

ZETECH

-NEWS

A BULLETIN OF ZETECH UNIVERSITY



POMP AND GLAMOUR AS VARSITY CROWNS MR AND MISS ZETECH UNIVERSITY 2015

One of Kenya's most anticipated and hyped university beauty pageant spectacle, The Mr and Miss Zetech gala night came down in the month of May to mark one of the key highlights in the university's student activity calendar. The scintillating 2015 edition took place on the evening of Friday May 22nd at LE63 Lounge Grounds, at Uhuru Gardens along Langata Road and as expected, it was a night made of memorable moments.

After months of rigorous training and hard work, it was time to separate the wheat from the chuff with Engineering Major student Daniel Rafiro and Journalism Major Victoria Rugutt, taking home the top crowns beating a total of 22 contestants. Importantly, the two exhibited great charisma to excel in the numerous categories and convincing the judges and the audience that they truly have what it takes to

represent the university.

Given the pompous nature of the event, excitement and glitz eclipsed the chilly evening weather on location. To mark the supreme status of the event, numerous show-biz celebrities graced the gala with entertainment provided by some of the leading lights in the local music sphere including the ever impressive Wyre The Love Child, Hip Hop sensation Rabbit – Kaka Sungura, beautiful and vocally talented Avril, and the gifted H-Art The Band. The events MCs were comedians Chipukezy and Sleepy David.

The show, kicked off with entertainment from the varsity's pool of talent getting an excellent platform to display their ability to engage and entertain fans, in a public setting. Shortly after, the models set the tone for the night with a dance routine that convinced the crowd that they were in for a great night.



“It was amazing that the rain could not stop a great show. We were so excited to witness hundreds of students, their friends, staff and the university management fight the rain to make it to the event.” shared Elizabeth Muhia, Dean of Student Affairs, Zetech University.

The catwalk categories that characterized the night included the Smart Casual Wear, Career Walk, African wear, Dinner Wear and a thought-provoking question and answer session that was a critical aspect as it tested the ability of the contestants to engage in current affairs and exhibit their public speaking skills as the role would demand.

Commenting on the categories, Zetech University staff Fiona Achieng shared that the smart casual wear was her favorite while university graphic designer Benson Momanyi felt that the career category was the best as a result of the creative careers presented in a fashionable way by the enthusiastic contestants.

“I think the models did well in all the categories, but the casual wear session was very appealing and fun to watch.” Momanyi offered.

In between the walks, the MCs for the night, celebrated Kenyan Comedians Chipukeezy and Sleepy David entertained fans with killer jokes all the while easily complementing the runway sessions with appropriate but hilarious anecdotes in between the serious sessions of the night to keep everyone engaged.

To crown the night, the current Miss Universe Kenya, who is a journalism student at Zetech, Gayleyne Ayugi, Miss World Kenya Idah Nguma, Miss World Kenya 1st Runners Up who is also the reigning Miss Kirinyaga County Lucy Wangechi and Miss World Kenya: Siaya County Celestine Awour graced the event to give their support and witness the varsity’s talent.

“We thought it would be good to reserve a special sitting for the current Kenya title holders who have been through the same experience as the contestants. They provided great inspiration throughout as some of them had engaged the contenders before the big night.” shared Kenneth Kamero, who was tasked to invite these special guests.

After a highly competitive runway thrill and engaging

question and answer session, it was time for the six external judges to declare with winners with Daniel and Victoria emerging the Zetech King and Queen. In addition, the university awarded the Mr and Miss Zetech University 2nd Runners up, basketball players Jeremy Opiyo and Jemimah Night while the 1st runners up went to the popular Jamal Ahmed and Grace Wanjiku.

Moreover, the judges settled on Jamal Ahmed and Baby Haroun as the Mr and Miss Congeniality; a category that celebrates the most liked contestants in the show.

During the rewarding moment, headlined by the University’s Founder and Chairman Eng. Ken Mbiuki and the University Vice Chancellor Prof. Edwin Wamukoya, the overall winners received cash rewards, Itel smart phones, gift vouchers and a night for two in Zanizibar courtesy of the university and the event sponsors: Itel, Red bull, My Uni App and Le 63 restaurant for their exemplary performance. The 1st and 2nd Runners Up also took home exciting gifts.

“It was an amazing night and we are so proud of all the contestants,” said Moses, adding, “We are eager to engage the winners in productive initiatives and we believe all the participants have a great future.

Once the crowning session was done, award winning artist Avril took to the stage as a receptive crowd cheered on as she kicked off her performance for the night. Thereafter, popular rapper Rabbit thrilled fans with hits from his latest album- Legend of Kaka while the spoken word pros and musicians H_art the band gave an electrifying performance. At the close of the night, gospel hit maker Pitson closed the night giving the night a soothing end.

Both winners, Daniel Rafiro and Victoria Rugutt defined the win as indescribable, unexpected and overwhelming, each commenting on how grateful they are at the opportunity.

Once again, the university has stood out by ensuring that one of the most popular varsity events was a great success and that the talent development was taken to another level and given the right exposure to propel the talented students to higher level.

Now, the university student community and the public are eager to see how the new King and Queen will fair in representing Zetech University; congratulations to the 2015 Mr and Miss Zetech University Daniel Rafiro and Victoria Rugutt.

BRAND YOURSELF FOR SUCCESS, URGES VICE CHANCELLOR PROF. WAMUKOYA

Zetech University Vice Chancellor Prof. Edwin Wamukoya has urged High School students to wholeheartedly brand themselves for a successful future while in their formative years. Speaking during a career fair held at Nairobi's Buruburu Girls High School, Prof Wamukoya encouraged students to dig deep and determine what they are at good at, and positioning themselves for excellence as part of branding oneself.

"Self-branding is basically how you package and sell yourself to your prospective employers, desired industry and to the world. In the society we live in today, you cannot afford to only excel in academics but you have to discover your strengths and use them to stand out", noted Wamukoya.

Organised to educate and inspire the young learners to make informed career decisions, the university team through the high school mentorship programme, took the students through the processes of identifying personal strengths and passion and aligning them to pursue a fulfilling career.

Cognizant of the fact that a majority of adults do not have the opportunity to realize that personal branding is a significant element in establishing oneself in their desired career path, Prof. Wamukoya emphasized on the need for young people to discover and play up their strengths while reflecting on their weaknesses and working towards improving them.

To cultivate your brand, the vice chancellor highlighted a few areas for keen consideration:

- Start thinking of yourself as a brand- what do you wish

for people to associate with you when they think of your name?

- Do a SWOT Analysis. Take some time to think about your Strengths, Weaknesses, the Opportunities open for you as well as any Threats you foresee that will affect the brand You.

- Identify your goals: Many adults do not think about what they want to achieve and struggle in life because they have not decided what they want to do. You should take your time to really think about what you want to do and this will help you make the right decisions.

-At Zetech, we advise incoming students to be present before they register for classes to ensure they are the ones deciding what course they want to take. We have many career advisors who can help you in choosing the right course that suits what you want.

- Talk to your family members and your close friends. These are the people who can give you a glimpse of what they see in you and this will help you identify who you are. Use this information to develop the brand 'You'.

- Invest time and if need be money in learning skills as this empowers you to stand above the rest and position yourself better in our highly competitive society.

"So as a young person, I urge you to take time to decide what you want and who you want to be. We also welcome you to Zetech where we will help you build your career and develop your talents that all contribute to the brand 'You'", concluded Prof. Wamukoya.

STUDENTS UNDERGO CAREER TRAINING TO PREPARE THEM FOR THE JOB MARKET

The quest to develop graduates who are fit to effortlessly join the competitive job market is a constant debate in the country. Indeed, it is critical that institutions of higher learning instill the necessary knowledge and skills in their students to achieve this goal.

In this light, the Zetech Tourism and Community Development students were exposed to career knowledge during an engaging talk organized by the varsity's Placement Office; a talk designed to educate them on the needs of the job market and empower them to engage in forums to build the necessary skills.

The event, that took place at the Stanbank Campus, saw the facilitators take the students through various guidelines on how one can be secure employment following completion of their studies, which included skills on how to write impressive CVs and cover letters while in school as well as after graduating.

The event speaker, Calvince Owuor from Dataspecs Consultant Ltd encouraged the students to work hard both in class work and in co-curriculum activities, emphasizing that university clubs help to develop other elements of an individual.

Owuor proceeded to share a story of a student hand-

picked from a co-curriculum event and offered a job after immediately after completing school, to serve as an inspiration to the participants.

"It is important that you define what you want to achieve from the moment you join college and furthermore, engage in clubs as these forums will add value to your CV and cause you to stand out." Owuor told the students.

The enthusiastic students posed numerous questions confirming how interesting the topic is and eventually, they requested for another talk on the same topic to broaden their perspective and increase knowledge.

The varsity's Placement Officer, Lameck Tala, noted that the event was a success, adding that, "the students have shown great interest and participation in the career talks undertaken bi-weekly at the university. Indeed, this calls for organization of more talks and the Placement Office is keen on expanding this programme."

Without a doubt, the talk highlighted the varsity's commitment to see the student body develop confidence to join the job market and empower them to stand out from the crowd.

ZETECH ALUMNI COMMIT TO FOSTER UNIVERSITY VISION AND DEVELOPMENT



James Onsomu(I), Kevin Mukuria(second r), James Odhiambo(r) pose with the Zetech University Placement Officer Lameck Tala(second l) during an alumni meet up.

In a bid to extend and deepen their role in the development of the university, the Zetech University Alumni Association gathered its members in late April where they unanimously resolved to inject time and resources towards positioning the association as a dependable advancement instrument both at individual and institutional level.

This was resolved in a member's seminar that sort to reemphasize the critical role played by alumni in the lives of students and the overall growth of an institution. The event was spearheaded by the varsity' Placement Office through which the management's commitment to fully embrace the alumni in steering Zetech to higher heights was relayed.

As is custom at Zetech, the university management led by the Dean of Student Affairs and Campus Directors were present to communicate the university's appreciation and support in all endeavors the Alumni will embark on, to grow the varsity.

"Alumni remain critical to the growth and development of any institution; it is a great forum for you all to interact, network as well as mentor our student community." Elizabeth Muhia, Dean of Student Affairs said to the members.

The group on their part, led by the Alumni Association

Chairman Nicholas Saoke and Vice Chair Steve Dongla, engaged in a lengthy debate on ideas to grow the association and to capture interest from as many former students as possible.

The team agreed to fast track preparations for an upcoming Alumni luncheon that is scheduled to take place in June and is expected to further engage the alumni in a night of networking, interaction and forward thinking.

"This is a great opportunity for us to give back to Zetech as it played a key role in making us get to where we are today; let us work together and be passionate about progressing the university." shared Dongla, the Alumni Vice Chair.

Following hours of deliberation, the team agreed to improve on communication amongst all alumni and agreed that indeed there is need to amplify communication to reach as many Zetech alumni and to make sure the Zetech Alumni Association is one of the best in the country and across the continent.

Indeed, the role of alumni of an institution cannot be understated as they are well placed to understand the challenges faced by students and leaders, as well as take up the responsibility of mentoring young minds.

BUSINESS CLUB UNDERGOES ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING.



The Zetech Business Club is one of the prestigious clubs in the institution with the leaders seeking opportunities to develop their growing member base through trainings designed to empower the club.

Recently, the club members underwent an entrepreneurship boot camp, headed by the Harriet Group of Companies in an edition themed, “Dream Big Dream Entrepreneurship”. The boot camp was designed to train the members on exploring and fully understanding the concept of entrepreneurship.

“We continue to seek avenues to empower our club members to enable them to think of sustainable business ideas as we create entrepreneurs for the future,” shared David Manza, the Club Chairman.

Manza added that the training saw the over 20 students benefit from the knowledge shared by the trainers who provided guidance on how to excel in entrepreneurship at the training which took place in Karen.

Following the training, a ceremony was held at the Thika Road Campus where the participants were gifted with certificates of participation as a demonstration of their focus and commitment in complementing their academics with knowledge of the business world.

Commenting on the growth of the club and the increased activities aimed at developing the members, the Club Patron Bernard Mogire observed that it indeed critical that students are empowered on the opportunities to create wealth and employment following their university education.

“Not everyone gets employed and students need to be proficient in coming up with viable business ideas that can propel them in the business world where they can be the ones to create employment.” Mogire shared.

Zetech University Business Club, Organizing Secretary, Mr. Teddy Aboka hands over a certificate of participation to Business Club member Ms. Hamdi Noor following the entrepreneurship bootcamp

ZETECH LEADS OTHER VARSITIES IN TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE

The varsity’s Environmental Club, guided by Corporate Social Responsibility Officer Kenneth Kamero, was joined by other universities in a tree planting event at the Michuki forest, along Nairobi River. The event saw several environmental clubs from various universities, among them: Jomo Kenyatta University of Science and Technology, Moi University, Egerton University and the University of Nairobi.

The initiative comes against the backdrop of the World Environment Day that is celebrated every 5th of June to stimulate worldwide awareness of environmental issues.

The enthusiastic young environmentalists in their hundreds, headed by the King of Environment from Zetech, Brian Ian and Queen of Environment Lillian Mugo from Moi University, planted trees along the water way in a bid to improve the city’s environment.

The students then proceeded to the National Museums of Kenya where the contestants for this year’s upcoming Mr and Miss Zetech University beauty pageant showcased their spectacular moves amid cheers from the crowd, before proceeding for a talk on environmental protection by United Nations Environment Programme -

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(UNEP) Official in Charge of Environmental Education and Training, Brian Waswa.

“Environmental protection is our obligation and I am very pleased that university students are playing their role in saving our nature, by taking part in tree planting; I commend you for that.” Said Brian, who was very pleased by the work well done.

All the participants established that it was a day well spent with the King of Environment, Brian Ian, promising that more students will be involved in conservation of Kenya’s environment.

“I urge you to continue with this spirit of preserving the environment and I assure you that I shall lead from the front, in ensuring the youth do their part.” He added.

It was indeed a great moment for the varsity as it affirmed its commitment to community participation and environmental preservation, as the institution is focused on ensuring students understand the value of giving back and enriching their community through such initiatives.



King and Queen Environment Brian Ian and Lillian Mugo



Some of the participants with their trees



The participants pose for a photo with the planted trees at Uhuru Park

ZETECH SCHOOL OF HOSPITALITY FETED AT INTER-COLLEGIATE CHALLENGE



The Zetech School of Hospitality students pose after the challenge at Thika Road Campus.

The institution's School of Hospitality received a major boost after it excelled in the famed Susan's Kitchen Inter-collegiate challenge; a contest that pits institutions against each other in a cook off championed by renowned chef and cooking consultant, Susan Kamau.

Famous for her cooking TV show and food magazine Susan Kamau's Kenyan Kitchen, Susan Kamau and her able team set up house at the Zetech main campus and stationed four tables to house 8 contestants, in teams of two. The Zetech teams consisting of Kevin Mbugua, Nicodemus Nzau, Ann Mweru, Stanley Maina, were competing against Mount Kenya University's Hospitality students.

As the teams readied themselves for an epic cook off, students from the Zetech campuses and the Mount Kenya University fans filled the room as they prepared to be wowed and to cheer on their favorite teams. Outside the cooking area, the partners of the event- Lucky Star, Tropical Heat, and Leleshwa Wine-pitched tent in order to sensitize the audience on the offerings they provide.

Commenting on the event, Kenneth Maiteri, Head of Department, School of Hospitality and Tourism at Zetech University, shared that the team felt the challenge would be both educative and empowering for the students.

"It is definitely a confidence boost for our students and we thrive in providing theory and practical lessons for them. We are indeed thankful to have accepted and worked with a well known chef such as Susan in the challenge." Maiteri added.

The students, who were charged with preparing

a dish titled the Fish Pâté, accompanied by fried rice and wine sauce, set off in their pairs to cook the meal in front of a large audience amid encouragement from their counterparts. To enable the teams to work in good time, they each had assistants who were referred to as Runners, who were tasked to ensure the cooks had all they needed and that their cooking areas were constantly cleaned up.

"We will be checking on how you work as a team to achieve your goal as well as how presentable and tasty the meal is," Susan told the teams, adding, "We will also test the cleanliness adopted as you cook, as every cooking station is required to be spotless."

After hours of heat, excitement, cooking and the pleasant scent of the different flavours mixing together, Susan made her rounds checking the presentation of the meal, how well-made the dishes were, how they tasted and the attitude of the participants as she asked questions on their preparation process.

Finally, one of the Zetech teams, consisting of Kevin Mbugua and Nicodemus Nzau, was declared the day's winner, after their preparation met all the requirements of the judge and were jubilant as they celebrated with their lecturers and fellow students.

"It was a fantastic experience. We were challenged on how to make a good meal in a given period of time and we are honoured to have been announced the day's winners. We are grateful to our faculty Heads for the opportunity." said an excited Kevin Mbugua after the win.

As a result of a job well done, the participants were gifted with tokens from the event partners while Zetech took home the title of the winner of the Susan's Kitchen Inter-collegiate challenge against Mount Kenya University.

ZETECH BASKETBALL TEAMS SOAR IN NAIROBI BASKETBALL LEAGUE



The Sparks pose after beating Africa Nazarene University during the Nairobi Basketball games.



Zetech Sharks pose with coach Maurice Obilo after winning their game against USIU.

The Zetech basketball teams yet again displayed exemplary performances in the ongoing Nairobi Basketball League games that continue to take shape every weekend.

The ladies, referred to as the Zetech Sparks, rose to expectation by thrashing African Nazarene University a whopping 48 points against the opponent's 11 points, after a heated game at the Railways Club in Nairobi County.

The game was characterized by the Sparks dominating all quarters of the match among chants and cheers by the team's supporters and managing to complete successive shots to claim their triumph.

Maurice Obilo, an undeniably proud Coach, expressed delight at the team's performance, noting that the team has sustained stamina, winning a majority of the competitive games this year.

"The ladies were able to maintain the lead throughout the game and I am proud of their efforts. We plan to continue



Zetech Sharks captain Jotham Kizito poses with the results

training and doing our best to ensure with rise in the league.” he shared.

Meanwhile, the men’s team titled Zetech Sharks gave a thrilling performance the same afternoon as they met head on with the USIU basketball team. In front of a gathering of fans, mostly championing for Zetech to win, the game kicked off in high gear with the Sharks taking the lead almost immediately.

The 1st quarter saw both teams garner just a few points as both teams were highly charged and focused a lot on defense. However, by the close of the 1st section of the match, the Sharks were on a 5 point lead against USIU.

In the subsequent quarters, the Sharks battled to maintain the lead with some of the point guards-Dennis Kithithu and Ian Miundu empowering the team to maintain a 10 point lead ahead of their opponents.

“The Sharks continue to impress; USIU is indeed a tough team and registering a win against them is definitely a plus for the Sharks,” commented Alfred Muli, Head of Sports, Zetech University.

As the games came to a dramatic close, an impressive and consequent double shot by point guard Ian Muindu saw the Sharks soar to a 49-38 lead against USIU. With only 10 seconds of play left, the Sharks managed to garner more points and ultimately, they claimed a 51-38 victory over USIU.

Noting the great performance of the teams, the university’s Dean of Student Affairs Elizabeth Muhaia extended a congratulatory message to the teams while observing that the management remains committed to providing all that the teams will need to continue excelling in the games.



Sparks in action during the game



Zetech Sharks with a free throw from a technical foul.

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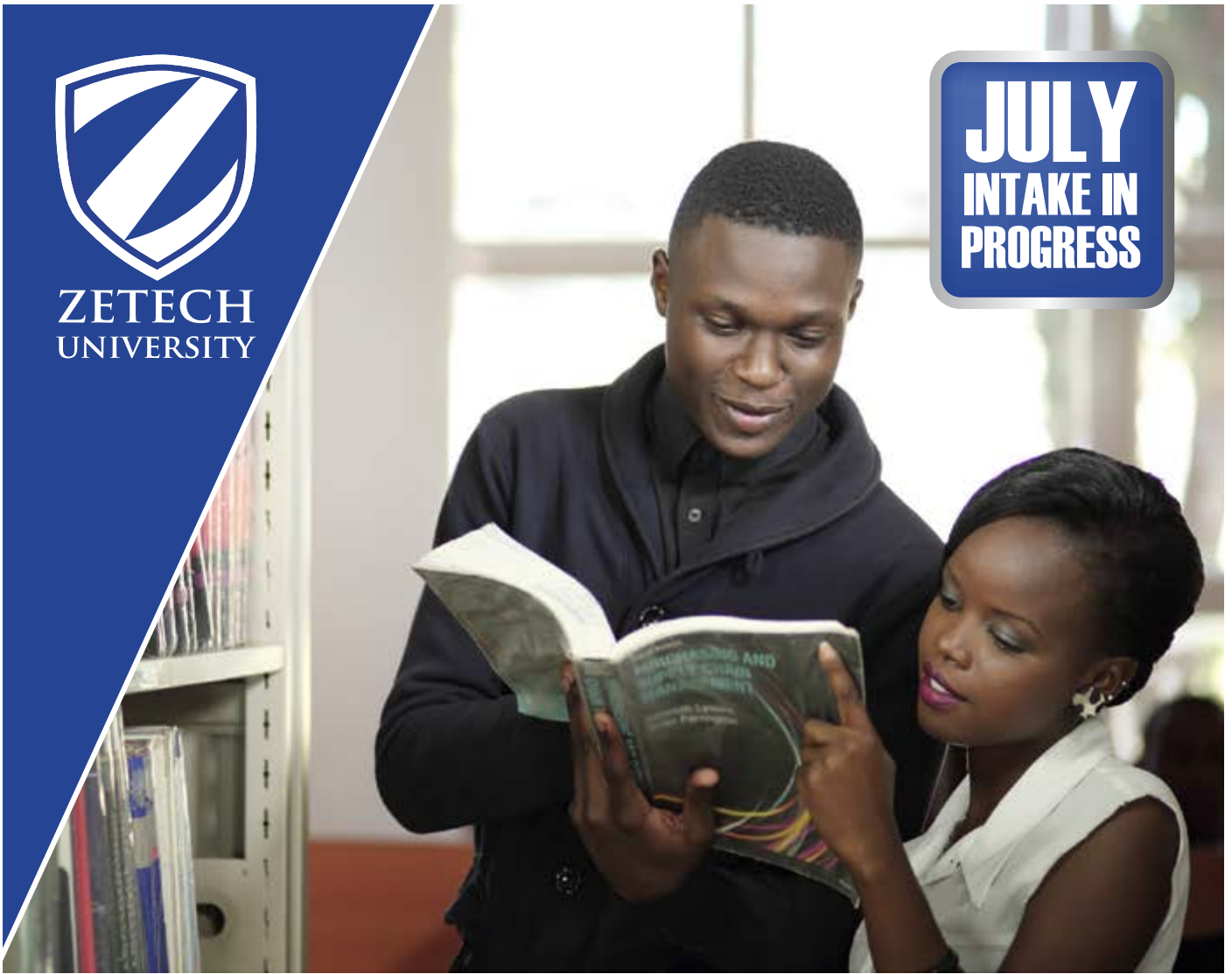
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