

SU Digest



January- February 2009 Volume 3, No.1 The Strathmore University Staff & Students Newsletter

CONCILIUM STUDENTUM HABEMUS!



James Muhia
Chairman



Joan Metian
Vice Chairman



Esther Njeru
Secretary



Laban Onserio
Public Relations



David Karanja
Finance Representative



Pauline Njeri
Academic
Representative



Innocent Muchiri
Academic
Representative



Beryl Ochieng
Sports
Representative



Ronald Wekesa
Sports
Representative



Paul Ochieng
Dean of Students

IN THIS ISSUE



6

ETHICS CONFERENCE



10

SBS - AMP



15

INTERVIEW

First Ever student council Elected



Members of Electoral College casting their ballots in the historic Student Council elections on 5th December

Concilium studentum habemus! (We have a Student Council!) James Muhia, Joan Metian Pertet, Esther Karimi Njeru, David Karanja Gichiri, Laban Cliff Onserio were elected Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Finance Representative, and Public Relations Representative positions respectively in the first ever Strathmore University Student Council elections held on Friday, 5th December.

Pauline Njeri Muriithi and Innocent Githua were elected Academic Representatives, and Beryl Ochieng and Ronald Wekesa were elected the Sports Representatives in the historic elections.

The council was inaugurated on Thursday, 22nd January when its members signed their statements of commitment. The Dean of Students, Mr Paul Ochieng said the inauguration was a momentous occasion in the history of the University. "We have now incorporated students in a more formal way in the management of Student affairs in this university," he said.

"The student council is a great opportunity for you to improve the quality of student life in Strathmore. Seize this opportunity and make Strathmore better than you found it," he told the council.

"This is our first council and like any first born a lot has been placed on their shoulders. It will set the pace for the many Student Councils to come. I ask all students to give it all the support it needs," he continued.

"As our university motto goes - That all may be one - we look forward to the council being a symbol of unity for the students' body, and look forward its being a strong representative of the student body," Mr Ochieng added.

Continued on Page 4

SU Digest Team

Editor:

Eric Katherinya

Editorial Team:

Luis Borrallo, Marcos Migeri,
Paul Ochieng, Pauline Kuria

Design:

Mass Inspire Ltd.
www.massinspire.co.ke

Photography:

Enos Weswa,
Charles Okumu,
Isaac Mwangi,
Stephen Momanyi,

The views expressed here are not necessarily those of Strathmore University nor of the Editor.

Contact:

Strathmore University
Ole Sangale Road
P.O. Box 59857-00200
Nairobi, KENYA

Tel: +254 020 606155

email:

ekatherinya@strathmore.edu

www.strathmore.edu/newsletter

Kevin O'Byrne Memorial Fund launched



Prof Sperling, Hon Dalmas Otieno, and Mr Wilfred Kiboro at the launch of the fund

The Kevin O'Byrne Memorial Fund was launched at The Serena Hotel in Nairobi on Friday, 31st October. The Minister for Public Services, Hon Dalmas Otieno, an alumnus of Strathmore, presided over the launch of the fund. Kshs500,000 was raised, and another Kshs 1,000,000 was pledged during the launch according to the fund chairman, Mr Leslie Mwachiro.

The fund targets to raise U\$1,000,000. The fund will give scholarships to students who exhibit qualities similar to Kevin's. These are excellence in academics, outstanding sportsmanship, and a great concern for others through community service.

Mr Wilfred Kiboro, a member of the Kevin O'Byrne Memorial Committee paid tribute to his friend of 45 years. "I knew Kevin in 1963. He taught me Maths in A levels and our 1965 class registered a 100% pass rate. When I went to the University of Nairobi in 1966, I found him there. He taught structures to the Civil Engineering class," Mr Kiboro told the gathering of over

100 people at the launch.

"With the world at his feet as the best graduating engineer in the whole of Ireland in 1955, he chose to serve others selflessly. He was a family friend and came to see my wife in maternity whenever we were blessed with a child. My children knew him simply as Uncle Kevin," Mr Kiboro related.

"Kevin was meticulous in whatever he did. He made Maths and Structures and everything else he did and taught seem so easy. He was very organized. He was an inspiring achiever, and a sincere person and mentor," Mr Kiboro reminisced.

"Kevin related very well with everybody. He mingled freely with his students who in the 1960s were almost his age. And despite his achievements, he perfected the art of passing unnoticed," Mr Kiboro said.

Hon Otieno said that at Strathmore, they were trained to value themselves. "People with values are more valuable and value their work. The rule of law is failing in

our country because we have not inculcated values in people like Strathmore inculcated values in us. If we had more Strathmores we would not have seen the violence that rocked the country early this year," he observed.

"Kevin taught us that there is something good in every person and that when we serve others, we serve God. He believed in developing people, he was not presumptuous – he knew much and said little. In his honour, I named my son Kevin," Hon Otieno said.

Kevin came to Kenya in 1958. Prof David Sperling, the first principal of Strathmore College said that when he came to Kenya in July 1960, he found that Kevin had already bought the land that Strathmore School stands on today. And he had also used the land to get a loan which he used to finance the building of the first structures for which he (Kevin) did the structural designs. Ed Hernandez who has since retired to USA was the buildings' architect.

We have a student council !



Election committee members were also the polling clerks. From left Domnic Ikunga, Claire Wairimu, Lorna Nyakundi, Andrew Ntwiga, and Anne Salim.

From Page 2

The Elections

The elections saw 17 candidates battle it out for 9 available offices. Most positions had two candidates. However, the Chairman's position attracted a strong field of three candidates. The Secretary's position attracted only one candidate. Still, electors had the choice to vote against her as one of the options on the ballot was 'None of the above candidate(s)'.

The elections culminated four years of constitution making, and two months of registration and campaigns. Campaign speeches and debates were held every evening in the auditorium throughout the two week campaign period that started on 24th November and ended on 3rd December.

Candidates presented their agenda and manifestos during the speeches and debates and the audience mostly made of members of the Electoral College asked them ques-

tions. For some candidates, the going was tough especially the debate sessions where they had to face-off with fellow candidates vying for the same position.

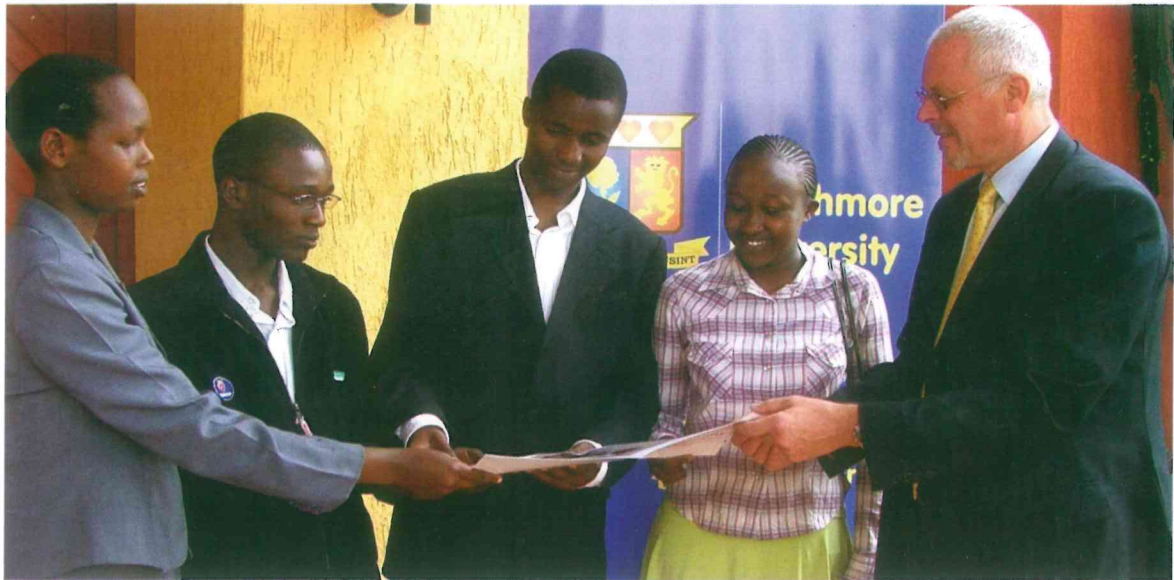
The debates were moderated by members of the Interim Student Council. There were many light moments during the debates especially when a candidate rushed to answer a question s/he was not well versed with only to give a wrong answer. But with time the race got tighter and the candidates too got sharper as they dug deeper into their reserves.

The elections conducted via secret ballot were a great success with all candidates praising the integrity of the process. The Electoral College was composed of members of class parliament, sports team captains and student clubs' chairpersons. Voting started at 10.30am with each class. More than 60% percent of the college had cast their ballot by 12.30pm.

Voting closed at 6.00pm paving way to the counting process which got underway at 6.10pm. Only the candidates and one of their representatives, the Elections Committee and the Interim Student Council members were allowed into the counting hall. The vote tallying process presided over by the Dean of Students, Mr Paul Ochieng who was also the Chairman of the elections committee and the chief Returning officer went on very smoothly at three vote counting centres. Two centres were headed by Interim Student Council members - Eric Ngwiri and Alvin Mokaya.

The Council took over from an interim Student Council which was composed of Paul Ochieng, Terry Kiboi-BCOM4, Kirimi Achieng-BCOM 4, Alvin Mokaya-BBIT 4, Eric Ngwiri-BBIT 4, and Lynn Macharia-BBIT 4. It was formed to help plan and carry out the Student Council elections.

Inaugural Scholars' forum and lunch held



Head of the European Union Delegation to Kenya Ambassador Eric Van der Linden (right) with some 2009 Strathmore scholarship winners on Friday, 21st November. From left: Juliet Chepngeno (EU Scholar), Titus Mwangi (Maths Scholar), Patrick Kinyua (EU Scholar), and Martha Ombasi (Maths Scholar). Titus and Martha were the top boy and girl in both the Mangu and Kabarak Maths contest 2008

The inaugural Scholars' Forum and Lunch was held on Friday, 21st November. The event was attended by students on scholarships and those awarded scholarships to begin their studies in January 2009.

The Head of European Union Delegation to Kenya Ambassador Erick van der Linden attended the function. The EU funded an endowment fund whose proceeds are used to give 20 scholarships every year to students to pursue various professional and diploma course at the University.

This year, the University awarded scholarships to the winners of the Mangu and Kabarak Math contests. By coincidence, the same boy (Titus Mwangi), and girl (Martha Ombasi) topped both contests.

The University awards scholarships to bright students in financial need. Vice Chancellor Prof John Odhiambo said the scholarship scheme aims to get talented but needy students and empower them. "Strathmore wants to mold people who can shape the national agenda and provide transformational leadership," he said.

Speaking at the event, Rose Chelagat an alumna and a beneficiary of the 2002 East Africa Brewer-

ies Limited (EABL) formerly Guinness scholarship, and now an internal auditor at Deloitte & Touche said that to date, 107 students have benefitted from the EABL scholarship scheme in the East African region.

She noted that as a university, Strathmore has built a strong brand in its academic and professional undertakings. "Strathmore gave us not only education, but a passion to succeed," she said.

She said that former EABL scholarship beneficiaries are working on a plan to enhance the Strathmore dream by providing scholarships in future.

Other guests who spoke at the function included Emmanuel Yatta Taban, a refugee from Southern Sudan who is on scholarship at the University currently, and Dr Jan Pecavi, a lecturer who is contributing to the University's scholarship scheme.

Partners of the University in various undertakings too attended the event. They included Mumbi Kyalo, Unilever's Corporate Relations Manager; and Norah Mbaya, Telkom Kenya's Youth Market Manager. Equity Bank too was represented.

5th Annual Ethics Conference held



Prof Yash Ghai (left) with Vice Chancellor Prof John Odhiambo at the conference

Below:
Madam Rukia Subow, the Chairman of Maendeleo ya Wanawake addressing the conference

Prof Yash Pal Ghai delivered a paper titled "Will a new constitution make any difference to Kenyans?" at the University's 5th Annual Ethics Conference. The former Chairman of the Constitutional review of Kenya Commission later addressed a press conference where he called for the implementation of the Waki Report.

The theme of the two-day conference held on 30th and 31st October was 'Governance: Institutions and the Human Condition'. The Conference took into consideration four paramount topics which are at the foundation of the great divide that could make or break the future of the country: Education, Institutions and Ideals, Constitution making, and the Land Issue. Speakers came from various public and private universities.

Dr PLO Lumumba chaired the first session on constitution making. Mr Mutakha Kangu, Prof Richard Wilkins, and Prof Yash Ghai pre-

sented their papers in this session. Prof Wilkins presented his paper via a satellite link as he could not make it for the conference.

Prof Justice J.B. Ojwang chaired the second session on African Institutions and Ideals. Speakers in this session included Moi University's Chancellor Prof Bethwel Ogot, University of Nairobi's don Dr Migai Akech, and Dr David Lutz from Catholic University of East Africa.

Vice Chancellor Prof John Odhiambo chaired the third session on education on the morning of Friday, 31st October. Speakers at the session were Kenyatta University's Prof Christine Gichure, Dr Charles Sotz, Dr Justus Mbae - the Director of Educational Exchanges at the US Embassy in Nairobi, and Mr Martyn Drakard.

Prof Okoth-Ogendo chaired the fourth session on land. Prof Patricia Kameri-Mbote, Dr Mike Norton-Griffiths, Dr John Ainsley, Dr Tom

Konyimbih spoke in this session. Madam Rukia Subow, the Chairman of Maendeleo ya Wanawake gave the closing remarks. She said Maendeleo ya Wanawake is opposed to certain sections of the Draft Reproductive Health and Rights Bill, 2008. "Of particular concern is the bill's liberal criteria for abortion which would allow abortion on demand and at the same time provide an educational message that human life in its early developmental stages is disposable," she said.



IHEDS holds seminars in collaboration with government body

Left to right: Michael Ojiambo, Senior Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Education; Dr Wanjiku Kariuki, Director of KESI; and Dr Charles Sotz, University Secretary at the opening of the first seminar



The Institute of Humanities Education and Development Studies (IHEDS) in collaboration with Ministry of Education's Kenya Education Staff Institute (KESI) is hosting two week-long seminars for heads of secondary schools from all over the country titled "National induction course in education management for principals of secondary schools".

The first of the two seminars ran from begun on 1st to 6th December and the other from 8th to 13th

December. Michael Ojiambo, Senior Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Education officiated the opening of the initiative on behalf of Prof Karega Mutahi, the Permanent Secretary at the ministry.

IHEDS has been organizing seminars for heads of schools since April 2002 but this is the first organized in collaboration with KESI. More than 97 heads attended the seminars.

The seminars aim to develop the heads at a personal level and to upgrade their professional skills and knowledge.

The content of the seminar aimed at building or increasing the heads capacities as effective leaders in schools. The seminars were timely because secondary schools are facing challenges such as huge enrolment of students especially after the implementation of Free Secondary Education programme by the government in January 2008.

Mr Ahluwalia marks 30 years in Strathmore



Left to right: Mr Ahluwalia, his daughter-in-law Belinda, and his son Jagi at the dinner

"I have dedicated 52 years in education here in Kenya, and 30 of them have been in Strathmore". These were the emotional words of Mr Randhir Ahluwalia at a dinner to honour his 30 years of service at Strathmore on Friday, 14 November 2008 at Haveli Restaurant at Capital Centre along Mombasa Road.

Mr Ahluwalia said that the organizers had tried to trick him into attending the dinner but had failed because as he explained his Friday evenings are set aside for family dinners.

Continued on Page 8

From Page 7

Eventually they had had to tell him the truth.... But the family dinner tradition was incorporated and his son Jagi and Belinda his wife attended the function. Mr Ahluwalia's wife was out of the country.

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic Affairs) Dr Florence Oloo toasted Mr Ahluwalia's dedication and said the real building blocks of the University were its dedicated staff like him. Mr Godfrey Madigu, the Director of School of Accountancy (SOA) where Mr Ahluwalia lectures said that he

had never missed a lesson in all the time he had worked at the University.

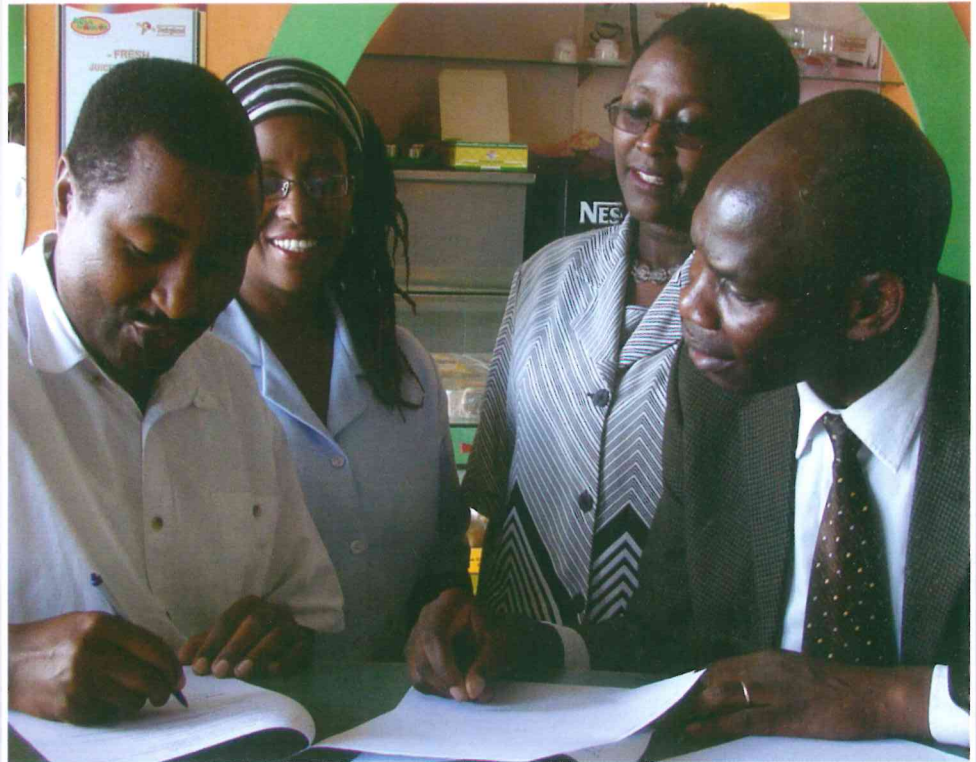
Quoting point 590 of St Josemaria Escriva's 'The Way', "Don't wish to be like the gilded weather-cock on top of a great building: however much it shines, and however high it stands, it adds nothing to the solidity of the building. Rather be like an old stone block hidden in the foundations, underground, where no one can see you: because of you the house will not fall," Mr Madigu said Mr Ahluwalia was hidden block in the build-

ing that is Strathmore.

Speaking on behalf of Mr Ahluwalia's students, Samuel Kagiri gave anecdotes of Mr Ahluwalia's diligence and strong sense of humour. Mrs Eva Beauttah spoke of his refinement and good intuition when it came to short listing students for admission and scholarship. Dr James McFie who has worked with Mr Ahluwalia since he joined Strathmore in 1978 said that he has been a very dependable colleague in all the years they had worked together.

School of Hospitality to collaborate with Kula Korner franchise

The Managing Director of Kula Korner Mr Dominic Kosen signs the agreement as his wife Sera; Miss Lucy Gikonyo a lecturer in SSTH, and Dr Wadawi the Dean of SSTH look on



The School of Tourism and Hospitality (SSTH) on Friday, 5th December signed a collaboration agreement with Kula Korner, a restaurant franchise. The Dean of SSTH Dr Joe Wadawi and Mr Dominic Kosen, the Managing Director of Kula Korner signed the agreement at the franchise offices at Hurlingham.

The collaboration will benefit both SSTH's students and faculty by: exposing students to practical work situation in a highly creative fast food enterprise, enhancing entrepreneurial capacity of graduates by exposing them to the challenges of starting and growing a franchise business, increasing SSTH's revenue base by providing consultancy and continuous training to

the franchisees of Kula Korner, and providing a forum for research in fast food operations.

Dr Wadawi said the agreement will create and maintain a firm framework for collaborative study between SSTH and Kula Korner, facilitate a logical advocacy programme to encourage fast food franchise growth and development as an instrument for community development through entrepreneurship and employment creation in line with the entrepreneurial vision of the University, and build positive goodwill for SSTH through industry involvement and support of private enterprises.

Kula Korner on the other hand aims

to build a basis for providing a well evaluated academic logic to its enterprise activities, and utilize the faculty and the students where possible to carry out research and execute framework for franchise's enterprise development activities.

The first proposed activity between the two institutions is assessment of entrepreneurs for the franchise business. In this activity, Kula Korner will work with SSTH to develop tests and assessment instruments. SSTH will provide initial training for entrepreneurs joining the franchise, certify them and continue to provide them with training and development.

Marketing Club launches a Research arm



Members of the Marketing Club at the launch. From left: Kevin Maina, Peninah Njeng'ere, Judy Mathai, and Aninah Mohammed

The Strathmore Marketing Society (SMS) on Friday, 5th December launched the Research Society arm of the club. The club patron, Miss Fredah Mwiti, said it was important for the club to get more involved in research activities.

"The university has been striving to develop a research culture in all departments, and students should embrace this culture too. I believe the research arm of the club will give students an opportunity to be involved in research projects that will address issues facing not only the University, but the wider community as well," Miss Mwiti said.

The Research arm of SMS will in partnership with the Steadman

Group run Research Society of Kenya involve students in various supervised projects. The student researchers will then present their findings to colleagues from other universities at an annual competition.

Winners will get awards for their respective clubs and their universities. Students who show the greatest potential will be trained by Steadman on applied research and be given jobs during holidays. "There is a lot to be gained from this initiative. Students who get this kind of training can work with lecturers at the university as research assistants," Miss Mwiti added.

Ms Maggie Ireri, Steadman's Business Development Manager gave a

talk on market research during the launch. She said research helps in making informed decisions. She encouraged students to take research as a profession since universities are the largest supplier of employees. "Once a researcher always a problem solver," she said.

She told students that they will encounter challenges during research but they should learn from them. "You should learn from challenges. Your past is not your future" she said. Mrs Emily Gumba, the coordinator for secondary schools and universities research clubs at Steadman discussed some of the challenges that students might face while undertaking research.

Dramsoc



Dramsoc, the Drama Society staged three plays in 2008. Some of the Dramsoc members. Standing, from left: Rowland, Catherine, Peter, Spencer, Stella, Stephen, Joseph, Angela, and Mike. Seated, from left: Irene, Dorcas and Christine.

AMP participants attend final session in Barcelona

Participants in the 2008 Advanced Management Program (AMP) from Strathmore and Lagos business schools are attending a joint, one week long session at IESE Business School in Barcelona. The session started on Monday, 24th and will end on Saturday, 29th November. It was the final AMP session for 2008.

Although AMP participants in previous years have attended sessions at IESE, this is the first

time that executives based in eastern and western Africa will have a joint session. The session will enrich the networking feature of AMP. The two business schools are exploring other possibilities for collaborations in future.

"We see a fit, but it is not that straight-forward; Africa is an extensive and diverse continent. This is an opportunity for participants based in Kenya and Nigeria to discover each other in a third country," David MacManus, Director of IESE's Executive Education team said.

"The initiative is part of IESE's commitment to improve the quality of management education in Africa," MacManus added. IESE aspires to help in African countries' economic development by fostering the skills of senior management, providing them with tools they need to respond to challenges they face, create

jobs and a fairer distribution of wealth.

"The three schools have welcomed this initiative as an opportunity to enhance the learning process and the participants' networking opportunities," said Prof Javier Santomá, the Program's Academic Director.

"There have been challenges on the academic and organizational side since the module needs to build on and integrate two different programs and their participants, as well as coordinate faculty from IESE, Lagos and Strathmore," he said. All the participants are senior executives. They lead companies in sectors as varied as telecoms, advertising, construction and financial services.

The next class of AMP will start on the 9th of March and run until November.



2009 AMP participants at IESE Business School in Barcelona

Pioneer MBA Class ends



Members of the pioneer MBA class at their farewell luncheon

The MBA pioneer class ended on the 15th of November 2008. It was a tough but exciting and insightful experience for the class. What with visiting professors from top business schools, guest speakers from the industry and a trip to Spain to complete the whole global exposure that SBS programs promise to deliver.

The first class of PMD graduates



Pioneer PMD class with their certificates

The first intake of Program for Management Development (PMD) successfully completed the course in December. "Participants saw it as an eye opener especially because of the use of case studies, which

articulated the practicality perspective, in understanding their working environment better and solving problems effectively," said Pauline Gangla, Manager of Executive Programs. The networking achieved through the

rich participant mix proved effective in terms of opinion and knowledge exchange. The course drew participants from various sectors such as manufacturing, legal services, media, finance, banking, and insurance. Appli-

cations for the second intake are underway. Classes will begin on 6th of March.

Inaugural Mobile Boot Camp held

Oscar Corriea, Head of Products at Zain Kenya instructing at the Boot Camp

*Below:
Jessica Colaço, the
organiser*



The University's inaugural Mobile Boot Camp was held on 28th and 29th of November. About 100 information technology developers (programmers) and students attended the event. Strathmore Research and Consultancy Centre (SRCC) hosted the event in collaboration with the Faculty of Information Technology (FIT).

The camp consisted of both theoretical and practical sessions. Participants gained insights on the telecom world and the Mobile Application Development scenario.

The sessions on the first day were facilitated by Zain and covered

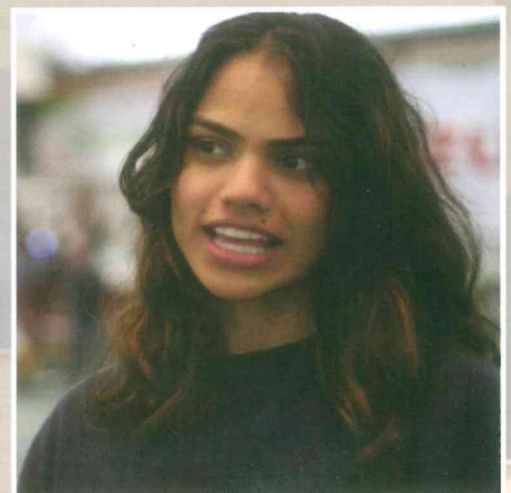
topics such as Telecom Billing Systems, Call Centre Technologies, Data Warehousing Telecom Data, Providing Content for Mobile Operators, and Mobile Application Development using SimToolKit (STK).

Other facilitators included Ericsson, Skunkworks, Symbiotic, Interactive Media Services and Seven Seas Technologies. The practical sessions were covered on the second day and comprised development using J2ME (Java Micro-Edition), Python, Blackberry and iPhone facilitated by developers from Skunkworks.

Participants said the event

was well-organised and very informative. "The event was generally good. It was an eye opener," said Lydia Were, a participant. Another participant, Dennis Osoe said it was real good for a first-time event.

"The demand for more practical sessions and future mobile boot camps from the participants is very inspiring. Hence, it will become an annual event," said Jessica Colaco, the event's organiser.





Enrollment for Enterprise Management course is on

Dr Florence Oloo, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic Affairs) presents a token of appreciation to Eng. John Mosonik, Secretary of Industrialization after the launch of SEDC

Strathmore Enterprise Development Centre (SEDC) is enrolling students for the Certificate in Entrepreneurial Management course. Classes will begin on 25th March. The 270-hour program is divided into two stages. The first stage is on starting and managing a business, and the second is on business management and development.

The program will be delivered in modules over a period of six months. The modular structure allows entrepreneurs to spread their skill development and gives them time to implement the action plans they draw from the modules. It also makes the program compatible with entrepreneurs' fluid work schedules.

SEDC was developed by the University in collaboration ministries of Trade, and Industrialization; and World Bank's International Finance Corporation (ICF). It was launched in May 2008 under the Institute of Continuing Education (ICE).

"The establishment of the SEDC is consistent with the University's Vision: to become a leading outcome driven entrepreneurial university offering world class and accessible high quality education," said Vice Chancellor Prof John Odhiambo.

A lot is expected of SEDC. At his speech during the launch, Industrialist Manu Chandaria said. "We have come here today to witness the birth of one of the most important players in Kenya's economic development agenda."

Course Delivery Approach

The course is a hands-on, participant-centered program. Through the use of locally developed business case studies, participants will be engaged in discussions with the aim of enabling them to develop judgment and problem-solving skills for their businesses. After each module, participants will have enough time to implement whatever has been learnt in class, and give feedback on their experiences during the next module.

For more information see: <http://www.strathmore.edu/academics/ice/enterprise-management.php>

Prof Naituli on mainstreaming environmental education



Prof Naituli (middle) at a tree planting exercise with pupils of Shah Academy at Lake Nakuru National Park

On 24th November, Prof Gitile Naituli of Faculty of Commerce gave a presentation on integration and sustainability of environmental education in universities at the first Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability in African Universities (MESA) international conference held at the UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi. His presentation was titled 'The MESA experience: what we have learned'.

The theme of the conference was "Environment, Development and Climate change in Africa: Universities responding?" It brought together the civil society, leaders in higher education, and students from across Africa as well as academicians from Europe, The Americas and Asia.

Prof Naituli's presentation was on prioritizing responsible and ethical applications of knowledge; developing practical & evaluative approaches when working with new forms of knowledge especially in the area of research and learning; the development of a holistic view by lecturers of knowledge and how various disciplines complement each other when solving problems; increased practice and engagement on sustainability issues and also promoting awareness on environmental issues in university communities; developing a more situated approach to knowledge in its relationship between culture and social change.

Prof Naituli was also the rapporteur on a special session on engaging university leaders for

sustainable institutional change. Dr Ruth Kiraka moderated a panel discussion on best practice in North-South and South-South cooperation amongst universities.

The conference looked at how universities in Africa can adopt operational and policy norms so that students can learn how to be economically, social and environmentally responsible while being participatory citizens in the global economy.

The conference followed up on issues from the MESA seminar held at Lukenya in December 2006 that looked at several principles that could be followed when working with communities. These principles included linking learning with action, promotion of voluntary participation, and progressive learning among others.

The resolutions reached at the conference will act as a platform for the UNESCO World Conference on Education and Sustainable Development in March 2009, the 12th Association of African Universities (AAU) General conference on higher Education in April 2009, and the World Congress on Environmental Education in May 2009.

In 2007, Prof Naituli received the MESA award. He took up the co-ordination and hosting of the Education in Sustainable Development (ESD) International Training Programme (ITP) this year.

An American in Kenya

Alex Haynie, a graduate of Princeton University (USA) was seconded by the Strathmore University Foundation (SUF) to work as an intern in Sports, Community Outreach, and Alumni Development departments in the months of October to December last year. He kept a journal of his experiences which were posted on the SUF website. Below are excerpts from the journals

American influence on Kenyan culture

The American influence on Kenyan culture is astounding. As my plane touched down in Nairobi, John Mayer's pop hit "Waiting on the World to Change" came through the speakers and welcomed me to Kenya. Granted, we were on a Dutch airline, but I was expecting to hear different music.

Though many Africans retain much of their cultural heritage in villages miles from Nairobi, I was struck by how Westernized Nairobi is. The far-reaching effects of globalization have undoubtedly impacted Nairobi, and it was clear from there that most of the world is connected technologically. I went to cyber café and the girl next to me was using Gmail and Facebook.

As I was purchasing "shower slippers" on my second day in the local supermarket called Nakumatt Mega (Kenya's version of Wal-Mart), the famous song called "Africa" by the American rock band Toto played over the loudspeakers. Matatus (Nairobi's buses) pump American rap and hip hop music all the time, and are decorated by stickers of American artists and products.

The TV room on the first floor of my residence hall had American shows on 75% of the time, and MTV's music videos were very popular. On walks through Nairobi, I often saw locals wearing NY Yankees hats, Philadelphia Eagles shirts, Lake Tahoe sweatshirts, and lots of other clothing with American sponsored names. I



Alex (second left standing) with members of strath FC. Standing, from left: Meso Ahendo, Alex Haynie, Edward Mungai, Vincent Chichi, and Solomon Agego. Squotting, from left: Josephat Mwaniki, Chris Lonalo, Elijah Gitahi, and Rodgers Kusimba

also saw a lot of clothes that look like they've been donated; St. Francis Bowling League, for example.

While many Kenyans told me that they want to visit America, almost all say that they want to live in Kenya when they get older.

Disparities in wealth

I slept and ate at a nearby residence hall called "Studyville," a project of the Kenyan Armed Forces Pension Fund. It was a short distance from Strathmore. Walking for ten minutes every morning from Studyville to my desk at Strathmore revealed to me the striking disparities in wealth in Kenya, and of course between many people in Kenya and America.

Each morning I saw a Range Rover or a Mercedes drive by a man in dirty clothes heating up ears of corn on some rocks next to a pile of dirt and trash, and I used to be confused and

troubled. How can this be? People living so comfortably next to people scraping by. Yet of course I cannot blame anyone, as I walked right by the same man while carrying my laptop in my bag.

At Strathmore

I used to train with the University soccer team in late afternoon. I also helped to conduct strength-training tests for some of Strathmore's sports teams based on my experience with a varsity level collegiate athletic team. On the weekends, I travelled with the soccer team to games.

Strathmore is a beautiful place and runs a lot like a University in America. Its classrooms, courtyards, dining halls, offices, chapel and so many other things are first rate, a place where things work well and trust is assured.

continued on page 16



Get a
**Stress-free
Degree**



CBA and Strathmore Education Loan

Tuition fee loans granted to parents/sponsors of Strathmore students.

- 12 months repayment period
- 1% per month interest rates
- Fixed interest rates

Documentation required

- 1 Application form completed and signed by the customer
- 2 Six (6) months bank statements for salaried individuals and twelve (12) months for non-salaried individuals. CBA customers need not provide any statements
- 3 Pay slips for the last three (3) months (original or copy certified by employer)
- 4 Letter of employer confirming terms and conditions of employment or original letter of appointment for the salaried applicants
- 5 Copy of National ID or Passport and P.I.N
- 6 Copy of utility bills (Electricity, Telephone, Water) not more than three (3) months old
- 7 Recommendation letter from Strathmore University

To find out more

Contact our Personal Banking Relationship managers, based at any the following branches:

Upper Hill	020 - 2884000
Westlands	020 - 4447946/7/6676
Village Market	020 - 7120632/263/346
Mama Ngina	020 - 2228802
Wabera	020 - 2228887-9
Moi Avenue (Msa)	041 - 2224711/2

Or visit www.cba.co.ke

Terms and Conditions apply. Please note that additional information or documentation may be required.



COMMERCIAL
BANK OF AFRICA

What stress-free banking is all about.

STRATHMORE EDUCATION LOAN SAMPLE REPAYMENT TABLE

12%

Amount (Kshs)	Months	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
50,000		50,500	25,376	17,001	12,814	10,302	8,627	7,431	6,535	5,837	5,279	4,823	4,442
60,000		60,600	30,451	20,401	15,377	12,362	10,353	8,918	7,841	7,004	6,335	5,787	5,331
70,000		70,700	35,526	23,802	17,940	14,423	12,078	10,404	9,148	8,172	7,391	6,752	6,219
80,000		80,800	40,601	27,202	20,502	16,483	13,804	11,890	10,455	9,339	8,447	7,716	7,108
90,000		90,900	45,676	30,602	23,065	18,544	15,529	13,377	11,762	10,507	9,502	8,681	7,996
100,000		101,000	50,751	34,002	25,628	20,604	17,255	14,863	13,069	11,674	10,558	9,645	8,885
110,000		111,100	55,826	37,402	28,191	22,664	18,980	16,349	14,376	12,841	11,614	10,610	9,773
120,000		121,200	60,901	40,803	30,754	24,725	20,706	17,835	15,683	14,009	12,670	11,574	10,662
130,000		131,300	65,977	44,203	33,317	26,785	22,431	19,322	16,990	15,176	13,726	12,539	11,550
140,000		141,400	71,052	47,603	35,879	28,846	24,157	20,808	18,297	16,344	14,781	13,504	12,439
150,000		151,500	76,127	51,003	38,442	30,906	25,882	22,294	19,604	17,511	15,837	14,468	13,327
160,000		161,600	81,202	54,404	41,005	32,966	27,608	23,781	20,910	18,678	16,893	15,433	14,216
170,000		171,700	86,277	57,804	43,568	35,027	29,333	25,267	22,217	19,846	17,949	16,397	15,104
180,000		181,800	91,352	61,204	46,131	37,087	31,059	26,753	23,524	21,013	19,005	17,362	15,99
190,000		191,900	96,427	64,604	48,693	39,148	32,784	28,239	24,831	22,181	20,061	18,326	16,881
200,000		202,000	101,502	68,004	51,256	41,208	34,510	29,726	26,138	23,348	21,116	19,291	17,770
210,000		212,100	106,578	71,405	53,819	43,268	36,235	31,212	27,445	24,515	22,172	20,255	18,658
220,000		222,200	111,653	74,805	56,382	45,329	37,961	32,698	28,752	25,683	23,228	21,220	19,547
230,000		232,300	116,728	78,205	58,945	47,389	39,686	34,185	30,059	26,850	24,284	22,184	20,435
240,000		242,400	121,803	81,605	61,507	49,450	41,412	35,671	31,366	28,018	25,340	23,149	21,324
250,000		252,500	126,878	85,006	64,070	51,510	43,137	37,157	32,673	29,185	26,396	24,114	22,212
260,000		262,600	131,953	88,406	66,633	53,570	44,863	38,643	33,979	30,352	27,451	25,078	23,101
270,000		272,700	137,028	91,806	69,196	55,631	46,588	40,130	35,286	31,520	28,507	26,043	23,989
280,000		282,800	142,103	95,206	71,759	57,691	48,314	41,616	36,593	32,687	29,563	27,007	24,878



from page 15

Strathmore's campus stands a big cut above the rest of the buildings in the neighborhood, and the people associated with Strathmore here in Kenya are thankful for the great opportunity to be a part of such an excellent in-

stitution in Kenya. The great work that Strathmore does, in training entrepreneurs and leaders to help Kenya achieve a better future, and more immediately in what Strathmore does in its community outreach program,

certainly seem effective investments of the generous donations from the institutions, foundations, and private donors supporting Strathmore's work.