Alumni charity golf event raises KES 0.3 million

By Beatrice Munyiva

The USIU-Africa Alumni Association hosted an inaugural alumni charity golf event that brought close to 60 players including alumni, sponsors and friends of USIU-Africa, at the Muthaiga Golf Club on Friday, June 8, 2018.

USIU-Africa Alumni Association’s goal for the tournament was to facilitate talented students with exceptional potential, but who are financially constrained to afford university education. The charity event was therefore borne with the aim of contributing towards an endowment fund whose proceeds will support an Alumni Scholarship fund for such needy students.

The tournament culminated into a prize giving ceremony presided over by Muthaiga Golf Club Captain James Ondigo where the best players were awarded with trophies.

Mr. Dennis Mara was the overall winner for the tournament, while Alumni Association Treasurer Mr. George Rutto (IBA ’04), received the award for top alumnus. Ms. Daisy Mumbi (International Relations ’11) emerged as the top alumna at the tournament, which raised approximately KES 300,000.

The top men’s award went to Anthony Muhoro, while the top ladies’ award was received by Muthaiga Golf Club Lady Captain Ms. Patricia Ngina (GEMBA ’15). Mr. John Odhiambo won the overall second runners up award, while the overall runners up award went to Mr. Edwin Mathenge (GEMBA ’15).

The Alumni Association Vice Chairperson, Mr. Ian Mukuria, speaking on behalf of the Association Chairperson, emphasized the vibrant future for many promising but disadvantaged students in Kenya and Africa, which depended on collective alumni financial support.

“We should provide them with an opportunity to access higher education and create a strong foundation to transform society. They deserve to realize their dreams,” he said.

“As alumni we know the quality of education we received at USIU-Africa has taken us places. Individually and collectively, we are all transforming our world. We now have an opportunity Continued on page 2
Association holds annual charity golf tourney

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to assist many young, promising but disadvantaged students acquire a high quality education and transform their world,” Mr. Mukuria added. He also encouraged his fellow alumni to partner with their alma mater in different activities such as research, career fair, internship opportunities, mentorship as well as being marketing ambassadors for the university.

While making his remarks, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza, described how partnerships with persons and organizations of goodwill such as Rattansi Education Trust, Stanbic Bank, Brother Vincent Memorial, MasterCard Foundation, Coca Cola Foundation, among other individual donors, has enabled USIU-Africa provide financial aid to more than 3600 students, partnering with

“Your Alma Mater has provided prudent accountability in the governance of our scholarship fund and has shared continuous reports and audited accounts to our donors. We are proud to state that we are a trusted partner to manage a Scholarship Endowment Fund,” said Prof. Zeleza.

The Vice Chancellor urged alumni to join the university in building a movement of USIU-Africa alumni who are passionate about transforming the world.

“Remember, this is your personal imprint. You are equipping Africa with transformational leadership, you will have imparted disadvantaged youth with higher achievement skills, and you will have contributed to shaping the future of Africa and the world as a whole,” he emphasized.

Some of the corporate organizations that supported the tournament included Commercial Bank of Africa, Educate Yourself Ltd, Uganda Electricals, Falcon Books East Africa and Victoria Furnitures who did so either in cash or in kind.

All the speakers called on the alumni golfers present to register for an upcoming annual alumni fundraising dinner slated for Friday, July 27, 2018 at the Intercontinental Nairobi. The dinner will aim to raise money for the endowment fund.

Researcher urges African nations to use technology to spur development

By Diana Meso

On Wednesday, June 6, the Director of Research and Evaluation Strategic Initiative at FHI 360 Dr. Annette Brown was on campus to deliver a guest lecture on “What ICT4D interventions work to improve economic growth in L&MICs?” to various Information Systems & Technology and Applied Computer Technology majors and members of the IT Club.

In her presentation, Dr. Brown explained how enormous was the potential held by technology for reducing poverty and improving lives in the Lower and Middle-Income countries (L&MICs).

However, she also described how research explained the technological benefits that were only attributed to countries that focused on using technology to spur macroeconomic development.

Such benefits included reducing information asymmetries, transaction costs (Financial

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transaction costs, search costs, entry costs); costs of government programs; increasing transparency; nudging behavior change and driving economic growth through technology.

Using India as an example, Dr. Brown concluded by urging African countries to emulate such successful ICT4D practices as reducing financial leakages through electronic intra-government fiscal transfers and biometric authentication.

Present at the event was FHI 360 Kenya Country Director, Mr. Peter Mwarogo, Dean of the Chandaria School of Business Prof. Peter Lewa, Assistant Professor of Organizational Development Dr. Kefah Njenga, Lecturer of Information Systems and Technology Mr. Philip Machoka, Assistant Professor of Information Systems and Technology Dr. Patrick Wamuyu, Principal Fundraising and External Relations Officer Mr. Eannes Ongus, among others.

FHI 360 is an American non-profit human development organization dedicated to improving lives in lasting ways by advancing integrated, locally driven solutions in more than 70 countries around the world.

**AIESEC targets new recruits during awareness drive**

**By Antonio Longangi**

96 students registered to join the USIU-Africa Association for the International Exchange of Students in Economics and Commerce (AIESEC) Club during its annual AIESEC Week from Tuesday, June 5 to Thursday, June 7 behind the cafeteria.

The exercise aimed at attracting new members through raising awareness of AIESEC programs. Such programs include, Global Volunteer: short-term voluntary internships around the world; Global Entrepreneurship: working in a foreign country in a startup, accelerator or incubator; Global Talent - professional career development in a global setting through an internship.

"Activities revolved around ways students can apply to join AIESEC projects worldwide and develop their leadership skills in multicultural settings," explained Club Chairperson Ms. Esther Kamau (International Relations Senior).

Students had an opportunity to learn the various avenues of participation available to members and non-members. According to Club Treasurer Mr. Peter Mbutia (International Relations Senior), membership allows the student to gain work experience within a club department such Marketing, Human Resource, Finance and Partnerships.

AIESEC was established at USIU-Africa in 1994 linking hundreds of students to an international network of young people from 128 countries around the world.
Preparing for the right job opportunity

By Sarah Ngetha

From June 6-7, the Office of Placement and Career Services held their annual open day event, which focused on creating awareness on career services within the university.

The department used the event to raise awareness among the student community, of the career services on offer such as career planning and exploration; CV and cover letter writing; interview preparation; creating a LinkedIn profile and how to conduct a job search, amongst others.

With the advent of technology, globalization, outsourcing and restructuring, the job market is constantly morphing, requiring a mastery of new trends in industry or creative individuals who are innovative and can easily adapt to change.

Despite most graduates leaving campus with academic degrees and professional certificates, the reality is that a shrinking job market presents new challenges that are quite difficult to fathom, let alone navigate.

Clients were educated on the benefits of carrying out a thorough job market investigation before applying for any job.

During their interactions, the PACS team broke down the job market into the following realities;

The Ideal Job: This is the dream job that fits just right, it aligns with an individual’s interests and passions, has a great corporate/organizational culture and pays as well. This is the kind of job is most desirable, but most elusive. This job allows growth, offers constant career progression, challenges one to consistently learn and develop professionally and personally. Entrepreneurship is another form of an ideal job allowing the individual to turn their passion into profit by aligning their interests to their business.

The Acceptable Job: Though this is not the dream job, it offers some career progression and slightly aligns to one’s interests or academic qualification. This is where majority of the population finds itself. Due to the financial security it offers, most individuals get stuck in these jobs even though they do not enjoy working in the specific industry.

The Third option is often the last option and comes into play when the ideal jobs are not forthcoming. An individual chooses to settle for any job that is available, based on one’s industry and which offers financial security. These jobs are generally unaligned to the individual’s interests or academic qualification, but due to a scarcity of suitable opportunities, the applicant has few or no alternatives.

As the job market continues to change, the Career Services will endeavor to prepare members of the university community for the job market, by helping them identify their interests and suitable opportunities available to them, and develop their skills, brand and visibility;

Career Advisors are available on phone (0730 116 778/ 779/ 796/ 803) or email (careeroffice@usiu.ac.ke), or by visiting the Placement & Career Services Department on the first floor of the Freida Brown Student Center.

Placement and Career Services Officer Ms. Cecilia Mweru interacts with a student during a career advising session of the annual Placement & Career Services Open Day held on Wednesday, June 6 at the Chandaria School of Business. PHOTO:ANTONIO LONGANGI

Trainers, organizers and participants at the AHF-Kenya Training Workshop held from Tuesday June 5 to Thursday, June 7 at the Chandaria School of Business, pose for a group photo at the conclusion of the workshop. The School of Graduate Studies, Research & Extension held a three-day training workshop focused on leadership and management for middle level manager at AIDS Health Foundation Kenya (AHF). The training focused on the nature of corporate management, dissecting personalities, effective decision making, organizational citizenship behavior, getting results through people, trust and mentorship. It was facilitated by Dr. Scott Bellows (Assistant Professor of Management), Dr Joyce Ndegwa (Assistant Professor), Prof. Amos Njuguna (Dean - School of Graduate Studies, Research & Extension) and Dr. Bonn Jonyo. This is just phase one of this kind of partnership which we envisage will extend to other regions in Africa where AHF has presence. PHOTO:ANTONIO LONGANGI
Mr. Michael Kisilu (Housing Manager) casts his vote during the Staff Council elections held from May 30-31, all over campus. 45 Staff Council members were elected by popular vote, representing 35 constituencies. Looking on Electoral Commission officials (from left): Mr. Brian Sande (Senior HR Officer), Mr. Fredrick Muiru (Restaurant Supervisor), Michael Kisilu, Beatrice Yebei (ICT Assistant), James Aluvanze (Front Desk Clerk) and Bonface Inganga (Housing Officer).

PHOTO: DAN MUCHAI

Members of the Student Council and the Electoral College pose for a photo at the entrance of the Freida Brown Student Center on Tuesday, May 29, 2018.
Left to right: Sania Zainab (Representative, SPHS), Sandra Wambui (Representative, SPHS), Abdiweli Hussein (Representative, SPHS), Ali Niru (Representative, SHSS), Vishal Nagda (Representative, SHSS), Deko Avel (Vice-Chairperson, SC), Ajak Abraham (International Student Representative, SC), Adan Arif (Treasurer, SC), Kisanet Hagdu (Chairperson, SC), Riddhi Desai (General Secretary, SC), Abba Sharuk (Representative, CSB), Shahkaram Suhaam (Representative, SST), Ong’ondo Judeheadu (Representative, SHSS), Grace Mugo (Representative, CSB).
PHOTO: ANTONIO LONGANGI

Mr. Michael Kisilu (Housing Manager) casts his vote during the Staff Council elections held from May 30-31, all over campus. 45 Staff Council members were elected by popular vote, representing 35 constituencies. Looking on Electoral Commission officials (from left): Mr. Brian Sande (Senior HR Officer), Mr. Fredrick Muiru (Restaurant Supervisor), Michael Kisilu, Beatrice Yebei (ICT Assistant), James Aluvanze (Front Desk Clerk) and Bonface Inganga (Housing Officer).
PHOTO: DAN MUCHAI
The Taekwondo team took part in the Anto Nkenyoka Taekwondo tournament on June 9 and 10 at the Menengai Hall in Nakuru. The Ladies won a gold and 3 bronze medals while men won 2 silver and 4 bronze. Overall, USIU-Africa emerged fifth out of ten participating teams. The team will be participating in the 2018 Kukkiwon to be held at Africa Nazarene University in Rongai from June 16 to 17.

On Saturday, June 10, the men’s basketball team defeated Kisumu’s Lakeside 54 – 38 in the Kenya Basketball Federation (KBF) Premier League, while their colleagues playing in the Nairobi Basketball Association (NBA) Division 3 lost 49 – 58 against Slumsdunk. The ladies’ basketball team will be playing against KPA in the KBF first leg on Saturday, June 16 on our basketball court.

Playing in the Kenya Hockey Union (KHU) Premier League, the ladies hockey team defeated Amira Sailors 2 – 0, while their male counterparts drew 1 – 1 against Green Sharks, before losing to the Kenya Police 1 – 2 last Sunday, June 10.

The ladies hockey team will play against JKUAT on Saturday June 16, and against the Vikings on Sunday, June 17 at City Park Hockey Stadium. The men’s hockey team will play against JKUAT on Sunday, June 17 at the same venue.

The men’s soccer team was eliminated by their hosts, in the quarter finals of the annual St. Paul’s University Sports tournament on Sunday, June 10. The men’s handball team lost to Strathmore University 8-20, and against Maseno University 15-20. They did, however, manage to draw against Gretsa University.

This Sunday, June 17, the men’s soccer team will face the National Youth Service in the Universities & Colleges Football League. Finally, the men’s rugby team will be playing in the Kings of Rugby 7s series leg at Technical University of Mombasa, from June 16 - 17.