



Chuka University Newsletter

Graduation News Edition



ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Issue No. 8

18th December, 2020

Candidates' tally

Doctorate Degrees.....	009
Masters' Degrees.....	036
Postgraduate Diploma.....	019
Certificates.....	372
Diplomas.....	528
Bachelor's.....	2,951
Total Candidates...	3,915

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Dr. Rotich Re-appointed as Chairman of University Council



Dr. Julius Tangus Rotich (L) presides at a past graduation ceremony

Chuka University is pleased to announce the re-appointment of Dr. Julius Tangus Rotich as the Chairman of the Chuka University's Council. The re-appointment was made through a gazette notice signed by the Education Cabinet Secretary Professor George Magoha for a period of three (3) years with effect from 10th March, 2020. During his past term, Chuka University registered significant milestones and accomplishments in its corporate strategy. This re-appointment attests Dr. Rotich's commitment to the continued service and growth of our University.

On behalf of the University Management, Senate, Staff and Students, we take this opportunity to congratulate him and his incoming team and extend our well wishes as we endeavour to be a world class preferred University" said Prof. Erastus Njoka, Vice-Chancellor, Chuka University. Other council members who have been re-appointed include Archbishop Titus Ingana (Rep. PS Ministry of Education), Dr. George Kwedho, Mr. Andrew Mugambi, Ms. Hellen Mungania, Mr. Kennedy Ontiti, and Ms. Josephine Gitonga. The representative for the National Treasury and Planning will be filled soon.

Varsity's Modern Equipment for Quality Training & Research

Chuka University continues to invest in ultra-modern laboratory equipment. Among them is the recently acquired Gas Chromatography Plasma Mass Spectrophotometer, one of its kind found in Chuka University, that costed over K.Sh. 67 million, won competitively from the National Research Fund Institutional Instrument Support (IIS) programme through spirited defense by a team lead by Prof. Dorcas Isutsa, Prof. Ochieng' Ombaka, Dr. Moses Muraya, and Dr. Geoffrey Gathungu. It was purposely acquired to set up the Academic and Research Excellence Centre (AREC) for environmental sustainability development studies in the upcoming Chuka University's Science and Technology Research Park. "This rare machine has the capability to analyze all chemicals in the periodic table and non-volatile samples in the environment", averred Prof. Erastus Njoka, the Vice-Chancellor.



The Gas Chromatography-Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrophotometer (GC-ICP-MS/MS)

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Class of 2020 Candidates

CONFERMENT OF DOCTORATE DEGREES.....	009
Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Studies.....	002
Faculty of Education and Resources Development.....	001
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.....	003
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology.....	003
CONFERMENT OF MASTERS' DEGREES.....	036
Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Studies.....	014
Faculty of Business Studies.....	003
Faculty of Education and Resources Development.....	004
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.....	011
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology.....	004
AWARD OF POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA.....	019
Faculty of Education and Resources Development.....	019
AWARD OF CERTIFICATES.....	372
Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Studies.....	042
Faculty of Business Studies.....	119
Faculty of Business Studies, TUC.....	009
Faculty of Education and Resources Development.....	037
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.....	073
Faculty of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, TUC.....	010
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology.....	070
Faculty of Physical Sciences, Engineering and Technology, TUC.....	012
AWARD OF DIPLOMAS.....	528
Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Studies.....	075
Faculty of Business Studies.....	191
Faculty of Business Studies, TUC.....	022
Faculty of Education and Resources Development.....	014
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.....	186
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology.....	029
Faculty of Physical Sciences, Engineering and Technology, TUC.....	011
CONFERMENT OF BACHELORS' DEGREES.....	2,951
School of Nursing and Public Health.....	066
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology.....	345
Faculty of Business Studies.....	488
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.....	558
Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Studies.....	604
Faculty of Education, Humanities & Social Sciences, TUC.....	014
Faculty of Education and Resources Development.....	876
TOTAL CANDIDATES.....	3,915

Varsity's Fundamental Statements

Motto

Knowledge is Wealth/Akili ni Mali (*Sapientia divitia est*)

Slogan

Inspiring Environmental Conservation for Better Life

Vision

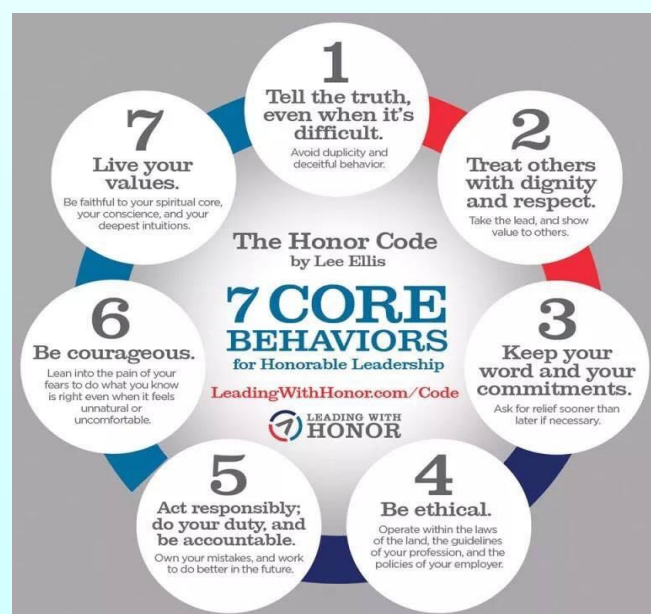
A premier university for the provision of quality education, training and research for sustainable national and global development.

Mission

To provide access, generate, preserve and share knowledge for quality, effective and ethical leadership in higher education, training, research and outreach through nurturing an intellectual culture that integrates theory with practice, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Core Values

- Customer value and focus
- Diversity and social fairness
- Environmental consciousness
- Fidelity to the law
- Innovation
- Integrity
- Passion for excellence
- Peaceful co-existence
- Professionalism and confidentiality
- Prudent utilisation of resources
- Teamwork
- Timeliness and devotion to duty



Contributors

- The University Management
- Deans of Faculties
- Directors
- Chairpersons of Departments
- Heads of Sections
- Chuka University staff
- Chuka University students
- James Wainaina
- Sammy Adika
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Chuka University, 2020

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*When I have laid bait for deer,
I don't shoot at the first doe that comes to sniff,
But wait until the whole herd has gathered round.*

Otto von Bismarck 1815-1898

*It must be considered that there is nothing more difficult to
carry out, nor more doubtful of success, nor more danger-
ous to handle, than to initiate a new order of things.*

Niccolo Machiavelli, 1496-1527

Editor's Note

The 8th Chuka University Graduation Ceremony is finally here. This is the day when the graduands, faculty, parents and guardians will join in virtual celebrations to mark the eventful occasion. This annual ceremony caps the achievement and desire of every student to graduate. The graduands can now look back and confirm that their efforts have not been in vain.

On her part, the University has also fulfilled the major reason and core mandate for her existence; that is the provision of quality education, as Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". And Peter Drucker said "Knowledge is the only input of production that has no diminishing returns". As long as the University releases qualified graduates, it has fulfilled its core mandates.

The *Chuka University News* joins the **3,915** graduands and all stakeholders in celebrating this auspicious occasion. I urge all graduates to go into the world and prove their mettle. Go out there and walk confidently in the knowledge that your qualification is second to none. You have been trained not only to think critically but also to work and deliver results. The real test of the education and skills that have been imparted to you over the years will be confirmed in the work places! This is the reason we are sending out with the theme: "**Leveraging Current Innovations to Revitalize Economic Development**".

During the past year, Chuka University has achieved a number of milestones, some of which are outlined in this issue. The University went through a rigorous paradigm shift in the modes of teaching, learning and operations to blended modes and succeeded in resuscitating disrupted academic activities. This, however, does not mean that the University will become complacent and sit on her laurels. Far from it! We in Chuka University believe in continual improvement and it is in this respect that we are continuing to apply the principles of ISO 9001-2015 QMS. The University developed a number of new academic programmes, thus expanding training opportunities for more students. Besides, plans are at an advanced stage to start new Faculties, including Faculty of Law, Faculty of Engineering, and that of Health Sciences. All these are demand-driven and once started, this University will continue to be the best among equals.

John Nkanatha

Message By the Chancellor

First, I wish to congratulate all the graduands in today's unique graduation ceremony – the first ever virtual graduation ceremony at Chuka University. The fact that you have managed to complete your studies and got to the point of graduation despite COVID-19 is a testimony to your resilience. I also wish to acknowledge the essential role that Chuka University's academic and administrative staff have played in bringing this day to fruition. Not forgetting the parents and guardians and other support systems. For all of us, the world has changed drastically over the past year, and the fact that we have been able to adapt and are continuing to do so is something we cannot take for granted. As you step into your future, Chuka students, I take this opportunity to ask you to look back at the institution that has been a part of your lives during the past four years and that has molded you to the point where you are today.

Chuka University continues to fulfil its core mandate of academics. Currently, the university has almost 17,000 students, based in four campuses in Chuka, Chogoria, Embu and Igembe, and one University College in Tharaka. The University has been ranked among the top ten in the list of preferred universities by Kenya's university placement services. The University has graduated over 15000 students to date, and this year we have the pleasure to graduate another **3,915** Chuka University boasts a total of 200 academic programmes spanning university level certificate, diploma, bachelors, masters and Ph.D. programmes.

Keeping in mind the importance of producing market-adapted graduates, the University has continued to create linkages to industry through events such as the Open and Career weeks, the last one took place in March, 2020. The event brought together a variety of industry stakeholders to interact with and mentor students and prospective entrants into the job market. In 2019, the University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) to open a Technology and Innovation Support Centre (TISC), and became the twelfth university to do so in Kenya. The Centre was launched in March 2020. Indeed, the University continues to be a place to foster innovation; to date, Chuka University has registered four patents with KIPI, and looks forward to registering many more with the support of the TISC office.

In addition to its core mandate of academics, the University has actively engaged in diverse projects to positively impact its students, staff, other stakeholders and the community at large. The University is in the second phase of constructing a male students' hostel, which will house two thousand students. It is also constructing a Science and Technology Research Park and a Food Science and Technology tuition complex, among numerous other infrastructure projects. The infrastructural projects do not only serve the university population but also serve the broader community. At Kairini for example, the University has constructed a dispensary that will serve both the university and the surrounding community. At Kairini, and around its main campus in Ndagani, it is constructing access roads that will ease access traffic flow.

The University is also constructing a water reservoir and irrigation system in its farm at Kairini, as well as a three million litre water reservoir at the main campus. When complete, these two projects will directly contribute towards achieving the sixth Sustainable Development Goal, which seeks to ensure access to clean water and sanitation. Water conservation and prudent use is key in protecting the environment for a sustainable future.

Chuka University is also the home to an educational and community radio, Chuka University Radio 98.8, which not only serves as a training ground for media students but also acts as an important source of information and entertainment to the community at large. The University has continued to equip the studio to make it a world class facility.

Looking forward, the University continues to develop more market-responsive programmes in conjunction with various stakeholders. It also plans to refurbish and landscape Ndagani Primary School and to construct a five-thousand-seater library to meet the needs of the student population. These projects will cater to the growing student population, and enhance the quality education offered by Chuka University.

Returning to today, graduating students, as you go out into the world, remember where you have come from and what you have been through these past four years. Use the knowledge and skills you have acquired to be a problem-solver in society. Consider joining the Alumni of the institution in order to give back to those who will come after you. As you start a new phase of life, be courageous, resilient and focused, and believe that only the best lies ahead.

Thank you and God bless Chuka University.



University Council Appreciates Varsity's Remarkable Growth



Dr. Julius T. Rotich
Chairman



Archbishop Titus Z. Ingana
Representing PS, Ministry of Education



Mrs. Josephine Gitonga
Member



Dr. George Kwedho
Member



Ms. Hellen Mungania
Member



Mr. Kennedy Ontiti
Member



Mr. Andrew Mugambi
Member



Prof. Erastus Njoka,
Vice-Chancellor/Secretary

As Chairman of Chuka University Council, I am proud to be at the helm of a board that has spearheaded the steady growth of Chuka University. Indeed the aspiration of Chuka to be a premier university for the provision of quality education, training and research is coming to desired fruition. As a council we are alive to the fact that for us to deliver, we must work as a team with the Government and the University Management. In this regard, I thank the Government of Kenya for providing the necessary resources to the university and for reappointing my team for a second term in office. This will enable the team to continue with the tempo it has set for itself. I wish to affirm that the funds provided by the National Treasury will continue to be used in the most prudent manner. I laud the University Management under the able hand of Professor Erastus Njoka, the Vice-Chancellor for managing the affairs of the university in an exemplary manner.

Under my chairmanship and diligence of the University Management, Chuka University has realised tremendous growth in infrastructure, student and staff numbers. In addition to the Embu, Igembe and Chogoria campuses, plans are under way to establish a Campus in the heart of Nairobi in the Elimu Plaza which the university acquired recently. We are proud to be associated with Tharaka University College which is a constituent college of Chuka University. Phase I of the Male Students hostel is complete and was occupied by students in September this year. Phase II of the hostel is progressing well. This will enable us to accommodate many more students on the campus. Another landmark development is the ultra modern Administration/ School of Law Complex. When it is completed, this exquisite complex will be the face of the University. The University has charted the road to becoming a centre of excellence in science, environmental conservation and sustainable development. Towards this end we are putting up the largest science research park and a food science and technology complex which will be hubs of scientific research and innovation.

In its endeavour to expand learning facilities, the University has added Hillside Grand Hotel to the repertoire of properties. Plans are at hand to acquire additional pieces of land adjacent to the University to realize the expansion of facilities. The University has acquired a fleet of buses and other vehicles for use by students and staff. Besides, the construction of Professor Ezra Maritim Green Park is complete. The expansive Park can accommodate up to 200 cars.

As we celebrate this 8th graduation ceremony, I wish to congratulate all the graduands for their sterling performance. The core business of Chuka University is provision of quality academic programmes and research. This graduation is testimony that the university has continued to deliver on her mandate. Recently, the University has recruited and promoted a number of academic, technical and administrative staff with a view to buttressing her human resource base. With these developments, the University has trained its sights into a bright future. I welcome Kenyans and other prospective students to join Chuka University where quality education and training are assured.

Principal Secretary Nabukwesi Visits to Inspect the University's Project Development



Left: The Vice-Chancellor, Prof Njoka takes the PS Amb. Simon Nabukwesi on a tour of the University. Right: New male students' hostels ready for occupation and comply to the Covid-19 social/physical distancing protocols

The Covid-19 pandemic has had devastating effects on the institution as well as the country at large. In March 2020, learning was paralyzed following the closure of all learning institutions amidst the outbreak of the Coronavirus. This however did not stop learning because the University quickly embraced online/virtual learning that has seen the graduating class graduate today. On 14th July, 2020, the Principal Secretary Ambassador Simon Nabukwesi visited Chuka University to view the University's projects development. The PS hailed the University Management led by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Njoka for putting up exquisite infrastructure that would go a long way in enhancing Covid-19 mitigation in line with the Ministry of Health protocols.

The PS was accompanied by other top officials from the Ministry of Education who expressed their satisfaction towards Chuka University's level of infrastructural advancement, as well as the impressive growth in a short span of time. The visit came just few months after the Eastern Regional Commissioner Mr. Isaiah Nakoru toured the University to inspect and commission various projects under the transformational and visionary leadership of the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Erastus Njoka. Mr. Nakoru just like PS Nabukwesi hailed Prof. Njoka for his commitment and efforts towards the completion of works for the planned and ongoing Vision 2030 flagship projects. The PS pledged government's support to accelerate completion of the ongoing projects., including the Science and Technology Research Park



Secondary school students being taken through Career choices and Career Developments during the 3rd Open Research and Career week held at Chuka University



Mr. Antony Mwangi Muhoro, Senior Technologist, in the Department of Biological Sciences talking to visitors who visited during the 3rd Open Research and Career Week

The University Management Board and Senate



Prof. Erastus N. Njoka, Ph.D. D.Sc. (Hon.)
Vice-Chancellor/CEO



Prof. Dorcas K. Isutsa, Ph.D.
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Academic, Research & Student Affairs)



Prof. Zachary Njogu Waita, Ph.D.
Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Administration, Finance, Planning & Development)



CPA John K. Thurairira
Finance Officer



Prof. Francis G. Ndiritu, Ph.D.
Registrar (Academic Affairs)



Dr. John K. Nkanatha
Ag. Registrar (Administration and Planning)

The University Management Board is the executive arm of the University governance. It is charged with the responsibility of running the University on a day-to-day basis. Chuka University Management Board comprises the following members: The Vice-Chancellor, (Chairperson), Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration, Finance, Planning and Development) - Secretary, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic, Research and Student Affairs), Finance Officer, Registrar (Academic and Registrar (Administration and Planning).

The functions of the Management Board include:

- Ensuring efficient and prudent management and utilisation of human resources, programmes, facilities and finances of the University;
- Planning for University development and other needs;
- Developing strategies for generation of revenue to secure financial support for the University; &
- Making proposals on policies that have University-wide application.

The University Senate is the chief academic arm of the University governance. Membership of the Senate include: The Vice-Chancellor (Chairperson); Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) - Secretary, other Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Principal of each Constituent University College; Principals of Campuses and Colleges; Deans of Faculties, and Directors of Schools, Institutes and Centres; Chairpersons of the teaching departments; Two members elected by the Academic Board or of each Constituent University College; University Librarian; Registrars; Dean of Students; One representative of each of the Faculty or School Boards; Two members elected by the Students' Association; and Any other person as may be provided for in the Statutes.

The functions of the Senate include:

- To determine the content and academic standard of any course of study in respect of any degree, diploma, certificate or other award of University and to report its findings thereon to the Council;
- To propose regulations for consideration by the Council regarding the eligibility of persons for admission to a course of study;
- To propose regulations for consideration by the Council regarding the standard of proficiency to be gained in each examination for a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the University;
- To decide which persons have attained the prescribed standard of proficiency and are otherwise fit to be granted a degree, diploma, certificate or other award of the University and to report its decision thereon to the Council;
- To initiate proposals relating to the conduct of the University generally and to discuss any matter relating to the University and to make representation there on to the Council; and
- To make regulations governing such other matters as are within its powers in accordance with this Charter or the Statutes.

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Chuka University Flourishes Despite the Hard Times



**Prof. Erastus Njoka, Ph.D.,
D.Sc. (Hons)
Vice-Chancellor**

Chuka University has continued to deliver on its mandate despite the serious challenges occasioned by the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. Fourth year students were among the first to be recalled to complete their studies and sit for examinations. These and other finalist students are the ones we are graduating today. First year students reported on 2nd September, 2020 and are continuing with their studies.

The University has been at the forefront in the fight against COVID-19. In our effort to combat the pandemic, the University has installed hand-washing stations in all University premises. This is in addition to the use of thermo-guns and hand-sanitizers for staff, students and visitors to the University. As a further measure, the University has embarked on manufacturing and packaging of sanitizer, liquid soap and fumigants. Besides, the University has acquired two thermal foggers and 34 handheld nano-spray guns for fumigating lecture halls, hostels and offices. Due to the challenges brought about by COVID-19, the University has adopted blended teaching and learning where lectures are delivered virtually as well as in-person in an effort to mitigate COVID-19 threats.

Chuka University works very closely with the neighbouring community. In this regard, the University has taken its corporate social responsibility activities a notch higher by providing face masks, wash hand stations to the community. In 2019, the University launched the annual tree planting exercise during which time 200,000 seedlings were distributed and planted in Tharaka Nithi, Meru and Embu Counties. This is in line with the Big Four Agenda and Vision 2030 which aim at mitigating against climate change and its adverse effects. During the current tree planting exercise this year, the University is distributing 400,000 seedlings to the community and schools. Other CSR initiatives include the

construction of a bypass road to serve the community and the University. In an effort to enhance security both in the university and the neighbourhood, the University has installed 5 floodlights within the Main Campus. The acquisition of the fire-fighting engine and the opening of Chuka University radio are other initiatives aimed at providing services to the community. The university is collaborating with Ndagani KK Mwendwa Water project to supply water to the community by donating pipes to boost the project's capacity.

Chuka University has embraced leadership roles in the intellectual, scientific and technological sphere. In this regard, the University holds international research weeks annually where scientific minds meet to exchange ideas and showcase their innovations. The findings and new discoveries from such research are disseminated for them to be meaningful.

In an endeavour to build research capacity, the University has acquired state-of-the-art scientific equipment such as the recently competitively won by a team of staff one of a kind Ksh. 67 million Gas Chromatography-Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrophotometer (GC-ICP-MS/MS). It is installed in the Science and Technology Research Park. In addition, the University researchers won an InnoFoodAfrica research grant worth Ksh. 14.5 million to promote food security studies. University staff have also won and continue to participate in a number of research projects such as the Woody Weeds project funded by CABI, Switzerland and AgriFoSe 2030 Policy research project funded by SIDA, Sweden. Other upcoming competitive research projects include: "H₂ ATLAS-AFRICA, Atlas of Green Hydrogen Generation Potentials in Africa: A Technologi-

cal, Environmental and Socio-economic Feasibility Assessment" Project by German-Africa Partnership for Sustainable Energy Solution through Green Hydrogen funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Energy Division, Bonn, Germany. Another one is "International Network for Government Science Advice (INGSA) 2021 Knowledge Associate Grant Project: Evidence-to-Policy Pathways in the COVID-19 Pandemic fight funded by IDRC, Canada. All these indicate that serious research innovations are being pursued in Chuka University.

The Senate has continually developed new academic programmes that are relevant to industry needs and solve problems that bedevil society and the Nation. To ensure that the programmes are market-driven, stakeholders are welcome to validate the content. This has provided a wide range of courses that are available to learners at different levels. In connection with this, the Council of Legal Education held final inspection of the Faculty of Law virtually on 28th October, 2020. In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Erastus Njoka confirmed that the University has put in place all requirements and appreciated the Council of Legal Education for giving a green light to roll out the LLB programme in Chuka University.

The University has increasingly become a choice for conferences. This is a welcome development in terms of knowledge sharing and university-industry-community nexus.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Government of the Republic of Kenya for its continued support to the University. Finally, let me congratulate the 2020 graduands, their parents and guardians and University staff for their relentless efforts that have seen them realize this milestone that we are celebrating today.



The Vice-Chancellor , Prof. Erastus Njoka (in red tie) visiting an exhibition during the 3rd Open research and Career Week

Message by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic, Research and Students Affairs)



*Prof. Dorcas K. Isutsa, Ph.D.
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Academic, Research and
Students Affairs)*

What a year it has been – disruptive, reflective, and bitter-sweet. It must be a big relief that it is all behind us now and you are set to achieve your academic dreams. In this regard, I know your studies were bumpy sometimes, but smooth other times. Regardless of how it went, all of it was for a worthy cause of becoming suitably qualified for your careers.

I therefore congratulate you the 3,915 graduands in the Class of 2020 for your resilience, patience and untiring mindsets that have led to earning what was required to graduate from Chuka University after defeating all odds. Although this graduation ceremony is being relayed to you virtually, I nonetheless join you to rejoice that it has come to pass, it is finally here. All is well that ends well; better late than never, as the sayings go.

I appreciate all persons who mentored, supervised, supported and walked with you through your academic journey. You have made them proud now that you have succeeded, making their investment in you tangible. I urge you to enter the world of work bravely and soldier on triumphantly.

This you should do because you are equipped with all what it takes to continue excelling. Always adapt quickly to new imperatives and paradigm shifts to continue thriving. Bring desired rewards to your employers, contemporaries, family and society. Live true to the spirit of your alma mater – that says with knowledge you can prosper. Impact lives and people for the better. We welcome you to visit your alma mater when it is safe to do so. Until then, keep safe and be blessed in line with your heartfelt desires.

UPDATES ON THE EGERTON UNIVERSITY RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME

Mr. Jediel Sendeyo was elected as the chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Egerton University Retirement Benefits Scheme (EURBS) with effect from 27th October, 2020. EURBS is a pension scheme co-sponsored by Egerton University and its former constituent colleges, Chuka, Laikipia and Kisii, which have since become full-fledged universities as well as Tharaka University College, a constituent college of Chuka University. Mr. Sendeyo represents Chuka University in the board as a sponsor-nominated trustee. This came about after amendment of the Trust Deed and Rules that gave Chuka, Kisii and Laikipia Universities a slot each to nominate the sponsor trustees. Previously, Egerton University, having founded the scheme nominated all the sponsor-trustees.

The EURBS is one of the largest pension schemes in Kenya with over 3000 members and a fund value of more than Kshs. 11 billion. The scheme caters for staff on permanent and pensionable terms from the participating universities. However, due to the current government policy that encourages “contract” as opposed to “permanent” employment, the Board of Trustees (BoT) has amended the Trust Deed and Rules to give way for contract staff to join the scheme giving them an opportunity to save for their retirement.

The BoT is also in the process of facilitating the establishment of a Post-Retirement Medical Fund (PRMF) to cater for members’ medical needs once they retire. In the proposal, members will be required to contribute to the fund when they are in active employment. The amount to be contributed by each member will depend on the member’s age and the cover they wish to enjoy upon retirement.



Mr. Jediel Sendeyo
*Senior Assistant Registrar
(Administration & Planning)*

Message by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration, Finance, Planning & Development)

On behalf of the Division of Administration, Finance, Planning and Development, I take this opportunity to congratulate the graduating class of 2020. As a division, we are proud to be associated with your great achievement. Graduating from Chuka University is a significant milestone in your lives and we in the Administrative division wish to share this joy with you, your parents, guardians and friends.

Chuka University has over the years you have been here striven to ensure that you gain skills and knowledge and competencies that will be key as you navigate life. Today we all celebrate that achievement. It is indeed a significant investment, which you should use for self-development and service to your country. I wish you every success as you enter the next stage of your life and start developing your career.

Chuka University has grown tremendously in the last few years. The University has continued to invest in projects and programmes that support our students to realize their academic pursuits and dreams. Foremost in our investments have been research and teaching facilities.



Prof. Zachary Njogu Waita, Ph.D.

Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration, Finance, Planning & Development)

The university has invested in state of the art research and teaching facilities and to continue to offer market oriented and demand driven courses. This is evidenced in the University's acquisition of Ultra-modern laboratory equipment and the ongoing development of a Science and Technology Research Park, continued equipment and development of university farms offering our students exceptional sites for learning and conducting research. This is evidenced by the irrigation infrastructure installed in our Kairini Farm. The University has continued to support student accommodation and recently completed and commissioned an Ultra-Modern Male Students' Hostel (Phase I) with a capacity of 968 students. The construction of Male Students' Hostel (Phase II) and Administration/Faculty of Law complex, Food Technology Tuition complex are all at advanced stages. The division extends its gratitude to the Government, parents, guardians and our partners for their support that has enabled to develop these facilities and offer our students a conducive learning environment.

As part of Covid-19 preparedness, measures have been put in place to comply with the health directives on containment. The University has a medical staff and a Covid-19 committee to monitor and taken practical steps to manage the pandemic.

As you graduate you exit Chuka University confident, skilled and learned members of our alumni. I ask you use knowledge you have acquired at Chuka university to contribute to a paradigm shift in the society and create a better world for yourselves and future generations. Thank you and May God bless you.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORATE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE



*Prof. Colomba K. Muriungi,
Director, Quality Assurance*

The Directorate of Quality Assurance (QA) was established in September 2019, after being separated from the Directorate of Quality Assurance and Performance Contracting (QAPC). Since then, the directorate under the leadership of Prof. Colomba Muriungi has continued to provide the university with the maintenance and improvement in delivery of quality learning and teaching to ensure that these areas meet the expected national and international standards. Teaching Evaluation Effectiveness was conducted successfully in the first and second semester of 2019/2020 academic year and feedback given to lecturers to make sure that areas that have specific issues are addressed timely. Generally, Chuka University lecturers have received positive evaluation from students. With the presence of COVID-19 pandemic, the directorate is working closely with the department of ICT and ODEL to maintain learning and teaching standards by conducting teaching evaluation through the online students' portal for the 2020/2021 academic year. Additionally, feedback from thesis external examination has been analyzed twice since the inception of the directorate and feedback submitted to the Board of Postgraduate Studies for action. The Directorate will also be conducting graduates' tracer study to monitor how Chuka University graduates progress in career fields after graduation and their impact in the outside world.

In the month of November 2020, the Director QA, together with the VC and the DVC (ARSA) signed an MOU with Digitally Smart, an e-learning marketing education provider in the UK. This MOU which shall run for six (6) months will help train sixty (60) Chuka University students in Digitally Smart Channels, Content Marketing, Search Engine Optimization, Web Analytics, and Social Media at no cost.

As a directorate, we celebrate the Chuka University 8th graduation ceremony with great pleasure. Indeed, it has taken hard work and dedication of the Chuka University Management, the staff, graduands, parents, guardians, sponsors and the community at large to be able to reach to this far. Therefore, on behalf of staff in the Directorate of Quality Assurance I take this opportunity to appreciate everyone who has participated in making this important day a success.

Congratulations to all the graduands for this remarkable academic achievement you have made in your lives today. We are certain that the university has provided you with quality knowledge and skills to help you as you venture to conquer the world in service to mankind.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR (ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING)



***By Dr. John K. Nkanatha
Registrar (A&P) Ag.***

The Office of Registrar (Administration and Planning) has recently been expanded with the hiring of a Human Resources Manager, Dr. Henry Nyamu. Following this expansion, the department has now been restructured to include four distinct sections each headed by a Senior Assistant Registrar.

The sections of the Department are General Administration, currently headed by Ms. Caroline Nthiiri; Human Resources Management, headed by Dr. Henry Nyamu; Planning and Development; headed by Mr. Alphine Lang'at and Operations Management, headed by Mr. Jediel Sendeyo.

The Office provides secretariat for policy development, review and implementation in line with the stipulated guidelines thus ensuring that all university departments work synergistically towards achievement of specific university objectives.

Besides planning and organising human resource and work schedules, the office plans for purchase of staff requirements such as equipment, staff welfare and staff training. By making bulk purchases, the university benefits from economies of scale.

The Office provides essential services and contributes to development and implementation of the University strategic plan, policies, rules and regulations by interpreting and implementing University them accurately and constructively to realize the overall university vision.

The Office of Registrar (Administration and Planning) is at the core of performance management. We drive performance in the university by developing, monitoring and evaluating employee goals and targets through the annual performance contracting which culminates in performance appraisal.

Besides, the Office organizes and facilitates meetings by providing secretariat services to various committees for effective processing and record of management meetings. We also serve on various committees as required by university policies and statutes. Conducting job analysis, job evaluation and updating job requirements/specifications and job descriptions for all positions is a task domiciled in this Office. Compensation administration including auditing/approving of the staff payroll, approving Pay Change Advice, implementing Collective Bargaining Agreements and maintaining employee benefit programmes are other operations. The Office conducts annual customer surveys with the aim of getting feedback from customers to continually improve services.

Planning is an important aspect in the management of any institution including the university. We contribute to the university's development plans by giving input on the priority areas for infrastructural development and the implementation of such plans. We also ensure University construction sites are insured against probable risks. Ensure completion of projects by organizing and coordinating information and requirements; planning, arranging, supervising and meeting schedules; and monitoring of results. In addition to providing information and reports as requested from time to time by government agencies, we Keep an inventory of University assets and ensure they are maintained as required.

We provide coordination in staffing and recruitment by taking a key role in the process by identifying needs, shortlisting, interviewing, deploying and supervision of staff. Controls are upheld by ensuring staff discipline and adherence to laid down rules and regulations for efficient delivery of services. By planning and approving staff leaves, staff requisitions and imprests, we ensure that there is prudent use of resources. To ensure harmonious industrial relations we participate in negotiating with Unions before signing internal Collective Bargaining Agreements.



Participants in the Chuka University's 7th Annual International Research Conference held on 3rd & 4th December, 2020 in the Main Campus

MESSAGE BY THE DIRECTOR, BOARD OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

The Directorate of Undergraduate Studies and Field Attachment congratulates the graduating class of 2020 for an outstanding achievement during this most difficult time. The Directorate joins in celebrating the fruits of your hard work and your outstanding achievement after years study in Chuka University.

On behalf of the directorate, I wish to congratulate you, your family and friends during this auspicious occasion, that marks the stage in life when you go out into the community and as agents of positive transformation and sustainable development of our society. I am proud that the Board of Undergraduate studies has been part of the process that has played a critical role in molding your training for knowledge and skills during your stay at Chuka University.

The Board has continued to work closely with all stakeholders to oversee the quality of undergraduate programmes and to ensure timely industrial and field attachments for all undergraduate students. We have been able to send our students to various parts of the country where they gain invaluable experience and exposure to practical work. In the process they have been able to integrate with the different industries, employers and surrounding environments for adequate preparation for post-University working life.

The Board wishes to recognize our partners in these attachment exercises. We are grateful to the various government agencies and Private organizations and schools throughout Kenya that continue to offer our students a chance to practice in their institutions. It is our hope that the cordial and mutually beneficial relationship between us and our partners will continue.

Let me also take this chance to single out and congratulate those qualified for the Vice-Chancellor's roll of honour and those who were awarded scholarships to pursue Master's Degree Programmes in various faculties in recognition of their outstanding academic performance. I wish to urge them to take up and utilize the scholarships in order to advance their academic careers.

Congratulations and may God bless the Class of 2020

Prof. Zachary Njogu Waita, Ph.D.
Director, Board of Undergraduate Studies



Prof. Francis Ndiritu and Dr. Immaculate Mutali attend to clients during one of the career education fairs

Directorate of Research, Extension and Publications Milestones

Today is indeed a great day for you! After years of hard work, patience and determination, today you graduate. It is with great pleasure that on behalf of the entire Board of Research, Extension and Publications I take this opportunity to congratulate you on your achievement. It gives me great honor to know that in one way or another we have contributed to this achievement. The Directorate of Research, Extension and Publications is mandate to spearhead research and extension in the University. In this endeavor, during 2019-2020 FY the Directorate organized and held the 6th International Research conference and the Open Research and Career Week.

The conference attracted 152 participants. It is with pleasure we note that some of our Ph.D. and M.Sc. /M.Ed. /MA graduating today attended and presented high quality research articles in the conference. Congratulations! Besides, some Bachelor graduates today participated in the Open Research and Career Week. In this year's event we had a record eighty five presentations from the Faculties, thirty four start-ups and fifteen clubs competing for the Vice-Chancellor's awards. In addition, twenty secondary schools and twenty five external institutions participated. In the 2019-2020 FY the Directorate further processed nineteen Ph.D. and Masters and, four staff research proposals which were competitively awarded funds amounting to KES. 5.9 M from the Internal Research Fund. It is with great pleasure we note that some of you graduating today are beneficiaries. Again, we extend our congratulations to you all for that exemplary performance.

Today marks a great milestone in the lives of our graduates. We are proud to share in your achievement. But we realize that though major, this is but one goal in the long life's journey. There are many more battles to be fought and victories to be won. We therefore wish you God's grace in the journey ahead. God bless you!

Dr. Charles M. Kariuki
Director, Research, Extension and Publications



Visiting High School students listening to Chuka University students during the 3rd Open Research and Career Week

Varsity's Kairini Farm Development Takes Shape



Dr. Jafford N. Rithaa

Director, Farms, Buildings and University Enterprises

On behalf of the directorate staff, I would like to congratulate the Chuka University graduates of 2020 for their tireless efforts and achievements despite the many challenges posed by Covid 19. The Directorate of Farms Buildings and University Enterprises (FABUE) contributes to achievement of the University's Vision and mission through management of University farms and income generating units (IGU) of the University. The University farms enhances the teaching and research by providing demonstration sites for students' projects and experimental sites for the staff research projects as well as generating income for the University. The University has farms

in the Main campus, Kairini, Mwanjati, Igembe Campus and Chogoria campus. Other University lands include Embu campus and Nairobi Plot where Chuka University Elimu Plaza, along Loita Street is located. The University has also acquired the former BC hostel, adjacent to the Hillside grand Hotel.

The farms enterprises comprise of livestock keeping, agronomic and horticultural farming activities. In Ndagani farm, there are animals for training/research and demonstration plots for students' agricultural projects and research plots for staff. There are also green houses, tree nurseries, flower nurseries, crops, coffee, Napier grass, lucerne, desmodium, rhodes grass, cows, pigs, llamas, fish, sheep and rabbits. There is continuous sale of agricultural products at the directorate. The Kairini farm comprises 500 acres which is being used for livestock keeping, especially local breeds of goats and cattle. There are also agronomic farming activities for Bananas and mango plantations. Other developmental projects ongoing in Kairini farm include the Installation of drip irrigation system with a 15 million water pan to irrigate at least 50 acres. Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) has allowed establishment of Chuka University wildlife sanctuary and conservancy in Kairini farm which will be used for training, research and ecotourism. There is also a dispensary at in Chuka University Kairini farm for provision of health services to the members of the community within the University. The University Enterprises enhances the income generation for the University. The main University enterprises are Hillside Grand Hotel for catering and hospitality services, Accommodation and Conferencing, Clinic, Library, AI Services, Tree and flower Nurseries for sale of seedlings and Chuka University Elimu Plaza in Nairobi which provides rental income to the University.



Drip Irrigation System at University's Kairini farm



Banana Plantation at Kairini farm



Fertigation Unit at University's Kairini farm



15 Million litre water dam at Kairini farm

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE FINANCE OFFICER



CPA John K. Thurania
Finance Officer

The Finance department is committed to supporting the University in achieving its vision of being *A Premier University for the provision of quality education, training and research for sustainable National and global development*. In this regard, the Finance department performs budgeting, income processing, payment processing, imprest processing and preparation of final accounts functions. These functions are carried out in strict conformity to statutory requirements, applicable standards, legislations and the National Treasury policies. The University has integrated fees payment services with the banks for better management of students records.

The Finance Department has continued to offer timely services to all its customers. Among our customers are Students whom we continuously interact with in our endeavor to support them achieve their academic goals. We have been able to efficiently collect fees from our students and clearing them on time for their studies. The income from fees collection has significantly enabled students realize their academic goals.

As we celebrate the 8th graduation ceremony, we feel motivated by graduands, parents, guardians and sponsors for their sheer hard work, dedication, patience and humility that has enabled our students accomplish their academic goals. It's through the good virtues that parents, guardians and sponsors have been able to pay fees on time allowing students have ample time for their studies. Equally, the graduands have done their best in the academic journey to achieve their goals. To the graduands; make these virtues the core values in your lives as you move to the world of job market.

We celebrate each of you. We also celebrate so many who have contributed to your success: your parents and families, friends and colleagues, and those who have contributed to your University life; the Council, management, senate, faculties, staff, donors, trustees, and community leaders. Your parents have made enormous sacrifices to see you through the university, they have earned a return on their investment and from it, and they deserve quality leadership by quality people.

On behalf of the Finance department, may I congratulate the Chuka University Council, Management, Staff, parents, guardians, sponsors and graduands during this 8th graduation ceremony celebrations. This graduation is a signal of a great sacrifice that has been made. It is commendable. May the Almighty Lord bless the work of your hands.

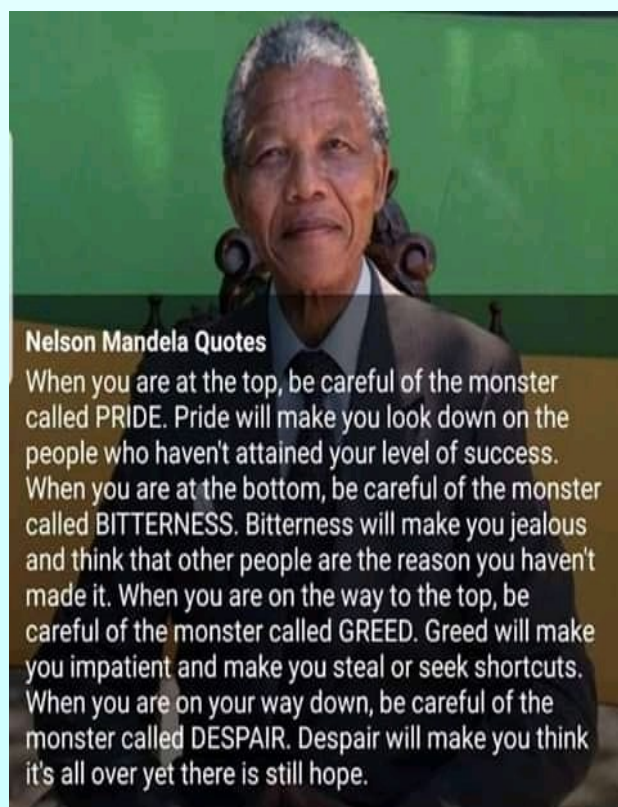
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR, EXAMINATIONS & TIMETABLING

I wish to congratulate all the 2020 graduands on this auspicious occasion of their graduation. The University through its various academic programmes train professionals and non-professionals in the public and private sector. The programming and evaluation of all these programs is coordinated by the Directorate of Examinations and Timetabling. This is in line with the University Vision to be a Premier University in the provision of quality education, training and research for sustainable national and global development.

The directorate has registered 100% achievement of its 2019/20 objectives in the area of processing and overall coordination of University Examinations; preparation of academic trips, academic calendar, teaching, consultation and examinations schedules despite the delays caused by Covid-19 Pandemic. The directorate has been able to carry out capacity building to its members on effective processing and administration of university examinations.

May God be with you as you venture into the new norm life in terms of building yourself, the Nation and beyond.

Mr. Justus N. Riungu
Director



FACULTY OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY



*Prof. Sammy Musundi
Wabomba, Dean*

This day marks yet another milestone where members of the 2020 graduating class have had to accomplish a great deal to arrive at this moment. I therefore join Chuka University fraternity in welcoming all of you, distinguished guests, faculty colleagues, families, friends, and members of the graduating class, who are participating in this virtual event to celebrate the achievements of our graduating students. We gather today to celebrate a moment of consequence in the lives of 95 certificate & diploma candidates, 345 undergraduate, 4 masters, and 3 PhD candidates from the Faculty of Science, Engineering & Technology. This is not a moment you will forget. Moments of transition, like this, hang suspended between past and future. They are comforting, because they are familiar; they culminate all that has gone before. To the families that are watching this unique graduation ceremony I know this is not what you envisioned of your daughter's or son's graduation. But I can assure you that they have reached this milestone because of your love and support.

I'm honored and proud to be speaking to you, albeit virtually, on this very special day. I am honored because it has been truly an honor to be part of you members of the Class 2020 of Chuka University at large and Faculty of Science, Engineering & Technology in particular. I am proud of your many accomplishments that enabled you to complete your programs and receive University degrees and certificates. Graduating, however, is a tremendous achievement, certainly worth pausing to celebrate even in these unprecedented and extremely challenging circumstances. I would be remiss though if I didn't mention my faculty's staff both teaching and technical, who have equipped our graduating students with many ingredients they need to become excellent professionals capable of meeting today's and tomorrow's critical challenges.

My sense of pride of our students and faculty is further deepened by my belief that our programs in science, engineering and technology have prepared today's graduates to make their communities, this country, and indeed the world, not only to be more technologically advanced and connected, but also to be more sustainable, safer and healthier place. We all recognize that when the world has a problem, scientists, engineers and computer experts are the ones who step up to provide an answer. Our expectation is that our graduates' work will be creating solutions. From software to GPS, chemical processes, and furthermore you should be able to make everything we rely on in life to work and change the world for the better.

It is with no doubt that our University Management has heavily invested in research-intensive programmes through acquisition of high precision equipment that has provided our graduates hands-on and practical orientation in their studies. Worth mentioning is the GC-ICP-MS/MS recently acquired from the NRF. This equipment, Agilent 8900 ICP-QQQ suits a range of situations, from routine contract analysis to research, and materials analysis. In addition, it has MS/MS mode for controlled and consistent interference removal in reaction mode. This capability makes it a powerful and flexible multi-element analyzer.

Finally, I want to give special thanks to my devoted Faculty's CODs and administrators whose attentiveness and call to work for every concern, large or small, kept this Faculty running smoothly. You have immensely worked hard than any of you can imagine to make sure that our graduates' requirements are fulfilled to enable them graduate this day. On your behalf, may I also take your wholehearted congratulatory messages to our graduates on this day that means so much to them and to their families and friends.

Members of the Class 2020: May all of you fare well on the journey ahead and God bless you!!



*Dr. Eunice W. Githae
CoD-Biological Sciences*



*Dr. David Gitonga Mwathi,
CoD-Computer Science*



*Prof. Ocheing Ombaka, CoD-
Physical Sciences*

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FROM THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

It is with profound pride that I join the rest of the University fraternity to witness and celebrate the conclusion of an academic journey that started slightly more than four years ago. To the graduating class of 2016, I send my hearty congratulations on achieving this great milestone in your lives. I take cognisance of the fact that the journey has not been smooth sailing but after all you have made it to the finishing line. As you exit, use the skills and knowledge gained to make society better. Be good ambassadors wherever you go and serve humanity with passion and dedication.

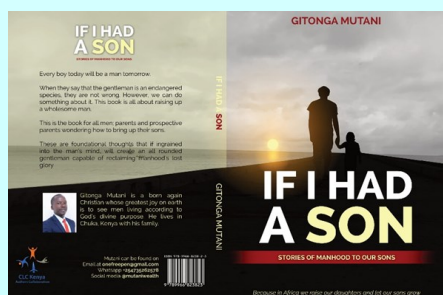
The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences continues to be the trailblazer when it comes to registration of students. Pursuant to this, it registered a total of 1083 first year students in the 2020/2021 academic year the challenges of Covid-19 notwithstanding.

The Faculty developed new academic programs that have been approved by senate. Among the new programmes is PhD in philosophy. Two proposals for curriculum co-development for new PhD programme in Criminology, Security and Justice Studies and new Bachelors, Masters and PhD in Social Work developed and submitted by Prof. Stephen Wambugu (Dean, FHSS) and Dr. Christopher Kiboro (COD, Social Sciences) respectively, were selected through a competitive process for funding by the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program (CADFP). This demonstrates the ability of the Faculty to compete with her peers globally. In the current academic year (2020/2021) it will develop other degree programmes such as masters in clinical psychology and PhD in Sociology.

In addition to imparting knowledge, faculty members have continued to carry out their other academic duties with zeal. Publishing and writing competitive research grants are the other academic duties that are a hall mark of a serious academic community. In this regard, a number of publications are worth mentioning. The Publication of the article **“Restoration of degraded grasslands, but not invasion by *Prosopis juliflora*, avoids trade-offs between climate change mitigation and other ecosystem services”** by the Geographer and GIS expert Purity Rima Mbabu et al, in the top notch **Nature journal** is an academic achievement that the faculty takes pride in. The paper has received a lot of global news coverage. Enock Matundura's Kiswahili novel – *Kivuli cha Sakawa* (Nsemia Inc. 2010) has been translated into English. The English title, *Sakagwa's Ghost* was translated by Prof Kefa Otiso of Bowling Green University in the United States of America and published by the same publisher this year. *Kivuli cha Sakawa* translated under the title *Sakagwa's Ghost* (Nsemia, 2020) is a story about one of Africa's legendary heroes who was at the forefront in the battle against colonialism and its evils. Legend has it that he was a seer and that many of his predictions have come to pass.

The writing bug has also permeated the administrative staff and consequently, a Senior Administrative Assistant in the Dean's office Mr. Timothy Gitonga Mutani also penned a book entitled **“If I had a Son”**.

Mutani the Author



This is a book worth reading by those who want to bring up the boy child in the right way. In a nutshell, members of the faculty of humanities and social sciences have lived up to the academic adage that says **“Publish or Perish.”**

On the competitive research grants arena, staff have won and continue to participate in research projects such as the Woody Weeds project funded by CABI, Switzerland and AgriFoSe 2030 Policy research project funded by SIDA, Sweden. Other upcoming competitive research projects where faculty members are expected to play leading roles include “H₂ ATLAS-AFRICA, Atlas of Green Hydrogen Generation Potentials in Africa: A Technological, Environmental and Socio-economic Feasibility Assessment” Project. This is a German-Africa Partnership Project for Sustainable Energy Solution through Green Hydrogen funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Energy Division, Bonn, Germany. Another upcoming research project is the “International Network for Government Science Advice (INGSA) 2021 Knowledge Associate Grant Project: Evidence- to-Policy Pathways in the COVID-19 Pandemic funded by IDRC, Canada. The INGSA is a collaborative platform for policy makers, practitioners, national academics, and academics to share experience, build capacity and develop theoretical and practical approaches to the use of scientific evidence in informing policy at all levels of government. In support of its mission, INGSA offers professional development and research ‘Knowledge Associate’ grants designed to support **early-to-mid career researchers or policy professionals in a public service role** to undertake case studies on their country's use of evidence in policy decisions related to Covid-19.

A number of staff also received scholarships to study outside the country. These include Mr. Paul Njoroge Muiru who is currently pursuing his PhD at Cambridge University, London, and Dr. Ann Hilda Gatakaa Kinyua who is pursuing her post doctorate studies at Hofstra University, New York. Other non-PhD holders are pursuing their Doctorates locally.

Faculty staff are also serving in several key management positions. Prof. Zachary Njogu Waita is currently acting as the DVC (AFPD) in addition to being the Director of the Board of Undergraduate Studies. Prof. Peter K. Muriungi is the Principal, Tharaka University College while Prof. John Kobia is the Director, Igembe Campus. Other members of the Faculty holding senior managerial positions include Prof. Colomba Muriungi-Director Quality Assurance, Dr. Jonathan Kathenge-Chairman of the Department of Open, Distant and E-Learning and Dr. Humphrey Kirimi-Coordinator, Chogoria Campus.

Faculty staff in the Communication and Media section of the Department of Humanities are running the University Radio, a facility used by the media and journalism students for learning. The Radio running on the 98.8 FM frequency gives the students hands on experience of the real radio industry. The Chuka University TV studio is in its final stages of completion and will be a welcome facility not only to the media and communication students but also to the entire Chuka University Community and other stakeholders.

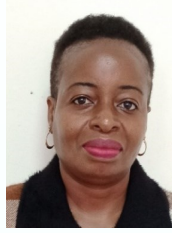
Message From the Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Studies



*Dr. Gathungu, G.K.
Dean, FAES*



*Mr. Kosgei, G.K.
COD, AGE/AGBM/AGED*



*Dr. Kahindi, R.K.
COD, Animal Sciences*



*Dr. Muriuki, L.M.
COD, Environmental Studies*



*Dr. Abucheli, G.O.
COD, Plant Sciences*

Today our students are celebrating the hard work that has led to this 8th graduation ceremony. The journey started four years ago and the Faculty is proud of your accomplishments and we pray that you will have a wonderful future. To achieve its mandate the Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Studies (FAES) has four departments namely; Animal Science, Plant Science, Environmental Science and Resources Development, and Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness Management, and Agricultural Education and Extension. The departments provide education, training, research and technology dissemination in the area of agriculture, environment and natural resources management, tourism and hospitality all that are geared towards ensuring food security and environment sustainability in Kenya and beyond.. Our courses are ranked first among all others as they enable graduates develop innovative modern technologies required in solving the current and emerging challenges in Agriculture and environment management and towards creating profitable self-employment in Kenya. The future of agriculture, environment and natural resources management, tourism and hospitality industry is digital and highly lucrative. Experience from the Covid-19 pandemic has brought home some truths. With all the changes taking place globally, agricultural production has remained steadfast and the backbone of many people. Training in agriculture, environment and natural resources management, tourism and hospitality makes one to have greater opportunity for growth and a bright future. In Kenya the rate of unemployment is rising, training in these areas guarantees one the opportunity to be an entrepreneur and start contributing to changing lives. The Faculty members are actively involved in research and student supervision as evidenced by many postgraduate students graduating today. InnoFoodAfrica project funded by the European Union is being implemented by researchers from the Faculty.

Twenty partners coming from Finland, Belgium, France, Norway, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and South Africa competitively won 6,397,706.25 Euros of which Chuka University was allocated 111,875.00 Euros. In this project innovative, comprehensive approaches for improving local food systems towards healthy diet in Africa and for global export are being developed. Further, in Animal Science, the creativity of our students enabled them come up with a positive thing out of a national disaster. Kenya had been struck with locust and these students looked into a way of reducing the impact of the insects and went to the invaded farms, tapped the locusts, processed them and made them into a meal which was rich in protein that could be included while making livestock feed. In the area of Plant Science, Agriculture, Horticulture and Food Science have remained steadfast and the backbone of many people, as most households have started food-farming business, which has remained the only business with steady demand. The future of agriculture, horticulture is digital and highly lucrative, and our students have been equipped to manage, develop, operate, supervise, audit, insure and employ businesses using digital technologies like MFARM, DIGIFARM, TWIGA Farm, e-SOKO, Hello Tractor, among others. When all sectors shut down due to catastrophes like COVID-19, agricultural production remained the most sought after business, with most professionals reverting to cultivation, value addition, and marketing. During the 3rd Chuka University Open Research and Career Week the students from the Department of AGE/AGBM & AGED show cased projects in gooseberry value addition, vegetable drying, and Kili-com App. The gooseberry project was ranked the Best Innovative Start-Up. Traditionally, gooseberry fruit has been regarded wild, but the students have domesticated and commercialized the plant and are currently cultivating it and making gooseberry juice and jam on commercial basis. Vegetable drying project were inspired by the fact that smallholder famers mainly depend on seasonal production.

Through the vegetable drying technology, during surplus harvesting periods when the prices are very low through natural drying using sunlight the vegetables can be value added, stored and sold during the off season, when the price is high. The Kilicom app is an android based application that acts as an agricultural tool with an advisory and marketing segment that is basically well equipped to help farms achieve in both production and marketing of agricultural products. In the area of Environment and Resources Development other research projects being done includes; wetland rehabilitation, sewer water phytoremediation, climate change mitigation in forest areas, river restoration, waste- Energy-home-based gasification technologies with the aim of development of sustainable-localised-affordable technologies. We work with the county government and NGOs to develop regional plans addressing environmental development, hazard preparedness, pollution management, human wildlife conflict mitigation, alternative tourism and sustainable hospitality business in conservation areas. An example is the County Environmental Action Plan for Tharaka Nithi. Recently an agroforestry programme was initiated as a Corporate Social Responsibility supported by the University management. Through the programme 450,000 seedlings have been planted in communal lands in the County. The aim is to plant 10 million trees by 2027. This year five Bachelor of Tourism Management students were granted a scholarship to study professional French under the support of the French embassy.

The departments in the Faculty conducts career mentorship and life skills training to the finalists to impart them with skills such as CV writing, drafting of job application letter, and performance in a job interview. This enables our students to secure jobs before graduating. After graduation we remain in contact with our graduates as a way of creating network to our current students.

We would like to inform our graduates that the training you have obtained will enable you find solutions for real-life problems. Know that life is all about change of mindset and being entrepreneurial. Your mindset is a powerful tool. Start a day with positive and divergent thinking because it changes life. When you feed your mind with small positive thoughts, this forms the beginning of the big things; focus on what you do not have; but most importantly think positively and put value into yourself; while focusing ahead, and knowing that today's obstacle is a chance for you to do the best. Efforts bring about change, work to be transformational. Congratulations to the graduates!



Gooseberry value addition by Agribusiness students

Our students in a tree planting exercise

MESSAGE FROM THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

The Faculty of Education and Resources Development take great pride in presenting the graduates for the 7th graduation ceremony. This is despite the challenged posed by the COVID 19 Pandemic. The consistent growth in the graduands over the years is evidence of quality of training in the Faculty which is satisfactory to the stakeholders' expectations and market demands. The faculty is committed to continuous improvement by regular revision of the teaching curriculum and pedagogical improvements through staff training and development. The Faculty will endeavor to promote academic excellence and holistic transformation and training for the dynamic and ever changing needs in human resource for the development of humanity. Our academic Programmes are engineered to generate, develop, preserve and share knowledge for efficient and effective management of the educational sector, training, research and outreach through the nurturing of intellectual culture that integrates theory with practice and innovation. The Faculty has identifies its areas of strength and is leveraging on its competitive advantage to promote and sustain the momentum in teaching, training and research.

The Programmes in Education are offered both on regular and part-time mode. Our undergraduate Programmes in education provide concrete foundations in the theory and practice of education in content knowledge, educational foundation knowledge, practical skills and experiences that promote reflective practice in the dynamic environments. The postgraduate Programmes endeavor to develop researchers with enduring abilities in the synthesis, application and creation of knowledge. The Faculty will endeavor to integrate indigenous knowledge's in an effort to enhance the quality of educational outcomes in the knowledge era.

On behalf of the Faculty I wish to congratulate the graduates for their well-deserved achievements. Your consistency, hand work and discipline have brought honor to your selves, your families, the university and the community in general. We take this opportunity to remind you of the call to apply the acquired knowledge in the service to humanity. The Faculty of Education and Resources Development will appreciate every feedback that could enable the continuous development of its Programmes. To the graduates, I wish you the very best as you endeavor to unlock your full potentials.

Prof. George Muthaa, Ph.D.

Dean, Faculty of Education & Resources Development

MESSAGE FROM THE FACULTY OF BUSINESS STUDIES

I take this opportunity to congratulate the 2020 graduands in this 8th graduation ceremony. The Faculty of Business Studies has two departments namely, Business Administration and Management Science. This year the Faculty is graduating about 800 students ranging from Certificates, Diploma, Bachelors and Masters Degree in various disciplines. Our first group of Doctoral students in Business Management are at different stages of their thesis writing and expected to graduate next year. The mission of the Faculty of Business Studies is to provide access to quality and relevant education, training and research in Business for sustainable national and global development. We strive to make the Faculty of Business Studies a world class Business School. Chuka University Faculty of Business Studies is indeed an exciting place to study and grow and as our students leave out we have prepared them well to fit in today's job market as well as job creators. This is due to the practical aspect that we have taken in teaching and conducive learning environment with dedicated and talented faculty staff. Our students also go through industry experience during the industrial experience and relevant academic trips in the industry. During the year our faculty members have been actively involved in dissemination of business research findings through international conferences and despite the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic we have continued to teach our students through on-line flat forms and later in the year started offering face to face learning while observing social distance and other health protocols. The Faculty offers a wide range of academic programmes carefully developed to satisfy the needs of our students and to meet the emerging market needs. Additionally we offer programmes in line with market dynamics. Some of the new programmes in the Faculty of Business Studies include; PhD programmes in Business and Management, PhD in Finance and PhD in Supply Chain Management.

Masters programmes include; Masters of Science in Entrepreneurship, Masters in Co-operative Management, Masters of Science in Procurement and Logistics Management, Masters of Science in Finance, Master of Science in Operations Management and Masters of Business Administration with specialization in Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Management, Co-operatives Management, Procurement and Logistics Management, Finance, Accounts, Insurance and Risk Management among others. Faculty of Business Studies has also Bachelors programmes such as Commerce with specializations in Finance, Accounts, Marketing, Entrepreneurship, Human Resource Management, Co-operatives Management, Production and Operations Management, Insurance and Risk Management. Others are Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Management, Co-operatives Management. The Faculty has developed Certificate and Diploma courses in Business Management, Accounting, Marketing, Human Resource Management, Procurement and Logistics Management. Early in the year, the Faculty participated in the open research and career week and one of our students from the Bachelor of Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Management received awards for an outstanding presentation. In line with the Chuka University desire to become entrepreneurial, we will spearhead the training of staff in entrepreneurship and introduce more entrepreneurship courses across the existing University programmes. In the year 2020, 32 students from the Faculty of Business Studies were selected to join Entrepreneurship4Everyone programme, an E-learning platform where students are guided on how to develop their own business ideas for a possible business start-up. This is a DEPUK (Developing Entrepreneurial Universities in Kenya) programme started in the University in cooperation with Saarland University in Germany. The programme aims to; increase the labour market orientation of students, improving exchanges between Universities and businesses, to further education of University Lecturers in competence based teaching formats and to systematically support students planning to start their business.

Dr. Gilbert Mugambi Miriti

Dean, Faculty of Business Studies



SCHOOL OF NURSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH

I take this opportunity to congratulate all the graduates for their academic achievement. You're not going to get very far in life based on what you already know. You're going to advance in life by what you're going to learn after you leave here. Always remember: You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. Education doesn't stop after you graduate from college. It doesn't stop after you finish your MBA or PhD either. Munger says, "Wisdom acquisition is a moral duty. It's not just something you do to advance in life." It's a moral duty because it's only through continuous learning that we can add to knowledge. If we stopped learning, progress in all industries—computers, finance, engineering, biology, stops as well. Therefore let the new adventures begin. Congratulations!

Prof. Lucy Gitonga, Dean.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF OPEN, DISTANCE AND E-LEARNING (ODEL)

The Department of Open, Distance and E-learning (ODEL) congratulates the 2020 graduands in this 8th graduation ceremony for their well-deserved achievements. The mission of the ODEL department is to increase accessibility to affordable and relevant higher education by the society through flexible instructional modes of delivery and modern learning technologies. During this period of COVID-19 Pandemic the ODEL department has been very instrumental in facilitating learning and teaching through the Chuka University E-Learning Management System and Kenet Web-conferencing platform. It was through these platforms that the First Years (September 2020 intake) were able to interact with their lecturers even before they physically reported to the university. They were able to attend and participate live streamed lectures, receive lecture notes and assignments and also submit their assignments via the E-LMS. This ensured that learning/teaching continued despite the prevailing circumstances.

With the support of the management and in collaboration with other departments and faculties the ODEL department been able to train all the teaching staff members to empower them with the requisite skills for online teaching. The department has also been able to train all the first year students on digital learning which has enabled them to easily interact with their lecturers online and also access e-library resources. We have trained the part-time, ODEL and postgraduate students. The training has also been extended to other campuses of Chuka University.

E-Learning has transformed the way in which learning is imparted to students. Due to the wide set of benefits it gives to students and lecturers, E-Learning has become quite popular and appreciated among students and Lecturers in the University. The ODEL department promises to offer the necessary support and facilitation to all stakeholders in the University for smooth implementation of all E-learning programmes.

Dr. Jonathan K. Kathenge
COD, ODEL

The school of nursing begun as a department of nursing sciences in June 2012 with 4 students and two lecturers. Throughout the years, we have observed and enjoyed the tremendous growth in terms of students and staff population. The student's population has grown from **4 to over 500** and the staff population has risen from **2 to 20**.

The department was upgraded from a department to a school of Nursing and public health giving rise to one department with a substantive Chairman of the department.

Over the years, more programmes have been developed namely: Bachelor of Science in Nursing (both direct entry and upgrading), Bachelor of Science in Public Health, Bachelor of Science in Health Records, Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition and Dietetics, Master of Science in Nursing and PhD in Nursing. I thank the management for the continuous support they have accorded us

Library Contacts/Links

Email: libhelpdesk@chuka.ac.ke

Twitter: @chukalib

Facebook: Chuka University Library-

WhatsApp: Chuka University Library

Digital library webpage: <https://library.chuka.ac.ke/>



DIGITAL LIBRARY SERVICES

Why do you need a library service as a university student?

Being in a university is a time unlike any other in your academic life. Unlike learning in secondary school lecturers in the university will provide you with mainly guidance and as a student you are expected to do more of the work by yourself through assignments, reading, research, etc. For this purpose you need a modern, library service to provide you with current information resources;- books, journals and qualified library staff to support you in fulfilling your private reading, research, writing and class assignments

Our E-information resources

E-journals; E-books; E-databases; E-audio/video resources; Digital repositories

Our digital Services

-Access to electronic information resources: e-books and e-journals) to fulfil your academic needs

-Literature searches: Assistance to retrieve exhaustive information from premier global e-databases on the subject of your research.

-Information literacy training: Personal and group instruction and guidance on techniques of searching and retrieving information for learning and research purposes

-Research consultation: Library consultation on research / projects such as theses, term papers and class assignments

-Quick reference/enquiry services: Answering general question about knowledge in various subject areas and finding information

Why use Chuka Digital Library Service?

-We avail to you extensive academic information sources

-Our library is web-based meaning that you can access the service from any part of the country through internet connection through mobile gadgets (laptops & smartphones)

-Committed library staff assist you to ensure that you access all information you need for your learning purposes

-We provide outstanding, personalised services to our Students, staff and other patrons.

Prof. Joseph M. Kavulya
University Librarian



MESSAGE BY THE PRINCIPAL, THARAKA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE



Prof. Peter K. Muriungi,
Ph.D., Principal/CEO
Tharaka University College

On behalf of Tharaka University College Council, the Management board, Academic board and the entire University College fraternity, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations Chuka University during the 8th graduation ceremony. My appreciation goes to the team of instructors and the administrative staff at Chuka University and Tharaka University College who have made this journey what it is today. The years of hard work, persistence and perseverance have finally paid off. To our graduands from Tharaka University College, I am proud of you. You have soldiered on and made the best of the limited resources the college had at inception. Now you join other professionals equipped with the full armour of education and life skills required to thrive in the world of work. To our prospective students, Tharaka University College is ready for you; we have continued to enjoy unprecedented growth in student and staff population, as well as academic and research activities. Tharaka University College endeavors to be a centre of excellence and a leading institution in dryland farming, mining and other areas of national and international strategic focus.

We endeavor to create a strong knowledge base through teaching, research and innovation and disseminate this knowledge to produce all rounded graduates with problem solving skills for the transformation of society. Tharaka University College is located in a serene environment suitable for learning. Our students not only enjoy quality education but also an opportunity to enjoy the serene environment in the University and environs. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to Tharaka University College.

Tharaka University College takes cognizance of the turbulence in the operating environment including those caused by Covid-19 pandemic. Our University has put in place all the measures in place to prevent the spread of this disease. We at Tharaka University College intend to actively engage the Government, development partners, private sector, industry players and collaborate with other like-minded institutions on goals of common interest. The University College is also working towards award of charter to become a fully-fledged University. We request for Government support towards the award of charter. I would like to sincerely thank Chuka University Management for the immense support accorded to Tharaka University College. We are honored to be associated with you. Once again, congratulations to all Chuka University graduands.

MESSAGE BY THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, THARAKA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

I take this opportunity to congratulate the 2020 graduating students. You have been imparted holistic education that will make you fit for the careers you are going to pursue from now henceforth. Moreover, you have been prepared adequately to exit as competent professionals and great leaders to the service of humanity.

Tharaka University College has continued to achieve extemporary performance in Academic, Research and Student Affairs. This outstanding performance is exemplified by the following highlights:

The academic staff in the division work as a team in teaching and research activities. We also actively engage the students through online teaching and learning utilizing various platforms. The University College has established a well-equipped Learning Resource Centre with modern Smart boards and other relevant resources. Thus, our students have continued to receive effective teaching and learning engagement despite the challenges posed globally by COVID 19 pandemic. The University College held a very successful 2nd International Research E-Conference which attracted local and International participants.

Prof. Veronica Nyaga, Ph.D.
Ag. Deputy Principal (Academics,
Research and Student Affairs)



The virtual conference provided the participants great moments of sharing their scientific research experiences, building of collaborative synergies and partnerships.

The Directorate of Open, Distance and e - Learning has collaborated with Cisco to establish the Tharaka University College Cisco Networking Academy to offer dynamic training, development of industry oriented skills and certification in Computer Networking and ICT related courses. We build linkages with external institutions to enhance students learning experiences. In these achievements, Tharaka University College will forever be grateful to Chuka University management and the Council for the immense support.

I join the entire Chuka University fraternity to wholeheartedly congratulate the graduands as they celebrate the success of great efforts in their academic journey. May you be excellent ambassadors for the University.

God bless you all.

CHOGORIA CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT TAKES SHAPE

Chuka University, Chogoria Campus in Maara County is taking shape with the construction of several new exquisite buildings, refurbishing of existing ones and enrollment of students into quality programmes. Nine (9) students that were enrolled in January 2020 for the diploma in business management class and three (3) in Certificate in Business management program have completed their first semester. Four students (4) have registered for MA in linguistics, Three (3) for Master of business administration and Five (5) for the master of Education degrees for the Dec/Jan 2020-April 2021 Semester.

The University has completed the construction of a modern gate, a complex with eight lecture halls and six offices, has renovated five lecture halls and refurbished an ablution block. Two hostels; one for ladies and the other for gentlemen, are almost complete. The two will accommodate one hundred and forty (140) students which is a good start since the community has already constructed hostels that can accommodate one hundred (100) students and more constructions are ongoing.

It's all systems go for the campus as we anticipate the plan by Chuka University to admit a government sponsored program in September 2021. This will boost the number of the self sponsored students since there will be acceleration of activities at the Campus. The Campus co-exists well with Nturiri boys' high school and with the construction of the new lecture halls and offices the operations will even be easier. This notwithstanding, the stakeholders: The church, the local administration, Chogoria Ward MCA, Maara Constituency MP and the school boards (Nturiri Primary and Secondary) agreed that Nturiri boys secondary school status be changed to Nturiri Mixed Day Secondary School and be relocated to the primary school grounds.

The change of status from boarding to a day school is in line with the Vice Chancellors' advice to the stake holders that in due course the high school should change to a model day school. The decision to relocate the secondary school to the primary grounds was suggested by the stakeholders; with the area Mp committing to finance the relocation using the NG-CDF funds. Nturiri secondary school Board of management has already initiated the process of change of status and the Chuka University, Chogoria Campus NG-CDF project management committee is following up on the issue of the relocation. We sincerely thank Chuka University management, Maara Constituency NG-CDF, who supported in the construction of some lecture halls, and other stakeholders for great support towards the progress of the Campus.

Dr. Humphrey Kirimi Ileri
COD, Chogoria Campus



The new hostels/classrooms at Chogoria Campus

DIRECTOR, IGEMBE CAMPUS CONGRATULATES GRADUATES



Prof. John M. Kobia, Ph.D.
Director, Igembe Campus

On behalf of the students and staff of Chuka University Igembe Campus; Igembe community stakeholders, and on my own behalf, I congratulate the graduating class of 2020.

Your graduation today is a culmination of a long academic journey of well-utilized years of hard work, discipline, dedication and focus. Go ye into the world, utilize your acquired knowledge and skills and make the world a better place for humanity.

We wish to express our utmost sincere gratitude to the Chuka University Management and Council for creating and facilitating an enabling and conducive environment for teaching and learning at Igembe Campus. The year 2020 had challenges like the COVID 19 pandemic. However we turned the challenge to be an opportunity. The blended learning became an inevitable idea through the Learning Management System.

At Igembe Campus, we have completed the Construction of a Generator Power House which will house a 200 KVA generator to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the Campus. The Renovation of the Ladies' Hostel is almost complete. Once completed, the challenge of accommodating female students will be a thing of the past. We embarked on the construction of new classrooms which are expected to be ready before the end of the year 2020. The Igembe South National Constituency Development Fund Committee approved the funding for construction of a Lecture Hall. We appreciate the funding.

Finally, as you start your career journey, I wish you God's blessings and favour wherever you will be working for the betterment of humanity. We welcome prospective students to apply and join Igembe Campus for full time or part-time programmes in the Faculties of Business Studies, Science and Technology, Education, Humanities and Social Sciences. We have intakes in January, May, and September for full time programmes and April, August and December every year for part time programmes.

For more information contact:

The Director,

Chuka University Igembe Campus, P.O. Box 354-60600 MAUA.

Tel: 0720809725

Email: igembecampus@chuka.ac.ke. Website: www.chuka.ac.ke

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORATE OF PERFORMANCE CONTRACTING

Welcome to the first virtual celebration for the graduates of 2020.

Graduation is an important occasion providing opportunity for all to share and celebrate your achievements. Today's graduation is the beginning of a lifetime fulfillment for you. I believe that graduates of Chuka University are unique in that, regardless of the chosen area of study all of you have the opportunity to enrich the lives of those around you.. I urge you to always remember why you chose your respective field and the sacrifices that you endured in order to make it happen, to serve our communities and improve their quality of life with compassion, diligence, honesty and integrity. Keep up your good work and continue to strive

Chuka University has embraced Performance Contracting as a tool to improve service delivery to its customers. The University has institutionalized the Performance Contracting by including the process in their ISO 9001:2015 programme and the 2017-2022 Strategic Plan. Among the notable achievements made by the University under Performance Contracting are the state of art infrastructure under the vision 2030 Flagship Projects, development of new Ph.D and Masters Programmes, alignment of Programmes and projects in the realization of Big 4 Agenda, continuous publication of papers in peer reviewed journals and continuous outreach programmes in the community. The University is also supporting the Government of Kenya in implementing SDGs and MTP 2018-2020 through activities and programmes highlighted in the Performance Contract.

**Ms. Florence Muthua,
Director**



In addition Chuka University through Performance Contract has actively engaged in community outreach activities to address challenges posed by COVID 18. The University is providing Hand sanitizers, facemasks & hand washing liquid soap to the elderly & vulnerable persons in the community. The University is also providing clean water by supporting community water projects within the county.

To all the graduands, congratulations. We celebrate you on this momentous achievement. We are privileged to witness this special occasion and we are sincerely proud of you.

MESSAGE FROM DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY



**Mr. Charles Kinyua Gitonga,
HoD, information and communication Technology.**

Department Objectives

The objective of ICT department is to develop facilities including ICT technologies to provide a conducive environment for learning and enhance efficiency of operations in the University and its campuses.

Vision of the ICT

To be a leading department in the provision of quality services, education, training and research for sustainable national and global development.

Mission of the ICT

To generate, transmit and preserve quality knowledge by promoting independent and interactive learning, a scientific inquiry in culture and striving for diverse national and global development in pure and applied research in Information, Communication Technology & related Technology.

Location

The Department of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is now operating separately from Computer Science since September 2020. Its new offices are located on the 1st floor in the Business and Student Recreation Center.

Milestones:

The Department is currently offering essential services to support day to day running of the University.

The department has continued to grow and expand its services during this covid pandemic.

The department has successfully inducted students to learn using LMS and the big blue button.

Integrated our ERP system with Learning Management System to support blended Learning

Trained 800 staff and 2000 students on usage of digital learning systems, web conferencing and e – learning systems

Continued Student support services

Developed e-support service to handle student and staff queries, support@chuka.ac.ke, dict@chuka.ac.ke

Acquisition of 24 projectors to facilitate digital learning

Installation of CCTV security system worth 9M to offer surveillance and improve security in the University.

Department targets

In the FY 2020/2021, The department target to achieve the following:

Acquisition of 6 smart boards for teaching and learning

Expansion of internet services to cover staff offices

Networking of finances and Ladies hostel

Upgrading of all computer systems

Acquisition of newest ERP Microsoft Navision system

To the graduating class, Congratulations on your great achievement and best wishes for your next adventure

MESSAGE FROM OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES



*Joyce Mghoi Macharia
Director, Office of Career Services*

On my behalf and that of the entire Office of Career Services, I take this opportunity to congratulate all the graduands, and the entire Chuka University on this 8th Graduation Ceremony. You have worked tirelessly to attain Doctorates, Masters, Bachelors, Diplomas and Certificates, Congratulations!

The Office of Career Services was launched by Ambassador Amina Mohammed in the University of Nairobi in June 2018. Every University and TIVET institution was tasked with the mandate to create this office. The purpose of this career office is to bridge the skill gap, help students develop soft skills and generally create an opportunity for interactions and networking between students and employers for smooth transition from learning to earning.

In Chuka University the Office of Career Services was created in August 2019. Our mission is to support the vision of Chuka University by empowering students to make the right career choices through Academic Advising, Career Counseling and Linkages. We envision a holistic graduate equipped with soft and practical skills for the job market.

The objectives of the Office of Career Services are to educate students on the nature of the workforce, keep up with the current market demands including changes in technology, create awareness on entrepreneurship opportunities and encourage diverse job opportunities including online jobs. Our roles include; career guidance and counseling of pre-university students (secondary school students) in a bid to help them make the right career choices through subject choices and creating awareness on the programs offered in the university, academic advising for the university students to ensure that accurate information about academic progression, degree requirement and access to campus resources is given as well as linkages between students and the industries and networking with the Alumni Association for post-university students. This will help to keep in touch with the alumni, getting to know how many graduates have secured employment either as employees or entrepreneurs.

One of the notable events that we have had this year is the 3rd Open Research and Career week which took place on 2nd to 6th March 2020. We had start-ups and innovative presentations, coaching and mentorship. University students were able to pitch their business ideas and projects.

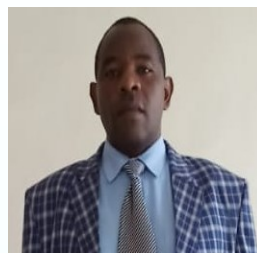
This is to encourage students who are entrepreneurial, to think through their business ideas and through mentorship turn that idea into a business. Several external and internal exhibitors were able to exhibit and display their products and services. This gave an opportunity to our students to interact and learn from the industry world as well as networking. The schools were also given an opportunity to interact with different faculties and get to know the programs offered in each. This will help the secondary school students make informed career choices as they complete their studies at secondary level.

Effective education is that which answers to the needs of the society, it should provide solutions to people's problems. Since independence the motivation to go to school and attain education has been to get a white-collar job or to be employed, this was passed on from generation by our parents and the society. This however needs to change, our education needs to train students who will not only seek white collar jobs but also create employment for themselves and for others. As students get education in whatever area of study, the question should be; what can I do for the society? How does what I am learning solve people's problems? When students start asking themselves these questions they become entrepreneurial, they begin to think of ways they can make a difference in the society and this is the purpose of getting education, to make a difference through innovation. Good education and correct skills development will help the government realize The Big Four Agenda and Vision 2030.

I want to encourage all of you who have graduated today to join the Chuka University Alumni Association (CUAA) this will help you to network, consult with others and create linkages that can help you in your career as well as giving back to the university that has shaped you.

May our Lord God Bless you in your future endeavors and make you fruitful.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES



*Dr. Moses Muraya
Director, Board of Postgraduate Studies*

The Board of Postgraduate Studies (BPGS) provide administrative oversight to ensure high quality and integrity of all postgraduate programmes. The Board is committed to excellent postgraduate training and research and production of highly qualified manpower for national and international service in line with the Chuka University Vision.

Today graduation is indeed a culmination of many years of hard work, sacrifice and dedication by the university and community at large, the graduands and academic staff. Normally graduations are festive occasions, but the global COVID-19 pandemic has led to new ways of doing things. I take this opportunity to sincerely congratulate all the 8th Graduation Ceremony graduands. You have made history by being the first ever virtual graduands of Chuka University. It gives me great pleasure to join the rest of the Chuka University community in congratulating the graduates of Chuka University during this 8th Graduation Ceremony. Indeed, your diligence, focus and commitment have brought glory to your families, Chuka University, and the society. The University has adequately prepared you for the world of work.

The BPGS has continued to prepare graduates to serve in various disciplines by ensuring high standards of training and research. This is evidenced by the number of graduating students at masters and doctorate levels. Moreover, there is progressive increase in the number of student's participation in international research conferences and publications in peer reviewed journals. The BPGS aims to create high quality and enabling learning and research environment where students thrive in the postgraduate programmes. These programmes are enriched by research and hands-on experience. As a University, we are well on course in achieving this objective.

The BPGS takes this opportunity to congratulate the students for the scholarly achievement and encourage all others to bid for competitive initiatives such as research grants. The Board wishes to remind all postgraduate students of its commitment to promote quality while at the same time ensuring an efficient training system. To monitor progress and ensure successful completion, all continuing postgraduate students are reminded to file monthly and quarterly progress reports with the Board to avoid discontinuation. The students are also reminded to consciously participate in conferences, both at university and international level.

You have been empowered well academically and we are confident that you will strive to serve humanity with dedication and embrace life-long learning.



Mr. Arnold Maliba of Open Future Hub Speaking to Fourth Year Students on Job Search Skills during the 3rd Open Research and Career Week organized from 2nd -6th March 2020

Varsity in 2nd Annual Enhanced Tree Planting Exercise

As part of supporting the government in the realization of its goals and the Big Four Agenda, Chuka University for the last two years has been on the frontline in changing the face of Tharaka Nithi County. In the year 2019, the University launched an annual tree planting exercise which saw 115, 000 tree seedlings planted within Tharaka Nithi and neighbouring counties of Meru and Embu. This Corporate Social Responsibility initiative significantly contributes to the Big Four Agenda and the vision 2030. This year, the 2nd Annual tree planting exercise was launched by the Tharaka Nithi County Commissioner, Beverly Opwora and the Vice-Chancellor-Prof. Erastus Njoka, at Chogoria Boys High School on 16th November, 2020. The exercise is ongoing. The University has targeted to plant and distribute over 400,000 tree seedlings to the community and schools. The actual number donated and planted is 510,000 tree seedlings that surpassed the target.

Residents of Tharaka Nithi in the next few years will be entitled to fresh oxygen as a result of a drastic change of the environment following the ongoing exercise, thus reducing the effect and pollution of air that often leads to respiratory infections. To boost the community economic status, the University has engaged farmers by purchasing tree seedlings. It is envisaged that in future, Tharaka Nithi County will be a benchmark for green cover, plenty of rainfall, more fresh oxygen to attract investors, tourists as well as creating several opportunities to interested groups and partners. The annual tree planting drive is in line with the government plan to increase forest cover nationally, as well as protect the environment from harsh climate change effects.



The County Commissioner Tharaka Nithi County Ms. Beverly Opwora plants a tree during the 2nd annual tree planning drive; Next to the CC is the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Erastus Njoka



Primary school students participate in the tree planting initiative

Staff and Students Undergo Covid-19 Sensitization Seminar



A section the staff follow proceeding during the Covid-19 sensitization workshop

Chuka University Staff recently underwent a three day comprehensive Covid-19 Sensitization training on effectively performing their duties while continuing to ensure safeguards remain in place against the new coronavirus disease (COVID-19). The training was facilitated by the Tharaka Nithi County Health Unit and spearheaded by the University Covid-19 Response Committee. The training was expected to enhance staff preparedness and early response measures to be able to prevent and detect Covid-19 suspected cases through intensified surveillance and screening. More so, the university has continued to put in place and reinforce adherence to the preventive Covid-19 guidelines. The capacity building and awareness sensitization initiative primarily encompassed all staff.

Chuka Alumnus Continues to Shine at Oxford



Brian Mugendi at the University of Oxford

Chuka University Alumni Hold AGM and launch Award Scheme

The Chuka University Alumni Association held its annual general meeting on 20th November, 2020 at the Business and Students Recreation Centre. The Vice-Chancellor addressed the participants and launched the Alumni Award scheme and the Alumni housing cooperative. Speaking to Chuka News, the Chairman Mr. Livingstone Makori said that the Alumni Association is on a steadfast trajectory targeting to increase the alumni numbers. The Alumni membership is projected to be in excess of 20,000 after this year 2020 graduation. The launch of Chuka University Alumni Investment Cooperative Society as an investment is geared to increase the asset base and instill a saving culture to the members. The association has also been actively involved in corporate social responsibility initiatives that continues to benefit students and the community at large. Earlier on in the year, the Alumni Association held a virtual seminar and hosted the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Erastus Njoka. The topic of discussion was on the University preparedness in handling Covid-19 pandemic attracted over three thousand participants virtually.

Chuka University Alumni Award scheme is a program established by the Executive Office of the Chuka University Alumni Association to provide partial university sponsorship for Masters and PhD programs. The scheme consists of various awards and prizes whose primary target is to financially support the deserving alumni of Chuka University pursuing post-graduate degrees and appreciate hard work among graduates of various undergraduate and diploma programs. The Award Scheme consists of a research grant titled 'Professor Njoka Alumni Diplomacy Research Grant' which is financed by the Executive Office of the CUAA and other individual award and prizes. The second initiative under the Alumni family is the Chuka University Alumni Housing Cooperatives. These are initiatives of individual members and partners to recognize hard work by rewarding top students graduating with Diplomas and Bachelor's Degrees. The committee is sourcing sponsors and partners to boost the research kitty. The alumni family established a SACCO that is currently operational whose objectives are to organize and promote the welfare and economic interests of its members.

In January 2020, Brian Mugendi, an alumni of Chuka University, left for South Africa to study at the University of Cape Town as one of the 54 Mandela Rhodes scholars selected from across the African continent. Brian was one of the four Kenyans who were selected for the scholarship to the 2020 class. Brian pursued an honor in Education, specializing in educational leadership and management. He based his research on rural education policy in Kenya. In October, Brian left for the United Kingdom (UK) to study at the University of Oxford as one of the 100 Rhodes scholars who were selected globally to study at Oxford University. Brian was one of the two Kenyans who were selected for the scholarship.

He is currently pursuing an MSc in Education, specifically on Comparative and International Education at the Centre for Comparative and International Education at Oxford University. Brian specializes in quality, equity, and curriculum reforms in developing countries. He is currently researching on the implementation of the competency-based curriculum in Kenya. Brian speaks of his experience, terming it as adventurous. He says it is one of the best decisions he has ever made. Adjusting to a new culture and environment can be intimidating and overwhelming. Try to figure out what is appropriate to say, do, or wear, and try to figure out different accents you come across. Nevertheless, having an open mind helped Brian unlearn and re-learn many things to adapt quickly. He says that the right part of studying abroad lessons is that it teaches you to adapt quickly. "Studying abroad is so far my best experience in life. I would highly recommend this to anyone who wants to step out of his or her comfort zone. Well, growing up, this was my dream and I am now living it!

My advice to fellow students is, DARE TO DREAM. Sometimes I felt that I was over ambitious. However, now I know that you need to have an ambition as it helps to keep you on track. There were moments that I felt that this was a scary journey that I wanted to take and I sometimes felt that I should quit (well, it is okay to feel that way). However, do not let that crowd your thoughts. Always aim for the crown and fight for what you believe in. Be the bearer of your dream, because no one else will. Explore and grab every opportunity that Chuka University offers you. Having good relationships with your professors is very important, as their support will push you towards your dreams. Special shout out to Professor Nelson Jagero, Professor George Muthaa, Dr. Christine Atieno, Dr Mercy Njagi, Dr Humphrey Kiriimi and George Manono for their support through my scholarships and university applications. Thanks for believing in me!"

Staff Undergo Training on Fire Prevention and Evacuation Procedures

“Respect and suspect” is a common slogan in Chuka University as far as security is concerned. Security is a significant docket in Chuka University. The security department guarantees the safety of the students and staff. Through their intelligence training, security officers detect any act of criminality that may jeopardize the Chuka University fraternity. On 26th November 2020, Chuka University's security department held a two-day training programme for staff and students on fire prevention and evacuation procedures. The training aimed to raise awareness on fire control measures among the staff and students in the event of a fire outbreak.

Among other issues taught during the training include first aid skills and the policies and acts protecting the staff. With the Covid - 19 pandemic outbreak, the security department has made adjustments to guarantee both the staff and the students' safety. According to Mr. Cyprian Ntabathia, an officer in the security department, this has been achieved by fixing water points for hand washing in every gate and at different points in the university's compound. Staff and students are not allowed to access University premises without protective gear such as masks. In addition to that, the security officers conduct patrols around the institution to ensure students comply with the Covid-19 guidelines.

The university has put up various measures that ensure the security of the students. According to Mr. Pius Mulinge an officer in the security department, the institution has launched an initiative dubbed as the "Hostel Kumi Initiative." Through the initiative, the University has partnered with external security agencies and landlords to ensure non-resident students are safe. According to Mr. John Iguna the University's Security Officer, says the greatest contribution to security lies with the student.

"Students play a crucial role in security. They are the main stakeholders; therefore, security is highly prioritized". The entire University is under 24-hour CCTV surveillance with a clear channel of communication among the security officers. The University recently completed the phase two installation of high-resolution CCTV cameras, acquiring additional 64 cameras. The lighting systems in and out of the institution have also been enhanced. This has been achieved through the installation of floodlights at strategic points in and out of the university.



Chuka University's fire-fighting engines

Varsity Holds 2nd Annual Staff Prayer Day and 1st "Jerusalema" Challenge

The University held its second annual prayer day which brought together the entire Chuka University fraternity for a special thanksgiving service for year 2020. The service was held on 12th November, and the guest speaker was Pastor Andrew Ng'ang'a of REMA missionaries. The staff annual prayer day was launched in the year 2019 whose purpose is spiritual nourishment and wellbeing for staff members.

In addition, Chuka University for the very first time undertook a social media marketing campaign dubbed "Jerusalema challenge". The marketing initiative spearheaded by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Erastus Njoka and Dr. Immaculate Mutali, the senior public relations officer encompassed both staff and students. The video has and is till trending with over 20,000 views likes and share on various social media platforms. This has positively increased the University social media presence, generated traffic to the University website and increased student inquiries. The video continues to appear on the University YouTube official account (Chuka University Official).

Varsity at the Forefront of Food Security Initiatives

Chuka University is setting up a 57 million project as part of supporting the actualization of Big four agenda on food security at the University 500-acre farm in Kairini. The 15million water capacity dam is envisaged to irrigate 200 acres of land thus ensuring that farmers engage in 100% food production. “As a university we intend to help the community increase their adaptive capacity and resilience to produce high quality agricultural and livestock produce” Prof. Njoka says. The University plans to develop the farm by setting up teaching blocks, farming demonstration units amongst other key agricultural projects where the University is working in partnership with Galilee International Management Institute (GIMI) and the Israel government to develop an agriculture research Centre on the land.

The project is expected to enhance food security for the Tharaka Nithi County households and neighbouring counties. The 15million water capacity dam is envisaged to irrigate 200 acres of land. Electric fencing has already been completed and part of the farm will be used as a wildlife conservancy thus attracting both local and foreign tourists in the county. The national government is already building a road heading to the farm where the University intends to exploit the largely hot climate to start high- end tourism ventures. Besides irrigation, the University also engages in livestock farming and conducts annual goat auction as part of the income generating activities.

Varsity Donates Supplies to help Fight COVID-19

As Kenya struggles to combat the profound implications of coronavirus (COVID-19), Chuka University equally has an obligation to step up and support the government in taking action. In the spirit of giving back to the community, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Erastus Njoka has spearheaded corporate social responsibility initiatives to assist the residents of Tharaka Nithi County in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. In an initiative led by Dr. Eric Chomba Njagi, a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology, the University has produced sanitizers and hand wash soap for the University and the community. “While producing the sanitizers and soap, the department strictly adhered to the stipulated guidelines provided by World Health Organization” said Prof. Ochieng’ Ombaka, the Chair of Department, Physical Sciences. The Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Musundi thanked the University Council and Management for supporting the Department of Physical Sciences in achieving the production of these essential products to contribute in fighting Corona Virus. The produced sanitizers include 70% alcohol content and are subjected to micro-biological tests on the ability to manage bacteria fit for the intended purpose.

The University has donated sanitizers, handwashing soap, two hundred 100-litre water dispensers, digital thermometers and masks worth kshs. 3,000,000. Beneficiaries of the donations include essential service providers: business communities, *boda boda* drivers, market vendors, residents of Tharaka Nithi County. As a way to generate income, the University will continue with the production as an income generating project. “Washing hands has become a standard procedure therefore we need to prudently use the resources that we have. Together we can fight COVID-19” said the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Njoka.



The Physical Sciences Laboratories where manufacture of hand sanitizers and soap is done

CUSA NEW LEADERS AND THEIR LEADERSHIP DURING THE PANDEMIC



CUSA Chair, Boniface Limiri



Vice-Chair Josephine Nadupoi



Sec-Gen Abiud Mathson



Miriam Mburu Org. Secretary



Enock Kipkemai Academic Sec



Denis Mumo Director Welfare



Jackson Chelete Treasurer

Chuka University elected its new leaders for the 2020/2021 Academic year in an exercise that saw male contestants dominate key leadership positions in the student's association. The delegate elections were held on 30th January 2020, while the governing council elections on 31st January 2020. Boniface Limiri, a third-year student Media and Communication student, was elected the chairperson. The vice-chairperson is Josephine Nadupoi; Secretary General is Abiud Abuga, Treasurer Jackson Chelete, Academic Secretary, Enock Kipkemai, Organizing secretary, Mary Mburu, the Director of Student Welfare, Dennis Mumo. The New CUSA leaders were sworn into office at the University's Pavilion grounds on 7th February 2020. The event was presided over by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Erastus Njoka, in association with the entire Chuka University fraternity. The Vice-Chancellor thanked and congratulated the students for maintaining peace and harmony during the campaign period to exercise their voting democratic right.

During the inauguration, the new CUSA chairperson, Mr. Boni Limiri, assured comrades of his fair and dedicated leadership of serving all students without any favors. The chairperson vowed to uphold and work under the CUSA constitution's guidance, the Kenyan constitution, and the University's act in serving students. However, seven months have lapsed since he took office. His leadership has been virtual as a result of the closure of learning institutions after he was sworn into office. Speaking to Chuka News, Mr. Limiri He acknowledged that his leadership during the Covid-19 pandemic has been challenging. He assured comrades that with the resumption physical classes, CUSA will strive to achieve and fulfill his manifesto promises.

First Year Students Finally Reported In-Person to their New Academic Home

Chuka University registered new students for the 2020/2021 Academic Year, when they joined the University on the 2nd of November 2020 for the first time. This follows the Kenya University and Colleges Central Placement Service allocation of 3,858 students across various Faculties to pursue the selected courses. It was the eighth largest allocation among the 69 universities in the country. This was a significant increase as compared to the number of students registered in the year 2019. The first students who had earlier been admitted virtually had been undertaking virtual classes until they resumed for the physical classes. Completion of phase one of the ultra-modern males' hostel has eased accommodation services in a bid to help fight COVID-19. The 1,000 bed capacity eleven storey building fitted with hand washing points and sanitizers is at the moment accommodating a restricted number of students who adhere to the COVID-19 prevention measures. Chuka University is among the leading universities in Kenya offering quality teaching, a serene learning environment, flexible study modes, and market-driven programmes. Moreso, the graduates continue to get a larger fair of opportunities in the job market. This is demonstrated by the high preference by employers for Chuka University graduates. This positive report is attributed to the strong values, quality training coupled with good discipline of students.

CHUKA UNIVERSITY RECEIVES BOOK DONATION

The university received a donation of forty complimentary copies books from Mount Kenya University. The book is titled "Establishing and Managing School Libraries and Resource Centers. The books were donated by the principal author called Mrs. Margaret Makenzie through Prof. Raymond Wafula Ongus, an Associate Professor in Information science. The books will help readers gain rudimentary techniques to effectively establish, manage, and equitably circulate collections of information resources placed under their care within their workplaces. The books are expected to impact readers in the university with critical information literacy skills. The Chuka University fraternity appreciated this kind gesture that also promotes high learning among the country's young generation. As part of the University's culture, the books have been put to good use and care to ensure readers' benefit. The donation is an added advantage to the library's support system. Without any doubt, the donation also strengthens the relationship between the two Universities and help to promote lifelong learning amongst learners in the face of the rapidly changing information technology innovations.

A day with James Wainaina a.k.a Dushman

Every evening between 7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m., thousand tune to 98.8 FM to listen to the ever deep bubbly voice of Dushman as he hosts the Rhumba Kitoko radio show. His life in Chuka University started as a wishful thought long before he joined the prophetic and prestigious institution in the year 2016. James completed his secondary school education in the year 2014 but unfortunately failed to secure government sponsorship to a University of choice. This was heartbreaking not only for him but also for his mother who was struggling to educate his elder and younger siblings. Despite all the challenges of life, James had a dream, to become one of the best renowned journalists and media scholars across the globe. His hopes were not dashed as delayed a year to pave way for his elder brother to graduate from Chuka University so that he could get a chance as well to start his academic journey as a first year student. "Hope indeed lies in dreams, in imagination and in the courage of those who dare to make dreams into reality. As I patiently waited, submerged in thoughts and worry of being left behind by my peers, for two years, i joined my mother every morning in her small grocery shop in the streets of the dreaded Kayole estate in Nairobi. In July 2016, a family friend Francis Maina proposed that we hold a fundraising to at least raise some money to start me off in first year. His idea propelled my hope towards a better future, it build up my faith and that of my mum, and indeed the fundraiser was a turning point. I will forever be indebted to all those who came through". Fast forward to September 2016 James finally secured admission and got admitted at Chuka University to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism and Mass Communication. For James, it was a completely different world from the one in the streets, a world with freedom and latitude that can either build you or be a death trap. Campus life has been a world where he was required to make decisions for himself be it financial or moral. Deep down, James knew with no iota of doubt that daily small decisive actions are the strong or weak bricks, to build or break the monumental edifice of success James strived to make good ones amidst imperfections. Life was not a walk in the park him, but he was always fueled by the will and zeal his mother had imparted in him. Wainaina promised himself to excel amidst school fees struggles and other social challenges. He quickly points out and appreciates the support he has received from the many people who believed in him and have always supported him. "Anytime I told someone I am pursuing journalism, many told me I have a strong voice, but at the time, I was only practicing reporting using my old smart phone! My struggles were real, James laughs. In October 2018, James got an opportunity to go live on air at Destiny radio in Meru County. At the time, he had accompanied and the Vice-Chancellor and Dr. Henry Nabea -Head of Chuka University Radio to various media houses in Meru. James vividly remembers that this day was a turning point for him professionally. "The destiny media CEO Bishop Kiogora offered me a Job but there was a condition that I graduate first". Since then, I knew i had to excel both in my practical's and studies. His passion for journalism was reinforced after that experience. Fast forward to March 2019 and Chuka University radio was launched. James knew this was an opportunity for him to shine and put his best foot forward. "I had to seize this opportunity and sharpen my skills". In March, 2019, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Erastus Njoka launched the Chuka University Radio station. "I was lucky to be the first student to go live on air. The professional experience in Chuka University radio has widened my horizon and network as well as sharpening my news writing, reporting and programming skills while at the same time earning me the title "DushMan". I have had rare opportunities to host key guest including the Vice-Chancellor Professor Erastus Njoka, the chairman of the council Dr. Julius Tangus, the former governor Samuel mbae Ragwa and Kenya University Staff Union Secretary general Dr. Mukhwaya. I have also in charge of the University radio news department under the stewardship of Dr. Nabea. Moreover, with two other students, i also got an opportunity to represent Chuka University in the Top Story season 3 Competition featured on NTV where we managed to get to the quarter finals. The eye opening competition brought together journalism students from all Universities in an event hosted in Mombasa County.

"As a graduate in this class of 2020, indeed I am in a position to say that nothing is impossible. The level of your imagination is definitely the level you can jump to. Through hustle and bustle, I now know the need to persevere, persist and seek Gods guidance in everything. The Early and Chilly mornings, the late nights in the studio and library, the rush in across Tharaka Nithi County searching for news was worth it. I take this opportunity first thank the Almighty God, he holds the Yam and the Knife in the words of Chinua Achebe. He is gracious enough to cut a piece and a big one for me. To my family and specifically my mother, thank you for walking with me every step of the way. I would also want in a very special way thank the Vice-Chancellor Professor Erastus Nyaga Njoka for believing in me. Thank you for always reminding that I must end up in BBC. My sincere gratitude to Dr. Henry Nabea for the mentorship since the very beginning and the opportunity to serve in the radio station. Thank you for the discipline you instilled in me. My humble gratitude to Dr. Immaculate Mutali, the Senior Public Relations Officer for giving me the chance to publish my articles for the first time in the University publications and mainstream media. I also take this opportunity to thank Mr. Martin Muriithi for sharpening my camera skills. To all my lecturers, your work was not in vain. I am graduating with a first Class Honors because of your kindness and counsel. The sky is not the limit but just a milestone for me. Finally to all those looking forward to excel in their careers, the world will not give a damn regarding the storms you encounter. The question they will always ask is, did you bring the ship home?



James Wainaina a.k.a Dushman during a radio show at the Chuka University Radio studios

Prof. Ezra Maritim Green Car Park Launched

Chuka University fraternity have a reason to smile with the completed park. On 22.7.2020 the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Erastus Njoka launched the new staff car park officially referred to as Professor Ezra Maritim Green Car Park. The world-class car park distinguishes itself as one of its own kind with a capacity to accommodate many vehicles at any given time. The Professor Ezra Maritim Green Car Park boasts of its huge space and offers a perfect beautiful view of the institution. Located almost at the center of the University, the car park guarantees the security of vehicles parked inside. The car park is also under 24 hour CCTV surveillance as part of security enhancement together with security personnel at its gate entrance. The car park's launch has eased congestion of vehicles in certain areas in the campus.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Erastus Njoka cuts a ribbon to officially launch the Prof. Ezra Maritim Green Car Park

Nation Media Group CEO Visits Chuka University

Mr. Gitagama noted that the institution had undergone immense development, rising to be a world-class university within a short time. He further praised the partnership between Nation Media Group and Chuka University, stating that Nation Media Group will continue partnering with the Institution in internships and sponsoring top overall students in Communication and Journalism.

In another development, the University has increased its fleet of vehicles by acquiring two buses as part of Covid-19 preparedness. The two 46 seater buses will serve students during academic field trips. The University has introduced the innovative fueling cards to manage funds for all its vehicles' gas-refilling needs.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Erastus Njoka hosts the Nation Media Group CEO Stephen Gitagama



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Erastus Njoka inspects the new buses