



# KIBU NEWS

A Bi-Weekly Digital Newsletter of Kibabii University

*Week*



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ISO 9001:2015 Certified

# KIBU: The Journey of a Robust Drive to Full Automation



COMIN UP...

KNOW YOUR SCHOLAR:  
One on One with Prof. Mohochi.

**INSIDE:**

**Achievements for the 2019/2020 Academic Year**



# Editor's Note



The curtains for the current academic and financial year close today 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. Of what significance is it to the assiduous members of Kibabii University community? This date gives us an honour to reflect and look back the past one year, to reflect on our successes that have brought forth noteworthy milestones that have elevated us to be a competitive, highly attractive and arguably the most admired young, public university in Kenya. The past one year, did not pass without a share of challenges. We have experienced a global pandemic that saw all universities close business. However, the resilient nature of our staff and students has necessitated the metamorphosis and adaption to the new norm of online teaching, leaning and working. This edition shall focus on key highlights as we prepare to start another journey tomorrow.

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## **Message from the Vice Chancellor**

Dear Kibabii Fraternity,

As we come to the end of 2019/2020, I would like to appreciate the resilience of staff during this COVID-19 period when we had to suspend the face to face teaching and learning. Our frontline staff in critical functions like health, security, administration, finance, procurement, library and transport have continued to come to work, others have worked diligently from home. Much gratitude to the Dean of Students for her continued follow-up to the welfare of students away from campus. To the academic staff who have laid efforts to reach out to students to ensure sustained online academic discourse, thank you all for making the work of Management assuring and less stressful.

I also want to note that even with these challenges, our staff have been kind enough to think of the less fortunate. Evidence to this was the KES. 286,000 donation by staff through voluntary pay cut. Others have done this through donation of soap and sanitizers, food stuffs and individual contributions by way of creating awareness among communities over the issues of Corona. I want to state categorically that staff did all these while strictly observing the WHO, Ministry of Health and Government of Kenya protocols.

Dear staff and students, this has been a year that began with a lot of hope but faced many challenges towards the end of the 2nd quarter. As the new year starts, we still remain uncertain because we are not sure when we shall get an intervention to this Pandemic. Neither do we know when the curve will flatten and start going down. But I want to beseech you to remain strong, focused and steadfast. Be willing and ready to sacrifice and respond to any call as we purpose to ensure we do not bow to this regrettable challenge facing the world.

**Prof. Isaac Ipara Odeo**

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

**30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020**



# **KIBU Boasts of Achievements as Academic year Ends Unprecedentedly**

**By Meshack Nyambane**

The curtains for the current academic and financial year close today 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2020. Of what significance is it to the assiduous members of Kibabii University community? This date gives us an honour to reflect and look back the past one year, to reflect on our successes that have brought forth noteworthy milestones that have elevated us to be a competitive, highly attractive and arguably the most admired young, public university in Kenya. The past one year, did not pass without a share of challenges. We have experienced a global pandemic that saw all universities close business. However, the resilient nature of our staff and students has necessitated the metamorphosis and adaption to the new norm of online teaching, leaning and working. This edition shall focus on key highlights as we prepare to start another journey tomorrow.

## A: KIBU AUTOMATION DREAM ACCOMPLISHED

In a move focused at attaining the strategic objectives of expanding, maintaining and improving physical infrastructure and structures Kibabii University started the automation process in the year 2015 by procuring an ERP software with the following modules;

- Student management & student academics
- Timetabling
- Accommodation
- Integrated finance management
- Human resource
- Payroll
- Staff and staff portal
- Asset management
- Procurement and stores.



The above modules have been implemented to an impressive percentage. According to the Director of ICT Services Prof. Samwel Mbuguah, the year 2019 of the automation process was mainly dedicated to ensuring functionality of each module and that each was fully being used and modified where issues arose. For instance, in finance and procurement departments, the online imprest application and online request for items were implemented, tested and fully rolled out for use.

Further, the year 2019/ 2020 saw the numbers of banks with VPN connection to the University ERP increased from three to five. This has enabled real-time bank transactions. Bank reconciliation can now be done within the system after verification of data. The Health module, that enables the automation of health managements was also added to the ERP solution during this period. Consequently, the number of services that could be accessed from staff and student portal increased.

During the year an E-platform was set up which has allowed for setting up of a learning management system which when used in conjunction with google meeting application has allowed for online classes to take place. As a result, too, during this era of COVID-19 meetings within the University have switched to virtual via google meeting.

To upscale the security surveillance and protection of integrity of examination processes, the security monitoring was automated with installation of CCTV system with university.

Going forward, the university plans to fully automate the process of application and admission of new students as well as automation of clearance for exiting staff.

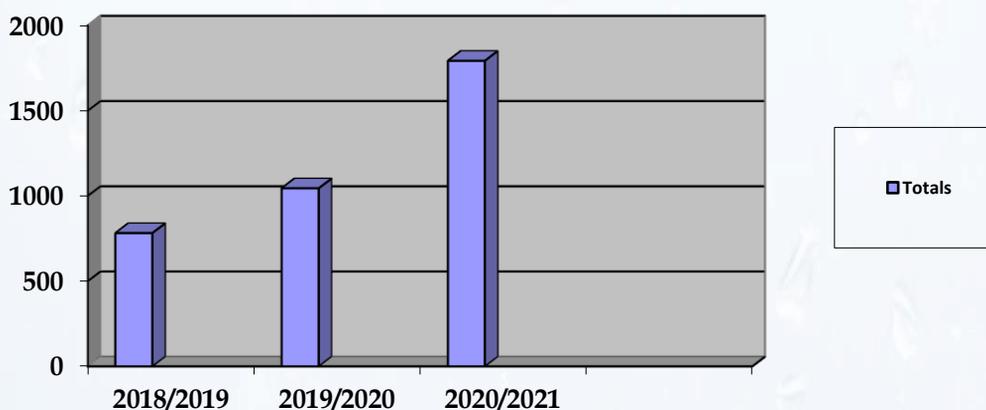
“Both modules have been procured and are now at the probationary stage awaiting full implementation,” says Prof. Mbuguah.

## B: STEADY GROWTH IN STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND PLACEMENT

The efforts engaged by the University over the years can be reflected in the steady rise in student population and the proof that KIBU is a choice destination for potential learners. In the three years, the University has realized over 129% increase in the number of students who selected and placed to various programmes of Kibabii University by KUCCPS.

### KUCCPS PLACEMENT IN THE UNIVERSITY FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS

ACADEMIC YEARS	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
TOTALS	782	1045	1793



## C: KIBU SENATE OKEYS EIGHT (8) IMPORTANT POLICIES

To improve governance and administration, Kibabii University Senate approved eight (8) policies in the year 2019/2020. The policies will go a long way in ensuring the smooth running of various departments and sections in the running of operations once approved by University Council.

Below are titles of policies passed in the Senate in the mentioned period.

- Credit Transfer and Exemption Policy
- Kibabii University Alumni Association (KIBUAA) Constitution
- Part time Teaching Management Policy
- Open, Distance and E-Learning (ODEL) Policy
- Disability Mainstreaming Policy
- Communication Strategy Policy
- Reward and Recognition
- Linkages and International Affairs

## D: ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN RESOURCE

It is Kibabii University's strategic objective to enhance administrative, financial and human resource management systems. To achieve this, in the year 2019/2010 the university employed a total of 33 staff and administered 14 promotions. This tremendously increased the human capital base to ensure service delivery and achievement the core mandate of the university.

### Status of Staffing for the Current Year (2019/2020 FY)

CATEGORY	NUMBER
No. of new staff appointed within the period 2019/2020	33
No. of staff promoted within the period 2019/2020	14
Total no. of Full Professors	4
Total No. of Associate Professors	5
Total No. of staff with PhDs	53
Total No. of Staff with Masters	97
No. of staff with Bachelors	88
Total No. of staff with other qualifications	140

## E: KIBU IN PURSUIT OF CONTINUED FINANCIAL STABILITY

The financial year 2019/2020 began on a sound position with the University posing a progressive growth in relation to income generation in terms of Appropriation-In-Aid (A-I-A) and Government support. The steady growth in revenue collection enabled the University to meet its needs timely even as our Country and the University experienced disruptive situation as a result of Covid-19 from March, 2020 to the end of the financial year. Due to the strong base that had been set by the University Council and Management from the start of the year the University has been able to meet its commitments as they arose. These commitments included payment of salaries without waiting for Government capitation, remittance of statutory deductions in time as well as up to date and payment of creditors. The University has also been able to put in place robust internal and budgetary control mechanisms that enhanced efficiency in operations, cost cutting measures and compliance with budgetary performance targets.

The University was also able the make great strides in development of infrastructure. The institution completed construction of Educational Tuition Block Phase II and Women Students Hostel through funding from the Government of Kenya. This boosted the Government's achievement of the "Big Four Agenda". Despite the success posed, the University also experiencing challenges which included accumulated part time payment arrears. There are radical measures in place to ensure that the part time claims arrears are offset.



## F: QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Kibabii University prides itself with the attainment of the Quality Management System based on ISO 9001:2015 Certification. This latest standard, which was attained and launched on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019 is what most universities have highly coveted to attain in numerous unsuccessful attempts. The standard is used by organizations to demonstrate their ability to consistently provide products and services that meet customer and regulatory requirements and to demonstrate continuous improvement. This indeed has been and shall be our commitment as demonstrated by the Quality Management Systems (QMS) team under the leadership of the Management Representative/Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Administration, Finance and Development Prof. Donald Siamba. The team has continually committed to maintain, monitor and evaluate the Quality Management System through Bi-annual internal audits.

In February 2019, the audit, which was a joint exercise between the internal and external auditors was conducted, confirming Kibabii University's firm grasp onto the compliance to the ISO 9001:2015 Standard and the Standard operating Procedures (SoPs) by attaining a score of 81.7%.

The Management Representative on behalf of the ISO team wishes to thank members of staff for their continued support and implementation of the University QMS, for purposes of daily quality service provision to our esteemed customers.

## G: COMMUNITY SERVICE

Kibabii University through the Community Outreach and various individual initiatives of staff managed to touch community in various ways during the period. The spirit of giving manifested itself during the period of deadly floods climaxed with the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.



Left: Kibabii University led by VC Prof. Ipara join PS, State Department for Livestock, Mr. Harry Kimutai and PS, State Department for University Education Education and Research Amb. Simon Nabukwesi in tree planting occasion along Kibuk River in Kapsokwony, Mt. Elgon Sub-county on Tuesday 23rd June 2020. The occasion was in commemoration of the African Public Service Week.



**LEFT: Soap distribution to truck drivers stranded due to Covid related technicalities along Kanduyi - Malaba highway in JUNE 2020 by Ms. Sophy Waliaula and Ms. Madina Matumbai. In the spirit of sharing and togetherness to cushion those vulnerable in our society**

### **H: KIBU SOARED HIGH IN SPORTS**

Kenya education system is shifting its curriculum to competency-based approach; this is a more innovative curriculum that embraces outside classroom learning and leads to various ends like job skills and employability. It is outside the classroom where learning innovation and experimentation can happen in a far more unfettered way. Over the past 20 years, research has confirmed the positive effects co-curricular activities have on student's achievements and other social aspects. One study, conducted by Dr. John S. Miller at the University of Idaho, contends that co-curricular activities help students to develop leadership and conflict management skills.

As an institution of higher learning Kibabii University aims to produce qualified students for job opportunities and other professional skills. The institution has also been dedicated to addressing youth needs in a holistic way through sports. In the last academic year, the university shone in the world of sports. In an interview with the Sports Tutor Mr. Tom Amwanzo, he commented that Kibabii has indeed achieved victory in sports.

Amwanzo went ahead mentioning some of the achievements made by students in local and international arena.

“To start with the victory of Faith Ogallo a third-year student who won a bronze award at World Taekwondo G2 Championships in Dubai earning her a direct ticket to represent Kenya at the forthcoming Olympics in Japan to be held in 2021. In the same category, we also had Evelyn Aluoch Kibabii alumnus who brought home a silver medal. In addition, Benson Moshon, a finalist student of Journalism and Mass Communication emerged the winner in the KUSA Cross Country that were held in February at Egerton University. Moshon is also the all African University Games Silver medalist. Finally, Kibabii soccer team is the champion of Kenya University Sports Association {KUSA} a title that we have chased for many years”



Inset: Younger Mohochi while in Form 1 in 1982

# Meet Prof. Mohochi: A Scholar Beyond Walls of a Classroom, Literary Speaking

Interview by Meshack Nyambane and Agnetta Shilasi

Inside one of the glassy offices at the Kibabii University administration block sits a quiet gentleman busy on his desktop computer—implying a frantically packed afternoon by the look of a heap of files lying on his table. This is the Registrar in charge of Academic Affairs Professor Ernest Sangai Mohochi. He welcomes us with a witty smile, ushering a calming ambience for any visitor to the notably busy office. Apart from his academic duties and responsibilities, Prof. Mohochi wears a hat of philanthropy and remarkable record of community service. He is a Founder and Chairman of Kusoma International which he started with a team of other like-minded friends while working at Stanford University in the United States of America. In this interview, we take you through the journey of the Associate Professor of Kiswahili as a debut to another new segment of *KIBU NEWSWEEK* called “KNOW YOUR SCHOLAR”



**Q: You have a remarkable journey in academia and for the many responsibilities you have executed in your life. Tell us about yourself.**

I was born in a humble and God-fearing background in Isibania, Kuria West District in Migori County. I am a second last born to a family of 9, born to small-scale hardworking peasants who worked to see us through education. I started my formal education at Isibania Primary School, later joined Isibania Secondary School then joined Bungoma High School for my A-levels between 1986 and 1987. From there I joined Egerton University for a Bachelors Degree in Kiswahili and Sociology. Immediately I completed my course, I was lucky to be interviewed and immediately placed as a Teaching Assistant. While there I got a scholarship to pursue my Masters, finished and got confirmed as an Assistant Lecturer at the same institution and later enrolled for a PHD programme at Egerton University under a DAAD scholarship. I worked there for 7 years up to the year 2002 when I was promoted to the position of Lecturer.

**Q: Seven years was quite a lengthy period from your previous position!**

Generally, Egerton University was a very good place for me to start my carrier. It prepared me with skills and ability to work with minimal supervision.

At that time, it was difficult to rise because the standards for promotion had not been streamlined, for example, there were no CUE Guidelines to support upward mobility. Tired of waiting for promotion, I was interviewed for the position of Lecturer in

Moi University and got the position. I was, however, forced to change my mind and stick to Egerton because I was warned I would lose my DAAD scholarship if I moved to a different employer. During my PHD research, I got an opportunity to move to the United States in 2014 to teach at St. Lawrence University in New York for a period of 2 years while finalizing my data analysis and thesis writing. At the expiry of the fellowship, I got another opportunity to teach at Stanford University for 3 years. After the 3 years I came back to Kenya to work at Maseno University as a Senior Lecturer in 2010. In 2013, I moved to Rongo University until 2014 July when I got promoted to the position of Associate Professor. While at Rongo I served as a HoD, Languages, Linguistics and Literature between 2014 and 2017, then Dean, School of Graduate Studies until 2018 September when I joined Kibabii University in my current capacity. I consider myself as a self-driven individual who believes in giving positive results.

**Q: We realize that you're a well-travelled Scholar, having taught in some of the top universities in the world. Tell us about your experience outside Kenya.**

It was a great experience. Travelling has impacted greatly in my way of looking at things. During my two years of teaching at St. Lawrence University in New York and the three years at Stanford University, California, I did a lot in terms of research and publishing because of the conducive environment and availability of facilities to support research.



I also got an opportunity to learn and appreciate the high levels of commitment by members of staff to work, high level of integrity and the acts of giving back to society. For example, an MBA class in Stanford University requires one to start up a social enterprise before graduating. In fact, you will be surprised to learn that most of the companies started in the Silicon Valley in the United States are by graduates of Stanford University or are connected in some way to the Farm (the name used to refer to the University). This complemented very well with what I always thought of doing. I had always dreamt of starting a foundation in memory of my late father.

### **Q: Tell us about KUSOMA Foundation.**

Kusoma International Foundation started in 2008 while I was at Stanford University. The Original name was Laurenti Mohochi Education Foundation (LMEF). I named it after my father who participated in World War II in Burma, learned about the values of education, swore to give it his all to ensure that his children went to school and eventually sacrificed a lot to make that possible. The main mandate of this Foundation was and remains to give scholarships to needy students, assist schools in infrastructural development and lastly to mentor children to have the heart of giving back to the community through community social responsibility in Kuria District. We also do mentorship classes for the students to help them up morally upright. The foundation later decided to add construction of a community library to the list of its activities.

### **Q: What inspired you to start this foundation?**

I started this foundation to fulfill my father's ambition towards education. He was one kind of a parent who wanted to see his children acquire education. My father did not go to school but he developed a deep passion for education. His passion came as a result of his experience in the Army operations where young people almost half his age were giving him orders which he could not resist because of their high level of education and rank. He therefore made a promise to change the script by declaring his support for education in his mother country - Kenya. He even donated land for a school to be built. Unfortunately, he passed on when I was still young and by the time I was stable, I could not appreciate him in person. That is why I started this foundation to commemorate his efforts towards our studies.

### **What has your Foundation achieved so far?**

As a foundation, we have managed to give scholarships to 24 students in secondary education. All the students except three have successfully gone through university education in different universities. Just but to name one, Richard Zungu who graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Commerce at Kibabii University in 2017. These are needy students who we are not related in any way. We are proud that the alumni of this Foundation always come back to support our projects.



So far, we have managed to put up a library which is 80% done. We have bought some books and received others through donations. The library building has been preordained to serve everyone in the community. To me, this gives me a lot of fulfillment. I only wish we could do more but we have our equal share of challenges.

**Q: Who are the financiers of KUSOMA Foundation?**

We get support from friends and well-wishers through fund raising activities. Some members of the board are in California, others have left over time. So, we rely on fundraising both here and internationally. I want to give special recognition to Kibabii University staff and students for their contribution towards the construction of the library. In this regard, we have designated and will inscribe library furniture bought using funds from the KIBU community in honour of this kind gesture from Kibabii University which many will experience for many generations to come.

**Q: Registrar Academic Affairs, Chairman, Kusoma Foundation, Researcher? How do you balance all these?**

I wish to also add that apart from Kusoma Foundation, for about 4 years I was a chairman of another board by the name NURU International, which was started by Jake Harriman, my former student at Stanford and later started operations in Kenya. It is indeed quite

challenging, but its only when you are challenged and busy that you become productive. Yes, it takes a lot of my energy, resources and time, but am glad I have not reached a point to say it is impossible. I am proud to have driven the whole initiative of establishing KUSOMA Foundation to the level it is now.

All I can say is it's a challenge worth taking.

**Q: What are some of your current research interests?**

Currently, I am involved in two research projects which we are working on in teams. The projects are still at their initial stages. One is looking at “*Language and Social Mobility*” where we are looking at the role of motivation in the learning of Swahili in Secondary Schools. This is a project in partnership with colleagues from Kibabii University, Rongo University and St. Augustine University in Mwanza, Tanzania. The second team is working on “*The Role of language in the Fight against COVID-19 Pandemic*” and consists of staff from Kibabii University.

**Q: Given an opportunity to say a word to Kibabii fraternity, what will you say?**

The right environment, the right support can be very critical in the performance of an academic and administration staff. God Bless Kibabii University for striving to continuously work towards providing all these.

# Getting Ready for COVID-19 With Resumption of Learning



The “Doctor’s Corner” column aims at offering sensitization on preventive and curative strategies laid down by health professionals at Kibabii University. The author is a Clinical Officer II at the Department of Health Services.

**By Amos Nyongesa**

It is the 121<sup>st</sup> day since universities closed down on March 15<sup>th</sup> because of COVID-19. With all exertions being laid down by various Government agencies, the number of infections has nevertheless continued to surge as capacity to test samples is upscaled. During his address on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2020, President Uhuru Kenyatta said he expects progressive normalcy to resume in the education sector by September 1 and directed the Education Ministry to consult with the Health experts so as to come up with a new calendar by mid-August.

“Following stakeholder’s consultations in the education sector – the Ministry of Education jointly with the Ministry of Health will issue and publicize guidelines on a gradual and progressive return to normalcy in the education sector by the Third Term, from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020,” the President said in an address from State House.

As the academic institutions prepare to resume their core functions after this novel pandemic, it is wise we be aware of the following measures:

## SIMPLE WAYS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN OUR WORKPLACE

These low-cost measures will help prevent the spread of infections in our workplace, such as common colds, flu and gastritis, and protect our staff mates, students and visitors. The institutions should start doing these things now, even if COVID-19 has not arrived in the communities where they operate;

- i. Make sure your workplaces are clean and hygienic; Surfaces (e.g. Chairs, staircase rails, walls, desks, tables and institution vehicles) and objects (e.g. telephones, mobile phones, keyboards) need to be wiped with disinfectant regularly.

**Why?** Because contamination on surfaces touched by employees, students and visitors is one of the main ways that COVID-19 spreads.

- ii. Promote regular and thorough hand-washing by employees, students, and visitors at all institution entry points. The institutions should put sanitizing hand rub dispensers in prominent places around the workplace and these dispensers should be regularly refilled.
- iii. The institutions should display posters promoting hand-washing and combine with other communication measures

such as offering guidance from institution health expert, occupational health and safety officers, briefings at meetings, and information on internet sites to promote hand-washing. They should make sure that staff, students and visitors have access to places where they can wash their hands with soap and water.

**Why?** Because washing kills the virus on your hands and prevents the spread of COVID-19.

- iv. The institutions should promote good respiratory hygiene in the workplace; Ensure that face masks or tissue papers are available at your workplaces, for those who develop a runny nose or cough at work, along with closed bins for hygienically disposing of them.

**Why?** Because good respiratory hygiene prevents the spread of COVID-19.

- v. The staff and students should be sensitized in that if COVID-19 starts spreading in the institutions anyone with even a mild cough or low-grade fever (37.3 C or more) needs to stay at home and where necessary Display posters with these messages in workplaces.



## HOW TO MANAGE COVID-19 RISK WHEN ORGANIZING MEETINGS AND EVENTS



Organizers of meetings and events in institutions need to think about the potential risk from COVID-19 because: There is a risk that people attending your meeting or event might unwillingly bring the COVID-19 virus to the meeting. Others might be unknowingly exposed to COVID-19. Although COVID-19 is a mild disease for most people, it can manifest severely to some individuals. As per WHO, approximately one in every five people who contract COVID-19 needs hospital treatment.

Key considerations to prevent or reduce COVID-19 risks BEFORE the meeting or event include:

- i. Check the advice from the health experts/ authorities in the institution where you plan to hold the meeting or event and follow their advice.
- ii. The institutions should Develop and agree on a response plan in case someone at the meeting becomes ill with symptoms of COVID-19 (**dry cough, fever, malaise**). This plan should include at least: Identifying a room or area where someone who is

feeling unwell or has symptoms can be safely isolated. Have a plan for how they can be safely transferred from there to a recommended government health facility. Know what to do if a meeting participant, staff member, student or service provider tests positive for COVID-19 during or just after the meeting thus agreed plan in advance with institutions health department or partner health care provider need to be in place.

- iii. The meeting or event should be scaled down so that fewer people attend if it demands a face-to-face. Always Verify information and communication channels in advance with key stakeholders such as public health and health care department.
- iv. Pre-order sufficient supplies and materials, including tissues and hand sanitizer for all participants. Have disposable surgical masks available to offer anyone who develops respiratory symptoms. Participants should be advised in advance that if they have any symptoms or feel unwell, they should not attend. Make sure all organizers, participants, caterers, and visitors at the event/meeting should provide contact details: **mobile telephone number, email, and address where they are staying.**
- v. The institution should provide contact details or a health service hotline number that staff and participants can call for advice or to give information. The dispensers of alcohol-based hand rub should be displayed prominently around the venue.

- vi. The seats should be arranged so that participants are at least 1 meter apart. The windows and doors should be open whenever possible to make sure the venue is well ventilated.
- vii. AFTER the meeting retain the names and contact details of all participants for at least a month. This will help public health officer/ authorities trace persons who may have been exposed to COVID-19 if one or more of the participants become ill shortly after the meeting.

## THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN STAFF AND STUDENTS TRAVEL



**Before traveling** the institution should make sure the staff and students have the latest information on areas where COVID-19 is prevalent and this information can be accessed on the Ministry of Health website. Based on the latest information, the institution should assess the benefits and risks related to upcoming travel plans. Avoid involving staff and students who may be at higher risk of serious illness (e.g. older staff and those with pre-existing medical conditions such as diabetes, heart and lung disease). The institution should consider issuing staff who are about to travel with small

bottles of alcohol-based hand sanitizers since it will facilitate regular hand-washing.

When staff return from an area where COVID-19 is spreading should monitor themselves for symptoms for 14 days and take their temperature twice a day. If they develop even a mild cough or low-grade fever (i.e. a temperature of 37.3 C or more) they should stay at home and self-isolate. In the event of abnormal feelings, they should call their health care provider or the local public health department, giving them details of their recent travel and symptoms.

Finally, the institutions should develop a plan for what to do if someone becomes ill with suspected COVID-19 at one of their workplaces. The plan should cover putting the ill person in a room or area where they are isolated from others in the workplace, limiting the number of people who have contact with the sick person, and contacting the local County Government health authorities. The institutions should consider how to identify persons who may be at risk, and support them, without inviting stigma and discrimination. This could include persons who have recently travelled to an area reporting cases, or other personnel who have conditions that might put them at higher risk of serious illness (e.g. diabetes, heart and lung disease, older age).

For small institutions without in-house health staff and welfare support, they better develop partnerships and plans with their local County health and social service providers in advance of any emergency.



## **WORD FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN, STUDENTS UNION (SOKU)**

It is a great privilege to take this opportunity to wish you a new successful academic year. In the last academic year, as SOKU leaders we have laid a firm foundation for transformation of our university to another fruitful level. I want to thank the Almighty God for enabling us to come out successfully despite the COVID-19 challenges that led to the disruption of learning activities. Let us go as per Winston Churchill's saying that " success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm".

In the new academic year, in liaison with the Dean of Students Office, we shall focus on peace and harmony through enhanced dialogue with other members of our university when dealing with matters concerning the students. I am also confident of a cohesive, integrated and competent SOKU government in the academic year 2020/2021.

My fellow leaders let's impress transparency and accountability since we are entrusted by the students. We hope that the new year will be more fruitful and fulfilling to all *Kibabians*.

Thank you all, be blessed.

**Mr. Caleb Musawa**  
**SOKU Chairman.**



## **Makarios W. Masakha,**

*BCom Graduate class of 2016, SGC Chairman 2015/16.*

*Currently Master's of Audit student, Nanjing Audit University, China.*

Being part of the earlier entrances to the University, it was a little bit hard to put up with, accept and speak out to multitudes that yes, you are in a university, a university with then less than 800 students. A moment when, every single movement by each could be monitored by then security officer, not by use of technology, but by physical sight. A moment when, classes could be held comfortably in the current Administration Boardroom as well as Academic board meeting on in the other room, no one could ever imagine stepping out and standing tall, But look! Here we are all over the world, contributing immensely to the building of the nation.

Kibabii University is indeed a great institution that fully bakes, moulds and shapes one into what the world needs. I am grateful in that my stay at the University imparted varied elements in me, ranging from academics, with whose foundation has accorded me a rare opportunity into a peculiar institution of audit in China, leadership, seizing opportunities, and socializing spirit. It's worth noting that the energy expressed by the university management, the community and students, is solely what has led to great scaling of the University.

It's unbelievable that Kibabii University stands at its current top ranking, a university whose infrastructural development is utmost modernized, with just 8 years in existence. The future is guaranteed great for the university, and promising to stand top the globe. As Alumni, we need to accord it the maximum support we can in our capacities to see that our alma mater flags so high in all its fields.

# Voices of Alumni



**Blessed Shilla,**  
*Bachelor of Computer Science,*  
*Graduate class of 2019,*

The first thing that comes to mind being an alumnus of Kibabii University is a career network and sense of belonging to a supportive community that nurture prepare and build students to be professionals in whatever field they specialize in before they are released to the corporate world. Personally, Kibabii University gave me a chance to embrace different cultures and diversity that is reflected in the outside world and be proud of our Africanity. Attending sports and cultural events has strengthened the relationship I hold with the institution and be part of the team and the community around it. I have been able to build and grow the institution's brand through word-of-mouth marketing, through my certificates while applying for jobs and even through positive posts on social media which can create buzz and increase application rates for students.

Lastly translating the skills acquired in school to the job and be able to deliver and be productive and efficient is all subject to intensive training and guided internship opportunities provided by Kibabii University.



**Oginda Fred,**

Joining KIBU was one of the best things that ever happened in my life, reason being, this great institution gave me the chance to discover myself, to know exactly what I wanted in my life. It is in KIBU that I learnt that fighting for the rights of others is more important than just taking a day off with a girlfriend in a good hotel, it is from KIBU that I discovered that I can be a great motivational speaker, an activist, a politician, a great teacher who transform lives and above all great leader who creates an impact in any society.

A message to all KIBU students, work for your dream and let KIBU help you to discover what you want in your life because in is the alma mater.

Campus life may be challenging at times in terms of finances, upkeep fee or if you are a politician and an activist like me you may not agree with some of policies set by the administration but trust the process always stand for what you believe is right and above all keep your integrity high.



# **“QUALITY is Our Guiding Principle”**

**-Prof. Isaac Ipara Odeo  
Vice Chancellor**

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