

## Academic Excellence, and Community Engagement



## EDITOR'S NOTE

We are pleased to present the Second Quarter Newsletter of Laikipia University, a vibrant chronicle of life on campus from October to December 2025. This edition reflects a season of purposeful activity, marked by academic rigor, cultural expression, innovation, and meaningful engagement across the University community.

Throughout the quarter, Laikipia University continued to uphold its commitment to student safety and welfare, while making notable strides in academic and research excellence. Our faculties, students, and partners actively contributed to initiatives that strengthened teaching and learning, expanded research frontiers, and translated knowledge into real-world impact. Equally significant was the deepening of our community engagement efforts, reinforcing the University's role as a catalyst for social and economic development within and beyond our region.

This issue also celebrates the richness of our cultural diversity and the vibrancy of campus life. From student-led initiatives and sporting achievements to staff accomplishments and strategic partnerships, the stories captured herein reflect the collective energy, resilience, and creativity that define Laikipia University. As a forward-looking institution committed to transformation and innovation, we remain steadfast in nurturing talent, promoting inclusivity, and providing a conducive environment for holistic growth. We extend our sincere appreciation to all departments, students, and stakeholders whose stories, insights, and images brought this publication to life.

We invite you to read, engage, and take pride in the milestones and achievements highlighted in this edition as we continue, together, to advance Laikipia University's vision and mandate.

### The Editorial Team

1. CS. Roselyne Mulefu - Chief Editor
2. Ms. Fancy Sitonik - Editor and Content Producer
3. Mr. Joseph Ndenda - Content Producer & Designer

For feedback and submissions, please send an email to [corporatecommunication@laikipia.ac.ke](mailto:corporatecommunication@laikipia.ac.ke)

## Strengthening Student Safety Through the Jukwaa La Wasomi Forum

On September 26, 2025, Laikipia University, in collaboration with the Laikipia County Security Committee, held a high-level security forum titled Jukwaa La Wasomi, focusing on enhancing student safety and fostering a culture of security awareness within and beyond campus.



*Group Photo: Laikipia County Security Committee, Laikipia University security team, Laikipia University Student Association Officials and student leaders from colleges within Laikipia County*

Held at the university boardroom, the meeting was chaired by Laikipia County Commissioner Mr. Onesmus Kyatha alongside Laikipia University Students Association (LUSA) Secretary General Mr. Titus Omari. The event brought together key stakeholders in education and regional security to engage directly with students and institutional leaders on pressing safety concerns.

Top student safety tips shared include **walking in groups, especially at night and in isolated areas; staying alert to suspicious activities; avoiding drug use – a key insecurity trigger; responding to distress calls collectively; reporting threats to the university security or Dean of Students; and avoiding hosting strangers in hostels.**



*Laikipia County Commissioner Mr. Onesmus Kyatha (in a red tie) chairing the meeting*

The forum was attended by a diverse group of stakeholders, including: Nyahururu Deputy County Commissioner Mr. Bernard Obino and his sub-county security team; Deans of Students from Laikipia University, Laikipia East Training College, and KMTC Nyahururu Campus; Heads of Security from the participating institutions and Student leadership from all represented institutions.

Their presence underscored the collective commitment to a student-centered approach to safety and security.

## Courtesy Visit by the Commission for University Education (CUE) CEO

Laikipia University was honored to receive the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission for University Education (CUE), Prof. Mike Kuria, who paid a courtesy visit to the institution.



*Prof. Mike Kuria (middle), Prof. John Kanjogu (2nd left), Dr. Poti Owili (far left), Prof. Sheila Wandera-Simwa, and Mr. Francis Wanjama*

The visit provided an opportunity to discuss curriculum review and strengthen collaboration between the University and the Commission. Prof. Kuria later toured several university facilities and assured continued support from CUE towards enhancing academic quality and institutional growth.



*Prof. Mike Kuria signing the visitor's book at the Vice Chancellor's Office*

He was received by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Research and Student Affairs, Prof. John Kanjogu, accompanied by senior university officials including Prof. Poti Owili, Dean School of Science, Prof. Shiela Wandera-Simwa, Dean School of HDS, Dr. Alex Kibet, Director ICT, Mr. Francis Wanjama, Deputy Registrar, Academic Affairs, and CS. Roselyne Mulefu, Director of Corporate Affairs.



*Prof. Mike Kuria (2nd left) in a campus tour.*

Laikipia University appreciates the cordial relationship with the Commission for University Education and looks forward to deepening this partnership in advancing higher education excellence.

## Alumni Open Day 2025, and Customer Service Week

Laikipia University successfully hosted a vibrant **Alumni Open Day 2025**, celebrating connection, service, and institutional pride. The event brought together alumni, partners, staff, and students through engaging activities that strengthened stakeholder bonds and showcased the University's commitment to community engagement. Notably, the **Old Mutual Foundation** conducted **financial education and mentorship sessions**, empowering participants with practical knowledge for personal and professional growth.



*The Alumni Chairman, Mr. Jesse Mwangi, (4th Left) handing over a trophy to the winning team.*

The University extends sincere appreciation to its sponsors and partners — **Laikipia University Alumni, Lions SightFirst Eye Hospital (Loresho), Golden Life Victors, CIC Group, Old Mutual Foundation, Regional Blood Transfusion Centre–Nakuru, and IC Global**, led by **Dr. Joe Lenai, Director, Primary Health Care Kenya** — for their invaluable support.



*Group Photo: Prof. John Kanjogu Ag. DVC (ARSA) (in a blue tie) with the Laikipia University alumni officials and Alumni Open Day partners*

As the University marked the close of **Customer Service Week**, the **Directorate of Corporate Affairs** acknowledged the University Management, staff, students, and the **Catering and Halls Department** for their teamwork and dedication to service excellence.

Indeed, the Alumni Open Day 2025 was a **well-sponsored and well-attended success**, reflecting the vibrant **Laikipia University spirit**.



*Staff, students, alumni, and partners enjoy the vibrant and fun-filled Alumni Open Day activities at the close of Customer Service Week, 2025*

## Campus Life and Culture

Laikipia University came alive with colour, creativity, and cultural expression during the **Cultural Week 2025**, held under the theme **“A New Dawn Woven through the Silence of Yesterday.”** The week-long celebration showcased the University's rich cultural diversity and provided a vibrant platform for students to express identity, heritage, and unity through art, fashion, music, and performance.



*Students showcasing their different cultures*

Throughout the week, students participated in themed cultural outfits, including **School Wear Day**, **Granny and Grandpa (Old School) Wear**, and **Professional/Official Wear**, adding excitement and visual appeal across the campus. These activities fostered interaction, creativity, and appreciation of both tradition and modern expression.



*Students exhibiting their different cultures*

**The Gala Night** was the highlight of the celebrations, featuring a captivating **beauty contest** that combined elegance, confidence, and cultural awareness. This was complemented by electrifying **cultural dance performances** from various communities, alongside music, poetry, and other creative showcases that kept the audience thoroughly engaged.



*Cultural Dances by the Laikipia University students*

Cultural Week 2025 was a resounding success, promoting inclusivity, talent development, and cultural pride among students. The event reaffirmed Laikipia University's commitment to nurturing holistic student development while celebrating the diversity that defines its vibrant community.

## AFA Conducts Capacity Building to Enhance Standards, Efficiency, and Compliance



*Fodder harvesting at Laikipia University*

Laikipia University was honoured to host a capacity-building programme facilitated by the Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA) – Food and Crops Directorate in collaboration with the National Government and the County Government. The training focused on strengthening self-regulation mechanisms within the cereals and pulses value chain, equipping stakeholders with practical knowledge to enhance standards, compliance, and market efficiency.

The session was led by Mr. Oscar Kasingo from the AFA Food and Crops Directorate. The trainees were nominated by the County Government from within the local area, ensuring the programme directly benefited value chain actors across the region.

During the visit, Mr. Kasingo also paid a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kibett Rotich, where they discussed opportunities for deeper collaboration in agricultural capacity-building initiatives.

Laikipia University appreciates both the National Government and the County Government for choosing the institution as the host venue for this important engagement. The University looks forward to continued partnerships aimed at strengthening agricultural value chains and supporting community development.

## LEADERSHIP APPOINTMENTS

Laikipia University wishes to inform students, staff, and stakeholders of recent leadership appointments and elections. The Vice Chancellor appointed Directors across various directorates. In addition, Deans were elected following successful elections. The University Management congratulates all the appointees and elected leaders and invites the University community and stakeholders to support them as they take up their roles in serving the University.

## DIRECTORS

### Director, Corporate Affairs



**CS. Roselyne M. Mulefu**

CS. Mulefu is a Certified Secretary, a professionally trained expert in Business Administration and Management (Business Management option), Office Administration and Management, and holds professional training in

Communication and Public Relations Management. She brings a unique blend of governance expertise, strategic management, office organization and management, and communication skills to this role.

Having served the University with dedication and distinction in various capacities – most recently as Senior Corporate Communication Officer – CS. Mulefu has been instrumental in advancing the university’s visibility, building strong stakeholder relations and promoting institutional values.

In her new role, she will provide strategic leadership in enhancing Laikipia University’s brand, strengthening stakeholder engagement, embedding good governance practices and driving consistent, innovative communication aligned with the university’s mission and vision.

This appointment reflects the University’s commitment to enhancing excellence, transparency, and impactful engagement with its stakeholders.

We congratulate CS. Mulefu on this well-deserved appointment and wish her every success in her leadership journey.

### Director, Information, Communication and Technology (ICT)



**Dr. Alex Kibet**

Dr. Kibet holds a PhD and Msc in Information Technology from Kabarak University and a Bsc in Computer Science from Laikipia University. He is currently pursuing an MBA at the Open University of Kenya and is an alumnus of the

Senior Management Course (SMC) and the Strategic Leadership Development Programme (SLDP) at the Kenya School of Government.

He has published widely in the fields of blockchain, cybersecurity, and digital transformation, and contributes at the national level as a member of technical taskforces, the Secretariat of Presidential Committees, and the County Budget and Economic Forums (CBEFs) in Elgeyo-Marakwet.

Prior to this appointment, Dr. Kibet served as Chair of the Department of Computing and Informatics at Laikipia University, where he also spearheaded several strategic committees. He has been at the forefront of capacity building as a Huawei and Cisco Academy Instructor and as a trainer under the Presidential Digital Talent Programme (PDTP).

We congratulate Dr. Kibet on his appointment and wish him success in his new role as he continues to drive innovation and digital transformation at Laikipia University.

### Director, Examination and Timetabling



### Dr. Lekalgitele Stephen Mutesa

Dr. Lekalgitele Stephen Mutesa holds a Doctor of Education (Education Administration) from Flinders University, Australia, a Master's degree in Education Administration and Management from Kenyatta University, a Postgraduate Diploma in Project Planning and Management, and a Bachelor of Education (Arts) from the Catholic University of Eastern Africa. He has published in the field of education administration and brings extensive experience from secondary school teaching

international programmes, and university leadership. Prior to his appointment as Director of Examinations and Timetabling, Dr. Mutesa served at Laikipia University as a Programme Coordinator, Acting Director at the Maralal Campus, and a lecturer in the Department of Curriculum and Educational Management, where he taught and supervised postgraduate students.

We congratulate Dr. Mutesa as he takes up his new responsibility and wish him success.

### Manager, Farm Department



### Mr. Pkoech Korir Harrison

Mr. Pkoech Korir Harrison is an agricultural professional with over ten years of experience in livestock management and crop production. His expertise includes integrated pest management, dairy and greenhouse production, fodder development, feed formulation, animal health, and compliance with international health and safety standards (TASC).

As the newly recruited Farm Manager at Laikipia University, he is focused on enhancing farm productivity, expanding enterprise diversity, and strengthening the farm's contribution to teaching, research, and food security through initiatives in greenhouse farming, crop and fodder production, poultry, apiculture, and aquaculture.

## DEANS OF SCHOOLS

### School of Education



**Prof. Isaac W. Kingori**

**Professor Isaac Wanjohi King'ori** is the newly elected and appointed Dean, School of Education, Laikipia University, with effect from 1st November 2025. He is an **Associate Professor of Educational Psychology** in the Department of Psychology, Counselling and Educational Foundations. Prof. King'ori holds a **Bachelor of Education (Moi University)**, a **Master's in Educational Psychology (Egerton University)**, and a **PhD in Educational Psychology (Laikipia University)**.

Since joining Laikipia University in 2009, he has risen through the academic ranks and served in key leadership roles, including Director, Nyahururu Town Campus, and **Director of Examinations and Timetabling**.

A prolific researcher and author, he has published widely and actively contributes to student mentorship, research supervision, and university governance. The University Management congratulates Prof. King'ori and wishes him success in his new role.

### School of Business and Economics



**Prof. Stella Muhanji**

**Professor Stella Muhanji** is an **Associate Professor of Economics** and the elected Dean, School of Business and Economics, Laikipia University, with effect from **1st November 2025**. She is a financial economist with over 20 years of academic experience and previously served as **Chairperson of the Department of Economics**. Prof. Muhanji holds a **PhD in Economics** from the **University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa**, and **Master's and Bachelor's degrees in Economics** from **Kenyatta University**.

Her research interests include **financial economics, stock markets, natural resources, governance, and institutional quality**, with widely cited publications in high-impact journals. She is passionate about equipping students with practical and analytical skills relevant to the job market. The University Management congratulates Prof. Muhanji on her election.

## School of Humanities and Development Studies



**Prof. Babere Kerata Chacha**

**Prof. Babere Kerata Chacha** is an **Associate Professor of African History** and the **elected Dean, School of Humanities and Development Studies, Laikipia University**, with effect from **1st November 2025**. He is a **former Coordinator of External Linkages** and the **founder of the Centre for Human Rights at Laikipia University**.

Dr. Chacha has held **prestigious fellowships** at the **School of Oriental and African Studies (University of London)**, **St Antony's College, University of Oxford**, and **Wolfson College, University of Cambridge**, and has served as a **Global Fellow at the University of New South Wales, Australia**. He is a recipient of the **2022 Sarah Baartman Award** from the **University of Cape Town** and is an **Adjunct Faculty Member at the Kenya Military Academy, Lanet**. His research interests include **political assassinations, human rights, truth and reconciliation, religion, and sexuality**. The University Management congratulates Dr. Chacha on his election.

## School of Science and Applied Technology (SSAT)



**Dr. Daniel Pande**

**Dr. Daniel Pande** is a **Lecturer in the Department of Biological and Biomedical Science and Technology** and a **Plant Pathologist** with expertise in **molecular plant virology and bioinformatics**. He brings extensive experience in teaching, research, and university administration, having served as the **pioneer Senate Representative for the School of Science and Applied Technology (SSAT)** for over ten years, **Examinations Officer**, and later **Chairperson of the Department of Biological Sciences**. Dr. Pande has been appointed **Ag. Dean, School of Science and Applied Technology**, with effect from **1st November 2025**.

His research combines molecular biology, advanced sequencing, and computational approaches to understand plant virus evolution, including a notable discovery of the **Maize Streak Réunion Virus**. The University Management congratulates Dr. Pande and wishes him success in his new role.

**Congratulations!**

Name	New Designation & Department
Mr. Mwaka Samwel Musembi	Ag. In-Charge University Security
Dr. Benjack Ochieng	Ag. CoD Economics
Dr. Wilda Onyancha	Ag. CoD Biological & Biomedical Sciences
Salome Ileri	Ag. CoD Computing and Informatics
Ms. Peninah Mubua	Ag. CoD Social Studies

## Acknowledgement of Departing Staff

Laikipia University acknowledges the staff members who exited the University between January and December 2025. This section is shared to recognize their contributions and service to the University and is intended for information purposes only.

Name
Jane Wachuka Mwangi
Nathaniel Ochieng Siangla
Moses Somoei Letoma
Dr. Mugo Muriithi
Samuel Kabacia Muhono
Michael Njuguna Njenga
Alex Silvester Mukaisi
Benson Simiyu Mukalukha
Jenerosah Nyoroka Murungi
Consolata Adhiambo Dimba
James Lenolgenje
Peter Muthokia Kimemia

Caleb Akonya
Ann Wanjiru Njogu
Jackson Kipyego Cheletewon
Susan Njoki Ng'ang'a
John Ogony Onditi
Edward Onyango Malachi
Joseph Odhiambo Oduor
Carolyne Wanjiru Kimani
Nancy Nduta Njoroge
Joel Tong'ik Kibor
Moses Obonyo Were
Elikana Kamau Itotia
Beatrice Anyango Yogo



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