

THE DAYSTAR UNIVERSITY WEEKLY

infospot

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Daystar Hosts NTV Town Hall Debate



Town Hall meeting panel listen keenly as Larry Madowo takes a question from the audience. L - R Larry Madowo, Prof Mbithi, Dr. Wachira, Prof Some and Mr Aduda

On Wednesday February 22, 2017, DAC auditorium was filled to capacity as students, faculty and staff from Daystar University, University of Nairobi and representatives of Commission for University Education came together to discuss the state of university education in Kenya.

The Town Hall discussion hosted by NTV anchor Larry Madowo, who is also a Daystar Alumnus was led by a panel of four consisting of Daystar University Vice-chancellor Dr. Timothy Wachira, University of Nairobi Vice-chancellor Prof. Peter Mbithi, the CEO - Commission for University Education, Prof. David Some, and Education Analyst Mr. David Aduda. The issues discussed centered on the recently released Quality Audit of the Universities report, the future of parallel programmes and pre-university programmes, among other things.

On the claim by some media houses that the University of Nairobi and Daystar University are offering fake degrees, Prof Some clarified that it was a false allegation. He went on to express his

disappointment with the credibility of some media outlets saying that he was concerned that the media can deceive Kenyans to that magnitude. "We hope the regulators will come and bail us out," said Prof Some. As he sought to clarify the issue of graduating students early Prof Some explained that some universities like Daystar count the instructional hours as opposed to the calendar year, and as long as the student has covered all the required credit hours, such a student is ready to graduate. Dr. Wachira further explained that some students who have high GPA are able to take more credit hours in a semester; this enabling them to complete their programme earlier. "Quality Audit is necessary for the universities to meet standards set by the Commission for University Education," stressed Dr. Wachira.

"Daystar University was established not only to grant degrees, but we have a commitment first and foremost to God and to the Nation thus, it is unfair to paint us unethical," said Dr. Wachira, as he expressed his disappointment with the media. His concerns were echoed by Sr. Prof A. L. Lando, Senior Lecturer School of

Communication Language and Performing Arts, who called on the media to be responsible and objective in their reporting. "There is confusion today in the country because media misrepresented what was released by the Commission," said Prof Lando, further calling on the media to report what is legitimate and factual. Prof. Some also appealed to the media not to publish or print any content that they are not sure of. On the future of parallel education, Prof. Mbithi assured stakeholders that University of Nairobi would continue to admit qualified people from around the globe.

Education Analyst Mr. David Aduda in his response to the accusation labeled on the media was quick to exonerate Nation Media Group saying that Nation Media Group was not part of those

who reported falsehood. Echoing the earlier speakers he stressed on the need to be factual and having a balanced reporting. "Journalism is not about sensitization of the news; it is about telling the truth. Falsehood smears the entire media fraternity and NTV does not condone such reporting," said Mr. Aduda.

Faculty and students from Daystar and University of Nairobi asked questions regarding higher education and in unison condemned the recent reporting that defamed their universities.

Many thanks to all who participated through their attendance or on social media. This was a true depiction of our united front. #WeareOne



Part of the audience during the Live Broadcast of the NTV Town hall debate on the State of University Education in Kenya.

Investigative Journalism Team Shines



Top Story Investigative Competition team, Mary Chumbow, Joseph Nduti and Collins Orono together with their mentor Dr. Clayton Peel moments before the announcement of results

Daystar's investigative journalism team has made it to the second round of the ongoing Top Story inter-universities challenge organized by the Africa on Air media consultancy group.

With 20 universities from all over the country participating in the first round at Brackenhurst Hotel in Limuru, the Daystar team with Mary Chumbow, Joseph Nduti and Collins Orono emerged among the 16 teams that made it through to the next round. Eliminated were Laikipia University, Nairobi Institute of Business Studies, Zetech University, and Kenya Methodist University team. The Daystar team begins their next assignment on Tuesday 28th February 2017, at the end of the second round eight teams will be selected for a further round of multi-media engagements.

The top finishing university will walk away with prizes which include: one week sponsored trip to London and visits to BBC and Sky Sports studios.

"The team that will tell the best story among the 16 universities will get a full gear media kit, a one week trip

to London and two months paid internship," Top Story principal Joseph Warungu affirmed.

Prior to elimination day, the 20 universities were required to attend master classes that were taught by media experts from within and outside Kenya. Team members also participated in outdoor activities and ultimately came up with an investigative article which constituted 70 percent of the final mark. The outdoor activities tested team work and cooperation between the different teams and constituted 30 percent of the final mark.

Laikipia University which was among the teams that were eliminated agreed that poor planning and lack of team work reduced their stakes to proceed to the final round. "This has not come as a surprise to us. Lack of coordination and weak team spirit has really contributed to our poor performance," Laikipia University contestant.

The remaining teams will now be put in pairs of two and will be sent to various counties across the country where they will be expected to come up with an investigative story within 24 hours after a thorough investigation.

Shortly after being given the green light to proceed to the next stage, Daystar University team leader Ms. Mary Chumbow confidently confirmed that London was the team's destination. "We are happy for making it through the first round. We are now going to strategize and come up with new techniques that will give us nothing but victory when we return for round two," she said.

The competition aims at producing journalists with diverse skills comparable with world standards. Kindly continue to pray for the team to succeed. For more on this, please read the next issue of Infospot.

Business Incubation Centre Established



Vice-Chancellor Dr. Timothy Wachira (left) being briefed by Ray Bareth (right) before announcing the winners of the Venture Village, Business Accelerator, at the Mocarch Hotel. Looking on is the Dean, School of Business & Economics, Mr. Evans Amata.

Daystar University played host to the 2017 Business Accelerator Finale which was held at The Monarch Hotel, Nairobi on February 18, 2017. This was as a result of an MOU which was signed on 12th January 2017, focusing on incubation of Small and Medium businesses.

After the 10 weeks of coaching by their business mentors, the six founders, who had been selected from over 10,000 projects, were given opportunity to pitch their business ideas to a panel of five judges, for funding and prize money. The panel of judges consisted of our very own Dean School of Business and Economics Mr. Evans Amata, Eric Rosell from Agora enterprises, and Matt Martin.

Speaking at the closing ceremony the Vice-chancellor, Dr. Timothy Wachira, lauded the Venture saying that Daystar endeavors to walk this journey not because there are no other business incubations, but because Daystar wants business incubator that represents Christian principles, because that is what Daystar stands for. He went on to present the awards the three winners.

The first prize went to Prisca Muyodi whose mentor was Mercy Njagi, a Daystar faculty. She took home a cash award of USD 5,000. The first runners-up was EPTF represented by Mary Kamore, Christine Wakesho and Olive Branch, whose team was awarded USD 3,000, while the third prize went to a Daystar MBA student, Christian Butake, who pocketed USD 2,000.

Dr. Samuel Muriithi, Senior Lecturer Daystar University spoke on the importance of culture and communication in the incubation of a new business. "Kingdom business honors God, it is business done with character, has integrity and is practiced with honesty," he said. He went on to give characteristics of Kingdom business which are:

1. Understanding God's purpose - Chronicles 29:11
2. Innovativeness and creativity – Deuteronomy 28:13
3. Mark of excellence – Ecclesiastes 2:10
4. Good stewardship

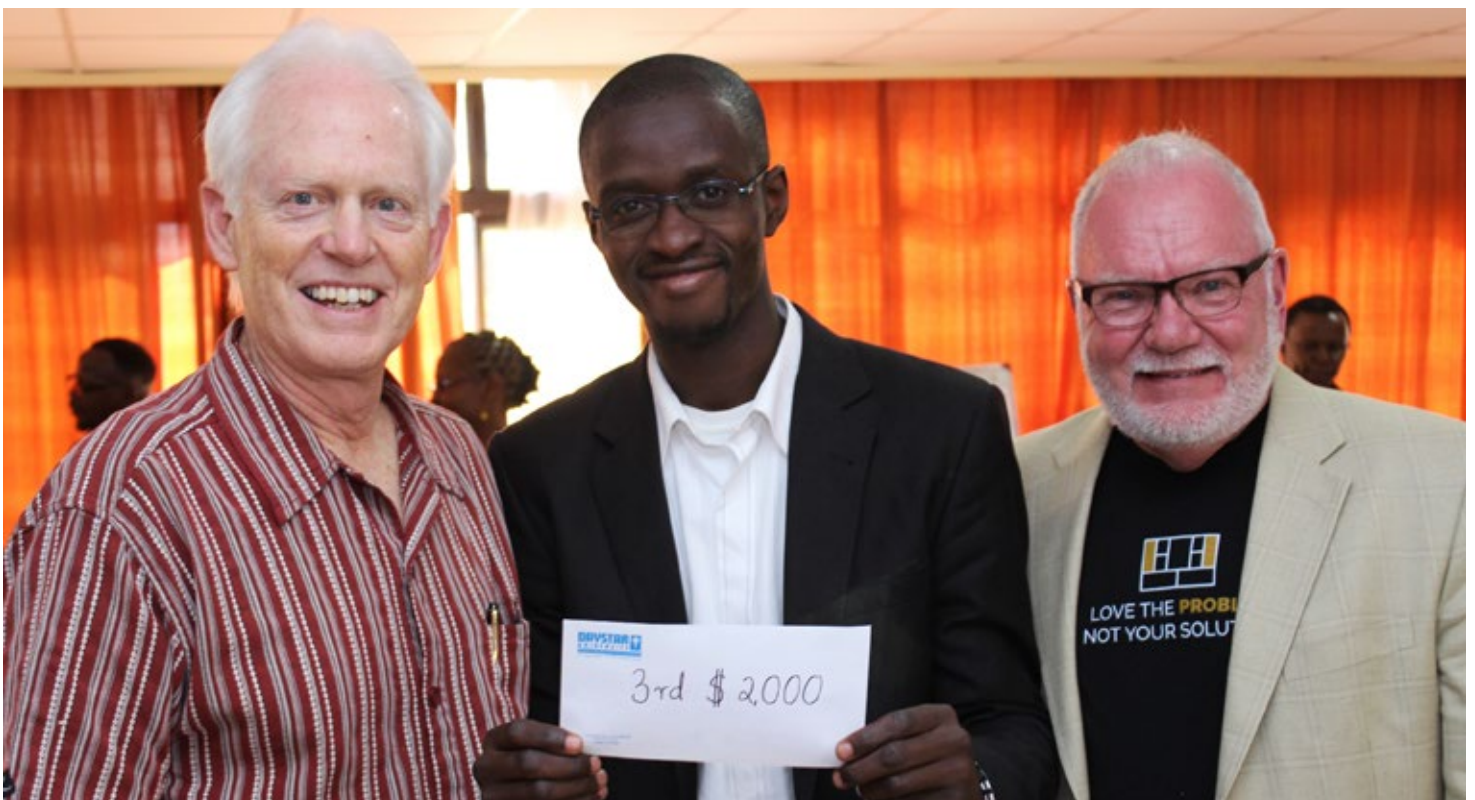
"Ten weeks ago we launched the Venture Village, today I am excited that we are closing the exercise with great success and many lessons learned," said Mr. Evans Amata, Dean School of Business and Economics. He appreciated the mentors who gave their time and selflessly walked with the founders for ten weeks. Mr. Amata further lauded the founders saying that the most important people in the Venture Village were the founder. "We have worked well with them and in the 10 weeks we have learnt a lot from each other" he revealed. Daystar University faculty in the School of Business and Economic were involved in selecting the teams, training, mentoring and judging the presentations. The recorded presentations will be sent to selected investors in the USA for possible funding.

Speaking to Infospot, the CEO of Agora Ray Barreth revealed that the idea behind the Venture Village is to enable businesses use the best world-class business principles, combined with strong faith in God and understanding what it means to be God's entrepreneurs.

The Venture Village is a dynamic faith-based entrepreneurial accelerator in Nairobi which is designed to provide "best-in-class" preparation and funding for mission entrepreneurs so their likelihood of successfully launching and scaling businesses is greatly enhanced. The accelerator has been created through a partnership with Daystar University, Agora Enterprises, NaVenture and Ash Maurya's LeanStack Inc.

Its vision, values and mission are based on growth of young entrepreneurs, mentoring in leadership, training in lean principles and open funding access, providing ongoing support to ensure that they and their teams develop the skill set and resources to succeed in building businesses which reflect the image of God. The futuristic plan is to succeed by creating sustainable solutions to their customer's most challenging obstacles.

Agora has interests in Thailand, China, Nepal, India and now Africa-Kenya.



Daystar University student Christian Butake, displays his award of \$2000 at the Venture Village. He is flanked by Matt Martin (left) and Ray Barreth (right)

Nigerian Author Graces Daystar

A number of students and lecturers from the School of Communication, Languages and Performing Arts, had the privilege to interact with Elnathan John on 17th February 2017. Elnathan is renowned lawyer, novelist, satirist and a writer from Nigeria. The team was excited and had a great time as they got the opportunity to ask the author questions in regards to his book "Born On a Tuesday". In this fiction, he wrote a story on war, religion and love.

From one of the questions raised, 'was the story was from experience?' Elnathan answered that 'no one owns experience; one can only write a story based on

someone else's experience and one needs to respect the story.' He further says that most of the authors write a story that they are out of, which also means they need to do adequate research on their subject before writing. Participants were glad to have met a renowned author which not many people get opportunity to do. Dr. Wandia, HoD School of Communication, Languages and performing arts thanked all who attended before they shared refreshments in an interactive forum, as those present had a chance to purchase the book and have it autographed.



Elnathan Author of 'Born On a Tuesday' signs an autograph for one of the participant

DUSA Market Debuts in Athi River Campus



Students engaging in trade during the DUSA Market Day

The Daystar University Student Association (DUSA) Projects Committee held the inaugural 'DUSA Market' on Tuesday 21st February 2017 at the DUSA Park, Athi River Campus. The DUSA Projects Committee Chairperson Moses Sichach speaking to Infospot said the "DUSA Market" initiative was the ad-hoc committee's flagship project that aimed at providing student entrepreneurs a platform for exposure to a literal market situation.

The DUSA Park central area was a bee-hive of activity, with well branded tents and the enclave periphery bordered with well-dressed desks. Students flocked around tables to purchase snacks and other ready-to-eat products. Other items on sale included groceries, jewelry, clothes and shoes.

The one-day event attracted 13 entrepreneurs; seven Athi River Campus students, one from Nairobi Campus and four from outside Daystar.



IN OTHER NEWS



MASTER COMMUNICATORS WELFARE ASSOCIATION (MCWA)

Phone No.: 0702390922 Website: www.mcwa-kenya.com

Scholarship! Scholarship! Scholarship!

The Master Communicators Welfare Association (MCWA) is now receiving applications for 2017 scholarships.

APPLICATION CONDITIONS

The applicant MUST BE: -

1. An MA communication student currently pursuing studies at Daystar University;
2. Enrolled for the January 2017 semester - Please email current invoice to info@mcwa-kenya.com and copy alando@daystar.ac.ke
3. At least on their second semester of study – Please email current academic transcript.
4. Have a minimum Cumulative GPA of 3.00 - Please email current academic transcript.
5. The deadline for receiving applications is Friday 10th March 2017

The 4th MCWA scholarship(s) will be awarded on 14th March 2017

Please Contribute!

Donations can be made via Mpesa OR direct Bank Deposit.

MPESA LINE: 0702 390 922

BANK: Cooperative Bank of Kenya
Branch - China Center

A/C Name: Master Communicators
Welfare Association

A/C No: 01134696118300

SHSS Collaborates with Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church

A team from Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church: Paula Greer-Custer, Jim Custer, Elizabeth Amory, Wylie McCall, Christopher Sarkowski, and Russel Keller visited Daystar University through the School of Human and Social Sciences office.

They came to interact with the implementers of the Empowered to Lead Program (E2L) and their main

activity was visiting one of the students supported by this initiative in Kitale namely, Mr. Ezekiel Chebunde.

Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church also gives scholarships to Daystar students and on Monday 20th February, they had a chance to meet with the students. In addition, they come to meet with the University leadership to discuss the next phase of their partnership.

Essay Competition Winners

The Communication Department is co-hosting an event with Fahamu on Monday February 27th from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Professor PLO Lumumba is our esteemed guest at the prize giving ceremony for those who participated in the News Writing Competition that closed on 21st February.

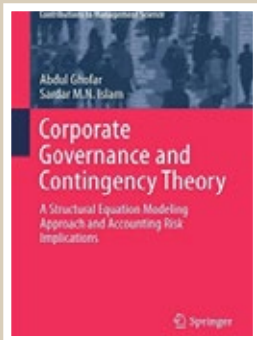
LIBRARY UPDATES

Online E-books available on Corporate Governance



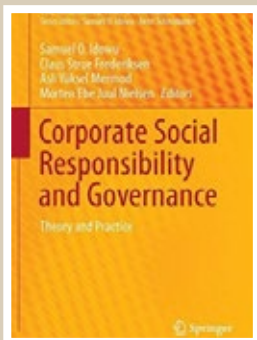
Corporate Governance in Africa: Assessing Implementation and Ethical Perspectives 1st ed. 2016
Edition by Kerry E. Howell (Editor), M. Karim Sorour

Using a range of case-studies, this book analyzes corporate governance relationships between several African countries and the international community, providing an ethical assessment of issues surrounding globalization and adherence to external governance mechanisms. Employing a methodological approach, Corporate Governance in Africa critiques occidental perspectives of corporate governance in relation to the needs of separate states, and the contradictions that arise when local cultures are not taken in to consideration. To read this book, click: <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1057/978-1-137-56700-0>



Corporate Governance and Contingency Theory: A Structural Equation Modeling Approach and Accounting Risk Implications (Contributions to Management Science) 2015th Edition by Abdul Ghofar , Sardar M.N. Islam.

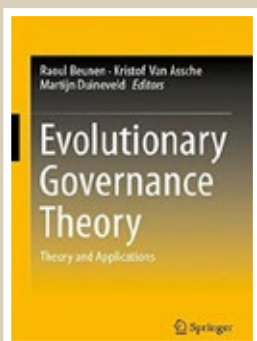
This book analyzes the determinants and effectiveness of corporate governance in an integrated model drawing on contingency theory and employing structural equation modeling (SEM). Business competition as an environmental factor and strategy as an organizational factor are important determinants of corporate governance, while organizational performance and earnings quality are two dimensions of its effectiveness. Link: <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-10996-1>



Corporate Social Responsibility and Governance: Theory and Practice (CSR, Sustainability, Ethics & Governance) 2015th Edition by Samuel O. Idowu (Editor), Claus Strue Frederiksen (Editor), Asli Yüksel Mermod (Editor), Morten Ebe Jul Nielsen (Editor)

This book deals with the role of international standards for corporate governance in the context of corporate social responsibility. Based on the fundamentals of moral theory, the book examines governance and CSR in general, addressing questions such as: Is "good governance" not affected by moral concerns? How do the principles and practices of CSR standards adhere to or conflict with insights from business ethics and moral theory? To what extent do the standards and governance models provide normative guidance? Do the standards and governance guidelines provide an adequate means of benchmarking and auditing? Are these standards a help or a hindrance to stakeholder engagement and transparency?

Link: <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-10909-1>



Evolutionary Governance Theory: Theory and Applications 2015th Edition
by Raoul Beunen (Editor), Kristof Van Assche (Editor), Martijn Duineveld (Editor)

This volume presents empirical studies and theoretical reflections on Evolutionary Governance Theory (EGT), its most important concepts and their interrelations. As a novel theory of governance, EGT understands governance as radically evolutionary, which implies that all elements of governance are subject to evolution, that these elements co-evolve and that many of them are the product of governance itself. Through this book we learn how communities understand themselves and their environment and why they create the complex structures and processes we analyze as governance paths. Authors from different disciplines develop the EGT framework further and apply it to a wide range networks of power, governance of agricultural resources etc. Link: <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-12274-8>



Weekly Inspiration

When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don't adjust the goals, adjust the action steps.

- Confucius -

Chapel Diary

SEMESTER THEME: SEXUAL PURITY #THESEXAPP

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9)

Athi River Campus (ARC)

Tuesday February 28th, 2017

Topic: Virginitly Is Cool

Speaker: Dr. James Karau

Thursday March 2nd, 2017

Small Group Bible Study

Sunday March 5th, 2017

Topic: Soul ties

Speaker: Pastor. James Waitbaka

Valley Road Campus (VRC)

Tuesday February 28th, 2017

Topic: Sex God's Way

Speaker: Vice Chancellor, Dr. Timothy Wachira

Thursday March 2nd, 2017

Small Group Bible Study

Friday March 3rd, 2017

Topic: Status: Open Relationships

Speaker: Rev. Izza Kalle

Transport Notice To and From Athi River Campus

To Athi River campus students:

From Monday 27th February 2017, ALL students who are using the Metro-trans buses, from Athi river to Nairobi or vice-versa, will be required to make an early booking prior to their travel. This will help in the arrangement for buses and reduce time wastage during boarding times. The booking can be done as early as a week before the day of travel.

ALL bookings will be conducted at the bus park and each student will receive a receipt upon booking. The ticket will have to be shown on the day of travel. In addition, there will be an 11:00am bus leaving Athi-River to Nairobi, from Tuesday to Friday.