, scholarship, training, innovation, outreach and consultancy must stand as a beacon for the future. Under my leadership the University:

- The University endeavours to set up shopping and tourist attraction centers at some strategic located places along the road and other locations as well as partner with other investors to explore business opportunities resulting from its strategic location. This will create employment opportunities to the local community.
- In order to fully utilize the available land, the university will develop a farm business plan, employ a qualified farm manager and fully implement the farm business plan.
- The University will enhance the use of ICT in teaching and invite prominent alumni teachers to give motivational talks to students. The university will sponsor top students in each faculty to undertake Master studies.
- The University will develop close connections with the local community and County government through partnership in various projects such as trainings in different areas, collaborative research, use of innovative agricultural techniques, and water and sanitation management amongst others.
- The university will also involve the local community in organizing and participating in the health week activities. It will endeavor to improve the quality of infrastructure and teaching standards in Laikipia primary school in order to improve performance of the pupils and increase student enrollment.
- Expansion of farm enterprises which include livestock, cereals and crops production, poultry, apiary, demonstration farm amongst others. The University will implement the water bottling project and brand the products for sale.
- Increase revenues by developing research proposals for funding, increasing student enrollment, organizing for short term courses and trainings. Financial resources will be used properly and unnecessary costs will be minimized by using efficient controls. Therefore, the University will establish strong financial support or monitoring systems to enhance efficiency.
- Laikipia University will attract, develop and retain high quality staff in different areas of specialization in line with the projected staff establishment. The University will encourage the academic staff to apply for scholarships. It will also sponsor staff for continuous professional development workshops and trainings in their specific areas.
- The University will also strive to provide all staff with fully equipped offices and review staff promptly.
- The ICT policy will be reviewed to ensure that record management is improved. The storage system will be modernized and data back up increased by purchasing or subscribing to information backup systems and increase external backups. The University will enhance training on information security system information to its entire staff.
- The University will improve completion rate of post-graduate students by introducing a log book for

- Laikipia University will develop market driven programs, review and market academic programmes in line with demand, develop inter-university collaborations and linkages, offer scholarships for the disadvantaged students and high performers.
- Make the University a hub of sports by partnering with sports organizations and individuals in organizing sports related activities and conferences
- Implement the Government Policy on Public Private Partnerships (3Ps) arrangement by developing networks both locally and internationally, increase its participation in the activities organized by private organizations, organize for workshops/ talks and invite speakers from the private sector. It will also organize for meetings with the private partners with a view to establishing long- term cooperation for mutual benefit.
- Improve the existing infrastructure and ensure speedy completion of the incomplete infrastructure. This should solve the problem of inadequate classes, laboratory, offices and have a modern library. This will involve allocating adequate resources to infrastructure and evaluating the existing projects and contracts. This work will be overseen by a competent qualified Estate Manager recruited by the University.

‘Whatever the mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve.’ Napoleon Hill



The University Council held a Retreat from Wednesday to Friday, February 20th to 22nd, 2019 at the Great Rift Valley Lodge, Naivasha. The objective of the retreat was to deliberate on the following management instruments of the University; University Statutes (Revised 2019), Strategic Plan 2018/2019 to 2022/2023, and Webometric Ranking Parameters for Laikipia University. An update is presented below:-

- ***University Statutes (Revised 2019)***

The reviewed Statutes were presented to the Council and were deliberated upon. The Council proposed changes that could align the document to the Kenya Constitution 2010, The Universities Act 2012 (with its amendments), and the University Charter. The corrections proposed by the Council will be captured before the Statutes are presented for approval.

The reviewed Statutes will streamline the University operations through the proposed defined management framework and various functional Departments. The instrument provides reference on the way the University should be run, the reporting chain of command, and mechanisms for resolving staff and

students' grievances.

This instrument proposed several policies to be developed in order to enhance University operations.

- ***Strategic Plan 2018/2019 to 2022/2023***

The University developed a Strategic Plan for 2018/019 to 2022/2023 and aligned it to the "Big Four" Agenda and the Medium-Term Plan III of Kenya Vision 2030 Development Blueprint. The Strategic Plan will be an important guide and a vibrant tool for Laikipia University in realising her vision, mission and objectives. It outlines the future needs and aspirations of all stakeholders, and provides a framework through which the University would achieve her desired future.

- ***Webometric Ranking Parameters for Laikipia University***

The university was ranked 14070 /28000 higher education institutions in the world as per the January 2019 Webometric ranking edition. This is an improvement as compared to July Webometric ranking edition. This can be attributed to the efforts put by the Council and the University in general.



THE “BIG FOUR” INITIATIVES & VISION 2030 PROJECTS

Manufacturing, Universal HealthCare , Affordable Housing and Food security, are the ‘Big Four’ Agenda the government has pledged to focus on.

The University is set to position herself as a key player in the achievement of the Government’s ‘Big Four “Initiative and Vision 2030 agenda.’ The Strategic Plan is being reviewed so as to ensure the positioning is actualized. The review is guided by the “Big Four” Initiative, the Vision 2030 Blue Print and the MTP III. In the FY 2018/2019, the following projects have been rolled out to that effect.

1 To enhance on universal health coverage, the University:



- Registered the University Medical Unit as an NHIF hospital with 24/7 medical services to staff, students and surrounding community.
- Procured a modern Ambulance. The Ambulance is set to enhance access and response to emergencies
- Organized Health Week focusing on preventive health care to staff, students and surrounding community. The staff, students and surrounding community benefited for free access to a variety of medical services including cancer screening and counselling,

H IV/AIDS Counselling and testing, among others.

2 Food security and nutrition

•Agribusiness Training: The University trained 20 students on Entrepreneurship in Agribusiness in the first phase and second phase is set to be rolled out. This is Entrepreneurship in Agribusiness programme in which the University is partnering with Agripreneurship Switzerland. The programme is a comprehensive



experimental learning experience for young African Agripreneurs. The programme entails acquisition of business skills by students participating in agri-food courses.

•Farm Department Revitalized: The University has projected to revitalize the farm so that it shall contribute towards food security. This the farm will do by running a vibrant farm unit that will produce high quality farm products while at the same time play the role of a demonstration Farm for training farmers and students on modern

farming techniques. To this end, the University has recruited a Farm Manager, procured a brand new tractor and is upgrading infrastructure for enhanced crop, dairy and animal farming on its 900 acre farm.

3 To enhance manufacturing the University is engaged in the following:

- Establishment of a water bottling plant
- Construction of a Science Complex
- Construction of a tuition block
- Completion of the Library and Administration Block

4 Affordable Housing:

The University supports a staff housing scheme with focus on enabling staff to own affordable houses/homes. The Scheme is facilitated through a check off system on the university payroll. Already the Nyahururu phase is complete and members were issued with title deeds during a colourful ceremony witnessed by the Vice-Chancellor and Governor Laikipia County. Two other phases are on-going within Nakuru Town.

David Otieno

Ag. Coordinator Planning and Performance Contracting



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Our Success Stories

SUCCESS DOES NOT LIE IN
"RESULTS"
BUT IN "EFFORTS",
"BEING" THE BEST IS NOT SO IMPORTANT,
"DOING" THE BEST IS ALL THAT MATTERS...



Successstory.com

Our Success Stories

I am a proud alumnus of Laikipia University, having studied Bachelor of Education, Arts in this great institution from 1996 to 2000. My first degree in this university gave me a lot of passion and curiosity for further education. The discipline and mentorship instilled by the faculty and the university leadership has also enabled me grow in terms of career. I started as a junior program officer at St. Martin Catholic Social Apostolate, Nyahururu and later joined Build Africa as senior program officer. Due to discipline and academic passion instilled at Laikipia University, while working as a program officer, I enrolled for an MBA-Human Resource Management. Upon graduation I secured a job at Kenya Power & Lighting Co. Ltd, as a human resource officer. I have since gone through learning and training in different fields and the highest being PhD-Human Resource Management. I am also a Society for Human Resource Management-Senior Certified Professional, USA.

In terms of career, I consider myself successful having held various senior positions in public and private sectors. Among them, Manager, Human Resources Services at Kenya Power & Lighting Co. Ltd and currently Institutional Performance Improvement Advisor, East Africa, East Africa Energy Program-RTI/USAiD. I owe my academic and career success to solid foundation I gained in Laikipia University. The reason behind my success lies in personalized attention given to every student by Lecturers and leadership of Laikipia University. The university has a tradition of providing personal guidance and follow up to each and every student to ensure academic success, discipline and motivation. Recently, the university launched a tracer study, to follow up and monitor individual career growth and movement after graduation which informs the university leadership on the areas of strength and the areas that need improvement in terms of academics and student mentorship.

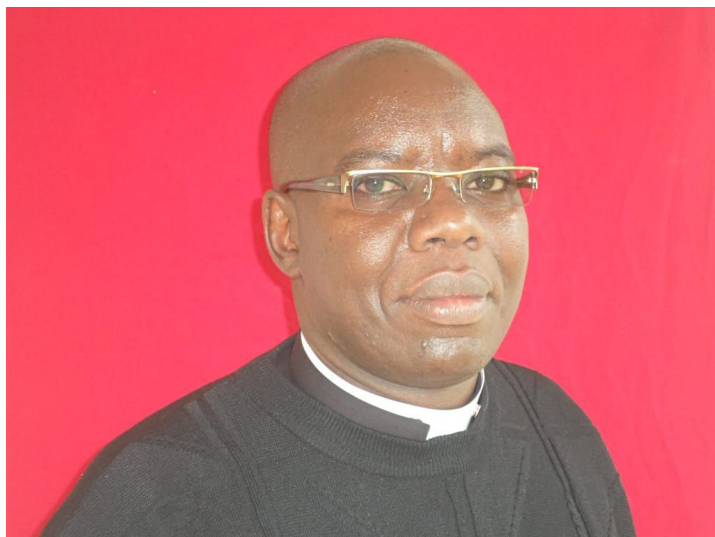
Laikipia University stands out as an excellent institution of learning due to effective mentorship, rich learning programs and resources, ideal location



Francis Kangure, PhD, SHRM-SCP, MBA, MHRM, B.Ed.

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for conducive learning and high level of discipline among the faculty, students and other employees of the university. This has created a culture of success, life-long learning and successful career for most students who pass through this exceptional institution of learning. I am currently the chairman of the alumni association, a position that I passionately commit to so as to give back to my Alma Mater and continue to spread the positive tradition of discipline, hard work and mentorship.



CHAPLAINCY DESK

Chaplain office is glad to use this platform to reach out everyone in our institution. The office welcomes the LU Community to the following programs and activities:

- Christian Union Fellowship
- Bible study
- Evening Prayers
- Fellowship
- Fundraiser towards the Annual Mission
- Morning Mass at Cherika
- Evening Mass
- Visits to Children Homes



Quote of the Week

Just as the candle cannot burn without fire, Men cannot live without spiritual life



COMMUNE WITH NATURE:

Being out in nature, away from the chaos of our daily lives and technology, can allow people to connect with themselves and nature in a way that brings about peace and a sense of well-being among other benefits:

- Just one hour of trekking can burn well over 500 calorie. Hiking trails are often softer on joints than asphalt or concrete, so it's easier on your ankles and knees compared to running. If you head for the hills, weight loss results are even better. Not only are you burning serious calories, but altitude itself has also proven to be a weight loss ally.
- Regular walking can get your butt in better shape, but taking on sharp inclines, using trekking poles to propel you forward, and clambering over rocks gives your body an all-over workout
- Regular hiking helps you control, or even prevent, diabetes by lowering your blood sugar levels. Hiking gives your muscles a workout, which moves glucose from your bloodstream for energy.
- The Report from the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace states that young people can benefit from physical activity as it contributes to developing healthy bones, efficient heart and lung function as well as improved motor skills and cognitive function. Physical activity can help to prevent hip fractures among women and reduce the effects of osteoporosis. Remaining physically active can enhance functional capacity among older people, and can help to maintain quality of life and independence.
- Sport and physical activity can make a substantial contribution to the well-being of people in . Exercise, physical activity and sport have long been used in the treatment and rehabilitation of communicable and non-communicable diseases. Physical activity for individuals is a strong means for the prevention of diseases and for nations is a cost-effective method to improve public health across population.



Going Green



Over the decades, the 'let's go green' statement has developed so many meanings and contradictions that its meaning has been diminished. Going green has mega positive impacts into our daily lives. Before you 'run away', let me explain what I mean by 'going green', its simply doing our daily activities in ways that are more environmentally friendly and making ecologically responsible decisions and lifestyles which can help protect the environment and sustain its natural resources for both the current and future generations.

Human beings and environment are two things that co-depend on one another. The problem today is that we unknowingly carry out activities that are harmful to the environment. In order to counter this problem, the need to spread environmental awareness is enormous in successfully addressing environmental problems since nature knows no waste and our human designed systems need to follow that inspiration. The main objective of such awareness is; individuals and social groups should become aware, acquire knowledge, develop skills and abilities and be able to address real life environmental problems.

Skill we should employ for instance is the use of 3Rs i.e. REUSE, RECYCLE and REDUCE. By reusing, recycling and reducing our daily waste, we will be able to reduce the daily tons of garbage and solid waste that we dump daily into our beautiful planet. By using the 3Rs, we would have reduced pollution and other unnecessary diseases that results from a polluted environment.

Therefore, as I conclude, by employing sustainable practices in our daily activities, I am confident enough that we will succeed in creating a greener, healthier and better world for all.

WRITTEN BY:
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ENVIRONMENT CLUB
LAIKIPIA UNIVERSITY.



LU

Upcoming Event



LU
International
Women's Day
Festival
Celebration

LU *Info Point*

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‘A University for Valued Transformation of Society’