Mainstreaming Research and Innovation for Sustainable Development

Chancellor Maloiy to Confer 55 Doctorate Degrees during 30th Graduation

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology is set to hold its 30th Graduation Ceremony on Friday November 17, 2017. The event to be staged at the University’s Main Campus in Juja, will see the Chancellor, Prof. Geoffrey Ole Maloiy confer degrees and award diplomas to 4131 graduands.

A total of 3,497 undergraduate degrees will be awarded during the ceremony compared to 1409, awarded in the June 2017 graduation. The number of doctorate degrees for the ceremony stands at 55.

In his farewell message, Prof. Maloiy urged the graduands to put the earned knowledge into good use, and make a positive and lasting impact in society. Vice Chancellor Prof. Mabel Imbuga noted that the graduands have undergone an industry oriented training, with an entrepreneurial touch. This, she added, enabled JKUAT graduates to not only serve in the country’s productive sectors, but also create employment opportunities for others.

JKUAT graduates ranks high among local and international employers because of the practical and innovation driven teaching and research activities. The University for instance runs an annual technology exposition, a platform that allows students to demonstrate their innovative knack to faculty and industry.JKUAT graduates ranks high among local and international employers because of the practical and innovation driven teaching and research activities. The University in 2012 won a competitive bid to host the African Union fronted Pan African University Institute for Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation (PAUSTI).

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JKUAT Students Win Intervarsity Debate

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The University’s innovative and groundbreaking research activities has given JKUAT international visibility. The University in 2012 won a competitive bid to host the African Union fronted Pan African University Institute for Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation (PAUSTI).

Jomo Kenyatta, in a speech read on his behalf by the Information Communication and Technology Cabinet Secretary, Mr. Joe Mucheru during the launch of the device, Wednesday, October 18, said the launch of Taifa Elimu Tablet was a milestone towards bridging the digital gap in learning institutions across the country. He noted that the initiative underscored the “Government’s commitment to transform education sector by making digital literacy universally accessible to young learners at a very early stage in their lives.”

He urged other institutions “to emulate the example set by JKUAT by playing an active role in offering sustainable solutions to challenges facing our country, thereby contributing to the country’s national development agenda.”

Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mabel Imbuga said, the launch of Taifa Elimu Tablet signaled a new partnership between JKUAT and the private primary schools in Kenya after being tasked by the government to supply, install and commission digital learning devices in public primary schools across 21 counties.

Pupils enrolled in private primary schools in Kenya will now access the digital literacy programme following the launch of the Taifa Elimu Tablet – the digital learning and teaching device developed by the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT).

His Excellency, President Uhuru Kenyatta, in a speech read on his behalf by the Information Communication and Technology Cabinet Secretary, Mr. Joe Mucheru during the demonstration of the Taifa Elimu Tablet.

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JKUAT is ISO 14001:2004 & ISO 9001:2008 Certified

The five students namely: Brian Kithinji, Miriam Rioba, Moses Wangwa, Ruth Oloo and Molly Obende who participated in the event under the auspices of the JKUAT Debate Society emerged victors in the contest that brought together 50 teams from 30 universities. Following the victory, the five students also won a six-months internship, obtainable at the Amnesty International’s Nairobi Office.

Molly Obende who is the Society’s organizing secretary hailed the event which highlighted the nexus between education and human rights. She, as well, said the championship exposed her to the international community.

While congratulating the students on the feat, Dean of Students, Emma Omulokoli said JKUAT clubs and societies give students the chance to blend and sharpen their interpersonal cues and leadership skills.

30th Graduation Summary Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
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<td>152</td>
<td>379</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masters Degree</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate Degree</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2,573</td>
<td>1,558</td>
<td>4,131</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chancellor, Prof. Geoffrey Maloiy awards a doctorate degree, assisted by Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mabel Imbuga during JKUAT 29th Graduation Ceremony in June 2017.

30th Graduation Ceremony: Friday 17th November, 2017

Taifa Elimu Tab for Private Schools Launched

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Mainstreaming Research and Innovation for Sustainable Development

Your training has prepared you for a bright future

I wish to congratulate all the graduands as JKUAT marks the 30th Graduation Ceremony. Graduation is indeed a significant step in your education and the entire JKUAT community wishes you the very best on this important occasion. It is my hope and belief that your newly acquired knowledge and skills will serve you well throughout your life and that you will respond effectively and efficiently to global challenges facing humanity. As you go out to the world, I implore you to make the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology brand stronger through individual and collective actions.

The world is looking for men and women of knowledge and integrity who can provide solution to the many challenges we face. Your training has prepared you for this role. Once again, congratulation on successfully completing your program as you join our vibrant and ever growing alumni community.

Hongera Wahitimu!

Felicitations to all the Graduands

On behalf of the JKUAT Council, I send warm congratulatory message to all the graduands and the University community at large during this auspicious occasion of the 30th Graduation Ceremony.

I salute the graduands for their dedication and commitment exhibited throughout the many years of rigorous academic engagement which has culminated in the accomplishment we are celebrating today. I also acknowledge the enormous contribution and sacrifices made by parents and guardians in supporting the graduating students’ quest to realize their career aspirations.

The University Council rededicates its obligation to support initiatives and programmes aimed at ensuring the University remains focused on its ultimate mandate of “Training, Research and Innovation for Development” in the service of humanity. I wish to make a passionate appeal to the graduands to assiduously apply the invaluable skills, knowledge and attitudes they have acquired in this premier institution to make enduring positive contributions to Kenya’s development agenda.

You put in the effort; we gave you our best

I pass my sincere congratulations to all graduands on the conferment of degrees and award of diplomas during our 30th Graduation Ceremony. Your achievement is testimony to the diligence and commitment you showed in your studies in various disciplines. In line with JKUAT quality standards, you were exposed to industry oriented curricular backed by adequate teaching and research infrastructure.

Following your graduation, I challenge you to employ your skills, and competencies to improve not just your lives, but also the rest of society. As our brand envoys, always exemplify the qualities and values of diligence, innovation, entrepreneurship, and integrity in your chosen careers. Leverage on your diversity to forge multidisciplinary networks and partnerships that can be harnessed towards Africa’s socio-economic transformation.

I also take this opportunity to thank all the parents, guardians and sponsors for the support extended to the graduands during their stay here at the University.

JKUAT Bags Top Trophies in 2017 ASK Trade Fairs

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology bagged a total of 6 top trophies during this year’s Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) organized trade fairs that were held in Central Kenya (Nyeri) and Nairobi International Trade Fair (NITF) in the months of September and October this year.

The University clinched: the Most Striking Display (Demonstration of Locally Manufactured Products) Trophy at the NITF. His Excellency, President Uhuru Kenyatta congratulated JKUAT for the outstanding performance and he presented The Most Striking Display Trophy to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mabel Imbuga, who was accompanied by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Production and Extension) Prof. Mary Abukutsa during the awards ceremony, Wednesday, October 4.

During the Central Kenya ASK Show, President Kenyatta lauded JKUAT for developing appropriate technologies and innovations that saw JKUAT declared the Best University, bagging five (5) top awards, namely: The Stand that Best Interprets Current Show Theme, The Best Agricultural Based Statutory Board/Commission Stand, and The Best Stand Exhibiting Agricultural and/Earth Moving Equipment.
International recognition for JUAT ‘s Analytical Scientist

Anthony Gachanja, a professor of Analytical and Environmental Chemistry at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology has been named among ten most outstanding global mentors in analytical science. The recognition by the UK based The Analytical Scientist Magazine, follows Prof. Gachanja’s exemplary efforts to foster analytical skills in Africa; aimed at hoisting the continent in areas of consequence such as agriculture, medicine, security and environment.

For the last eight years, through the Pan Africa Chemistry Network, Prof. Gachanja has taught analytical methods on Gas Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS); as well as Liquid Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS) to over 200 African scientists.

The mentor pick is premised on the don’s understanding of the subject matter, intrinsic motivation and ability to go beyond call of duty to inspire learning and lasting change.

Stakeholders Review Health Records and Informatics Curriculum

Stakeholders in October 2017, reviewed the JUAT’s BSc. Health Records and Information Management programme curriculum. The review which aimed at identifying industry needs with regards to data analytics and informatics also proposed innovative content delivery measures to be integrated into the programme. The Stakeholders in the event also developed modular courses in Data Analytics, GIS, Data Demand and Information Use (DDIU) and Health Informatics, to build capacity of health care workers on data analytics and visualization. The review was sponsored by Health Informatics Governance and Data Analytics (HIGDA), a USAID funded project that aims to improve the national and county level health sectors’ organizational and management capacity in health informatics, monitoring and evaluation. HIGDA Programme Coordinator, Dr. Reuben Thuo said a number of healthcare workers such as doctors, clinicians, and pharmacists were not trained on data and information management.

Nairobi Could Tap 86% of its Water Demand from Storm Water

One of the biggest challenges facing Nairobi City County is adequate supply of clean and safe water. With a population of 4 million, the County’s water demand stands at 720,000 cubic meters per day against current supply of 570,000 cubic meters per day. A new study by JUAT’s Water Research and Resource Centre (WARREC), has revealed that by tapping just 30% of storm water, the County could bring additional 596,485 cubic meters per day under its reservoirs.

The study which also looked into the patterns of water saving and use among Nairobi residents found that 65.2% of residents in low income areas do not harvest rain water; with the figure rising to 82.4% for middle income residents.

The lead researcher for the study, Prof. Bancy Mati says due to lack of storm water harvesting systems in Nairobi’s households, most of it is lost through the sewer lines.
Students Demonstrate Innovative Knack During JKUAT Tech Expo 8.0

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology staged the JUAT Tech Expo 8.0 on November 9-10. The Expo is an annual event which began in 2009 that seeks to encourage and support students’ innovative ideas across the country in a bid to bolster innovation, collaboration and education.

The Expo themed ‘Changing Lives through Innovation’ strives to align its projects with the SDGs with the aim of driving innovation and creating value to the society. Out of the 17 SDGs, the Expo’s main focus is on SDG 3 (Good health and well being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable cities and community), SDG 12 (Sustainable consumption and production patterns) and SDG 13 (Climate action).

This year the Expo was graced by Ms. Olive Gachara, the Serial Entrepreneur and Publisher and Editor-In-Chief of Couture Africa Magazine who lauded JKUAT for coming up with the Directorate of Intellectual Property Management and University-Industry Liaison (DIPUIL) but urged the innovators to move their innovations to the next level and push them to the market. She believes that is the only way the innovators will know if their innovations are engineered to solve problems facing humanity. The expo showcased 28 innovations from students in the areas of Affordable and Clean Energy (1), Healthcare and Well-being (4), Agriculture and Food security (5), Productivity, Utility and Infrastructure (14), Quality Education (2) and Waste Management (2).

Edible Insects Farming in Turkana Introduced

Perennial food and nutrition security challenges experienced by residents of Turkana County could be ameliorated following the establishment of the Cricket Farm in the County, by Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology following the setting up of a pilot Cricket Farm. The introduction of Cricket farming in Turkana County is part of the University’s initiatives to explore alternative sources of human food and animal feed consumption through tapping into the protein-rich edible insects. The initiative is spearheaded by the university’s researchers in the Department of Food Science.

According to Dr. John Kinyuru, the lead researcher from the Edible Insects Research Centre at JKUAT, plans to set up the Cricket Farm and Extension Services in Turkana are underway after the initial training and establishment of a cricket farm at the Kakuma Refugee Camp. The training which ran from 26th – 30th July, and organized by JKUAT in partnership with Danish Church Aid (DCA), saw participants taken through content on the edible insects’ value-chain.

Leveraging on Technology to Restore Tropical Forests

JKUAT through the School of Civil Environmental and Geospatial Engineering conducted a three-day training workshop, October 23, 2017, on Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) Data for forest monitoring in collaboration with the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) and Kenya Forest Research Institute (KEFRI). The introduction of SAR Data in forest monitoring will help develop efficient methods for mapping forest at risk of deforestation and for identifying areas suitable for forest restoration.

The training is part of the Forest 2020 Project, established by Ecometrica and UK Space Agency to help protect and restore up to 300 million hectares of tropical forests globally by improving forest monitoring in six partner countries; Kenya, Ghana, Indonesia, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico through advanced uses of satellite data. One of the aims of project is to leverage on the use of technology in forest monitoring to enhance the forest resource assessment method contributing to the development of the National Forest Monitoring System.