

CAMPUS THIS WEEK

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY-AFRICA NEWSLETTER

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Re-affirmation of accreditation process launched



Prof. Ruthie Rono (left) introduces the taskforce that will prepare the institutional report, during the launch of the reaffirmation of accreditation process by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza, at a university baraza convened on Wednesday, January 18.

On Wednesday, January 18, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza convened a baraza to formally launch the re-affirmation of accreditation process that the university will be undertaking, over the course of the next eighteen months.

Accreditation is a process of external quality review which serves to assure students, parents, policymakers, the broader educational community, and the general public that an institution has met high standards of effectiveness. USIU-Africa is accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) - one of seven regional

accrediting agencies in the U.S. A major benefit of USIU-Africa's accreditation is that credits and degrees are recognized for purposes of employment and transfer or admission to other institutions in the United States.

Every six, eight, or ten years, institutions accredited by WSCUC are reviewed to reaffirm their accreditation status. The two- to three-year process of reaffirmation of accreditation usually involves the completion of an institutional self-study and institutional report, an off-site review by WSCUC, and an on-site visit from the WSCUC team.

In preparation for the institutional self-study and institutional report, USIU-Africa has organized a steering committee, a taskforce and a self-study team to lead the process of reaffirmation of accreditation, with guidance being provided by the Office of Quality Assurance through its Director Dr. Oliver Amwayi, and the Accreditation Liaison Officer Prof. Angelina Kioko (Professor of English).

Complete and detailed information on the process will soon be available on our website.

University welcomes new members of faculty

Dr. Edith Amuhaya is the new Assistant Professor of Organic Chemistry in the School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences' Bachelor of Pharmacy program. Dr. Amuhaya joins the School from Maseno University (Kenya), and holds a Ph.D degree in Synthetic Organic Chemistry from Louisiana State University in the United States.

She also previously taught at the Technical University of Kenya, Rhodes University (South Africa) and at Louisiana State University as a post-doctoral fellow.

Dr. Pablo Rubio Gijon is the new Assistant Professor of Spanish, in the School of Humanities and Social Science. Dr. Gijon holds a doctoral degree in Hispanic from the University of British Columbia in Canada, and a Master of Arts in Spanish from University of Georgia in the United States.

Previously Dr. Gijon taught at the University of Szczecin (Poland), the University of the Fraser Valley (Canada) and as a Visiting Professor at the Polytechnic of Namibia and the University of Zimbabwe.



Above: Lecturer of Journalism Ms. Robi Koki (center), listens to a participant during an interactive forum she hosted to seek ideas from participants on rights-based security approaches that should be adopted by government and law enforcement agencies in Kenya. The forum discussed ways of promoting cooperation among communities and security services.

Dr. Mwambari presents paper at prestigious African studies conference



Dr. David Mwambari

Assistant Professor of International Relations, Dr. David Mwambari presented a paper "Individual and Collective Memory in post conflict African countries" at the 59th Africa studies Association Conference. The conference held on December 2nd 2016 in Washington DC and was themed "Imagining Africa at the Center: Bridging Scholarship, Policy, and Representation in African Studies." The paper explored the tensions that arise when individual memory is co-opted into a historical and political narrative to serve the needs of a State or a society emerging from war.

The African Studies Association that our Vice Chancellor was once the president (2008-2009), is the flagship membership organization devoted to enhancing the exchange of information about Africa and encourages the production and dissemination of historical and contemporary knowledge about Africa.

Supervisors attend leadership training

Assorted staff supervisors and middle-level managers attended a three-day Leadership Skills Development Training Seminar held at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies (KSMS) in Nairobi from December 14 - 16, 2016, and January 9 - 11, 2017. The seminar was designed to equip participants drawn from all university departments, with high-level supervisory and managerial skills necessary to effectively manage and run various university units.

Led by consultants from ACT Consulting Limited, participants were taught how to appreciate colleagues, support and enhance individual contribution, set expectations and plan for succession.

The seminar is part of a broader leadership program currently being executed by Human Resources, that will next involve members of the Management Board.



Assorted staff supervisors and middle-level managers pose for a group photo following a three-day Leadership Skills Development Training Seminar held at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies (KSMS) from January 9-11, 2017. Photo Credit: John Sande

IBA Junior to feature in entrepreneurship reality show



Twenty-three year old Keith Asumba (IBA Junior) will be USIU-Africa's representative at the Be Your Own Boss (BYOB) youth entrepreneurship reality show. BYOB has been sponsored by Blaze Kenya – a youth platform owned by East Africa's largest telecommunications company Safaricom. The show's 12 contestants were selected from almost eight hundred applicants over a period of 12 weeks, culminating in their unveiling on Wednesday, 18 January.

Keith, who runs TAGG (a 14-month-old talent management company based in Nairobi), will be a member of one of two teams that will compete against each other in an elimination round each week, for the grand prize of KES 5 million (KES 3 million in cash and KES 2 million in support) at the end of March 2017.

BYOB will make its television debut at 8pm on Monday, February 6 on KTN.

PACS introduces peer tutoring programs

Placement and Career Services (PACS) have introduced a peer tutor training program beginning January 23 dubbed, "The Knights". The program has been set up to help students who have learning difficulties, boost their grades in a specific subject area.

Students interested in tutoring an incredible opportunity to offer knowledge in a specific field of study. They will be selected on the basis of academic skill, leadership, character, and the ability to communicate well with others. Tutors are also expected to have extensive knowledge in their chosen subject.

Interested students with a GPA of 3.3 and a B+ and above in the subject, are encouraged to register by emailing pacsintern@usiu.ac.ke

Alumni Office hosts Teens Entrepreneurship Academy

The Alumni Affairs office, organized a week-long training for nineteen students from various high schools, from December 12-16 at the student center. Organized by Swivel Box, the academy trained attendees on different aspects of entrepreneurship and financial management, as well as an opportunity to develop and present entrepreneurial ideas to a panel comprising Assistant Professor of Management Scott Bellows, Chandaria Industries Sales & Marketing Director Mr. Neer Chandaria, Village Capital Portfolio Program Manager Ms. Rachel Crawford, and Phillips Research Scientist and Clinical Information Analyst Ms. Elizabeth Mwashuma.

Rotaract organizes performances to raise funds in aid of refugees

The Rotaract Club of USIU-Africa has organized a night of talent this Friday, January 26 at the auditorium, beginning 6pm. The event, which is held in collaboration with the Building Africa's Opportunity (BAO) Foundation, will feature exciting performances from talented artists such as DJs, bands, dancers, singers, painters, comedians and fashion designers.

Ticket charges of KES 200, will be used to fund refugees support programs run by BAO Foundation in Uganda. Participants in these programs are secondary school pupils, who have fled from political violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan, as well as victims of domestic violence in Uganda.

University sports updates



The ladies basketball team will conclude their Kenya Basketball Federation (KBF) Premier League semi-final

playoffs against the Equity Bank ladies basketball team in their best-of-five match series, this Saturday January 21 at the Nyayo National Stadium arena. Should they win, the ladies will defend their title in a repeat of last season's final against KPA.

The Hockey ladies and men's teams are playing against Kenyatta University's ladies and men's teams respectively, at the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology on Saturday, January 21. Both matches will be played concurrently beginning 3pm.

The rugby team thrashed Kisumu RFC 24-5 at Mamboleo showground in Kisumu, in the Kenya Rugby Union Championship League match played on Saturday, January 14.

The eighth round win was secured by Joseph Kagimu, Jasper Mwaparo, Wilfred Odhiambo, and Seth Lionel who each scored a try, while Charles Kuka kicked in two conversions to maintain USIU-Africa's unbeaten record against Kisumu.

Media mentions



January 20: USIU-Africa was mentioned in an article titled *"Equity CEO James Mwangi's Sh. 300 million land deal with Moi 'unknown',"* by BIZNA online magazine.
<https://bizna.co.ke/equity-ceo-james-mwangis-sh-300-million-land-deal-moi-unknown/>

January 20: The Daily Nation newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled *"Equity CEO Mwangi not owner of disputed land - State officers."*
<http://www.nation.co.ke/news/owner-of-contested-land/1056-3619758-qhmok2/index.html>

January 20: The Star newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled *"Shy girl now raring to go: Could she walk away with a million bob?"*
http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/2017/01/19/shy-girl-now-raring-to-go-could-she-walk-away-with-a-million-bob_c1490924

January 19: The Business Daily mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled *"Equity chief land deal with Moi 'unknown'"*
<http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/Corporate-News/Equity-chief-land-deal-with-Moi/539550-3619766-dkk47kz/index.html>

January 19: USIU-Africa was mentioned by Biztech Africa in an article titled *"Telkom Kenya announces more senior appointments."*
<http://www.biztechafrika.com/article/telkom-kenya-announces-more-senior-appointments/12112/>

January 19: USIU-Africa was mentioned by Techweez online magazine in an article titled *"Telkom Kenya Appoints More Former Safaricom Executives."*
<http://www.techweez.com/2017/01/19/telkom-kenya-more-senior-appointments/>

January 19: USIU-Africa was mentioned by Aptantech online magazine in an article titled *"Clare Ruto returns to telcoms industry, joins Telkom Kenya as head of Regulatory Affairs."*
<http://aptantech.com/2017/01/clare-ruto-returns-to-telcoms-industry-joins-telkom-kenya-as-head-of-regulatory-affairs/>

January 18: The Daily Nation newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled *"Court allows USIU to file fresh evidence in land case linking Moi"*
<http://www.nation.co.ke/news/Court-allows-USIU-to-file-fresh-evidence/1056-3522366-dmi8eg/index.html>

January 18: The East African newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled *"Kenyan private universities forced to work harder to attract students."*
<http://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/news/Kenyan-private-varsities-forced-to-work-harder-attract-students/2558-3522694-14iqsvfz/index.html>

January 18: USIU-Africa was mentioned by The Standard newspaper in an article titled *"NO EQUITY ON COURT: USIU students*

succumb to bankers in the women's basketball game one playoff."
<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/sports/article/2000188513/no-equity-on-court-usiu-student-s-succumb-to-bankers-in-the-women-s-basketball-game-one-playoff>

January 16: USIU-Africa was mentioned by The Daily Nation in an article titled *"Ex-minister Amos Kimunya declares bid for Parliament."*
<http://www.nation.co.ke/counties/nyandarua/Kimunya-to-vie-for-Kipipiri-MP/3444764-3518894-hbggaj/index.html>

January 15: The Daily Nation mentioned USIU-Africa in article titled *"Lack of clear role in retirement makes African leaders cling to power."*
<http://www.nation.co.ke/news/Lack-of-clear-role-in-retirement-makes-leaders-cling-to-power/1056-3517624-f0ab2yz/index.html>

January 13: The Daily Nation newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled *"KPA face Co-op in crunch semi-final play-off."*
<http://www.nation.co.ke/sports/Basketball/KPA-face-Coop-Bank-in-crunch-semifinal-playoff/1128096-3516738-6jgwt7z/index.html>

January 11: The Star newspaper mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled *"USIU tackle Equity in play-off semis as KPA host Coop."*
http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/2017/01/11/usiu-tackle-equity-in-play-off-semis-as-kpa-host-coop_c1485247

UPCOMING EVENT

Thursday, January 26 | Creatives Night | 6pm – 10pm