



Mount Kenya



University

NEWSLETTER

Animal Health, Agriculture And Education

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" Improvements made in the department of Animal Health & Production have enabled us to analyze animal feeds for maximum returns while soil testing has helped us improve on crop production and cut down on cost. "

Dr. Emily Nyabisi,
Director Nakuru Campus

Word from **The Director**



Dr. Emily Nyabisi,
Director Nakuru Campus

The Campus Director, Dr. Emily Nyabisi, acknowledges that the Department of Animal Health and Production at the Campus started from a very humble beginning; with only two programs, i.e. Certificate and Diploma in Animal Health & Production. The department has since grown to offer related Bachelors Programmes (Bachelor of Science in Animal Science and Bachelor of Science in Animal Health and Production) and other Short Courses, such as Certificate in Artificial Insemination. The Animal Health demonstration farm has also strengthened the School of Education as far as Agriculture courses are concerned; and the heavy investment in the Science laboratories has strengthened training in the Education Science courses for the Campus.

The Director acknowledges the initiative by the University's top management to develop the Campus as a Centre of Excellence in the training of Animal Health & Production, Agriculture, and Education Science; an initiative that has resulted in the enhancement over the years in terms of student numbers, programs offered and resources deployed for training and research in these areas. Nakuru campus management is committed to ensure that the resources provided are put into good use for the benefit of the students, the university and community. The Campus envisions a future where it is able to create fruitful linkages and partnerships, conduct community outreach services, and offer training and consultancy in these areas; while also generating third stream revenue / income for the University from the available resources for training in these areas.

WHY IT IS WORTH TO CHECK OUT MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY NAKURU CAMPUS

MKU is a chartered multi-campus and ISO 9001:2015 certified university. MKU Nakuru campus has been established as a Centre of Excellence in Education Science, Agriculture, and Animal Health & Production.

The Campus organizes career mentorship to help students make informed decisions when choosing courses. High school students keen to learn more about careers can visit Mount Kenya University Nakuru Campus. The career mentorship programme also includes the university sending its staff to high school career days across the country. This is among the many reasons the university attracts a growing number of government-supported as well as self-sponsored students.

MKU Nakuru Campus has a career services office as required by the Ministry of Education. The office offers career counselling and mentorship to prospective and continuing students. The Campus has incorporated Academic & Career Advisory into its teaching and learning processes for the continuing students; and also distributes a free career guide and offers career talks to high school students across the country.

Other reasons that make MKU Nakuru Campus a preferred destination for both government and self-sponsored students.

✓ Rich academic menu

MKU Nakuru campus offers a rich academic menu of accredited Programmes. These are available at:

- School of Business and Economics
- School of Pure and Applied Sciences
- School of Education
- School of Social Sciences
- School of Computing and Informatics

✓ Synergetic partnerships

MKU Nakuru Campus has forged strategic and synergetic partnerships with local, regional and international institutions; industries; and public and private institutions. These partnerships enrich the university's offering of programs and services.

✓ Respected brand

Students choose to study at MKU because it is among the top-ranked universities nationally and regionally. Below are highlights of this ranking:

- MKU is among the top 10 universities in Kenya, according to Webometric and 4ICU rankings.
- MKU is ranked top among universities in research funding.
- MKU is ranked the fourth-best Kenyan university in sports, as per a CPS International survey.
- MKU tops the list of science-offering private higher education institutions, according to CPS International.

✓ Flexible study options

The university promotes access to higher education through its accredited and flexible modes of learning, which include fulltime (Regular), ODeL, School-based (DIBEL) learning, and part-time (Weekend/Evening). All the programmes offered under these modules are fully accredited by the Commission for University Education (CUE).

✓ Career placement

The university produces highly-skilled and employable graduates. Others go into self-employment and create jobs. MKU graduates rank among top 10 in employability according to a ranking by Corporate Staffing Services Ltd. The University Alumni, both employed and self-employed also serve as mentors to the continuing students during the Career Advisory programs

✓ Multicultural diversity

The Campus appreciates the diversity of its student population and develops talents through cultural events. "MKU promotes diversity and inclusion and is a United Nations Academic Impact global

hub for SDG-10 on Reduced Inequalities. MKU is international in character as it has students from more than 40 nations studying at its campuses and also virtually. It is ranked among top 4 universities with the highest number of foreign students

✓ **Affordable fees and convenient payment mode**

MKU is known for its affordable and flexible fee payment plan that allows students to make easy monthly instalments. MKU offers affordable education and is a leading private university in Kenya in programme and student numbers, according to a Madison Insurance Survey on Higher Education

Transition rate

At MKU, students complete their courses within the stipulated time. Their academic progress is monitored and evaluated on a continuous basis. The university's trimester system also allows acceleration.

Student welfare support

MKU, Nakuru Campus has in place student accommodation / hostel facilities. The sporting and recreation activities at the Campus include football, tennis, volleyball, basketball, Karate, athletics, music, drama among others. The Campus also has a vibrant counselling and peer counselling & mentorship program that assures support for the mental health of its students

✓ **Automation of university processes** enhances service delivery.

For more information about MKU, visit <https://www.mku.ac.ke/>



NAKURU CAMPUS AT A GLANCE

Mount Kenya University, Nakuru Campus was established in January 2010; and was fully integrated as one of MKU Campuses (independent of any collaboration) in August 2011. Since then, the campus has grown in terms of student numbers, staff establishment, physical resources and programs on offer. The campus offers diverse programs in Education, Business, Social Sciences, Computing & Informatics, Pure & Applied Sciences, and Health Sciences; under the Regular (Day); Distance, Institutional Based and Electronic Learning (DIBEL); and Open & Distance Learning (ODEL) modes of study. The Campus has been identified and substantively developed as a Centre of Excellence in the training of Animal Health & Production, Agriculture and Education Science

As one of the Campuses of Mount Kenya University, Nakuru Campus anchors its operations in the Mount Kenya University Strategic plan 2020 - 2029 to guide its growth and development, focusing on the six Key Result Areas i.e.: Academic Excellence; Fostering Transformative Research and Innovation; Partnerships and Resource Development; Institutional Capacity; Developing Social Enterprises for institutional sustainability; Welfare and Community Services

The Teaching and Learning Rooms, Science Laboratories, Computer Laboratories, Library, Academic & Administrative offices, Journalism Studio, Student Center and Clinic are all situated at the magnificent Great Rift Plaza (GRP) Campus building. The Campus has also leased a five-acre farm from the Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) – Nakuru Branch; for an Animal Health & Production, and Agriculture demonstration farm. The Campus has Student Hostels situated 600 metres from the Campus; in a serene environment along the Oginga Odinga road; and sports / playing fields situated at the Nakuru Athletics Club (NAC)

NEW EQUIPMENT FOR NAKURU CAMPUS SCIENCE LABORATORIES

Nakuru campus science laboratories are among the best equipped in the region. This follows the official handing over of new equipment worth millions of shillings to the Campus by the Chairman Board of Directors Prof. Simon Gicharu. The equipment will support the training of Agriculture, Animal Health & Production and Education Science programmes.



The Chairman BOD, Prof. Simon Gicharu (left) hands new Laboratory equipment worth Ksh. 15 Million to Nakuru Campus to strengthen training, research and community outreach in Animal Health & Production, Agriculture and Education Science programs

The equipment which are already installed in the laboratories include, an Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS); Bomb Calorimeter, Microtome, The Kjeldahl Digester among others. With the state -of -the -art laboratories in Nakuru campus, students taking science-related courses are the main beneficiaries. The students are able to learn how to use the machines to determine the nutrient content in animal feeds, analyze soil samples for better crop production and conduct practicals in other science-based programmes.



Part of the Science Laboratory equipment at Nakuru campus.

During the official commissioning of the equipment, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Deogratius JAGANYI acknowledged that the investment places Nakuru campus at a competitive edge compared with her peers.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the Education Science, Agriculture and Animal Health students are now well situated to conduct their practicals as they become all-rounded students ready for the world of work and wealth creation.

Students pursuing Post Graduate education in the Sciences are also encouraged to sample the available academic resources in the science labs to enrich their research.



Mr. Eliud Ng'ang'a, Principal, Laboratories (right) explains how the new equipment in the science labs work to the VC, Prof. Deogratius JAGANYI (second right) during the commissioning of the lab equipment as Nakuru Campus Director, Dr. Emily Nyabisi and the Principal Coordination of Campuses, Mr. Nahashon Mwirigi look on.



Robert Koech, one of the lab technologist tests an equipment in the science lab during the official commissioning by the VC Prof. Deogratius JAGANYI

VC MEETS POST GRADUATE STUDENTS

During a working tour of Nakuru Campus where he engaged Post Graduate students in an open forum, Mount Kenya University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Deogratius JAGANYI assured the students of timely completion of studies. The forum was also attended by the Principal Coordination of Campuses, Mr. Nahashon Mwirigi; Nakuru Campus Director, Dr. Emily Nyabisi, Deputy Director, Academics & Research Affairs, Mr. Titus Musyimi and the Coordinator for Post Graduate Studies, Dr. Ruth Nyambura.

The students had raised concerns over delays in completing their studies occasioned by the Covid-19 break in the year 2020/2021. Learning in the University had continued through the university online platforms though some of the post graduate students preferred to wait until the break was over to fully resume their studies

The VC assured the students that the College of Graduate Studies and Research will reduce paperwork for postgraduate students since the university has fully embraced technology in learning and other operations.

The students present thanked the VC for sparing time to listen to them. They also appreciated his commitment to ensure they graduate within the stipulated time.



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Deogratius JAGANYI addresses students from the School of Postgraduate Studies during a working tour of Nakuru Campus

WALKING FOR PEACE

Mount Kenya University conducted peace campaign across all its campuses in the country; hosted by the Second International Conference on Peace, Security and Social Enterprise. The theme for this year's conference was: *The role of universities, public and private sectors in peace building for socio-economic development.*



Nakuru Campus Director Dr. Emily Nyabisi (front) flags off the MKU, Nakuru Campus Peace Walk at the Nakuru Athletics Club.

In Nakuru campus, the Director Dr. Emily Nyabisi flagged off the walk at the Nakuru Athletics Club grounds. Staff, students and various partners participated in the noble initiative. Speaking during the event, the Director asked the youth to refrain from being used by politicians to cause mayhem in the country during the electioneering period; and cautioned them against being incited to destroy the only country we all call home; for the collective good of everyone. The peace message was broadcasted on TV-47 and Wazito TV.



Part of the procession that took part in the peace walk hosted by MKU Nakuru Campus.

The Assistant County Commissioner, who was in attendance, also warned the young people that they risk destroying their future if they do not maintain peace during and after elections, because it would be impossible to study and build careers in a chaotic environment.

The general election has since been concluded and the country has been peaceful.

MAKING NAKURU CAMPUS A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR ANIMAL HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND EDUCATION SCIENCE

Mount Kenya University has established Nakuru Campus as a regional Centre of Excellence for Education science, Animal Health & Production, Animal Science and Agriculture courses. Nakuru campus has expanded academic resources to ensure students get the best quality training in these programs.



The HOD, Animal Health & Production, Dr. Simon Migwi, appreciates that the department of Animal Health and Production has a demonstration farm for training students. Inside the farm are different sections for learning all headed by a farm supervisor who reports to the Campus Registrar for effective service delivery. The demonstration farm is located in a serene environment inside the Nakuru ASK showground. Different animal species and crops varieties are available for teaching and research.

Animals kept in the farm include beef & dairy cattle, sheep, goats, rabbits, fish and poultry .

The farm is ran professionally. Animals are fed according to experts advice on rations and nutritional requirements. This informs the decision to separate beef and dairy cows. Students of Animal Health and Production and Animal Science learn how to fend for the animals including conducting scientific procedures like post mortem.

The poultry unit has hundreds of chicken that act as specimen for the study of birds. In addition they add to the income of the university through sale of eggs. The students present at the farm confirm they have mastered the art of feeding and caring for the poultry and diagnosing any form of diseases to avoid an outbreak.

Mount Kenya university has also invested in fish farming . Another group of students can be seen conducting some procedures by the fish pond. The farm supervisor, Geoffrey Mwangi, tells us the process is called grading where bigger fingerlings are separated from the smaller ones to avoid cannibalism. Water from the farmhouses is harvested and collected in the fish ponds. During the dry season, water from the ponds which has manure content from the fish waste is used for irrigation.



A fish pond inside the Mount Kenya University demonstration farm at the ASK showground Nakuru

The farm is a model foundation of knowledge. There is a greenhouse in which different types of crops are grown. Students are taught both basic and scientific procedures in agriculture using the sample plants inside the green house. These students are so well equipped with information that they sometimes step in to offer consultation services to farmers in the neighbourhood.

The university also keeps tab of its alumni. On this particular day, a former student who currently works with a chemicals company in Nakuru pays a courtesy call to the farm. His name is George Mbogo. He checks on the farm and advises on the right chemicals to eradicate possible pests and diseases. He also acts as a mentor to the students currently pursuing their studies

Next to the greenhouse is a section where maize is growing, almost at the flowering stage. The maize stalks are strong and look very healthy. The farm supervisor tells us the soil requires no commercial fertilizers. Instead, manure collected from the animal houses is applied to the farm making the crops to thrive well and able to resist diseases. On the other side, animal feeds are grown to supplement their daily diet.

In the farm store are various machines like the high-speed chaffcutter, grinder, and feed mixer which help to make work easier and help the students gain knowledge on how to process animal feeds.

The department also has a small animals laboratory situated at the rooftop of the Campus Building. Inside the lab are small lab animals which are used for research. Students of Animal Health and Production and Education Science are able to conduct various professional procedures and learn using these small animals. These include learning on aspects such as breeding, feed

analysis, immunization and postmortem among others. Animal feeds are analyzed from the science labs at the basement and fed to the animals in their respective proportions.



A mouse with its pups inside the science laboratory in Nakuru Campus



Laboratory animals used for scientific research and training in Nakuru campus

Campus Registrar incharge of Finance Administration and Marketing, Suzanne Standa calls upon prospective students to join the university for quality learning. She points out that all students who graduate from the department become highly competent in the market.

PICTORIAL



Miss MKU Nakuru



Nakuru campus Launch



A fish pond in the Nakuru Campus Demo farm



A maize plantation at the Nakuru ASK show demo farm



Mount Kenya University Vice Chancellor Prof. Deogratus JAGANYI disinfected his feet before getting into the demo farm



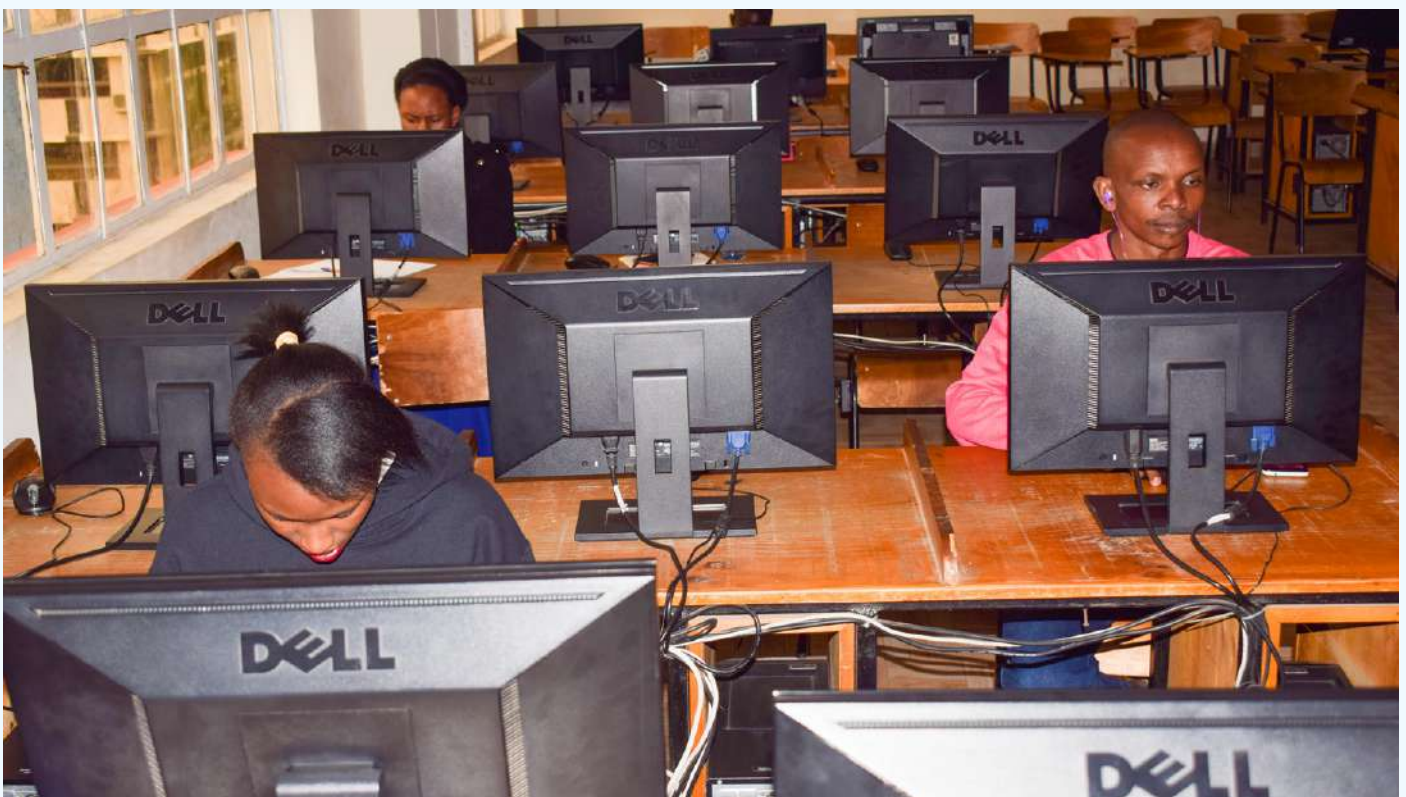
Geoffrey Mwangi, the farm supervisor (Right) and George Mbogo, former student and staff of Osho chemicals inspect kales in the demo farm



Mental Health Awareness: Dr. Jane Nyutu, Co-founder MKU & Founder MKU Life Skills engages students in Nakuru Campus in a mental health Awareness session



Prof. Deogratius JAGANYI, the Vice-Chancellor tours the dairy unit at the ASK demo farm in Nakuru during a working tour



Students conducting research in the computer lab at Nakuru campus



Nakuru Campus Customer care office



Customer care office entrance



School of Education; a DIBeL class in progress



Peter Njenga, a faculty in the school of education conducts a DIBeL class in Nakuru campus



The Great Rift Plaza, magnificent building that hosts MKU Nakuru Campus



The entrance to Mount Kenya University Nakuru Campus



Director's Boardroom in Nakuru campus

Hostels



Clothing lines as seen from an aerial angle are located in a secure area inside the hostels



Inside the hostels corridors



Nakuru Campus Hostel Aerial View



The new accommodation facility being put up at the MKU hostels



The entrance to the students' hostels



The serene environment in which the MKU hostels are located

Research

To enhance practical training and research, the Nakuru Campus has a farm with varieties of animals and a botanical garden with different plant species.



Lab Equipment



Chairman BOD, Prof. Simon Gicharu (left) samples a lab equipment as the Director Nakuru Campus Dr. Emily Nyabisi and the DD-ARA Titus Musyimi (right) look on



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Deogratius JAGANYI inspects the newly installed lab equipment inside the science labs in Nakuru campus during the launch



Staff and students of Nakuru campus join the campus management in receiving lab equipment when the chairman BOD Prof Simon Gicharu delivered them for learning



Robert Koech, lab technologist in Nakuru campus tests a new equipment in the science la during the official launch by the VC

Lecture Hall



Library



Books inside the library in Nakuru campus are neatly arranged and are easy to retrieve



The reading area in the library in Nakuru campus is spacious and well aerated

TV47-Mentorship



Students from the department of Journalism keenly follow proceedings during a mentorship session conducted by staff from TV47



Journalism students get an opportunity to interact with staff from TV47 during a mentorship session. The HOD for Journalis Department was in attendance



Wilson Mbugua, the operations manager at TV47 leads a team of staff from TV47 in mentoring students of Journalism in Nakuru campus



Great Rift Plaza, home to MKU Nakuru Campus. It was commissioned in 2016 and is Kenya's most remarkable academic building in the greater Rift Valley region. The Campus is a regional Centre of Excellence in Agriculture, Animal Health & Production and Education Science. It is modelled on an open book to open the minds of the learners who are trained to be job creators rather than job seekers.

NAKURU CAMPUS

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