Last week, from October 19-25, the global community came together to celebrate Open Access (OA) through a series of activities. The theme of the Week this year was ‘Open for a purpose: Taking action to build structural equity and inclusion’.

USIU-Africa acknowledges the importance of and supports Open Access. We are committed to raising the visibility of scholarship, accelerating research and turning breakthroughs into better lives. To do this, we advocate for change especially by taking part in the International Open Access Week. In the past we have organized activities and events aimed at creating awareness and promoting Open Access among members of the USIU-Africa community.

Given the current ‘online everything’ environment that we are currently in, it was especially important for the University to participate in this year’s Open Access virtual events. One of the interesting events was hosted by the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC). SPARC is a global coalition committed to making Open Access the default of research and education through the adoption of policies and practices that advance Open Access, Open Data and Open Education.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month: What you need to know about breast cancer

The month of October is global breast cancer awareness month which is geared at creating awareness about breast cancer and showing solidarity with cancer survivors, those we have lost to breast cancer and those who have lost their loved ones to breast cancer. Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women globally and the second most common cancer overall after lung cancer in both developed and developing countries, low – and – middle – income countries. This can be attributed to increase in life expectancy and the adoption of a western lifestyle. There were over 2 million new cases of breast cancer worldwide in 2018. In Kenya, there are 28,000 cases diagnosed in Kenya annually.

Both men and women can get breast cancer, but it is more common among women. Some of the signs and symptoms of breast cancer include:

By Lydia Winda

Three students from the School of Science & Technology have been selected as part of the 85 teams that are representing Kenya in the Red Bull basement, a competition that sees University students from around the globe share innovative ways to use technology to bring about positive change.

The competition, which was launched in 2015, will be held virtually this year, in keeping with the global restrictions to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. The organizers hope that a virtual event, which breaks down location and physical barriers to entry will allow participants to come up with a wider array of innovative ideas.

By Brenda Odhiambo

Three students from the School of Science and Technology were selected to take part in the Red Bull Basement Competition.