KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

Transforming Higher Education...Enhancing Lives



48th GRADUATION CEREMONY

FRIDAY 18TH December, 2020

Sustaining Academic and Research Excellence during the Covid-19 Pandemic and Beyond

Live Streaming on www.ku.ac.ke

Live on: KUTV and NTV

Congratulations



PROF. GEORGE A. O. MAGOHA, CBS,
CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

On behalf of the Ministry of Education, I offer my congratulations to Kenyatta University graduands, staff, Management and University Council on the occasion of this 48th Graduation Ceremony.

This year's graduation comes at a time when the world is dealing with the challenges of COVID-19. Indeed, this has necessitated the development of various interventions to ensure learning in our institutions is not adversely affected. Online learning as well as virtual graduation ceremonies are such interventions to ensure that people do not congregate and thus reduce the risks of infections.

As a Ministry, we will continue to monitor the situation under the current COVID-19 protocols. We recognise Kenyatta University's role in the on-going educational reforms as well as addressing the challenges of COVID-19.

I congratulate all graduands for their worthwhile achievement. We celebrate your parents, guardians and friends who have supported your educational journey.

Well Done



Amb. Simon Nabukwesi,
Principal Secretary-State Department for University Education and Research

Graduation Ceremony is the apex of academic pursuits of the Kenyatta University Community. I am pleased to join the graduands, parents, guardians, and all well-wishers as we celebrate this 48th Graduation Ceremony being held virtually due to the unusual circumstances courtesy of Covid-19 pandemic.

I challenge all graduands to continue to strive towards even greater goals in their academic paths. Excelling in academia requires discipline, leadership, and character. These qualities are the core of a satisfying and fulfilling life. Discipline consists not in succumbing to external pressure but in cultivating mental habits that lead impulsively to desirable actions and good decisions in life.

I take this opportunity to congratulate our dear graduands and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Congratulations Class of 2020!



DR. BENSON I. WAIREGI, EBS
CHANCELLOR

Hardly any events hold as much pride and significance for you, our graduands, and for the individuals who supported you along the way. Graduation is consistently a period of elevated positive emotions that mirror a special time in your life, your family and friends.

Your academic success has been achieved through your character, aspirations, versatility, endurance and resilience especially under the unique uncertainty brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. In acquiring a certificate from the leading University in Africa, you have offered an enduring and powerful expression about your character. The distinguishing trademarks of Kenyatta University graduates are many, yet above all, they incorporate self-control, ingenuity, and resilience.

I urge every one of you to be independent of what interests you, pursue your life goals despite challenges. Work smart, remain pointedly focused, and mindful of the inescapable and ceaseless changes in your general surroundings. Continuously stay open to additional opportunities.
Congratulations and well done!

Taking Pride in Your Success



PROF. SHEM E. MIGOT-ADHOLLA
CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

On behalf of the University Council and my behalf, I extend hearty congratulations to all the graduands of Kenyatta University during the 48th Graduation Ceremony.

Kenyatta University has imparted on you all the relevant knowledge and skills that will prepare you for your next phase in life. This subsequently will be crucial in propelling our nation forward as Kenya continues pursuing its long-term development blueprint – Vision 2030. As the world continues grappling with the challenges occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic, I am pleased to note that our students have been on the forefront in providing innovative solutions.

The University Council continues to strive to ensure the provision of adequate resources and advice University Management to enable teaching, learning and research. For the supportive KU family, you are indeed lucky not to have incurred very heavy losses as a result of the pandemic. Stay Safe!

Sustaining Academic Excellence



PROF. PAUL K. WAINAINA
VICE-CHANCELLOR

To all graduands, I acknowledge the great work you have done leading to your achievements which we celebrate today. This unique virtual Graduation Ceremony provides us with an opportunity to celebrate your achievements. The 48th graduation theme; 'Sustaining Academic Excellence during the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond' best captures the various interventions the University is involved in to address the challenges of the pandemic.

This graduation ceremony comes at a time when the world is facing one of its biggest challenges. Despite the challenges, I am pleased to note that continued stakeholder support and collaboration has seen the University provide resilient measures to ensure all the students and staffs are safe and also reduce the risk of infection. This too has necessitated the holding of the 48th Graduation Ceremony virtually in line with the World Health Organization and the Ministry of Health guidelines.

To all graduands, we are proud of your accomplishment. Go forth and make a positive difference to our nation, your community, and your families with the skills acquired at Kenyatta University. Once again, we extend our hearty congratulations.

Ph.Ds	99
Masters	613
Bachelors	2,623
Postgraduate Diplomas	26
Diplomas	269
Certificates	51
Total	3,681 Graduands

KU Students Win 2020 UN Person of the Year



On 28th October 2020, a team of 15 Kenyatta University Students who developed the first Mechanical ventilator using locally available material to assist COVID 19 patients in breathing are the 2020 UN in Kenya Persons of the Year. The team who have developed the Tiba-Vent Ventilator that has already received Certification from Kenya Bureau of standards and awaiting clinical trials emerged winners for their innovation after foreseeing a shortage of ventilators due to increased demand occasioned by the global pandemic, and reduced freight travel

Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of ICT and Youth Affairs Hon. Joe Mucheru lauded the young innovators and assured them of Government's support when they come up with innovations that work towards finding solutions to the development challenges of our time, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic

"young people are at the heart of our future as a country. You (Kenyatta University Students) have given us reason to believe in ourselves and affirm our innovative aptitudes as a country" he said.
While receiving the award on behalf of the students, the Vice Chancellor of Kenyatta University Prof. Paul Wainana said the University will continue supporting students to come up with innovative ideas and ensure that they have mentors who can help them move their ideas to tangible work.

"We have established the Chandaria innovation and incubation center as a dedicated hub to support Students and Researchers to facilitate their transformation into benefits to society and we already have 3 more innovations on the pipeline" he said

The UN Resident Coordinator, Siddharth Chatterjee congratulated the students saying 'Kenya is a Hotbed of innovation' that has shown that the country is ready to build back better, post COVID, while enhancing technology and ensuring that the youth are involved.
"What will make us emerge from the COVID response is how we rethink our new economy that will set the country on a trajectory for prosperity" he added

KU Excels in Global Moot Court Competition



Kenyatta University emerged 1st runners up in the 12th Edition of the Nelson Mandela World Human Rights Moot Court Competition. It was a historic moment for Africa and Kenya as this is the first time in the history of the Competition that the two finalists came from the same country. The all-female Strathmore University team of Eugene Kanyugo and Mariam Malik triumphed over Kenyatta University School of Law's Sidney Tambasi Netya and Martin Kioko Munyoto on 10th December 2020. The Strathmore duo beat Bolivia's Universidad Catolica, while Kenyatta University made history after beating the defending champions, the University of Oxford, in a hotly contested semi-final setting the global stage for an all Kenyan finals. According to the Oxford University website, "a moot court competition simulates a court hearing (usually an appeal against a final decision), in which participants analyse a problem, research the relevant law, prepare written submissions, and present oral argument. Moot problems are typically set in areas of law that are unsettled or that have been subject to recent developments. They usually involve two grounds of appeal, argued by each side." "We are very excited to have made it thus far," Says KU Law student Sidney, "Even second best feels like we won." For his part Martin said:" It's has been a humbling journey thus far and our confidence level is way up." Kenyatta University Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paul Wainaina, congratulated the duo for leveling the United Kingdom based University of Oxford and getting into the finals. He said; "Congratulations to Strathmore for emerging winners and to our KU team for emerging finalists. Two Kenyan Universities competing for a global prize is a major accomplishment for our institutions of higher learning. We feel very proud of them." Both Kenyatta University and Strathmore University are part of the initial 92 global teams, out of which 44 teams were shortlisted and accepted in the 12th Edition Competition.
The Competition is organized by the Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, South Africa in partnership with the Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, American University, Washington College of Law and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The finals which took place on 10th December 2020 coincided with the International Human Rights Day and was broadcast live on YouTube and Facebook by the Centre for Human Rights.

Council Members



Prof. Shem E. Migot-Adholla
Chairman of Council



Ms. Mary Mugo



Amb. Simon Nabukwesi



Prof. Paul K. Wainaina



Mr. Eric Sila



Mr. Annald Nyasinga Ongwenyi



Mrs. Gertrude Muthoni Namu



Mr. Narry P. Onaya-Odeck



Dr. Julius Muia

Management Board



Prof. Paul K. Wainaina
Vice-Chancellor



Prof. Paul Okemo
Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)



Prof. Fatuma Chege
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration)



Prof. Godfrey Mse
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Finance & Development)



Prof. Frederick Gravenir
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation & Outreach)



Prof. Andanje Mwisukha
Registrar (Academic)



Mr. Ndiritu Gikaria
Ag. Registrar (Administration)



Dr. Paul Gachanja
Registrar (Finance & Development)



Prof. Vincent Onywera
Registrar (Research, Innovation & Outreach)



Prof. Grace Bunyi
Ag. Registrar (Corporate Affairs)



Mr. Samuel Mwai
Ag. Chief Finance Officer

KU Women's Economic Empowerment (KU-WEE) Hub

Kenyatta University has received a Ksh400M grant from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to establish Women's Economic Empowerment (KU-WEE) Hub. The KU-WEE Hub Project aims to ensure that interested parties such as relevant ministries and departments, county governments, policy leaders implementing agencies and donors utilize policy evidence to shape policies, programs, interventions, and advocacy efforts related to supporting women's economic empowerment (WEE) in Kenya.

The grant will cover a five year period that will seek to deepen evidence of what works for women economic empowerment by building an in-country research and evidence hub for evaluating research, testing and analysis of policies and programs.

The primary outcomes envisaged to be achieved with the evidence generated by eleven evaluation studies will include a new women economic empowerment measurement index constructed and a new gender responsive budgeting tool developed and shared with stakeholders by 2025.

Participants of KU-WEE workshop held in KU

KU Awarded Grant for Nano-Satellite Prototype Project

Kenyatta University was recently awarded a Ksh. 1 million grant for development of a nano-satellite prototype by the Kenya Space Agency. Kenya Space Agency is a State Corporation that is charged with promoting, coordinating and regulating Space related activities in Kenya. The award cheque presentation took place on 21st October 2020 in an event presided over by the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Amb. Dr. Monica Juma. The funds shall be utilized to develop a nano-satellite prototype for imagery, telemetry and drones for agricultural use and disaster management in the country.

The university was awarded the grant following successful submission of a proposal to Kenya Space Agency (KSA) under "Operational Space Weather and Nano-satellite Development". Kenyatta University won the grant out of five participating universities.

The prototype christened 'KUCUBE' Nano-satellite is aimed at helping Kenya predict and mitigate agricultural disasters. Agriculture being the leading sector in Kenya's economy, ability to disasters affecting food security in line with sustainable development goal 3 is paramount. Some of the disasters mapped out include locust migrations and losses associated with planning timelines. This is also aimed at addressing challenges from inefficient traditional disaster curbing methods.

National Transport and Safety Authority Signs MoU

The National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) and Kenyatta University signed a Memorandum of Understanding to support road safety management in Kenya on 8th October 2020. The collaboration will provide a platform for research, innovation and academic partnership. Other key areas will include; the use of Technology in road safety, development of innovative applications for road transport, data Analytics for road safety training, mentorship and internship in the fields of Engineering, use of robotics, AI and deep learning on data analysis, quality assurance and project management for NTSA Projects.

Speaking at the MOU signing ceremony, the Director General NTSA, Mr. George Njao, noted that through the collaboration, the Authority will have access to unique technology, specialized equipment, facilities and knowledge that will enhance road safety in Kenya. This partnership comes at a time when the Authority is in the process of implementing the Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (HoAgDP) and this will go a long way in supporting the technological elements of the project, he added.

On his part the Vice Chancellor, Kenyatta University, Prof. Paul Wainaina said the partnership is a testimony that Universities are solution providers to the most challenging social challenges and not just ivory tower institutions.