



MMUST NEWS

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Post

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MMUST picks the Best for the National Capital Markets University Challenge



Inside: **Story**

UPCOMING
EVENTS



- Career Week 27th-29th March 2019
- National Youth Summit- 18th March 2019



Editor's Pen



Dear MMUST Community,
We are glad to note that staff and students continue to assert themselves in their different areas of expertise, thereby, putting the name of the University on the global map.

In this issue, we celebrate our students from the School of Business and Economics for reaching Stage Three of the Capital Markets Authority University Challenge. We wish them the best in the two remaining stages to the top.

We wish you a blessed week.

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“Tap Indigenous Knowledge and Safeguard it”, Prof. Ganesh.

By Wangari Mary Wambugu

The University, through the Directorate of International Relations and Academic Linkages held a virtual meeting with Prof. Ganesh Koramannil of the Charles Darwin University (CDU), Australia on Tuesday, 5th March 2019. This virtual meeting was a follow up by Prof. Ganesh after he made a successful visit to the University from 18th to 22nd February 2019. In his first visit, Prof. Ganesh interacted with MMUST staff, students and the community and made a number of presentations. One of the areas that he emphasized on was on preservation of indigenous knowledge especially in universities. He gave an example of CDU which respects the knowledge and culture of the aboriginal people in the Northern Territory of Australia where the institution is located.

“One of the six Colleges in CDU is the College of Indigenous Futures, Arts and Society which seeks to promote people, communities and cultures,” he explained.

A total of fifteen (15) members expressed interest to collaborate with CDU on the preservation of indigenous knowledge. During the meeting, each participant described his or her area of interest in the proposed collaboration, followed by a discussion on what to be done, moving forward.

Continues on Pg. 4 >>>

According to Prof. Ganesh, one of the key strengths that CDU has, in terms of indigenous knowledge preservation, and which MMUST can tap into and benefit from, is the fact that the University has three research institutes which focus on conserving native knowledge. These institutes are; **Menzies School of Health Research**-dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of Indigenous Australians, **Research Institute for Environment and Livelihoods (RIEL)** - it's unique research approach and deep connection with Indigenous communities, governments, businesses and international research centres, has improved the livelihoods of people in tropical savannas, and the **Northern Institute (NI)** - works with Indigenous peoples and their organizations on research, which helps them to articulate and promote their aspirations and concerns for their families, communities, cultures and lands to the wider world.

Some of the immediate points of action agreed upon during the virtual meeting were; each MMUST staff who showed interest in the collaboration to write a brief

summary of their areas of interest and specialization to enable the CDU participants to map and match them with the relevant counterparts in their institution, MMUST staff to visit CDU in the near future to have real time experience in their areas of interest and specialization, MMUST students to visit CDU in future on exchange programmes and the two institutions to engage in collaborative research and co-supervision of post graduate students.

A similar meeting was held on Wednesday, 7th March, 2019, between staff from the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedical Sciences (SONMAPS), MMUST, and staff from the College of Nursing and Midwifery, CDU. In their discussions, it was agreed, among other things, that MMUST explores the possibility of collaborating in various areas such as; starting twin programmes where, for instance, students can be admitted at MMUST and study for one year, then proceed to CDU for three years, establishment of continuous professional training programmes and staff and student exchanges.



University Hold Talks over Security of Non-Resident students

By Sandra Dorcas Awuor

MMMUST Student leaders and the University Security Officer, Mr. Julius Mabilia, had a meeting with Kakamega Officer Commanding Police Station (OCS) Mr. Mohammed Godana and K9 Deputy In charge, Mr. Evans Kipsang, on Tuesday, 5th March 2019 at the University's Security Office. This meeting was organized following recent incidences of non-residence students being attacked and robbed, while some killed. The student leaders, together with few other students, presented some of the security concerns faced by the students and possible measures to curb them.

MMUSO President, Clifton Kisera, said that most times students feel like cases are not taken seriously when reported to the Police. He recommended that culprits be arrested and students informed of the progress through the University's Security Officer. The Vice President (MMUSO), Esther Nyaboke, added that key security personnel within the University and outside, the community, students and student leaders, should work together and come up with best ways of solving insecurity issues.

Other issues that came up during the interactive discussion included harassment of students by *bodaboda* riders and police officers, delayed response to security threats by Police Officers, conflict between students and the community, lack of police patrol in hotspots such as *Tea Zone*, *Lurambi*, *Sichirai*, *Kefinco*, *Koromatangi* and collection of bribes by Police Officers on patrol, especially on Fridays and Saturdays.

Continues on Pg. 6 >>>

The Security Officer, Mr. Mabia, said that terrorism and counter terrorism training would be organized to create awareness for students. He further explained that the initiation of a community policing would solve the insecurity issues involving comrades and the community, through community engagement.

The OCS, Mr. Godana, responded to the students' grievances, adding that it will take concerted efforts of students, University security personnel, and police officers to ensure that there is maximum security within the University and surrounding areas. He said that police patrol would be intensified and urged students to have fun responsibly, especially during the weekends.

"I would not want anybody to be hurt or property stolen. We promise to respond promptly to calls made by students and share feedback with the University's Security Officer," Mr. Godana assured the student leaders.

He added that they were planning to get a sit-down discussion with *bodaboda* riders to address the issue of attack and harassment of students. On the issue of police officers asking for bribes from students before assistance, he urged students not to give bribes. He further called out to students to raise alarm when there is a

security threat or suspicion of one.

K9 Deputy In charge, Mr. Kipsang, warned students against boarding motorbikes without number plates and whose riders they did not know, especially at night. He said that consumers of stolen items such as gas cookers, laptops, phones, are mostly students, therefore, students should request for receipts before buying.

The University Security Officer said that another meeting would be held to re-evaluate measures taken after the fruitful discussions. The meeting with the OCS came after Cobra Security Officers and key security personnel in the University went through rigorous security and counter-terrorism training from 20th to 23rd February 2019, by the Kenya National Counter Terrorism Centre (KNCTC) and regional police officers.

"I would not want anybody to be hurt or property stolen. We promise to respond promptly to calls made by students and share feedback with the University's Security Officer," Mr. Godana assured the student leaders.



MMUST IN STAGE THREE OF THE CMA UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE

By Wambugu Mary Wangari

The Capital Markets Authority (CMA), a regulatory body that supervises, issues licenses and monitors day-to-day activities of all market intermediaries, initiated the Capital Markets Authority University Challenge in 2018 aimed at providing knowledge to the youth on how to create wealth through capital markets by encouraging a culture of savings and investments. Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, through the School of Business and Economics (SOBE), registered to participate in this Challenge which involves thirty seven (37) public and private universities.

CMA visited the University on Monday, 4th March 2019 where the top ten participants from Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology made public presentations to their fellow students and judges from the Capital Markets Authority (CMA) and Chair of Departments (CODs) from the School of Business and Economics. This was Stage Three of the Challenge. The inter-university challenge comprises of five stages. Stage One, which was the elimination stage, started off with three hundred undergraduate students, from each university who were required to register online for an examination process. Only the top one hundred participants proceeded to Stage Two which was the Scavenger Hunt Stage. This stage also took place online and competitors were required to go through the CMA website and the Resource Centre Portal to locate specific information before answering questions. Out of the one hundred participants, only the top ten students with the highest scores from each university were selected to progress to Stage Three, and from there, only two proceeded to the next level.

MMUST's Stage Three winners were; Brian Ndege and Collins Wafula, both Fourth Year students of Agribusiness and Economics respectively. The two will proceed to Stage Four of the Challenge competing in the semi-finals with other universities. The participants will be invited to the Authority Conference Room, in Nairobi, to present and respond to structured questions in front of a panel of judges. The output of this stage is for the top 12 students overall to proceed to the Grand Finale, Stage Five. These students will be required to make a 20-minute presentation to an invited public and university students from all participating universities, CMA staff and stakeholders.

The top students in the Challenge will be awarded as follows; the grand winner will be given Kshs. 150,000 to buy a portfolio of shares listed at the

Nairobi Securities Exchange, a chance to visit the Securities Exchange Commissions and the Securities Exchange in a robust African country for three days and his or her university shall receive books and materials and capital markets literature worth Kshs. 75,000. The first runners up will be awarded Kshs. 100,000 to buy a portfolio of shares listed at the Nairobi Securities Exchange whereas the second runners up will receive Kshs. 50,000 on the same. The two shall also have an opportunity to visit the Securities Exchange Commissions and the Securities Exchange in a robust African country for three days. Participants from position four to twelve will get Kshs. 5,000 each to buy a portfolio of shares listed at the Nairobi Securities Exchange and certificates of participation.

One of the Participants in the Challenge





Students Advised to Develop Soft Skills for Career Success

By Sandra Dorcas Awuor

The Directorate of Career Services, together with the School of Business and Economics (SOBE) organized an interactive mentorship session on Wednesday, 6th March 2019 to provide a platform for students to meet, interact and learn from professionals in the industry with hands-on experience. The theme of the session was 'Role of Soft Skills for Career Success in the Business Field.'

Mr. Gabriel Ochieng, Standard Chartered Bank, Kakamega Branch Manager, advised students that soft skills are crucial to any job seeker who wants to stand out from thousands of unemployed graduates seeking for the same job.

"If you want to separate yourself from the crowd, you have to be very aggressive," said Mr. Ochieng.

He added that building good Curriculum Vitae is the first step towards attracting an employer. However, soft skills such as positive attitude, good communication skills, time management, teamwork, working well under pressure and strong work ethics are also highly sought for by employers. He added that technology has revolutionized job seeking and application processes, therefore, students should be all rounded in order to stay relevant in the industry.

Mr. Andrew Andere and Mr. Maurice Rapada, Relationship Managers at Standard Chartered Bank (Kakamega Branch), both pointed out the scarcity of jobs in Kenya. Mr. Rapada encouraged students to start branding themselves by building their Curriculum Vitae, learning to communicate effectively, dressing the part, networking and making connections.

The Director in charge of Career Services, Dr. Teresa Okoth, said that there was need to organize another session to guide students on how to write good convincing CVs that will attract employers. According to the faculty members present, the session was a good learning experience for the students.

MMUST Directorate of Career Services liaises with organizations to ensure that students are adequately placed on attachment and internships, therefore, creating a link between the University and different industries. Such mentorship sessions equip students with skills to make it in the job market.

MMUST STUDENTS TO BE PANELISTS AT THE UPCOMING KIPPRA MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME FOR UNIVERSITIES



By Wambugu Mary Wangari

The Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), in collaboration with Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, is organizing the KIPPRA Mentorship Programme for Universities (KMPUs), which will take place on Monday, 18th March, 2019 at the Main Campus. This programme, which is designed to link public policy makers and the academia for the purposes of promoting national development, will bring together university students, lecturers, government institutions and the private sector.

In preparation for the main event, KIPPRA called upon MMUST students to submit concept papers on the four areas of the Big Four Agenda which are; food security and nutrition, manufacturing, affordable universal health care and affordable housing. Students were asked to address these questions;

- *What problems do you think the Big Four Agenda seeks to address?*
- *What do you think it will take to solve the problems Kenyans are facing and hence achieve the agenda?*
- *How can innovation play a role in solving these problems?*
- *What innovative ideas can be used to fast track the attainment of set targets under the Big Four Agenda?*
- *Where do you see yourself playing a role?*

About seventy eight (78) students submitted the papers and a meeting was organized between them and a team from KIPPRA, led by Dr. Nancy Nafula, through the Directorate of Career Services, MMUST, on Monday 11th March, 2019. This meeting was meant to prepare the participating students and to choose their representatives for a panel discussion during the main event. The participants were divided into five groups each assigned to discuss different components of the Big Four Agenda. Thereafter, a spokesperson from each team was asked to conduct a mock presentation, followed by a question and answer session.

During the forum, students were advised on how to make their presentations successful. Some of the things were; to ensure that anything they say is validated, that is, proper referencing, to ensure that the source of their statistics is credible, to be keen on instructions to avoid good ideas being put away, among others.



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