



VC'S NEWS ROUND-UP

FORGING CONNECTIONS, CHAMPIONING RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The Fresher's Edition

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DIRECTORATE OF CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING
(DCCM)



EDITORIAL TEAM



DR. LYDIA ANYONJE

DIRECTOR, CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS
AND MARKETING (DCCM)
(EDITOR)



MR. SHIUNDU MASAFU
Photography/Design and
Layout/News Writer



MS. LINET OWUOR
News Writer

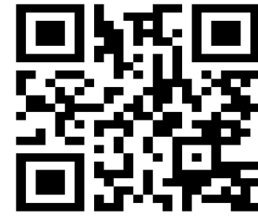


MS. CAREN NEKESA
News Writer



MS. WANGARI WAMBUGU
News Writer

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MMUST PROGRAMMES

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR



Dear Mmustians!

Welcome to the fourth edition of the 'VC's News Round -Up', put together by the Directorate of Corporate Communications and Marketing with support from the Office of the Vice Chancellor. This issue dubbed 'Freshers edition' brings to you a splash of the highly digitalized and successful first year students' admission as MMUST officially opens its doors to the newest cohort of first-year students. The 2024 admission, which commenced today 29th

August 2024, has drawn thousands of enthusiastic students from all corners of the country, eager to study at the University of Choice-MMUST!

We invite you to read our story of internationalization involving 3 students from the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedical Sciences who have been selected for an exchange program. The European Commission under the Global Mobility Programme KA171) has provided this training for the three, to study at Oulu University of Applied Sciences in Finland for 3 months.

MMUST's researchers have continued to shine on the national level. In this week's edition, we share the story of Dr. Humphrey Mabwi from the Department of Biological Sciences, who has won the best young researcher award at the just-concluded Kenya National Research Festival 2024.

It is our hope that the stories we have shared will top the list of your reading menu this week. Once again, I welcome our first year students to MMUST. Karibu sana!

We wish you a blessed week ahead!

PROF SOLOMON SHIBAIRO

VICE CHANCELLOR, MMUST

MMUST OFFICIALLY OPENS ITS DOORS TO ITS NEWEST COHORT OF FIRST YEAR STUDENTS!

By Dr. Lydia Anyonje and Caren Nekesa, photos by Shiundu Masafu



Customer care representatives providing assistance to new students during admission.

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) has officially opened its doors to its newest cohort of first-year students at the main campus in Kakamega. The 2024 admission, which commenced today 29th August 2024, has drawn thousands of enthusiastic students from all corners of the country, eager to embark on this new chapter of their lives. This year's admission process was simplified by MMUST's enhanced digital system, offering a smooth experience for both students and parents.



The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo engages with an ICT staff during the admission process at the School of Education.

In his remarks on this year's admission, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo expressed his enthusiasm about the new students joining the MMUST community. He emphasized the University's dedication to nurturing the academic and personal growth of each student, ensuring that they have the tools and support needed to excel.

"We are proud to uphold our commitment to accessible education by adhering to the

government's directive of admitting students without requiring full tuition fees upfront. We are allowing the students to report, and many of them have settled their household costs. Regarding those facing financial challenges, we are providing additional time. No student will be sent home due to financial constraints," stated Prof. Shibairo. He expressed optimism that any hitches encountered by the incoming first-year students will be sorted out.

The Registrar Academic Affairs, Prof. Judah Ndiku echoed these sentiments, applauding the positive turnout and the tremendous feedback the University has received from the students and parents on the admission process. "The University's enhanced digital system streamlined the entire process from application to enrollment. This not only reduced the time and paperwork traditionally associated with admissions, but also provided real-



A section of first-years make their grand entry into campus.

In an interview with the DCCM crew, the Dean School of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS), Dr. Rose Auma pointed out that the University has made significant progress regarding admission procedures and processes. “By the time the students arrive at the School, they have already uploaded all their documents and updated their profiles. So, we only assist them to report on our new system,” said Dr. Auma. On his part, Dr. Joseph Owino, the Dean School of Natural Sciences (SONAS), pointed out that the process started well and that even though at some point they encountered a technical hitch for a few minutes, it was quickly sorted out and by 2pm they had already admitted more than 50% of the expected students.



The Vice Chancellor connects with new students and their parents.

Notably, in the weeks leading up to the admission day, MMUST's DCCM team played a crucial role in reaching out to prospective students and guiding them through the initial phases of online admission. The team has been providing personalized consultations and utilizing social media platforms to address any questions raised by the students and parents. These efforts have ensured that first-year students meet very few challenges during the admission process at the University.

Speaking during the admission process, the University's Marketing Officer, Mr. James Muriithi, said that the University has been receiving and processing a large number of students through the Customer Care and Call Centre. “Today was the climax of the admission process. We are happy that so many students across the country chose to study at MMUST,” said Mr. Muriithi.

time updates to students, allowing them to digitally update their personal details with ease. This was possible because my team from the Office of the Registrar, worked very closely and seamlessly with the Directorate of ICT, and the Directorate of Corporate Communications and Marketing (DCCM),” noted Prof. Ndiku.

“This Collaborative agreement is well aligned to MMUST's strategic goal number one which is providing outstanding student learning experience which eventually leads to academic excellence,” said Prof Mutai





As MMUST's newest cohort of first-year students report to campus, they do so with the assurance that they are part of an institution that values their education, supports their aspirations and is committed to their success. With its continued growth, MMUST's emphasis on student-centred services and digital transformation solidifies its position as a dynamic leader in the education sector.

Welcome to MMUST, Class of 2024!



The European Commission's Global Mobility Program Gives a Boost to MMUST Students Through International Opportunities

By Linet Owuor and Shiundu Masafu



The Vice-Chancellor- Prof. Solomon Shibairo (seated at the center) together with the Coordinator of the project- Dr. Tecla Sum (standing far left), Milka Albert from Kennesaw State University, and the visiting students from Oulu University.

The European Commission under Global Mobility Programme KA171, has opened doors for International opportunities to MMUST students as the Commission has again picked 3 students from the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedical Sciences (SONMAPS) to Oulu University of Applied Sciences in Finland for 3 months. The three students include Benjamin Kilundo, Joy Valary Ouma, and James Mwilaria. The European Commission's Global Mobility program, KA171,

exchanges between higher education institutions and organizations outside Europe. It aims to enhance global mobility for students and staff, enrich their experiences, and foster international collaboration. Similarly, MMUST has received 4 students from Oulu University (Milla Simila, Ruut Niemi, and Silvia Laurila who are undertaking their studies at MMUST for 3 months. On 28th August, 2024, the team paid a courtesy call to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo who expressed delight in



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo addressing the visiting students.

the project saying it will certainly enrich educational experiences, and contribute to the global academic and cultural development of students. The four-year project is coordinated by Dr. Sum Psusma Tecla (MMUST) and Dr. Markus Karttunen (Oulu). Courtesy of the program, Dr. Damaris Ochanda is set to travel to Oulu University in mid-September for a staff exchange program. The Erasmus Plus program covers mobility in the areas of innovation and capacity building, Trauma and Emergency, Research, Nursing, and Paramedic Education. It encourages the sharing of good clinical practices from Africa and Europe as well as supporting the youth to participate in exchange programs and cultural awareness.

Commenting on the program, Dr. Sum stated that the ultimate goal of the project is to enhance education exports, reinforce educational and multicultural knowledge, and cultivate an excellent competitive edge for future opportunities for our staff and students. She further stated that Milka Albert from

Kennesaw State University, Atlanta Georgia, USA is also joining MMUST on a long-term study period.

fosters international collaboration and prepares students and staff for a globally interconnected world. "Kenya's focus in the national development process is anchored in quality education and health care improvement." We are excited that MMUST has embraced collaborations that lead to joint research projects, shared academic resources, and innovative educational practices, benefiting both institutions involved," said Dr. Sum.

The mobility project is relevant to the internationalization strategy of the higher education institutions involved in and outside Africa. Corporation also seeks to increase the quality of teaching, networking, competence development, promote cultural awareness, and develop a more positive attitude towards internationalization. Undoubtedly, this is an enriching program that

PICTORIAL





RESEARCH

MMUST'S DR. HUMPHREY MABWI SECURES BEST YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD AT THE KENYA NATIONAL RESEARCH FESTIVAL 2024!!



Dr. Humphrey A. Mabwi receives the young researcher award from the National Research Fund (NRF) Chairperson, Prof. Ratemo Michieka.

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology's Dr. Humphrey Mabwi of the Department of Biological Sciences, has won the best young researcher award at the just-concluded Kenya National Research Festival 2024. The Festival, which took place from 19th to 23rd August, 2024 at the Edge Convention Center, Nairobi, saw MMUST researchers showcase their innovations to a wide range of stakeholders, including academic institutions, industries, local and international investors, NGOs, as well as Government representatives. The event was officially opened by the Head of the Public Service, Hon. Felix K. Koskei, who was accompanied by the Principal Secretary-State Department for Higher Education and Research, Dr. Beatrice Inyangala.

The theme of the Festival was 'Research Partnerships and Collaboration for Socio-Economic Transformation; Catalysing National Development Through Research'. The Festival is strategically designed to raise awareness about the diverse spectrum of research activities in Kenya and internationally. It provides a platform for; thematic summits, exhibitions, start-up pitches, networking, keynote addresses, deal making and awards.

The key thematic areas of focus that participants engaged in throughout the Festival included;

Need for partnership and collaboration in research and innovation work among scientists/institutions.
 Translation of research results into opportunities for inventions, innovations and industrial products.
 Importance of leveraging data analytics
 Exploring innovative financial models for our innovation and research ecosystems.
 Commercialization of innovations and promoting collaboration between innovators and industries.
 Research and Innovation capacity strengthening
 Adopt the art of Science in communication of research findings for uptake and ownership by government, industry, academia and communities. Avoid the silo mentality.

Staff that represented MMUST to the 5-day event were; Prof. Danstone Lilechi Barasa, Prof. Maurice Vincent Omolo, Prof. Vitalis Ogema, Dr. Tecla Sum, Dr. Christine Wanjala, Dr. Tabitha Kawira, Mr. James Muriithi and Mr. Joram Omuchenya.

We congratulate Dr. Mabwi for winning the award and acknowledge the MMUST team for representing the University well at the Festival.



From left; Mr. Joram Omuchenya, Dr. Tecla Sum and Mr. James Muriithi at the MMUST exhibition stand.











The University of Choice

