

More students in environmental awareness

THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI HAS OVER 200 student clubs and organizations. While the most famous may be SONU and WOSWA, there are other organizations that participate in various important activities. These clubs fly the University flag high and bring great pride to this institution. One such organization is the Organization of Student Volunteers (OSV). OSV is a non-partisan, non-political and non-profit making students' organization which prides itself in contributing, through expertise and resources, to improve the lives of the members of the society. The organization's main aim is to undertake voluntary work and charitable activities to help the students and the community at large. Among students, it aims to sensitize the community on issues surrounding HIV/AIDS, drug abuse and reproductive health; advocating for sexual behavior change. OSV has a membership of over 150 students mainly from Main and Chiromo campuses.



As part of its environmental awareness, OSV has embarked on programmes that have included planting of trees in Karura forest. The most recent tree planting programme took place on 5th September 2009. The club also participated in the "Education for All" walk which was held on 21st November 2009. The walk centered on promoting basic education in Kenya. The Club also participated in a walk organized to remember road crash victims and sensitized the public on the importance of safe driving. The walk had been organized by the Association of Safe International Travel (ASIRT) and took place on 18th November 2009.

OSV has also engaged in hospital clean-ups; a more recent activity being the clean-up of Nairobi Women's Hospital and the University Sick-Bay. The members divided themselves into two groups. One group went to Nairobi Women's Hospital

Students on an environmental awareness campaign. An activity undertaken by OSV to mitigate the negative effects of environmental degradation.

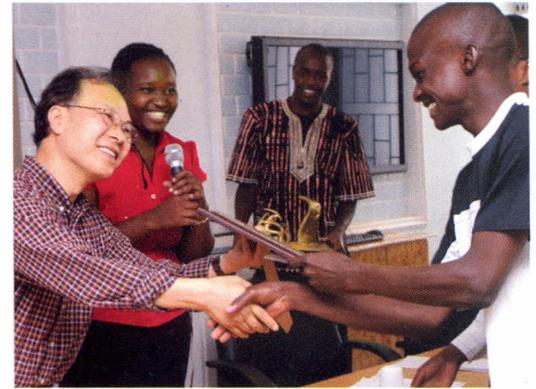
while the other remained in the University and spent the whole morning cleaning the University health services.

Members have also visited the sick and the disadvantaged and made donations to children's homes and other groups needing assistance; A recent visit to the Good Samaritan Children's Home on 9th January 2010 provided a great avenue for the club's members to interact and spend time with the orphaned children

OSV also runs a mentorship programmes, its members actively participate in mentorship programmes, recently, the Club visited Mlolongo Secondary School. The Secondary School has a population of 300 students and is located in Kathiani district, on the outskirts of Nairobi. The members of the club spent the day socializing and interacting with the High School Students, sharing their campus experiences and inspiring the students.

The immediate future plans of OSV include increased membership and expansion of their activities. "The organization shall not stray from its mission and vision, and its members will always strive to continue to make a difference in the society" says the Chairman, Emmanuel Kamboga.

The future certainly does look bright for the club and with a little more support from the University Community, they will continue to excel and make the University proud.



Professor Yoon Ha Yoo of the Korean Development Institute receives gifts from fourth year economics students.

Korean Prof in working partnership with UoN students

FOURTH YEAR STUDENTS of the School of Economics had the rare opportunity of engaging on economic development with a visiting professor from Korea. Professor Yoon Ha Yoo, a lecturer at the Korean Development Institute; School of Public Policy and Management took the 40 students through an intensive three-week course of lectures that focused on Korean Development history in the last 40 years.

The students were able to compare the economic development of South Korea with that of Kenya. The programme was arranged by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS), the School of Economics and the Korean Embassy in Nairobi. One of the outcomes of the classes' was the challenge to set out reforms that will enable Kenya to move into developed country status.

At the end of the program the students received certificates, in a ceremony presided over by the Principal, CHSS, Prof. Isaac Mbeche.