



THE CO-OPERATIVE UNIVERSITY OF KENYA

September 30, 2025

THE BULLETIN



The Co-operative University of Kenya's Registrar (FPA), Mr. Chris Kathoka hosts the New KPCU Managing Director Mr. Timothy Mirugi for a courtesy visit and deliberations on possible collaboration to revive Kenya's coffee cooperatives and production on September 1, 2025, at Karen, Nairobi County.

New KPCU & CUK Explore a Partnership Bid

By Meshack M. Ngangi, MPRSK | September 1, 2025

A delegation from the New Kenya Planters Cooperative Union (New KPCU), led by Managing Director Mr. Timothy Mirugi, paid a courtesy visit to The Cooperative University of Kenya (CUK). The team – hosted by CUK's Registrar for Finance, Planning and Administration, Mr. Chris Kathoka – discussed a strategic collaboration to revive Kenya's coffee cooperatives and production. In particular, CUK is set to be among the institutions earmarked to train "ward coffee champions" across all 34 coffee-growing counties, strengthening local cooperative leadership.

Only a small fraction of Kenya's coffee is consumed locally – roughly 5% domestically and 95% exported. To reverse this trend, the new partnership will create attractive on-campus coffee cafés that showcase Kenyan

beans to students. This idea taps into a growing specialty coffee scene: analysts note that Nairobi's coffee shops (e.g. Java, Spring Valley, Art Café and Connect Coffee) are increasingly popular among young consumers.

By exposing students to locally grown coffee in social settings, the collaboration aims to inspire a new generation of coffee drinkers and future farmers.



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Our Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kamau Ngamau (3rd right), Dean of Students Dr. Lucinda Mugaa (2nd right), SGC President Mr. Peter Okinda (3rd left) flanked by Staff and student leaders at the sidelines of the Induction Workshop held at the Kenya School of Government in Embu County on September 1st 2025.

SGC & Congress Induction Workshop

By Victor J. Njogu, MPRS K | September 5, 2025

The newly elected 2025/2026 Student Governing Council and Congress of The Co-operative University of Kenya converged at the Kenya School of Government in Embu for a four-day induction workshop focused on leadership training and governance ethics from 2nd to 5th September 2025.

The programme, organised by the Office of the Dean of Students, aimed to equip student leaders with the skills, values and practical tools required for effective service, combined orientation, interactive ethics sessions, team-building exercises and strategic planning. Over the course of the workshop participants were introduced to the university's governance structures and the cooperative principles that guide CUK's mission, explored real-world ethical dilemmas through case studies and role plays, and drafted concrete action plans for the year ahead.

Mr. Chris Kathoka, Registrar of Finance, Planning and Administration, reinforced the administrative and stewardship dimensions of leadership by outlining financial and reporting responsibilities for student bodies and calling for prudence and transparency in the management of resources. Building on this, Dr. Lucinda Mugaa, Dean of Students, led practical

that translated policy into practice: she walked members through the student constitution, clarified expectations for conduct and welfare, and emphasised the visibility of student leaders as role models on campus.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kamau Ngamau, delivered the official induction closing address by underscoring the indispensable link between integrity and leadership.



He reminded delegates that the trust of their peers is built on visible accountability and personal example, urging them to view leadership first and foremost as a commitment to service rather than an exercise in power. Throughout the four days facilitators blended theory with hands-on engagement so that learning was active and immediately applicable.



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The Principal Human Resource Manager at The Co-operative University of Kenya, Ms. Jemimah A. Mmata sensitizing the 2025/2026 first-year cohort on University's Sexual Harassment Policy during the Orientation Week on September 9, 2025, at the Main Campus, Karen, Nairobi.

First Year's Orientation Week

By Meshack M. Ngangi, MPRSK | September 12, 2025

The Co-operative University of Kenya officially welcomed its first-year students through a vibrant five-day orientation programme designed to equip the new cohort with essential knowledge and skills for their academic journey. The programme commenced with opening remarks from Mr. Zachary Njeru, Ag. Registrar (Academic, Co-operative Development, Research, and Innovation), who outlined the key academic engagements awaiting the new learners. This was followed by sessions led by Ms. Hellen Njuki from Examinations and Certification and Ms. Joy Ayuma from Admissions and Students Registry, who sensitized the students on critical processes around admissions, timetabling, and examination regulations.

Dr. Charles Wambu, Ag. Director of the Directorate of Academic Quality Assurance (DAQA), then introduced the students to the university's mechanisms for maintaining academic excellence. Equally important was the guidance provided by Ms. Hellen Njoroge from Student Finance, who explained financial processes, while Mr. Cornelius Mutuku, Mr. Benson Mahiga, and Ms. Megane Anjavo demonstrated the university's ICT infrastructure, ensuring students became

acquainted with the digital resources that would support and enhance their studies.

The second day focused on governance, security, and communication. The Registrar (Finance, Planning and Administration), represented by the Principal Human Resource Manager, Ms. Anne Jemimma Mmata, officially



welcomed the students and guided them on responsible stewardship of university resources. The Chief Security Officer, Mr. Isaiah Thurairara, sensitized learners on security protocols within and outside the campus, offering practical tips on safety and vigilance.

A session led by Mr. Victor James Njogu, engaged the students on the handling of complaints and compliments, available feedback channels, and the provisions of the Access to Information Act.



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(L-R) SBE Hospitality Lecturer and DEE Examinations Coordinator Mr. Festus Maina, Tourism and Hospitality Management Student, Michelle Maina, and the STTA Kenya Director Judy Gona during the 110th edition of the Sustainable Travel and Tourism Africa (STTA) Young Change Makers Inter-University Seminar held at The Co-operative University of Kenya, Main Campus, Karen, Nairobi.

CUK Hosts the Young Chagemakers Inter-University Seminar

By Festus Mburu & Meshack Ngangi | September 12, 2025

The Cooperative University of Kenya (CUK) had the honor of hosting the 110th edition of the Sustainable Travel and Tourism Africa (STTA) Young Change Makers Inter-University Seminar on September 12th, 2025. The seminar, held from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. EAT, brought together university students, academics, government officials, and industry leaders under the theme *“Unlocking Intra-African Travel for Africa’s Sustainable Tourism Growth.”*

Since its establishment in 2017 during the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, the Young Change Makers program has provided a platform for young leaders to explore sustainable tourism as a viable career path. It has nurtured a generation of champions equipped with critical thinking skills and a strong foundation in sustainable tourism.

In recognition of its growing impact, the program was acknowledged in 2024 by UNESCO UNEVOC through the Bridging Innovation and Learning in TVET (BILT) program as an Innovative Learning Practice.

During her keynote address, Judy Gona, Director of STTA Kenya, underscored the importance of transforming tourism students

and graduates into purpose-driven professionals. She emphasized the need to seize opportunities available in the tourism industry, highlighting initiatives such as Creative Product Watch and Positive Storytelling through Nomadic Magazine as avenues through which young leaders can build



meaningful careers. Her remarks encouraged students to innovate and embrace the responsibility of shaping Africa’s tourism future.

The seminar also featured a presentation by Ms. Susan Mukuhi, Deputy Director of Tourism, Nairobi City County Government, who delivered a compelling case for Nairobi as a leading intra-African travel destination. She highlighted the city’s multicultural identity and positioned it as a hub for regional connectivity.



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(Seated) The Co-operative University of Kenya's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kamau Ngamau (Centre) Deputy Vice Chancellor - ACDRI, Prof. Isaac K. Nyamongo (3rd left), and Deputy Vice Chancellor - FPA, Prof. Esther N. Gicheru (3rd right), flanked by Deans, Staff and students after the VC's Address and Matriculation Ceremony of the first year students at the Main Campus in Karen, Nairobi. | September 15th 2025.

VC's Address and Matriculation Ceremony

By Meshack M. Ngangi, MPRSK | September 15, 2025

The Co-operative University of Kenya (CUK) officially welcomed its September 2025 intake during a moving matriculation and orientation ceremony held at the New Lecture Theatre. Vice Chancellor Prof. Kamau Ngamau, flanked by senior university leadership, inspired the University's newest students to pursue academic excellence, innovation, and integrity as they begin their studies.

Prof. Ngamau expressed pride in the size and diversity of the intake — noting that over 2,554 students were admitted to CUK and congratulated them for choosing CUK. He reassured the freshmen that the University is committed to delivering a high-quality student-centred experience: "We will endeavour to deliver as per your expectations and even beyond."

In his welcome address, Prof. Isaac K. Nyamongo, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic, Co-operative Development, Research, and Innovation), urged the new students to seek the highest standards in their studies while maintaining a balanced, holistic approach to learner development. He called on freshmen to take full advantage of CUK's academic programmes and co-curricular opportunities in

order to become well-rounded, industry-ready graduates.

Prof. Esther N. Gicheru, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Finance, Planning, and Administration), highlighted the university's modern facilities that support teaching, research, and student development, and



reminded students of their responsibility as stewards of institutional resources. Her message emphasized respect for campus assets and personal accountability as foundational to sustaining the learning environment.

The University management also briefed students on the practicalities of financing higher education under the new student-centred funding model (SCFM). The transition brings new procedures for scholarships, HELB loans, and means-testing instrument.



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CUE's Technical Inspection of IODeL

By Meshack M. Ngangi, MPRSK | September 15, 2025

The Co-operative University of Kenya hosted a delegation from the Commission for University Education (CUE) on Monday, 15th September 2025, for a technical inspection of its Open, Distance, and e-Learning (ODeL) Centre. The exercise was led by Dr. James K. Ngugi, representing the Commission.

Speaking during the inspection, Dr. Ngugi emphasized that the evaluation exercise is mandated by the Universities Regulations (2014) and the Universities Standards and Guidelines (2014). The inspection sought to conduct a rigorous assessment of the Centre's compliance with these frameworks, focusing on the integration of digital platforms, infrastructure, and resources in supporting the delivery of academic programmes and fostering student engagement.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kamau Ngamau, expressed appreciation to the Commission for undertaking the inspection. He noted that the exercise is essential in improving efficiency, strengthening digital platforms, and enhancing the University's capacity to support seamless academic delivery and student success.

Also present during the inspection were: Prof. Isaac K. Nyamongo, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic, Co-operative Development,

Research, and Innovation), Mr. Zachary Njeru, Ag. Registrar (ACDRI), Dr. Duncan Nyale, Director, Institute of Open, Distance, and e-Learning (IODeL), alongside other dedicated staff members from the University.

The inspection programme included presentations and discussions on the ODeL



Centre's progress, challenges, and future plans. This engagement underscores the University's commitment to maintaining the quality and integrity of university education, while aligning with national standards and global best practices in open and distance learning.



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The University's Marketing Officer, Ms. Lilian Nkatha, engaging secondary school students in a career talk during the Machakos County Marketing Activation held at Mumbuni High School in Machakos County on September 21st 2025.

Machakos County High School Career Fair

By Meshack M. Ngangi, MPRSK | September 22, 2025

In line with the Strategic Plan 2022–2027 and specifically the fifth key result area on customer centricity and brand visibility, The Co-operative University of Kenya (CUK) strengthened its presence in Machakos County from 20th to 22nd September 2025 through a targeted series of career talks and marketing activations. Invited to Mumbuni Boys High School on 20th September, Kathiani Boys High School on 21st September and A.C.K.General Mulinge Secondary School on 22nd September.

CUK used these engagements to guide senior secondary learners as they considered higher-education pathways. Each session was expected to attract over 1,000 students and parents, creating an important opportunity to present CUK's diploma and degree programmes, explain entry requirements, outline career prospects and describe the range of student support services available.

Beyond the scheduled talks, CUK's outreach team carried out marketing activities at Mumbuni Boys' High School, Kathiani Boys' High School and A.B.C. General Mulinge Secondary School, reaching a cumulative cohort of roughly 1,200 Form Four candidates preparing for the 2025 KCSE examinations.

The activations combined group presentations with individual conversations, allowing university representatives to address specific questions about financing, internships and programme suitability. A notable outcome of the visit to Mumbuni Boys' High School was a one-to-one meeting with the school principal, Mr Peter M. Kilonzo, during which the team discussed ways CUK can support career guidance, facilitate student transitions to higher education and collaborate on follow-up activities.



These activities directly support CUK's strategic objective to deepen community engagement and increase brand visibility. By meeting learners and parents in their schools, the University provided practical, timely advice at a critical decision point in students' academic journeys.



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Nkaimurunya Secondary School Principal, Mr. Peter Kiama (4th right) and the University's Marketing Officer, Ms. Lilian Nkatha (4th left) flanked by teachers after a campus tour held on 21st September 2025, at The Co-operative University of Kenya, Main Campus, Karen Nairobi.

The NKSS Candidate Class Tours CUK

By Meshack M. Ngangi, MPRSK | September 26, 2025

The University welcomed the 2025 candidate class from Nkaimurunya Secondary School for a High School Campus Tour, offering an important early look at university life and post-secondary possibilities. The delegation — 342 Form Four students — was accompanied by their teaching staff and led by the school's Principal, Mr. Peter Kiama.

Under guided tours of the campus, students had the opportunity to explore academic programmes and learn about prospective career paths. The programme included a session with Dr. Shem Angolo Mbandu, Dean of the School of Computing and Mathematics, who outlined academic options in computing and related fields and highlighted the role of innovation and research in shaping career trajectories.

The students also gained first-hand perspectives on student life from Mr. Peter Okinda, Students' President, who shared practical advice on transitioning to university, campus services, and co-curricular engagement. The campus visit organized by the Corporate Communication and Marketing Department was designed to inform and inspire. For many of the candidate students, this was their first focused exposure to a university environment — a timely moment as they prepare for final

examinations and decisions about higher education. The tour reinforced three practical messages: plan early by researching programmes and career outcomes, prepare academically and logistically for the university application process, and pursue goals deliberately, using available guidance and campus resources.



The Co-operative University of Kenya, a distinguished public institution known for excellence in education, research, innovation and cooperative training, provided a welcoming setting for the students to imagine their next chapter and begin mapping a path from high school into higher education and professional life. The visit closed on an encouraging note: empowered with clearer information and renewed motivation.



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The Co-operative University of Kenya's Charter President, Ms. Abigail Kinya (8th right) flanked by participants of the Rotaract Club's relaunch ceremony held at The Smith Hotel (Nkoroi) on 27th September 2025.

Renewed Commitment: CUK Rotaract Club Relaunch

Abigail Kinya & Meshack M. Ngangi | September 29, 2025

Since the beginning of 2025, the Rotaract Club of The Co-operative University of Kenya embarked on an inspiring journey of revival, marking its official relaunch on 27th September 2025 at The Smith Hotel (Nkoroi) after years of dormancy. Like many student-led organizations, the club faced immense challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. Leadership momentum was disrupted, activities came to a halt, and by November 2024, the club was officially terminated on the Rotary International portal due to inactivity. What seemed like the end of an era was, however, only a pause.

Rotaract, a global movement under Rotary International, brings together young people aged 18 and above to serve communities, develop leadership skills, build professional networks, and cultivate lifelong friendships. Since its inception in 1968, Rotaract has grown into a worldwide network of thousands of clubs, empowering young adults to act as agents of change in their communities. It is part of a broader Rotary legacy that dates back to 1905, when Paul Harris and three colleagues founded Rotary with the simple but transformative idea that fellowship and service could change lives.

From those beginnings, Rotary International

has grown into a global organization of 1.4 million members, united by the motto "Service Above Self."

Speaking at the event, The Co-operative University of Kenya's Charter President, Ms. Abigail Kinya (a 2.1 Bachelor of Science in Data Science student) noted that revival of the Rotaract Club is more than the reactivation of a student organization; it is the reaffirmation of this century-old spirit of service and fellowship among a new generation. *"Today, the club returns with renewed energy, stronger vision,*



and an unwavering commitment to service and leadership," affirmed Ms. Kinya

Daniel Ndambuki "Churchill", the Chief Guest, reiterated that community service should remain at the core of the club's agenda and inspire its members to organize initiatives that respond to both local and global needs.



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