First years for 2019-2020 academic year reports

More than one thousand five hundred freshmen reports for their first year at the University of Kabianga. They will pursue various degree programs in the seven schools. Page 2

BYOB Storms University of Kabianga for Blaze mentorship and training.

The University of Kabianga was on a beehive of activities on Saturday 14th September, 2019. Royal Media’s Citizen Radio, Safari-com and Blaze were at the University to train students on Being Your Own Boss (BYOB).

The thrillful entertainment session - Mseto Campus Tour (2.00 - 4.00) led by Mzazi Willy Tuva and DJ Flash was aired live by Radio Citizen from the University Grounds. On behalf of the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Wilson Kipngeno, the DVC (A & SA) Prof. Elijah Omwenga appreciated the Royal Media, Safari-com and Blaze for bringing Mseto Campus Tour to the University of Kabianga. The tour was not only to entertain the students but on the useful training they did on various skills based on the theme: “Be your own boss”. Page 4
The freshmen receive wise counsel by the University Vice-Chancellor.

I wish to congratulate you for the hard work that earned you an admission to the University of Kabianga. Your hard work enable you to attain the minimum cluster requirements for the course you have been admitted to.

I know that for the last four days you have been taken through an elaborate orientation programme which includes familiarization with your school, academic programmes, rules and regulations, meeting with senior members of staff; the DVCs, Deans, Registrars and many other activities which were programmed for the week.

Your life in the University is very different from the life you underwent in high school. University life for you, freshmen will be the first real experience of freedom, freedom of intellect, freedom of expression, freedom to do what you want to do and when to do it. Here in the University you have academic freedom. I urge you to exercise this freedom which you have been entrusted in you by the culture in the University responsibly. Whatever you do, remember choices have consequences. Watch out. If you choose not to attend classes regularly, I can for sure warn you that you have great difficulties passing your examinations.

Freshmen, kindly note that you have just entered into a new beginning in your academic life; in which you are the driver. While you are here at UoK you will have the opportunity to learn new things, acquire new knowledge, innovate and develop new skills that will equip you for life after university. You will be with us for four years and your graduation will definitely be a big milestone in this lifelong journey.

My appeal to you as the first year students is to maximize the opportunity and utilize the enabling environment availed to you to be innovative in pursuit of knowledge.

The University strives to create an enabling environment through provision of essential services and facilities to meet the diverse academic, social and co-curricular needs of its students. The required infrastructural facilities are continually being developed and improved to ensure that quality services are rendered.

Also the Vice-Chancellor asked the freshmen to avoid social behaviour that could bring harm such as betting culture, drug abuse, radicalization, HIV/AIDS and its effects which has been cause of many suicides among the youths.
KEBS 1st Surveillance Audit carried out at the University of Kabianga.

The University of Kabianga was given ISO Certification 19001:2015, Last year 2018.

The 1st Surveillance Audit was carried out by the University’s ISO certifying body Kenya Bureau of Standards on 13th and 14th August, 2019. Audit was anchored on ISO 9001:2015 Fifth edition and the Quality Management System. This is in line to determine the conformity of the University management system, or parts of it, with audit criteria;

Ability of the management system to ensure the client meets applicable statutory, regulatory and contractual requirements, effectiveness of the management system to ensure the client can reasonably expect to achieving its specified objectives and identification of areas for potential improvement of the management system.

During the audit the certifying body found the University to be in line and in conformity, as institution mandated with training, research and extension services.

Internal audits are undertaken as Planned. Internal audits were carried out in March and July 2019.

Compliance to statutory requirement was noted. Based on the findings, the Quality management system at University of Kabianga is being implemented to ensure an effective QMS based on the applicable and sampled requirements of ISO 9001:2015 standard.

By Nicholas Langat
Dear Comrades!

Welcome to University of Kabianga, and congratulations for excelling in your form four examinations and for choosing to study in this great university. You must have heard a lot of stories about compass life but apparently here you are, to experience the reality.

Allow me to share my experience for the four years I was a student here—Experience is the best teacher!

Rules, regulations & Freedom—Unlike in Secondary schools, you will realize that in campus there is much freedom. May be that is because it is believed that all of us are mature and therefore can make informed decisions. Because of that freedom, many of you will think that there are no rules and regulations. It is unwise to think that in the 21st century, such a cosmopolitan and civilized society can exist without rules and regulations to govern the conduct of its residents.

You will only realize that there are clear rules and regulations when you find yourself in the wrong.

Drug and substance abuse—It is true that there is a high rate of drug and substance abuse among many campus students. Statistics indicate that at the time of admission, 90% of us have no idea of what drug and substance abuse is all about. However, after one month, 50% of us will have begun experimenting with drug and substance abuse. By the time we are in second year, almost 80% of us are seriously hooked to drug and substance abuse.

Drug and substance abuse can be as a result of numerous reasons—idleness, having excess money, peer pressure. The effects of drug and substance abuse are numerous—failure to clear our studies in the required time, squandering school fees, indulging in irresponsible behavior etc.

Relationships—Just like any other societal set up, relationships are part of campus life. Relationships are important in life; relationships can take us closer to where we desire to go or far away from our goal and vision in life. The cardinal question we need to ask ourselves before we add anybody to our face book, watsApp page or even contact phone book is this: What value does this person stand to contribute towards my vision and goals in life?

How close or far away are they from the things, values, aspirations and principles that I hold in life?

The people you surround yourself with in life matter a lot in the path to your destiny.

It has been said, show me the people around you and I will tell you who you really are.

If you surround yourself with visionary people, you become visionary;
If you surround yourself with innovators, you become an innovator;
If you surround yourself with people who have strong work ethics, you cannot be lazy;
If you surround yourself with people who have positive energy, you develop optimism in life;
If you surround yourself with people who are investment and saving oriented, you will invest for the future.

There are various relationships but the worst of all are sexual relationships. To most students in campus, you are incomplete if you don’t have a girlfriend, sex is something good!

Before you engage in a sexual relationship, take time and thing about the consequences: Heart breaks, Pregnancies, HIV/AIDS

Continue Page 5
LIVING A LIFE WITH A PURPOSE IN CAMPUS.

Continuation... Living up to our means-We have come from different backgrounds with varied financial bases. Some are well off while others are not. We are born under the same sky but brought up under different horizons. Cut your coat according to your cloth. We are not equal and we shall never be equal. Be proud and happy of who you are.

Do not force yourself into doing what others are doing if the size of our pocket does not permit and what is against your values; betting, drinking, partying, eating expensive meals etc.

Suicides- In the recent past, cases of suicides among campus students have been on the headlines. While it has always been difficult to establish the real causes, such incidences are most of the time related to sexual relationships, financial issues, betting, parental conflicts etc. It is always good to share your predicaments with others. Do not die alone.

Carry out research on your area of study- The mandate of the university is to teach, conduct research and extension services. Conducting research will build your intellectual capability.

Build on your competency-Many people have degrees outside there and the labor market needs competent, creative and innovative individuals. Always strive to brand yourself as the best person who organizations will want to have.

Take part in co-curricular activities-games and sports, drama and music etc.

Join and participate in clubs and societies e.g. debate club, peace club, environmental club etc.

Take part in leadership-student leadership

Remember where you have come from; remember the sacrifices that have been made for you; perhaps the whole village did a fundraiser in order for you to be able to join campus, your parents sold their property-land, machinery, cattle etc.

Always strive to leave a positive legacy-How will UoK remember you when you finish your studies? Remember you came here alone and you will go back alone.

After your stay here, you should be an ethical and all-round person. You should be able to appreciate the diversity of all the Kenyan communities and the society in general.

By Carlos Mumba
Former President of the Students Organization, University of Kabianga.

Blaze in Conjunction with Safaricom and Royal Media gave insights and practical lessons to the students on how to be self-reliant and stop depending on seeking employment.

During training Blaze promise support and nature talents in music industry, arts and business ideas, They have been incubating talents of many youths countrywide, Presenter Willy Tuva known for his entertainment show dubbed Mseto East Africa gave platform to perform with top artists and disk jokers (DJs)

By Nicholas Langat
**In Pictorials**

Blaze Preparation. Photo/ Courtesy Blaze

Blaze gaming. Photo/ Courtesy Blaze

Deans at VC’s address to Freshmen. Photo/ Nicholas Langat

Sessions of Training by blaze. Photo/ Courtesy Blaze

Vice-Chancellor address to Freshmen. Photo/ Nicholas Langat

Students follow keenly during blaze workshop. Photo/ Nicholas Langat.
The Directorate of Gender together with Dean of student’s office organized for a talk to the first-year students’ of 2019/2020 class

The talk centered on sensitization of gender mainstreaming, relationship, gender violence among others.

Gender violence also known as Gender Based Violence is the term used to denote harm inflicted upon individuals and groups that is connected to normative understanding of their gender. The harm can be physical, economic, mental social and spiritual.

Some of the forms of violence perpetrated by individuals are rape, domestic violence, sexual harassment, reproductive coercion, female infanticide, prenatal sex selection, obstetric violence and mob violence among others.

It is the role of the Directorate to sensitize students and staff members on GBV through workshops, seminars among other programs.

Gender Mainstreaming is the public policy concept of assessing the different implications for people of different genders of any planned policy action, including legislation and programmes, in all areas and levels.

Equality involves ensuring that the perceptions, interests, needs and priorities of women and men (which can be very different because of the different roles and responsibilities) will be given equal weight in planning and decision making.

The Directorate of Gender ensures there is equality and equity in resource allocation.

The students taken through how to have healthy relationship’s. Healthy relationships are enjoyable and respectful and provide opportunities for many positive experiences that affect self-esteem. We can develop healthy relationships with anyone, including family, friends, and dating partners. It takes time, energy, and care to develop positive, healthy relationships. Relationships made during the teenage years can become very special and may form an important part of life. There are also many lessons to be learned from the relationships we have.

Healthy dating relationships should start with the same ingredients that healthy friendships have, such as effective communication, honesty, and respect. Dating relationships are a little different than other relationships, however, because they may include expressions of physical affection that may range from hugging, kissing, or holding hands to sexual intercourse.

All healthy relationships between two partners are characterized by communication, respect, sharing, and trust. They are based on the belief that both partners are equal and that decision making in the relationship is shared equally. Students also receive insights on implications of drug and substance production and/or procurement and use are having far reaching effects having influences on farmers and communities growing crops for the illicit drug industry in terms of agricultural development in respect of poverty, employment and marginalization. The drug and substance use problem is also affecting agricultural professionals as well as the farming communities.

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By: David Anunda
Gender Department
Poem

AN ACADEMIC’S SOLITUDE

For those who must endure the loneliness of their reading chambers

When I started alone on the long lonely path
The dark fearsome night was cold in its death
And there was no moonlight the path to bath
And the stars did not dance the sky’s breadth

I dug myself into my reading chamber of solitude…
Shakespeare, Dostoyevsky, Tolstoy, Maya, Soyinka, Ogot, Imbuga, Achebe, and Ngugi
They all were inside the bar this very night –
Each ordering me, a stout drink of their brewing:
And I did imbibe the fiery liquid of their cellars.

Shakespeare looked hither and yonder,
He told the waiter of Stratford-Upon-Avon,
Then ordered me a keg of Elizabethan Tragedy;
Soyinka got bizarre and mysterious … hard to crack
And called from the Ogun hunters – a tot of Yoruba Special;
Achebe, excusing Ngugi’s delay to deliver muratina,
Muratina that tasty as Petals of Blood,
Waved Shakespeare quiet, and pushed towards me his:
On the counter arrived, a horn-ful of Umuofian palm wine,
I silently sipped in the noise of a bar already falling apart.
But before Achebe explained, Dostoyevsky,
Very like the Karamazovs,
Let his Lordly beard dance over his chest
As he described the priest friend of Alyosha,
The one of a rotting carcass.
This man, Fyodor, he ordered me stiff Russian Vodka,
Vodka wrapped in 736 pages of paperback,
Laced in this drink, was his: The Brothers Karamazov.

So, very late, I left the bar
I walked in the poetry of Maya Angelou’s verses,
Slowly, quietly, blissfully,
I slipped from wakefulness into sleep,
And entered the trance of my dreams…
Dreams of a man lost in isolation.
And I, the man in the loneliness of my reading chamber,
In wistful but lofty seclusion, decided:
That this verse, must remain First Draft.

Wesonga Robert, PhD
Lecturer School of Arts and Social Sciences
The University of Kabianga attracts International students to its competitive programmes.

University of Kabianga Kapkatet Campus, specialize with health course and it has proof with time that it’s leader in the region, the latest Public Health Officers & Technicians Council (PHOTC) Final Qualifying Examinations, five (5) among the ten (10) national who qualified were from the University of Kabianga, Kapkatet Campus.

In 2019/2020 academic year the campus attracted international students. In this years’ (2019) admission, campus attracted students from Liberia and South Sudan.

Among the 70 Kenyan youth selected to participate in the Language Assistants Program is University of Kabianga’s Ignatius Aura Makomere. The youth drawn from Kenyan universities were selected from an initial list of more than 500 applicants. To qualify to take part in this thrilling and lucrative programme, one is expected to have a good knowledge of French and be enrolled in a Kenyan university at the time of application. Therefore one does not need to be enrolled in a degree in education. Ignatius Aura Makomere is an actuarial science student graduating this December. He had enrolled for the Certificate in French programme offered by the School of Arts and Social Sciences which helped him to improve the French he had learnt in high school. During the application processes, one needs confidential recommendations and for Ignatius the recommendations from the University French Tutors immensely boosted his dossier. Every year France welcomes 4000 language assistants from all over the world. The assistant de langue programme is expected to give the participants an opportunity to improve their level of French and knowledge of France. The participants who will be attached to both primary and secondary schools would be expected offer basic English classes in various institutions in France for the next 7 months. This is the first time Kenyan students from various universities across the country are participating in the Language Assistants Program. It gives participants an opportunity to experience cultural diversity while earning some money for their upkeep.

Application for next year’s program have been announced and as University of Kabianga wishes Ignatius a Bon Voyage, it hopes that more students from Kabianga will participate in future.

Registration for the French Certificate course is ongoing and the classes start on 3rd October, 2019.

Jacqueline Jebet Kandagor, French Lecturer, School of Arts and Social Science

The French Ambassador Aline Kuster-Menager addressing Kenyans students who leave for France after being selected for the Language Assistants program. /Photo French Embassy Facebook page