

ZETECH

-NEWS

A BULLETIN OF ZETECH UNIVERSITY



Head of Department- School of Tourism and Hospitality Kenneth Maiteri (right) Dr. Florence Muli-Musiime, Chancellor, Daystar University (centre) through the Zetech Hospitality section at the CUE 2015 Exhibition.

VARSIITY SHINES AT DEBUT ANNUAL EXHIBITION BY KENYAN UNIVERSITIES

Machakos County played host to the highly anticipated 13th exhibition by Kenyan universities; an event organized by the Commission for University Education and designed to bring institutions of higher learning together in one location for guardians and students to get an illustration on what is on offer at Kenyan universities. Participating in the exhibition for the first time, Zetech University undoubtedly displayed one of the best exhibitions interspersed with an experiential appeal from various faculties which generated buzz throughout the 3-day exhibition, attracting attention from hundreds of students and parents.

The event, which kicked off on 19th March, saw the Daystar University Chancellor Dr. Florence Muli-Musiime represent the Cabinet Secretary for Education Hon. Jacob Kaimenyi as the Chief Guest in a grand tour of all the participating universities and later on in an upbeat opening ceremony.

Dr. Musiime was especially awed by Zetech's Hospitality stand that donned students preparing a sumptuous meal generating delightful smells of tasty dishes and accompaniments.

Exceptionally, the university incorporated an exclusive VIP lounge that was used by the varsity's Vice Chancellor Prof. Edwin Wamukoya to host important guests and detail to them the university's vision to be a leading centre of education in Africa.

"The event shows that indeed demand for higher education in the country is at an all-time high. It was great to interact with our peers and a large number of students, with some signing up to join the university.

"Prof. Wamukoya shared.

Prof. Wamukoya added that it was the first time the institution was participating in the annual event and was proud of the strides it made at the celebrated exhibition.

Moreover, the School of Hospitality students' adoption of a kitchen at their stand to prepare different meals throughout the event attracted a large number of participants and they duly used the opportunity to explain to them the benefits of taking up hospitality courses.

Meanwhile, the media stand was a beehive of activity as the team set up a live stream and a recording studio enabling visitors to understand the intricacies of operating cameras as well as availing to them the opportunity to test their TV and Radio presenting skills.

Complementing these teams, the engineering and ICT fraternity represented at the event displaying different projects that served to engage guests at their respective stations. At the close of the event, university board chair persons and Vice-Chancellors expressed the success of the event while guests appreciated the platform to engage and ask questions about courses and criteria for joining different institutions.

Speaking at the closing ceremony, Hon. Faith Wahome, Minister, Tourism, Sports and Culture for Machakos County, applauded the Commission for Higher Education for organising the event and commended the university Heads for a job well done.

Honored to give the Vote of Thanks, Prof. Wamukoya was grateful at the opportunity to participate and extended appreciation to everyone present who made the event a success.

UNIVERSITY HOLDS ORIENTATION SESSION FOR NEW CONTINUING EDUCATION STUDENTS



Media students demonstrate live reporting to the new students during the orientation session at the Thika Road Campus

Following the growth of the institution and the adoption of university status, it is only expected that the varsity will attract a great number of new students to join the Programmes offered as demand for higher education heightens in the country.

As young minds seek higher education, the university welcomed hundreds of students joining the Continuing Education Programmes through an engaging orientation session where they got to know and interact with the varsity's management and active student body.

The special ceremony that was held at the university's main campus along Thika Road served to inform and educate the students on the operations and the opportunities they can experience while studying at Zetech.

"The orientation process in any institution is critical as it enables the new students to learn about the workings of the university and create a feeling of belonging from day one," said Alphas Adoga, Registrar, Zetech University, adding, "We ensure our management and staff are present to expound on the role of their offices at Zetech."

To enlighten the students and create an unforgettable experience, the team involved the media students who took to the

stage and incorporated a live report of the session and asking some of the participants' questions on their expectations, as the camera rolled.

Media student Baraza Wekesa incorporated an animated way to describe the day's weather cracking the students up while Augustine Kaloki gave a thrilling report on the performance of Manchester United during the Sports news segment.

As a testament to the varsity's commendable presents in the sports arena in Kenya, the Sports Patron Alfred Muli shared that the football and basketball teams are performing well in their respective leagues, urging those who are able to join. Muli added that the university rugby team is quickly taking shape and will be up and running by mid-year.

Following the introductory session, Elizabeth Muhia, the university's new Dean of Students took the students through an intense review of the rules to follow while at the university touching on areas of discipline and dress code and advising on the appropriate behavior expected of all students.

As the session came to a close, the students were grouped according to the different programmes they are pursuing in order to interact directly with the Heads of Departments and ask all the necessary questions regarding their courses.

The university extends a warm welcome to the students and ensures that their time at Zetech will be one to remember.



The presenters led by celebrated radio hosts Kazungu Mwinyi, Sally Kwendo and sports anchor George Waka interacting with the students during the event.

KBC'S RADIO TAIFA BROADCASTS LIVE FROM VARSITY GROUNDS

The University hosted a unique event that saw KBC's Radio Taifa pitch tent at the main campus grounds for a thrilling live radio broadcast with celebrated radio presenters from Radio Taifa's Top Mashariki Show.

There were a host of presenters led by celebrated radio hosts Kazungu Mwinyi, Sally Kwendo and sports anchor George Waka who interacted with the students and created a platform for the students to display their knowhow in radio broadcasting.

The team took the students through a number of stimulating activities including a 'Pepeta' competition which was won by Judith Oketch, a dancing competition won by media student Alfred Kilonzo with various exciting goodies being won. It was also timely occasion for Journalism students to display talent and skills with Augustine Kaloki outperforming her colleagues with a superb football news report which saw him collect a handsome cash reward.

"This is a great opportunity that the University has offered us to be able to present news live from the national broadcaster; we are very excited as journalism students and we hope to emulate the work ethics of the team from KBC to achieve our individual goals."

Moses Maina, Executive Director Communication, Corporate and Student Affairs at the university, observed that, "The varsity is honored to have the national broadcaster set tent at the campus in search and promotion of young media talents."

He added that the initiative was in line with the university's Talent Identification and Development Programme and hence it provided an apt opportunity to nurture and provide industry exposure to students.

Indeed, it was also an opportunity for other talents such as budding musicians from the university showcasing their music prowess which left KBC presenter Kazungu Mwinyi bowled over. He went ahead to collect their music for purposes of playing on national radio in coming episodes.

Some of the acts included musicians; Mr. Cleaning, Jeremiah Mutua, Faith Mulei and Braddie Joseph aka BJ, who expressed their pleasure at the unique opportunity presented to them.

Salama Ngala, a Journalism student, had the opportunity of interviewing presenters Kazungu Mwinyi and Sally Kwendo on what it took them excel in their careers with both of them highlighting hard work, passion and increased exposure in the media industry as key to their success.

VARSITY DRAMA CLUB LIGHTENS UP NAIROBI FESTIVALS



Drama club at the festivals held at the Technical University of Kenya

The university Drama and Music Club, The Furnace, once more lived up to expectation following a blissful performance at this year's Nairobi Metropolitan Drama Festivals held at the Technical University of Kenya from March 21st and 22nd. The festivals which attracted over 12 universities saw the university Play entitled *Chronicles to the Vatican* emerge the best in a tightly contested category. The play written and directed by Bobby Aloise revolves around a character called Job (played by Billy Idambila) who intends to get married to Melissa (played by Noel Ashioya). The father to the bride Benjamin (played by Michael Lucien) refuses to bless the marriage because Job has never brought forth his parents. Job on the other hand does not know his real parents because he was adopted from an orphanage by a gay couple though Job has never accepted them due to their affiliation. The priest upon realizing the affiliation of Job's parents also refuses to conduct the wedding ceremony.

The play aims at bringing out issues affecting the church and broadly seeks to have these issues addressed amicably before they tear into the integrity of the house of God.

In Choral Verse, the university took second position in the category following a splendid presentation of the verse titled *Ufurufuru* written by Benjamin Ondara. It brings forth the disturbing menace of terrorism and highlights the government's 'NyumbaKumi' initiative which Kenyans seem not to embrace.

In the verse, a group of young men force a watchman to let them in a estate without undergoing proper identification. Later on, it turns out they are terrorists to which the neighborhood lives to regret their ignorance.

In Solo Verse, Zetech emerged third (3) in a verse titled *Waiters of Death* written by Bobby Otieno. It attempts to address the issue of those in leadership dealing with pertinent issues only after they escalate to irreversible levels.

It was also a third position for the varsity Narrative performance also written by Bobby Otieno titled *Operation TafutaAluru*. Aluru is a Luo term referring to the Quail bird. It highlights the euphoria and disappointment that came with the quail bird, after members of a certain village are lured into investing their life savings into quail rearing business. The business collapses after they are swindled their investment by an agent from the city. The piece warns people to be careful before signing up for businesses deal that are too sweet.

The university other performances were in Cultural Creative Dance by Elisha Otieno titled *Lwang'niBichOtel* and a Modern Dance piece by Alex Kinyanjui titled *Chrchmares*. The two performances clinched third (3) positions in their respective categories.

At the end of the two day festival, Zetech University secured the second overall ranking of the best university. Indeed, Zetech also emerged as the only university to qualify all its performance items to the nationals which are set to begin on April 5th to 17th to be held in the city of Nakuru.

STUDENTS LEND A HAND AT CELEBRATED LARI MARATHON



Students pose after the successful Lari Marathon.

It was a pronounced moment as Zetech University students and staff braved the cold weather in Limuru, this past month to participate in the Lari marathon organized with the aim to save Kereita forest, situated in Kiambu County. This is the second time the marathon was being held to save the forest and Zetech was part of the corporates that supported the initiative, in partnership with National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), Capacity Africa, Kenya Forest Service and Equity Bank.

The event was marked with pomp and color as people from all walks of life, young and old, graced the occasion. Zetech students, on their part, took the role of officials by directing the marathoners and receiving the winners, which they did in style.

The event races kicked off with a popular 21 km half marathon, followed by a 12 km charge run and lastly, a 10 km and 5 km fun run.

The day's speakers discussed the significance of preserving the forest with Kenya Forest Service Chairman, Kiambu County, Fred Mwangi observing that, "for every three people in Nairobi, one drinks water from Kereita forest."

He also commended Zetech students, who donned royal blue, branded T-shirts during the event, for the role they played in

making the event a success and appreciated their continued support given it was the first time the university was taking part in the initiative.

Headlining the Zetech team, Zetech University CSR Officer Kenneth Kamero reaffirmed the institution's commitment to giving back and instilling a passion for community development in the students.

"It was a great experience for all of us and we are grateful at the opportunity to be a part of this worth cause," Kamero commented.

After hours of running for Kereita Forest, the organising team held a closing ceremony where they awarded the winning athletes and celebrated with the thousands of participants for a morning well spent.

Following rewarding of cash prizes to winners in the different categories, there was entertainment from backstage productions where one of the varsity's students, Joan Mukami, entertained fans with a few thrilling songs, serving as a curtain-raiser for other known artists and prompting students and adults alike to join in the exhilarating show.

Indeed, the university remains committed to partnering with other like-minded institutions to better serve the community and developing holistic student who appreciate the value of giving back.

OUTREACH AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME ABSORBS MUTHIGA GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL



Muthiga Girls Secondary students go through the university prospectus during the visit

It was yet another special occasion as the university hosted high school students from Muthiga Girls High school from Gatundu South at the Thika Road Campus who visited on a learning expedition on March 17th under the outreach and mentorship programme.

Receiving a welcome from staff and students, the visitors took a meticulous tour of the conspicuous and modern complex and later on went through an educative mentorship session on careers and co-curricular activities offered at the University.

Kicking off the event, experienced and energetic Emily Momanyi who is a senior career advisor engaged the girls on their career expectations offering the students tips on what to do to achieve their goals.

The university Vice Chancellor Prof. Edwin Wamukoya took his time to encourage the girls on the need to stand out and excel in their academics.

"It is critical for you to excel in all your subjects, especially math's and languages; this will boost your overall grade and enable you to secure a spot in a good university," said, Prof. Wamukoya added while addressing the forum.

In addition, Communications Lead and Head of Student Af-

fairs Moses Maina detailed the range of courses offered at the varsity and laid emphasis on the vibrant talent and development programme adopted at the institution.

"We understand the need to develop students academically as well as in extracurricular activities; I assure you it will be a wholesome enjoyable experience at Zetech University," Mr. Maina shared.

Accompanied by their Head Teacher and Chairman of their School Board, the girls were also treated to a lecture by a student turned staff Kenneth Kamero who serves as the CSR lead at the University.

Kamero encouraged the girls to develop passion outside academics as this will work to give them an edge ahead of their counterparts sharing his story on having been retained by the university because of his achievements and commitment in extra-curricular initiatives.

By the end of the eventful day, the students expressed their motivation and committed to excelling by taking an oath christened the 'Zetech Declaration' by the school's PTA Chairman who was present at the event. It read,

"I (name) declare that I shall never register a drop in the marks of all the exams I will do this year",

VARSITY CLEAN UP EXERCISE PROPS-UP BUSINESS HUB



Zetech staff with other volunteers at the Eastern Bypass following the clean up.

Environmental hygiene and nature conservation have for years remained at the core of the university elaborate Corporate Social Responsibility programmes. In keeping up with this custom, hundreds of university students and staff joined corporate organizations, Kiambu County Government and Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in an annual environment clean up exercise along the Eastern Bypass in Ruiru that was held on March 20th, 2015.

The event that was organized by Teachers Environment Rescue; a local NGO and the Ruiru Sunrise Resident's Association aimed at ridding the Eastern Bypass area which is a hub for hotels and restraints as well as various business ventures of unsettling litter and create a favorable environment for business.

The varsity team which was led by the Dean of Students, Elizabeth Muhia, took the opportunity to show leadership and commitment towards creating a sustainable environment clean and safe for public use.

The Other participants included corporate sponsors such as National Bank, KCB Group as well as a host of students from local primary and secondary schools with entertainment provided by the highly acclaimed Prisons Band – Ruiru.

Flagging off the cleanup, Minister for Environment, Kiambu County Esther Njuguna emphasized the need to conserve the environment while applauding the students for taking part in the initiative.

The University was represented by the Tourism, Environmental and Rotaract clubs as well as the upcoming Community Development Club, who aptly took part in the cleanup and tree planting session representing the university's commitment to upgrade the country's environment as a key pillar of its CSR programme.

ZETECH SPORTS TEAMS REPRESENT AT UNIVERSITY GAMES



(Left) Zetech Men's basketball Captain Jeremy Yongo receives the Runner's Up trophy from Males and Association's Head Mike Finley during the ZUBL Nairobi Final against Strathmore University.
(Right) Fans pose with the trophy.

It was a month of action as the Zetech Sports teams got down to business battling different universities and colleges to secure top spots across different disciplines.

The Zuku University Basketball League action set the stage as the Nyayo National played host to players and fans in a heated Nairobi Conference final that pitted the Zetech Titans against the Strathmore Blades, following a great performance by the teams during the league.

Dominating the first three quarters of the game, the team displayed a thrilling performance amid sustained cheering by their fellow students. The last quarter of the game was an intense affair that saw the Blades pick up their pace completing several three-point shots increasing their points against the Titans. Not to be left behind, our gents kept the pace until the last seconds of the game that saw the team fail to complete a two point shot that resulted in a 64-62 loss to the Strathmore side.

Having being the better team of the night, the Titans congratulated their opponents promising to put their best foot forward at the National finals slated for next weekend at Nyayo Stadium.

"Indeed it was an intense game, and the boys played a great game. Having led throughout the game, it was unfortunate that we lost the two points as the game was ending," said, Alfred Muli, Head of Sports, Zetech University.

Muli shared that the team has displayed a commendable performance in the league adding that in general, the university's sports teams are faring well and getting the recognition they deserve.

Meanwhile, in the Kenya Basketball Federation League, the Titans clinched a 68-52 win over Nairobi Aviation College. In the Universities and Colleges Football League, the Thika Road Campus team secured a 1-0 win over NIBS while the Nairobi Campus team managed a 0-0 draw in a game played against the University of Nairobi.

Commenting on the sports teams, the university Vice Chancellor Prof. Edwin Wamukoya shared that other universities have gained recognition in the higher institutions sports world as they are doing extremely well and further noted that this is a great testament to the growth of the university.

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