



THE CO-OPERATIVE UNIVERSITY OF KENYA

Final Whispers of 2024

January 30, 2025

THE BULLETIN



State Department for Co-operatives PS Mr. Patrick Kilemi (4th left), University Council Chairperson Dr. Jeremy Bundi (3rd left), Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kamau Ngamau, PhD, EBS (3rd right), Hon. Victor Oyogoke, the Representative of the Honourable Minister of State for Agriculture & Food Security, Federal Republic of Nigeria, (4th right), and the Commissioner for Co-operatives Mr. David Obonyo (2nd left) flanked by Council Members and Members of the University Management Board before the media briefing at the sidelines of the Second Co-operative Movement Stakeholders' Annual Conference and the Platform Cooperativism Consortium Conference 2024 on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort and Spa, Mombasa, Kenya.

The 2nd Co-operative Movement Stakeholders' Annual Conference Goes Global

The Second Co-operative Movement Stakeholders' Annual Conference and the Platform Cooperativism Conference 2024 were co-organized by the Ministry of Co-operatives and MSMEs Development, The Co-operative University of Kenya, and the Platform Cooperativism Consortium through a Joint Co-operative Conference 2024 Organizing Committee that was chaired by our Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kamau Ngamau, PhD, EBS.

The five-day Conference presented a unique touch to co-operatives with discussions and deliberations geared towards promoting the adoption of digital technologies in cooperative sector operations. Cognizant of the global shift

towards digitalization, information technology, and vast changes associated with technological dynamics, the cooperative movement enthusiasts at the Conference congregated at Sorova Whitesands Beach Resort and Spa in Mombasa County between Monday, November 3rd, 2024, and Friday, November 8th, 2024, to chart a way forward in the race to transform the sector.

The Annual Conference was structured into two phases.



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Education Cabinet Secretary Hon. Julius Migos Ogamba, E.B.S. awards Leah Rose from CUK an assessment certificate during the release of the July/August 2024 Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) assessment results on October 28, 2024, at the Kenya School of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (KSTVET), Gigiri-Nairobi.

Education CS Julius Ogamba Awards CUK Diploma Students July/August 2024 CBET Assessment Results

The dawn of Monday, October 28, 2024, was a fate-reckoning moment for candidates of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training, Curriculum Development, Assessment and Certification Council (TVET CDACC) July/August 2024 Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) Assessment when the Ministry of Education Cabinet Secretary Mr. Julius Migos Ogamba, E.B.S. was due to release their results. The occasion, held at the Kenya School of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (KSTVET) at Gigiri, Nairobi, was a determining element intended to crown the efforts of Certificate (Level 4 and 5) and Diploma (Level 6) learners who had toiled in thorough Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Institutes across the country.

Two of The Co-operative University of Kenya's students from the Institute of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (I-TVET) were among the few learners whom the TVET CDACC

had invited to receive their results from the Cabinet Secretary. Blessing Mawaro and Leah Rose, who had excelled in the Diploma in Supply Chain Management, received their CBET Assessment Certificates from the Education CS Julius Migos Ogamba, E.B.S. Dr. Daniel Langat, the Director at the Institute of Technical and Vocational Education and Training, who had accompanied the two trainees acknowledged that recognition of our



two candidates from the Institute of Technical and Vocational Education and Training came as an affirmation of the cutting-edge quality education that we continue to provide to our learners in pursuit of the mission of producing competent human capital through quality education.



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Lucas Kalonzo receives an award trophy after winning praise poetry at the National KUPAA Festivals flanked by the Metropolitans Drama Club Patron Ms. Mary Mbugua (2nd right), Director Felix Ogola (right), and Miss CUK 2024/2025 Vanessa Handas (left) at Egerton University, Njoro-Nakuru County, Saturday, November 16, 2024.

CUK Metropolitans Drama Club Triumphs in National KUPAA Festivals

The 2024 Kenya Universities Performing Arts Association (KUPAA) drama, radio/film, beauty pageant, and visual arts festivals represented the 6th edition since the inception of the competitions in 2019. These annual festivals are organized at two levels: regional and national, where champions of different regional competitions convene for artistry duel. Inaugurated under the theme “Embracing Performing Arts for Social Behaviour Change,” this year’s festivals presented a finesse of creativity, innovation, and artistry, blending homogeneously into cutting-throat competitive performances.

Organized in eight (8) regions countrywide, including Nyanza, Metropolitan Nairobi, Rift-Valley, Western, Coast, Nort East, Eastern, and Central. Coming from the Nairobi Metropolitan Region, The Co-operative University of Kenya’s Metropolitans Drama Club presented ten (10) diverse-genre items at the regional level, which

included praise poetry, narrative, spoken word, street dance, choral verse, legislative play, solo verse, and one-man play.

Out of the ten (10) items performed by the CUK Metropolitans Drama team at the Nairobi Metropolitan regional festivals held at the Multimedia University, seven (7) advanced to the nationals either as winners, first runners-up, or second runners-up. Winning first place at the Nairobi Metropolitan regional level were “Conjestina Achieng” praise poetry genre, “Still Bado Hamuoni” spoken word, and Euphoric Fusion street dance. The first (1st) runners-up items at the regional duel were the “Kibuyu cha Maisha” narrative and “Kovu” one-man play. At the second (2nd) runners-up were the “Mwendo Kasi” choral verse and “Kosa Muhimu” legislative play.



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Prof. Esther N. Gicheru (Mrs.), OGW, debunks the Kenya Co-operative Movement: A Shared Prosperity at the launch of the International Year of Cooperatives 2025, New Delhi – India.

Prof. Esther Gicheru Debunks Kenya's Co-operative Movement at the ICA Global Conference 2024

Between the 25th and 30th of November 2024, the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) held its Global Conference in New Delhi, India. The event launch, which was graced by the Prime Minister of India, H.E. Narendra Modi, the Hon. FCPA Wycliffe A. Oparanya, EGH, Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Co-operatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Development, and international dignitaries brought together over 3,000 cooperative movement enthusiasts from more than 100 countries worldwide.

Hosted by the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO), the conference was inaugurated under the theme, "Cooperatives Build Prosperity for All," and it guided the discourses across four plenary sessions and accompanying parallel sessions, which aimed to create an Action Agenda for Cooperatives to accelerate the SDGs.

Among the delegates of this International Forum

were our Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kamau Ngamau, PhD, EBS, and Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Finance, Planning, and Administration, Prof. Esther N. Gicheru (Mrs), OGW, who was a keynote speaker on Kenya Co-operative Movement: A Shared Prosperity at the launch of the Year of Cooperatives 2025.

In 2007, Prof. Gicheru was bestowed the highest honor of the ICA and is the only recipient of the Rochdale Pioneers Award in Africa. This is owed to her immense contribution to the cooperative movement in Kenya, Africa, and on the global stage. Debunking the topic, Prof. Gicheru highlighted that SACCOs are the most predominant, with over 50% of all 22,344 registered co-operatives, followed by agri-coops at about 27%.

"Agricultural cooperatives remain the main anchor to Kenya's economic growth, contributing 33% of total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and commands about 60% of informal employment and 60% of total exports. The downstream agro-processing is estimated to generate an additional 3.2% of GDP and 2.4% of employment," explained Prof. Esther Gicheru.



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Ag. Chancellor and the Chairperson of the University Council Dr. Jeremy Bundi (Centre), Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Co-operatives and MSMEs Development, Hon. FCPA Wycliffe A. Oparanya, EGH (4th right), Principal Secretary of the State Department for Co-operatives Mr. Patrick K. Kilemi (4th left), Vice Chancellor Prof. Kamau Ngamau (3rd right), Council Members, Deputy Vice-Chancellors and the mace bearer at the sidelines of the 9th CUK Graduation Ceremony held on Friday, December 6, 2024, Main Campus, Karen-Nairobi.

Recapitulating the 9th Graduation Ceremony

The Co-operative University of Kenya rose to the occasion of the 9th Graduation Ceremony on Friday, December 6th, 2024, an event that marks the epitome of academic toil spanning 4 years for Bachelor's graduates, 2 years for Master's and Diploma graduates, and 1 year for certificate graduates. The celebration of a life milestone saw a total of 2,220 graduates being conferred and awarded different Degrees, Diplomas, and Certificates, respectively, out of whom 1,027 were from the School of Business and Economics (SBE), 222 from the School of Co-operative and Community Development (SCCD), and 200 from the School of Computing and Mathematics (SCM).

The auspicious event marked the 9th Graduation Ceremony since the University was awarded a Charter in October 2016 from the then President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta, E.G.H, received media coverage being aired on different outlets including [Kenya Television Network \(KTN\)](#), Kenya Broadcasting

Corporation (KBC), [Kameme TV](#), [Inooro TV](#), [K24 TV](#), [TV 47](#), and [Mass.Com](#). The Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Co-operatives and MSMEs Development, Hon. FCPA Wycliffe Ambetsa Oparanya, EGH, was the presiding Chief Guest in the 9th Graduation Ceremony held on Friday, December 6, 2024.

The 9th Graduation statistics featured a 42% aggregate increase from the previous year that produced 1,565



graduates of The Co-operative University of Kenya, depicting the institution's growth trajectory. School of Business and Economics (SBE) produced the highest number of graduates, recording a 93% increase from 532 Graduates in the 8th Graduation Ceremony to 1,027 Graduates in the 2024 Graduation Ceremony.



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CUK Bachelor of Public Relations and Advertising students pose a photo with Canon officials at the Canon World Unseen exhibition on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at the Kenya National Library Service (KNLS), Upper Hill, Nairobi.

Public Relations and Advertising Students Participate at Canon World Unseen Exhibition

The sunset rays of Wednesday, December 4, 2024, send a message of a brighter dawn to our Bachelor of Public Relations and Advertising Students as they participate in the Canon World Unseen exhibition held at the Kenya National Library Service (KNLS), Upper Hill, Nairobi. This coveted experience was an eye-opening opportunity for learners who expositioned a staunch interest in photojournalism.

Organized by Canon, the exposition explored photography's inclusivity element and the inspirational belief in the power of images to change the world. Speaking to students, Canon's Managing Director for Central and North Africa, Somesh Adukia, explained, *"This special moment that Canon has held its first Canon World Unseen Exhibition in Sub-Saharan Africa here in Kenya. Innovative technologies that integrate elevated printing, immersive audio descriptions, and braille inspire the World Unseen and embody Canon's resolve for inclusivity with art and technology blended in an infinite creativity of incredible imagery."*

With over 2.2 billion visually impaired people worldwide, 26 million of these in Africa suffer a similar fate, Canon World Unseen presented an opportunity to champion inclusivity and creativity. Through a sensory-rich experience of an exposition where one does not need to see, the World Unseen aimed at changing how both the visually impaired and sighted experience photography.



Among the 17 Bachelor of Public Relations and Advertising students were Felistus Museng'ya and Stacey Chagala, our second-year, who expressed their sentiments about the experiential learning they received at the Canon World Unseen exhibition, which sparked their interest in photojournalism. Other Partners in the exhibition were the Kenya Society for the Blind and the Kenya National Library Service (KNLS).



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