The annual USIU-Africa fun run was held on Saturday, July 7, and attended by over 300 hundred participants. Strami Cleaning Limited’s Collins Sande emerged winner of the 6-kilometer course that wound around the campus neighborhood, and which raised over KES 500,000 for the university’s financial aid programs.

PHOTO: DAN MUCHAI

[More photos on page 6]

**Dr. Brown appointed Associate Director at global lab network**

*By Dan Muchai*

Dr. Dana Basnight Brown, of the Department of Psychology in the School of Humanities & Social Sciences, has been named an Associate Director for the Psychological Science Accelerator (PSA) - a distributed network of laboratories designed to enable and support the large scale collection of international samples of psychological data.

Dr. Brown, who is an Associate Professor of Psychology and Research Scientist, focuses her primary research on the cognitive processes surrounding human memory and language, particularly within the domain of bilingualism.

On receiving news of her appointment, Dr. Brown was ecstatic about the lab’s potential to increase the reach of cognitive science, which she believes will prove to be of great benefit to the entire university.

The thinking behind the PSA is to facilitate collaboration that will offer a pragmatic solution to “methodological challenges presented by findings in psychological sciences based on studies with insufficient statistical power and non-representative samples, or which may otherwise be limited to specific, ungeneralizable settings or populations.” This, it is hoped will lead to the accelerated accumulation of reliable and generalizable evidence in psychological science.

In addition to research focused on translation processes, emotional language, and communication, Dr. Brown continues to have a strong interest in cross-cultural psychology and issues that have a global influence.

USIU-Africa’s Center for Cognitive and Developmental Studies in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, which Dr. Brown heads, was accepted and approved to join the PSA several months ago, and at the time, only the second lab on the African continent to become a member of the PSA, which currently consists of more than 300 labs, from 45 countries spread in 6 continents.
University appoints senior academic officials

DR. TERESIA LINGE  
Associate Dean  
Chandaria School of Business  
Associate Professor of Management

DR. MICHAEL KHARA  
Associate Dean  
School of Humanities & Social Sciences  
Associate Professor of Psychology

PROF. CASSANDRA VENEY  
Chair - Department of International Relations, SHSS  
Professor of International Relations

PROF. FREDERICK IRAKI  
Chair - Department of Languages & Literature, SHSS  
Professor of French

DR. JOSEPHINE ARASA  
Chair - Department of Psychology, SHSS  
Associate Professor of Psychology

DR. SIMEON SUNGI  
Chair - Department of Sociology & Criminal Justice, SHSS  
Associate Professor of Criminal Justice

DR. TIMOTHY OKECH  
Chair - Finance, Accounting and Economics, CSB  
Associate Professor of Economics

DR. PATRICK WAMUYU  
Chair - Department of Computing, SST  
Associate Professor of Information Technology

DR. KIOKO IRERI  
Chair - Department of Journalism and Corporate Communication, SCCCA  
Associate Professor of Journalism and Mass Communication

DR. KEFAH NJENGA  
Chair - Department of Business Administration, CSB  
Assistant Professor of Marketing & Social Entrepreneurship

DR. MUNYENDO LINCOLN  
Chair - Department of Industrial & Analytical Pharmacy, SPS  
Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutics

DR. RACHEL DIANGA  
Chair - Department of Cinematic Arts, SCCCA  
Assistant Professor of Film

DR. JOYCE NOGWA  
Chair - General Education Signature Courses  
Assistant Professor of Strategic Management

DR. DAMARY SIKALEH  
Acting Faculty Development Coordinator  
Associate Professor of Management and Entrepreneurship

PHOTOS: ANTONIO LONGANGI & DAN MUCHAI
The annual USIU-Africa fun run was held on Saturday, July 7, and attended by over 300 participants from the university community and friends of the university.

Mr. Collins Sande from Strami Cleaning Limited emerged winner of the 6-kilometer course, which raised over KES 500,000 for the university financial aid program.

Pictorial: Some of the scenes from this year’s Fun Run held on Saturday, July 7. Photos: Dan Muchai
During the Independence Day holiday on July 4, the Nairobi Academy held its annual ICT Open Day in which they invited a number of universities and organizations to showcase their programs and activities in ICT.

A team of students that included James Warui (APT Senior), Tracy Mugwe (APT Senior) and Felix Kipngetch (APT Freshman) lead by Technologist Mr. Max Musau from the School of Science and Technology, attended the open day and showcased a range of modular electronics kits that the School uses to teach computer science, and that are frequently used for teaching digital electronics and prototyping around the Internet Of Things (IOT) devices.

The devices provide a hands on approach to digital creation and automation using lights, motors, sounds and other sensors. Easy to understand and use, the devices and sensors are intended to enhance learning by encouraging students to make new connections between different ideas and areas of knowledge by using information they already have. This learning is done through participating in projects facilitated by means of coaching, as opposed to lectures or step-by-step guidance.

Working with these devices changes the students’ perspective to that of programming as an outlet for creativity and problem solving, which cultivates their inherent creativity and problem-solving skills. This approach is called constructionism - a term coined by the late Massachusetts Institute of Technology Professor Seymour Papert, who introduced learning as part of play. Prof. Papert believed constructionism led to development of “X style thinkers” - learners who explore, experiment and test boundaries as they develop as creative thinkers.

In today’s changing economic and technological world, this strategy is crucial in helping students and young adults develop their own ideas, goals and strategies as almost all jobs must adapt to this rapidly-changing landscape, the ability to think creatively is more important than ever before though few students have access to this type of opportunities.
Students of the Spring 2018 JRN 4911 Media Tour Experience Class made history when they became the first class to make a tour of an international media house to understand internal media operations. Led by their lecturer Dr. Stephen Kimotho (Assistant Professor of Journalism), the eight students were exposed to a world-class, professional environment relating to print media, public relations and broadcast journalism, during their trip to New York and Washington D.C.

In New York their highlight was a visit to the prestigious NBC Studios, one of the leading broadcasters in the world. Located at The Rockefeller Center, NBC Studios are home to award-winning U.S. shows such as Saturday Night Live, America’s Got Talent, Law & Order, Blindspot, The Blacklist and the Chicago PD/Fire/Med shows. One of the longest-running TV scripted show – Days of Our Lives – is produced there.

The group obtained backstage access to Late Night with Seth Meyers and Megan Kelly Today recording sets. At the end of the tour the eight students were offered an opportunity to simulate the production and hosting The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon show, which previously hosted Late Night with Jimmy Fallon show.

Their next stop was New York University’s Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development’s Department of Media, Culture and Communication, where they exchanged ideas with their fellow students at NYU’s undergraduate Journalism program.

Previously, the students had arrived by bus from Washington D.C., where they toured the American University campus, and in particular the School of International Service and the School of Communication. Of interest was the School of Communication’s TV studio, which impressed the students with its top-of-the-range broadcasting equipment.

At the American Newseum, the students viewed interactive archives of milestones in the evolution of the journalism profession.

The students also visited such notable monuments as the Martin Luther King Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Capitol Hill, the White House and Madame Tussauds, in Washington D.C., and Madison Square Garden, the Metropolitan Museum, the Statue of Liberty and Times Square in New York City.

At the end of the class each student wrote a concept paper and published both blogs and video logs, capturing their experience during the tour while the entire class produced an online magazine.

From Spring 2018, the Media Experience and Tour (JRN 4911) class will be offered once a year to Journalism Seniors, as an alternative to the Journalism Internship (JRN 4910) and Journalism Project (JRN 4900) classes.

This is in line with the Journalism program’s mission of “intellectual, technical and ethical knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for successful careers in journalism and public relations, [who can] function effectively in an increasingly technological, multi-cultural and globalized world.”
The Counseling Center’s Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) Week, for this summer semester, was held from Monday, July 9 to Friday, July 13 on campus. Aiming at sensitizing and raising awareness on matters concerning HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, and behavior change, activities were held under the slogan “Your Future, your responsibility.”

“Ignorance has bred all kinds of health-related myths,” remarked Miss Sylvia Kerubo (IBA Sophomore), a volunteer counselor during the VCT week, adding that “It is important for the university community to adopt a responsible approach to health, and set an example for the rest of society.”

HIV/AIDS counselling and testing, STIs screening as well as information sharing on sexual reproductive health and contraception were the main focus for the week’s activities, as well as breast and cervical cancer screening and sensitization, provided under tents set up in strategic locations around campus.

“Local provider of sexual and reproductive health services Marie Stopes Kenya, through their campaign dubbed Future Fab, sought to “empower the youth through dissemination of knowledge on how to take charge of their reproductive health and their future” said Ms. Letty Onoka (Marketing Officer, Marie Stopes Kenya).

According to VCT Counselor Ms. Lydia Winda, partner organizations such as Marie Stopes Kenya, brought in very valuable information for the students and the community, which she expects will equip them to lead a responsible lifestyle.

Part of the Future Fab campaign, The Diva Zone, provided a guide on contraception, including how methods of contraception are linked to the personality traits of the individual. For example, an ambitious person (Ms. Ambition) would prefer an implant since it protects from pregnancy for up to 5 years, while a high achiever (Ms. Supergirl) would choose the intra uterine device (IUD) that can last up to 12 years. An active lady (Girl on the Go) would prefer an injection that lasts 2 to 3 months, while an organized girl (Ms. Perfection) would have time for regular pills.

The Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) Week is organized twice a year, during Fall and Summer semesters to promote the reproductive health of members of the university community.

Legal Services celebrates former pupil’s admission to the bar

By Dan Muchai

Congratulations are in order to Ms. Joyflo Wanjiru who is now an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya. Ms. Wanjiru was sworn in by the Honorable Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court David Maraga on Wednesday, June 27 at the Milimani Law Courts in Nairobi.

The former pupil, who is now qualified to practice law as an advocate, was part of the first batch of pupils attached to the Division of Legal Services in 2016, when USIU-Africa’s Division of Legal Services became an accredited pupillage center with the Kenya School of Law. This status allows the Division, to take in pupils and conduct pupillage.

The process of accepting a pupil into USIU-Africa is highly competitive and transparent, involving oral and written interviews intended to gauge the suitability and capabilities of a pupil. A pupil is a lawyer (a Bachelor of Laws Degree holder) who has attended the Kenya School of Law and sat bar examinations, and is subsequently required to attach themselves to an accredited center where an advocate of more than five years standing practices.

Her then fellow pupil Mr. Yuvenalis Nyachio, also a graduate of the School of Law at the University of Nairobi, was accepted into the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, before he completed his pupillage. As part of the fellowship, he was also attached to the prestigious Howard University, whose President Prof. Frederick Wayne, is one of five USIU-Africa Trustees. He is expected to be admitted at a later ceremony, once his pupillage is complete.
SPORT UPDATES
By Antonio Longangi

Rugby
The men’s rugby team, playing in the KUSA 2018 season, took the third position after defeating University of Nairobi (UoN) 7 – 0 during the Rugby 7s Series held on July 7 and 8 at Kaimosi Friends University College. They will play the next Rugby 7s Series leg on July 21 and 22 at Egerton University.

Basketball
In basketball, the ladies’ team lost 47 – 53 against the Kenya Ports Authority, and 30 – 35 against Eagle Wings during the Kenya Basketball Federation (KBF) Premier League match held on July 7 and 8 on campus. Their male colleagues were also defeated by the Kenya Ports Authority 46 – 49 on Saturday, July 7 in the Premier League.

Hockey
The men’s hockey team emerged first at the Greensteads International School Tournament held on July 7 and 8 in Nakuru. Their female counterparts finished third at the same tournament, playing against Strathmore University, Telkom, Kabarak University, Sliders and Wolverines.

Soccer
In the University and College Football League (UCFL), USIU-Africa lost 0 – 2 against National Youth Service NHU on Saturday, July 7 at the University of Nairobi’s CAVS. Their female colleagues will play against National Youth Service ENG on Saturday, July 14 in Kabete.

Upcoming Events
- USIU-Africa Rugby vs Alumni Select
  Saturday, July 14
  1pm - 4pm; 4pm - 6pm
  RFUEA Grounds, Ngong Road
- Documentary Screening and Panel Discussion (featuring Head of the Delegation H.E. Amb. Stephano A. Dejak, Senator Hon. Johnson Sakaja, Prof. Macharia Munene, Dr. Racheal Dianga and Ms. Joan Kimani)
  Thursday, July 19
  9am - 3pm
  Auditorium
- EUROPE AT SEA
  Tuesday, July 17
  11am - 1pm
  Auditorium

Media mentions
Compiled by Diana Meso

July 12: USIU-Africa was mentioned by Kenyan Collective in an article titled “Prince of Netherlands to visit Kenya July for Evidence to Action Conference # TheMoneySeries.”

July 12: Capital FM mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled “Kenya to host inaugural Africa monitoring and evaluation conference.”

July 8: KTN featured USIU-Africa in KTN

July 7: Scrummage mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled “KUSA 7s: USIU stuns Daystar Falcons in Kaimosi as Mean Machine storms into quarters.”

July 3: USIU-Africa was mentioned by Valley Star in an article titled “UTRGV professor selected for Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship.”

Leo Wikendi news segment in an article titled “Zetech yailaza Barclays bank katika mchezo wa mpira wa vikapu.”

July 8: USIU-Africa was mentioned by Scrummage in an article titled “KUSA 7s: USIU, Blak Blad through to semi-finals in Kaimosi.”

July 7: Mediamax mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled “Champs KPA face rivals USIU-A.”

July 7: USIU-Africa was mentioned by The East African in an article “At ZIFF, Njendu thinks inside the box.”