

# The Academic

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

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

Issue: 9 March - April 2021

## **UON TALENTS DAY**



# Inside

- 1. UoN Holds Inaugural Talents Day
- 2. UNSA Leaders Inducted
- 3. University Reviews Fees
- 4. UoN Undertakes Internal Website Audit
- 5. UoN Prioritizes COVID 19 Vaccination

#### MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

he period March – April, 2021 was characterized by continued efforts to improve quality of service through the development, review and implementation of Guidelines and Procedures for academic process. This was a critical activity to enable staff effectively and efficiently handle academic matters within the Regulations, Policy and Guidelines. This strict adherence to the guidelines further ensures that students consistently receive quality service when they seek guidance in various academic related functions. The University further, after extensive consultations with various key stakeholders, relooked at its pricing model and rationalized fees to ensure sustainability and Quality of programmes. The University Senate subsequently approved the



Prof. Julius Ogeng'o
Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs

proposal set to take effect for the beginning of the 2021/2022 Academic Year commencing in September 2021.

The University is still the best ranked University in Easter and Central Africa in Webometric ranking. It is, therefore, paramount to maintain and even better compete with other global contemporaries by remaining competitive through regular self-assessment of the University website. This was the defining reason for the Audit of Faculties and Departmental websites spearheaded by the Senate Committee on Alignment of Website Content with the UoN Mandate. This exercise will be an annual activity in the University's calendar.

Student welfare is a fundamental part of developing a wholesome individual. The University is a concentration of Talent, this was better expressed during the inaugural Talent Day. After three days of rigorous auditions the very best had their day with the judges on March 12, 2021 at Taifa Hall. Going forward this too will be a yearly function.

#### **UON HOLDS INAUGURAL TALENT DAY**

he University of Nairobi provides a platform not only for Academic Excellence, but also gives a chance to students to pursue and excel in their various talents. Students from across the University Campuses showcased their talents in various categories during a three day audition programme. The best were picked to showcase their talents and innovations. The Talents were categorized as music, poetry, narrations, ICT, Engineering innovations and Art.



Jesse Mbuthia performing during the inaugural Talent Day at Taifa Hall

Speaking during the grand finale Prof. Julius Ogeng'o, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Affairs noted during his opening remarks 'The definition of a world-class University is inclusive of a concentration of talents,'Expect therefore a concentration of talent in its diversity.'

Faith Naliaka opened the stage by singing her own composition and performed, Beyoncé's Brown skin girl in Kiswahili.

Jesse Mbuthia performed with a guitar, Amondi Were and Beryl Mengich caught the participants' attention with their powerful performances on Music.

In ICT and Engineering Innovation, Joseph, a 4th year Electrical Engineering student took the audience through an improved system of Students Management Information System- an ingenious innovation designed to simplify the SMIS system.

Karanja Abundant, a first year student In Urban Planning took the audience through his innovation of a device that uses infrared technology to detect the number of people boarding Public service vehicles and automatically alerts NTSA when they carry more passengers than allowed.

These were just but a section of the talents on display during the inaugural edition of the Talent Day which promises to be even better in the next edition.

#### UON HOLDS INAUGURAL TALENT DAY



University Management led by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama (centre), DVC Academic Affairs Prof. Julius Ogeng'o (right) and DVC FPD Prof. Margaret Hutchinson (left) enjoy the presentations by the students during the Talents Day.



The definition of a world-class University is inclusive of a concentration of talents,' 'Expect therefore a concentration of talent in its diversity-Prof. J. Ogeng'o

## **UON INDUCTS UNSA LEADERS**

The University of Nairobi The University of Nairobi held an induction workshop for the newly elected UNSA Leaders on February 26, 2021, at the KCB Leadership training Centre. The Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs Prof. Julius Ogeng'o outlined the need to acquaint the UNSA leaders with the structure, culture and functioning of the University. The significance of this forum was further enhanced by the presence of the University Executive Board led by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama and the entire UNSA Leadership led by the Chairperson of the Student Council Mr. Eddie Mwendwa Mutua.

## **Role of Students in Management**

Student representation in management of the University remains a critical pillar in responsible governance. The DVC Academic Affairs, took the student Leaders through the role they were expected to play as representatives of the students in the management of the University, as stipulated in the University Statutes XIX; 6 (V) and XVI; 1 (IX), the UoN Charter, 2013 19 (1n) and the Student Code of Conduct, 2020 28.1 (v) and 28.3 (iv). He further encouraged them to remain focused on their academic output as that was the main objective of a student.



The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Stephen G. Kiama making his key note address

## **UON INDUCTS UNSA LEADERS**

## **Academic Responsibility**

The Deputy Registrar Admissions, Mrs. Manya highlighted the Academic responsibility of students while emphasizing on the registration on the Student Management Information System, strict adherence to the two thirds class attendance rule, registration and sitting for examinations and adherence to the University Student Code of Conduct.



Prof. Julius Ogeng'o, DVC, AA giving a presentation on Student involvement in Management and Administration.



Participants Keenly following one of the training sessions

## **UON REVIEWS FEES**

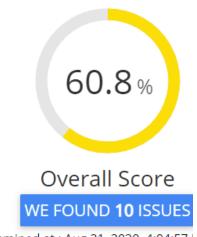
he University of Nairobi Senate approved the revision of Fees payable to the University by self-sponsored students across different categories. This will ensure students pay fees commensurate to the programmes they undertake. The University of Nairobi for a long time had not reviewed its fees despite the dynamic nature of the higher Education sector and the ever changing economic landscape of the country. As a result, the cost of University of Nairobi programmes were way lower than those of its contemporaries in the region and beyond. This model will further enhance quality and sustainability of delivery of programmes taking into consideration recommended class sizes for the programmes thereby maintaining the required student-lecturer ratio. These fees however will take effect with the student reporting in September 2021 for the 2021/2022 Academic Year. Continuing students will continue to pay the fees set at the beginning of their studies.



UON Reviews University Fees

# **UON CONDUCTS INTERNAL WEBSITE AUDIT**





Examined at : Aug 21, 2020, 4:04:57

The first Internal Website Audit was a success

he University of Nairobi remains the best ranked University in Eastern & Central Africa on Webometrics. The focal point being management of the University's website with the ranking parameters being Openness, Impact and Excellence determined through a comprehensive analysis of the website. The University Senate recommended the alignment of website content to the University mandate and in so doing configured the content along the categories. This formed the basis for the evaluation of the teaching departments and college websites. This constant self-evaluation has yielded positive results that have seen the University ranked favorable amongst its peers in the global frontier.

The Internal Website Audit conducted on May 13, 2021 saw the members of the Senate appointed Committee on Alignment of Website Content to University Mandate evaluate Departmental and College websites and rank them appropriately on merit. This exercise saw Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology emerge the best with 74% score followed by KAVI-ICR and School of Education on 72.2% and 70% respectively among the Faculties/Schools/Institutes category. In the Departments category the Department of Kiswahili emerged top with a score of 68% followed by Departments of Chemistry and Department of Civil & Construction Engineering on 67.7% and 64% respectively.

Among the key recommendations identified from the exercise included training of a pool of Internal Website Auditors, development of a Website Manual to assist Departments and Units, periodic Staff and Student sensitization and diarizing the internal website audit to enshrine it as a regular event.

#### **UON PRIORITIZES COVID 19 VACCINATION FOR STAFF**

The University of Nairobi prioritized the vaccination of staff against COVID 19 with the University Health Services issuing the first dose of the Astra Zeneca Vaccine. The University Health Services was registered as a COVID-19 Vaccination Centre by the Ministry of Health and the Nairobi County Government, through the Nairobi Metropolitan Services.

This noble initiative was aimed at providing care to University employees specifically medical health-care professionals in the College of Health Sciences and other University staff in the course of service.

Leading by example the Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Kiama accompanied by the Deputy Vice Chancellors led staff in taking the first doses of the vaccine.



DVC Academic Affairs Prof. Julius Ogeng'o receiving the first dose of the Covid 19 vaccine



• 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.

• 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.

• 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 belowhttps://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

• 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.

• How do I set up a University email account?

As 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.

• 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 belowhttps://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

• 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.

## **IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

# **OFFICE OF DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR (ACADEMIC AFFAIRS)**

Email: dvca@uonbi.ac.ke

P.O. Box: 30197, 00100 Nairobi 16th Floor UoN Towers University of Nairobi, Main Campus. Telephone

No: 020 – 4910000 (Pilot Line)

020 - 4913008 | 020 - 4913009 | 020 - 4913632

020 - 4913036 | 020 - 4918002 Administration & Information

020 - 4913617 Marketing

## For enquiries on Missing Marks contact:

missingmarks@uonbi.ac.ke