USIU-Africa is privileged to host Ms. Nancy Snider as a visiting lecturer of Creative Arts. Ms. Snider is the Director of Music in the Department of Performing Arts at the American University. She is also the Director, AU Chamber Players (chamber music ensembles) and Hurst Senior Professional Lecturer at the same university. She has degrees in BM - Cello Performance (cum laude), L'Ecole Superior from the Catholic University of America, and Conservatoire European de Musique de Paris (student of Mark Drobinsky). Her areas of interest are music, cello, and education. She is a passionate advocate for new music.

She will be attached to the School of Communication, Cinematic, and Creative Arts for the Summer and Fall 2019 semesters. Ms. Snider will work with faculty in Cinematic Arts department to conceptualize and develop a Bachelor of Arts in Creative Arts program structure and revise the existing concept, develop the music element of the BA Creative Arts curriculum, and work on a musical production with USIU-Africa students which will culminate into a performance/concert at the end of the period of engagement.

As a Cellist, Ms. Snider is a member of the Opera Lafayette Orchestra and performs regularly in a variety of chamber and period instrument ensembles. In addition to her recording/performance projects with Opera Lafayette, performance highlights have included collaborations with Trisha Yearwood, Milenka Čechová (Spitfire Company, Czech Republic), Modern Musick, Shakespeare Theatre, Folger Consort, Washington Early Music Festival, Washington Ballet, Washington Bach Consort and VERGE. She co-founded the new music collective INTERFERENCE with Steve Antosca and William Brent in 2015. Ms. Snider performed in South Africa with the Spitfire Company at the 2013 National Arts Festival where the production was awarded “Best Overseas Production.” In addition, she also received an ‘Outstanding Teacher of the Year’ award at American University.
The annual Mwalimu Nyerere Intellectual festival was held at the University of Dar Es Salaam in May. This year’s theme ‘Pan-Africanism and the quest for unity, democratization and development: The state, markets and knowledge society’ saw a guest list of intellectuals from East Africa headline the event including Prof. Patrick Lumumba, the former President of the Republic of Tanzania Dr. Jakaya Kikwete and Prof. Paul Zeleza.

Speaking during the event, Prof. Paul Zeleza addressed the Higher Education of the future and its importance in solving challenges in the sector. He mentioned that universities in Africa need to adopt new ways of teaching through technology otherwise they might be rendered irrelevant and unable to compete on a global scale. He added that the fourth industrial revolution is inevitable and was upon us and Africa should play a part in promoting the revolution. He reiterated that the higher education of the future in Africa need to restructure their curricula that is inclusive, innovative, intersectional and inter-disciplinary.

The Vice chancellor also urged African governments to support and invest more in universities. He said that universities in Africa are currently struggling to raise sufficient resources to be able to deliver on their key mandate. Most institutions are closing down because the financial obligation is too much for them to continue running. Other institutions have started diversifying revenue streams in order to keep their doors open. This strategy is not recommended as it compromises on the quality of education and graduates. He mentioned that the main activity of a university should be to impart knowledge to young people who are going to take over the running of their respective countries and organizations. He closed his speech by urging universities across the globe to cooperate and ensure that every young person will have access to education at the university level.

Chandaria School of Business professors receive prestigious awards

Professor Stephen M. Nyambegera who is a lecturer at the Chandaria School of Business in Human Resources Management was awarded as the Best Professor in Human Resource Management by the East Africa Education Leadership Award 2019. This award is presented to individuals who have crafted leadership within their area of specialty. The award indicates excellence in the application of leadership principles to business situations.

Dr. Timothy Okech, an Associate Professor of Economics was honored as the Best Professor in Economics Studies. This award recognizes individuals who have made a difference in the lives of others, quality of their work, global reach, outlook and ability to contribute value of social change.

The East Africa Education Leadership Awards is intensely researched process undertaken by the research cell which consists of Post

Graduates in History & Management with over 5 years’ research experience. Their mandate is to produce a shortlist of individuals who are involved in extraordinary work and track their achievements. The shortlist is then reviewed by a jury comprising of senior professionals from across the globe.
USIU-Africa to become the first private University to join the AAP consortium

By Taigu Muchiri

The Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza met with the Advisory Board of the Alliance for African Partnership (AAP) to discuss a possible partnership between USIU-Africa and the organization. AAP seeks to promote sustainable, effective, and equitable long-term partnerships among African institutions, Michigan State University, and other international collaborators. The AAP strives to build networks across all sectors (universities, NGOs, government, and private sector) to engage with development challenges that fall within specific thematic areas which include agri-food systems, culture, health and nutrition, water, energy, and the environment, youth empowerment, and education. The mission of the AAP is to mobilize and support these partnerships in such a way that the resulting activities positively transform institutions and livelihoods in Africa.

The advisory board agreed unanimously to invite USIU-Africa as the first private university to join the AAP Consortium which currently has a membership of eight public university and Michigan State University (MSU). The AAP was established in 2016 with a donation of $20 million from MSU and raised $11 million in 2018. Upon the finalization of the partnership, USIU-Africa will be eligible to apply for AAP grants.

Library inducts new student interns

By Diana Meso and Antonio Longangi

The library has absorbed over 17 interns from various universities for the Summer 2019 internship program scheduled to end in October this year.

This was marked during an induction ceremony on Monday, June 3 at the Library where the interns were introduced to the library team, procedures and various services provided by the library.

The modernity, advancement and professionalism credited to the USIU-Africa Library, attracted these aspiring professionals as they seek opportunities for hands-on learning and skill enhancement experience for career preparedness.

“My visit to USIU-Africa and the level of professionalism I experienced, left a positive impression on me which made me desire to work here,” said Ms. Jane Wambui from Kisii University, “being here is a great opportunity as I feel ready for employment just after a few weeks.”

The internship program is designed to help students familiarize themselves with world-standard resource management tools and procedures, and quality services in a multidisciplinary and multicultural institution.

“We’re glad to have the interns work and train here, this shows that we are the trusted regional leaders in this industry,” said Mr. Charles Wanjala (Librarian) who coordinated the induction. The interns are final year students pursuing Bachelor of Library and Information Science from Chuka University, Kenyatta University, Laikipia University, Kisii University, and Technical University of Kenya. Annually, the library trains over 100 students through the internship program.
Library commemorates International Archives Week 2019

By Charles Wanjala and Ernest A. Mwanzi

The Library and Information Center through the archives section, joined the world in celebrating the annual international archives week for the second year running. Aligned to the 2019 theme ‘Designing the Archives in the 21st Century,’ an intense discussion ensued among the participants who were eager to learn the core of preservation in the current age through a workshop at the library bookshop. The occasion aimed to elaborate a deeper understanding of the principles of managing records and enlighten participants on modern preservation practices. Key emphasis was placed on the criteria to be met by materials designated for archiving, which needed to be authentic, reliable, integral and usable.

The University archivist, Boniface Odhiambo and his team, were challenged to meet systematic, orderly and consistent creation, retention, appraisal and disposal rules for records throughout their life cycle. This was done through a walk around campus sections and guiding custodians on important records that would have a lasting value that need to be dropped at the archives for preservation. As a result, the archive section will now implement provisions to be more efficient when it comes to access of records and an unlocking of the information and knowledge they contain.

Adding to the beehive of activities to commemorate this day was the letter writing day that drew participation campus wide. Participants wrote letters to whoever they wished and advised on a day that the said letters would be opened – this activity elicited a lot of excitement as it acted as a refresher for participants to exhibit their letter writing skills.

This year’s celebration is in line with the USIU-Africa at 50 theme as the archives serves as a better place to see our past and celebrate our achievements through the years. The event was graced by Mr. Joseph Rembe, a renowned records and archives consultant, who was the chief guest.
Pictorial: USIU-Africa Radio hosts Morgan Heritage for Caribbean show

Photos: Courtesy

Gramps Morgan

Vice Chancellor Prof. Paul Zeleza having a chat with Peter and Gramps Morgan

Morgan Heritage radio interview

Peter Morgan
Sport Updates

By Ernest Mwanzi

Basketball

On Saturday, June 1, 2019 during the Nairobi Basketball Association league match men’s team (Tigers) lost 40 – 48 to KCA University and the following day lost to Thunder 46 – 69 during the Kenya Basketball Federation league match, played at the Nyayo Gymnasium.

On Sunday, the ladies’ team (Flames) lost to Strathmore 27 – 60 at Nyayo Gymnasium, while the men’s team (Marines) beat Strathmore 50 – 37 at Upper Hill School during the Kenya Basketball Federation league matches.

Rugby

The USIU-Africa Rugby Martials finished third during the Kenya Universities Sports Association (KUSA) Pwani Sevens tournament in Mombasa. The team beat KCA University 10 – 5 in the first game and 15 -10 in the second game, Technical University of Kenya 19 – 0, University of Eldoret 14 -12, and lost to Technical University of Mombasa 5 – 7. All the games were played between June 1 and 2.

Media Mentions

Compiled by Diana Meso

June 7: The Standard mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled “Meet Kenya’s Miss Feisty: Nairobi’s iron lady Esther Passaris.”

June 7: The Star mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled “Boost for Police as Okeyo returns to action after a 3-week absence.”

June 5: The Star mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled “Thunder must re-organise defence to blow up rivals.”

June 4: USIU-Africa was mentioned by Citizen Digital in an article titled “Equity coach Maina hails charges despite losing ‘unbeaten’ tag.”

June 4: The Star mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled “Strathmore break three-pointer record as they stop USIU counterparts.”

June 3: USIU-Africa was mentioned by The Star in an article titled “Lack of killer instinct to blame for KPA’s loss to Equity, says Kiki.”

June 2: Citizen Digital mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled “Telkom, Parklands win Mombasa tourney.”

May 31: The Daily Nation mentioned USIU-Africa in an article titled “Big guns battle for basketball league top spot.”

May 31: USIU-Africa was mentioned by Citizen Digital in an article titled “Police pull out of Mombasa tournament.”

Upcoming events

AISEC Week
June 11-13

African Film Night
June 11

2019 Agripreneurs Conference
June 27-28