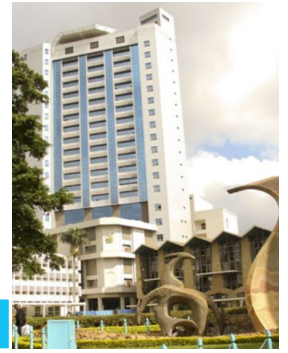




The Academic

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

A Newsletter of the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs



Issue: 7

November - December 2020

The University of Nairobi Celebrates 50 Years of Academic Excellence



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MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The period November – December was characterized by important milestones in the life of the University of Nairobi. Perhaps the most important was the University of Nairobi Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

The University marked 50 years of academic excellence portrayed both in the number of graduates churned out over the years and importantly the continued excellent ranking of the University regionally and globally.

On the same grounds that the inaugural graduation ceremony was held so was the 64th graduation ceremony held exactly fifty years to the date. This graduation thus was unique and well celebrated.



Prof. Julius Ogeng'o
DVC Academic Affairs

The University of Nairobi continued to set stan-

dards for the rest of the Institutions, successfully conducting credible virtual student Elections only serve to show the strides the University has taken in online learning and University management and Governance. The students peacefully and virtually elected their preferred leaders to represent them in management matters of the University.

This season also coincided with the resumption of Face to Face learning for all Science based programmes at various University Campuses. The College of Architecture and Engineering, College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, College of Biological and Physical Sciences, College of Education & External Studies Kenya Science Campus and the College of Health Science had their first years physically reporting to their campuses. The University ensured strict adherence to Ministry of Health Guidelines and Protocols for the containment of Covid- 19 pandemic. The University continued to adhere to these guidelines even as the celebrations went on. I therefore invite you to read through more articles published therein...

POMP AND FANFARE AS UON CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The University of Nairobi celebrated half a century of academic excellence on 10th December, 2020 at the famous Great Court. It was historic and sentimental as staff and students both past and present joined the celebrations virtually and physically for the selected few. Alumni of different generations reminiscing their individual academic journey with this great institution. Partners and other stakeholders none bigger than the renowned Kenyan philanthropist Dr. Manu Chandaria, giving an address during the extraordinary event.

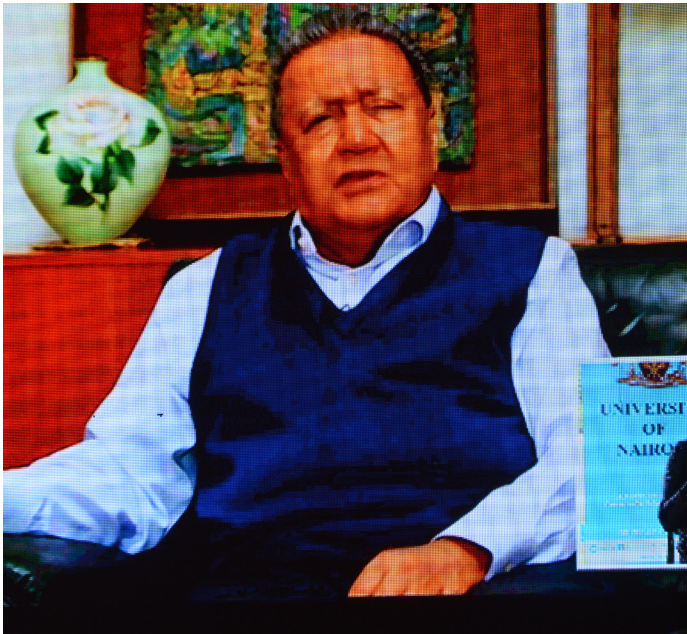


The Vice Chancellor University of Nairobi Prof. Stephen Kiama making his welcoming remarks during the UoN@50 Celebrations

Entrepreneurs whom the University helped shape into successful businesses today joined others in paying tribute to their alma mater in a special way. The University has grown in steadily academic stewardship and infrastructural developments over the period. The University has further mentored and provided faculty for other universities like Kenyatta University, Technical University of Kenya, Embu University, just to mention a few. The University further saw infrastructural growth and today has 6 Colleges, 2 Campuses in Mombasa and Kisumu and the Open, Distance and e-Learning Campus. The growth can be seen through the increase in student population from about 2000 to over 65,000 students currently. The Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama expressed pride to be the VC as the University celebrates this milestone

POMP AND FANFARE AS UON CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE Cont.

and remarked that the University had henceforth graduated to the league of Old Universities above 50 years of existence. During the ceremony, the Chancellor Dr. Vijoo Rattansi, in her address noted the excellence over the past 5 decades and further asked staff and students to be prepared to counter the challenges that lie ahead. The Government of Kenya remains a strategic and key stakeholder who has walked with the University of Nairobi since inception. The celebrations culminated with the unveiling of the University of Nairobi Convocation Book highlighting the graduands from the 1st Congregation to the 63rd congregation and a cake cutting ceremony to mark this great milestone.



Left: Dr. Manu Chandaria giving his address virtually during the UoN@50 celebrations **Right:** University of Nairobi Chancellor Dr. Vijoo Rattansi making her address during the UoN@50 celebrations at the Great Court.



Left: Chair person of the UoN Council Prof. Julia Ojiambo giving her remarks during the UoN@50 celebrations **Right:** University of Nairobi Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama addressing the guests during the UoN@50 celebrations at the Great Court.

DOWN MEMORY LANE WITH ALUMNI FROM DIFFERENT DECADES

The University of Nairobi celebrated its Golden Jubilee on 10th December, 2020 in an auspicious occasion that brought together staff and students both past and present shared in the 50 years of Academic Excellence. The occasion was graced by selected Alumni who graduated from the University in different decades sharing their academic and unique personal experiences as they reminisced their time at the University.

1970 - 1980



UoN 1970- 1980 Alumni Dr. Frank Njenga.

Different decades were represented by different graduands beginning with the very first decade the 1970-1980 where the renowned psychiatrist Dr. Frank Njenga recalled his days as a medical student at the University of Nairobi. Different decades came with different opportunities and challenges as evoked by Dr. Frank Njenga.

“Students in the 1970s lived in royalty as they were taught by distinguished faculty among others Prof. John Mungai, had their clothes laundered at the White Rose and books provided for free”, recalled Dr. Frank Njenga

It was a decade had students actually paid you come to school.

1981 - 1990



The 1981 – 1990 decade was characterized by its own challenges, then students selected to join University had their names published in the daily newspapers, itself giving pride and joy to those selected.

“Leadership in all spheres in the country today draws a lot of manpower from this decade”, as was deduced by the former speaker of the Senate Hon. Ekwe Ethuro an alumni of this decade.

UoN 1981 - 1990 Alumni Hon. Ekwe Ethuro former Speaker of the Senate recall his time as a student in Upper Kabete Campus

DOWN MEMORY LANE WITH ALUMNI FROM DIFFERENT DECADES

1991- 2000



The 1990 – 2000 brought its own opportunities and challenges. This was the decade that saw the introduction of the self-sponsored programmes famously referred to as the parallel programmes. It was further characterized by the repealing of Section 2A of the constitution of Kenya that saw Kenya return to a multiparty state and University students play a key role in the political arena as observed by Commissioner Dr. Mercy Deche.

UoN 1991 - 2000 Alumni Commissioner Dr. Mercy Deche

2001 - 2010



The 2001 – 2010 decade was characterized by a fairly peaceful University and a period of growth for the University. Ms. Doris Githua, herself a self-sponsored student noted the harmony in the University during much of this decade. The period also saw the efforts of Prof. Wangari Maathai receive global recognition through the award of the Nobel Peace Prize for her endeavours in the fight for Environmental Sustainability.

UoN 2001 - 2010 Alumni Ms. Doris Githua an Advocate of the High court of Kenya

2011 - 2020



Perhaps the decade that has brought out the best of the University of Nairobi in terms of adaptability and dynamism, is the present decade. The University in this period constructed and occupied the UoN Towers a State of the Art Office and Class block equipped with modern facilities introduced Electronic Learning Model and recently moved its operations on the virtual space in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Online Teaching & Learning has indeed taken root at the University. QS Mary Kivata, representing graduands from this decade noted the strides made by the University in use of information technology.

UoN 2011- 2020 Alumni of UoN School of the Built Environment QS. Mary Kivata

UON UNVEILS CONVOCATION ROLL MARKING 50 YEARS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The University of Nairobi marked 50 years of Academic excellence on 10th December, 2020 during which the Chancellor Dr. Vijoo Rattansi officially unveiled the University of Nairobi Convocation Roll detailing all graduands from the 1st Congregation of the conferment of Degrees and Awarding of Diplomas to the 63rd congregation held on 25th September, 2020. A proud moment for each and every graduands of the University of Nairobi, this information is held at the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs as critical academic record over the past half century.



UoN Chancellor Dr. Vijoo Rattansi (2nd Left) officially unveils the UoN Convocation Roll, looking on is the UoN Council Chairperson Prof. Julia Ojiambo (left), Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama (centre) and the Deputy Vice Chancellor Prof. Julius Ogeng'o

NOSTALGIC PHOTO EXHIBITION OF UON JOURNEY

The University of Nairobi Golden Jubilee celebrations would not be complete without a marvelous photo exhibition that portrayed a pictorial sequence of the University journey towards academic excellence. The exhibition lined along the legendary Mahatma Gandhi Graduate Library presented an account of the journey from humble beginnings, the rich history and the men and women who sacrificed and toiled for this great Institution over the 5 decades that ensured we have a world class University today. The photos further exhibited the rich heritage and stakeholder involvement from partners like the Gandhi foundation that have walked with the University for the decades.



The Chancellor Dr. Vijoo Rattansi (Centre), Chair of Council Prof. Julia Ojiambo and the Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama follow the pictorial presentation of the University Journey over the half century of academic excellence

COMMEMORATIVE TREE PLANTED AT THE GREAT COURT

The University of Nairobi Chancellor Dr. Vijoo Rattansi planted a commemorative tree and unveiled a plaque as the University of Nairobi marked 50 years of Academic excellence, on 10th December, 2020. The occasion began with the tree planting exercise at the Great Court and the unveiling of the Commemorative plaque in the foyer area of the University of Nairobi Administration block. This paved the way for the beginning of the Golden Jubilee celebrations.



The Chancellor Dr. Vijoo Rattansi assisted by the University of Nairobi Council Chairperson Prof. Julia Oji-ambo plant the commemorative tree at the Great Court during the UoN@50 Celebrations. Looking on is the Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama

RESUMPTION OF FACE TO FACE LEARNING



University of Nairobi School of Pharmacy Students prepare for a practical session at the KNH Campus. The School emphasized strict adherence to Ministry of Health Guidelines on Covid 19 containment measures.

The University of Nairobi resumed face to face learning for first year students the Colleges of Agriculture & Veterinary Sciences, Architecture & Engineering, Biological & Physical Sciences, Education & External Studies (Kenya Science Campus) and Health Sciences on 9th November, 2020 for their practical sessions. The University put in place strict procedures in compliance with Government of Kenya and Ministry of Health Guidelines and protocols for containment of Covid-19. Each College ensured availability of Hand Washing areas, Sanitizers, Temperature Taking guns at entry points and strict Social and Physical Distancing during practical sessions within the University Laboratories and Studios.

Registration process for the students went smoothly as University Administrators took the students through the required biometric registration procedures at the various Faculties/Schools as they reported. The reporting students were addressed virtually by their respective Principals, Deans/Directors and Departmental Heads during the reporting week.

The students, already conversant with online learning, were immediately divided into groups to begin their Laboratory/Studio Sessions within the first week of reporting.

Also reporting for laboratory and studio sessions were continuing postgraduate and undergraduate students in the following cohorts;

RESUMPTION OF FACE TO FACE LEARNING Cont.

SN.	COLLEGE	YEAR OF STUDY
1.	CAVS	Year 1 and 5
2.	CAE	a. Engineering: Year 1,2 & Year 5.2 group b. StBE: Year 1 to 6 c. StAD: Years 1 to 4
3.	CBPS	Year 1
4.	CEES	Year I at KSC
5.	CHS	a. Medicine: MBCB Years 1,3,4,& 5; Biochemistry Year 1, Med Lab Science & Tech Yr. 1 & Masters all programmes b. Dental Sciences: Year 1 and Masters c. Nursing Sciences: Year 1 and Masters d. Pharmacy: Year 1 and Masters

On accommodation, Halls Officers were on hand to give guidance on New Accommodation Procedures set in accordance with Ministry of Health guidelines and protocols for containment of Covid 19 for all students residing in the Campus.



University of Nairobi Kenya Science Campus students observe the Ministry of Health Guidelines on Covid 19 containment measures as they attend a practical lesson at the Campus

UNSA ELECTIONS, 2020 SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTED ONLINE

The elections for University of Nairobi Student Association (UNSA) were successfully held virtually on Wednesday November, 18 2020. This was yet another milestone for the University. A first of its kind, UoN students turned up virtually in their numbers to elect new Officials. The online platform that was used was developed by the University ICT Centre. The success of these elections demonstrated the great strides the University has made in management of Student Affairs, in particular student elections. This further underpinned the commitment of the University of Nairobi Students in adopting a progressive approach in student election conduct. The synergy witnessed in the conduct of the election process was significant, with various University Departments like ICT offering technical support to ensure the integrity of the process was upheld.

The newly elected officials were sworn in on Thursday November, 19 2020 at the Great Court, Main Campus. Speaking during the Swearing in Ceremony the Chairman of the UoN Independent Electoral Commission Prof. Mohamud Jama, lauded the support of the University Management and Senate in allowing time and



Newly elected UNSA Council pose for a group Photo with the University Management led by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama (Centre), DVC AA Prof. Julius Ogeng'o (immediate right), DVC HRA Prof. Enos Njeru and DVC RIE (Extreme right), UNSA Chairman Mr. Eddie Mwendwa Mutua (Left), DVC FPD Prof. Margaret Hutchinson, UON Electoral Commission Chairman Prof. Mohamud Jama and the Dean of Students Mr. Johnson Kinyua (extreme left) all seated. Inset: the UNSA Chairman Mr. Eddie Mwendwa Mutua taking the Oath of Office, administered by the University of Nairobi Chief Legal Officer CS. Collins Omondi.



UNSA ELECTIONS, 2020 SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTED ONLINE Cont.

resources for the activity. With no major incidences recorded from various Campuses the elected Student Leaders were sworn into office in the presence of the Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama and the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs Prof. Julius Ogeng'o on 19th November, 2020. The DVC Academic Affairs Prof. Julius Ogeng'o, noted the important role played by student leadership in corporate governance of the University. He further praised the resilience and capacity of the University to adopt to change rapidly, its innovativeness and courage to conduct free, fair and credible virtual elections.

The University of Nairobi Student Association Constitution, 2017 Article 10 anchors the composition of the Student Council. The membership of the 2020 Students' Council comprise;

SN	POSITION	ELECTED OFFICIAL
1.	Chairperson	Mr. Eddie Mwendwa Mutua
2.	Vice-Chairperson	Ms. Dorcas Kaaria Kagwira
3.	Secretary- General	Mr. Nathan Kiplangat
4.	Treasurer	Ms. Georgina Njeri Githua
5.	Special Needs Representative	Ms. Wawira Janet Wachira
6.	International Students Representative	Mr. Vincent Cletus Wiso
7.	Sports & Social Welfare Representative	Mr. Tony Johnson Odindo



The Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama pose for a group photo with the newly sworn in UNSA Students' Council

Moving on, the achievements realized in the management of Student Elections by the staff and students will provide a solid foundation for concrete engagement in governance of the University. Congratulations to the winners!

UON COLLEGES ELECT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

The University of Nairobi Colleges/Campuses Students Associations (CSA) elected their representatives virtually on 18th November, 2020 during UNSA Elections. The virtual elections took place with minimal hitches as the students elected their leaders to represent them at the UNSA Council. The twelve (12) Colleges/Campus Student Associations winning teams make up the Electoral College, they comprise; Chiro-mo Campus, Kenya Science Campus, CHS, Kikuyu Campus, Kisumu Campus, Lower Kabete Campus, Main Campus (CHSS), Main Campus (CAE), Mombasa Campus, ODeL Campus, Parklands Campus, Upper Kabete Campus. During this election Kisumu and ODeL Campuses team were not cleared on time and hence will elect their College/Campus Associations at a date to be announced.

The College/Campus Associations elections were closely contested with teams winning by margins as small as three votes. At the College of Health Sciences (CHS), Team USLA emerged victorious in the hotly contested election by garnering 1,060 against their competitors Team Impact and Progress who managed 1,057.



Team United Servants Leadership Association (USLA) will represent College of Health Sciences (CHS) students in the University of Nairobi Students Association (UNSA).

GREAT COURT HOSTS UON 64TH GRADUATION

The University of Nairobi Great Court was the setting for the 64th Graduation Ceremony held on 11th December, 2020 marking exactly 50 years since the 1st Graduation ceremony was held on the same grounds. The 64th Congregation was held virtually and saw some 5, 709 conferred various degrees and awarded various Diplomas. Five decades later from the inaugural ceremony, the University has embraced technology and successfully carried out the online graduation ceremony. The 64th Graduation also conferred honorary Degrees- Doctor of Letters of the University of Nairobi, to UoN Council Chairperson Prof.



The 64th UoN Graduation Ceremony at the Great Court transmitted virtually. Inset: the inaugural UoN Graduation Ceremony at the Great Court on 11th December, 1970

Julia Ojiambo and a distinguished scholar Prof. Micere Mugo.

The cabinet Secretary for Education Prof. George Magoha represented by the Cabinet Administrative Secretary Mr. Zack Kinuthia himself a product of the University of Nairobi who was Chairman of the defunct SONU expressed joy at the achievement of the graduands and assured continued government support of the University.



Q: How do we access the Telkom data bundles for continuing students?

A: Student to register their intent for facilitation by updating their profile on smis, the request is considered an alert sent to the Smis portal on instructions on collection at the preferred Telkom outlet indicated.

Q: How do I set up a University email account?

A: Login to your smis portal on the home page click update my profile and follow the instructions to create your uonbi email.

Q: The fees for online programmes mode similar to the face to face mode of learning?

A: The fee remains similar until further communication.

Q: How can I access the fee structure for the UoN Online programmes?

A: The fee structures for UoN programmes are posted on the website. E.g. Engineering fee structure link below <https://engineering.uonbi.ac.ke/admission-content-type/bachelor-science-civil-engineering>

Q: Is Mombasa and Kisumu Campuses teaching on the online platform?

A: Yes, for more information contact the class representative

Q: How will the CATs and Exam be administered?

A: The CATs and Examinations will be conducted online on the E-Class portal. Students will be trained on use of the E-Class portal for online Learning and examinations.

Q: What happens to students under government mandatory quarantine?

A: Students are advised to logon and attend classes using their smart phones.

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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