KIBU NEWS Week

A Bi-Weekly Digital Newsletter of Kibabii University

Vol. 1 Issue 1: 2nd February-15th February 2020

Khalfan and Adah Crowned Mr. and Miss Kibabii

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Comprehensive Coverage of Careers and Cultural Week

Editor's Note

Dear Kibabii Community!

Welcome to our 1st edition of "KIBU News Week". This is a bi-weekly digital newsletter that shall monitor, highlight and document the news and events of the university. It shall lay focus on important scientific, social, cultural and extra-curricular activities of the university community. We welcome you aboard this new addition that shall promote our rich core values towards attaining the status of a global university.

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Photo: Vice Chancellor Prof. Ipara Odeo giving his address

Over Thirty New Staff Undergo Orientation and Oath of Secrecy

By Meshack Nyambane

On 10th February, 2020 the Office of the Registrar Administration and Human Resource conducted new staff induction and administered the oath of secrecy. The attendance, which was composed of different carders of university staff was the highest to ever have been inducted at one go. The one-day intensive programme was graced by Vice Chancellor Prof. Ipara Odeo. In his remarks. Prof. Ipara welcomed the new staff into the Kibabii University community. He urged them to embrace the University core values of excellence, accountability, social responsibility, innovation, integrity and academic freedom.

The Vice Chancellor took the staff through the memory lane of Kibabii University since its inception in 2012. He challenged them to complement the pioneers' efforts to propel the University beyond its current state.

"You must strive to make Kibabii the place that you want to be by adding value and delivering the promise you gave during the day of your interview." Remarked Prof. Ipara.

He emphasized on the need for all staff to develop solutions that can solve various shortfalls in the university. "Please give us solutions!" He urged.

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New Staff Induction

Speaking during the event, the Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Administration, Finance and Development, Prof. Donald Siamba highlighted the functions under the division. He challenged the staff to utilize the available resources optimally.

Above: Ag. DVC (AFD) Prof. Donald Siamba giving his address

"Our division is tasked with the management of essential services like finance and accounting, ICT, human resource, procurement, transport and health services among other critical services. We take utmost consideration in the welfare of our staff" he said.

Kibabii University Deputy Vice Chancellor in Charge of Planning, Partnerships, Research and Innovation Prof. Dr.-Ing. Benedict M. Mutua advised the new members to develop a sense of belonging so as to deliver effectively in their mandate.

"If you don't develop a sense of belonging you cannot perform"

He further stressed on the need for teamwork and stakeholder involvement as a recipe for success in one's career.

"We do not have an idea of junior staff and senior staff in Kibabii University. You must endevour to work as a team to achieve our core mandate" he said.

On research, Prof. Mutua challenged all staff to gear themselves towards research. He noted with regret the low uptake of opportunities by staff and encouraged the new staff to develop greater interest in opportunities that arise globally.

"There is money in research. You must look out for opportunities and express interest to get these funds."

***Above: DVC (PPRI)** Prof. Dr.-Ing. Benedict M. Mutua emphasizes a point during his presentation*

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New Staff Induction

On innovation, Prof. Mutua reported that the University was headed to greater heights by challenging global innovators.

"We are competing with the best. As a university, we have a number of innovations awaiting patenting by KIPI. We further envisage to commercialize these innovations to make them beneficial to us and the community" He said.

He further reported that his division was planning to launch an innovations competition for Kibabii students to promote fresh ideas in research.

Representing the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Students Affairs), the Registrar (Academic Affairs) Prof. Ernest Mohochi reiterated the need for teamwork in the university.

Above: Prof. Ernest Mohochi representing the DVC (A&SA) during the induction

He advised that colleagues from different sections need to complement each other to achieve a global university.

"In order to achieve a university of a global status, both academic and administration staff must work as a team of people complementing each other" he said.

The Registrar in charge of administration and human resource Dr. Ruth Mitalo who was the lead organizer of the induction said that her department was the apex of line management. She challenged the new staff to be responsible for own actions and support the heads of departments in various sections of service delivery. Dr. Mitalo emphasized on the need for staff to appraise themselves on university policies and human resource manuals to accustom to the new work environment.

Below: The Registrar (Admin &HR) Dr. ruth Mitalo during her presentation

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New Staff Induction

Speaking during the function, the Deputy Finance Officer Mr. Benjamin Oduor took the inductees through the Public Finance Management Act (2012). He asked for prudent management and accounting of university monies and called upon the whole university community to curb wastage.

Above *Deputy Finance Officer Mr. Benjamin Oduor*

"University money is public money. I challenge everyone and the heads of departments in particular. We must evaluate our areas of work and curb any pilferage to this important resource." Mr. Oduor remarked.

On matters security, the officer in charge Mr. Zablon Mamai highlighted the university's effort in making the work place a secure environment. He however, challenged the Kibabii community to be responsible in their actions to complement his department's efforts. Mr. Mamai asked for accountability in the usage of social media and requested for vigilance and reporting of suspicious threats to the peace of workers and students.

Also speaking during the induction was the Director, Institute of Gender and Development Studies. Dr. Tom Ekisa, in his signature comical talk highlighted the challenges faced by employees globally at the workplace. He explained the various forms of sexual harassment from both gender and educated the new staff on ways of mitigating all forms of abuse.

Above *Director, Institute of Gender and Development Studies. Dr. Tom Ekisa*

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"Globally gender issues are critical for social, political and economic development. Most governments have embraced a gendered approach to development and institutions like Kibabii University are in the forefront in advancing this noble course" Dr Ekisa observed.

"National Cohesion: The Agenda!", Dr. Brian Singoro.

By Agnetta Shilasi

"National cohesion is a process and outcome of instilling and enabling all citizens in a country to have a sense, as well as a feeling that they are member of the same country engaged in a common enterprise and facing shared challenges"

Speaking at Kibabii University during the induction of new staff, Dr. Brian Singoro said that national cohesion goes beyond conflict management. The Lecturer from the School of Business and Economics added that national cohesion is realized through the regulation and reconciliation of differences, competing interest and demands. Above all, it is all about equality.

Dr. Singoro said that the key foundation aspects of national cohesion are principles and national values such as patriotism, good governance, human development and sustainable development.

In practicing and fostering national cohesion in Kibabii University, just like other public institution and even nationally, the SOBE Lecturer explained that there was no shortage of hurdles. He attributed ethicized politics, diminished respect for the rule of law, dilapidation of family values and the escalation of greed and selfishness as the main hindrances to attaining national cohesion.

To identify a cohesive society, the Lecturer advised that some elements could be indicative of the virtue: strong, positive relations and, respect and appreciation among people from diverse backgrounds besides a strong sense of belonging.

He urged the new staff and the Kibabii fraternity as a whole to appreciate and respect each other despite the different backgrounds and cultures they hailed from. This, he explained, would promote national cohesion and peaceful coexistence for the benefit of the current and future generations.

To conclude, Dr. Songoro quoted Wangari Maathai, "I am very conscious of the fact that you can't do it alone. Its team work. When you do it alone you run the risk that when you are no longer there, nobody else will do it." He encouraged the new staff and the entire community to pull their efforts to make Kibabii University a cohesive institution that could promote and sustain national values and principles of governance internally and even nationwide.

Fanfare Galore at the Kibabii University 7th Cultural Week Extravaganza

By Meshack Nyambane

It is annual! It is big! It is eventful! It is... "The Kibabii University Careers and Cultural Week!". It is the most popular event in the students' calendar that combines fanfare and career talks from professionals in the industry. Riding on the 2020 theme of "Embracing Cultural Diversity and Innovation for Global Prosperity, the week-long moments were organized by the Office of the Dean of Students affairs. It was a culmination of activities and events ranging from sports, cultural songs and dances, traditional foods, talent shows. Welcome to the comprehensive coverage of this year's memorable events in pictures and words.

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Scenes from Cultural performances on Day 1 of Cultural week

Photography |Ammar Kassim

Students from diverse backgrounds displayed opulence and rich cultural dances during the first day of the careers and cultural fair. Clustered into Kenya counties with similar cultural practices, the learners entertained the better part of the hot afternoon in an event staged at the university Auditorium C. It was indeed culmination diversity, colour, energy and passion from the performers. The event that realized a fully packed audience was graced by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Ipara Odeo and the Drama Patron who is also the Dean School of Computing and Informatics Prof. Franklin Wabwoba.

Pictorials from Cultural performances on Day 1 of Cultural week

Talent Search

By Meshack Nyambane

On Day 2 of the cultural week, students were entertained with various outdoor competitions in what was a dubbed the "Talent Search Contest". The event that was partially sponsored by the giant soft drinks manufacture "Coca Cola" realized entries in rap competition, dancing, spoken word, poetry and eating competition. The comrades were awarded with goodies as surging crowds of thirsty comrades lined up for free soft drinks from Coca Cola Company.

More Pictures from the Talent search event next page >>>

Scenes from the Talent Search Event (In Pictures)

Mental Health and Career Talk by Dr. Lilian Nyagaya

By Isabel Zattu

It is estimated that six million Kenyans suffer from common mental conditions such as depression, substance abuse, suicide, stress and anxiety. The WHO Annual Report (2017), ranks Kenya as sixth among African countries with highest rates of depression (at 1.9 million cases). Interestingly, the Ministry of Health reveals that it is hard to extract clear records of the number of people affected by the different forms of mental illness (in Kenya) because many people do not seek help and simply conceal their condition.

It is for this reason that Kibabii University invited Dr. Lilian Nyagaya - a mental health practitioner and trainer to give a talk during the Careers and Cultural Week. Dr. Nyagaya explained how good mental health is not simply the absence of diagnosable mental health problems, although it is likely to help protect against development of such problems. That good mental health is characterized by a person's ability to fulfill a number of key functions and activities, including: the ability to learn, the ability to feel, express and manage a range of positive and negative emotions, the ability to form and maintain good relationships with others, the ability to cope with and manage change and uncertainty.

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Mental illnesses are serious disorders which can affect your thinking, mood, and behavior. They may be occasional or long-lasting. They can affect your ability to relate to others and function each day. Mental disorders are more common than we think. People with mental health problems can get better, and many of them recover completely.

Above: A student from one of the attending schools engage Dr. Magaya during the talk

She gave an example of Bi-polar condition, whose symptoms include lack of motivation, lack of concentration, inability to focus, feeling overwhelmed by simple decisions, feelings of lack of energy even to do basic things like brushing teeth and taking a shower, complete insomnia and/or hyper-sexuality.

Dr. Lilian gave several examples of situations that people go through and thus leads to depression.

"Being alone growing up with a single parent, whom you love and never want to stress was the biggest challenge of my life. I had to forego various aspects of my life especially the social aspects, because I didn't want to be seen as demanding. At times, I withheld my own pain, problems and weaknesses just so as to not bother anyone.

Today, I stand as an advocate for mental health because I never want anyone on earth, whether young or old, to face the same challenges I personally faced... "Being Alone!" she said.

Many people have experienced a mental health condition either directly or indirectly.

Acknowledging the existence of mental health conditions is difficult. You or someone you know may be reacting and/or behaving in an unusual way or is unable to cope with certain everyday life tasks or pressure. She talked of how Kibabii University community needs to know that the reactions and/ or unusual behavior are not evil spirits and that they are not bewitched simply experiencing mental illness

People with mental health problems can get better, and many of them recover completely.

Above: Dean of students Dr. alice Mutai responding during the proceedings

Many faces of Mental health include stigma, it has played the significant role in how mental health is addressed in Kenya; grossly underfunded, services are unavailable and inaccessible, discrimination, lack of proper governance structures, >>>

Careers & Cultural Week

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Moreover, people treat mental illness as a spiritual rather than a medical condition, as such, many victims go untreated and lack of qualified personnel with relevant skills. These problems are sometimes described in stigmatizing language. There is a lack of an accompanying provision of information about support services for those at risk of mental health problems such as suicide. Reports of suicide, depression are done in a manner that can lead to an actual increase in their rates.

Why is mental health important? It's important because it can help you to cope with the stresses of life, be physically healthy, have good relationships, make meaningful contributions to your community, work productively and realize your full potential

"There are ways social media is affecting your mental health. The biggest problem is on Self-esteem; We all have our fair share of insecurities, some that we speak about openly and others that we prefer to keep to ourselves. However, comparing yourself to others on social media by stalking their aesthetically perfect Instagram photos or staying up to date with their relationship status on Facebook could do little to assuage your feelings of self-doubt." Dr. Nyagaya concluded.

Mental Health Talk in Pictures

Alex Chamwada on the Changing Employment Landscape

By Debra Kisongochi

Being one of the keynote speakers at the 7th Kibabii Cultural Week, the media Guru Alex Chamwada founder and CEO, Chams Media took the students and staff through the changing employment landscape in today's society.

Citing from his personal life experience, Mr Chamwada added that he had to quit mainstream media to focus on his personal ambitions of being self-employed. The Chams Media CEO challenged students to always focus on the bigger picture beyond employment in a bid to become their own bosses.

Mr Chamwada encouraged students to make better use of social media in the current generation where life has been digitized. To those in pursuit of Journalism and other related courses, Chamwada pointed that social networking is more worth than financial gratification adding that determination and passion should always be the driving force behind any given venture.

More Pictures on the Chamwada Talk >>>

KIBU Staff Tug of War Championship

By Meshack Nyambane

The saying that goes "*All work and no play makes Jack dull boy*" came into glare during one of the outdoor activities of the cultural week. This was day 3 on Friday 14th February 2020. The tug of war championship was pooled into;

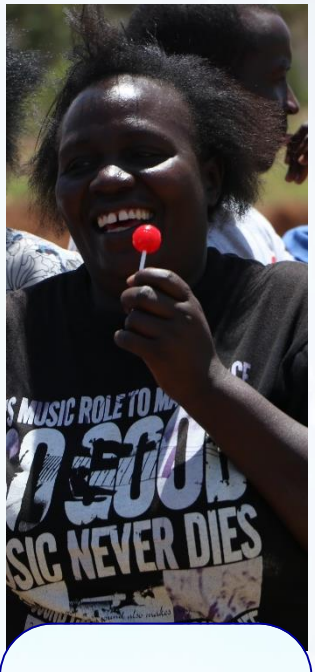
- Catering and Security
- Students affairs and Hostels
- Estates and Procurement
- Teaching Staff and ICT
- Administration, Finance and Academic Registrar
- Library, Clinic and Transport

The preliminary stages of the tug of war that attracted a humongous spectatorship of students saw Team Catering/Security and Team Library/Clinic/Transport proceed to the finals.

The grueling finals that lasted close to quarter an hour saw Team Library/Clinic/Transport floor their opponents to lift the match talked about derby. From the editorial team we say congratulations!!!

More pictures next page >>>

KIBU Staff Tug of War Championship (In Pictures)



Khalfan and Adah Crowned Mr. and Miss Kibabii

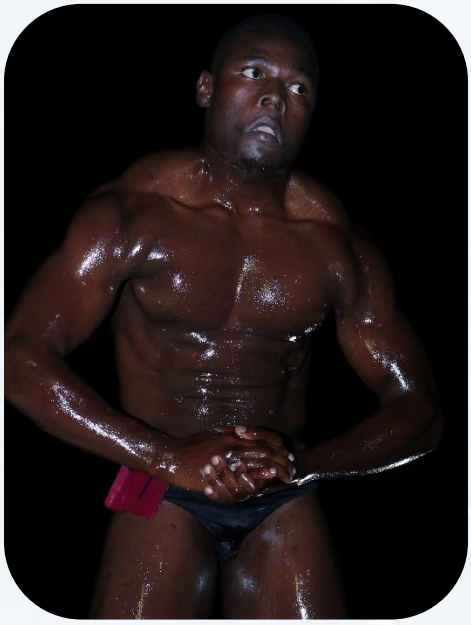
Khalfan Nassaro and Adah Nabacho are the winners of the Mr. and Miss Kibabii beauty pageant 2020. The two emerged tops of the fervently contested crown in the dusk to dawn event attended by far the most resilient supporters of over twenty contestants. In the body buiding category, Mathew Ouma won the overall crown as Madeli Inyele picked the "Miss Jumbo" Category.

For he overall results of the contestants >>>

Overall Results

EVENT	Position	Winner
MR. KIBABII	1	Khalfan Nassaro Bakari
	2	Otieno Levis
	3	Juma Kombo Mohammed
MISS. KIBABII	1	Adah Nabacho
	2	Faith Chepkoech
	3	Roselyne Atieno Awuondo
MR. FLEXX	1	Ouma John Mathew
	2	Musa Abdalla
	3	Kevin Wekesa Wafula
MISS JUMBO	1	Madeli Inyele
	2	Cecilia Clarice Amimo

Exclusive interviews and profiles of the winners in the next edition of KIBU NEWS WEEK! Watch out !!!



KIBU Sportsmen and Women Awarded During the Annual KIBU-SOYA Awards Ceremony

By Ammar Kassim

Kibabii University Sports of the Year Awards dubbed "KIBU-SOYA" is an annual event in the Games and Sports Office. It seeks to award outstanding sportsmen and women in various competitions throughout the year. The 2020 event that was graced by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Ipara Odeo saw over thirty (30) athletes receiving various awards. The event was also used to crown the KIBU Soccer team for emerging giants during the WEKUSA games held at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University earlier in the year. Below is the list of winners.

KIBU-SOYA AWARDS WINNERS

S/N	NAME	TITLE	YEAR
1	Ogallo Faith Innocent Wafula Edna Sichangi Elizabeth Njogu Stephen Odhiambo	International Recognition Award Team Taekwondo	2019 - 2020
2	Mushon B. Lingokal	International Recognition Award (Athletic)	
3	Edina Sichangi Innocent Wafula	Top Ranking Team and Best University Teams Captain (Taekwondo)	2018-2020
4	Soccer Men	Team of the Year Award (Soccer Men)	2019 - 2020
5	Calvary Onyango	Goal Keeper of the Year (Soccer)	
6	Omari W. Laisa	Best Player of the year Award	
7	Shadrone .S. Adalo	Best Team Managers	
8	Lusiche Evans	Christian Union and BUKOSA	
9	Edwin Muturi	Best Team Manager	2017 – 2018
10	Mercy Njoroge Phylis Okelo Francisca Juma Mary Mumbi Everlin Aluoch Isabera Mwai Innocent Wafula	Top Ranking Team and Best University Team	2019-2020
11	Manager, Family Bank	Outstanding Sponsor of the year(Cultural week)	2017-2018
12	Jacob Wafula	Coach of the Year Award (Soccer)	2018-2019
13	Samuel Simiyu	Most Dedicated Coach Award (Karate Coach)	2015-2020
14	Preston Simiyu	Coach of the Year Award (Basketball)	2017-2019
15	Collins Angote	Coach of the Year Award (Hockey)	2018 – 2019
16	Eunice Simiyu	Most Efficient Staff in Sports Activities	2018 – 2019
17	Elfrida Chepkirui	Staff Sport Woman of the year (Aerobic)	2018 – 2019
18	Eliakim Otieno	International Recognition Award (Coach)	2019
19	Tom Amwanzo	Sports Sponsor of the Year (Amwazo Cup)	2018 - 2019
20	Dr. Noel Malanda	Inspiring and Sports Motivator	2018 – 2019
21	Prof Shibairo	Staff Sports Man of the Year	2019 - 2020
22	Prof. Ipara Odeo	The Vice Chancellors Award Providing guiding and inspiration for excellences services in talent development in Games and Sports	2019 - 2020

KIBU Represented at the East African Community (EAC) Scholarship Programme Workshop

By Dr. Patrick Owoche

On Wednesday 7th February, 2020 a group of six Kibabii University international students represented the university at the East African Community Scholarship Programme Launch and Induction Workshop at Entebbe-Uganda. The Workshop was organized by Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) and was the first for the new students sponsored by IUCEA to pursue Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Information Technology.

The two day workshop was attended by 54 students from ten universities drawn from the six member states of EAC and spread in selected universities in five EAC member state. Kenya was represented by three universities namely; Dedan Kimathi, Kenyatta and Kibabii Universities.

The objectives of the workshop were among others; to provide a platform for the Scholars to exchange knowledge and views about the role of higher education in regional integration agenda, to equip the scholars with knowledge, skills and competences on the history, values, vision and strategic plans of the EAC, to provide an opportunity cultural exchanges between the scholars for greater unity and ease of regional mobility and to explore and identify opportunities for collaboration among scholars, programmes, institutions and countries. Accompanying the students were the Vice Chancellor Prof Ipara Odeo, the Dean, School of Business Dr. Kadian Wanyama and the Coordinator of International Linkages Dr. Patrick Owoche.

SOKU Leadership Does it for the "Comrades"

By Meshack Nyambane

Wednesday, 12th February 2020 was a significant day at Kibabii University as the Second (2nd) Students' Union leadership unveiled new campus outdoor benches. The project, a first of its kind since the inception of the university was entirely sponsored by the student leaders' kitty. The focus of this was the was outside learning, relaxation and wellness of Kibabii University learners after intensive classwork.

Speaking during the unveiling of the project, Kibabii University Vice Chancellor Prof. Ipara Odeo expressed his gratitude to the noble cause advanced by the student leaders.

"You have indeed done justice to the founding members of this university who planted these beautiful trees beneath which the students shall be relaxing on these lovely benches. This is indeed momentous"

He further observed that the day was significant as it was the day the second President of the Republic of Kenya Daniel Toroitich arap Moi was being laid to rest. It was therefore important for the student leaders to carry the mantle of leadership with dedication, calmness and true service to Kibabii University.

In his conclusion, the Vice Chancellor made a rallying call to the student leaders to advance their quest for betterment of the university's wellbeing.

"We challenge you to now focus on those comrades who cannot pay their fees. Those who cannot afford three meals a day. They need our support." Prof Ipara said.

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Acknowledging the positive mutual relationship between the university and the students' union, SOKU chairman Mr. Collins Simiyu appreciated the students community for the good choice of leadership they elected into office. He attributed the peace and tranquillity to the good choices.

"Ours is unique class of leadership. Our service is through negotiating. We are the only university that observed calmness as all other universities in Kenya were rampaging in 2019. We cannot take this kind harmony for granted" Mr Simiyu remarked.

He urged the university management to complement the student leaders' efforts by enhancing internet connectivity to the recreational benches.

The ceremony was attended by the Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Academics and Students Affairs Prof. Solomon Shibairo, Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Administration, Finance and Development, Prof. Donald Siamba and the Dean of Students Dr. Alice Mutai among others.

Above: *Installation of Campus outdoor benches by the estate department technicians.*
Photo// *Nahashon Juma*

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