



Riara 
 University
 nurturing innovators

NEWS

7TH ISSUE
 DECEMBER
 2018

The Riara University Newsletter



It's Christmas Time!

Christmas is forever, not for just one day;
 For loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away;
 Like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf;
 The good you do for others, is good you do yourself.

-Norman W. Books

Merry Christmas
 AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Kistrech International

The Riara University Department of International Relations and Diplomacy was privileged to host the Kistrech International Poetry Festival in October. This festival is one of the biggest literary festivals in Africa, featuring poetry, music, spoken- word and oral poetry and is held in collaboration with the Embassy of Israel. It hosts over 40 countries globally and has evolved into a multi-national and multi cultural festival. The Deputy Ambassador of Israel, Mr. Eyal David was the chief guest of the event. Also in attendance was Mr. The founder of the festival Dr. Christopher Okemwa. This was a great day of embracing diverse cultures as well as nurturing talent in a wide variety of cultural and artistic expressions through national, international and institutional collaboration. Many thanks to all students from RU who participated in this fun-filled event.



Various artistes make presentations at the Festival.



Dr. Francis Onditi (2nd left), HOD Department of International Relations & Diplomacy together with the Deputy Ambassador of Israel, Mr. Eyal David (Extreme right) and other guests during the event.



Poets, Musician Artists, Spoken word artists, Staff, Students together with our participants in a group photo.



RU in Guangdong!

Riara University would like to celebrate the appointment of Prof. Kinoti as the Vice Chairman of the “Belt and Road” African Studies Alliance during the Inaugural Conference of the International Association for African Studies whose theme was, “African Industrialization and China” . This conference also launched the First Session of Academic Seminar that was held at the Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, Guangzhou, China. The main goal of this conference was to initiate the establishment of an International Association for African Studies.

Riara University was among the 10 institutes globally that were invited to join the association as a co-initiator to promote the foundation of an interdisciplinary international exchange platform, where all stakeholders are able to share resources, explore knowledge, disseminate technology and enhance understanding. Being cognizant of the fact that most African countries attained their independence in the late 20th Century, the continent has struggled with issues of poverty, poor governance and conflict. This Conference shares greatly in the hope of betterment of the African Continent by demystifying Africa as a “dark continent.”

Once Again Riara University would like to congratulate Prof. Abel Kinoti for being an Ambassador of RU and most of all on his Appointment!

Hot Topics in Investment Arbitration Forum

The Riara Law School hosted the Africa International Legal Awareness (AILA) Forum. AILA is a non-profit making organization that seeks to ensure Africans are better placed to participate effectively in the international legal community. This year’s forum was held in association with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators- Kenya.

Keynote addresses were made by the Former Attorney General - Prof. Githu Muigai, Calvin Nyachoti, Chairman of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Makane Moïse Mbengue - Professor of International Law, University of Geneva, Dr. Rukia Baruti - Secretary General, African Arbitration Association and Tafadzwa Pasipanodva - Partner, Foley Hoag’s International litigation and Arbitration Practice among others.

AILA is authorized by the Solicitors Regulation Authority in England and Wales as an external Continuing Professional Development provider. It organizes and runs a series of training workshops and other exchanges of knowledge in African countries and abroad. Its flagship program is a one-week training programme on Investment Treaty Law and Arbitration delivered in London.



Kalasha Awards

The University congratulates Bobby Awuor Junior, Collins Wachira and Faiza Mohammed from the Department of Multimedia Journalism for successfully producing films that were nominated for **Kalasha International Film & TV Awards 2018 & The 72hr African Film Series Challenge**. Kalasha Awards is an annual accolade presented by Kenya Film Commission. Entries into the award ceremony are Films and TV series that have been aired on Kenyan television stations.

Accolades go to Bobby Awuor who won the best documentary by a student Award in the Kalasha Films & TV Awards!

You’ve Made RU Proud.



Kalasha Awards winner of “The Best Documentary by a Student” Bobby Owuor Jr, together with the Head of Riara University Bruce OdhiamboStudio, Mr. Erick Kinyeki proudly display the trophy won at the Awards Ceremony.

RU Getting the Dynamics Right?

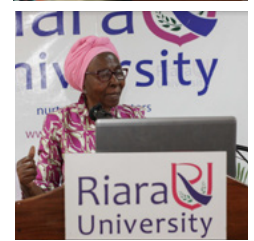


Riara University SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



Instructional Leadership and Transformative Education in the 21st Century: Getting The Dynamics Right

One-day Symposium
Riara University, Mbagathi Way
9.00am to 3.30pm.



Participants who included Mrs. Jacqueline Onyango, Senior Deputy Director of Curriculum Research Services at the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development and Mr. Daniel & Prof. Eddah Gachukia, founders, Riara University and the Riara Group of Schools, staff and guests during the event and in a group photo (above) after the event.

Some of the Speakers at the event: Jacqueline Onyango, Senior Deputy Director of Curriculum Research Services at the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development, Prof. Eddah Gachukia, Council Member, Riara University, Dr. Margaret Njeru, HoD, Riara School of Education and Mr. John Mbuthi, Lecturer, Riara School of Education.

Riara School of Education (RSE) is driven by the Riara University's vision of being a Centre of Excellence in Scholarship, Research and Training. The School takes keen interest in policy matters affecting the education sector in the country in order to remain actively involved in making positive contributions.

To enable key stakeholders to dialogue and deliberate on some of the emerging issues in education in Kenya, RSE organized a one-day symposium whose theme was **"Instructional Leadership and Transformative Education in the 21st Century: Getting the Dynamics right"**. The symposium was held on Thursday 8th November, 2018. The main target of the symposium was Primary Schools Head Teachers and Directors nationwide among other players in the Education sector.

Key note speakers included: Prof. Eddah Gachukia, Founder and Academic Director of Riara Group of Schools, Mrs. Jacqueline Onyango, Senior Deputy Director of Curriculum Research Services at the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development, Ms. Mutheu Kasanga, Chairperson of Kenya Private Schools Association, Dr Margaret Njeru, the Head of Department, School of Education and Dr. Julius Otundo a Senior Faculty member at the school.

Knowing very well that the Kenyan Education system is currently undergoing major reforms – switching from the Knowledge Based Curriculum to a Competency Based Curriculum, this event was critical as it enabled major development stakeholders who included educators, learners, parents and policy makers to be well informed about the nature and dynamics of this new curriculum for effective implementation.

Congratulations to the Riara School of Education for organizing a timely and successful event.

RUSA 2018-2019

After the introduction of the Electoral Colleges Voting System, under the University's Amendment Act of 2016, The Riara University Independent Electoral Commission conducted the RUSA nomination of Leaders and School representatives. This was followed by a heated presidential debate where all persons vying for leadership positions presented their different manifestos with hope of convincing the Riara Community to vote for them. The RUSA elections were finally held on Saturday 10th November 2018, and the process ended successfully. All involved parties were satisfied that the elections were transparent and credible and were therefore conducted with the utmost degree of integrity.

The newly elected leaders are **Walimohamed Sikander** as the **Chairperson**, **Wacera Kabando** as his **Deputy Chairperson** and **Churchill Winston Odhiambo** as the new **Secretary General** and were sworn in on Wednesday 14th November.

WE congratulate the newly elected student leaders as take office and also wish the outgoing team the very best as they move on to a new chapter of leadership beyond the university.



RU Aware?

In mid-November RU hosted Texas Cancer Centre, who gave a Public Lecture on Cancer to both students and staff. The session was very insightful and was attended by many as it enlightened the community on recent developments in prevention, early diagnosis and effective treatment of Cancer. RU will continue to partner with organizations with add value to the wellbeing of its community.



RU iCentre Monthly Forum

The monthly Students' Innovation Forum, took place on 14th November 2018. This forum was attended by Masero Bruno Nyantori from Belfrics Kenya Limited as the key note speaker, who made a presentation on "BlockChain's use in various Industries. Also present was Edna Karijo from eMobilis Mobile Technology Institute, who made a presentation on " Webb and Mobile Development and Digital Skills.

This was a very informative session to all those that attended.

RU Worship Experience

The Riara University Christian Union held the 3rd Worship experience of the year on 21st November 2018. This was a wonderful time that enabled the RU Community to connect spiritually and fellowship with her fellow brethren. Pastor Julius Senser of New Hope Outreach Ministries, Makadara was the guest minister.



HCK Inaugural Leadership Summit

The Hindu Council of Kenya held its very first Leadership Summit on 24th November 2018 at the Oshwal Religious Centre. This was driven by a vision of creating a platform that enables members to exchange information, knowledge and experiences to nurture leadership within the professionals, entrepreneurs and diplomatic core within the community. Part of this delegation was our very own Ms Sumita Mukherjee whose keynote address focused on "Nurturing Future Leaders".

Part of the diplomatic core that was represented during this event was: the Ambassador of Hungary - Laszlo Mathe, the Deputy High Commissioner for Britain to Kenya, Mr Susie Kitchens, the Deputy High Commissioner of India - Mr. Rajesh Swami and the Ambassador of Ethiopia Mr. Dina Mufti. The event also hosted the Principal Secretary in the State Department of Vocational and Technical Education (TVET), Ministry of Education, Dr. Kevit Desai.

RU would like to recognize the vital Role Ms. Sumita plays in promoting RU nationally.



Mrs. Sumita Mukherjee, Associate Director, Advancement and Internationalization, Riara University.



RULS Retreat

The 2nd edition of Riara University Law School End of Year Dinner was held on Saturday 24th November at the Paradise Lost in Kiambu. This was a great time of catching up and celebrating both students and alumni of the school for their annual achievements including those related to Academic Excellence, Mooting and Leadership.

ICDL Certification

Over 275 teachers from The Riara Group of Schools graduated from Riara University with ICDL Certification on 22nd November 2018. This is in line with the Teachers' Service Commission's requirement that all teachers should be computer proficient. Riara University has partnered with ICDL Africa to offer affordable training to teachers nation-wide as this will be very instrumental in rolling out the government's Digital Literacy Programme.

The training was organized by the universities Directorate of Advancement and Internationalization under the leadership of Ms Sumita Mukherjee and offered by the School of Computing Sciences under the leadership of Prof. Felix Musau.

The partnership between RU and ICDL- Africa aims at bridging the gap between the knowledge based curriculum to the competency based curriculum.



Ushirikiano Digital!



Riara University in collaboration with the Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development and other higher learning institutions launched a regional digital campaign and network dubbed *Ushirikiano Digital*. The campaign was not only aimed at promoting youth initiatives but also to act as a platform for exchange of information and cooperation through digital platforms. In view of harnessing opportunities for the youth within the East African Integration process, RU would like to take this opportunity to congratulate her very own Haynayat Jeneby from the Department of International Relations and Diplomacy on her appointment as the East African Community (EAC) Youth Deputy Ambassador to Champion Regional Integration in the Republic of Kenya following the EAC University Students' debate held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

RU is extremely proud of you Haynii and will definitely walk with you as you take on this new task bestowed upon you.



#YouMakeRU: RU in Brisbane

The RU family wishes to congratulate Chripine Marvine of the Riara Law School on being admitted to the MIT Innovation & Entrepreneurship Boot camp in Brisbane, Australia. This event will be taking place in the New Year from 2nd to 8th February 2019. The MIT Innovation & Entrepreneurship Boot camp is a new program for global innovators, entrepreneurs, and change-makers. Participants travel to Brisbane, Australia for an intense, week-long program to learn how to build innovation-driven ventures that solve global challenges in areas concerning the environment, agriculture and mining resource sectors.

Congratulations Marvine!

RU Sports

Riara University Men's Football team emerged top in the Nairobi West FKF Sub County League for 2018. RUFC dismissed Cheza FC after beating them 4:1 to claim the title for the first time. RUFC will now proceed to next level which is the County League for 2019.

The RU football fraternity also celebrates the birth of RU Women's Football team that took place during the semester. Led by Suad Osman, LLB 1.2, as captain the team is already making their presence known having played two friendly matches against USIU and State House Girls. They will also be taking part in the upcoming Urban Copa 7 Tournament in December.

Riara University Ladies Basketball Team took the lead during the 2018 League for the Nairobi Basketball Association. The ladies also won awards for best three point throws of the year, best improved player of the year and the Most Valued Player (MVP). The Scarlets have received direct promotion to Division 1 during the next session which will kick off in early 2019.

In other news, RU Men's basketball team Bucks reached the Semi Finals of the KBF Classic League for 2018 before bowing out after a hot contest against Kenya Airports Authority. Bucks had an excellent run throughout the season winning most of their fixtures. They gained national exposure and got to travel the country, having been to Kakamega once and twice to the coastal town of Mombasa for their league fixtures. Bucks will return next year to the Classic League hoping to make another stab at title.

Clearly, RU is shining all the way





VC's Cup

The Vice Chancellors Cup Tournament is the Universities official annual sports day and is fondly known as the VC's Cup. This year's event took place on 9th Nov 2018 at the MOW Sports Club in South C.

The tournament whose aim is to bring together the entire University fraternity in fun and competitive sports activities to build camaraderie and brand love marked its 4th Edition since inception.

Competitions were held between the different faculties and departments. The activities included Football, Basketball, Swimming and Table Tennis. The Riara School of International Relations and Diplomacy emerged winners in this year's tournament taking over from the School of Business who had held the title for two years running.

Many thanks to all staff and students who participated in this day of fun and camaraderie. Hongera! To the department of IR and Diplomacy for their success in this year's tournament!



MEDIA MENTIONS 2018

1. **UN Environment goes to school – spreading the use of UN information portal on multilateral environmental agreements (InforMEA) in universities**
<https://www.unenvironment.org/es/node/22963>
2. **Train the trainer workshop at Riara University**
<http://icdlafrica.org/icdl-news?i=3244>
3. **10 universities attend IT club hackathon**
<https://www.usiu.ac.ke/on-campus/news/1456-10-universities-attend-it-club-hackathon>
4. **Riara University To Hold S.A.I.M.U.N Mock Debate**
<https://www.varcity.co.ke/riara-university-hold-s-m-u-n-mock-debate/>
5. **Riara partners with ICDL to train teachers**
<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/topic/Riara-University>
6. **Riara University receive honor as part of the Chinese-lead “Belt & Road” African Studies Alliance**
<https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/thesauce/riara-university-china-relations-belt-road-african-studies-alliance/>
7. **Lecturer from the SHSS presents paper at Riara University Conference on Education**
<https://www.strathmore.edu/news/lecturer-from-the-shss-presents-paper-at-riara-university-conference-on-education/>
8. **Riara University RU Application Forms 2018/2019**
<https://kenyadmission.com/tag/riara-university-ru-diploma-application-form-2018-2019/>
9. **Riara University Courses Offered**
<https://www.tuko.co.ke/263730-riara-university-courses-offered.html#263730>
10. **Riara University Admission Letters 2019- Download KUCCPS Admission letter.**
<https://admalic.co.ke/riara-university-admission-letters/>
11. **Ranking Web of Universities**
<http://www.webometrics.info/en/africa/kenya%20>



Get a reward for referring
New Students

**Elimika
na Riara**

Riara
University
nurturing innovators

The image shows three students (two women and one man) smiling and giving thumbs up in front of a large, modern university building with a red roof. Below the photo is a promotional banner for 'Elimika na Riara' featuring a smartphone, a stack of books, and a stack of money. The Riara University logo is also present.

www.riarauniversity.ac.ke



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<https://www.instagram.com/riarauniversity/>



<https://twitter.com/RiaraUniversity>