



## Volume 1, Issue 1

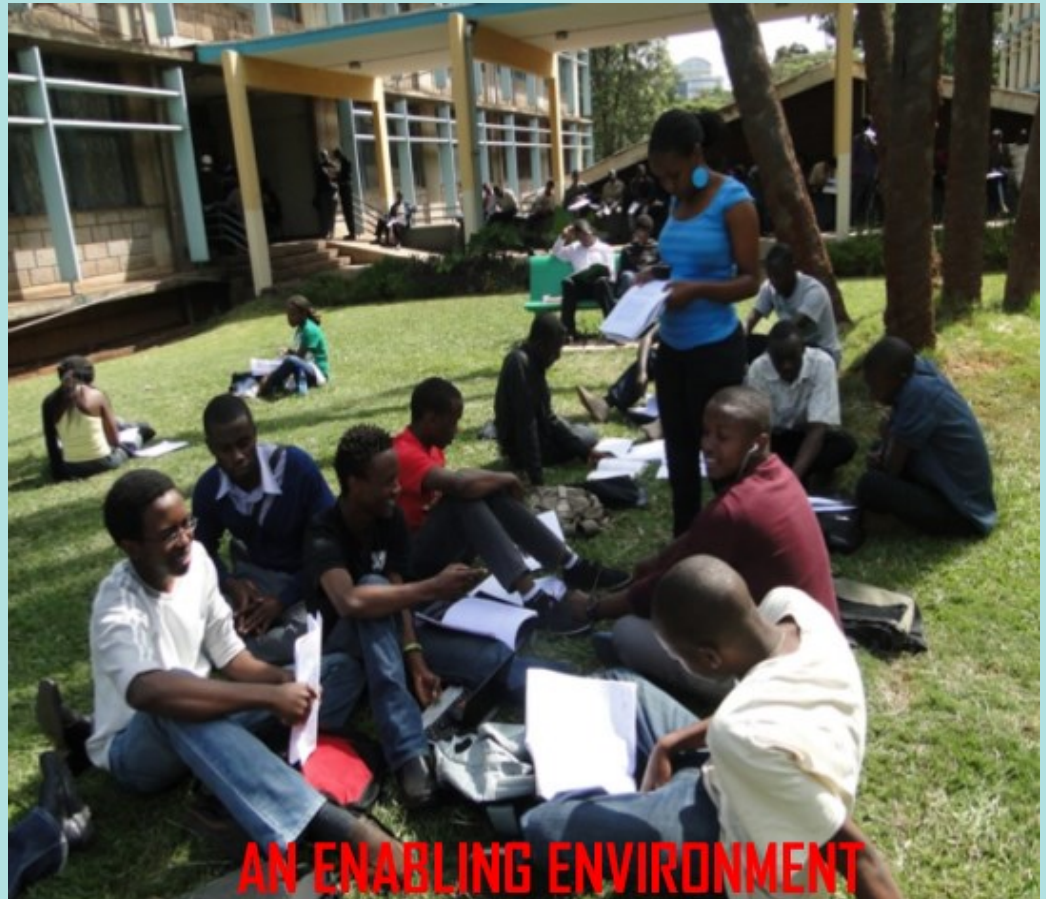
July –October 2013

## CBPS Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

### Welcome

#### Special points of interest:



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**“The  
Habitable  
Planet.”**

*‘Nothing has such power to broaden the mind as the ability to investigate systematically and truly all that comes under thy observation in life.’*

**Marcu  
Aurelius**

## KENYA HABITABLE PLANET WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

The first Kenya “Habitable Planet” workshop (HPW) programme was opened in Nairobi at the Chiromo University Campus on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2013 by the principal of the College of Biological and Physical Sciences (CBPS) Prof. B. O. Aduda accompanied by the Director of the Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation (ICCA) Prof. S.O. Wandiga. The CBPS and ICCA hosted the workshop together with the School of Biological Sciences (SBS) at Chiromo and the DST/NRF Applied Centre for Climate and Earth Systems Science (ACCESS) of South Africa. The workshop’s focus was on the evolution of Planet Earth’s diversity in the natural environment and the conditions required to maintain these environments as far as human- environment relationships are concerned, both in the distant past and in the present.



The workshop also covered the impact that future global warming and climate change could have on those environments. The “Habitable Planet” workshops have been held successfully for the last six years in Southern Africa, specifically in South Africa and Namibia. The 2013 event was held for the first time in East Africa and was structured as a series of 10 workshops targeting an inter-disciplinary field of final year undergraduate/honors students with the aim of introducing them

## NEWSFLASH



Prof Shem O. Wandiga



Dr. D. Maingi

Dr D. Maingi (right) has been appointed as the Ambassador for NANUM 2014 while Prof Shem O. Wandiga (left) -Prof of Chemistry and Ag. Director, ICCA has been appointed as the Chancellor, Egerton University. The College congratulates them and wishes them well as they take on their roles.



### C4Dlab

C4Dlab (Computing For Development Lab) recently established Research and Development Lab at the School of Computing & Informatics, Chiromo Campus. It is now the R&D arm of the school of Computing and Informatics. The lab's main activities are:- research, training, developing and piloting of products and consultancy. The lab is also incubating few undergraduate student projects on a small-scale. Currently, the lab is developing nine (9) products to be launched in September.



Recently, the lab received donation from UNDESA which included office furniture, stationery, PCs, laptops and other computing electronics. This has been a major boost for the lab.

To that effect lab is now maintaining an open-source project for parliamentary workflow management, called Bungeni that was built through UNDESA support.

**The Labs main activities include Research Training , Consultancy, & developing and piloting of products**

### Learning Environment



*“Prejudices, it is well known, are most difficult to eradicate from the heart whose soil has never been loosened or fertilised by education: they grow there, firm as weeds among stones.”*  
— Charlotte Brontë, Jane Eyre

### A conducive work environment



- 1-Bootcamp for the C4Dlab.
- 2- First year Computer Science students in the Computer Lab.
- 3 A worker renovating a toilet at the Department of Geology .
- 4A refurbished toilet in the Department of Chemistry.

The Science Workshop held a farewell party for two of their retiring members of staff; Mr. Alfred Odhako (Snr Technologist) and Mr. Jeremiah Thiong'o (Technologist). The Principal praised them for their hard work and stressed the fact that there was need to ape their dedication and commitment especially for the staff who would succeed them. The College Bursar, Auditor and Registrar also attended.



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**GITHURAI 45 CLEAN UP 24<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

The clean up was organized by NUMSA in collaboration with ENACTUS- UON, on 24<sup>th</sup> November at Githurai 45. The opening ceremony was graced by a representative of The Dean of students, the University of Nairobi who read the Opening speech. This was followed by presentations from the community and an awareness talk on the importance of wastes and conserving the Environment.



The theme for the event was "cleaning and securing the environment through entrepreneurship" And this was blended by the following objectives

- Making use of wastes to create more Job opportunities for the youths.
- Sensitizing the community on proper ways of waste disposal.
- Ways to prevent infections from micro-organisms

The members of the various clubs and the youths from the community were divided into various groups, to kick off the clean up



**Disability, ISO, Corruption and PC training**

Various members of staff attended training on Disability, ISO, Corruption and Performance Contracting (PC) which took place in the College .The Principal in his opening remarks, urged the participants to treat this sensitive area of Disability positively. He noted that In the recent past, changes have been made to cater for those with disabilities within the College. Some of the changes included building of rumps for those who use wheelchairs and also refurbishing toilets to accommodate those who are disadvantaged. He urged members of staff to avoid negative perception towards disabled persons. Being sensitive to this area would help us pick amongst us the disadvantaged and take positive steps to help them. He also touched on corruption and said that everyone was exposed to corruption in their areas of work and that corruption was multi faceted and that if care is not taken one can be accused of all sorts of things.ISO has become part of life and its essence is continual improvement and there was need to comply with ISO.He also added that Performance Contracting would help the College in measuring Its Performance vis a vis the set goals.





CHIROMO PEER EDUCATORS VISIT DAGORETTI CHILDRENS HOME



ONUSS LEADERSHIP TRAINING 2013



ONUSS SPORTS MARCH 2013



THE ROAD LESS TRAVELLED

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
 And sorry I could not travel both  
 And be one traveller, long I stood  
 And looked down one as far as I could  
 To where it bent in the undergrowth.

Then took the other, as just as fair,  
 And having perhaps the better claim,  
 Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
 Though as for that the passing there  
 Had worn them really about the same.

And both that morning equally lay  
 In leaves no step had trodden black.  
 Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
 Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
 I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
 Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
 Two roads diverged in a wood, and  
 I took the one less travelled by,  
 And that has made all the difference. By R. Frost









1-Women Student Welfare Association (WOSWA) officials and Guest speakers.

2-Caroline Mutoko talking about self confidence ,esteem and growth to students.

3-A section of the students who attended the talk.

6 –WOSWA officials with some of the Campus ladies.

7-A photo of the guest after the event



4&5-A recent visit by students from The Technical University of Kenya to the Science Workshop, Glass-blowing section. The students were taken through the technical aspects of cutting, glass-blowing, and annealing basics.

**Our vision is to be the premier International African Centre of Excellence in pursuit of knowledge generation, preservation, dissemination and application in Science and Technology**

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The College of Biological & Physical Sciences is a leading institution in teaching & research in science, technology and innovations. The College, commonly known as Chiromo Campus, is located on more than 70 acres of land along Riverside Drive off Chiromo Road, 2 kilometres west of the Main Campus. It offers a diverse range of academic programmes in several academic units namely; School of Biological Sciences, School of Computing and Informatics, School of Mathematics, School of Physical Sciences, Institute of Climate Change and Adaptation (ICCA) and Centre for Biotechnology & Bioinformatics (CEBIB)