

JULY 17-23, 2021

# CAMPUS This Week

## The Carnegie Africa Diaspora Fellowship Program hosts virtual workshops on Online Pedagogy

> By Prof. Onesimus Otieno



The Carnegie Africa Diaspora Fellowship Program, in collaboration with USIU-Africa and University of Eastern Africa, Baraton has been holding virtual workshops on Online Pedagogy every Tuesday and Thursday beginning on July 8, 2021, with the trainings expected to go on until the end of the month. The trainings are being carried out by selected fellows from the Carnegie Program, including the following:

Dr. Joselyn Chenane Nkogo, an Assistant Professor of Assistant Professor at the School of Criminology and Justice Studies in the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. She is hosted by Dr. Simeon Sungi and she will be developing a new Master's degree in Criminal and Transitional Justice.

Dr. Onesimus Otieno, a Professor Biological Sciences at Oakwood University. He is jointly hosted jointly by Dr. Phillip Machoka, Director, USIU Online and Dr. Phillip Maiyo, the Vice Chancellor at UEAB. His project is to develop capacity for online teaching and learning at both institutions.

[Read more](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Conference: Enhancing access to justice in the criminal justice system During a Global Pandemic**

Organizers: Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice

Thursday, July 29 to Friday, July 30, 2021

## The School of Humanities and Social Sciences hosts webinar on Human Rights and the COVID-19 pandemic

> By Prof. Henry Wambui

The [School of Humanities and Social Sciences](#) recently hosted Prof. Henry Wambui, visiting Carnegie Diaspora Fellow from the University of Central Missouri, U.S.A in a public webinar titled *"Human Rights and the Covid-19 Pandemic: An Impact Analysis."*

The webinar, which was held on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, was initiated by the International Relations Department at USIU-Africa and was moderated by Dr. Njoki Wamae from the IR Department. The event started with opening remarks from Prof. Martin Njoroge, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and was attended by faculty, staff members and students at USIU-Africa, as well as participants from other academic and non-academic institutions in Kenya.

In his welcoming remarks, the Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Prof. Martin Njoroge, thanked Prof. Wambui for the timely presentation and noted the relevance of the webinar to the key goal of enhancing both faculty and students research here at USIU-Africa.

Prof. Njoroge further expressed his appreciation for the role that Carnegie Diaspora fellows play at enhancing quality education at USIU-Africa adding that Prof. Wambui's presentation was a fitting example of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and indeed the University's push to achieve the core mandates of teaching and learning.

Prof. Wambui is a tenured Professor of Political Science at the University of Central Missouri U.S.A. His teaching and research expertise is in the areas of 'international development', 'comparative politics', and 'human rights and democratization in developing countries.' Recent research has focused on comparative democratization and governance in developing countries. Other research has focused on strategies for poverty alleviation and economic growth and public policy formulation with a special focus on the issues surrounding the response to pandemics and the impact on human rights across the world.

[Read more](#)

## Human Rights and the COVID-19 Pandemic: An Impact Analysis.



### Prof. Henry Wambui

Professor of Political Science,  
University of Central Missouri, U.S.A

Wednesday, July 14, 2021  
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

ZOOM LINK:

<https://bit.ly/2UMWFKG>

## The New School of Humanities and Social Sciences building at USIU-Africa

> By CTW Team | Photos by Edson Macharia



The new building complex will double the existing classroom capacity as it will accommodate 1,500 students at a time.

The new School of Humanities and Social Sciences building will go a long way in enhancing humanities education programs, as well as serving as a research and response lab. It provides classroom space, laboratory teaching and research facilities, office areas, meeting rooms and auditorium lecture rooms. It is located within the academic zone in line with the USIU-Africa master plan. The location is adjacent to the Science Centre and sports fields, and is easily accessed from Gate B. The building was constructed at a cost of approximately KShs. 1.4 billion, and was handed over to the University on June 30, 2021.

The new School of Humanities and Social Sciences building will enhance the humanities education programs, as well as serve as a research and response lab. It provides classroom space, laboratory teaching and research facilities, office areas, meeting rooms and auditorium lecture rooms. Fourteen flexible meeting rooms are set up for modern teaching methods with the latest audio-visual equipment. It also features a covered terrace and glazed façade.

The building design facilitates social learning by creating spaces where students can easily connect and collaborate. The new complex

will double the existing classroom capacity as it will accommodate 1,500 students at a time. Occupation of the building will begin in August (Week 14).

The key features of this building are: -

- 25 Classrooms
- 64 Faculty Offices
- 1 Psychology Lab
- 1 Language Lab
- 1 Forensic Lab
- 1 ICT Lab
- 2 Auditorium/Moot Courts with a seating capacity of 340 people
- 1 Crime Scene Simulation House (3 bedrooms self-contained)
- 18 Breakaway Student Pods to enhance interactive learning.
- Atrium on the ground floor with garden seating capacity for 40 people. The seating areas are interconnected with cobble stone footpaths.
- Polycarbonate covered roof to allow natural lighting to the Atrium.
- Roof top with conference/meeting rooms, open terrace and lounge complete with kitchen
- Food Court with 3 Kitchens with a sitting capacity of 160 people
- Parking space for 206 Vehicles



This is a six-storey building including a basement, and covers a plinth area of 13,500 square meters.

The 25 smart classrooms, with a seating capacity of 60 during regular session and about 35 students with social distancing, are a welcome addition to the instruction space at USIU-Africa. This will expand the institution's ability to return to face-to-face learning during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as to develop and implement more market driven degree programs. Most important, the smart classrooms will enhance the quality of delivery by instructors and learning by students.



The building has both regular and tiered classrooms, with a seating capacity of 60 during regular session and about 35 students to achieve social distancing.

The numerous post-modern laboratories housed in the building will expand the available space in the university for practical learning.

i) The Psychology Lab is a state-of-the-art and modern 21st century facility for the practice of modern day psychology. It will serve as an observation room, individual and group therapy room and as a room for practical training. The lab is designed in such a way that students and faculty will be able to conduct all aspects of clinical sessions for practicum and internship and associated research. The lab has rooms for child therapy, family therapy, individual and group therapy, psychological assessment, video recording, role plays and simulations that are part of the training requirements for psychology graduates and doctoral students. The rooms are fitted with one-way mirrors to ensure that supervision is adequately provided to the students by faculty during ongoing sessions.

Lab activities will enhance the quality of teaching and learning by linking theory and practice; clinical research and practice through psychological assessments, practicum and internship; realization of the program learning outcomes that are clinical in nature and telehealth, which is currently the preferred mode for providing behavioral and mental health services. Upon graduation, USIU-Africa Psychology students will have been empowered with employability skills for career progression and practice that will see them address mental and behavioral issues in the country, region and globally.

ii) The Language Laboratory, stocked with modern equipment, will improve the teaching of languages by infusing a practical component in the learning of English and foreign languages. It will provide a complete tool designed for students to learn a language in person through total linguistic immersion. This will develop students' communication skills, build confidence in learners and help to improve pronunciation especially in foreign languages.

iii) The Forensic Laboratory will enable students to acquire hands-on training in the use of forensic analysis to solve cold cases and other cases. It will make it possible for them to learn to conduct DNA, fingerprint, tire-tracks and other such evidence analysis in order to know what crime was committed and who committed it. This kind of training will give Criminal Justice Studies graduates from USIU-Africa an edge over their counter-parts in the job market. The facility can also be used (on a borrowed capacity) by other public agencies to process crime evidence for a fee, which will bring the needed revenue to the university.

iv) The IT Lab will increase the opportunities for computing for students while on campus as well as boost access to high-speed internet.

The two (2) Auditoriums with a seating capacity of 106 each will serve as important venues for conferences and break out rooms during national and international conferences. One of the auditoriums will double up as a Moot Court for Criminal Justice students. A Moot Court is a replica of a real courtroom where legal proceedings and trials take place. It will not only facilitate the training of students to think creatively and answer questions convincingly, both orally and in writing, but also equip students with networking skills, research and writing skills, teamwork skills as well as boost their self-confidence.

The Crime Scene House at the building will enrich learning for Criminal Justice Studies students by making it possible for them to enact



**A Moot Court is a replica of a real courtroom where legal proceedings and trials take place. It will be used primarily by Criminal Justice students.**

crime scenes. It will provide learners with valuable training in crime scene investigation, critical skills in site survey, documentation and reconstruction, latent fingerprints, and footwear impression evidence. The house could also be used for in-service short course training for law enforcement officers and investigators. An interrogation room provided within the new Crime Scene House and equipped with a small table and a couple of chairs will facilitate the criminal justice program to train students, through simulation sessions on how to interrogate suspects of crime.

The building is currently open to view. To visit the building, please reach out to the Operations Department and schedule a visit through your Dean/ Department Head/ Division Head. Ensure that you keep time and arrive early on the allocated day and time.



**The 24 break-out rooms with a seating capacity of six persons each will provide additional suitable space for group studying and discussions among students. The building also has an Executive Boardroom to host meetings with large numbers of people.**



**The numerous post-modern laboratories housed in the building will expand the available space in the university for practical learning.**