

# DAYSTAR INFOSPOT

A Weekly Newsletter of Daystar University, Published by the Vice-Chancellor's Office.

November 4 - 10, 2007

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH

Issue 35/07

## DUPA Hostel Handed Over to the University



*The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Godfrey Nguru (left) receives the keys to the new DUPA Girls hostel from the DUPA Chairman, Mr. Calisto Onyango. Looking on is the DVC-FAP, Dr. Philip Kitui.*

The first phase of the DUPA hostel was this week handed over to the university at a ceremony that was attended by the Vice-Chancellor Rev. Prof. Godfrey M. Nguru, DVC (FAP) Dr. Philip Kitui, DUPA chairman Calisto Onyango and other university administrators and DUPA Officials.

Receiving the hostel keys, the Vice-Chancellor Rev. Godfrey M. Nguru challenged the university members to take care of the facility like God commanded us to take care of His creation. The Vice-Chancellor disclosed that donors have committed some funds for the second phase but the University and DUPA need first to raise a percentage of the amount.

DUPA Chairman described the completion of the phase as a demonstration of faith. He revealed that the groundbreaking ceremony was done with only eight million in the kitty but through the faith of the VC who encouraged all those involved, the project has gone on quite well. The DVC (FAP) in his address thanked DUPA for such a wonderful initiative. He added that it goes to show Daystar's iniquity that a parent's body can spearhead such a beneficial project.

The Ag. University chaplain led the devotions during the ceremony. Reading from Genesis, the story of creation, she urged the University community to take care of the blessings of the building as it is God given.

## University Council Joins Management Members for Tea

The Daystar University council, led by Chancellor Dr. Florence Muli Musiime, last Friday joined the University management for an informal tea session at the Nairobi Campus. The session that kicked off at 4.30 p.m. saw members of both teams mingle

and chat freely.

The Executive PA to the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Fred Obongita said that the aim of the tea was to help the two groups interact and get to know one another better. He said that the event will be held regularly.

## Audit Manager Attends Seminar

The Internal Audit Manager, Mr. Joseph Muiruri recently attended a three-day seminar held at Olive Garden Hotel, Nairobi. The seminar, which was organized by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Kenya Chapter, focused on the quality assessment of the internal audit services. The seminar emphasised on ways that the Internal Audit can add value to the services they offer to their clients hence the need for an external assessment every five years as required by the International Standards for the professional Practice of Internal Auditing issued by IIA. At the end of the seminar, participants sat for an exam. Mr. Muiruri passed the exam.

## Faculty News

### Daystar Faculty Co-authors Book

Dr. Florence Miya has co-authored a music book with a few Music Scholars from Canada. The book, which was released last month is entitled: *Listen to their voices: Research and Practice in early childhood music education*. The book has been edited by Smithrim & Uptis. Dr. Miya's contribution to the book is: *Using African Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Early Childhood Music Education*. The book is being sold world wide and is available on line for \$30. It is currently used as a text book in tertiary educational institutions and Universities in Canada and USA that offer early childhood music education courses.

### Faculty Members Attend Workshops

**Professor Stephen Nyambegera** has returned from South Africa where he was a resource person at a workshop in Human Resource Strategy Formulation and Implementation that took place from 25th to 30th October in Cape Town, Franschhoek.

The workshop was sponsored by Amalgamated Control Solutions, an organization providing management solutions to Business organizations. Participants were HR managers drawn from twelve African organizations.

**Mr. Patrick Kanyi**, a lecturer in the Computer Science Department recently attended the third JKUAT Scientific, Technological and Industrialisation Conference held at the university's Juja campus. Mr. Kanyi presented a paper on "ICT In Development: Issues, Challenges And Opportunities In The Jua Kali Sector"

The final day count of participants was given as above 3500. The theme of the conference was "Galvanizing Science and Technology for Industrialization: Towards the millennium Development goals"

*Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. (Psalm 37:3)*

## Update on Afrizo: Visit to Arizona, USA

The AFRIZO team is full of praise and thanksgiving to the Almighty God who enabled them to exceed their fundraising expectations while in Arizona, USA. They are also grateful to their hosts, Don and Marilyn Kredel who have taken very good care of them. Speaking to the Vice-Chancellor on phone this week, team leader James Ogolla confirmed that their visit to Arizona was a big success. During the conversation Don Kredel said that AFRIZO touched the people's hearts. Don and Marilyn had organised a fundraising banquet, which was followed by a visit to their church. The two events raised over US\$ 160,000. From the results, it is clear that God touched the hearts of the people to give generously. Let us join them in giving praise to our God. To Him be all the glory and honour. From the Vice-Chancellor and the Daystar University community – Well done AFRIZO, Keep it up.



## Marketing Team Holds Retreat

The Vice Chancellor, Rev. Prof Godfrey Nguru joined the PR/Marketing team in their retreat held at the Alliance River Lodge Naro Moru on 27-29th October. The Vice-Chancellor who was accompanied by his family, Prof Faith Nguru and daughter Nyambura, addressed the team during a powerful Sunday service. Prof. Nguru asked the team to aggressively talk positively about Daystar University to the outside publics. He recognized that with the stiff competition, a university cannot survive without a strong marketing team. He challenged the team to market Daystar innovatively and strategically.

The retreat was a handover ceremony for the outgoing leaders who were welcoming the new leadership. Former Director of the marketing team, Miss Patrose Maara congratulated all new members and leaders and welcomed them a board. She also asked the members to look on the positive side, and not to dwell on the negatives. She also asked them to live by the team's motto, 'There Is Always A Way Out.' The marketing team comprises of a group of students who work under the Corporate Affairs department to market the university.



## Update on ICT.

The Athi River Research Lab has been set up with fifteen computers. This Lab is to be used for research and Internet access by students. It will not be used as a normal classroom laboratory so that it is available throughout normal hours to students. In September this year, thirty two new computers were purchased for Lab 5. Some of the computers from Lab 5 were transferred to the Research Lab. In addition fifteen new computers were deployed to the Language Lab to replace the old ones there.

### LCD Projectors

Seven LCD projectors were purchased this semester. Two of them are to be ceiling-mounted in the Athi River Science Labs. One will be used in Labs 3, 4 and 5. Two have been allocated to the Faculty of Arts and two have been allocated to the Faculty of Postgraduate Studies. The University has also hired a new Lab Support Team Leader for the Athi River Campus. She will be reporting on Monday 12th November 2007.

### Fibre Network

A new optical fiber network has been set up at the Athi River campus linking BCC, the Agape Library and the administration buildings. This will provide higher data capacity (bandwidth) than what was provided by the point-to-point wireless links. On the Internet front, a new higher throughput firewall was ordered and is expected this month. This will replace the current proxy firewall which has become inadequate over time as Internet usage has increased over the last two years. Tests are also being carried out on wi-fi hotspots for 24-hour network (mainly for Internet) access, throughout the week.



## Update From the Administration Department

### Water

There is a serious problem of water at the Athi River Campus. This is because we get very little water from our source, EPZ Mavoko Water Company. This has forced us to buy water almost daily. We are therefore appealing to the members of the Daystar University Athi River Campus to use water sparingly. Please ensure that all taps are closed after use and report any leakages to Mr. Kuria or Mr. Ogodo on ext. 176 and 150 respectively. The two can also be contacted on mobile numbers 0722445352 and 0722220095 respectively.

### Nairobi Campus PABX



The PABX at the Nairobi Campus has a technical problem and one of its parts has been taken away for repair. Normal service will resume as soon as this part is reinstalled.

The administration would like to apologise for any inconvenience.



## Alumni Membership Fees Introduced

The Vice-Chancellor's office would like to announce the introduction of the alumni membership fees of Kshs. 500 to be charged to all students in January 2008. The fee will be a one time

charge. This decision was approved by the University council after consultations with DUSA. Students are advised to inform their sponsors.

### HELB Loans

The Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) has sent funds for most of the students who had submitted their applications. Students are requested to check if they received the money on the list pinned on the Finance Department notice boards. Those who did not receive the funds should make urgent arrangements to pay the money. No student will be allowed to write their exams with an outstanding balance.

### Medical Exemption List

A list of those who were exempted from paying the medical fee has been on the notice board for a full month. Those who should be exempted and are not in the list should urgently contact Mrs. Ann Manyange, Human Resource department on e-mail: [amanyange@daystar.ac.ke](mailto:amanyange@daystar.ac.ke), otherwise they will be required to pay the medical insurance fee. This is the final notice on this matter.

### AIESEC Kenya to Host Conference

AIESEC Kenya is holding a national conference in Matuu from 8th to the 11th of November 2007. This conference seeks to develop the AIESEC members and to act as a platform for networking with delegates from other East African countries such as Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda who will be in attendance.

In a bid to give back to the Daystar community, the AIESEC members in Daystar will be organising a personal development seminar. The session will focus on teamwork, leadership, career development, packaging yourself and personal development through AIESEC. The seminar will be held on Saturday 24th November 2007 in Daystar Nairobi campus. We will keep you updated.

### Commerce Career Exposure

Preparations for the annual commerce international exposure tour have begun. The tour will take place from 11th – 24th May 2008 and will see the participants visit Israel, Jordan, Egypt and Dubai. More details on the preparations will be published in the Infospot.