



MMUST NEWS

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Post

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MMUST



**MMUST FOCUSES
ON
STRENGTHENING
MULTIDISCIPLINARY
RESEARCH AND SET
UP OF GRANTS
MANAGEMENT
OFFICE**

Inside this issue;

**MMUST Registered as a TVET
Institute.**



Editor's Pen

Greetings MMUST Community,

The University has been a beehive of activities in the recent past. In this issue, we bring you the Pedagogical Leadership in Africa (Pedal) training which is currently ongoing and will run up to 28th June 2021. We also bring you the recently concluded Leadership Sensitization on Research Grants Management Workshop as well as a staff training organized by the Office of the Registrar (Administration). In addition, we are proud that MMUST has been registered as a TVET Institute and is now licensed to offer CBET programmes. Read about this in this issue.

Also highlighted, is Prof.Sigot's field day in Indangalasia, Lurambi Sub-County as she sensitized farmers on edible mushroom farming.

As we celebrate this milestone, we are also proud of two of our Journalism and Mass Communication students who are gaining recognition through content creation on various issues. We are also playing our community outreach role by holding the Life Skills Development School Camp aimed at equipping life skills to young Kenyans.

We thank you for sending your stories to us. We encourage you to keep on doing so via pr@mmust.ac.ke.



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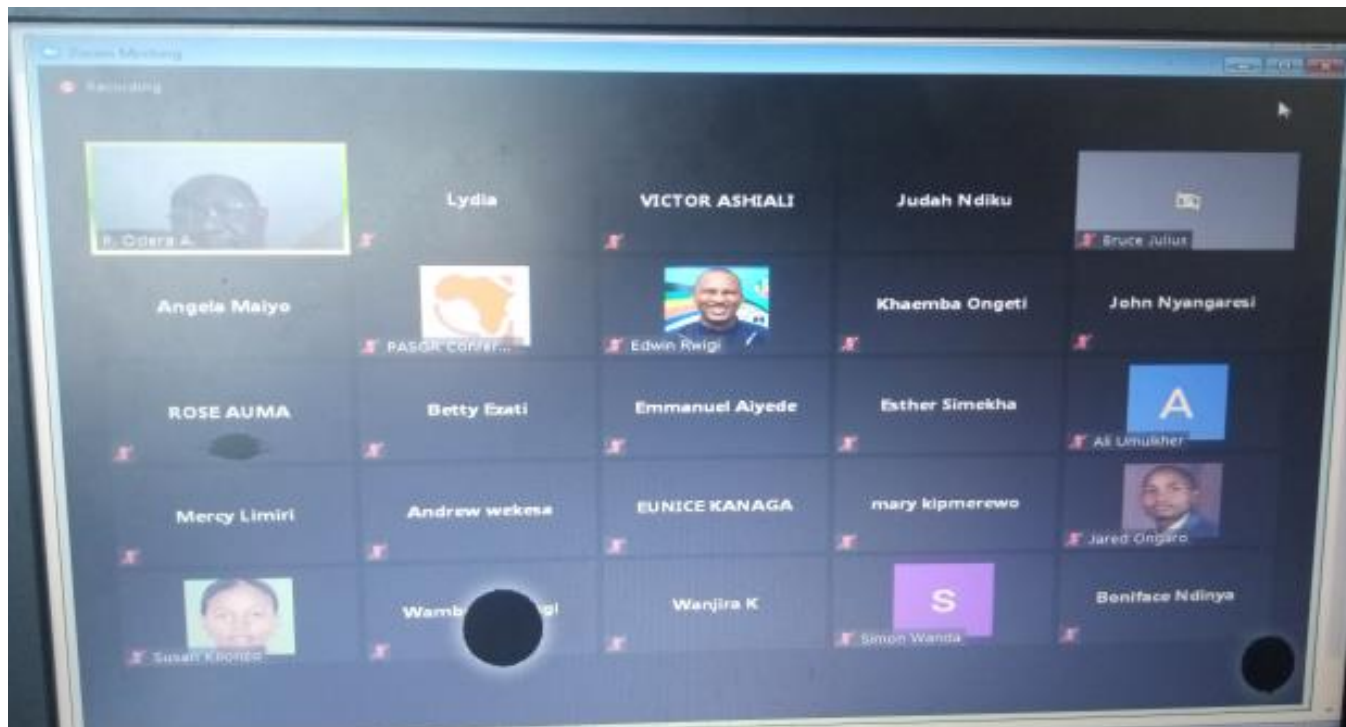


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MMUST PARTNERS WITH PASGR THROUGH PEDAL ONLINE TRAINING TO BOOST PEDAGOGICAL OUTCOMES



A section of participants logged in during the Pedal Online Training

By Linet Owuor; lowuor@mmust.ac.ke

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology through the Directorate of Curriculum Review and Development headed by Dr. Judah Ndiku, has partnered with PASGR to boost the pedagogical outcomes of staff in the institution. The timely partnership is foreseen to equip varied staff with key concepts and theories that will transform their instructional approaches for better learning outcomes. The pedagogical training dubbed ‘Pedal’ is key to improving teaching and learning as the Education sector continues to grapple with effects of the Covid 19 pandemic.

The training was graced by the Acting Vice Chancellor Prof. Solomon Shibairo who commended the Partnership for Africa and Governance Research (PASGR) for the sponsorship. Prof. Shibairo stated that the theme of the training is appropriate as the education sector is going through a transformation with the introduction of Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) curriculum. “This also comes at a time when MMUST has been registered as a TVET Institute to offer CBET learning towards skills development. The challenges of face-to-face learning brought about by COVID-19 have pushed us to think innovatively. We highly appreciate PASGR for taking the lead to build capacity in online learning,” said Prof. Shibairo.

“Looking at the three modules to be covered in the three weeks, the whole spectrum of Teaching and Learning is addressed. This will enable the participants to improve their skills in preparing for teaching and facilitation of the learning processes and assessment of learners at MMUST. I urge the participants to utilize this opportunity and bring out the best for this institution,”

Ag.Vice Chancellor

Prof. Solomon Shibairo.

The Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academics and Students Affairs Prof. Peter Odera, applauded Dr. Ndiku for the timeliness of the training that will enhance delivery approach to pedagogy. He further noted that MMUST is among the few universities in Kenya that have not shifted academic semesters and teaching of students since the pandemic paralyzed learning in the country. “We developed hybrid learning to suit the changing times. Pedal exposure will now ensure that we shape our students with the right competencies to increase their productivity in online learning,” reiterated Prof. Odera. His sentiments were echoed by the Acting Registrar, Academics Prof. Thomas Sakwa, who expressed his appreciation to the organizers of the informative session.

Speaking during the virtual event, the Acting Executive Director Pedal Team Leader, Dr. Beatrice Muganda congratulated MMUST for taking up the challenge to join Pedal. “Since MMUST is a University of Science and Technology, it is important to implement blended learning approaches to increase the pedagogical outcomes,” stated Dr. Muganda.

The pedal online training is embedded on fundamental concepts that immerses participants in the practical application of variety of toolsets, digital resources, and strategies for course planning, design and innovative assessment. The Pedal Online sequence covers Pre-training, Course design, Facilitation, Innovative Assessment and Post training. These were highlighted by Prof. Wanjira Kinuthia, University of Maryland Global Campus.

Sharing her Pedal experience during the training, Dr. Rose Opiyo, a lecturer at MMUST attested to the divergent learning designs enabled by Pedal. “Pedal allows flexibility, discussions and has wonderful tutors and mentors. Let us embrace Pedal,” urged Dr. Opiyo.

Experts drawn from different fields and institutions presented goodwill messages to MMUST to confirm the exemplary benefits that comes with Pedal. “Online teaching is no longer an option, reschedule your programs to match the current online teaching techniques to heighten capacity building in your institution,” emphasized Prof. Betty Ezati, Dean School of Education at Makerere University. Prof. Jonathan Babalola from Ibadan University in Nigeria also assured MMUST of good tidings by the end of the three-week Pedal training.

Ag. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo gives his keynote speech during the Leadership Sensitization on Grants Management Workshop at the Kakamega Sports Club.

RESEARCH DIRECTORATE INTENSIFIES DIALOGUE ON STRENGTHENING MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH AND SET UP OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT OFFICE

By Awuor Sandra Dorcas (sdorcas@mmust.ac.ke)

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST), through the Directorate of Research and Postgraduate Support, has sensitized the University management and other staff members on Research Grants Management through a hybrid 3- day workshop that began on Monday June 7, 2021 at the Kakamega Sports Club.

Headed by Prof. Peter Bukhala, the Directorate of Research and Postgraduate Support envisions that the sensitization Workshop will lead to the setting up of a Grants Management and Administration Office at MMUST which will seamlessly enable researchers at the institution gain access to grants and technical support.

The Ag. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo, who was the keynote speaker, emphasized that the institution needs such an Office because it is a requirement by some donors. Prof. Shibairo said that the University Strategic Plan- 2019/20-2022/23- clearly stipulates research as the core to the development of any University apart from its other mandate of teaching, research and community outreach. He said that inasmuch funding for research in Africa and Kenya has been low due to competing needs for the little money, MMUST researchers can come up with big proposals in order to attract more external funding.

“We have to strategize out of the box to get specific people to come up with good proposals. We also need to attract international faculty who can come up with different ideas on research,” said Prof. Shibairo.

He added that researchers can also attract more external funding through training for research management, collaborative and multi-disciplinary research, development of a consultancy firm to bid for funding from local and international organizations, support by the Research Directorate in applying for external grants and sharing of new ventures.

While Speaking on Understanding Grant Writing and the Application Process, Prof. Chris Shisanya from the Department of Geography at Kenyatta University emphasized on the preliminaries of Grant Writing urging researchers to read grant proposals carefully, take note of areas of research priority in the grant call, check on the website for further information including previous projects, highlight and make checklists of all requirements and take note of deadlines. According to the Professor of Geography, all these things can be done through teamwork.

“Select a team of serious academicians who are going to add value to the course of looking for funding,” said Prof. Shisanya.

He encouraged researchers to take rejections positively and contact donors in case they are not sure of what is expected of them.

Prof. Shisanya also presented on Management of Collaborative Research Grants and Post-Award Grants Administration adding that collaborative research leads to access of third-stream funding, opportunities for academic networking and publications. He explained that funds under collaborative grants are managed by Lead Institution, Partner Institutions, Research Management Officer in Partner Institution, accounting of funds to lead institutions and partner institutions. He emphasized on the need to uphold academic honesty while conducting research and establishment of homegrown, high quality journals to accommodate more publications.



Prof. Shisanya giving his presentation on Grants Writing and the Application Process

The Director, Institute of Indigenous Knowledge and Cultural Studies (IIKCS) at MMUST, Prof. John Shiundu, added that these homegrown journals must reflect a high level of intellect and internationalization. Prof. Shiundu reiterated the need for multi-disciplinary research in order to attract more external grants.

The Finance Department at MMUST has created a section specifically to deal with research grants receipts and disbursement. This was confirmed by the University’s Finance Officer, CPA Jared Rading’ as he shed light on the organizational structure for Grants Management. He explained that the Grants Accountant keeps track of all receipts and payments for individual grants. When approved requests from a Grants owner is presented to the Finance Officer for payment, the Grants Accountant confirms availability of funds and processes Imprests then funds are disbursed.

He said that researchers should also consider the legal contract before accepting the Grant.

“You can earn money from your period from your project if you negotiate in advance with your donor,” he said.

Dr. Ben Oseno, from the Department of Accounting and Finance spoke at length about Performance Management in Research Projects laying emphasis on the vitality of performance management in evaluating success of any research project. Dr. Oseno said flexibility, adaptability, reliability of information and output quality is very important when conducting research.

“No matter how good the report is, if the finances are not good, the funders will cut the funding,” CPA Stella Kabuga said. She added that good practice is to estimate costs.

CPA Kivale Patrick, while also addressing the financial and other associated risks in sponsored projects, said that it is important to align policies in order to fit donor requirements. He said that financial risk management in research projects is important for facilitation of third-party research activities, keeping accurate Grants reports, auditing and smooth project close out.

The Director, Research and Postgraduate Support, Prof. Peter Bukhala, while giving his closing remarks, said that there were many takeaways from the training such as the need to strengthen local journals and form multidisciplinary teams. He thanked the University management for buying into the idea of fully setting up a Grants Management and Administration Office at the University.

The workshop ended on Wednesday 9 June 2021.



Workshop participants pose for a photo at Kakamega Sports Club



MMUST FINALLY REGISTERED AS A TVET INSTITUTE; SET TO ALSO ENROL NYS-SPONSORED STUDENTS

By Nashilluh Brendah Kabindio [bnashilluh@mmust.ac.ke]

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) has been issued with a Registration Certificate from the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA) certifying it as a Technical and Vocational College in accordance with the TVETA Act 2021 Section 20 (1). The University has been registered to operate under the name Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology TVET Institute.

With this recognition, MMUST is now licensed to offer the following Diploma courses:

- General Agriculture
- Horticulture
- Building Construction
- Civil Engineering
- Disaster Management
- Security and Intelligence
- Fitness Instruction and Recreation Management
- Sports Coaching (Craft)

MMUST is expected to enroll its first set of four hundred and eighty (480) students with a maximum of sixty (60) students per course in the forthcoming September intake.

While receiving the Registration Certificate and Training License on Wednesday, 2nd June 2021, the Ag. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo, lauded the Directorate of TVET, under the leadership of Dr. Samuel Waweru, for the great achievement.

“With this recognition, we can now admit students and receive capitation from the Ministry of Education. We believe that these students can transition from the Diploma level and attain a PhD in these courses,” he said.

The Director, TVET, Dr. Samuel Waweru, said that the recognition is in harmony with the University's Vision and Mission since MMUST is a science and technology institution.

As a fully recognized TVET Institute, MMUST will offer Competence-Based Education and Training (CBET) programmes that lean towards skills development.

“This is a milestone since MMUST has the capacity to develop more programmes under the CBET curriculum. We aim to position ourselves, both regionally and nationally, as a centre of excellence in TVET training,” he said.

According to Dr. Waweru, the Directorate looks forward to establishing the Institute as a major training centre in Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) where *JuaKali* artisans can be enrolled for short courses and be certified.

This comes at a time when President Uhuru Kenyatta, during the *Madaraka* Day celebrations held, on 1st June, 2021 in Kisumu, directed the Ministry of Education to, within a month, issue a policy framework that will comprehensively recognize individuals in the *JuaKali* sector. Under the new framework, the Kenya National Qualifications Authority will be required to award such individuals with certificates based on their competence level.



The Ag. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo, handing over the Registration Certificate to the Ag. Deputy Vice Chancellor (Planning, Research and Innovation) Prof. JSK Achoka, for implementation.

The Directorate has submitted eight (8) more programmes for licensing by TVETA. The registration of MMUST as a TVET institution will be reviewed after five years. With this registration, MMUST is now a public university and a TVET institution.

MMUST STAFF UNDERGO THREE-DAY TRAINING ON SKILLS, WORK-RELATED ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE CHANGE



A section of MMUST staff during the training.

By Wangari Wambugu [mwangari@mmust.ac.ke]

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology's staff from Central Services, Estates, Catering, Production and Hostel Departments underwent a three-day training on 'Skills, Work-Related Environment and Culture Change' that ran from Wednesday, 2nd June, 2021 to Friday, 4th June, 2021.

"This exercise is the Acting Vice Chancellor's brain child and the aim is to ensure regular trainings to all MMUST staff in order to provide them with new skills and knowledge as well as to improve on what they already know," said Mr. Mulama Shigogodi, who was representing the University management at the event.

Speaking during the opening of the event, Mr. Gregory Muluta, from the Office of the Registrar (Administration), said that the Performance Contract requires the Administration to conduct regular trainings to staff for continuous improvement.

The Dean, School of Business and Economics, Dr. Robert Egezza, was the first trainer, his topic being 'Organizational Culture'.

"How are you supposed to behave as a member of staff in MMUST? What do outsiders expect of you?" he asked. "MMUST is an institution of higher learning and people expect you to behave differently. You are expected to carry yourself in a certain manner," he stated, adding that staff need to build a culture of teamwork, respect, work ethics, equity and collegiality.



Dr. Robert Egessa.

In another topic titled ‘Planning and Organizing Skills’, Dr. Egessa urged the staff to set goals, establish priorities, identify critical tasks to be performed, observe time, assign responsibilities, work in teams, and develop communication skills. “Decide what needs to be done, when you are to do it, who will do it and how you are going to do it,” he said.

The Director, Corporate Communications and Marketing, Dr. Lydia Anyonje, trained the staff on ‘Communication Skills and Protocol Etiquette’. As she stated, how one communicates shows the kind of person that they are.

“The way you speak can either open or close doors for you. Always look at who you are communicating with and remember to behave properly because behavior is a form of communication.” Dr. Anyonje urged the staff to cultivate a good corporate culture and to focus on official channels of communication in the University instead of rumors. She also trained the staff on how to conduct themselves with authority.

“As MMUST staff, you have the responsibility to protect the image and name of this University,” said the Acting Public Relations Officer, Ms. Brendah Kabindio who took them through ‘Public Relations Skills’.

“What are people saying about MMUST? We want people to think about MMUST in a very positive manner. It is in our interest to build a positive culture of this University. Let us also embrace teamwork so that when something happens, we react to it as MMUST community,” she said.

Mr. Silas Magonya, a Senior Assistant Registrar in Administration, trained the staff on ‘Career Progression, Training and Placement’. He took them through the MMUST Scheme of Service where he educated them on the requirements for each job grade.

“The Scheme of Service career guideline is very straight forward. You have to interact with it so that you can plan yourself,” he stated. He encouraged staff to go for further education in order to meet the requirements of a higher grade. “There is a training policy for procedures to follow if you want to study. It is advisable to study in your line of specialization,” he said, adding that staff should first seek for permission from their supervisors before beginning any studies.

According to Dr. Kenneth Otieno from the Department of Educational Psychology, MMUST, people that go to work on time, are self-driven and do their work well, are the ones that keep the organization moving. Dr. Otieno’s topic was ‘Time Management and Critical Thinking Skills’.

“The truth about time management is that it increases productivity, reduces stress, improves self-esteem, helps achieve balance in life, increases self-confidence and helps you reach your goals. Some people must be supervised for them to work. You have to respect your job and enjoy working for MMUST,” he said. He advised staff to think first before doing anything at all times. “Critical thinking helps us to understand people and adapt to the environment around us.”

‘Customer Care Skills’ was another topic that Dr. Lydia Anyonje handled. As she said, customer satisfaction is related to the growth of an organization and that all clients are important. “Why is the customer an important asset? The customer is the reason why the business exists. He or she reflects the positioning of the organization in the market place,” she said. “Customers want three (3) things: to be informed, to be engaged and to be empowered. Customer service is about relationships.”

The Director, Open and Distance e-Learning (ODEL), Dr. Gordon Nguka, talked about ‘Occupational Health and Safety’, where he educated staff on the importance of workplace safety. Dr. Nguka said that every worker should be protected at the workplace by wearing protective gear such as gumboots, gloves, goggles and overalls.

“Occupational health and safety demands that you should not go home with clothes you work with to avoid transfer of germs. It is our responsibility to take care of ourselves. Take charge of your health. If you feel sick, say you’re not feeling well and go to your nearest health facility,” he said. Further, he emphasized on the need for the staff in question to be vaccinated and trained on handling equipment especially in chemical labs.

Ms. Rose Anene, an Office Administrator at the University, took the staff through ‘Records Management Skills’. She explained the importance of proper record keeping saying that it is an evidence of a well governed organization. “As MMUST staff, you should be aware of the Records Management Policy. It is important that you understand the cycle of documents right from creation to disposal,”

she said. Ms. Anene advised staff to observe confidentiality while dealing with documents and to always deliver records on time and to the place that they are supposed to be.

“What makes us satisfied at our workplace and what should be done to ensure so?” asked Mr. Ezekiel Makori from the Department of Business Administration. According to Mr. Makori, ‘Job Satisfaction’ is a person’s feeling of fulfilment or enjoyment derived from their work. “For there to be job satisfaction, the relationship between the employer and the employee should be good.” He also spoke on the intrinsic and extrinsic factors that determine one’s job satisfaction.

Dr. Kenneth Otieno also trained staff on how to handle stress at work. “Everybody



Dr. Lydia Anyonje speaking during the training

experiences stress. Good things and bad things can give you stress,” he said. There are four (4) levels of stress: hypo stress (lowest), eustress (good stress that has benefits), distress (bad stress that interferes with thinking) and hyper stress (worst level and can end up in depression or death). Failure to meet targets at work, negative expectations, excessive work load, colleagues and finances are some of the causes of stress at work. The signs of stress include rudeness, dry lips, protruding veins especially on the forehead, quick loss of temper, increase or decrease in weight, loss of memory, illogical behavior, withdrawing from other people, frequent and temporary impotence for men, fatigue and lack of sleep.

“How do you manage stress? Don’t go for medicine first. The first thing you need to do is to accept that you are stressed. Share your problem (s) with a friend or with somebody you trust. Develop the power of positive thinking, change your environment from time to time and always drink enough water,” advised Dr. Otieno.

The climax of the event was a training on ‘Counselling Skills’ by Dr. Noel Malanda from the Student Affairs Department, “Counselling is about uplifting people that feel low. As MMUST staff, you can help your colleagues or students going through challenges,” she said, before proceeding to teach them on the basic counselling skills. As she stated, the skills are: attending (the ability to listen), reflecting and paraphrasing, questioning, focusing, building rapport, summarizing and immediacy. The qualities of a good counsellor include: patience, active listening, observant, warm, knowledgeable, empathetic and confidential.

It is worth noting that the staff were taken through ‘Computational Skills’ by Dr. Daniel Otanga, the Dean, School of Computing and Informatics, where they got a chance to interact with computers.



Mr. Gregory Muluta and Ms. Brendah Kabindio giving their presentations during the staff training



Prof. Asenath Sigot taking the farmers through mushroom farming

TOWARDS FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION; PROFESSOR OF NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES ENCOURAGES MUSHROOM FARMERS

By Djibril Juma (gabrieljuma631@gmail.com)

On Friday, 04, 2021, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology Mushroom Group (MMUSTMUG), led by Prof. Asenath Sigot, a Professor of Nutritional Sciences, held a Field Day for Edible Mushroom Farmers in Indangalasia, Lurambi Sub-County to sensitize farmers on the importance and utilization of oyster mushroom. Conducted under the Project Title 'Utilization of Oyster Mushroom, Value Addition and New Product Development for Improved Nutrition and Food Security in Western Kenya' the event sought to encourage positive interaction among researchers, farmers and policy makers.

With the Theme 'Mushroom Cultivation for Food Security in Western Kenya', the objectives of the event were also to share knowledge on appropriate technologies and environment for mushroom cultivation, encourage production of value added mushroom products, share ideas in the development of marketing chains for supply of fresh mushrooms and encourage mushroom farmers to cultivate more mushrooms and ensure that their family meals include mushrooms.



Farmers listen in as Prof. Sigot talks about challenges facing mushroom farmers.

Presentations during the event included: mushroom appropriate technologies for spawn production and suitable substrates, challenges facing mushroom farmers, mushroom value addition and new products and mushroom porridge acceptability assessments.

While demonstrating mushroom planting, Prof. Sigot taught farmers about the different means through which cultivation of the plant could be achieved. Despite the challenges, farmers were still optimistic on the planting and finding a wider market of the crop and its products.

“I started loving mushroom in 2001. I am glad that people have embraced mushroom farming. It has been easy to convince people on the importance of the planting of mushroom as any other food crop. However, mushroom is among the most advantageous food crops that takes a small portion of land, but serves the body with a lot of proteins,” said Prof. Sigot.

Mr. Silingi, an expert in mushroom planting, demonstrated on how to plant mushroom. He also encouraged farmers to practice the right methods of mushroom farming for better yields.

“The reason as to why we have very low production of mushroom is because farmers do not practice the right methods. Some use sugarcane bagasse thinking that it produces the best substrate for mushroom nutrients. Instead, I recommend the use of maize as a substrate which makes the oyster mushroom produce more proteins,” he said.



MMUST'S TWO JOURNALISM STUDENTS MAKE BREAKTHROUGH IN PODCASTING

By Awuor Sandra Dorcas [sdorcas@mmust.ac.ke]

Equipped with nothing but their smartphones and a vision to tell contemporary stories to a broader audience, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology's two Journalism and Mass Communication students have exhibited tremendous expertise in podcasting and blogging after their podcast was ranked position eighty-seven (87) out of top hundred (100) in Kenya by iTunes.

Jairus Korir and Victor Mukoshi, both 4th year students pursuing Journalism and Mass Communication, started their podcast dubbed the 'Mjango Series' in March 2021, fully embracing the new wave of new technology in the media industry today. Mjango is a sheng word derived from the Swahili word 'Mjamaa' loosely translated to 'You guy'.

Victor Mukoshi, the wits behind 'Mjango Series', and a multi-talented content creator, acknowledged the pressure that comes with producing accurate and impartial online content, in a world run by trends and likes at the expense of ethics and professionalism.

"Content creation is a process. You don't get value instantly," said the prolific blogger and aspiring media mogul.

The students attested to the fact that the University radio station, MMUST 103.9 FM, has been one of their training grounds. They lauded their lecturers for giving them a firm foundation and the invaluable skills which are requisite for success in the field of journalism

“We had the potential but our lecturers indeed squeezed it out of us,” asserted Mukoshi.

Jairus Korir, an avid writer who has published over five (5) articles with the Standard Newspaper, mostly on Politics and the Kenyan Education System, urged his fellow students to take advantage of the available resources and platforms to make value out of their talent. He narrated how he began to read news for the University’s radio station while in his 3rd year.

“It is not about where you are. The real effort lies in you, not the institution,” he advised his fellow students.

The two like-minded and visionary students set out on their content creation journey fully aware that it is not without its challenges. However, they have risen beyond the barriers of inadequate resources and difficulty finding the reliable people to work with, to ensure they continue to tell relatable stories while nurturing their creativity and professionalism as journalists.

“Desire to do something for yourself. Use your talent to add value to yourself and bless others as well. Before you get a job, it's good to build your own portfolio before anyone else can identify and establish you,” said Mukoshi, confirming that most students are not utilizing their talents as they should.

Their podcast is available on Google, iTunes, Spotify and YouTube.



The *Mjango Series* Podcast
<https://open.spotify.com/episode/7kHlajbGfgG5VhiTdMWt2q>

MASTERY OF COMMUNICATION SKILLS THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE IN EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION; SCHOOL CAMP PARTICIPANTS ADVISED

By Jairus Liankor [liankorjairus@gmail.com]

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology School Camp training just entered its second week of training. The training program aims at equipping the attendees with knowledge, skills and values for life as well as providing them with opportunities to share experiences while they interact with role models among senior staff from their various fields of expertise.



Attendees of the School Camp at 103.9 MMUST FM Radio Station together with the day's speaker, Dr. Lydia Anyonje (second from right) during the tour of the University. Ms. Lillian Mukoche (with striped blouse) is seen taking them through the operations of the station.

The participants include high school leavers who are looking forward to joining various universities for higher learning and those waiting to join secondary schools.

The training's thematic areas include Career Choices, Communication Skills, Sex Education, Drug Abuse, good study habits, good citizenship, health matters and talent development. The participants are, therefore, at a greater advantage of being equipped with life skills at the end of the training period.

The participants enjoy other activities within the University's vicinity including orientation to the University, blood pressure checking, eye checking, breast cancer screening, fitness testing, nutritional assessments, soap making and public speaking all of which are important in everyday life.

During one of the events graced by Dr. Lydia Anyonje, the Director, Corporate Communications and Marketing, she reminded the participants on the undisputable importance of communication in every aspect of life regardless of the career choice or field of work. She meticulously described to them how important it is to be equipped with communication skills.

Dr. Anyonje discouraged the attendees from thinking that good communication is only meant for journalism students and teachers of English; a mentality that has been sung by many several times. Instead, she stressed on the fact that every student and person needs to master good communication skills as it is the backbone of success in all aspects of life. She went ahead to explain to them on how they can acquire good communication skills and put them into practice. Dr. Anyonje pointed out the power that a genuine smile can have when put on where necessary, noting that a smile is the biggest weapon of communication.

Among other skills, she stated that speaking, writing, listening and reading are the most effective and efficient skills of communication which everyone should nurture. However, she pointed out that the environment of an individual, which includes the schools attended and a person's personality, can have a significant impact on the whole concept of efficient and effective communication.


Later in the afternoon, the attendees were taken to the University's Radio Station, 103.9 MMUST FM, where they were able to learn about the activities that goes on in the studio, including watching a live presenter on air. One of the participants, Maxine, was particularly happy to feel what it means to be live on air.




An attendee, Maxine, tries her hand in broadcasting

The participants wound up their Camp tour at the University’s Customer Care and Call Centre where the Marketing Officer, Mr. James Muriithi, enlightened them on matters to do with guidance in terms of course selection and other general services at the University. They were eventually given booklets containing the latest academic programmes offered at the University from the Certificate to PhD as well as Diploma and Certificate programmes accredited by TVETA.

The Life Skills for Youth Empowerment School Camp event has been organized by Mr. Issa Kweyu from the Department of Health Promotion and Sports Science. It started on 3rd June 2021 and will run upto 25th June 2021 at the Skills Lab in MMUST. Staff are encouraged to take part in the event which aims at equipping attendees with necessary life skills and values.



MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY




SCHOOL CAMP

3rd - 25th JUNE 2021


LIFE SKILLS FOR YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Purpose
Equip attendees with knowledge, skills and values for life. Provide them with opportunity to share experiences as they interact with role models among senior staff from the university of choice in various fields of expertise



Life skill areas
Self identity
Leadership
Group dynamics
Stress coping mechanisms
Problem Solving skills
Decision making skills
Perception and Attitude change)

PARTICIPANTS
Class eight (waiting to join form one and Immediate school leavers (waiting to join various Universities and Colleges



Other Activities
1) Orientation in the university
2) Career choices
3) Blood pressure checking
4) Eye checking
5) Breast cancer screening
6) Fitness testing
7) Nutritional assessments
8) Soap making
9) Visitations
10) Choosing role models
11) Public speaking


Thematic Areas

- ◆ Careers choices
- ◆ Communication skills
- ◆ Sex education
- ◆ Drug abuse
- ◆ Good study habits
- ◆ Good citizenship
- ◆ Health matters
- ◆ Talent development



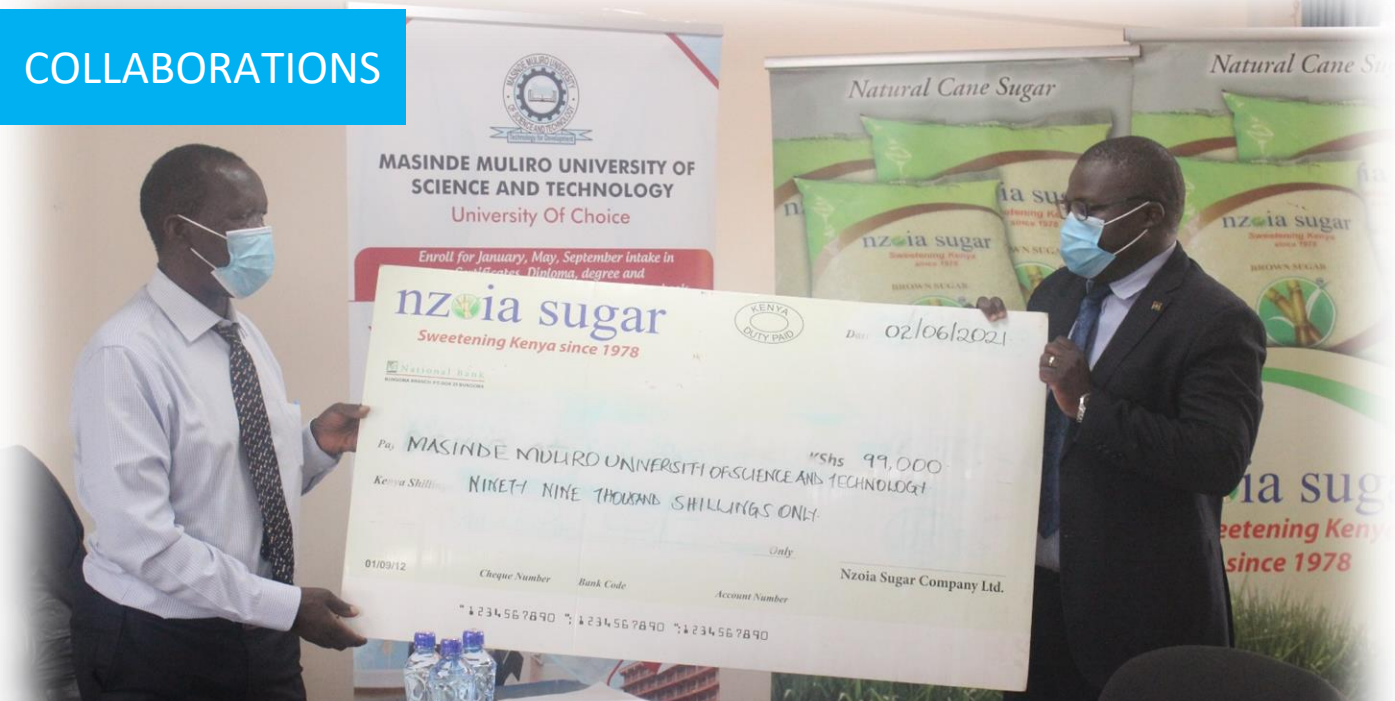
Requirements

- ◆ Participants will be day scholars
- ◆ Mode of dress sports attire.
- ◆ Every participant shall carry a pen
- ◆ Tea and snack will be offered
- ◆



Duration — 4 modules (4weeks)
Charges : - 1250/= Per module
Venue : MMUST– Skills Lab

REGISTER NOW AT OUTREACH OFFICE
For more information contact :E-mail: ikweyu
@mmust.ac.ke: Telephone : 0 723951933/0715081967



ACTING VICE CHANCELLOR PROF. SOLOMON SHIBAIRO RECEIVES CHEQUE DONATION FROM NZOIA SUGAR COMPANY

By Linet Owuor; lowuor@mmust.ac.ke

The Ag. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo, on 2nd June 2021 received a cheque donation worth Kshs 99,000/- (Ninety Nine thousand Kenya shillings) from Nzoia Sugar Company. Presented by the Managing Director, CPA Wanjala Makokha, this contribution was in support of the 14th Multidisciplinary International Virtual Conference that took place on 19th -21st May, 2021.

The donation is courtesy of the partnership between Nzoia Sugar Company and MMUST. The two institutions have collaborated in terms of capacity building, research, industrial attachments and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

The partnership with the sugar company was spearheaded by the Chairperson of the Department, Accounting and Finance, Dr. Ondiek Alala who led the Resource Mobilization Committee of the Conference.

The School of Business and Economics, headed by the Dean, Dr. Robert Egezza, prides itself in producing industrious personnel in the top management of renowned companies such as Nzoia Sugar Company among others.

LEADERSHIP SENSITIZATION ON RESEARCH GRANTS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP





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