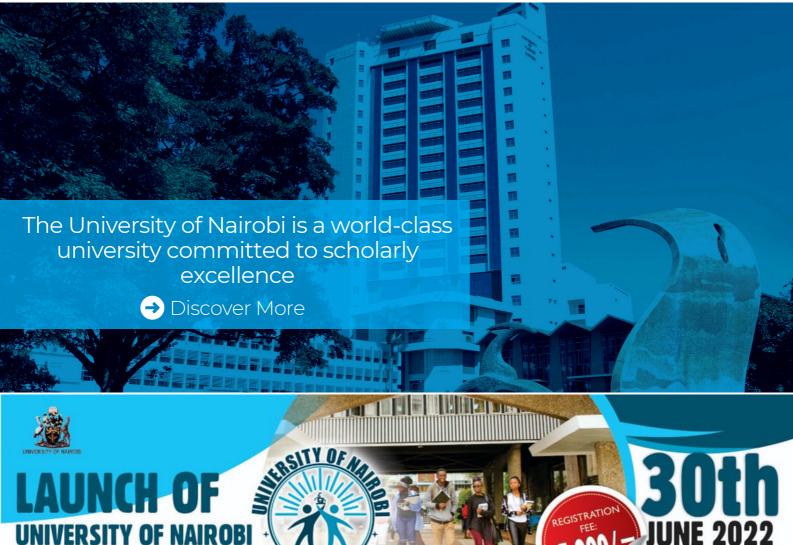


VF ONLINE

THE OFFICIAL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI Issue #013 - 17 JUNE 2022



Highlights

FOUNDATION

University of Nairobi Foundation feature

<u>UoN and Damu-Sasa to research on</u> <u>Improvement of Blood Management</u> Services

Research today for a healthier tomorrow

<u>UoN medical students develop a digital</u> <u>solution for better healthcare</u>

UoN Postgraduate students at UPF on a Mobility Programme

The Launch of the University of Nairobi Foundation will happen on Thursday, June 30, 2022, from 5:30 PM to 7.30 PM at the Chancellor's Court

LIPA NA M-PESA

5:30pm -7:30pm Chancellor's Court





REGISTER NOW

EVENTS

- LAUNCH OF UON FOUNDATION
 Thursday, June 30, 2022 5:30pm
- 2 LEADERSHIP ACADEMY FOR WOMEN IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS EAST AFRICA

Monday, July 4, 2022 - 8:00am

UON FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The University of Nairobi (UoN) is the oldest and largest university in Kenya. The University's mission is to embody the aspirations of the Kenyan people and the global community through the creation, preservation, integration, transmission and utilization of knowledge.

Achieving this vision and sustaining the mission requires strengthening the bedrock of an institution's operations. It is against this background that the University has established the University of Nairobi Foundation.

The Foundation is non-political and aims to institutionalize the sustainability of the university. The UoN foundation shares in the nation's greater mandate of achieving the "Sustainable Development Goals" through providing trained manpower.



WHY WE EXIST

The University of Nairobi Foundation was registered as a Trust Deed with 9 trustees drawn from different sectors of the economy, and signed by the Cabinet Secretary for Lands, Hon. Faridah Karoney on 31st August 2021 with the following mandates:



Entering into collaborations/ partnerships with different institutions to advance resource mobilization, research and community service.



Managing endowment funds, gifts and grants.



Commercialize assets.



Promoting the advancement of education, learning and research for the benefit of the public.



UON FOUNDATION

FUNCTIONS OF THE FOUNDATION

- Resource Mobilization Source for funds through grants, donations, and endowments to engage in active collaborations and partnerships with individuals locally and internationally as appropriate in line with the objectives of the University.
- Governance and CSR Promoting the advancement of education, learning and research for the benefit of the public and for future development of the University of Nairobi in furtherance of its vision and mission.
- Innovation Supporting program innovation and the discovery of new ideas.
- Alumni Promoting and supporting the University.
- Advocacy Generating philanthropic support for students, faculty, research, academic, and vocational programs.

FOUNDATION GOVERNANCE

The University of Nairobi Foundation was registered as a Trust Deed with 9 trustees drawn from different sectors of the economy, and signed by the Cabinet Secretary for Lands, Hon. Faridah Karoney on 31st August 2021 with the following mandates:

The foundation is governed by a **board of trustees** namely:

- Dr Vijoo Rattansi, Chancellor, University of Nairobi Chair of the Board.
- Prof. Stephen Gitahi Kiama Vice Chancellor University of Nairobi - Secretary of the Board.
- Dr Narenda Raval, EBS (Guru) Founder and chairman, Devki group Treasurer of the Board.
- Prof. Margaret Kobia EGH Cabinet Secretary, Public Service and Gender.
- Mr Joseph Wakaba Mucheru EGH Cabinet Secretary, ICT.
- Prof. Julia A. Ojiambo, Board of Trustees, National Fund for the Disabled of Kenya (NFDK)
- Ms Agnes Odhiambo, Chairperson, NTSA.
- Mr Maurice O. Makoloo, Area Vice President Africa, Habitat for Humanity International
- Mr Fredrick Ngatia S.C. Senior Counsel.



UoN and Damu-Sasa toresearchonImprovement of BloodManagement Services



The University of Nairobi was confirmed as the Public Research Organization for the Research and Development (R&D) Impact Project - a project conducted by the Damu-Sasa blood services management system - a cloud-based system that supports blood sourcing, inventory management, transfusion management, haemovigilance, referrals and deferrals.

Read more

Research today for a healthier tomorrow



The Association of Medical Students of the University of Nairobi (AMSUN) hosted its 12th Scientific Conference on the 9th and 10th June, 2022 at the Chandaria Centre for Performing Arts

"Participating in research teaches you critical life skills. Somebody who is actively involved in research is a better critical thinker, a better creative thinker..." - Prof Ogeng'o

Read more

<u>UoN medical students</u> <u>develop a digital solution</u> for better healthcare

Two medical students from the University of Nairobi (UoN)
Faculty of Health Sciences are the minds behind a health
management information system developed to help
healthcare practitioners become highly efficient at delivering
quality care.

Victor Ireri, a 6th year medical student and the current
Chairman of the Association of Medical Students University of
Nairobi and his counterpart Clarence Rugar also a 6th year say
EHS Biodata is a one-stop solution for a great clinical journey.



Read more

UON POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AT UPF ON A MOBILITY PROGRAMME

wo University of Nairobi students are on an exchange programme at the University of Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona. This was enabled by a collaborative agreement that the University has with UPF.

One of the students, Ishamel, had this to say in an exclusive interview with Corporate Affairs.



1. Please introduce yourself and tell us what program you enrolled in at UPF?

Name: Ishmael Nyunya Obonyo

Program: PhD in Computer Science

Department: Information and Communication Technologies

2. How did you hear about this opportunity for international mobility?

The opportunity was shared by the Department of Computing and Informatics. Prof Wagacha informed our PhD class about the mobility opportunity. He advised interested students to contact Dr Lawrence Muchemi, who happened to be the Mobility Coordinator.

3. How has the experience at UPF impacted on your career and your perception of studies abroad?

I joined a specialized research group in UPF called Natural Language Processing Research Group (TALN). The group engages in research activities which are closely related to my PhD research. I have interacted with people of different nationalities, cultures, values, and backgrounds in this group. As a result, the focus of my research has improved, and I have also formed networks for future collaborations.

Through interacting with the residents here, I have realized that quite a number of them are welcoming, helpful, and free to share knowledge. Before then, I thought I would face issues like discrimination and racism.

The language barrier was a major challenge I faced. I encountered it more outside UPF where the majority speak in either Spanish or Catalan. I realized that prior learning of a few phrases of the corresponding foreign language (s) is necessary.

INTERVIEW

UON POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AT UPF ON A MOBILITY PROGRAMME

I have also appreciated the transport system here. As opposed to ours, the Spanish Government has an integrated multimodal transport system that works for almost every one motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, athletes, the aged and the disabled.

The exchange program has provided me with an opportunity to access more academic materials (e.g. journal articles, books, etc.) and a computing environment for performing research experiments.

4. What are the highpoints of studying through a mobility program like yours?

- More time to concentrate on my studies without distraction. I'm able to read many journal articles/ books and perform experiments.
- Easy access to and quick responses from the designated supervisors. This has enabled me to get immediate feedback on my progress.
- Efficient technical support quick resolutions to queries with technical problems encountered.
- An opportunity to create networks with people from different countries
- Access to research datasets and computing environments for the conducting experiments (e.g. Graphical Processing Units (GPUs))

5. When you come back to Kenya what changes would like to be effected in your country and your University?

- Stronger specialized research groups focusing on specific research areas
- Working in a specialized research group dealing with specific areas of research, and handle funded donor-funded projects with industry collaboration as part of their PhD
- More opportunities for such programs accorded to staff who are also PhD students to give them time to concentrate on their studies
- More funding allocated to PhD funded research
- Have PhD that is a collaboration between industry and academia
- More efficient transport system with many modes of transport

6. What role did the University of Nairobi play in facilitating your mobility to UPF?

- The mobility was through the University of Nairobi, so without being in the University I might have not heard about it.
- Sharing the opportunity with interested students, without the collaboration with UPF, this mobility will not have been possible.
- Got recommendations from the University's Department of Computing and Informatics for the mobility application and Visa



ISHMAEL OBONYO

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@ www.uonbi.ac.ke







CHIVERSIII OF NAIRODI

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Our mailing address is:
P O BOX 30197 - 00100 Nairobi
University of Nairobi, Main Campus.
Telephone: 020 - 4910000, 020 - 4913193/3195
Director of Corporate Affairs
Email: pr@uonbi.ac.ke