

CAMPUS THIS WEEK

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EAMARC Conference emphasizes need for applied research



Delegates pose for a group photo at the closing ceremony of the 3rd East African Multidisciplinary Conference held from 15-17 November at the auditorium.

USIU-Africa held the 3rd East African Multidisciplinary Research Conference (EAMARC) from the November 15-17 at the auditorium. This year's theme - *Sustainable development goals; The role of research, innovation and capacity building* - dwelt on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by members of the United Nations on September 25, 2015, to "end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity" as part of a global development agenda to be realized over the next fifteen years. The conference received a record number of presentations by researchers from Africa, Asia and North America, focusing on how applied research would assist in meeting the 169 targets of the aspects of the global sustainable development agenda.

DVC - Academic Affairs Amb. Prof Ruthie Rono in delivering the opening remarks highlighted the impact of research on development, noting that "*Data-based decision-making, using scientific and tested solutions to adequately address the challenges facing mankind is the path through which we can succeed.*"

United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) Africa Climate Change Coordinator, Dr. Richard Munang' in his speech called out to every researcher, innovator and educator to tailor all their efforts to the big enablers of our civilization – agro-industrialization, consolidation of regional markets, expansion of rural infrastructure, enhanced intra-regional connectivity, Africa-centric education and unlocking of domestic financing.

Another highlight of the conference was a presentation by Dr. Katie Simmons (Associate Director – Research, Pew Research Center) who presented a recently conducted survey from the Pew Research Center, of 11 African countries with specific focus on Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa.

Over 60 percent of citizens of the three nations prioritized healthcare and education above other social issues. There was also deep optimism that there was greater opportunity for personal growth in their own countries as opposed to seeking greener pastures abroad.

However, societal divisions were different in each country – Nigerians were divided among religious lines, South Africans along racial lines, while opinions among Kenyan society have a heavy ethnic bias.

At the closing session, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza decried the need for the university community to embrace research to bring about the transformational change needed to move the continent forward, noting that applied research is the starting point for kind of innovation and research emanating from top western universities.

The annual conference brings together academia and practitioners from industry, government and civil society to share and interrogate ideas for purposes of collaboratively developing solutions to existing and emerging societal problems.

EAST AFRICAN MULTIDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE



1. Members of the audience during the Conference on Tuesday, November 15.

2. Mr. Shawn Bolouki (CEO, Aga Khan University Hospital) delivers the keynote address at the closing of the 3rd East African Multidisciplinary Conference held from 15-17 November at the auditorium.

3. Dr. Katie Simmons (Associate Director (Research), Pew Research Center) delivers a Pew Research Survey findings during her keynote address on Wednesday, November 16 at the Conference.

4. Dr. Richard Munang (United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) Africa Climate Change Coordinator) delivers the opening keynote address on Tuesday, November 15 at the conference.

5. Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza gives the closing remarks during the conference.

6. Doctor of Business Administration student Mr. John Kuria presents his research on "the Effect of Capital Allowance Incentives on the Performance of EPZ Firms in Kenya" on Thursday, November 17.

Senior university leaders convene for annual retreat

Senior USIU-Africa leaders convened for an annual retreat from 10-13 November at Sopa Lodge, Naivasha to reflect on the strategic direction and development of the University.

Dr. Nico Cloete (Director of the Centre for Higher Education Trust and Coordinator of the Higher Education Research and Advocacy Network in Africa) and Professor Crispus Kiamba (Vice Chair of the University Council), renowned for their extensive study of research universities, provided foundational engagement to steer the University's research effort. The leadership team reviewed best practice of globally acclaimed research universities and discussed how to leverage on research to fulfill USIU-Africa's strategic aspiration to be Africa's premier university.

Deans of the Chandaria School of Business, School of Science and Technology, School of Humanities and Social Sciences and the School of Pharmacy and

Health Sciences related the leadership with the research output and plans of their schools.

The University Trustees, Council and Management Board, facilitated by Mr. Bruno van Dyk (Director - Development and Alumni Relations, Durham University) also discussed best practice in university advancement and lessons for USIU-Africa.

The Association of Governing Boards, USA and Commission for University Education (CUE), Kenya guided the leadership in self-reflection and focus in order to provide requisite governance for a world-class education to students at USIU-Africa.

The retreat was invaluable for the leadership team to reflect, bond and engage, and was the first time the newly-constituted University Council and re-constituted Board of Trustees and Management Board had formally met.

VC elected to board of International Association of Universities

The Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza has joined the Administrative Board of the International Association of Universities (IAU), following his election at the IAU 15th General Conference held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 13-16 November 2016.

The four-year appointment as Deputy Board member for the Africa region, provides the Vice Chancellor with a platform to articulate African higher education issues at a global level, and significantly raises the university's profile around the world.

IAU, founded in 1950, is the UNESCO-based worldwide association of higher education institutions. It brings together institutions and organizations from some 120 countries for reflection and action on common concerns and collaborates with various international, regional and national bodies active in higher education.

Chaired by the IAU President, the Administrative Board is made of twenty elected and two ex officio members, and has a four-year term. The Administrative Board meets annually, and working through committees, ensures that decisions of the General Conference are implemented, as well as guide the work of the International Universities Bureau.

Vice Chancellor speaks on higher education challenges at CASE Africa Conference



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The Vice Chancellor was part of a Panel Session, "View from the Top: Addressing Challenges Facing Higher Education and Advancement in Africa". The other members of the distinguished panel included Professor John Odhiambo (Vice Chancellor, Strathmore University) and moderator Professor Victor Dugga (Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Federal University Lafia, Nigeria).

The Conference which was themed "Inspire, Dream, Advance! Defining the African route to advancement success", brought together professionals who work in alumni relations, communications, fundraising and marketing on behalf of educational institutions, to connect with colleagues as well as learn best practices from within Africa and around the globe.

Other USIU-Africa officials who attended the conference included Ambassador Professor Ruthie Rono (DVC - Academic & Student Affairs), James Ogolla (University Advancement Director), Dr. Amos Njuguna (Associate Dean, Chandaria School of Business) and Eannes Ongus (Fundraising and External Relations).

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) is a 42 year-old international professional association serving educational institutions and the advancement professionals to build stronger relationships with their alumni and donors, raise funds for campus projects, produce recruitment materials, market their institutions to prospective students, diversify the profession, and foster public support of education.

Communications grad student wins continental YouTube award

M.A. Communication Studies graduate student (and IBA '2010 alumna) Kangai Mwiti is the winner of the Makeup and Fashion category of the Sub-Saharan African YouTube Awards held in Johannesburg, South Africa on Friday, 11 November 2016. Ms. Mwiti's makeup channel's close to 100,000 subscribers and over 6.5 million views have propelled her into a household name all over the world.

Her journey to continental acclaim began in May 2012 when she launched a channel to show viewers how to use tools to apply makeup to achieve a desired effect. "I wanted to do something more with make-up. I wanted my impact to be greater than just doing make-up on a client who would wash it off in the evening. For a long time I have been watching YouTube

videos and I thought that I could do it myself. I actually wanted to begin in 2008 but I didn't believe I was good enough yet. Four years later, I realised I would never get good enough — I needed to just start." Now, Kangai's hundreds of six-minute videos have turned her passion into a career, and changed the way millions of viewers perceive makeup.

This was the inaugural edition of the Sub-Saharan African YouTube Awards, which "celebrate the talent and creativity of the YouTube community." Nominees also needed to have achieved at least 50000 subscribers and be resident in any of the eight countries considered for the award.

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Institute to begin holding monthly dialogue series

The Institute of Public Policy and International Affairs (IPPIA) will hold the first of a monthly dialogue series this Friday, November 18 at the Library Conference Room beginning at 12pm. The presenter will be Associate Professor of Criminal Justice Dr. Simeon Sungi, who will speak on *"Teaching ethics in institutions of higher learning in Africa"*. He will then field questions from his audience at the end of the session, expected to end at 3pm.

The institute, is hosting the series to create awareness around its mandate of *"Improving and transforming governance through innovation, research, technical assistance, and training"*, by inviting thought leaders who will provoke discussion in the university community, around current research areas.

IT Club holds M-PESA API workshop

The Safaricom MPESA API (Application Programming Interface) Workshop was held on Friday, November 11 at the Science Center's Lecture Theater 3. The workshop was conducted by IT Club in conjunction with the Safaricom MPESA API division, to enable developers and interested students get acquainted MPESA API architecture, as well as a demonstrable SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) application implementation of the API.

The 30 attendees actively engaged in questions concerning MPESA and the API, in the four-hour session, prompting a followup workshop, that will focus on code implementation of the API - a REST (Representational State Transfer) API, while a free testing environment (for developers) are currently under development.

Ladies basketball team to compete in continental tourney

The USIU-Africa ladies basketball team began their campaign to qualify for the Kenya Basketball Federation (KBF) Premier League semi-final playoffs with a 69-42 win against perennial rivals Eagle Wings. Game one of the best-of-three match Series was held at the basketball court this last Sunday, November 13, and will be the last Premier League match the team will play this year.

The team, which is due to leave for the women's edition of the FIBA Africa Club Championships in the Mozambican capital of Maputo, on Monday, November 21, qualified for the continental tourney by virtue of

Alumni Association organizes Entrepreneurship Academy for teens

USIU-Africa Alumni Association will host the second edition of the Entrepreneurship Academy aimed at training 14-18 year olds on how to develop their passions in viable business models.

The training which is organized in conjunction with Swivelbox, involves students forming teams, developing business idea and pitching it to a panel of successful entrepreneurs.

The week long edition will commence on Monday December 12 and last up to Friday December 16 2016. To be eligible participants have to be related to registered members of the alumni association and meet the deadline. A 30% early-bird discount is available to those who register before November 25.

Those interested can register online at <https://goo.gl/forms/D12bnupR7vTJhgk52> or contact the Alumni Affairs Office at alumni@usiu.ac.ke



Members of the USIU-Africa Rugby Football Club gain control of a ruck during a Kenya Rugby Union Championship match against the University of Eldoret Trojans RFC on Saturday, November 12 at the USIU-Africa rugby pitch. USIU-Africa won 32 – 5 against the Trojans to go top of the Championship – the new league formed to prepare clubs for promotion to the top-tier Kenya Cup premier rugby league. The team takes on Kisumu RFC this weekend here on campus.

finishing runners-up during the FIBA Africa Zone V regional club championship in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, in September this year.

The men's basketball team also won their Premier League match against Daystar University 67-21 at the same court a day before, before losing to Kenyatta University 31-39 in fast-paced match. The win, however catapults them to third place, earning them a quarter-final playoff berth against sixth-placed Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) on Saturday, November 19 at KPA grounds in the coastal city of Mombasa.

Record blood donated during drive



Aga Khan University Hospital staff register students who turned up to receive screening services during the medical camp held at the graduation yard on Tuesday November 15.

The USIU-Africa Red Cross club collected a record 141 pints of blood during a blood donation drive on the lawn behind the cafeteria from 8-9 November. The two day drive - which mobilized 143 donors - was organized in collaboration with the Blood Link Foundation and the Kenya National Blood Transfusion Service.

Given the drive's success, the club plans to make the drive a bi-annual event, and thereby encourage a culture of blood donation on campus. Indeed, Kenya has one of the world's worst road safety records - a fact that directly contributes to the high demand for blood transfusion in medical facilities across the country.

GEMBA alumni attend Association cocktail

On Tuesday October 18, the USIU-Africa Alumni Association hosted fifty Global Executive Master of Business Administration (GEMBA) alumni to a cocktail event at the Sankara Hotel in Nairobi. Speaking at the event, Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza urged the alumni - many of whom are senior executives at various major corporate organizations - to promote linkages between the university and their organizations, in order to advance the university's research agenda, itself a principal component of the university strategic plan unveiled earlier this year.

Upcoming Events

November 19: KBF Premier League Quarter Final Playoffs (USIU-Africa Men) vs KPA, Mombasa

November 21-25 : Voluntary Counseling & Testing (VCT) Week

November 24 – December 4: Women's FIBA Africa Club Championships, Maputo Mozambique

Media mentions

November 18: The Daily Nation mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled "*Why settle for one job when you can have two? Or more?*" <http://www.nation.co.ke/lifestyle/myNetwork/Why-settle-for-one-job-when-you-can-have-two-Or-more/3141096-3456264-4sx5to/index.html>

November 18: USIU-Africa was mentioned by The Daily Nation in an article titled "*Moi says Equity CEO conned out of Sh300m in land row.*" <http://www.nation.co.ke/business/Moi-Equity-CEO-conned-Sh300m-in-land-row/996-3456334-938q73z/index.html>

November 18: The Star newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled "*Thika launch campaign to return to Kenya Cup*"

November 18: USIU-Africa was mentioned by The Star newspaper in an article titled "*USIU set to take hosts KPA in playoffs quarters*"

November 18: The People Daily newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled "*Flames scent semis.*" <http://www.mediamaxnetwork.co.ke/people-daily/274231/flames-scent-semis/>

November 17: USIU-Africa was mentioned by the Business Daily Newspaper in an article titled "*Moi says Equity CEO conned out of Sh300m in land row.*" <http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/Moi-Equity-CEO-conned-Sh300m-in-land-row/539546-3456158-u5t9mtz/index.html>

November 16: The Standard newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled "*Kenyan clubs gearing up for showpiece.*" <http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/sports/article/2000223594/kenyan-clubs-gearing-up-for-showpiece>

November 16: USIU-Africa was mentioned in an article titled "*Trump will certainly not make America great again,*" by The Daily Nation. <http://www.nation.co.ke/oped/Opinion/trump-will-definitely-not-make-america-great-again/440808-3455008-1lq82q/index.html>

November 15: USIU-Africa was mentioned in an article titled "*Lawyer says Moi signed USIU land transfer documents,*" by the Business Daily newspaper. <http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/Lawyer-says-Moi-signed-USIU-land-transfer-documents/539546-3452266-d5lvum/index.html>

November 15: The Business Daily newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled "*Disabled student seeks compensation for USIU lift hurdle*" <http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/Disabled-student-seeks-compensation-for-USIU-lift-hurdle/539546-3452276-kunfjtz/index.html>

November 15: The Daily Nation mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled "*Lawyer says he saw Moi sign land papers.*" <http://www.nation.co.ke/news/1056-3452348-5g4435z/index.html>

November 15: USIU-Africa was mentioned in an article titled "*Telkom Orange shift focus to Africa club Cup*" by The Daily Nation. <http://www.nation.co.ke/sports/hockey/Telkom-Orange-shift-focus-to-Africa-club-Cup/1108-3452760-rspedv/index.html>

November 15: USIU-Africa was mentioned by Yallafrica in an article titled "*Africa: Munene - Creation of Jobs Could See Trump Re-Elected.*" <http://allafrica.com/stories/201611150965.html>

November 15: The Standard newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled "*USIU soar over eagle*"

November 14: The Business Daily newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled "*Government to revoke all title deeds of irregularly acquired land.*" <http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/Government-to-revoke-title-deeds-of-irregularly-acquired-land/539546-3452162-1nx31f/index.html>

November 14: The Standard newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled "*IT'S A DONE DEAL: USIU seal third-place in men's Premier League, book playoffs slot.*" <http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/sports/article/2000223289/it-s-a-done-deal-usiu-seal-third-place-in-men-s-premier-league-book-playoffs-slot>