

USIU-Africa students win the Microsoft Imagine Cup World Championship

> By the Microsoft Corporation

A team of four students from the United States International University-Africa, and winners in the education category of the 2023 Imagine Cup world finals qualifying round have won the World Championship. The team qualified from 48 competing global teams to be selected among the top 3 to compete in the World Championship at Microsoft Build. They won the grand prize of USD 100,000, a mentorship session with Microsoft's Chairman and CEO, Satya Nadella, and Level 2 access to Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub.

They faced winning teams from the Americas and Asia regions; Eupnea from the United States of America, and CS-M Tool from Thailand, respectively. TAWI, the winning solution, seeks to help people with Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) communicate more easily. It leverages speech recognition tools from Azure Cognitive Services and OpenAl Whisper to enhance speech, reduce background noise, and transcribe speech to text in realtime.



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Department of Languages and Literature awards certificates of completion in their short course programs

> By Quin Awuor



The graduating cohort included several members of staff and faculty who studied various courses including Kenya Sign Language (KSL), Swahili, English Writing Intensive, Spanish, Chinese, and French. Photo: Jemima Oloo

n Friday, May 19, 2023, the Department of Languages and Literature in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at USIU-Africa ccelebrated the achievements of over 30 students from Cohort 1 and 2 of their short courses. The Department awarded certificates of completion to these students who had completed various language courses, including Kenya Sign Language (KSL), Swahili, English Writing Intensive, Spanish, Chinese, and French.

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Team TAWI: Syntiche Musawu, Zakariya Hussein, Muna Numan Said and John Onsongo Mabeya are the reigning Microsoft Imagine Cup World Champions. Photo: Kahiro Muturi

The Network of Impact Evaluation Research in Africa (NIERA) hosts workshop to discuss the state of the Creative economy

By Jemima Oloo



County Executive Committee Member Public Service, Administration, Youth, Gender, Social Service and Sports, Mombasa County Mr. Kenneth Ambani during the event, where he shared his experiences in the Kenyan creative industry. Photo: Wanza Emelda

The Network of Impact Evaluation Research in Africa held a stakeholders' workshop program on Wednesday to address the state of the orange economy in Kenya.

The convening drew participants from the national and county governments, institutions of higher learning, private sector practitioners and the youth among others.

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May 20 - 26, 2023

The Criminal Justice Club attends the International Justice Symposium

> By Millicent Mudiwa



Ms. Terry Odhiambo, (seated), a faculty member in the Criminal Justice Department and patron of the Criminal Justice Studies Club (CJS Club) with the club members during the International Justice Symposium held recently in Nairobi, Kenya. Photo: Courtesy

n May 19,2023, the Criminal Justice Club had the privilege of attending the International Justice Symposium organized by the Wayamo Foundation and the Africa Group for Justice and Accountability (AGJA) in partnership with the Graduate School of Media from Aga Khan University.

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Environmental Society Club hosts tree planting initiative in Githogoro

By CTW Team



The Vice Chancellor plants a tree with the assistance of the Senior Chief, Mr. Barnabas Masakhalia. Photo: Nosipho Bilha

ast Saturday, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Margee Ensign joined the Environmental Society Club (ENSO) in a tree planting initiative at the Githogoro Slums in Nairobi. The tree planting initiative aimed at addressing deforestation and limited access to green spaces in the Githogoro community.

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Department of Psychology hosts public lecture on developmental changes during adolescence

> By Stella Nyagwencha and Jemima Oloo



The presenters (centre) pose with faculty from the Department of Psychology. Photo: Jemima Oloo

n Tuesday, May 23, the Department of Psychology hosted a public lecture titled 'A critical phase: The importance of developmental changes during adolescence and intervention strategies for guiding the way'. The lecture was presented by Dr. Marko Luftenegger, Associate Professor of Psychology, University of Vienna and Joy Muth from the Center for Teacher Education at the University of Vienna.

Department of Media and Communications hosts the Sounds of Freedom Exhibition

> By Jemima Oloo



Participants listen to the audio film during the event. Photo: Jemima Oloo

n Tuesday, May 24, the Department of Media and Communications hosted the Sounds of Freedom Exhibition, a creation of Mũtana Wanjira, an alumnus of the B.A Journalism program (Class of 2015).

The exhibition was a unique audio film series that hoped to bring Kenyans closer to their history by welcoming them to an immersive experience that allows them to come face to face with the realities of what it took to liberate Kenya from British imperialism.

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May 20 - 26, 2023 CAMPUS THIS VEEK

Safaricom to launch a technical immersion program on campus

BUILD BY SAFARICOM

Safaricom Engineering Community in collaboration with USIU-Africa

Get to know the 10 on demand digital skill sets such as IOT, 5G, Fintcech & Cloud computing

🛗 26th May 2023

💇 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

LT 7, School of Humanities & Social Sciences



> By Patrick Wamuyu

The Safaricom Engineering Community – Performance Engineering Chapter will be hosting a one-month Accelerate program at USIU-Africa from Friday, May 19 to Friday, June 9,2023. Safaricom's technical immersion program will be on DevSecOps, Chaos Engineering, and Site Reliability Engineering (SRE). These fields have become essential for any organization that wants to provide reliable and secure services to its clients. By hosting this technical immersion at USIU-Africa, Safaricom seeks to prepare USIU-Africa students to meet the demands of the industry and help them understand how DevSecOps, Chaos Engineering, and Site Reliability Engineering (SRE) can be incorporated into their future careers.

During the one-month immersion, Safaricom will provide hands-on training and real-world scenarios, giving students a chance to apply the concepts they learn in a practical setting. They Safaricom Engineering Community will also share their industry experience and insights, which will give the students a glimpse into the day-to-day life of a DevSecOps engineer, Chaos Engineer, and SRE.

Should you want to be part of the program, register and share your CV with Sebastian Opiyo at the Hardware Lab. Physical mentorship meetings will be held on May 26 and June 2 from 10:00 pm- 2:00 pm.

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The Alumni Relations Office hosts the University of Cape Town for a benchmarking exercise

> By Esther Lihavi



The Principal Alumni Relations Officer, Mr. Michael Kisilu presents Mr. Lu Ntenya with a gift following the benchmarking exercise. Photo: Esther Lihavi

The Principal Alumni Relations Officer, Mr. Michael Kisilu presents Mr. Lu Ntenya with a gift following the benchmarking exercise. The event was attended by members of the USIU-Africa fundraising team, Mr. Eannes Ongus and Mr. Solomon Mainye. Ms. Linet Aguko, the Director of the MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program at USIU-Africa, and Ms. Eunice Madzo, the Program Coordinator of the Transitions Office, also graced the occasion.

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Exploring Higher Education: Braeside School Students Immerse Themselves in University Life

By CTW Team



Photo: Marion Otieno

A ccompanied by their teacher, a group of students from Braeside School embarked on a campus visit on Thursday, May 25, to gain firsthand knowledge about USIU-Africa. The purpose of their visit was to deepen their understanding of the institution, experience its vibrant community, diverse culture, and state-of-the-art facilities, while also inquiring about the range of courses available. The students expressed a keen interest in pursuing courses related to IT, Finance, and Pharmacy.

May 20 - 26, 2023

A Moment of Appreciation: Prof. Ensign Extends Gratitude to Dr. Muchara for Chairing the Faculty Council > By CTW Team



The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ensign thanking Dr. Muchara as he completes his term as Faculty Council Chair during a meeting on Friday, May 19, 2023. Photo: Courtesy



Alumni Profile: Felix Yvan Rugwizangoga, Chief Strategy Officer - Rwanda Green Fund

> By the Alumni Relations Office

elix Yvan Rugwizangoga is a Chief Strategy Officer at the Rwanda Green Fund. The Rwanda Green Fund aims to support poverty reduction and sustainable wealth creation by providing strategic financing that accelerates Rwanda's commitment to building a strong climate resilient and green economy.



Felix graduated in 2014 with a Bachelor's degree (Cum Laude) in International Business Administration. Photo: Felix Yvan Rugwizangoga

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SPORTS UPDATES > By Shyat Lemoshira



The USIU-Africa Tigers reaffirming themselves in an extra-time timeout session as they faced ABSA in the KBNL playoffs. Photo: Emelda Wanza

BASKETBALL

he Tigers, the USIU-Africa basketball men's team encounter with the

ABSA Group team was an intense match, which necessitated the inclusion of extra time. The playoff match happened on Saturday, May 20 at 6pm in Nyayo Stadium. The Tigers regrouped and sank a flurry of three-pointers to win the game 93-86. The basketball ladies' team, the USIU-Africa Flames also registered a win during their match against Strathmore University Swords, who they beat 55-39, securing themselves a slot in the finals.

The Tigers will face Strathmore Snipers in the KBNL playoff finals on Friday, May 26 at 6pm, Saturday, May 27 at 4pm and Sunday, May 28 at 4pm. The Flames will play against Zetech Development on Saturday, May 27 at 2pm and Sunday, May 28 at 12pm.

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For comments, submissions and queries, please contact the Marketing and Communications Department on **pr@usiu.ac.ke** or on **0730 116 237 /307 /420 /585 /562**