UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 1 April
Linux Certification from LPI - Cohort 1
@ the Software Lab, LKB Building

Tuesday 5 April
Round-table Panel Discussion
"Future of Higher Education in Kenya"
@ 8.30 am, Graduation Square

Thursday 7 April
Vice Chancellor's Inauguration
@ 9am, Graduation Square
ADMISSIONS TEAM REPRESENT UNIVERSITY AT EDUCATION FAIR

During the Nairobi International Education Exhibition held from 10-12 March, the USIU-Africa stand was voted second best! The 3-day expo which attracted over 75 local and international exhibitors, exposed prospective students to the various programs offered in each university. The Admissions team which prepared and presented at the stand, were recognized based on the depth of information provided to prospective students as well as the good setup and organizational design.

The admissions office also participated in the Commission for University Education (CUE) Education Exhibition that ran from 17th-19th March in Mombasa. Such fairs provide prospective students with opportunities to interact face to face with admissions counselors.

STUDENTS RAISE FUNDS TO ATTEND RUGBY TOURNAMENT

Members of the Women’s rugby team with the assistance of the Office of Fundraising and External Relations organized a car wash project on campus from 15-17 March. Over KES 60000 was raised to support the team travel to Nakuru for the 10-A-Side tourney held on the March 20.

As for the tourney, the team went on to reach the plate final, before losing to Shamas 22-0. The very next weekend, March 25, the ladies emphatically defeated Impala and Quins, before succumbing to Mwamba 12-5, and finally drawing with KCB 5-5.

FOR YOUR SAFETY

A few pointers from the Department of Security:

- Any person using the university entrances must display their university identity cards.
- Authorization is required before engaging in photography/videoography on campus.
- Motorists are reminded that they should only use designated parking slots, as well as maintain a speed limit of 10km/hr, while on campus.
- Food and drinks are not allowed in the classrooms or lecture halls since it causes littering, which will attract a surcharge to the concerned party.

FORMER PROVOST URGES INVESTMENT IN ENGINEERING

Prof. Ilesanmi Adesida (Professor of Electronic Engineering) delivered a public lecture on Thursday March 24 in the auditorium, on “re-engineering education in the 21st century”. The former provost at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, is a recognized expert on academic research into nanotechnology, specializing in high speed communication devices. He described how investments in Engineering at Illinois has contributed to the global advancements made in communications technology. The lecture was organized by the Academic Research Office.

Vice Chancellor Inauguration to be held on April 7

Prof. Paul Zeleza will be installed as Vice Chancellor at an inauguration ceremony on Thursday April 7. The ceremony will be held at the graduation square and will begin at 9am. The Board of Trustees, Chancellor, University Council, Management Board, Faculty Council, Staff Council and the Student Affairs Council will also participate in the ceremony.

Attendance is by registration through the relevant persons; Students will register through Ms. Jane Nyaga (jnyaga@usiu.ac.ke) faculty will be through Ms. Evelyne Otiato (eotiato@usiu.ac.ke) while staff members will register with Beatrice Owino (baowino@usiu.ac.ke).

TEEN TECH INNOVATION CAMP

Following the success of the first two editions of the Teen Innovation Camp, Marketing & Communications in conjunction with Tech Republic Africa will be hosting the third edition from April 18-22 on campus.

The 5-day camp will consist of a series of sessions in game design, app development, computer programming and hardware engineering. The workshop curriculum is designed to be educative and exciting, tied in with hands-on experience that combines a teen’s passion for technology, with exposure to top instructors. The camp is open to teens aged between 12-18 years living in Nairobi, and interested in computer programming. Each participant will be required to pay KES 12500 which includes meals, study materials and programs, as well as post-camp support. Registration forms can be found at www.usiu.ac.ke/techrepublic

Panelists will include Dr. Manu Chandaria (Chancellor), Prof. Paul Zeleza (Vice Chancellor), Mr. Mike Eldon (Chancellor, KCA university) Prof. Colletta Suda (Principal Secretary - Higher Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Education) Mr. Robert Collymore (CEO, Safaricom), Prof. John Odhiambo (Vice Chancellor, Strathmore University) and Prof. David Some (CEO, Commission for University Education).

As part of the inauguration exercises for our new Vice Chancellor, a breakfast round-table discussion on the Future of Higher Education will be held behind the library on Tuesday, March 5.

PANEL TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Participants in the August 2015 Teen Innovation Camp held on campus, explore a visual programming simulation.
STUDENTS ELECT NEW TEAM TO RUN SAC

The new Chairman of the Student Affairs Council (SAC) is Mr. David Kiragu. The governing body held its annual elections in March 15-16, paving way for a new Senate that will take office beginning May 2016. The following are new members of the SAC Senate:

Vice Chair: Jane Wathoni
Secretary: Mustafa Mohammed
Treasurer: Daphne Mukami
School of Humanities & Social Sciences Representative: Sandra Nicoleta
Chandaria School of Business Representative: Akinyemi Ololuwu
School of Science & Technology Representative: Judy Mukami
International Students Representative: Muzna Asif
Welfare Representative - Jane Nelsson

All elected student leaders will participate in a New Leaders Onboarding & Orientation Workshop scheduled for April 1, 2016 where they will be taken through various policies and procedures pursuant to their new duties.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

The Rugby team participated in the 10-aside event that happened in Nakuru, they lost to Homeboys 17-0, lost to Machine 36-0 and defeated KCA 10-5. They lost to Catholic University in the bowl finals. The ladies played three games in Nakuru against KU, Mwamba and KCB. They lost two and drew 1.

Over the Easter holiday, the men’s basketball team defeated Nakuru 88–54 in their Premier League fixture.

The Hockey men and ladies teams travelled to Kampala, Uganda for the East Africa Hockey Championships. In addition to successfully defending their East African title, ladies’ hockey team also captured the national title on March 19 in Eldoret. The men’s hockey team emerged second, runners-up.

KUSA Nairobi Conference Playoffs
Several teams participated in the Kenya Universities Sports Association (KUSA) Conference Playoffs held on March 12-13. While our hockey and basketball ladies teams won their respective categories, the men’s basketball team emerged second, while the ladies’ soccer and men’s hockey teams came third and fourth respectively in their categories.

DEADLINE DUE FOR COMMENCEMENT 2016 APPLICATIONS

Students completing course work by April and August 2016 are encouraged to apply for the 2016 Commencement by Monday, April 4. Applications are accepted at the Registrar’s Office or through email to the Graduation Advisor at lawino@usiu.ac.ke. Respondents must include their student number, major and concentration.

A mandatory graduation fee of KES5000 is payable by May 30, while those completing their degree requirements by end of this semester must pay an additional refundable deposit of KES 5000.

Scholar Fellowship Program to Fund More Scholars Than Ever Before

The Carnegie African Fellowship Diaspora Program (CAFDP) on Friday, March 25 launched the 10-10 Initiative. CAFDP is a scholar fellowship program that links African born academics with universities in Africa to undertake a collaborative project. CAFDP is funded by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and managed by the Institute of International Education. The Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza is the chair of the Advisory Council.

The new initiative extends the program to now sponsor 1000 scholars over a period of 10 years. In addition to launching the initiative, the Advisory Council selected a new round of scholars, and also held conversations with the government officials and development agencies, as well as the Carnegie Corporation.

ICT UNVEILS NEW SELF-HELP SERVICE

Staff, faculty and students can now be able to unlock or reset their network passwords without contacting the helpdesk. The new service rolled out by the ICT division this semester is expected to dramatically improve the turnaround time for stranded clients, especially for those attempting to access the service outside the campus, or even during weekends. The link to the revolutionary service can be found on the Blackboard online portal’s home page, at which point users are expected to register their details and receive credentials to authenticate themselves at the point of need.

Following the successful implementation of a Voice Over IP (VoIP) upgrade to the phone system in the Administration building, the School of Humanities and the Chandaria School of Business buildings will have their phone systems upgraded before the beginning of the Summer 2016 semester.

The new system, through the campus high speed fibre optic network backbone integrates voice and data to provide a seamless experience to staff and faculty, as well as lower the downtime experienced previously.
SST LAUNCHES NETWORK TRAINING CENTER

The School of Science and Technology (SST) in partnership with the world’s largest network equipment company (Cisco) launched the university’s Cisco Networking Academy - a global education program that prepares students for careers in network security and administration.

Courses will be delivered through a cloud-based learning and collaboration environment (Netspace) which will feature network simulation exercises and lab assessments, and will be led by our very own SST staff and faculty who completed their certification training in 2015. They will provide hands-on support in specially equipped labs to facilitate and track student progress.

Since 1997, Cisco’s flagship training program has been produced more than 5.5 million graduates in over 165 countries. Graduates of the USIU-Africa program will be linked with internship opportunities, in partnership with local businesses.

CAMPUS THIS WEEK

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY-AFRICA NEWSLETTER

CENTER HOLDS ANNUAL DRUG AWARENESS WEEK

The annual Drug Awareness Week held from 8-10 March aimed at empowering students to become part of the solution in tackling drug abuse among their peers. Students participated in activities that highlighted the signs and consequences of drug abuse.

UNIVERSITY UNVEILS NEW GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES

Pursuant to the legal and regulatory framework within which USIU-Africa operates in Kenya and in particular, the provisions of Part V of the Universities Act, 2012, USIU-Africa will now have a Board of Trustees, Chancellor and University Council. This is a departure from the previous model of an independent governing Board and is in keeping with the principle of separation of powers as enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya 2010.

The Board of Trustees is composed of:-
1. Mr. Linus Githahi (Chair)
2. Mrs. Carol Wallace (Secretary)
3. Dr. Kevit Desai (Treasurer)
4. Prof. Frederick Wayne (Trustee)

The Chancellor shall be Dr. Manu Chandaria.

The University Council is composed of:-
1. Dr. Lola Odubekun;
2. Mr. Vimal Shah;
3. Prof. Crispus Kiamba;
4. Mr. Kris Senanu;
5. Dr. Ralph Wolff;
6. Ms Katherine Marie Perry;
7. Dr. Peggy Oti-Boateng;
8. Mrs Jane Karuku;
9. Mr. Pierre Sane;
10. Dr. Omotade Aina;
11. Mrs Delores Jordan;
12. Mr. Peter Njonjo.

Mr. Linus Githahi, Board of Trustees Chair

Dr. Manu Chandaria, Chancellor
USIU-AFRICA SPOTLIGHT

Sports
The USIU-Africa sportmen and sports ladies have been making headlines over the last few months and this are some of the highlights.

January 18: the People Daily and the Daily Nation report that USIU-Africa wins game two against Equity Bank to level best-of-five series playoffs in the race to meet KPA in playoffs final intensifies.

The Standard reports that USIU-Africa lost to Equity Bank in the KBF Women’s Premier League game one of the best-of-five semi-final playoffs.


January 22: the People Daily reports that KBF play offs return with USIU-Africa and Equity Bank duel in weekend headliner.

January 26: the Star reports that USIU-Africa face KPA in final after beating Equity Bank.

February 1: the Standard and the People Daily report that the KPA women’s basketball team failed to impress on their home turf, when they lost game two against USIU-Africa in the KBF Premier League best-of-five series playoffs at Makande Basketball court, Mombasa.

February 2: the Standard reports that USIU-Africa drew level with KPA after victory in game two of KBF Premier League the best-of-five series playoffs.


March 28: K24 TV reports that United States International University of Africa (USIU-Africa) Flames continued with their winning streak after overpowering Storms 61-38 in a one-sided Kenya Basketball League women’s encounter at the Nyayo Stadium Gymnasium yesterday.

March 29: the Standard reports that USIU-Africa, who drew 3-3 against Wazalendo in their first match, played their hearts out to bag maximum points against KCAU, who are ranked seven places below in the league standings.

EMCA and USIU-Africa partnership

February 9: Appablog.wordpress.com report that an MOU between USIU-Africa has been signed to launch opening of the first bachelor’s degree curriculum of animation.

USIU-Africa Employees
January 30: Prof Freida Brown also made her first chapatis ever during the NTV’s Women in Power show hosted by Gladys Gachanja. She also spoke about her life achievements especially at USIU-Africa, and what the future holds for her after her retirement.

February 7: The Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza’s feature appears on the Sunday Nation edition, where he speaks about his academic career and what he expects to achieve at USIU-Africa.

March 1: Former Vice Chancellor, Prof. Freida Brown shares her personal story on the March 2016 issue of True Love East Africa.

March 4: Dr. Kiko Ireri (Assistant Professor of Journalism and Communication, School of Science & Technology) appeared as a guest on Nation FM “State of the Nation” show hosted by Jimmy Gathu to discuss “The quality of university education in Kenya”. During the two-hour show, some of the issues that came up included the mushrooming of satellite campuses across the country, mass admissions, lack of learning paid for by parents, mentorship of students, poor leadership in provision of quality education by the government and policy makers, among many other issues of great interest.

March 21: Ms. Robi Koki Ochieng (Lecturer of Journalism, School of Science & Technology) made an appearance on KTN Morning Express as a guest commentator to review the stories that were making headlines on that day.

March 23: Ms. Robi Koki Ochieng (Lecturer of Journalism, School of Science & Technology) made another appearance on KTN to critic how media is performing in telling stories.

March 26: Prof. Paul Zeleza is featured on universityworldnews.com on the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program’s new ‘10-10’ initiative unveiled during the annual meeting held in Nairobi.

March 29: Ms. Robi Koki Ochieng (Lecturer of Journalism, School of Science & Technology) made an appearance on KTN Morning Express in the ‘Newsroom’ segment to discuss how media told trending stories the week before.

March 30: the Standard Newspaper carried out a feature story on morality and what role the society and parents play when bringing up a child. Our very own Lucy Kung’u was featured and shared her opinion on the issue as a Psychologist and Counsellor.

Every Thursday: Professor Scott Bellows has a column on the Business Daily that discusses various topics regarding general business management. His blog – Business Talk – is available on the USIU-Africa website at www.usiu.ac.ke/on-campus/blog