



RU 1st Cultural Week



Wisdom Anofike Chukwuebuka, (Diploma in International Relations 2.1) and **Aurelia Phosa Mbata** (Bachelor of International Relations 2.2) were crowned **Mr. & Miss Riara University**, during the first Riara University Cultural Festival held on Friday July 13, 2018, at the campus. The event was a culmination of week long activities to celebrate culture. See pictures overleaf.

RU CULTURAL WEEK

MONDAY
9th July

TUESDAY
10th July



COLOUR
BLOCKING
THEME



OFFICIAL
THEME

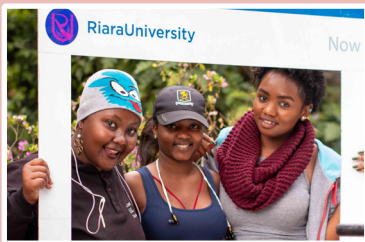


TURAL FESTIVAL

WEDNESDAY
11th July



PYJAMA PARTY
THEME

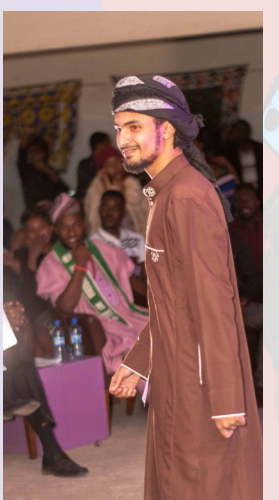
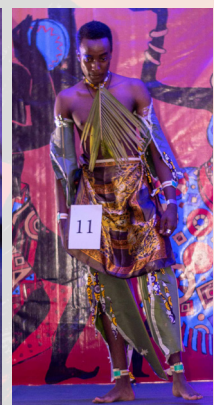
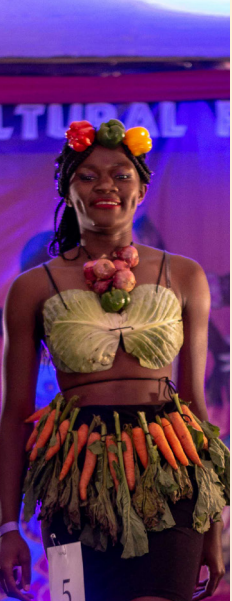


THURSDAY
12th July



THROWBACK (TBT)
THEME







RU going Global; another Admission to IMLI

Dear Ms. Shako,

I trust this email finds you well.

As you are aware I have been trying to gain admission to the International Maritime Law Institute in Malta. Thank you for the extended hand in help that you offered me. I would like to share the great news that I have gained admission and the institute managed to obtain funding for me to pursue IMLI'S 30th annual Masters of Laws in International Maritime Law program which will commence in October 2018. The scholarship will cater for tuition fees of €35,000 and accommodation.

Thank you for your continuous guidance.

*Suad Nur
RLS 2016 Graduate*

Dear Suad,

How outstanding.

Congratulations to you and the entire pioneer class LL.B 2016. Getting admission to a prestigious LLM Programme is no small achievement. Plus a substantial scholarship? Outstanding. From all of us, all the very best. We are grateful that it is going so well for you. There is even more good stuff coming. Keep going.

Wishing you success.

Florence K. Shako- RLS Lecturer

RLS represented in Hungary, Budapest

RLS students Mercy Wairimu and Miracle Ogbewekon and a former RLS student (Boru Gollo) were privileged to attend a summer programme themed "Corporate Social Responsibility in Legal, Economic and Moral context" at The Pazmany Peter Catholic University.

In addition to being awarded a diploma certificate, the students had the opportunity to interact with lecturers and other scholars across the globe, thus expanding their intellect.

We commend the students for this achievement!



Public Lecture by Mutula Kilonzo Jr. 'Devolution: Five Years On'

The Senator for Makueni county, Hon. Mutula Kilonzo Jr. was the Chief Guest for the Public Lecture, "Devolution: Five years on" held at the university on Wednesday July 25, 2018

Among other highlights, the Senator emphasized that the biggest chapter in the 2010 constitution is devolution and its main purpose is to give an opportunity to citizens of Kenya to address development needs in their local areas.

"Devolution is a silent revolution and its role is to equalize the nation through counties!" Mutula Kilonzo Jr.



Arise 21 Mentorship Forum

Arise 21 is a mentorship dialogue forum initiative by Riara University Students Association under the leadership of the student's president, Collins Oluoch, that seeks to address contemporary issues that bedevil the 21st Generation youth, be it drug and substance abuse, rape culture, tribalism, career path, the girl & boy child, entertainment and business, mentorship, youth empowerment among others.

This is **Arise 21!**

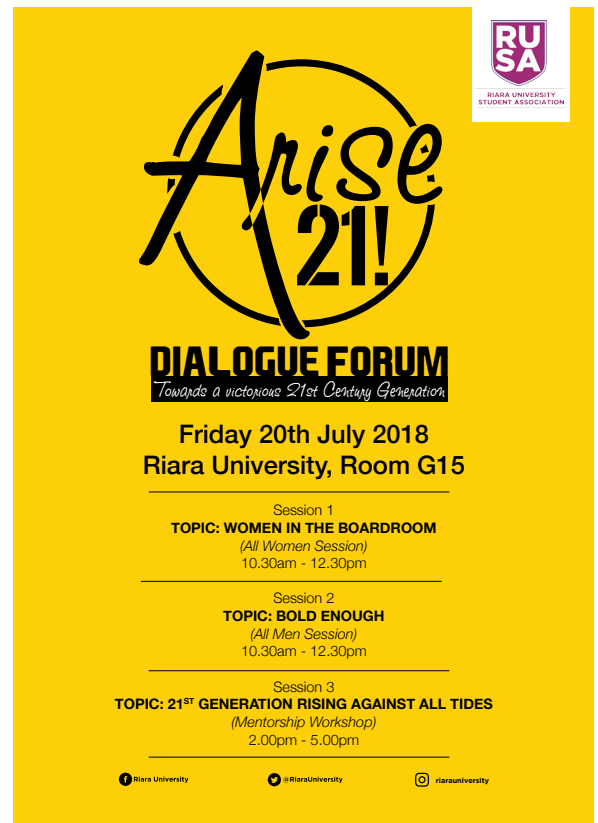
Three successful inaugural sessions were held on July 20, 2018 and were broken down as follows:

Session 1 themed around **Women in the Boardroom**. An all ladies session. Having candid conversation on advancement of their skills and what it is to be a woman in the boardroom! Men were invited for this session but with limited space and Ladies got to interact with mentors.

Session 2 was a male session themed **Bold Enough**. Speaking to men on why they need to stay empowered as they empower women in advancement of their skills. From this session a campaign dubbed MAR (Men against Rape) was launched.

Session 3 was the culmination of the sessions, the crux of Arise 21! Themed **Arising against the tides!** Having dialogue on contemporary issues, students got to interact with mentors from the pool of speakers and guests.

A first of its kind and more to follow. Below are pictures of the event.



Charity begins at Home: RUMSA fund scholarship award ceremony



Riara University Muslim Students Association – RUMSA reminded us of the proverb, **“Charity begins at home”** and how important those around us are. Indeed it was a joyous moment for RUMSA inaugural Fund Scholarship awarding ceremony that saw selected RU students cutting across the disciplines benefit from the fund towards their school fees in RU. A total of Kes. 252,500 was awarded to 6 deserving RU students.

The awarding committee considered among other things: academic performance; demonstration of real financial need by the applicant;

- active participation in the university academic and co-curricular activities as well as community service within and outside the university;
- discipline and adherence to RU codes of conduct;
- and being a good role model who promotes the Riara University brand.

This was a highly sought after scholarship where most of the applicants met the criteria. Out of the fourteen shortlisted candidates, six were awarded.

It is our hope that the support will help to ease your financial burden to enable you carry on with your studies smoothly.

On behalf of the beneficiaries, the University administration acknowledges, appreciates and congratulates the good gesture from RUMSA and wishes the club all the best as they endeavour with their mandate.

Workshop on Crisis Communications Management for County Government.

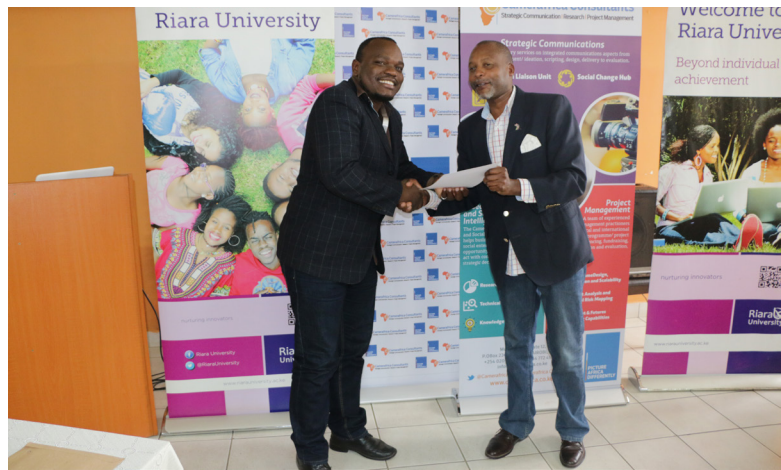
The Riara University School of International Relations and Diplomacy recently played host to the first of a kind workshop on Crisis Communications Management for County Governments. Designed for County Communications Directors, the workshop saw seventeen participants attend from different counties. The objectives of the workshop were how to structure county government communications departments better, how to plan and map out responses towards emerging crisis and risk situations as well as handling brand perception challenges better.

Facilitators included Dr. Francis Onditi, Head of IRD at Riara University, Dr. Godfrey Lugano of Camera Africa, Dr. Ken Walibora of Riara University, Dr. Lucy Gichaga USIU Africa and Dr. Sabala Kizito of IGAD amongst several others.

Highlights from the workshop included a recent survey presented to the participants that showed that there were knowledge gaps in institutional approaches to political crisis on the timing of responses, medium of responses, appropriateness of responses, who does what, when and how? The survey also showed that internet and video are most preferred mediums of response, while evening presented the most preferred time for responses. Press statement are the most preferred type of response, and repeating the response is more than once is crucial.

The workshop also touched on handling border and trans-boundary conflicts as well as security situations. Some of the recommendations drawn from the discussions include:

- The need for each County Governments to have a Framework Plan-Technology, accessibility, activation of stakeholders for optimal speed of response.
- Carry out communication audits. This should include website, social media, conversation, email performance analysis, SEO and user experience audits in the digital communications strategy.
- Identify the type of crisis, to determine whether it is a situation to deal with, diminish, or deny? Inform, adjust the information management and manage issues.
- In dealing with trolls: Establish a policy, create a unified community, listen, fight back with facts, correct mistakes, ignore them, unmask them, let light of the situation and do not provide a platform.



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RU New Staff Notices



Dr. Julius Otundo, has joined Riara University as a Full Time Faculty Staff in the Department of Education. Dr. Otundo holds two Doctor of Philosophy degrees; Business Administration and Strategic Management from Kenya Methodist University and Public Policy Administration from Walden University, USA. He has a Masters degree in Education Leadership and Administrative Studies from Kenya Methodist University and an Undergraduate degree in Education from Nkubu University, Kampala. In addition he has Postgraduate and Diploma training in Business and Administrative Studies and Special Needs Education respectively, among other professional certifications.

He is an expert in Education, Conflict, Organizational and Strategic Management and Economic Planning and has previously worked with the university as a consultant. He joins RU having formerly worked at International Leadership University as a Registrar and Director of Operations Planning and Administration and with Mission of Hope International as Director of Education Programs among other employers. He brings to Riara University a wealth of over 16 years of experience in teaching and management in academic sector.



Dr. Ken Walibora joins Riara University as Full time Faculty in the School of International Relations and Diplomacy. Walibora is The author of the critically acclaimed Swahili novel *Siku Njema*. He obtained his PhD in Comparative Cultural Studies at The Ohio State University, in the United States. His training in Comparative Cultural Studies with a multidisciplinary and eclectic approach, offers a tremendous boost to Diplomatic Studies, for which globalization, inter-ethnic dynamics and multicultural adaptations have increasingly become important pillars. His research interests include globalization, translation, world literature, and African continental and diasporic cultures and literatures, with a focus on Anglophone and Swahiliphone fiction and nonfiction. He is a prolific Kiswahili fiction writer and poet with a literary oeuvre exceeding fifty titles and has won many awards. For instance, he won the Jomo Kenyatta Literature Prize thrice with his Swahili texts, *Ndoto ya Amerika* in 2003 and *Kisasi Hapana* in 2009 and *Nasikia Sauti ya Mama* in 2015. His recent scholarly works include the book *Narrating Prison Experience: Human Rights, Self, Society and Political Incarceration in Africa* (2014). He has also published a number of book chapters and articles in academic

journals including *PMLA*, *Research in African Literatures* (RAL), and *Journal of the Association of African Literature* (JALA), *East African Literary and Cultural Studies*, and *Journal of African Language Teachers Association* (JALTA). In addition Ken Walibora brings along a wealth of journalistic experience as news editor and anchor as well as columnist.



Get a reward for referring
New Students



Elimika na Riara

Riara
University
nurturing innovators

RU Sports

The end of July saw RU BUCKS travel out of town to Rift and Western Kenya to honor two away matches in the ongoing KBF Division 2 League.

RU Bucks continued with their splendid form in the league. In a mouthwatering dual at Menengai High School-Nakuru, the boys thrashed Egerton Uni **72:53** to reclaim their glory after a loss in a similar dual on the same grounds during the 2017 competition. The boys pulled away right from the first quarter keeping a clear lead all through. Bucks made impressive moves keeping the spectators, Menengai High School students, thoroughly entertained, making it quite difficult for the teacher on duty to keep students in class during the game. The tussle ended at 11.30am allowing Bucks to proceed on their journey to Kakamega for their second game of the weekend.

Kakamega County is well known for producing good athletes in all the ball games, including rugby, football and indeed basketball. Some of our players hail from such schools as Friends Kamusinga and Kakamega Boys.

Our second game was set to be played at the Kenya Police Basketball Court where Bucks clashed with a local team Nebulas. In a highly competitive fist wrenching game, Bucks went neck to neck with Nebulas through entire four quarters. In the first quarter the teams tied at **12:12** while in the second Bucks came on top at **07:05** ending the first half in the lead. The third quarter was another tie, however the fourth quarter saw Nebulas end the game with a two basket lead. This meant an aggregate three point lose for the Bucks at **47:50**. The game was full of highly tense moments and nail biting experiences that will remain memorable to both teams. Bucks look forward to the home game against Nebulas where they hope to return the favor.

Meanwhile look out for more action in September as the team visits Mombasa County to meet their coastal counterparts in the league.



TOP LEFT: RU Bucks' David Ochieng' dribbles past Nebulas defence lines at a recent game in Kakamega County.

TOP RIGHT: RU Bucks 'big man' Paddy Awori, muscles his way into the opponents ring of Egerton University in Nakuru County.

BOTTOM LEFT: Joseph Karanja, RU Bucks shooting guard bursts through Nebulas defence to make 3 point Basket.

BOTTOM RIGHT: RU Bucks top scorer and 'big man', Paul Ekiru adds to his collection of scores against Egerton University.

NO BUTS!!

Featured Student's Blog



Dear society,

I have not written in a while probably because of the fear of the effect that my words may have on you or maybe because I let too much of myself out in the last post, <https://beyondsusan.wordpress.com/2018/02/28/my-love/> - Ensure the hyperlink is accessible (still can't believe I published that but ooh well now he knows). Anyway back to my not very kind letter to this sickening society.

Stand tall, but not too tall! Be confident, but not too confident! Shout, but not too loud! Hold your head high, just not too high! Be aggressive but not too aggressive! These are the unwritten rules you have for me. Why? Who do you think you are! First of all, you refer to me as a millennial (kind for arrogant, ungrateful, lazy young man or woman yes we know). Isn't this enough for one person to carry?? Just because we were born in the AC (after computers), it doesn't mean we are lazy. We are just used to getting things done faster and easier with the help of technology. We did not choose the era, we were born in.

It's not like you all went to Makerere University and The University of Nairobi (when it was actually **THE UNIVERSITY**) and you all got First class honors. Some of your age mates ended up in villages (may be now drunk and disorderly) but because you made it out and speak some English, you think that you can **generalize** us and refer to us as millennial because we work from our room on laptops and our businesses are on our phones. (That's not your kind of working hard, yeah we understand because now we work smart).

Religious, but not too religious. Who will marry an overly religious girl? Aggressive, but not too aggressive. A home maker cannot have a thriving career. Be confident, but not too confident. You will turn them off. Shout, but not too loud. Shhhhhhhhhh... they can hear you! They are the rule makers, (but they are making rules that affect me, I need them to hear me, no they need to make the rules in peace). Raise your standards, but not too high they might be unable to reach them. We have been here long enough. The system will not change in a day, so just be patient. (Until we are all diagnosed as patients with the disease of mediocrity !!!). "I know what I am talking about, you were just born yesterday and you want to change it? Hahaha," they all laugh in unison and continue living with the problem. Just because yesterday is too near, I can't have a different idea! Jesus was a white man **BELIEVE!!!**

NOOO! I will not believe because you are telling me to. Not this time! Furthermore, I am black as coal and I was created in the image and likeness of my Creator (he must look just like me if you haven't you need to meet me, better yet look at yourself in the mirror. That is just how he looks like: YOU). I am saying a big NO and with reasons. Ever since we were born, you tell us to be like ... and there, the long list of names of great men and women of your generation and previous generations are mentioned. The most popular. The not so popular, but still popular. The popular ones who did bad things, but still made it to the popular list, unlike yourselves and are grinned upon say; Adolf Hitler (look at you grin and think of the people he killed).

We are allowed to be everything and everyone else apart from ourselves all our lives. I will be as religious as I want to be and the CREATOR will look just like me. I will be aggressive in achieving my goals of family and career. I will build a home and have a successful career and if I don't get either I would rather die trying, I will speak my mind because that is what my brain is for, thinking and implementing ideas, which includes thoughts. I will express myself through whatever art. I will be a 'keyboard warrior' and get up in the morning to fight the status quo.

The status quo that is causing twenty alleged criminals to be tried as the big fish watch in dismay on their thrones (just a thought). It all starts by shutting us, the millennial down by burying us deep with this unwritten good for nothing rules that are there to maintain the status quo. We must break the status quo to end this mediocrity that is eating up our nation that even the guardians of the so called law cannot speak up against. If not for us, for those who come after us.

Aggressive, Confident, Tall, High, Loud and no BUTS...

Not very kind regards,

Daughter of the world

Student of life

Susan Kabura Maina LLB 3.1 Riara University



SAIMUN 2018

Sub Saharan International Model United Nations (SAIMUN) is a five-day international relations simulation for both high school and university/college students that is held annually at the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON), Gigiri. The international conference is attended by more than 800 students from all over the world, in which they debate on various issues affecting the world.

This year our students participated in it and one of them was awarded for being the best Delegate in the Disarmament and International Security (DISEC)

This committee deals with disarmament, global challenges and threats to peace that affect the international community and seeks out solutions to the challenges in the international security regime. It considers all disarmament and international security matters within the scope of the Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any other organ of the United Nations; the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as principles governing disarmament and the regulation of armaments; promotion of cooperative arrangements and measures aimed at strengthening stability through lower levels of armaments. It is the only Main Committee of the General Assembly entitled to verbatim records coverage.

What the award means

The award was presented to the delegation whose members through their practice during the conference exhibited versatility, adaptiveness and awareness, and contributed to the final adoption of the resolution in an exemplary manner. This Delegate was one Michelle Wanjiru

Best delegate -DISEC

Some of the students who attended the 5-day conference held at the UN complex are captured below with Hon. Johnson Sakaja, Senator, Nairobi County, urging them to take up leadership roles even at their youthful age.



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