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THE VOICE

Magazine 2020

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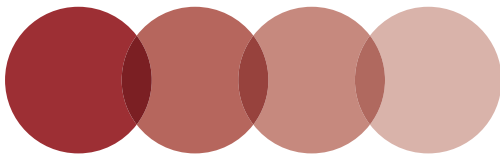
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Contents

16 **Change of Guard**
Prof. James Kombo
Vice Chancellor
Designate

22 **Slaying the Giants**
A Story of Faith,
Courage and the
Rise to Global
Service

25 **It is Non-Stop learning at SPU!**
Covid-19 and our
transition to online
education

29 **Value Added Leadership**
Senior Broadcast
Journalist - BBC

36 **Business Lessons**
From the dung
beetle

44 **Dominic Too**
From 'Boda Boda'
to SPU Graduate



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This edition of the
Voice Magazine is
themed:

Service to God and Humanity

This year, we derive our
annual university theme
from 1 Peter 5:7:

Cast all your
anxiety on
God because
he cares for
you.

VOICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR

PROF. JOSEPH GALGALO

It is with great humility and indeed gratitude that I pen these words at the conclusion of my term as the Vice Chancellor of SPU. I am honoured to give an opening voice to this edition of the *Voice Magazine*. Amidst the unprecedented global crises that Covid-19 precipitated, I am filled with joy springing forth in praise to my God as I enjoy God's mercies even in this season when uncertainty and hopelessness seem to abound. By God's grace, we acted swiftly and managed to roll out a robust online learning program. Our move from in-person learning to virtual classes has made possible business continuity beyond what we imagined. We are not just about survival, but are still thriving, shining, and leading by example in bringing hope to others in the midst of darkness.

On hindsight, our widely popular distance learning platform was providential, helping us convert our programmes seamlessly and quickly into virtual learning. I congratulate our students and faculty for quick adjustment in embracing technology, thanks to internal innovations and our partnerships with various telecom corporates. In this otherwise depressing times, we are elated to celebrate the good news that St. Paul's University emerged the best Private University and position three overall, from among 62 Universities in Kenya, ranked by *UniRank™*, a leading international higher education directory, officially recognized by universities and colleges in 200 countries. By God's grace, SPU has remained open and operational. We have continued to attract enrolment and are able to deliver quality services with consistency. My sincere gratitude goes to all SPU staff and students, and other stakeholders for their unrelenting commitment in upholding excellence even with the limited resources at our disposal.

This year, we derive our annual university theme from 1 Peter 5:7: 'Cast all your anxiety on God because he cares for you.' This scripture attests to our firm trust in God – and affirms that our eyes are not simply fixed on the momentary difficulties but set firmly on Christ in whom we are

empowered to do all things. This year's edition of the *Voice Magazine* offers articles that attest to God's amazing favor and victories in the midst of crises. In here we have many inspirational stories and shared experiences, which can enthuse joy and encouragement. Some articles robustly point to the power of faith and positivity, in a world where negativity and gloomy statistics have become the order of the day. We thank those who have toiled in providing us with their inspirational articles. Their labor of sacrifice is not lost to us, and we offer our utmost gratitude as we carefully mine their stories for inspirational lessons.

This edition of the *Voice Magazine* is themed: *Service to God and Humanity*. It reminds us of the ultimate life's vocation – to know God, and to serve humanity. It is true that we will have our fair share of challenges from time to time, as is the case with the current crisis, but it is possible to remain faithful to our calling and accomplish our purpose in life, if, by God's grace, we do not falter in service to God and humanity.

Amidst the trials, it is worth noting that we did not deviate from our strategic plan in the year just ended. We successfully advanced research output, updated our programmes, expanded our IT capacities and infrastructure, E-library resources, and worked with many partners and enhanced our virtual presence. We have upheld highest standards and ensured quality. Through use of various smart gadgets, our students are able to remotely access university resources at an affordable cost. Our ICT department has stepped up to lead in this new era, innovating the SPU V-Learning application, where students can access the digital library, communicate via multiple-presence with lecturers and other learners, conduct group work, and log-in from almost anywhere in the world! This amazing digital revolution has been a delightful and challenging learning experience for which we are grateful. The adjustment may have evolved only slowly had we not been compelled into quick action by the extenuating circumstances created

by the pandemic. Without a doubt, 'every cloud has a silver lining,' and we are determined to make the best out of this gloomy situation.

One other highlight in this edition of the *Voice Magazine* is the changes in staffing going on at SPU. Transition is as constant as change. As part of growth, transitions are often marked by renewal of spirit and celebration of service and achievements, and at times, setbacks, adversity and adjustments. We celebrate the outgoing members who have successfully completed their tenure of office and whose dedicated toil will continue to inspire and spur us towards new frontiers as we serve God and humanity. My commendation particularly goes to Prof. Charity Irungu who successfully completed her term of office as the DVC-AA. I also congratulate those who have taken up new positions of responsibilities, especially our two DVCs Prof. Peter Ngure and Dr. Zablon Bundi. I wish them well and pray that they will carry the honour bestowed upon them with dignity and excellence, as they lead us into greater growth.

I also congratulate the **graduating class of 2020**. This edition is dedicated to you as we celebrate your amazing achievements. With the world-class training you have received, we believe in your capacities and the required dexterity to serve God and humanity with a mark of distinction. You are equipped with knowledge, skills and attitudes all geared to help you succeed. Confidently, apply these valuable resources within you and conquer the world. This year's graduation is unique as we are holding it virtually for the first time. We congratulate you for being pioneers in this regard. We shall learn from this new experience and from it create opportunities as we step into the future with hope and expectation. We would

have loved to mark this ceremony with pomp and colour as we would normally do. Despite the distance that separates us, our joy is nevertheless undiminished. We are with you virtually and in the spirit as you celebrate your great day with family, friends and relatives. Rock it, but stay safe!

Next year a new chapter begins for SPU under a new Vice Chancellor. As I look back on ten years of my service, I am acutely alive to God's amazing guidance and blessings of our work. I am ever so grateful for the privilege to have served God and humanity here during this period. I welcome the Vice Chancellor Designate, Professor James Kombo and wish him God's blessings. He is a renown theologian and a professional with over 25 years of experience in University teaching, research and management. He has such an unmatched passion for Christ and keen to serve students. I pray for Prof. Kombo to find the joy in serving God and humanity as he takes charge and moves the university to the next level of growth.

May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, always. Shalom.

Prof. Joseph Galgalo
Vice Chancellor





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Michael Mungai
Public Relations & Marketing Officer

Managing Editor's Note

As with every New Year, 2020 presented us with the opportunity to reframe our pursuits and live in conformity to our dreams. Our collective resolve to 'become better' was captured in our personal resolutions and echoed in corporate goals. However, as the weeks wore on, it became evident that we needed to go back to the drawing board. The Corona Virus pandemic ushered us into a season of uncertainty and ambiguity that shrouded the vision of what we hoped would be a prosperous year!

In this edition of the St. Paul's University *Voice Magazine*, we point you to the cloud and show you the silver lining. As an institution, this crisis has renewed our vigour and sharpened our resolve to distinguish ourselves as servant leaders. This year's edition of the graduation magazine pays tribute to the university motto: *Service to God and Humanity*. Peppered with faith, hope and inspiration, we tell stories that reveal rather than define the true meaning of servant leadership. On these pages, we tread that path of the brave in our attempt to recapture the dreams that remained unbowed in the face of adversity.

As we celebrate St. Paul's University, its heritage and the impact made by its change makers, we highlight the aspirations and achievements of the outgoing Vice Chancellor, Canon Prof. Joseph Galgalo. During his 10-year tenure, Prof. Galgalo has modelled the true meaning of servant leadership. In his story, courage and conviction find common ground and lend themselves to a rich legacy that has become the hallmark of his leadership. With rare candor, 'Prof.' introduces you to the man behind the title and invites us to retrace his life's journeys!

Moreover, 2020 welcomed, with a lot of promise, new

office bearers within St. Paul's University's top leadership. This magazine introduces you to the incoming Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kombo who begins his tenure in January 2021. We share his journey, aspirations and vision. Further, we tell you stories of the new Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs and Deputy Vice Chancellor Finance and Administration who were appointed in their positions in early January 2020.

Despite the disruptions occasioned by the Corona Virus pandemic, our students are a happy lot! How did we do it? Read on... We share in the gratitude of students who, undeterred by the prevailing challenges, concluded their studies and graduated successfully. We also explore their experiences, the lessons and the commission to greater works. Lastly, we feature the 29th graduation ceremony Chief Guest, and his message to the graduating class of 2020.

In the past editions, we have fulfilled our mission by providing stories that keep our readers up to speed with the university affairs. As such, the magazine lends its *voice* to reaching the local and international communities. We invite you to be part of this initiative by sharing your experiences and following us on social media!

Finally, I would like to appreciate the staff and students who have contributed towards the production of this magazine. I also appreciate our advertisers for the financial support.

Remember the *Voice Magazine* is yours. We look forward to sharing your story next year. I thank and appreciate you for your continued support. Until next edition!

Editors' Note

In his book, *Things Fall Apart*, Chinua Achebe puts it to us that, 'until the lion learns how to write, every story will glorify the hunter.' This year, the St. Paul's University graduation magazine lends its *voice* to the lions whose bravery remained obscure. Here, you will find beautiful tales of travail and triumph; passion, purpose and pursuits that have transformed single lives and whole communities; and most importantly, dimensions of service that recalibrate the new reality in which we find ourselves. This edition amplifies the university motto, *Service to God and Humanity*, by giving form to the dedication, commitment and sacrifices of those who have coursed through life's journeys with an unflinching resolve to make a difference.

These riveting accounts of determination are deeply inspiring; but without giving too much away, the contents of these pages take flight on the words of a poet whose name anchors the virtue we hope to impart: *Service!*

*And so in the strife of the battle of life
It's easy to fight when you're winning;
It's easy to slave, and starve and be brave,
When the dawn of success is beginning.
But the man who can meet despair and defeat
With a cheer, there's the man of God's choosing;
The man who can fight to Heaven's own height
Is the man who can fight when he's losing.
Carry on! Carry on!*

By Robert W. Service



Rita N. Kituyi



Sheila Ochieng'



Kevin C. Macharia

A Legacy of Service

Celebrating a rich legacy of character, integrity and servant leadership.

By Sheila Ochieng' and Michael Mungai

"I am not only inspired and challenged, but indeed indebted to give my best in my 'service to God and humanity'. It gives me a resolute sense of duty to ensure that others of this and future generations can experience the same inspiration and achieve their potentials to the utmost limit of who they can become and what they can achieve in life. The slogan, so to speak, that I have adopted, 'grow with a growing University,' should become a reality for everyone who is part of this special growth that we envision. You have set me on a daunting and adventurous task to expand and enhance that opportunity for others. And with God's help, I pledge to go about this task with all my heart, and discharge it to the best of my abilities."

With these words, Canon Prof. Joseph Galgalo set his hands on the plough of service back in 2010. A noble leader, he answered not the trumpet calls of self-promotion, but to the hushed whispers of necessity. Guided by a deep conviction to serve, Prof. Galgalo dedicated himself to fulfilling the call to stewardship. During his tenure, what was once a small institution has flourished into Kenya's best private university. He is a man of global renown, preceded by great accomplishments. Within the St. Paul's University fraternity, 'Prof' is fondly revered for his love, humility, wisdom and unusual sacrifice. In the last ten years, Prof. Galgalo has epitomized the true meaning of servant leadership. His is a story of service, one that has been carved in the hearts and etched in the minds of all. We are privileged to share the life, times and legacy of Canon Prof. Joseph Galgalo.

PRECIOUS CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

What profound memories do you have of your childhood?

I had a generally happy and normal childhood. I was sent to a boarding school at a rather tender age. My young mind was greatly impacted by experiences of learning responsibility from very early on in life, obeying rules and regulations, conformity to a structured life but also emulating and learning from exemplary teachers, school administrators, many saintly Roman Catholic nuns and my peers. Some of my life cherished values today were deeply ingrained in me during those formative years of my life.



What formative experiences inspired your passion and pursuit of a career in education?

I had one of the best teachers in the primary schools I attended. Some, have to date, remained my role models, and I guess an admiration of their godly guidance and mentorship, may have had a part in my becoming a teacher. However, the deliberate decision to pursue a career in teaching was as a result of unplanned series of events. On completing high school, I had an opportunity to teach as an untrained teacher in a remote village called Bubisa, which has since become my second home. I so thoroughly enjoyed my time during this stint. By divine providence, I became part of a success story, where supported by the church, we built amazing facilities for a school that had no buildings at all

when I first joined it. With such personal fulfillment, I thought I was just cut for the job, and as they say, the rest is history.

As a young person, which key figures inspired and shaped your intellectual pursuits?

I am blessed to have so many mentors. I would perhaps not have pursued scholarship and learning at higher levels had it not been for various friends and teachers who inspired me in many ways and influenced my formation and life choices in different ways. At the risk of leaving out so many, let me mention Bishop Andrew Adano, Archbishop David Gitari, Bishop Graham Kings, Prof. David Ford and many other academic interlocutors including, among many others, Dr. Valentine Dedji, Prof. Esther



Mombo, Dr. Ben Knighton, Prof. Nick Sagovsky, Prof. William Horbury and many students whom I have had the opportunity to teach theology courses.

PANGS OF PURPOSE: PURSUING THE CALL TO MINISTRY

What inspired you to shift your career from teaching to theology?

On completing my teacher training, I was posted to a different school from the one I taught in before joining college. Surprisingly, parents and community leaders of this previous school sent a delegation to the education office and their demand to post me back to their school was met. On settling back in my old school, I took up an active role in my local church, and through the influence of one

very key church leader, my interest in theology was nurtured. Eventually, I resigned from teaching and pursued theological studies.

Did your parents have any reservations about your career preferences?

No, my parents had no role in my choice of career. I cannot, however, underestimate the influence my father, who was a dedicated evangelist of the Word, always had on me.

Why did you choose to embark on your theological studies at SPU?

I became a pastor at heart long before I trained as one, thanks to enduring influences some great mentors have always had in my life. My initial signing up was in response to a felt need for primary evangelism among the community I served as a school teacher. One thing leading to another, I got drawn into pursuing theological studies to doctoral level, eventually graduating with PhD in Systematic Theology and teaching theology at SPU – a position of great privilege but not quite what I initially purposed to do with my theological training.

As a young person, what unique attributes appealed to you and tilted your decision in favour of SPU and how was the experience?

At the time I joined SPU, the then St. Paul's United Theological College, was the school of choice for ministerial formation and study of theology for the clergy from the Anglican Church of Kenya, other mainline churches, and many African Instituted Churches. In any case, SPU had long established itself as the regional school of theology training then, as it still does, for church leaders from the whole of East Africa and beyond. You simply could not have found a better place to study 'real' theology.

SPU has long distinguished itself as a place of profound scholarship and academic excellence. Its unique emphases on integral education has continued to achieve a valuable balance between sound academic grounding and spiritual nurture supporting character formation. My time as a student here was short but remarkably fruitful and enjoyable. I made friends for life, managed to shape my theological thinking, embraced many lifelong spiritual disciplines and mapped out my theological journey with a clear vision to serve God and humanity.

What specifically motivated you to study Systematic Theology?

Theological studies can be categorized into four disciplines or areas of study as Biblical, Systematic,

Pastoral or Practical and Ecclesiastical or Church History. Systematic Theology (ST) is the branch or discipline that interrogates the orderliness, rationality, and coherency of each doctrine, belief or elements of faith. It explores the question of the nature of God, the universe, the complex interdependence and contingency of all things. The primary task of ST is to give orderly and consistent interpretation of faith claims and give rational responses to such difficult questions as 'how do we truly know God with certainty,' 'what is the true meaning and ultimate purpose of life,' 'how do we make sense of spiritual phenomena,' 'or distinguish essential elements of faith from non-essential elements,' and the everyday mundane questions as 'what happens to me when I die,' 'Does God always answer all prayers and how do I receive his reply,' or 'If God has everything he needs, do I have to give him anything,' 'Why does God let Satan exist,' etc. These and other doctrinal questions such as how salvation works, how God can be three in one, or how Jesus can be God yet becomes human, or how the *immortal* divine can die, or how a loving and able God can allow suffering especially of the innocent, and why God allowed the fall in the first place, or why a perfect God did not create creatures who could not sin, etc. have always fascinated me. I guess the interest to study the deep things of God and not just to understand the bible, together with interest fanned in me by those who taught me systematic theology in my formative years of study – each in one way or another, influenced my choice.

As a second-generation Christian, what unique challenges did you face in serving your community within the Church?

Outreach ministries are never easy. My contribution was only for a short time, and in any case limited. As is true for many places, the biggest struggle I guess is limited resources. The area is also vast and difficult to reach every part effectively, and workers solely dedicated to the service of the church are very few.

As a minister from what is widely perceived as a 'marginalized community', did you encounter any opposition in pursuing your calling as a Christian minister?

Not at all. I thank God for the support from many members of my immediate family, friends, colleagues in the ministry and supporters.

THE JOURNEY IN A FOREIGN LAND

Tell us the story behind your journey to the United Kingdom and what it was like studying there.

It just happened that on completing my studies at SPU, I had offers of scholarship to study in four

different places. A friend who knew about the offers, encouraged me to apply to the University of Cambridge. This was an attractive option because I really wanted to study under one renowned scholar and theologian, Prof. David Ford. By the grace of God, I won the British overseas scholarship award, the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Scholarship, and an additional scholarship support from Langham Trust. This made it possible for me to study Theology in Cambridge.

Studying in Cambridge was a great experience. The facilities are excellent and the University's Professors are topnotch. The Cambridge college system provides a home away from home and an excellent social anchor with vast array of opportunities for social activities. Cambridge also is home to many vibrant Christian communities, and I was blessed to be part of a church family and circle of friends. I also held a leadership role in "Link House" ministries to the international students, which was so fulfilling. The Langham Trust fraternity also provided a valuable social and spiritual support.

What profound influence did the study of theology have on your understanding of godly service within the African context?

The importance of studying theology is often questioned by people who think it is unnecessary, or even erroneously see theological inquiry as an affront to faith. The African context is diverse and complex. Currently, it is generally witnessing strong resurgence of African ethno-religions and a fast growth in Islam in areas hitherto largely Christian. The church requires practical mission strategies, and the service of qualified theologians who can articulate the faith correctly, teach others and apologetically defend and propagate the Christian faith. Theology definitely continues to shape my thinking and how I do things, but more so has equipped me with faith and intellectual resources helping to make my humble contribution to the growth and wellbeing of the Church.

THE CROWNING OF A SERVANT LEADER!

This year, you received the prestigious Lambeth Award (2020) from the Archbishop of Canterbury for your contribution to the Anglican Communion. Which key servant leadership lessons would you share with leaders who desire greater influence for greater good?

I have never had in mind to do anything with the aim to achieve an award. I have, however, learned to be purposeful, deliberate and consistent in what I do. The Apostle Paul lived by this amazing principle: to 'run' purposefully and not aimlessly like 'a boxer beating the air'. He consistently had one goal in

mind – to show others the way to salvation, and being sure that in the process, he too, qualifies for the prize (1 Cor.9:26-27). There is no point doing anything by half measures if you can do it. As Paul again urges in Col.3:23, "whatever you do, work at it with all your heart." It is common sense that good leadership bears good fruit, and gets recognized for its valuable contribution.

THE ASCENSION TO SERVICE

What set of circumstances ushered you into administration as the Vice-Chancellor of St. Paul's University?

I joined St. Paul's when it was a small institution. The college was small but strong and just rearing to go with enormous growth potential. I am grateful to the leaders and the team I met here who had very clear vision and strategy, making it easy to fit in and make my humble contribution. I had an opportunity to play key leadership role right from the beginning. Gratefully, the leadership then involved me in the process for the application and preparations towards the award of charter. I participated in the development of the initial strategic plan, the drawing up of charter documents and statutes, reviewing structures and systems, developing policies and academic programs. We successfully got chartered in 2007, which gave us a great impetus to drive the growth of the institution. While engrossed in this commitment, a vacancy for the position of the Vice Chancellor arose and I applied. Surprise, surprise I got the job. Beginning something is one thing, and completing it successfully is another. I am just grateful that ten years have come and gone and I am now preparing to usher in my successor.

As Vice-Chancellor of St. Paul's University, what do you feel is your greatest contribution in making St. Paul's University what it is today?

Leadership is never a solo performance. We can never pass the buck when blame has to be apportioned but we should never take full credit for any success – because success is always a product of a collaborative project. We have seen tremendous growth in human resource capacity, strengthened systems, developed and clarified structures, expanded physical facilities, increased campuses and academic programs, and with these, increased student enrolment as well as financial growth and stability. We have steadily grown our research output, linkages and library resources. The University's asset base has steadily grown over the year's and we have become a brand name attracting international recognition as the best managed private university in Kenya. As a team member, I have done my bit, and I am grateful to be part of a winning team.

In your opinion, what niche area do you feel St. Paul's University needs to occupy to establish it as a thought leader?

St. Paul's University has one of the oldest and best flagship programs such as Theology, IT and Computer Studies, Business and Communication courses. In addition, we have of late, also distinguished ourselves as leaders in Education, Development Studies, Leadership Courses and Nursing. Our graduates are able to compete with the best in the world and have excelled. New niche areas such as research and community outreach are emerging, and portends great potential. St. Paul's has a unique approach to education and offers a holistic learning experience that encompasses all dimensions of human development – and judiciously offers practical skills in areas such as sign language and sports alongside core courses. These are areas, SPU should explore more.

What key highlight defines your tenure as the Vice-Chancellor of St. Paul's University?

It has been one good run, thanks to our team. As I said above, we have achieved uninterrupted growth, and we give all the glory to God. For me, one outstanding thing is that people have grown with a growing university. I have seen staff rise from lowly positions to becoming dons, administrators and managers in the university, thanks to the university's staff development program and study support. I am happy to have made my humble contribution in this regard. As a saying attributed to John Adams goes, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." The enabling environment we have created should never be taken for granted.

Which key leadership lessons have you learned as the Vice-Chancellor of St. Paul's University?

Learning is a continuous process. Sometimes, the best lesson you learn is the realization of how little you know of things you think you know. The opportunity I have had at the helm of SPU has taught me among other things: patience, value of team work, strategic thinking, and managing the art of decision-making. Perhaps a key thing I may mention is that a leader cannot afford to be vague, you must articulate your vision clearly if you expect anyone to run with it. I have learned that there is no point doing anything if your heart is not in it. You must do what you should, as if your whole life depended on it. I have also learned a bit of shrewdness without malice, such as, for example, not making a decision on a matter, is in itself a decision. I have also learned that in all things, I must always remember that I am a servant, never the boss. Above all else, I have learned never to



take God for granted. Without his help I can do nothing.

The recent transitions within the university's management have been lauded as highly successful. What key lessons do you draw from your experience in managing these transitions?

Play by the book – it saves you a lot of headache and arbitrariness. We are blessed to have a strong governing Council who respect processes and professionally apply policies and procedures developed over the years. The lesson here is that, as John Maxwell rightly observes, “everything rises and falls on leadership.” With good leadership under our Council Chairman, the Most Rev. Dr. Ole Sapit and his able team, we were guided to plan well and developed recruitment procedures, which we implemented well. It all went well, and we give thanks to God for his faithfulness.

It is during your tenure that St. Paul's University has been ranked the best university in Kenya. How does this make you feel? In your opinion, what key attributes led to this accomplishment?

This is a confirmation of what we knew all along. We have a team of highly qualified and hardworking staff and faculty. Over the last few years we had rolled out a strategy to actualize the benefit of our stated core values, such as customer centism, which greatly emphasize quality service and customer satisfaction. We have had, for some time now, a robust ERP system, which guarantees the efficiency of our services. We have a credible quality assurance directorate that have grown a culture of excellence, promoting best practices in all aspects of our work. We have continued to resource our research unit and enhanced our library resources with e-brary, remote access, anti-plagiarism tools

and hands-on support system. We have a robust student support system in place through spiritual care, chaplaincy program, academic mentorship, sports and counseling services in all our campuses. We also work very closely with all key stakeholders including parents and sponsors. I am elated about this recognition and congratulate our council, the faculty, all staff and students for this great achievement.

As the Vice Chancellor, you have led the university through uncertain times occasioned by the Corona Virus Pandemic. What key leadership lessons would you like to share from your experience? What keeps you grounded in seasons of uncertainty?

This situation is still unfolding and we have put in place various strategic interventions. We are critically analyzing both short term and long term implications and are developing appropriate responses. Perhaps one lesson to be learned is the need for forward planning to handle unexpected disasters such as business interruption caused by the Corona Virus pandemic. Personal lessons for me is that, ‘every cloud has a silver lining.’ As the saying goes, “be afraid of the enormity of the possible.” We should never give in to the futility of the mind that dwells on the impossibilities or difficulties, but seize the opportunity of what possibilities lie beyond the problem. The possibilities, such as presented by technology and digital media, for example, can assure business continuity and afford new and better ways of doing business.

A LEGACY OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP

What profound memories do you have of the university and its staff?

I would probably answer your question well if I were speaking from a different vantage point than I have

now. I am so caught up in trying to finish well; and memories are still in the making.

What encouragement do you have for staff who have devoted themselves to advancing the university mission and vision?

Keep up the good work and get fulfillment from what you do best. Keep up building an institution of excellence, and make SPU a truly ‘the university of choice.’ Take every advantage for personal growth. Always remember that whatever you grow has a tendency to pay you back, and in due course, we can all grow with a growing institution.

What key counsel do you have for the graduating class of 2020?

God's world is full of possibilities, and the strong will always find a way to succeed in life. Have faith in God and believe in yourself. The world presents you with infinite possibilities but it is also not a place for the faint hearted. As the scripture says, ‘time and chance happens to us all,’ and although ‘the race is not always to the swift, or the battle to the strong,’ (Ecclesiastes 9:11) you will be wise if you chanced it on the side of the greater probability. Always be strong!

What key counsel do you have for the incoming Vice-Chancellor, Prof. James Kombo?

St. Paul's University is a great place to be. Over the years, we have done our best to integrate faith and professional conduct of business. I ask Prof. Kombo to commit his ways to the Lord and his work will prosper. There is a strong team waiting to receive you – embrace the team but provide leadership. Always remember: “alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.” Prof. Kombo has my prayers for God's blessings and I wish him success.

What is your parting shot?

You may know of the poem, ‘*The Soldier*,’ which opens with the words:

“If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is forever England.”

I have studied, lived and worked in St. Paul's for a long time – close to a quarter of a century – almost half the time I have been in existence. Certainly the better part of my adult life has been spent here. Over the years, I have become part and parcel of SPU – and truth be told, there is a part of me that is forever SPU. I have this undying dream of a bigger and glories SPU – and the best is yet to come. Given the chance, I would like to be part of that.

VC's Milestones

Prof. Joseph Galgalo's tenure as Vice Chancellor:

A decade of dedicated service that yielded tremendous transformation at the renowned center for academic excellence.

2020

- Seamless transition to virtual learning amid uncertainties occasioned by the Covid-19 pandemic
- Notable improvement in University ranking by Webometrics and Unirank at position 13 and 3 respectively among Kenyan Universities
- Construction of the School of Theology
- Establishment of the SPU Writing & Language Resource Centre (SPUWLRC)

2019

- Reclaiming management of the St. Paul's University Health Center from an independent service provider
- Launch of the BSc. Nursing (Regular) Programme
- Hosted the 2nd Building Capacity in Nursing and Midwifery Conference that converged global practitioners at SPU and culminated in the Launch of RAP; a panel charged with development of the first national Nursing research strategy
- Hosted the 3rd inter-continental TEMAC conference that culminated in the 2020 Lambeth Conference
- Launch of the Chancellor Samuel Kobia Center for Ethics, Integrity and Governance

2019

2018

- Installation of the 2nd University Chancellor
- Commissioning of the ultra-modern Soteria Training Wing

2017

- Commissioning of the Students' Cafeteria

2010

Installation of Prof. Joseph Galgalo as the 2nd Vice Chancellor

2011

- Establishment of the St. Paul's University Machakos Campus
- Establishment of the St. Paul's University Nakuru Campus
- Establishment of the St. Paul's Institute of Lifelong Learning and Leadership Center, currently referred to as St. Paul's University Enterprise Unit

2012

Commissioning of the Open Distance and E-Learning Center

2013

Commissioning of the state-of-the-art TV studio that was lauded for its high quality equipment. Media guru Linus Gitahi graced the event and asserted that the quality of training offered by SPU would be instrumental in raising the standards in the media industry.

2014

- Commissioning of the Postgraduate Building
- Commissioning of the Men's Hostel
- Consecration of the main gate
- Establishment of the Quality Assurance Directorate

2015

Commissioning of the Central Administration Block

2016

- Launch of the first African Multi-disciplinary Journal of Research
- Admission of the first cohort of Government sponsored students
- Launch of the 2016-2025 Strategic Plan
- Admission of students to the pioneer PhD programmes
- Establishment of the Research Directorate
- Establishment of the International Partnerships and Alumni Relations Directorate

2010

**VC's
Milestones**

2013**2016**



A group photo with the St. Paul's University Students Association representatives



Prof. Galgalo with Council Members during the 28th graduation ceremony



The VC (right) with Dr. Jewel Hyun (left) and Elder Hyun of Mathew 28 Ministries during the ground breaking ceremony for the construction of the St. Paul's University School of Theology (SOTI)



The VC welcomes the Chancellor, Prof. Margaret Kobia during one of her visits to the University



The VC, Prof. Galgalo dines with the Archbishop of Canterbury, His Grace, Justin Welby during the 3rd Theological Education for Mission in the Anglican Communion Conference at SPU



The VC leads Council Members in a tour of the newly commissioned Students Cafeteria

A Tribute to Service and Excellence

LIMURU CAMPUS

Prof. Galgalo is a leader with integrity. At a time when institutions are struggling with leadership on all fronts, he has modeled servant leadership in word and deed; he has no room for mediocrity or cutting corners. Prof. Galgalo is both pastoral and firm, very disciplined, thoughtful and true to his motto; being at peace with all men (Romans 12:18). I celebrate this great resilient leader, academic, Priest, Canon, a father and brother in Christ.

Prof. Esther Mombo – Director, International Partnerships and Alumni Relations

Prof. Joseph Galgalo was a divine gift to St. Paul's University. God has given him astonishing leadership abilities that he has humbly and wholeheartedly used to serve the University and the church of Christ to the glory of God.

Rev. Dr. Sammy Githuku - Director, Board of Postgraduate Studies

I wish Prof. Galgalo the very best in his next venture and may God continue using him to serve his people.

Lynda Kiboi – Procurement Department

I received you as a student, not knowing that someday you would be my boss! I can still remember you in a black leather jacket when you asked me for directions to the office of the Caterer. You proved to be a father, always concerned about me despite my humble position in housekeeping department. You encouraged me to go back to school and today, I am a pastor and diploma holder progressing with my studies. Your mentorship has made me who I am today; thank you and God bless you as you continue to lead people through your good heart of service to all.

Mary Omullo – Housekeeping Department

NAIROBI CAMPUS

Prof. Galgalo: It is amazing that ten years have just flown by and what a journey it has been! I salute you! As a student of leadership, it has been a great privilege and honor to work under you; gaining firsthand experience of a godly transformational leader. Your godly vision, inspirational leadership, dependence on God, engaging work, calling for continuous improvement and higher ideals have sharpened and given us a great example to emulate. Thank you for seeing our strengths and allowing us an opportunity to become the best version of ourselves. May God remember you favorably for all you have done for SPU. (Neh. 5:19).

Truphosa Kwaka – Sumba - Principal, Nairobi Campus

Prof, you ushered me to SPU in 2011, provided an ideal environment for growth that made me a better person. What more would I ask from a servant leader like you? Continue lighting the candle wherever you go with our Lord leading the way.

Mary Kibuine – Lecturer, Faculty of Business, Computer Science and Communication (Department of Business Studies)

If I were to think of humility, I would visualize you Prof. You added one more gem to the St. Paul's University motto: "Servants of God and Humanity" - how - with humility. You truly served God and humanity with utmost humility. You are an inspiration, a living example that all can emulate. I needed not wonder how the core values of the university are lived, I saw it all in you, while chairing the Senate, delivering a speech during graduation ceremonies, sharing in the chapel or walking along the pathways and corridors of the University. You have made an enduring mark in my life and profession.

John Kanja - Lecturer, Faculty of Business, Computer Science and Communication (Department of Communication Studies)

Prof. Galgalo, it has been a great experience working under your leadership. You leave St. Paul's University with great respect and admiration from us. I have learned a great deal from your incredible leadership, that propelled SPU to its greatest successes and we are certain that you will continue with this reign of success in your future endeavors. God bless you.

Winnie Thegu – Registry Department

Prof, your brilliance and guidance have always inspired us to do better. You were not just a boss to us but, a mentor and friend who knew us all by name, best wishes on you next assignment.

Simon Nzomo - Administration

NAKURU CAMPUS

Prof, you are my mentor. Thank you for nurturing many within and beyond St. Paul's University. May your leadership, passion and humility continue to sparkle and influence many in your endeavours.

Dr. Paul Gesimba - Nakuru Campus Coordinator

I joined SPU as a student and currently working at the PR and Marketing Department. Under the visionary and servant leadership demonstrated by Prof. Joseph Galgalo, I have witnessed tremendous growth of infrastructure, faculties, human resources and the student population. As you begin a new chapter of your life, may the Lord continue to enlarge your territories. Shalom.

Shadrack Rop – Public Relations & Marketing Department

Prof. Galgalo is down to earth. He is polite, friendly and cares for all people regardless of their status. He upholds integrity. During his tenure I have seen a lot of development and increase in assets and human resources. Prof. Joseph Galgalo is a model of servant leadership and follows Christian principles.

Benard Rono – Administration

I take this opportunity on behalf of the Counselling Psychology Club to congratulate Prof. Galgalo for a successful tenure and wish him God's grace and favour in all his new endeavours.

Mrs. Ann Ndungu – Dean of Students Department

I realized Professor Galgalo is a humble and God-fearing man the first time I met him. As his tenure comes to an end, I pray that our almighty God will continue to guide and favour him in every step he takes.

Harriet Muthoni – Housekeeping Department

MACHAKOS CAMPUS

Prof. Galgalo, our VC taught us the true meaning of leadership. It is about being humble, strategic and focused in order to achieve the desired results; empowering and inspiring others to realize the bigger vision, being accessible by others great or small; knowing others (even by name); being a true shepherd who loves and supports everyone; and being fair to each person. He would always ask, "What does the policy say?"

Dr. Nason Vundi - Machakos Campus Coordinator

May the Lord bless you to continue being a blessing to others as you have been to us. Psalms 119: 1-2: "Blessed are they whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the LORD. Blessed are they who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart."

Amy Vundi - Registry Department

"I will forever be grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to work at SPU, PR & Marketing Department. Your excellent selfless leadership and wisdom is an indicator that you are destined for greatness. Congratulations on successful completion of your tenure. I wish you God's blessings.

Joseph Muroti – Public Relations and Marketing Department

We thank God for the great wisdom that He gave you to bring SPU this far! Thus says the Lord, I will go before you break every steal gate....., (Isaiah 45:2-12).

Catherine Mwendwa - Housekeeping Department

Our outgoing VC redefined and revolutionized every aspect of leadership by demonstrating that putting God first coupled with humility, selflessness and earnestly serving others is a worthy course for success. You have mentored, inspired and touched the lives of many. Indeed, you have left an indelible mark in our hearts and we will forever be grateful to you. May Bless you and your family.

William Sang - Lecturer, Faculty of Business, Computer Science and Communication (Department of Business Studies)



Change of Guard

Prof. James Kombo
Vice Chancellor Designate

By Michael Mungai and Sheila Ochieng'

Prof. James Kombo is a Systematic Theologian with over 25 years' experience in University teaching, research and management. Prof. Kombo is a son of an ordained minister in the Church of Christ Africa. He grew in admiration of his father who was diligent in his service. Prof. Kombo's love for ministry, his commitment to God's kingdom and the desire to serve led him to pursue a calling in ministry.

A graduate of the prestigious Stellenbosch University in South Africa, Prof. Kombo is an author and a thought leader. The astute scholar is best known for his book, *'The Doctrine of God in African Christian Thought'*, a publication that was greeted with warm critical acclaim. The book revisits what appears to be a lackluster state of the African Church and encourages theological reinterpretation and application of the creeds for worship and teaching in light of African realities.

As an administrator, Prof. Kombo has demonstrated the transformative power of servant leadership. He has previously served as the Dean, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies at Daystar University, the Deputy Vice Chancellor in-charge of Academic Affairs and at some point as the acting Vice Chancellor in the same institution. Prof. Kombo will take over from Prof. Galgalo who completes

his term of office in December, 2020. During his tenure, Prof. Galgalo has steered the university to tremendous accomplishments. He has been instrumental in the growth and expansion of physical facilities, academic programs, support systems including library and ICT resources, increased enrolment and enhanced human resource capacity. Notably, a recent study conducted by a leading international higher education directorate, *Unirank*, ranked St. Paul's University as the best private university in Kenya.

Prof. Kombo will assume office as the third Vice Chancellor of SPU from January 2021. His vision is to meet the aspirations of ecumenical partners, build strong relationships with the broader society, and intends to strengthen the university's research and data management capabilities. Prof. Kombo's vision is to see transformative education that produces graduates who are both stewards and creators of wealth. In his counsel to the graduating class of 2020, Prof. Kombo advises the graduands with these words of encouragement:

"Have confidence in your training. You have the reputation of being in one of the best universities in Kenya. Armed with this and Christ being your light, 'you can do all things through Him who gives you strength.' (Phil. 4.13).

“

Have confidence in your training.

You have the reputation of being in one of the best universities in Kenya. Armed with this and Christ being your light, 'you can do all things through Him who gives you strength.' (Phil. 4.13)

”

Positioned for Service

A Story of Diligence, Dedication and Passion.



By Sheila Ochieng' and Michael Mungai

The Bible narrates the story of Saul, son of Kish, who is introduced to us as 'an impressive young man without equal' and 'a head taller than any of the others.' In an exciting twist of events, the young man goes in search of his father's lost donkeys and three days later, returns home an obscure king. Peter's story draws compelling parallels to that of Kish's progeny. Peter, son of Kamau, began the search for his father's lost mules in 1988 as a Bachelor of Education student at the Kenyatta University. He grew up aspiring to be a Veterinary doctor. However, the donkeys he sought to treat eluded him when he narrowly missed the opportunity to study Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nairobi. Although Kish's animals were recovered within a few days, the climes in which God authored Peter's story drastically changed. It would take him more than 30 years to recover his father's lost possessions. As God would have it, Peter finally found the lost mules on the second floor of the St. Paul's University Central Administration Building. It is in the vast expanse of his office that Peter recaptures and relives his father's vision for academic excellence. Here, he reigns as king over his own kingdom as the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs; an appointment he got owing to his research prowess. Like Saul, Peter stands a head above his peers. His clear articulation of the vision and mission leaves little doubt about his capacity to steer the university to academic stardom.

Born to peasant farmers, Prof. Peter Ngure began his life on the sprawling hills of Kenya's grain belt, Trans-Nzoia County. It is while working on his father's vast farm that he cultivated diligence, tenacity and a positive attitude towards work, virtues that would later blossom and lend themselves to his success as an astute scholar. 'Life on the farm was real fun. We played perilous games,' he remarks with soulful laughter. Early on in life, Prof. Ngure's father encouraged his twelve children to look for opportunities to work and earn some money, something that provided him with the foundation he needed to develop an entrepreneurial mindset and a business acumen.

Nevertheless, in an attempt to recover his own missed opportunity, he infused in his children the importance of academic excellence. 'My father invested heavily in our education because he believed it would be the best way to ensure that we made it in life,' he chimes reflectively. It is at Baringo High School that Peter became acquainted with the pangs of poverty. 'My formative life was callous; I faced many challenges,' says the soft-spoken professor whose smile belies the challenges he faced while growing up. Here, he steeled himself against adversity and trained his focus on his academic pursuits. His Christian upbringing formed a substantive foundation that anchored him amidst life's stormy waters. 'There is something tangible that happens in people's lives when they invest themselves in God,' he says

'Nothing is impossible with God,'

solemnly. On the winds of his childhood faith, he sailed on, weaving into the tapestry of his life the Christian lessons that his father imprinted on his heart.

Stories of success and triumph reinforced Prof. Ngure's ambitions. The lavish lifestyle displayed by close relatives offered a stark contrast to his humble background. However, an encounter with Mr. Kamau Kariuki, the high school Christian Union Patron ingrained in him a more profound sense of purpose and obligation. 'The best Christians in the school should also be the best in academics,' he affirms attributing his sense of thinking to Christian influence. Firmly rooted in his passion, Prof. Ngure went on to excel in his high school examinations and earned himself a place at the university. The missed opportunity to study Veterinary Medicine did little to dim his resolve. In retrospect, Prof. Ngure attributes his humility, confidence, and sense of relevance to the 'accidental' pursuit of a degree in education. 'I have mentored and impacted many people than I would have done if I treated animals as a Vet doctor; there is no regret at all. If I had any regret, I had opportunities to change careers,' he says, recounting his academic journey. Although the study of Zoology launched his early career into the education sector, he later branched off into epidemiology, a choice he describes as a 'natural path' that fits his passion. 'Teaching had a strong component of leadership and administration,' he adds, lending credence to his rise into administration.

'I would want to see St. Paul's University grow to become the 'go-to place' in terms of evidence-based practice. I have a dream of developing the most vibrant data centre for the key subjects that we offer here, starting with Theology,' he says in a grand sweep of his vision statement. Arguably, the tides of time have taken a toll on Prof. Ngure who had to adopt a pair of spectacles to clarify his sight; but this has not marred his vision. Over the years, he has amplified his flair for research while simultaneously sharpening his ambition for quality education. Armed with a wealth of experiences and passion for education, Prof. Ngure easily translates abstract theoretical concepts into actionable solutions. Remaining faithful to himself, the ambitious professor assails his mandate by prioritizing the invigoration of the university's research and innovation ecosystem. Prof. Ngure's faith finds expression in his commitment to infusing godly values in education under a broad pillar he calls, 'Integration of Christian Faith and Learning.' At SPU, Prof. Ngure has found a corporate heritage that embraces his convictions while giving him a broader latitude to influence young minds

with the same faith that he often references as the cornerstone of success. In keeping with the University's strategic objective to grow its student population, Prof. Ngure has heeded the call to 'cast wide the nets' and expand the scope of education services across the nation. 'Virtual teaching and learning was a priority long before the university was closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic,' says the professor whose strategic foresight was instrumental in developing the Open Distance and E-Learning strategy within his first 100 days in office.

Admittedly, the Corona Virus pandemic has stirred the waters of disruption across many sectors, with the impact mainly felt in Kenya's education sector. 'Our ultimate vision is to have the SPU virtual campus with a principal and at least 4,000 students in a year,' he says expansively. The SPU E-Learning strategy has transformed the university into a fast mover in digital learning. While many educational institutions struggled to switch to digital, SPU has already blazed the trail in many firsts! 'We were the first university to complete the January-April semester and offer online exams. Besides, we were also among the first universities to effectively utilize the Big Blue Button and offer value to students by providing free educational bundles; we have trained all staff and almost all students on e-learning. I am also very committed to ensuring that we are the first university to be fully accredited as Kenya's first virtual campus. This will make education accessible to everyone in the country while capitalizing on our mission to produce servant leaders across the world. Overall, we want to remain on the cutting edge of teaching and learning.' While many success milestones have marked the digital transition, the process has not been easy for the administrator. Digital learning has dealt an affront to practical educational experiences. Prof. Ngure has neatly circumvented the challenge through partnerships and collaborations. 'We are in conversation with one of our partners, MBF, to develop an e-training hub in collaboration with leading universities in the United States to train nurses using virtual products and innovations that replicate what happens in a lab. The same will be replicated in the computer science, business and communication departments,' quips the professor in infectious enthusiasm.

A true statesman, Prof. Ngure hopes that the Corona Virus pandemic will catalyse Kenya's economic development driven by research within the higher education sector. 'Higher education with specific reference to research and development has been used as a yardstick to measure the propensity and potential of a country for economic growth. We will

also play a role in helping the nation to innovate,' he offers. Besides, Prof. Ngure is an ardent advocate of research within institutions. In his estimation, there is minimal appetite and capacity for research in local universities. Closely related to developing a robust research capacity is his ambition to develop thought leadership by coalescing the university's pockets of excellence and rallying resources around institutionalized thematic areas. 'We also need to strengthen and expand partnerships and collaborations; seek egalitarian relationships to concretize on what we need and shape the wider national agenda,' he says animatedly as his face lights up in a broad smile. On a broader scale, Prof. Ngure hopes to widen the university's girth of influence by mainstreaming leadership and governance in all curricula. 'We should model the best example of what leadership should be: I would like to thank Prof. Galgalo who, for the last ten years, has produced a model of what leadership in a higher education institution should be!'

This year, St. Paul's University will graduate close to 2,000 students. 'Things are no longer the same. Any graduate should be ready to hone their IT skills. In addition, graduates should embody discipline; this is what will earn them a place within the marketplace. Work with an attitude of humility and go beyond your call of duty. Finally, step out of your comfort zone and engage with the world, but above all, engage in life-long learning,' he offers in counsel to graduating class of 2020. As we conclude the interview, Prof. Ngure dutifully returns to his previous disposition. On any given day, you will find the soft-spoken professor hunched over his mahogany desk, scribbling furiously on some documents. Upon his shoulders, he bears his father's vision, now echoed in the weighty expectations of the staff and students that he serves. On one end of his office cabinet, a solitary crystal memento stoops low, in honour to his master's commitment to developing others; on another, a trophy shines with glee, perhaps because in its hands sits a plaque that reads, 'Professor Peter Ngure: A Mentor Like No Other.' Although Prof. Ngure has tasted the trappings of power, he finds his greatest fulfilment in imparting life lessons to everyone he meets. His father's legacy lives on in his commitment to serve. His is not an easy task. Should he ever look back in frustration, it will be to draw comfort from a portrait bearing the smiling faces of his beautiful wife and two children who have become his *raison d'être*. But greater assurance is drawn from the words he has set before him: 'Nothing is impossible with God.'



Rev. Dr. Zablon Bundi Mutongu SPU Alumnus with a Knack for Fundraising

By Susan Mwangi

The story of Rev. Dr. Zablon Bundi Mutongu cannot be told without making reference to his prowess in fundraising and project management. It is a story of humble beginnings, hard work, determination, resilience and recognition on the global arena. A story of great academic success tempered with humility and a deep desire to serve God in every undertaking. The story begins in little known *Rwambiti* village in Kirinyaga County to the echelons of power at St. Paul's University, as Deputy Vice Chancellor, Finance & Administration. His rise to University leadership has not been handed to him on a silver platter. He has progressively climbed the ladder of success and made it to the top, his humble beginnings and prolonged periods out of school due to lack of fees, notwithstanding. Today, he boasts of two doctorate degrees and a few other recognitions to his name. For the 57-year old Systematic Theologian, the sky is the limit and the word impossible is only a myth. With 4 books to his name, several peer reviewed journal articles and academic papers presented in local and international academic conferences, he is an accomplished scholar in his own right.

His Early Years

Rev. Dr. Bundi's began his career as a Farm Manager in *Mbaruku*, Nakuru County and later as a technical teacher after his training as a Technical Agricultural Officer. Soon thereafter he joined St. Andrew's College of Theology and Development, Kabare for a 3-year Diploma course in Theology that was offered by St. Paul's University. This was the beginning of his 11-year journey as an Anglican priest that was crowned with his ordination in 1995, rising from a Parish Minister, Rural Dean, and later, Director of Training of the Diocese. On the Bishop's recommendation, Dr. Bundi later joined St. Paul's University for a degree in Theology from 1995-1998, before pursuing a Masters in Theology at Aberdeen University in Scotland. He graduated cum laude and was awarded a merit certificate for excellence alongside the degree itself. He later joined Kwa Zulu Natal University in South Africa for a PhD degree in Theology and Development. However, as fate would have it, he did not complete this degree as his journey hit headwinds along the way. Not one to get discouraged, Dr. Bundi joined Cebu Doctors University in the Philippines for a professional doctorate programme in Organizational Development and Transformation and thereafter another doctorate in Advanced Philosophy and Advanced Research Methodology, which combined with his earlier studies, earned him a PhD in Organizational Development. He ended up with 2 doctorate degrees.

After leaving ministry at parish level, Dr. Bundi began teaching at St. Andrew's College of Theology and Development (1999-2001). That was about the same time that he attained his Masters degree. During that time, his family was living in Limuru as his wife was serving as the parish minister at the Anglican Church of Kenya (ACK) Kabuku Parish. It was clear to him that he needed to join them and that marked the end of his time at the Kirinyaga Diocese. He joined the Mt. Kenya South Diocese as a parish minister and a rural dean, an enviable position in the Anglican Church hierarchy. A year later, he was promoted to the position of Director of Training in the diocese, a position he held for 3 years, while serving as the Director of Bishop Kariuki Integrated Community Training Centre in Wangige at the same time.

His Career at SPU

Dr. Bundi's career in St. Paul's University (SPU) began in 2004 as an adjunct lecturer in the department

of Theology. He quickly integrated into the system and soon developed 3 units for the department: Management for Clergy, Peace building and Conflict Transformation and Community Development. In 2005, SPU received several requests for more practical trainings aimed at making church clergy more effective in their management and leadership roles in the parishes. He was identified to spearhead this initiative and although it was not an easy decision for him at that time, he decided to dedicate himself fully to SPU.

His star begun to rise and a year later, he was promoted to the position of Practical Coordinator of the University and the following year the Head of the Department of Practical Theology, History and Missiology. Two and a half years later, another promotion came calling, this time it was to the position of Director of St. Paul's Institute of Life Long Learning and Leadership Development Centre (SPILL & LDC). Later in 2014, he was promoted to become the University Business Manager and attained the title Director of St. Paul's University Enterprise Unit. Dr. Bundi's star has continued to shine brightly culminating in his appointment as the SPU Deputy Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration in January 2020.

On becoming Deputy Vice Chancellor, Finance & Administration

A normal day for him begins with a prayer and Bible reading before moving on to the activities of the day. After consulting with his personal assistant to find out what may require urgent attention, he moves on to the day's activities which mostly include attending to scheduled meetings, handling finance and administration related matters of the university among other tasks. Over the years, discipline has been key in his career, a character that is clearly evident from his well-organized office and empty in-tray. He says that he keeps it that way and only issues that require further consultation may be found in his in-tray. He believes in being creative, innovative and proactive alongside having integrity and value for people.

The Story of St. Paul's University Enterprise Unit

The story of Dr. Bundi cannot be complete without mentioning the St. Paul's University Enterprise Unit (SPUEU). From humble beginnings of working from a classroom with one staff to a fully-fledged self-sustaining institute of 15 staff is no mean feat. Over the years, the success of SPUEU has confounded both friend and foe. He is quick to attribute his

success to resource mobilization and networking skills – all of which he refers to as God given talents. He also attributes his success in the SPUEU to the leadership of the University who have supported his initiatives and given him the liberty to work freely. His creative and innovative attributes that have seen him implement new ideas, and convince donors about a project they should fund or increase funding for certain ongoing projects. Integrity is also another quality that has enabled him maintain donor confidence and enabled him to continue fundraising for more projects.

With time, Dr. Bundi has been able to develop several new courses, beginning with a leadership course for all the graduating students to various other courses, mostly inclined to leadership development. However, the women's leadership course aimed at training women in leadership and entrepreneurship turned out to be a great success. Over the years, he has developed numerous funding proposals to ensure self-sustainability of the training programmes. Dependence on donor funding is not sustainable and therefore his quest for more sustainable solutions through resource mobilization and networking opportunities have led him to persuade donors to finance various projects that have seen SPUEU become a self-sustaining entity. Today, the enterprise unit has established the Soteria Building and Guest House, Abigail Restaurant and the Soteria Training Complex, all in 7 years. Dr. Bundi has also trained a formidable team of trainers and facilitators, creating a base of consultants that are readily available to add value to the University's professional training programs. His hope is to train many in the area of resource mobilization, something that is very close to his heart.

His Family, his Support System

When asked what he considers as his greatest achievement, without hesitation, Dr. Bundi quickly says, "raising a God-fearing family". His wife, also a minister in the Anglican Church and serving as an Archdeacon of Mt. Kenya South Diocese as well as the current principal of St. Timothy College, has been a supportive companion and a pillar of strength for him. His 23-year old triplet sons, his 17-year old daughter and his little grandson complete the picture of the Bundi family. With their support, he is able to balance work, family life and church activities and be a productive member of the society.

Slaying the GIANTS

A Story of Faith, Courage and the Rise to Global Service.



By Sheila Ochieng' and Michael Mungai

Wisdom renders it that the path to success is rarely a straight line. Rather, it is a maze peppered by the ebbs and flows of success and failure; both co-existing in perfect harmony to define and refine a man's character. Peaks of success are often preceded by seasons of fear, despair or even failure. However, it is what happens in the valley that determines the heights to which a man ascends. Valley experiences are deeply rewarding, only if one summons the courage to confront and

conquer the giants within it. While many have resigned themselves to the predicaments they face, few have assaulted their challenges with an equal measure of faith and fortitude sufficient to overcome life's greatest difficulties. One such contender is Hon. Joe Mucheru, EGH., who defied life's limitations to earn a place among global contemporaries. Born a child of no great advantage, Joe recounts his story of courage, faith and his meteoric rise to prominence.

Joe's valley is set in Kamirithu, a little known village

whose claim to fame is its affiliation to renowned author, Ngugi wa Thiong'o. Here, life was slow and predictable; the waters of uncertainty remained unperturbed. His childhood was punctuated by the biting cold that swiftly melted at the prospect of tea served in tin cups with large mandazis. It is in the simplicity of his upbringing that Joe was confronted with life's complexities. "I often wondered how the radio was able to trap voices inside it; I was curious about the magic behind this", he says, reliving his childhood wonder. At an early age, Joe's focus was centered on the pursuit of academic excellence in

the context of unwavering faith in God: “My parents, especially my father, were very strict and keen to ensure that I was not distracted from school. From my early days at Kamandura Primary School, to my time at the university, the question of education and success was always an evolving one. My parents taught me the importance of God in my life from the onset and I have not deviated from this path ever since”, he affirms.

Buoyed by his parent’s aspirations, Joe’s excellence earned him a place at the prestigious Lenana School. His humble background and childhood faith provided an anchor against the winds of heady teenage years that often bore subtle rebellion. As a young man set in his ambitions, Joe applied himself to understanding the ‘complexities’ of life that almost seemed ubiquitous. In response to his commitment, time yielded her benevolence to helping him reframe his childhood curiosity into something he wanted to pursue. It is from the deep recesses of his thinking that the love for technology was nurtured and birthed. “It is said that necessity is the mother of invention. Most inventors and innovators often seek to find solutions that address gaps, needs or problems”, he puts in. Later on, the time spent at the City University in London as an undergraduate student inflamed his desire to find practical solutions to challenges that stretched beyond national boundaries. Armed with a solitary computer and the desire to transform Kenya’s digital landscape, Joe went on to establish Wananchi Online, a technology company that later rebranded to Zuku.

Joe’s life is punctuated by uncommon courage. His foray into Kenya’s technology sector put him in direct opposition with the tech giants that dominated the market at the time. Upon his return to Kenya from the UK, Joe consolidated his efforts with those of like minded market players to disrupt the telecommunications sector. “Together with other key players, we set up the Technology Service Providers of Kenya (TESPOK), which amplified our bargaining power that eventually saw the government allow us to set up Kenya’s first internet exchange point (IXP) in 2002. Prior to this, all internet traffic in Kenya was exchanged internationally and the IXP helped to significantly bring down the cost of internet access in Kenya”, he quips confidently. Joe’s conquest widened his prospects and launched him onto the international platform. A man of many firsts, the Economics and Computer Science graduate would go on to become Google’s first employee in Sub Saharan Africa. “One of my most valued memories was the establishment and implementation of the Google mapping system in Africa”, he chimes in retrospectively. In 2015, Joe received his highest calling yet; that of serving his nation as Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs.

In his current position, Hon. Mucheru has a much better perspective of the challenges and complexities faced by the nation and its citizens. “My previous experience enables me to interact seamlessly with all stakeholders as I have a historical context and understanding of the sector. Being in government also enables me to have a bird’s eye view of the sector and has created immense avenues for collaborations and learnings locally and globally”, he confides. During his tenure, CS

Mucheru has faced a myriad of challenges; but none have tested his resolve as greatly as the Corona Virus 2019 Pandemic. In the face of great adversity, the CS has played a major role in steering the country towards unprecedented levels of digital transformation. His positive approach has afforded the nation the opportunity to leverage technology to unlock new digital possibilities. “I view the pandemic as a technology partner as it has unlocked technology solutions for business continuity and has in effect contributed to budget rationalizations and savings as well as cut down on travel time for both private and public entities.”

CS Mucheru is a youthful man. Nothing in his demeanor reflects that he has lived for over five decades, and he attributes this to a purposeful decision to eat healthy foods and his love for walking. At the heart of his endeavours is his passion for Africa’s youth. In 2019, he was selected to serve as a Global Board Member at the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF’s) youth driven initiative – Generation Unlimited (Gen-U). “Gen-U is an opportunity to prioritize investments for young people. Under the leadership of the President who is a global leader for Gen-U Young People’s agenda, we have made commitments that prioritize youth’s education and employment opportunities.” The CS has vested his efforts in empowering the next generation of leaders. His mandate is clear: “My Ministry has a range of programs that aim to equip, empower, involve and protect the youth. As the President has often said, the Youth are our country’s future and as such, we design and implement all our programs for the youth, and with the youth”, he adds, beaming with satisfaction. In addition, CS Mucheru hopes to tackle the prevailing information asymmetry by setting up a one-stop-shop for youth to find information on all programs, regulations and policies that they can benefit from. The one-stop-shop will include automated bots, a web portal and a hotline where the youth can access information on everything that is geared towards empowering them.

Arguably, CS Mucheru has overcome insurmountable odds to ascend to greatness. The struggles in the valleys have ultimately made a man of the boy with a penchant for problem solving. The profound lessons learnt in his formative years in a little known village have groomed him for service at the highest peak in the country’s capital. From his Teleposta Towers office, the buzzing city opens his mind to greater complexities than those he conjured up as a child. But with every challenge, CS Mucheru embraces the opportunity to serve. In many ways, he oozes inspiration for a new generation of young people that itch for success. In his counsel to the graduating class of 2020, he says: “Start with what is within your reach by virtue of education, passion, talent or ability. The question you must ask yourself is: “What is it that sets me apart from the person sitting next to me?” The answer lies within your passion, dedication and commitment. Those three things, together, will get you far. I know this because the education I got from school allowed me to get a footing in the room. But what got me a seat on the high table was beyond what I was taught in class – it was the consistent desire to do it, do it well and do it right!”

“What is it that sets me apart from the person sitting next to me?”

The answer lies within your passion, dedication and commitment.



Scaling Greater Heights

By Rita N. Kituyi

“Excellence is the unlimited ability to improve the quality of what you have to offer,” Rick Pitino once said. Over the years, the practice has been incorporated into the St. Paul’s University culture and in the wake of customer-centrism more resources are being dedicated towards improving the University’s stakeholders’ experience. In this regard, St. Paul’s University is headed for realization of another milestone envisaged in the Strategic Plan (2016-2025) through construction of the School of Theology.

The project undertaken in partnership with Mathew 28 Ministries is expected to meet the growing demand for teaching facilities owing to a steady rise in the student population at the main campus. This would go hand in hand with conformance to the Ministry of Health guidelines on curbing the spread of the Corona Virus; a reality that had not been anticipated then. Incepted against the backdrop of creating a conducive environment for teaching Theological programmes, the complex will host lecture halls for Diploma, Undergraduate and Postgraduate programmes; administrative offices; a chapel and social hall. In consistency with the St. Paul’s culture, it will be fitted with ‘wi-fi’, a lift and lounge for unwinding just to provide a better campus experience to the occupants.

Construction commenced on a high note with a ground breaking ceremony on Wednesday 22nd January, 2020 at the main campus in Limuru. The ceremony was graced by Dr. Jewel Hyun, the Founder and President of Mathew 28 Ministries and her husband Elder Gene Hyun, among other guests. Adorned in a white dust coat, yellow helmet and blue face mask; the architect affirmed his commitment to outdo himself on this project. His sentiments can be taken to the bank if previous projects executed at the university are anything to go by. Like a lieutenant ready for war, the architect was armed with the buildings plan and he systematically assisted the delegation from Mathew 28 Ministries in laying the foundation stone.

Dr. Jewel has made substantial input in the growth of the University by sponsoring students’ education, research conferences and construction of state-of-the-art training facilities. Faithful management of previous benefits by the university’s management have played a major role in enticing Dr. Jewel’s continued support. Through Prof. Galgalo’s able leadership, the university has realized tremendous growth in the student population, infrastructure, staff population and qualifications; attributes that have led to remarkable improvement in the institutions global ranking.

The SPU family looks forward to implementation of a successful project that will take the university to greater heights.



It is Non-Stop learning at SPU!

Covid-19 and our transition to online education

By Grace Kinyanjui-Njeru
Director - SPU Virtual Campus

Provision and access to education is a fundamental human right for everyone. However, the Covid-19 pandemic brought unprecedented educational disruption as a result of the subsequent closure of universities across the globe. At St. Paul's University (SPU), this emergent situation did not catch us flat-footed as the virtual campus was already in existence. SPU officially launched Distance & eLearning programmes on 22nd September 2012. Since then, it has continued to offer various programmes and has graduated learners in various fields. To a great extent, online education was associated with off-campus students; but currently all our students are part of it!

It was three weeks to the close of the January-April 2020 semester when the first case of the Corona Virus disease was announced in Kenya. Like all other educational institutions in the country, SPU closed its doors. Through the use of various technological tools, all on-campus students and lecturers were instantly transitioned to online education to complete the semester. This was done through a mix of synchronous (real-time) and asynchronous (self-paced) technologies such as Zoom, Google Meet, Piazza, Google Classrooms, Skype, emails, and WhatsApp audio recordings. Online open-book examinations were prepared and administered to students to facilitate closure of the semester. Online education efforts for on-campus students would then receive a boost as it became clear that the University needed to be conscious and strategic in planning for the May-August 2020 semester. This was

driven by the realization that Emergency Remote Teaching (ERT) as it came to be commonly known across the world would not be a long-term strategy for online education with the global lockdown.

Elaborate consultative planning processes were pursued to facilitate communication of the vision to transition all lecturers and students to the SPU Learner Management System (LMS). The SPU LMS became the sole and central platform that would house the virtual campus in compliance with quality assurance requirements. The University eLearning (utilized by distance learning students) and vLearning (utilized by students enrolled in other modes of study) portals became critical as they provided educators and learners with a gate pass to the virtual classroom. In the virtual classroom, the social, cognitive, and content presence is available. The learner engages with other learners and the facilitator in addition to interacting with the course content. The virtual campus experience is technology enabled from end to end.

Governance and administrative structures were strengthened to support and facilitate a seamless transition process. The Executive, Board of Management, Senate, faculties, students and support staff all united for a common cause that not only ensured there was business continuity and sustainability but also guaranteed non-stop learning, which enabled students meet their learning goals. This was followed by intense training and demo sessions to get everyone on board. Four cycles were executed with a hallmark achievement of 65 training demos which were realized between April and August 2020. The demo sessions targeted the entire University community and various aspects were addressed using a multipronged approach. This promoted acquisition of necessary skills and competencies to survive and navigate through an online learning environment. The training arenas played a critical role in empowering educators and learners with technological skills that were instrumental in activating uptake and use of technology. Additionally, students without desktop computers, tablets or iPads could learn on their mobile phones as an investment had been made on a mobile phone application that is free for download and use by SPU users. The University then went ahead to provide internet bundles that were negotiated with service providers resulting in students getting 10GB monthly bundles. Lecturers benefited from 30GB bundles to enable them to facilitate online classes.

Student support services continued to be offered online. Many virtual meetings were held to discuss various issues affecting students. As we progressed, webinars, e-therapy sessions, Bible studies and daily online services took place uninterrupted by lack of physical proximity as various technologies bridged the gaps between the University and the learners. The University community became a beneficiary of what online education could offer. The gains realized as a result of working from home include: spending more time with family, enjoying more time flexibility, cost effectiveness as money that would have been used for fueling cars, commuting, paying for hostel services and other associated costs and risks that come as a result of being away from home were shelved.

For every cloud there is a silver lining. The Corona Virus pandemic has changed education forever. It has challenged the place of the traditional face-to-face classroom-based approach leaving in its place a technology receptive culture that is now anchored at SPU. A recent survey conducted by the SPU virtual campus on student and lecturer experiences with virtual teaching and learning indicated a high level of satisfaction with the outcomes. There is obviously a paradigm shift in the way online education is being perceived in comparison to face-to-face scenarios. It enabled access to learning at the convenience of the learner while ensuring that all stayed safe in compliance with the Ministry of Health guidelines.

Despite all the gains, COVID-19 has taught us a few lessons on the value of building and strengthening existing online learning communities that serve the purpose of ensuring that learners do not feel isolated while learning

virtually. Isolation is an inherent characteristic of online education which requires strategic interventions to eradicate. Learners need to have a feel of togetherness and a sense of community that enables them to collaborate and interact with each other even though they are far apart. Scaffolding is also an important strategy for motivating and engaging learners and to facilitate deeper and more-self regulated learning. Online academic advising is also an area the University seeks to strengthen so that students can build meaningful connections within the online learning environment from the time of enrollment to graduation. To deal with online examinations, SPU is in the process of sourcing for an online examinations software that will enable learners to write synchronous examinations from where they are. Finally, the University is committed to implementing the principle of equivalence. What happens in face-to-face settings is consciously being mirrored in the online learning environment. This ensures that no teaching and learning experience is lost. Only the medium of instruction changes.

With this in mind, SPU is keen on leveraging technology to achieve the infinite possibilities it has to offer in making it the best University in online education in the region. Let us embrace the new normal: Online education is no longer nice to have, it is a must have as it has its own place in creating great value in learning experiences and in enabling quality delivery of education services. Remember, "the illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn"-Alvin Toffler





Realising Mile-Deep Christianity in Kenya and Beyond

By DC Chemorion

It has often been observed that Christianity in Africa is a mile-wide and an inch-deep religion. However, this will no longer be the case. Since 2018, the Overseas Council of Australia has partnered with St. Paul's University (SPU) and other key theological institutions in Africa to strengthen the church in Africa through the *Africa Mile Deep* strategy, which aims at enhancing the standards of theological training.

Ten colleges are currently partnering with SPU in theological training: Carlille College; St. Paul's Theological College, Kapsabet; St. Philips Maseno; Berea Christian College; Bishop Hannington Institute; St. Andrews Theological College; Wycliffe Bible College; Reformed Institute for Theological Training; Friends Theological College; and St. Timothy Anglican Divinity School. These colleges train church leaders and ministers from different denominations across Kenya and neighboring countries. Hundreds of students graduate from these institutions every year with St. Paul's University Diplomas and Certificates in Theology.

Apart from accrediting academic programmes offered in the affiliate colleges, SPU supports the

colleges through capacity building and resource mobilization. When the Corona Virus pandemic forced education institutions to close down early this year in March, SPU transitioned all its academic programs to online and distance learning mode. However, since the colleges did not have capacity to offer online courses, the Management Board of SPU made elaborate plans to assist the affiliate colleges in mounting virtual teaching.

Working in collaboration with the Overseas Council of Africa, SPU has set up a state of the art Learner Management System for the affiliate colleges. After several weeks of training for both students and faculty, the college principals were invited to receive laptops to enable them connect to SPU's virtual learning management system. While presiding over the laptop presentation ceremony, the outgoing Vice Chancellor, Prof. Galgalo and the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Nguere lauded the initiative for empowering affiliate colleges thereby ensuring that there was continuity in all institutions affiliated with SPU. Also present in the ceremony was the incoming Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kombo who reiterated his support for the Africa Mile Deep Strategy.



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Value Added Leadership



By Richard Kagoe
Senior Broadcast Journalist - BBC

There is an inherent human quality that gives us an insatiable desire to be successful in life. Our definition of success is influenced by what we learn from our social environment - especially during our formative years - and how it is enforced in our homes, neighborhoods and schools, particularly if the system is competitive. However, that definition evolves or changes expression as we grow older and incline ourselves to creating a legacy that makes better the lives of those who come after us.

People who are conscious of servant leadership seek to serve, add value and put others first by doing things they can't do for themselves. They are inspired by the fact that, 'nobody is useless in this world who lightens the burden of someone else' (Charles Dickens). On the subject of servant leadership, renown leadership trainer and author John. C. Maxwell says, "the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. The happiest people are not necessarily the most successful people, but they are the ones who serve best. Everyone carries the seed of greatness because they have the ability to serve others. If

you help people get what they want, then you will receive everything you want."

A true leader serves people and their best interests because they are motivated by loving concern rather than personal glory. If you are to live a great life then you need to value people and prioritize serving people. So, you might ask yourself, what qualifies one to be a servant leader?

- (a) A servant puts service over self: We were all born selfish and this statement will be qualified with a typical example: When you pose for a group picture, who do you see first? Who do you look for first? The answer is obvious because that is how we are wired. If you are not intentional you will be tempted to live a selfish life. Therefore, you need to constantly ask yourself the following questions:

What can I do to add value to people?

What can I do to serve people?

If we are going to be servant leaders, we need to prioritize service over status.

- (b) A servant puts character over comfort: Servant leaders do the right thing even when they don't feel like it because they do not allow their emotions to control them. They simply do the right thing and let emotions follow. For you to achieve greatness as a servant leader, you must be ready to be inconvenienced. This point is best illustrated in the gospel of Luke through the story of the 'Good Samaritan'. A priest and a Levite did what most of us do when we find someone in trouble on our way to work; they avoided the traveler who had been stripped of clothing, beaten and left half dead alongside the road. On the contrary, the 'Good Samaritan' who was going to Jericho stopped and helped the injured man. If we are going to be a bridge to help others crossover into a better life, we will get walked on!

What are some of the things you can do to develop yourself into a servant leader?

- (a) Don't rely on your title or position: If you are good at what you do, you don't need an introduction! Similarly, if you are of bad character, a good introduction will not help you. You are not your job or position and that should not determine how you relate with

people. Stop looking at people through the prism of privilege. Philippians 2:7 describes a servant leader in the person of Jesus, who in His time, gave up divine privileges and took on the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

- (b) Believe in people and their potential: Have confidence in people regardless of their position in life and value them unconditionally. Auxiliary staff such as security guards, cleaners, cooks and domestic workers are usually despised because they are not regarded highly, yet, they provide essential or critical services within homes and organizations.
- (c) Create an environment of encouragement: Encouragement is the oxygen of the soul. People tend to gravitate towards spaces that appreciate them. This does not mean that you cannot hold difficult conversations. You need to ensure that the feedback you give is constructive and provides the recipients with key pointers that serve as learning opportunities.
- (d) Measure your success by how much value you have added to other people: Jesus provides us with a perfect example of transformative leadership. Acts 4:13 records, "When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus." *His (Jesus) followers became better than when they first met him and even long after He left. The value He added in their lives was clear for everyone to see; he imparted his skill and knowledge to them and made them better orators.*

To develop servant leadership in your life, you must purpose to do the following things daily:

- Everyday add **VALUE**.
- Everyday **THINK** of ways to add value to people.
- Everyday **LOOK** for ways of adding value to people.
- **DO** things that add value to people. Ask yourself, who did I add value to today?
- **ENCOURAGE** others to add value.

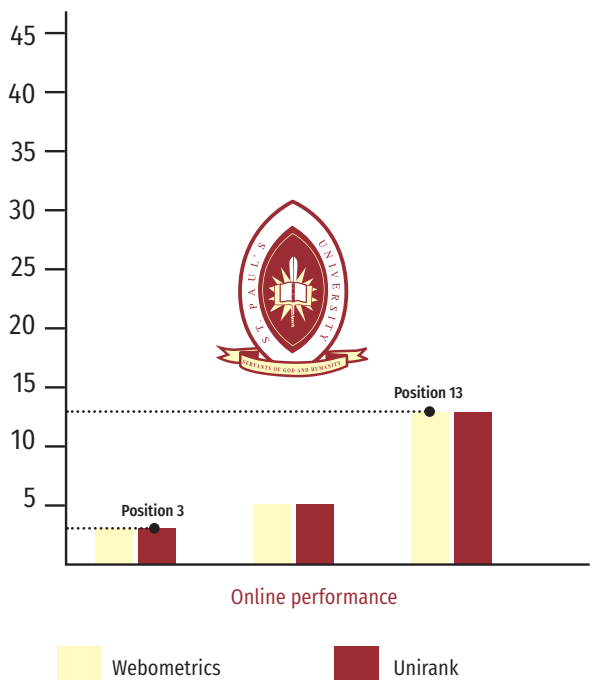


Ground breaking of the St. Paul's University School of Theology

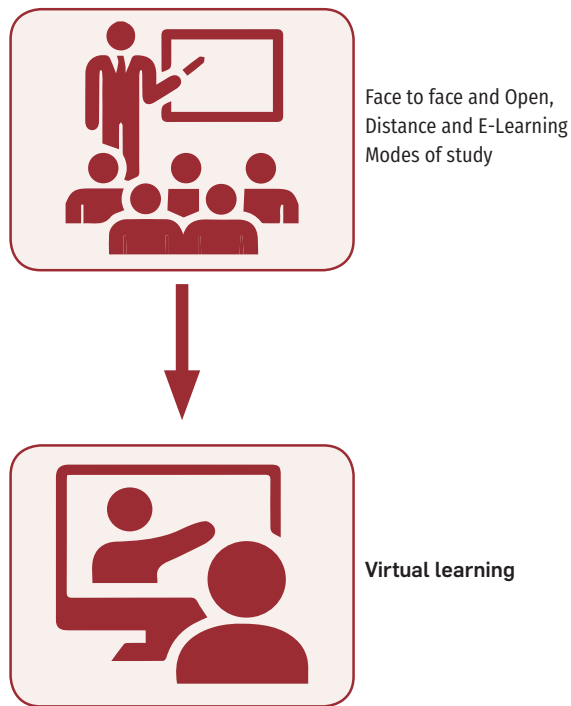


The St. Paul's University Health Center under University management

Remarkable improvement in global ranking



Seamless transition to virtual learning amid the COVID-19 crisis



We *Rise* by lifting others up!



By **Truphie Kwaka – Sumba,**
Principal - Nairobi Campus

Globally, leadership is one of the most sought-after topics on Google, fetching 2,750,000,000 results. Leadership is desired in every sphere of life and in every nation. Unfortunately, our modern representation of leadership has been a display of wealth, power, opulence and greed, thereby leaving the masses hungering for ‘real leadership’. In modern-day leadership circles, the concept of servant leadership has gained popularity with Robert Greenleaf’s 1971 essay, ‘The Servant as Leader’. Servant leadership is a philosophy and a set of practices that enrich the lives of individuals, builds better organizations and ultimately creates a more just and caring world.

Many organizations have adopted servant leadership as part of their organizational vision, mission, value or approach. However, for many, it is a good phrase to be put on the wall and in corporate documents but no one really experiences it. Recent surveys on Fortune 100 companies showed that 5 of the top 10 companies to work for practice servant leadership. One American based organization whose CEO has been known to practice servant leadership is Southwest Airlines, under the leadership of Herb Kelleher. As a result, his company had a highly engaged, low-turnover workforce and 35-plus consecutive years of profitability. Datron is another company that has witnessed dramatic outcomes as a result of the servant leadership approach.

The company’s revenue grew from \$10 million to \$200 million in six years. Their philosophy was to empower and put their employees and customers first.

The St. Paul’s University motto of ‘Service to God and Humanity’ is based on this philosophy and rooted in the teachings of Jesus in Matthew 23:11 ‘Let the greatest among you be the servant of all’. Whereas today’s common practice of leadership is a leader at the top of the pyramid, servant leadership shows us a more excellent way; an inverted pyramid where the leader of the organization is not at the apex but at the bottom empowering and seeking the good of the followers, while the followers, including employees, are at the top.

You cannot claim to serve God but not serve people, for God loves people more than anything; and that is why Jesus came, to seek and save the lost – which is service. Servant leadership can be distilled into the following principles:

- **Listening:** Listen intently and intentionally to understand the meaning of what others are communicating
- **Empathy:** Activate your emotional intelligence to understand and share the feelings of others
- **Healing:** Seek to bring soundness and wholeness to self, others and the environment
- **Awareness:** Foster conscious knowledge of self, others, general and specific realities

around; it can change everything

- **Persuasion:** Lead through convincing and consensus rather than coercion
- **Conceptualization:** Lead day by day through focusing on the big futuristic picture
- **Foresight:** Accept the lessons of the past, live through the realities of today BUT focus on the immense possibilities of tomorrow
- **Stewardship:** Stewardship is the core of leadership, lead people and all that is entrusted to you not as the owner but as a responsibility entrusted to you
- **Commitment to Growth:** Cause self, others and the environment to grow because anything not growing is dying
- **Building Community:** Believe and espouse ‘Ubuntu’: ‘I am because we are and we are because I am.’ Communities bring movements for social change.

I have often been asked, ‘what is the secret at St. Paul’s University?’ From my experience, we not only espouse our motto but we also enact it through our leadership approach, management style, academic programmes, student support and engagement, staff engagement, spiritual formation and community outreach - Service to God and Humanity.

“For we rise in lifting others up”
Robert Ingersoll

Beyond the Call of Duty

Meet Mr. James Mururi, a Model of Servant Leadership.



By Rita N. Kituyi and Wanjiku Kinyanjui

Sudden pursuit of a parallel career path despite his wealth of experience in Administration ignited our curiosity to find out more about the strategic, focused and compassionate St. Paul's University Registrar, Administration. We engaged the brilliant administrator in a precise yet informative conversation one afternoon in his luminated, elegant semi-glass walled office housed on the second floor the Central Administration Building. Mr. James Mururi shed more light on his childhood, personal life, career aspirations and his recent accomplishment: admission to the bar.

Personal Profile

Enriching his capacity to serve called for studying while working. Mr. Mururi alludes to the cause taking a toll on his family, office and church hours on several occasions. However, being the good manager that he is, working a way around them wouldn't be an uphill task.

The husband and father of two delights in giving back to the community. Hailing from a humble background, he felt his A-level education deprived his brothers of a chance to study owing to financial constraints. He therefore took advantage of the 'boom' disbursed while taking undergraduate studies to sponsor one of his brother's schooling. A true servant from way back in the

80's. Apart from engaging in University corporate social responsibility initiatives by virtue of sitting in the PR Response and CSR Committee, he reaches out to the needy in society through his church. It is worth noting that since the onset of the Corona Virus pandemic he has participated in providing food to the less fortunate.

Being a firm advocate in justice and respect for the bill of rights, he feels obliged to teach people basic law; an initiative he believes will prevent them from being disenfranchised of their basic rights.

Academic Background

Excellent performance in his O-level exams despite enduring trekking several kilometers to school in Tetu, Nyeri County, earned him admission to Kerugoya High School for his A-levels. This was no mean achievement at that time. He carried on with the same spirit and secured admission to the University of Nairobi to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree. He later enrolled for a Master of Business Administration at Kenyatta University. In a bid to enrich his service to St. Paul's University, he pursued a Law degree at the University of Nairobi and thereafter joined the Kenya School of Law.

Career Path

Upon completion of his undergraduate

degree in Administration, jobs were scarce. This did not deter him from living his dream. He approached one of his cousins who owned a security firm in Nakuru and requested to be given a role in administration. He was granted the title of an Administration Officer, a position he served in for seven years until he applied for a vacancy in an equivalent role at St. Paul's University.

As an administrator at St. Paul's, his job entailed drafting contracts for service providers, handling HR matters among other tasks that come with general administration. He felt the need to seek legal knowledge in order to be able to handle contracts and labor related issues more authoritatively. Eventually, he would represent the University in litigation since the service was being out sourced at that time. His mentors Dr. Wachira and Prof. Galgalo the then outgoing and incoming Vice Chancellors respectively encouraged him to pursue Law. The University's support through affording a third of his tuition fees, allowing him time-off to attend classes, clinicals and pupillage; were an added advantage.

Today, he can represent the University in legal matters. In fact, he is already handling several files for both the University and personal practice. Mr. Mururi alludes to law being bedeviled by corruption and misconduct by advocates citing several less fortunate people being denied justice through delayed remittances of monetary benefits, unfair representation in succession matters among others; yet there are many advocates who are faithful and upholding professional integrity. He wishes legal practitioners could borrow a leaf from the St. Paul's Motto: "Servants of God and Humanity" and inscribe it in their hearts. "The Bible still remains the foundation and standard center for professional ethics," he says authoritatively.

Admission to the Bar

Does this phrase have any relationship with an entertainment joint? On the contrary, it doesn't. Within the legal context, the bar is a community of advocates that encourages articulation of issues and promotion of justice. Admission to the bar gives one the privilege to sit in a section of court reserved for legal practitioners to argue out a case, since the advocate is

an officer of the court. The Advocates Acts stipulates requirements for admission and the actual process of admission is presided over by the Chief Justice. Prior to this, one must have met the following conditions: attained an LLB degree; attended the Kenya School of Law and passed all examinations administered by the Council of Legal Education; attended pupillage under a pupil master and issued a certificate; submitted a certificate of moral fitness; and petitioned the Chief Justice. Once the Chief Justice is satisfied with one's documents, the candidate takes an oath and signs the roll of advocates.

Experience at St. Paul's University

Mr. Mururi attests to growth of the University in several aspects. He has sat in all committees that oversaw construction of the state-of-the-art facilities that house the growing student and staff population; handles a fleet of motor vehicles; manages distribution enabling services of electricity, water and internet. The growth came with challenges that made him a better person. As Prof. Galgalo would say, "growing with a growing University".

The University also made invaluable input in his law career growth by according him an opportunity to practice while in law school through responding to demand letters and working closely with out sourced advocates.

Parting shot

In conclusion, he looks forward to pursue more legal matters not for personal gain but growth and to assist people. "I will charge as a servant of God and Humanity," he says. He urges graduates to uphold Christian values as they practice in their various fields of service.

Quick facts about Law

- An advocate has to research on a matter adequately to avoid embarrassment in court
- Confidentiality is imperative
- Continuous practice is inevitable



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Servants of God and Humanity

Servant Leadership Demystified

By Rev. Samuel Githinji

Servants of God and Humanity has become a rallying call in St. Paul's University. Everyone who joins the University inevitably gets inducted in the creed. The individual is encouraged to unite with others in living this ideal through various ways by the university community.

What does servant leadership entail?

The vision

The first call is for each one to put on the garb of a servant. This is in keeping with the mission of the University; to develop servant leaders. Serving God and humanity captures what matters most to the University Community. It is based on the belief that what the world needs most are servant leaders. Human needs are met by God who sends servants to lead by example. God and humanity meet in service. He initiates everything and provides the example. God created out of love; that love compels the service of anyone who will receive it. God humbly enters this world to live with and serve humanity, a selfless and sacrificial service; no cost is too big, no one is too lost. The example per excellence of servant leadership is God in the form of a servant: Jesus Christ.

The second call is to leadership. To do the right thing a leader requires knowledge, skills and values. These are anticipated in the University mission. It is the means SPU employs to develop servant leaders. Because of the belief that the world is the Lord's and everything thereof, leadership is exercised as God's viceroy on earth. The Worship of God in a variety of ways is the base on which everything else is built. To attend and participate in activities that honor God is a mark and the beginning of wisdom. Christian spiritual formation is cherished, celebrated and encouraged because it has served the University well since 1903 to date.

The global mission

God's authority extends over the whole world: "all things visible and invisible." The university envisions its graduates spanning out into the whole universe and hopes that everyone catches that vision. Graduates are prepared for global service. People inspired by divinity should find



no place too low, too high or too far. It is a great testimony that SPU receives students and staff from many different countries. SPU graduates continue to offer exemplary service and leadership nationally, in several African countries, and in far flung places including France, Central America, China, South Korea, Netherlands, Switzerland, and Ireland, to name but a few. John Wesley said: "I look upon all the world as my parish." The university agrees and aims at Global service.

Excellence

To claim the name of God in all we do is to aspire to the best that human beings with the help of divinity can attain. It is to promise service that God would applaud. The University calls it Excellence!

Is that too lofty and ideal? Michelangelo said, "The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it." In more recent days Robert Schuller, an American pastor, has said, "I'd rather attempt to do something great and fail than to attempt to do nothing and succeed." We aim to please God and to hear from him: "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

Challenges galore

What may be Jesus' graduating speech to his disciples is appropriate for graduating students in a Christian university: "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:13)

Jesus did not define the trouble. Hints abound in scripture. Some of it was experienced together with Jesus. It ranged from minor annoyances to life threatening problems: being despised, hunger, deadly storms, physical and mental sickness, demon possession, poverty, and envy and ethnic bigotry, to name but a few.

The confidence with which Jesus send out disciples into such a world should embolden every university to place the same responsibility on every graduate. The challenge is, "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves." God's help makes us equal to the task.

Servants of God and humanity bring one to the other in both directions. We believe that interaction is the liberation of humanity and the joy of God. We are glad to invite and to send out everyone as Servants of God and humanity.



Necessity is the Mother of Invention, TECHNOLOGY IS THE ENABLER

By Kennedy Waweru and Karen Kibuchi

The adage, '*necessity is the mother of invention*', has never been valid than in these unusual times. While there is no belittling of the devastating human and economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis, it is clear that the pandemic's downside has produced an upside, a silver lining on a very dark cloud.

As people the world over experience the blow of the Corona Virus health crisis, it appears the pandemic has inspired an accelerated digital transformation across the world proving the power of Information Technology (IT) and the critical role it is poised to play moving forward. While many are entertaining the idea that the 'new normal' is here to stay, some others cling to hope that they will go back to the "old normal". But one thing is for sure; Information Technology can no longer be viewed as a background utility but rather as a strategic asset for any institution that is looking into the future.

At St. Paul's University (SPU), we are leveraging technology as a way to redefine our 'new normal' as we continue to provide quality education to our esteemed students. Although online learning is not new to SPU given that it was entrenched in the university's 10 year strategic plan, we have made remarkable progress over the last six months in online learning and teaching, research and service provision. This, in spite of the myriad of environmental, social, technological and economic challenges facing both the students and the universities at large, is no mean feat.

As clarity began to dawn that the Corona Virus pandemic was causing a substantive disruption than earlier thought, it became necessary to quickly set the ball rolling in addressing critical issues necessary for the success of e-learning on such a scale as to cover the entire university. This entailed scaling the IT infrastructure and access, integration of various teaching and learning technologies, building capacity among the various user groups, increasing user support services, providing access to technology for staff and students, promoting responsible use of technologies, creating an enabling environment through policies as well as integrating quality assurance in the various processes.

Navigating through the various online platforms including the Internet itself, handling digital dilemmas as well as effective online communication are all skills that do not come naturally to many, but rather have to be taught. These and more skills are no longer an optional; rather, they are an imperative for the future student and lecturer. St Paul's University has therefore invested in capacity building for both its staff and students through deep and coordinated training programs and service support.

On the technical side SPU has scaled up the Learner Management System, Virtual Private Network and improved the Enterprise Resource Planning System to power the core business of learning. The ICT department further strengthened the

Information Systems Security that assured a secure remote teaching and work environment. SPU was quick to adapt and integrate the now popular conferencing tools such as Big Blue Button, Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, and Zoom to communicate and collaborate making teaching, learning and working possible and enjoyable. In addition the ICT Department set up a 20 hours helpdesk which provides learners with the confidence they need to adapt to the new learning environment. Clearly the traditional brick and mortar learning model of yester years is being overtaken by the emergent technologies that were known or unknown before COVID-19.

Notably, the challenges associated with this pandemic have produced unprecedented synergy between universities and stakeholders. While Telkom Kenya Limited and Safaricom PLC offered discounted Internet bundles as part of their contribution towards supporting the education sector, other partners like Overseas Council Australia (OCA), Google LLC and Kenya Education Network (KENET) worked closely with SPU to implement the learning innovations. Truly necessity is the mother of invention and technology is the universal enabler. With hard work, commitment and focus, SPU continues on its quest to be servants of God and humanity. Today, we may not be fully there yet, but in making bold calculated steps, we are closer than we were yesterday. And we are grateful to God for His sufficient grace through it all.

BUSINESS LESSONS FROM THE DUNG BEETLE



By Nelson Karanja

When I was a little boy growing up in a farming countryside, I watched dung beetles go about their business one of my early morning pastimes as I waited for my mother to make breakfast. It was fascinating to see them roll dung balls that were larger than themselves. Also, what puzzled me was the use of their hind legs to push the balls, an attribute that prevented them from seeing where they were going to. Each seemed to stick to a predefined path. I remember picking a beetle a couple of times together with its ball and placing it in a different location facing a totally different direction and without fail, it would go through only a moment of disorientation before wheeling the ball around and proceeding with its journey in the original direction. Later in life when I was able to read more about these intriguing insects, I found some fascinating facts that apply to life and business alike. I'll pick only two facts I found in an old issue of the 'Discover Wildlife' magazine:

One: Dung Beetles are much stronger than we imagine. Studies have shown that one species, *Onthophagus Taurus*, is the world's strongest insect after it was observed pushing 1,141 times its own bodyweight – the equivalent of a human hauling six double-decker buses full of people.

Two: Studies have also shown that dung beetles use the Milky Way to orientate themselves when rolling their dung balls along the ground. This means they do not use their physical eyes to navigate their way around.

Thinking about what we are as the business unit of the University, I believe we are much stronger and have greater capability than we imagine. The beetle is able to carry a much heavier load than its body weight by applying a few principles:

First, the dung beetle carefully selects what it wants to carry on each run. Realizing there's much more than can be dealt with at once, it sets about selecting its load. Next is the packaging. It packs its dung into a neat ball. This is done to make sure that it will be easier to roll on the ground. It knows it will get more done by rolling it than carrying the dung ball on its back for example. There's also methodology in this. The beetle has instinctively done an analysis of its assets and knows its hind legs are much stronger than the front, so it rolls the ball backward instead of forward. As a business unit, our ability to do an honest analysis of our strengths and weaknesses is paramount. This helps us carry a much heavier load than would be possible if we attempted to do everything at once.

Secondly, the dung beetle deploys a great sense of focus and direction. Other than its hard work and sacrificial determination, it relies on a higher navigation system, namely the galaxy, to lead it home. This displays the power of unwavering vision and mission. As a unit, we navigate our business world guided by the University's vision and mission. We believe that all we are and do is in pursuit of service to God and Humanity. As long as the beetle stays locked on the galaxy for direction, it easily overcomes momentary disorientation and continues on its journey

undeterred. Likewise, as long as our vision is clear, we will overcome momentary disruption such as occasioned by the global Corona Virus pandemic. We soldier on with courageous hearts knowing our future is guaranteed in God's vineyard.

The St. Paul's University Institute of Lifelong Learning and Leadership Development Center (SPILL & LDC) now St. Paul's University Enterprise Unit (SPUEU), continues to draw lessons and deploy strategies that place us at the cutting edge of innovation and problem-solving. In response to the growing food security crisis, the center has ventured into farming through greenhouse and open farming to offer organically grown products to supplement our catering supplies. The venture seeks to leverage technological advancements to bolster agricultural productivity. A few years ago, Kenya made a concerted effort to transition our mindset from subsistence farming to agribusiness in a bid to get us to appreciate the strategic role played by farming on mankind's survival. As the pandemic has bluntly reminded us, nations can ground all travel activities whether by air, land or sea, shut down all businesses and learning institutions, yet none will put on hold the need to feed its populace. By and large, food security ranks high as a development priority. At SPUEU, we are hopeful that we will not only feed our stakeholders but also teach them how to feed themselves. As the old adage goes, give a man fish and you feed him but for a day; teach him to fish and you've set him for survival...well, I paraphrase, but therein is our objective.

The Power of a SIMPLE ACT



There is so much power in a simple act!

By Freshia Wairimu Mureithi

“You inspire me, I admire how you live your life!” Who wouldn’t love to make a difference in this world?

We all want to leave a legacy. Everyone wishes to be part of someone’s success story; but what does it take to make a difference? Many people think that one has to go the extra mile and do something unique that will create a wide scope of impact. The truth is, little things matter the most!

There is a story that is often told of a young street boy who was doing what he knew best, begging for money or food from people. One day, he approached a vehicle that was parked near a supermarket. Through the opaque window, he asked for money. When the lady slowly rolled down the window, the little boy could not believe his eyes. He was moved to tears immediately he saw the immobilized,

helpless woman using a machine to pump oxygen in order to sustain her breathing. Moved by pity, he helplessly handed her all his day’s collections. She deserved the money more than he did. The young boy realised that his troubles were not comparable to the pain the woman was going through.

There is great power in giving! The virtue of giving emanates from within and finds its expression in a motive greater than that of securing social mileage. As an act of kindness, giving lends itself to serving humanity through simple acts such as feeding the poor and attending to the needs of the less fortunate. In Luke 6:38, Jesus says this: *‘Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.’* The

blessing of giving lies not in the act itself but in the motivation of the giver. The Word of God admonishes us to embrace giving as a transformative action that causes our hearts to overflow with joy while offering service to the less fortunate.

As the world comes to grips with the effects of the Corona Virus pandemic, I am reminded of the power of giving. The harsh realities that confound the less fortunate have brought me to the realization that blessings are seldom found in the abundance of wealth, but in the virtue of kindness. Like the small boy, I choose to change someone’s life by sharing the little that I have. Kindness is often underestimated; but with it, comes the power to transform individuals and communities. What difference have you made in someone else’s life?

There is so much power in a simple act!

Servant Leadership: *A student perspective*

By Charles 'Chucho' Aroko

Many have said that our paths were written before we were born, I do not disagree. My name is Charles Aroko, alias 'Chucho'. Born in Nairobi, *Eastleigh*, my parents named me Charles after the late comedian Charlie Chaplin who rose to fame in the era of silent film. He always seemed to make people laugh without uttering a word and this inspired me to strive to do good and make a difference through actions. My journey at St. Paul's University (SPU) has been an interesting one. If anyone told me that I would one day lead a whole institution, I'd probably think they were delusional or maybe just over ambitious!

I joined SPU in 2015 for a diploma programme, and during my first chapel service, I thought of coming up with a creative way of ministering and attracting more students to the chapel. At the time, very few students attended the service and that bothered me for a while, so I formed the Christian Union dance crew and drama team as a way of ministering God's Word through art. And I must say, in just 5 years I have witnessed a huge change! Some months later, a few of us thought of forming a Nairobi football team since there wasn't one at the time. It was a roaring success! We came together as a group of friends with an interest in the game, but later we became more than just football fans, we became a family. We would then go on a conquest that saw us emerge victorious over seasoned favourites. As the 2019 Gretska Champions, we could now participate in the Kenya Universities Sports Association (KUSA) league.

After I completed my diploma studies, I came back for my undergraduate degree almost immediately, this time with so much in mind. I believed, and still believe, that at the core of a purposeful life lies leadership. We find meaning in leading our lives, in voicing our opinions, addressing even the smallest but most important issues and in adding value. This fanned my ambition to vie for the St. Paul's University Students' Association (SPUSA) treasurer seat in 2018. During my tenure, I introduced the 'SPU Soko', a business platform

for the students and by the students that seeks to nurture and develop entrepreneurial skills. This not only helped students to make some money but also saw a rise in student led business ventures, something I am very proud of.

As luck would have it I managed to secure the Nairobi campus governor seat in 2019, after heavy campaigning of course! I created good rapport between the administration and the student fraternity that led to the opening of a cafeteria at the Nairobi campus. Throughout my time as governor, I did all I could to ensure the students had smooth learning and that most, if not all of their needs were addressed. As Publilius Syrus said, 'anyone can hold the helm when the sea is calm'; I am glad I held on to it even when there were storms, because that is what makes a difference. Being a student leader has taught me so much that I wouldn't have known if I didn't pursue the call to service in my capacity as a student leader.

Many would say that it is impossible to focus on two or more things at once, but I strongly disagree. Aside from serving students, I prioritized my studies. I ensured that I was mentally present and engaged in my classwork. I would always set a goal for each semester, the least being a second-

class upper grade and I worked towards it. Nothing is impossible to the willing mind, it is possible to work on two things at the same time if you focus.

I'm deeply inspired by Ernesto 'Che' Guevara, the figurehead of the Cuban revolution who once quoted, '*education should not be a privilege, so the children of those who have money can study.*' This has always encouraged me to serve my fellow students and the university community by contributing towards the creation of a conducive learning environment for students from diverse backgrounds. I am grateful for the experiences that I got while studying at SPU. I look forward to leveraging the lessons and experiences in national politics. Watch this space!



A Voice in the *Wilderness*

By Joyce Viata and Augustine Ngigi

The Corona Virus pandemic robbed us of the opportunity to enjoy a sumptuous lunch that Isaac had promised we would have as we met for the scheduled face-to-face interview. Nonetheless, we were able to have a conversation with the St. Paul's University (SPU) alumnus engaging in advocacy work within his community. Isaac Gichohi Mwangi, now a father of three, attended Tenwek High School and later Sotik High School for his A-level studies. "I later joined the London School of Professional Studies to pursue Sales Management and Marketing at Diploma level, and thereafter ventured into business starting out as a small entrepreneur," explains Isaac. We sought to know why he developed an interest in community development and advocacy, despite being business oriented. "In 2015, I chanced upon the St. Paul's University brochure that captured my interest in the Bachelor of Arts in Leadership and Management programme. I had never heard of the programme before, therefore I decided to visit the SPU Nakuru Campus for more information and eventually enrolled for the course."

Isaac had to balance between the busy life of an entrepreneur and schooling while enduring the demands his education placed on him. It is this determination to learn that changed the course of his professional endeavours. "In the course of my learning, I covered areas such as advocacy, project management, community empowerment and development. These caused me to reflect on various aspects of my business and how I could restructure operations to offer solutions to problems within my community." Most of Isaac's employees constitute of the vulnerable and needy within the community that he empowers through job training and employment. "Apart from this, I sit on various

boards that are directly involved in community work," says Isaac, who serves as a director at Kenya Chamber of Commerce. He also chairs the Elimu Fund Rware in Nyeri County, serves in the Nyeri County Physical Planning and Land Use and New Life Children Trust Boards. "All these entities work within the community to ensure that resources are harnessed for the benefit of the needy and vulnerable within the community. As Chair of the Elimu Fund, my objective is to support bright and needy students to continue with their studies through issuance of bursaries and scholarships." At the onset of the Corona Virus pandemic, he partnered with his friends to come up with a feeding programme in a bid to mitigate the negative effects of the scourge.

Isaac lives a fulfilled life by virtue of rendering service to his community through numerous initiatives. As a proud family man, budding entrepreneur, and passionate advocate, how does he balance his engagements? "Proper time management is key! It is important to determine what to do; how and when to do it; then adhere to the timelines set for the execution and accomplishment of these goals."

Over the years, he has gleaned wisdom and experiences that have helped him achieve his life's goal; that of transforming his community. "Start small and build from the grassroots. Young advocates can leverage the school boards to advocate for social development. In addition, forming youth empowerment groups with clear objectives and outcomes is instrumental in securing funding", he advises. Isaac's decision to pursue education and specialized training has played a key role in developing his capacity to handle major projects. "Adding new knowledge and skills is important. My experiences have transformed my perspective and enhanced my contribution to developing my community. I am a proud St. Paulian!"



Vyonne Akoth: A Torch Bearer for *peace*

By Esther Gichuki

It is a chilly morning in Sweden when Vyonne Bellys Akoth logs in to our Google Meet. As she settles in, she tells me how she misses Kenyan food and why Rebecca Dawn's song, *Kutemba Nawe*, has become her new anthem. "Rebecca's song hit home when I landed in Sweden. I think she was writing the song when she was in unfamiliar territory. Being black and settling in a European country is a different experience, especially with the intensifying racial tensions." Vyonne is in Sweden to pursue a Master's in

International Affairs. This is to build on to her career in peace building and conflict management. But the journey didn't start here.

Vyonne grew up in Nakuru County with 5 siblings, devouring books like the Wizard of Oz every weekend and play day. Her interests varied from being a doctor, an engineer to being an entomologist until 1997. On Monday, 18th August 1997, a string of tribal clashes sparked across Mombasa County resulting in over four hundred market stalls burnt, attacks on local police stations, police officers slain and many left destitute. A section of Vyonne's family was affected. The Gorilla-tactic clashes left families like Vyonne's questioning why this happened to them. The ethnic clashes weighed on Vyonne's heart. When she learnt about the 1994 Genocide aftermath in Rwanda, she started her own Model United Nations (MUN). She registered the MUN in Gigiri with the sole purpose of championing peace and disarmament.

WORKING IN PEACEBUILDING

This experience plunged her into her life's work—peace building and conflict management. Opportunities came in many forms, the first ones being *Project Power Bank* and *Chora Bizna*. "Project Power Bank empowered girls to be more and do more. The project opened my eyes to various issues and sparked my passion for women's empowerment. *Chora Bizna* was to enable young people to start, grow, and succeed in business. It is through this project that the fellowships came and I went abroad to India." Many fellowships, awards, and travel opportunities have come since then. Every fellowship has seen her bloom into a better peace builder.

Akili Dada's fellowship in 2015 inspired

her to start her non-profit organisation, *Impart Change*. *Impart Change* champions sustainable peace and promotes violence prevention among youth in informal settlements. Vyonne has 2 projects running in Kenya, *Children's Peace Hub* and *Peace Building for Youth*, which will expand to Rwanda and Ethiopia in the coming year. "Children and youth have the potential of shaping a positive future or replicating negative norms and vices if not guided and influenced. Through the programs, we aim to nurture them into peaceful ethical leaders for a brighter and peaceful Kenya."

To nurture leaders, one must be a leader. To Vyonne, leadership is being visionary, courageous, humble, confident and holding integrity close. "I measure my success by how much I've been able to influence change and motivate people to walk in purpose. It brings me joy to see someone I've mentored bloom in purpose." Failure, to Vyonne, is stagnation. "There is nothing heart-breaking like pouring into someone and watching them stagnate when they could do something!"

Her spirited fight for a better Kenya and world doesn't come without its challenges. "Peace building is a new field that has been male-dominated. Being a female in this career means you have to strive for excellence and prove you have the knowledge and experience to do this. Funding is another challenge. Peace building is a constant effort that can't be in the back-burner until a crisis emerges. Kenya is relatively peaceful, compared to other countries, because we have people working on peace day and night." In the near future, Vyonne aims to be an advisor of a political movement or a leader in defence in Asia or Africa.

NUGGETS OF WISDOM

As Vyonne reflects on her career, she is glad she took the step to earn her Bachelors of Arts in Peace and Conflict Management at St. Paul's University. "Peace and conflict management is a viable course. It helps you to look at yourself first and start the work within you. You get a lot of opportunities to interact with many communities and understand intercultural issues and opportunities for peace building. We need more people to create and keep a peaceful Kenya and the world."

She adds that in this field; it is important to self-care. "There are plenty of heart-wrenching stories in this field. To succeed, you must take time out to care for yourself. I practice self-care by taking nature walks, hikes, chilling with a good movie or soap opera, connecting with my friends and family. This ensures I don't burnout."



An Epitome of *hope*



By Maritim Ivy

Lucy Mworia wears many hats. She is a mother, mentor, and fearless leader. To this, she has added yet another feather to her cap. A master's degree student at St. Paul's University (Nakuru Campus). Lucy's life mantra is best captured in Anne Frank's famous quote: "I don't want to have lived in vain like most people, I want to be useful or bring enjoyment to all people."

Lucy's career was set ablaze by her passion for service. While pursuing a Diploma in

Nursing in the United States, Lucy felt the urge to come back to Kenya and help the people within the community. This was the turning point for her career and life in general. "After I came back to Kenya, I began scouting for an institution that would offer me the best leadership course. When I discovered St. Paul's University, I knew I had to enroll there. That is where my career started."

Lucy, a recipient of the George W. Bush Presidential Award for helping needy children within the country, felt the need to amplify her impact locally. She lent

herself to the plight of street children by ensuring that they got identity cards and jobs that would enable them to secure their livelihoods through employment. "Isiolo has previously had challenges with the registration of persons, especially the issuance of national identification cards. Many youth did not have identification cards. I have engaged in a lot of activism through both the county and national Governments. The youth are now receiving their identity cards, thereby enabling them to get employment," she says. In addition, Lucy has been instrumental in ensuring that street boys undergo circumcision, an important rite of passage that often denies the underprivileged the right to social identity.

Lucy is no stranger to the national limelight. Her pursuit of transformation in Kenya's leadership qualified her participation in the Miss President Television show, a program whose main purpose was to encourage women leadership. With 1,500 contestants, Lucy cut a niche for herself as a servant leader by showcasing her passion for community service. Although she exited the contest prematurely due to the nature of her work, Lucy prides herself in being among the top 50 candidates who received leadership training from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Day to day, Lucy lives out her calling to pursue the things that fulfill her purpose. When she is not changing lives on the streets, Lucy spends her time exploring her passion for cooking. "I like cooking so much! When am not engaged in my work, I make special meals for my four children and five grandchildren," says Lucy. She also spends time visiting children's homes and catching up with friends."

Lucy truly embodies the empowered woman. Cumulatively, she has transformed the lives of 494 street children, a feat that has inspired her resolve to become a change agent within her community. Her advice to young women in pursuit of success?

"One thing I will say to women is this: Go for anything you conceive and set in your mind to do. Do not look at your age. Leave out negative opinions and don't change your mind; time frames may change but your goals don't change!"

Graduand Profile

Nairobi Campus

By Gladys Chege – Master of Arts in Communication Studies



I was born in Kabete, I'm a wife and mother of 3. My daily work entails planning and executing events.

'Students need models not critics.' This is one thing that was professionally demonstrated by lecturers at St. Paul's University (SPU). Every day, life at the campus was a masterpiece because the past had nothing to change, but, the future was yet to be. It was in 2013 when I first walked to the admissions office at SPU Nairobi campus and was welcomed by a lady with a big smile at the reception. After

engaging in a conversation, I realized my own potential in communication studies since I wanted to become a professional events planner.

Those who never suffer adversity, never experience the meaning of success. When I joined SPU in 2014 I had already set my goals, objectives and trajectories based on what I desired. I first studied a Diploma in Public Relations and pushed higher and harder, striving for better. I took the massive and determined action and enrolled for a Bachelor of

Arts in Communication Studies and in 2018 I enrolled for Master of Arts in Communication Studies. I remember on the day of my bachelor's graduation, we had a class the same evening. I had a presentation to make so from the graduation square in Limuru, we hurried to Nation Centre for the evening class. I welcomed challenges as a learning experience.

I never allowed difficulties to discourage me. Roadblocks may sometimes cause us to alter or drift from our main pursuit but that should not deter us from reaching our destination. When you choose to study then there are a few things that you must put aside; that is lifestyle and social life. I decided to focus on the positive and re-evaluate my relationships. The difference between getting what you want and falling short is separated by a small gap called mindset.

Studying at SPU gave me the vision to be an inclusive, innovative and future focused. It is a place of discovery and excellence where both staff and students are thoughtful leaders in advancing knowledge in the service of all people. I was highly attracted to SPU's mission statement which reflected my own choice. Social impact and a spirit of service instilled in me the value of making an impact in the society, something that I look forward to do in my line of duty. Today, I celebrate my achievements with gratitude to SPU, but most importantly, I give glory and honour to God. I am a proud St. Paulian!

A Life Behind *the Lens*

By Kevin C. Macharia & Brook Rimas

“Passion pays; anyone passionate about a particular craft pursues it relentlessly with a stringent dedication, no matter the speed of achieving it”, says Victor Kipng’eno Mibei, whose passion has created a reputation for him as one of the best photographers at St. Paul’s University-Limuru Campus. He has captured our hearts not only with words but also pictures. Born and raised in Nandi County, Victor is described as a kind and honest young man. His eye for detail, creativity and the imagination that his photos spark distinguish him among his peers in the trade. Overtime his interpersonal skills have boosted his photography business. Five years on, he graduates with a Bachelor’s Degree in Communication Studies; he shares with us his journey of a thousand miles that started with just one step.

Every great story has a beginning; for Victor, his story began when his uncle brought an old camera that used films mounted with a speed light. His uncle’s photos were very captivating and as a young boy, he knew that he wanted to be a photographer. Fascinated by the skill and dexterity with which his uncle executed his passion, Victor nurtured the dream of owning a camera, something that

he now celebrates as reality.

After completing his high school studies Victor set his aspirations on joining a university that would offer the best in terms of academics, spiritual, social, and physical life. St. Paul’s University (SPU) answered the call to his prayer. With its focus on holistic growth, Victor found a place where he could actualize his dreams. His focus on film and production steered his drive and motivation towards achieving his goals. In the course of his studies, Victor drew inspiration from Dixon Andiwa who shared in his passion and took him on as a protégé, eager to learn the tricks of the trade. The pair would then immerse themselves in production of creative content. The mentorship afforded him by his predecessors has played a key role in honing his skills and developing his passion. “It is always important to have someone who has gone before you to avoid falling into the same loopholes”, he says. Victor also attributes his success to the availability of good facilities and guidance from lecturers whose support enabled him to produce quality videos and photos.

After successfully completing his studies, Victor was offered an opportunity to work in the Public Relations and Marketing Department within the university. “From day one



“**Make maximum use** of every opportunity, always give your best shot and prepare yourself to be valuable to the face of the world once your time in school is over. Use your time to build your interpersonal skills with people from all walks of life; this is crucial for practice in the job market.”

as an intern, this has been a great place to be, I could not have asked for more as I got to actualize my dreams”, he says, reflecting on his experiences as an intern. These experiences gifted Victor the opportunity to grow and better himself. In particular, Victor credits Mr. Michael Mungai who instilled in him the values of dedicated workmanship. In retrospect, the time spent in SPU and the

accumulated experiences have made him who he is today. His counsel to graduands, “Make maximum use of every opportunity, always give your best shot and prepare yourself to be valuable to the face of the world once your time in school is over. Use your time to build your interpersonal skills with people from all walks of life; this is crucial for practice in the job market.”

Dominic Too

From 'Boda Boda' to SPU Graduate

By Bahati Gatere

"Back in the day, a young 'soldier' was swaggering around like Rambo in Kobujoi-Nandi where he met a beautiful lady. A love scene ensued and I am the second success of their love story. I am Too Dominic Kiprotich. My sister was born before, while my two brothers came after me. Unfortunately, Too senior rested in power and my mum had to take up his role."

"I was obliged to make my mama proud but that dream was almost shattered when I missed the university cut off entry mark by one point", says Dominic as he remembers the day gone by. Through God's grace the university entry cut off mark was reduced, but due to his lethargic state at that time as a 'boda' guy, Dominic was not aware of the change. His brother Benjamin took the initiative of bringing him a list of private universities from a local newspaper and further, made the application for him selecting St. Paul's University (SPU) – Dominic's only choice. "Bachelor of Arts in Communication was the way to go and my esprit de corps was reignited!"

During his coursework, Dominic fell in love with writing, photography and radio production which became his hobbies. "In SPU, the lecturers not only

dispense knowledge but also mentor, a teaching approach that helps students to be knowledgeable and develop holistically. The unique resources, small classes and available lecturers made my study experiences enjoyable. Furthermore, the skills instilled are relevant to the job market and have made me versatile in my profession. In conformity with the University's Mission, the spiritual nourishment we received from the Chaplaincy department made us spiritually alert keeping our code of ethics forever intact", quips Dominic.

"I appreciate SPU as a Kenya University and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS) student, considering the fact that SPU doesn't ostracize students but engages them entirely in decision making. Our views are heard and thus a decision that favors the welfare of all students is adopted. This is why students don't strike; hence studies are uninterrupted. Compared to our counterparts in other universities, we are better placed because we are often ahead of our peers by a full academic year. Before other universities embraced online studies, SPU was already at the fore-front conducting lessons and administering exams online. The fee we pay goes hand in hand with the quality of education and services we receive making SPU the place to be."



"In my opinion, educating a child is the best investment a parent or guardian can make. In order to reap the benefits, one needs to work smart, set reasonable goals that are timely and above all put God first. At SPU, I made good friends from diverse backgrounds who contributed to an enriched understanding of the world. In the coming years, I aspire to be in a position to make a difference. Career and social advancement are significant and dear to me, I therefore look forward to taking up more responsibilities and gaining more industry knowledge. Hopefully, I will be able to impact lives for the greater good," he concludes full of enthusiasm.

Passionate for Service

Bahati Gatere talks to Grace Wambui Ngure about her SPU journey

"I am born again and love the Lord Jesus Christ. I am the second born in a family of four and we live with our parents. I enjoy music and believe that I am called to lead others in the domain of Praise and Worship. Actually, if there was an opportunity to attend worship services every day, I would gladly do so!" Confesses the songbird.

For Grace, coming to St. Paul's University was a dream come true. She diligently nursed her desire to join university through the Kenya University College Central Placement Service (KUCCPS), Joint Admissions Board (JAB) then. She completed high school in 2014 attaining a B- (minus) of 54 points, 4 points less than 58, the cut off points for girls at that time. This implied that she could not secure admission to campus through the Government placement service. "Albeit disappointed, I gathered courage and went back to form four in my former school, Mirithu Girls Secondary School, now The Sacred Heart Girls Mirithu. In 2015, I did the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Examinations (KCSE) national exams again and improved slightly, attaining a B- (minus) of 57 points. This time I missed it by just one point! I felt so hopeless and disappointed", she says, remembering her long winding journey to the university. "However, everything changed on the day I received a phone call from my high school teacher who asked me to check the KUCCPS website for

a new offer. I brightened up, realizing that the Lord was totally in control and my dream would soon become a reality. Previously, St. Paul's University (SPU) had visited my school for a weekend Church service, an encounter that immediately drew me to their approach to spiritual formation. Through KUCCPS, I got the opportunity to study the Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Mass Communication) option. The rest, as they say is history!"

"I thank God for the adequate academic resources and the close interactions I had with my lecturers. Today, I graduate as a student grounded in sound academic knowledge and a wealth of experiences that have prepared me for a career in the communication industry. I am also grateful to the University for the programmes that emphasized spiritual formation. The chapel services and Christian fellowship will have a lasting influence on me." As Grace narrates her story, it is easy to see the passion with which she expresses her joy. Her studies at SPU gifted her the Christian foundation she desired and opened her mind to the opportunities to practice and develop her musical gift. Not only did the SPU environment provide an anchor for her faith, but it also availed a platform through which she could minister to staff, students and the community beyond.



In the next five years, the budding singer hopes to have produced worship songs under the 'Still Alive Music' stable. "I also hope to be working in an NGO and a radio station preferably Compassion International and Radio Map respectively. I hope that I will be a wife and mother and that I will have begun a family business. My friend and I plan to start a mentorship program for future wives because we have observed that most young ladies are ill-prepared for marriage", she says in great anticipation. As we end the interview, Grace offers words of encouragement from this portion of scripture that she has hidden in within heart: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, but in all your ways acknowledge the Lord and He shall direct your path".

Graduand Profiles

YEAR

2020

POSTGRADUATE CLASS 2020

PhD in Theology



JOSEPH KIPKEMOI RONO

Thesis Title:

A Virtue-Based Reflection on the Golden Rule as a Basis of Universal Morality



MARY MERCY KOBIMBO

Thesis Title:

Renderings of the Tetragrammaton: A Contrastive Analysis of Dholuo Translations of the Hebrew Canon

Masters in Theology (MTH)



GABRIEL KUOL GARANG



MAGDALENE CHEPKIRUI KOECH

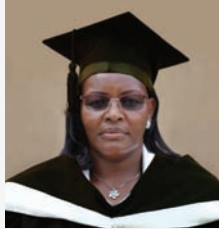


RODGERS SHIJENJE LUKANO



SANTA LUDIA LADO

Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology (MACP)



GRACE WAIRIMU MWANGI



RUTH NYAMBURA



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

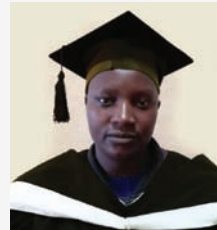
Master of Development Studies (MDS)



ANTHONY NDOLO



BEATRICE ACHIENG OMINDO



CAREN CHEROTICH



ESTHER AOKO OLWITH



GIDEON KIPSIELE MOI



ISAIAH MULULU



LOICE WANJERI



MARTHA MBATIA



MAUREEN MWANGI



MERCY JENNES LEKIMAIN



MERCY KARANU



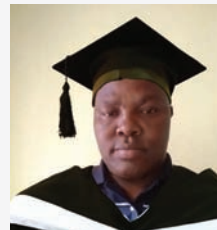
MONICAH NAISIANO



MUGENYA JOB OKOTH



NELSON M. MUREFU



PATRICK MUTUKU



SAMUEL RIUNGU MURATHA



SAUL KIPKOECH KIPTINGOS



STEPHEN NG'ANG'A NJOROGE



TABITHA KIMANI



VIRGINIAH WANJIKU KURIA



WINFRED MUKONZA



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Master of Arts in Communication Studies (MACS)



GLADYS NJERI CHEGE



ISAAC JOSEPH MUTHOTHO



Master of Business Administration (MBA)



ANNE AKINYI ODHIAMBO



EMMA M. MWANGANGI



ESTHER JOSEPH



ESTHER NJOKI



FAITH NJERI MWANIKI



GLADYS WANGARI MULELA



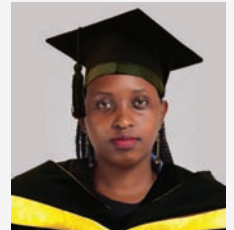
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JUSTUS KASIVU



MARY MBUGUA



MARY MWIAKI NDUNGU



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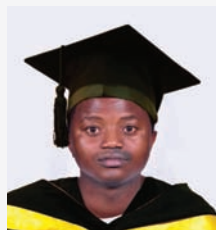
RUTH KARANJA



SAMUEL MUENDO MULWA



SHEM MAINA KUNGU



SIDIE MOHAMED TALIB



SUSAN WAIRIMA NDUMIA



Bachelor of Business Administration (BBAM)



AGNES MUTINDA



ALFRED MBAA



ALLIET DALIZU MUGIRURI



AMOS MUEKE MUSYOKA



ANN NYAMBURA MUNGA



ANN WAIRIMU MIANO



ANNASTACIA KOKI NTHENGE



ANNE GATHONI MBURU



ANNE NDUNGE MWENDO



ANNET KIBOMA



ANTONY KARIUKI WAMBUI



ANTONY NGURE WACHIRA



BAJI GALGALLU GUYO



BENARD KIHANYA



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BETH WANGECHI APOLLOS



BRENDA WANDIA NTHIGA



CALLEN KEMUNTO



CAROLINE MAKAU



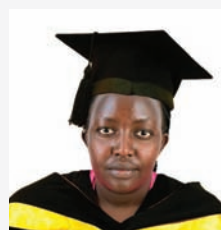
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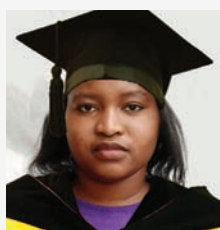
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CLARA EKAKORO



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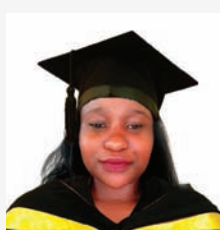
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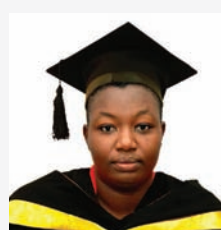
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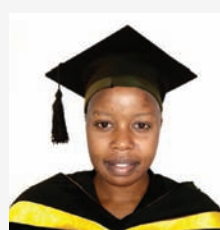
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ELIZABETH NYAMBURA CHOMBA



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EMMA KIKO

Bachelor of Business Administration (BBAM) *Cont'd*



ERIKA WANJIRU NYAGA



EUDIAH MUTHUI



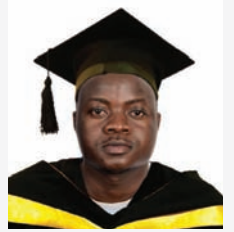
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HENRY MWANIKI



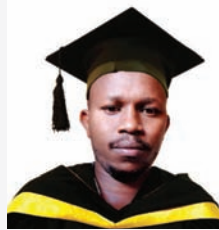
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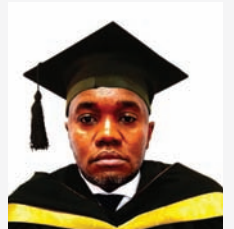
JACKLINE MAKENA



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JAMES KIMEU MUVILA



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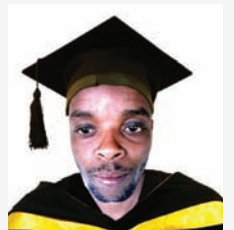
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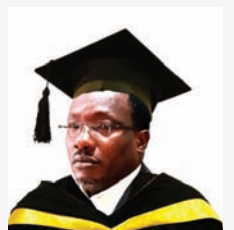
JOY WANGECI MACHARIA



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Bachelor of Business Administration (BBAM) *Cont'd*



KABUI NYAWIRA



KAMAU SERAH NYAKIO



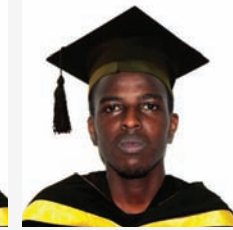
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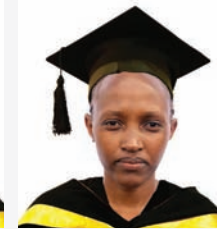
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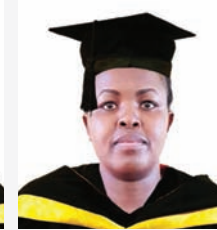
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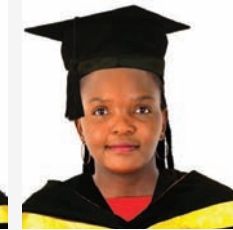
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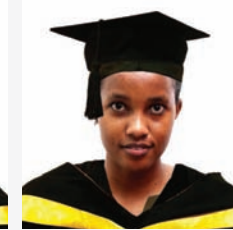
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MARY WANJA CHEGE



MAUREEN WAYUA SWALEH



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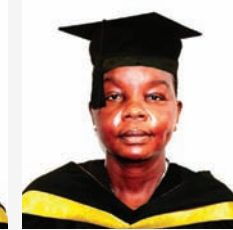
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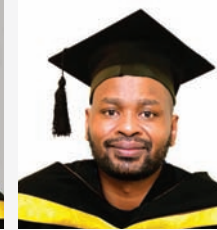
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MOSES MUSYOKA



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MWANIKI DAVID KARL MARX

Bachelor of Business Administration (BBAM) *Cont'd*



MWIKALI KIMILU



NANCY NJERU



NAOMI MACHIRA



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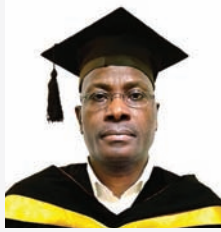
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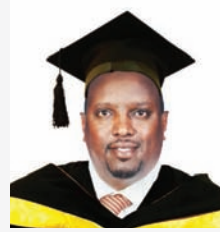
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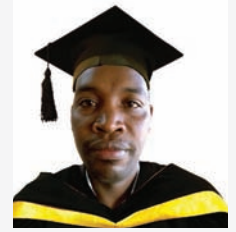
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PETER WAHINYA K



RAYMOND CHERUIYOT LANGAT



REBECCA NDUNGE MULAVIA



REBECCA NZWILI



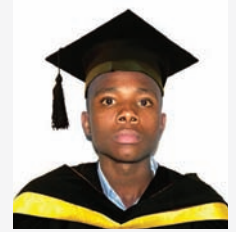
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RICHARD MUMO



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ROSE NJERI KARANJA



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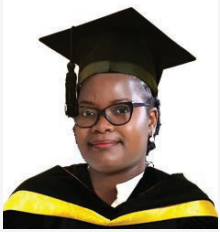
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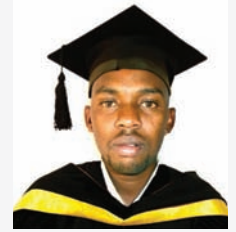
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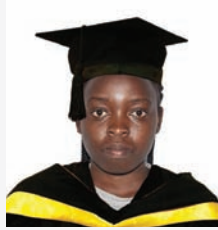
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SYLVIA MUGURE BERNARD



SYLVIA MUYOKA MUTALI



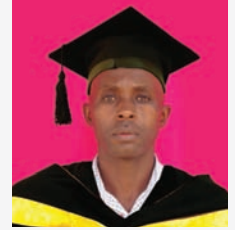
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TONY KIPKURI



VALENTINE NJAMBI KAMAU



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VENESSA MWIKALI



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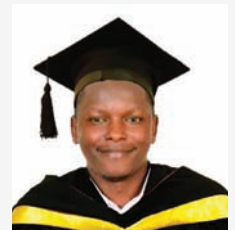
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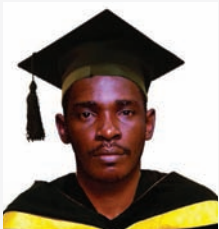
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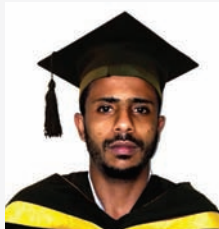
WAMBUNYA ELIZABETH EKWISI



WILLIAM WAIREGI MWAGO



WYCLIFFE ONCHONGA



YUSRI AWADH



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ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



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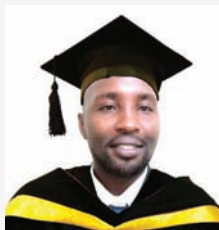


ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Business and Information Technology (BOBIT)



ABDIAZIZ AHMED ELMI



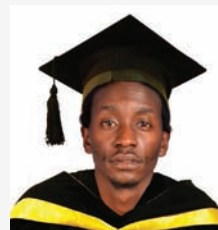
ALBURNAS MUTUA



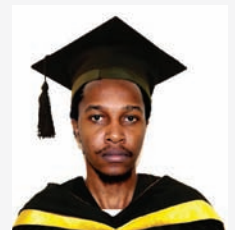
ANN NDINDA



BEDAN KIARIEH MUIRURI



BOB KIHIA



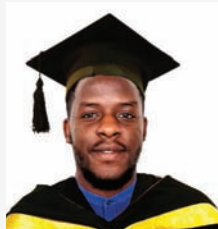
BRIAN KAHIHIA GATHU



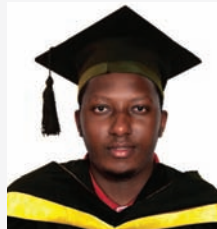
CAROLINE MBUVI



CAROLINE MUTHONI



CORNEL OKOBA



DENNIS CHOMBA MUCHIRI



DUNCAN GATHAGU



EMMANUEL MELLY

Bachelor of Business and Information Technology (BOBIT) Cont'd



EUNICE NDIRANGUH



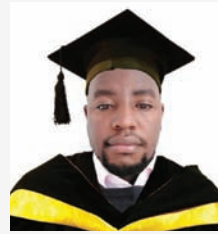
FREDRICK MBUGUA MUTHIORA



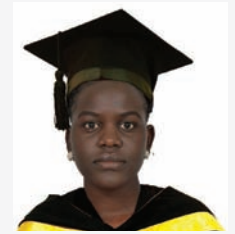
GABRIEL KIBAYA



JACK ATEM GARANG



JAMES IRUNGU



JENIFA JOPUTE SAMUEL



MARTIN MUTURI MUNGAI



MOSES AMTALLA



NDICHU DAMARIS WANJIRU



NELLY NYAGUTHI KAMITA



PAMELA NEKESA



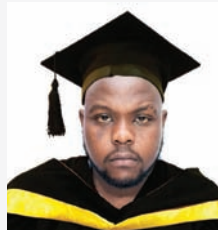
PATRICK KILU KILEI



RAYMOND KIMAÏTA



SABBATH KIVUVA



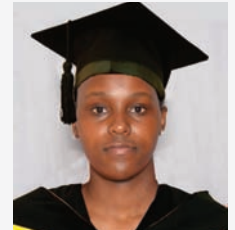
SAMUEL NDUNG'U MUCHIRI



SHARLENE JANE WANJIKU NJOROGE



STEPHEN KAVITHI MWANZIA



VALENTINE WAMBUI MWAURA



VICTOR NGUMBAU NDOLO



VICTOR OMONDI OTIENO



ZABLON MWAKITELE MLAWASI



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ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Commerce (BCOM)



BOLIS ERCLAUS YOUSIF



BRONSON KITAA



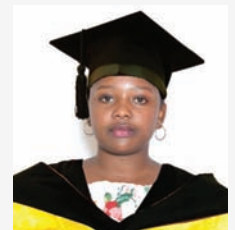
CYNTHIA ATIEONO



ERICK NDUNGU



EVELYN KARIUKI



GLORY WANGUI NGIGI



GULIYI NAJMA ENOW



HILLARY KIPRONO



IRENE NJERI NJUGUNA



JANE MAGDALENE VITALIS



JEREMIAH MUIGAI MWANGI



JOHN CHARI

Bachelor of Commerce (BCOM) Cont'd



JOSHUA MUNENE NJERU



KATHURIMA IRENE GATWIRI



LUCY WAIRIMU RIMUI



LYDIA CHEPCHUMBA SORONEI



MARY WANJIKU KAGUONGO



MECRY WANJIKU MUCHIRI



MONAH REBECCA PETER



MUNEE MUIA



NICHOLAS MBULO MUTUAL



OLUOCH VICTOR OTIENO



PETER MUCHAI WATAKU



REBECCA ATIENO MURUMBA



ROSE WANJIRU MBURU



SARAH NJERI KARIUKI



WILLIS OUMA



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Arts in Communication



AGUNDA SELLINE AKOTH



AMOS KINYUA



ANASTACIA WANJIRU



ANGELA CHITE



ANGELICA ANZELMO



ANNE WAWIRA MUNYAKA



BETHUEL MAGINA BUKOSIA



BRENDA ACHIENG CZEDA



BRIAN NGUGI KANGETHE



CAROLINE GATHONI THIONGO



CAROLINE MURINGI MAINA



CAROLINE WANJIRU GITHAIGA



CATHERINE WANJIRU NDEGWA



CHALHO ALI CHALLOBORA



CHRISTINE NYAMBURA WANJIKU



CHRISTINE MAKORI



DIANA MUMBI



DIANA MUMBI MIUGO

Bachelor of Arts in Communication *Cont'd*



EDWARD OUNGA



EDWINAH WANGARI MWANGI



ELIZABETH CHERONO NGETICH



ELLY KIMUTAI



EMILY KARANJA



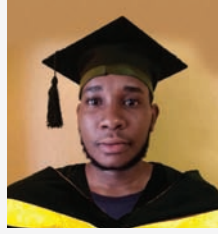
ERIC NDWIGA



FAITH ANYANGO ONYANGO



FAITH MOKUA



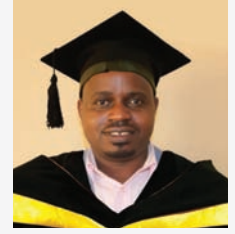
FRANCIS KARIENYE



GAKARIA JAMES MWAURA



GERALD MUTISYA MUMO



GERVASIO MITHIKA



GIKANDI RITA NYAWIRA



GRACE WAMBUI



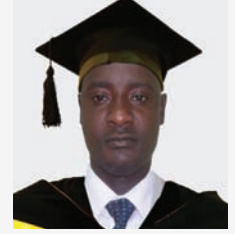
HANNAH NG'ENDO NJONGE



IAN MBURU NDUNGU



JACKLINE AWUOR OGOLLA



JAMES NGARUIYA KIOI



JANICE JOYCE NJERI GITONGA



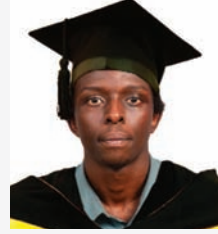
JENIFER WANJIKU



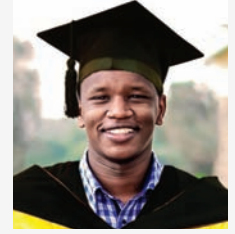
JOE KAMWERU MUIRU



JOHN KIPKEMOI ROTICH



JONATHAN SHABAKA BEKK



JOSEPH MAINA MWAI



JOY KEZENWA



KAY KUSHA PAUL



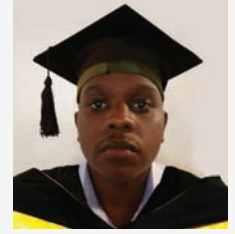
LAURA NGACHE MNDANYI



LEONARD NYAPERÉ



LUCY MATHETA



LUKE LEKISHON



MAINA CAROLINE MURINGI



MARK MUSEMBI KIVUVA



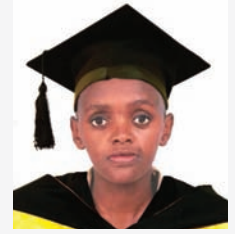
MARY MANGA NYAMBU



MARY WAIRIMU GITAU



MARYANNE KABURA GATHEMIA



MARYGORETTE MUGI

Bachelor of Arts in Communication *Cont'd*



MATIVO MWENDO



MAUREEN CHERONO MUTAI



MBAYA SHARON GATUGI



MIBEI KIPNGENO VICTOR



MICHAEL NJOROGE MAINA



MICHELLE TISHA



MILKAH CHRISTINE NYAMAMBA



MUCHOKI CHARLES MUCHIRI



MUMBI TONY MUGO



NIXON KINGUWO KISAKA



PAULINE WANJIKU IRUNGU



PHYLLIS MUILI MUSYOKA



REHEMA JAAFAR



RICHARD ANYIRU INGWE



RODGERS OSORE



RONY ERIC NJAGI NYAGA



ROSE MBULA KIEMA



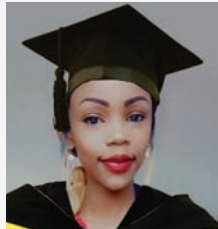
ROSELYN NALO



ROSEMARY WAMBUI CIIRA



ROTICH KIPLANGAT VINCENT



SARAH WANJIRU MWAURA



SHEILA ONDISO OMUFWOKO



STEPHEN AMIRI



SUSAN DIDA



THEURI HEATHER WAMUYU



THUO RICHARD GITHINJI



TONY MUGO MUMBI



VANESSA NJERI KABUI



VERONICAH WANGUI KARIUKI



VICKY CHARLES MUTONYI



WANGECHI ELISHIPHA



WANJIRU KIIRU



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ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Computer Science



DOMNIC RAPUDO



GLADYS WAIRIMU MWANGI



JENARO THURANIRA



JUSTINE NDANU LUKA



PAUL NJUGUNA NJOKI



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



SAMUEL WARUI NAGI



VERONICAH NG'ENDO KIMANI



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Divinity



ANSON NJAI GATUNA



BENNEDY KIPKOECH BARSOGET



CLARK EDWARD OHANGA



CRISPIN GIKONYO



DANIEL IKACHOI



EMILY NTINYARI KABURU



GATHOGO ANASTACIAH MARY



GITONGA LYDIAH NJURAH



JEMIMAH MKIWA MGHALU



JOHN MWANGI KARIUKI



KEN MAINA



KENNETH KEMBOI



LUCY MWANIA



MAPESA SHIKUKU NOAH



MARK OTIENO ODHIAMBO



MARY NGII



MICHAEL KORIR



PAUL KAHUTHU MACHARIA



PETER MUTHII GICEBI



REMYSON KONDE KARISA



RICHARD MUTHII MURIUKI



RODAH S. MAKUBA WANYANGA



SAMUEL MBECA



WASIKE NEKESA MURENGA

Bachelor of Education (Arts)



ANNET MALECHE



BRIAN ONGUBO



CALUSTUS KASILI



CAROLINE KIRIUNGI



CHROSTOPHER ODHIAMBO



COLLINS WANJALA TOYWA



DARLINE AWUOR HENGA



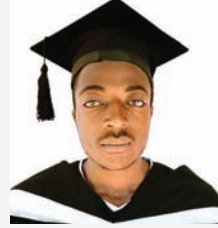
ELIZABETH NYAMBURA



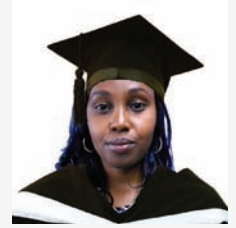
ERIC MUTAI



EUNICE NAFULA ODEMBO



GIBSON KEVONGO



INVOLATA MWENDU MUSIA



JANE MUTHAMA



JOYCE MBUGUA



JUSTIN MUGENDI NJAGI



KELVIN WANJIKU



KENNETH OMONDI



KONDIA JEMIMAH WANGUI



LILIAN NASIMIYU



MAGRINE CHEPKOMOI LOSIADUNGOT



MILLIUS MUTUMA MBURUGU



MONICA KARIMI NJIRU



NEPHATH KAMANDE



OWUOR BEN OTIENO



PAULINE OROKO



PHILEMON CHEPSIROR



RICHARD MWANIA



VENIORINE OWITI OWINO



WANJIRA JOSEPHINE WANJUGU



WINNIE WANGUI MUGO



ZIPPORAH BOCHABERI NYABERI



Bachelor of Education (Special Needs Education)



ALI SALLAH



ESTHER SIRENGO



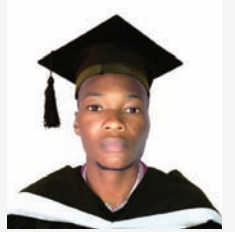
FEISAL MARCELO WAMULUNJI



LYOMU SONET



SHELDON OLANDO



THEOPHILUS PRICE WAFULA

Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE)



DAVID NZUKI MATHEKA



EUNICE KIRIGO KUNGU



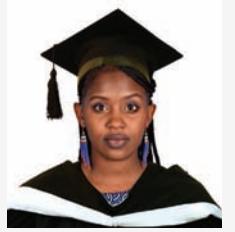
FAITH MUTHONI NJIHIA



GAUDENTIUS GICHUHI



GLORIA NGULI



GLORY NDUNGE



JAMES WAINAINA CHEGE



LEAH WANGUI MWANGI



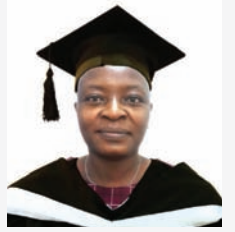
MWONGELI MUSYOKA



NANCY OSORO



NANIS KINYA BUNDI



PATRICIA LUCIANA LUMUMBA



PURITY WANGUI MUTHUI



RAHAB NJERI KURIA



SYLVIA WAMWERU GICHANGI

Bachelor in Criminology & Security Management



ELISHA MAINA GITHINJI

Bachelor in Criminal Justice & Security Studies



IVY NJERI NJOROGE



JUDY WAKARIMA MUNENE



PAUL OLUOCH OLANYA



SARAH WAMBUI NDICHU



TEDDY KILONZO WAMBUA



Bachelor of Arts in Social Work



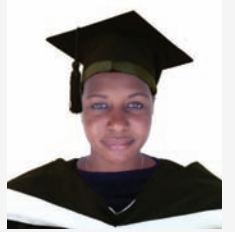
MAUREEN NTHENYA MULINGE



PAMINASH ONTITA



SAMSON OMULIEBI MACHANI



TERESA KEMUNTO MOGOA

Bachelor of Arts in Community Development



ADELINE MUJAW AMARIYA



ANGELA MULLEI



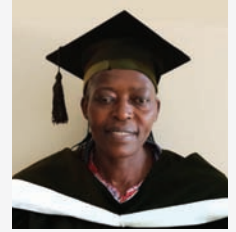
ANNE NGENDO NDWIGA



BEATRICE WAMBUGHA OKUMU



BENJAMIN MUTUA KITUU



BRIGID CHILANDE MUASA



CLAIRE ACHIENG OLUOCH



DANIEL YONGO



ELIZABETH GODE SAMBATU



ESTHER KAVINDU MUSAU



ESTHER KINYA RIUNGU



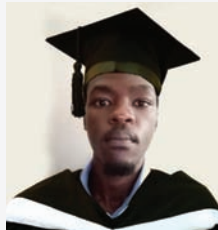
FAITH MBULWA SAMMY



FRANSCISA MUUNGAMI



GLADYS W. NZULU



HAPPY MOSES AGOLLA



JACKLINE NZULA NDETO



JAMES MULI MUSYOKA



JOEL KARUPE LEKENI



JOSHUA MUTHAMA



JOYCE KOMBE



JOYCE MUIGI



JOYCE NYOIKE



JUDY MUNGAI



KIOKO MUUO



LILIAN VICTORIA MAKHANDIA



LOISE NJUNGE



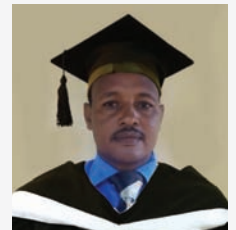
MERCY KISIA MMATA



NAAMAN WILLIAM MATETE



NGINA CHALES KIMANZI



QALICH BORU BIQA



RACHAEL MULUKI BROWN



ROSE MARY ONGICHO



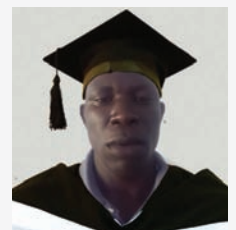
RUTH ANZAZI MAE



SARAH JEPKOECH MUTAI



THOMAS MUMO MUINDI



VICTOR WANDERA

Bachelor of Arts in Community Development *Cont'd*



WAMBUI NDUNGU



ZEDDY CHEPCHUMBA



Bachelor of Arts in Counseling Psychology



DAVID GITHUGO



HILDA MBATHA KAVITA



HILDAH MWONGERA



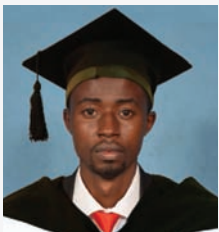
JOHN GICHUKI MAINA



JOSEPHINE KANYUGO



MARTHA KETURAH



MARTIN KIBE



MARY ASEKA



MARY WAIHERERO KARUGA



MARY WANGUI MURIUKI



MILDA SIANTO KOCHALLE



MOHAMED WAKO



PRISCA OKEMBA



ROSEMARY WANJIKU MAINA



SAMUEL MURIITHI



Bachelor of Arts in Leadership and Management



ANNE GITAHI



ASHA CHEPKURUI



AWINO MARY JACINTA



BENSON MUIRURI KARIUKI



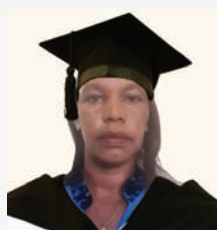
DANIEL KABIRU



ELIZABETH WACHEKE



ELIZABETH WANJIRU



ESTHER MURERO



FAITH MWENDU



FLORENCE WANDIA

Bachelor of Arts in Leadership and Management *Cont'd*



GRACE WANGUI KIMAMA



HESHBON WAINAINA NGUGI



JAMES GITHU MUIRURU



JARED OBOR OLUOCH



JOHN WAWERU



JOSEPH MUTUNGA MUSAU



JUSTUS KILESI SALAU



KARUGA SAMUEL PETER



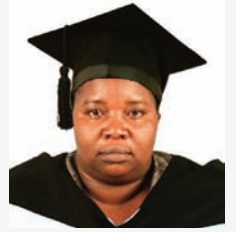
KASSIM LUCHUMBO MUSTAFA



MERCY CHEPKEMEI SAINA



MICHAEL KIARIE GITURU



NAOMI CHELAGAT RONO



NJOROGE NJERI TABITHA ABIGAIL



PAUL GITAHI



SIMON MWATIA



TRACY LENA MALAVA



WINNY JONES



Diploma In Business Information Technology (DBIT)



ABDULMUTALIB ADAN



ABIGAE CHEPKEMOI CHEKWONY



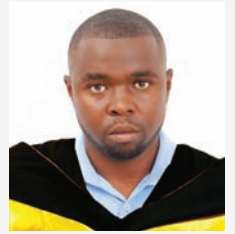
AMINA ADAN ALI



BEATRICE N. NTARI



BRIAN KIPKOECH



CALEB NYAMBANE OMARIBA



CHARITY MUOKI



CHEROP CHELANGAT



CYNTHIA NYANG



DANIEL MURI NGUGI



EDWIN NYAMASYO NDEKE



EMMANUEL OMBASA



EUNICE NJAU



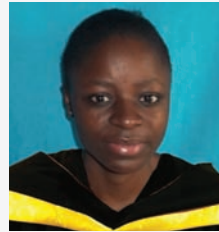
FAITH KAMANTHE



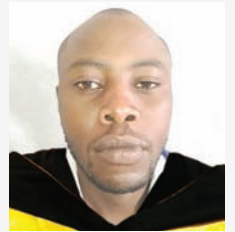
FLORENCE WANJIKU KANYI



GIDEON MWANIK



ISABEL JOYCE OKOTH



JAMES NGUGI MARIGA



JAPHETH KYENDE MUTHAMA



JEREMIAH NGOMO



JOAN CHERUTO KIBET



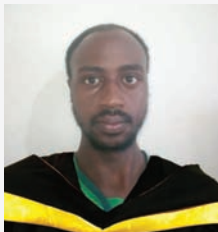
JOE KELVIN THUKU



JOSEPH KANORU NYAMBURA



KARUGA MBUGUA



KENNEDY MUGO MWANGI



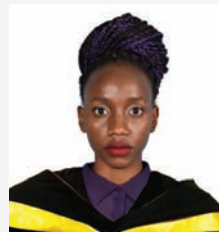
LISTONE DAN ACHOCH



MANASES KAMAU



NANCY MWIKALI



PERPETUAL NDANU



PETER NJENGA MUIRURI



ROBERT MWANZIA KYALO



RONALDO OCHIENG



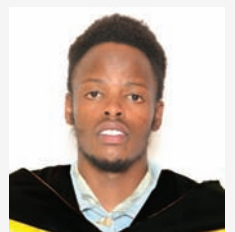
RUFINAH BETTY WAKITHI



STEPHEN KITSAO

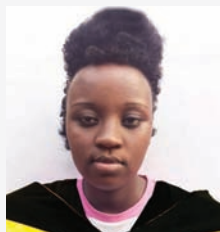


TESSIE MMBONE SIEMINYE



VICTOR PAUL KARIRI WAIRIMU

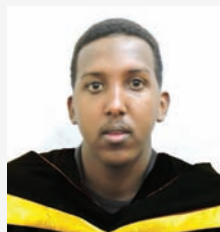
Diploma In Business Information Technology (DBIT) *Cont'd*



VOLDAH KYALO



WIKISTER CHEPKORIR CHERUIYOT



ZAKARIA MOHAMED MUKTAR



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Diploma in Business Management



ABDIAZIZ IBRAHIM OMAR



ABDIKADIR MOHAMED ADAN



ABDIRAHMAN ALI JUMALE



ADAN SALAD DAUD ADAN



AHMEDIN MUKTAR NOOR



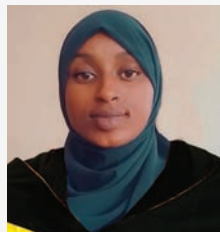
AKOT BOL



ALBANUS MUSAU



ALLAN KIPTOO



AMINA WAKO ABDUBA



ANNASTACIA MUTHIO NDIVATHA



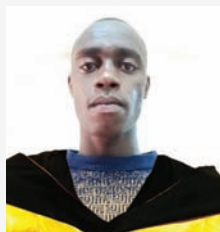
BARWAQO GALMA WAKO



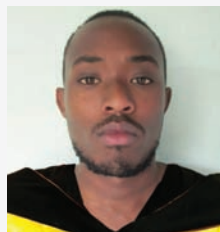
BEATRICE AKOTH ARIENDA



BEATRICE NJUGUNA



BENARD KIOKO



BENJAMIN BORU HARO



BETH THUO



CAROLINE JAPHETH



CAROLYN MBOYA



CARRINGTON SHIVAURO MAKAMU



CATHERINE K. KIMEU



CATHERINE NZIOKA



CHARLES SUJA



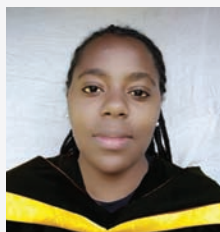
CHOL BOL MAJO



CONSOLATA NJOKI MUNGA



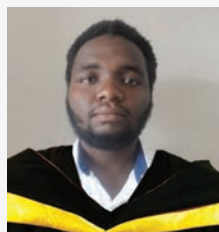
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CYNTHIA SIANO



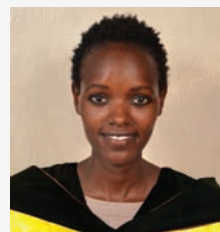
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DANIEL MUTISYA

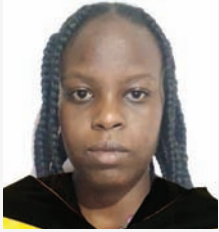


DICK MURIMI KARIUKI



DORCAS CHEROTICH

Diploma in Business Management *Cont'd*



DORIS B ARIGA



DORIS NZULU



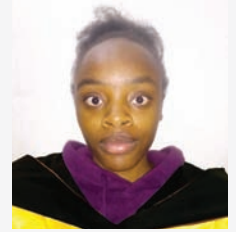
DOROTHY ATIENO



ELIZABETH MWANZIA



ELSYIE NYAGUTHI KARIUKI



EMILLY WANGECHI GITHINJI



ESTHER NDUTA



ESTHER WANGECI NJOROGE



FAIZA SALAT



FAUD MOHAMED ABDI



FELISHA NJERI



FRANISCA MONTHE MUTUA



GABRIEL KIMATU



GEORGE ODUOR OTIENO



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HANNAH MUTHONI KIMANI



IBRAHIM ABDI ALI



IMMACULATE WAITHAKA



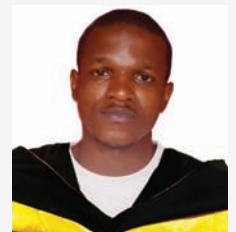
IRENE BENARD



IRENE KYANIA



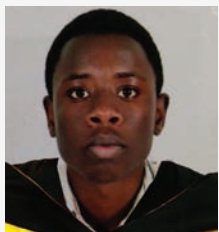
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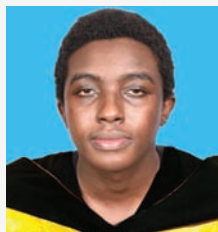
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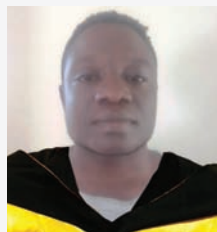
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JOEL NGIGI KAMAU



JOHN K. KIMANI



JOSEPH MULAMBA MUCHIKA



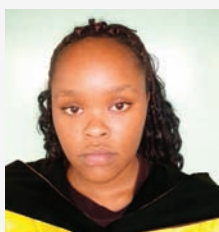
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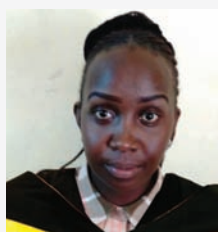
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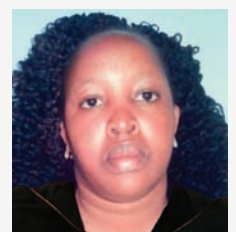
JULIA MUTHONI



LUAL BOL



LUCY NJOROGE



LUCYANN MUTHONI NJIRU

Diploma in Business Management *Cont'd*



LYDIA MUSEMBI



LYDIA WANJIKU



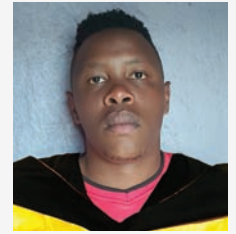
MARY MWONGELI MATHEKA



MERCY JEPKOROS JOSHUA



MERCY MUSYOKA



MICHAEL MUNGAI



MOHAMED ISSACK



MOHAMED KUNOW



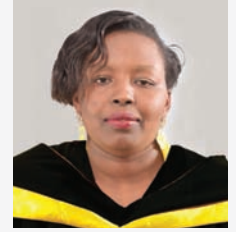
MONICA MUGURE KAGICHA



MUSEMBI NANCY ANDIA



NASTEHA MUHIDIN HAJI



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PATRICIA MANJALA NYAMBU



RACHEAL NDAATHI KINUTHIA



RAWLINGS OCHIENG OGINDO



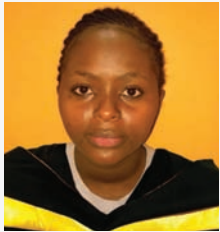
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ROBINSON MUTINDA



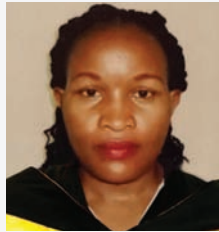
RONALD NDIANGU



ROSE WANJIKU KING'ORI



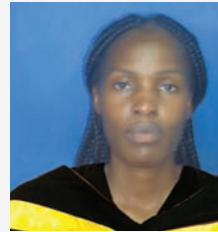
ROSINA KIKUTHI



RUTH WANJIRU



RYAN ANGWECH



SALOME OKEYO



SAMUEL MUTUA KINOI



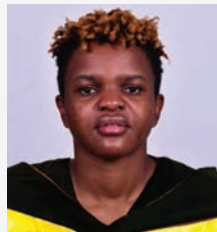
SAMUEL ODERO OCHIENG



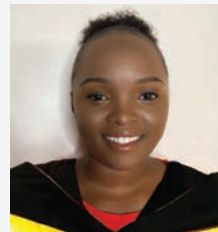
SAMUEL WAWERU



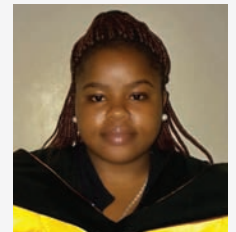
SAMWEL NGUGI KAMAU



SHARON ADISA SHAUNDA



SHEILA MWANGI WAMBUI



SONIA NDIKEYE NJUKI



STACY KIBE



VERONICA KIMATU



WILSON NGUNJIRI



WINFRED MBITHE MUSOMA



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Diploma in Sign Language

Diploma in Theology



DIANAH TWONI



EMMA PIUS ANTONIA



GLORIA MASIT



GLORIA NYAGOYA



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



BRIAN MISIKO CHIBAYI

Diploma in Community Development



ALICE WAIRIMU GICHURU



BELVISTER VEGAR OWINO



DAISY BURADI



GLADYS OMATO



RUTH WAENI

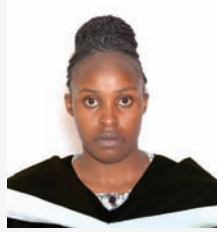


ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Diploma in Counseling Psychology



ALICE WAMBUI MWIHAKI



BETH WAIRIMU NDUTA



ELIZABETH WANYOIKE



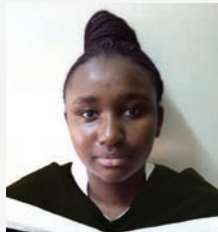
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JENDRICKS KASITI SHIAMIA



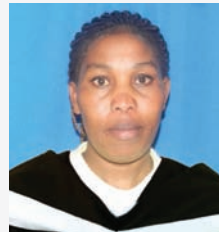
JOSEPH WAITHAKA



MARY MWIHAKI NDUNGU



MARY WAMBUI



MERCY CHEPKEMOI KORGOREN



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Diploma in Criminology & Security Management



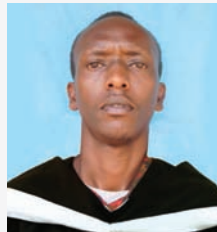
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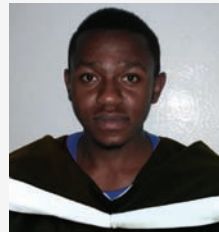
EDWIN NYAMWEYA



JAMES MAINA KARUGU



RONNY MWITI MWENDA

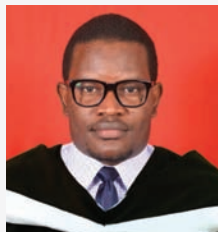


SAMUEL KIMANI WAWERU



SHARON LIHAVI

Diploma in Education (ARTS)



MICHAEL MADINDA



MWANGI ANN WAMAITHA



VICTOR ONCHIRI

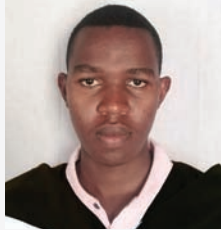


VIVIAN AKOTH RADUK

Diploma in Peace Building and Conflict Resolution



AHMEDSAFI ABDULLAHI ABDI



BRIAN KYANZI MWANZAU



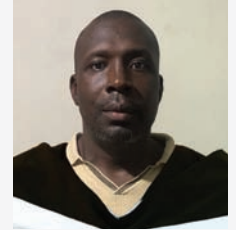
ILHAN ALI SALAH



IRENE WAMUYU KINGORI



ISHMAEL ASOKA RAJUI

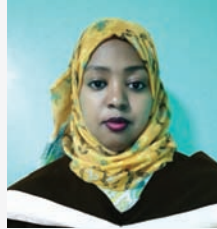


NICHOLAS OLUOCH

Diploma in Social Work



ELIZABETH WANGARI MUNYI



MADINA ALI



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Diploma in Leadership & Management



JACKLYNE MILOYO



MARTHA ABUK DENG



THOMAS OLUOCH ODHIAMBO

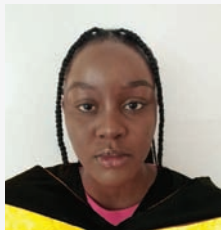


ZABLUN ODILA OMOLLO

Diploma in Communication



AAFES MWIHAKI THAIRU



AHAB KAMOTHO



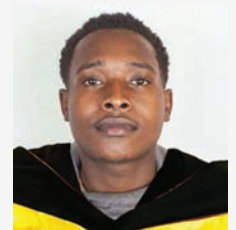
ALVIN NJENGA



ANGELA WANGECI



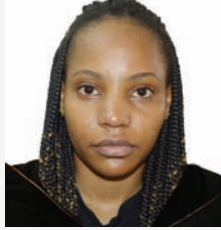
ANN CHICHI BULINDA



BENTLEY SHARU



BRIAN MURIUKI



CAROLINE MUTHONI NDIRANGU



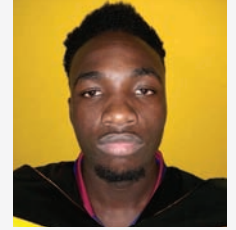
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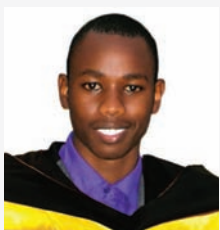
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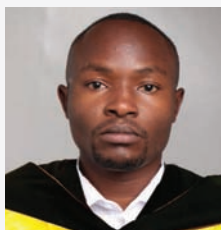
FRED ONG'ERA MOKAYA



GEORGE GIKONYO



GEORGE KIPLAGAT



GOEFREY MORARA



IDAH NKIROTE KITHINJI



ILTETIAN JANE LEKIREMU

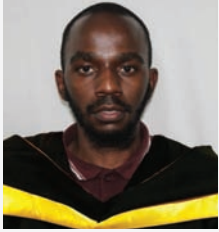


IRENE NZUSYO



JACOB KIPTOO

Diploma in Communication *Cont'd*



JOSEPH MUREITHI KINYUA



LEONARD ASANYO



LLOYD MUGAMBI



MARGARET NGANGA



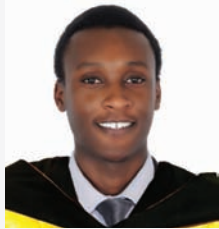
MARY NJOKI



MERCY JEPKOECH



MERCY NJERU



MORGAN WAITAKA GACHUHI



RADHIA CHESANG



SAMIRA MOHAMED ABDIRAHMAN



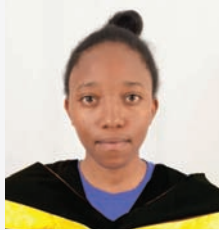
SHEILA JUMA



VICTORIA WANJIKU MUNGAI



WANYOIKE NJERU JAMES



ZIPPORAH KURIA



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Diploma in Computer Science



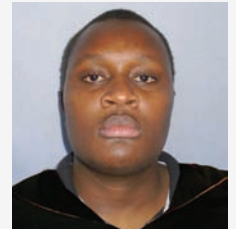
ALVIN MBUGUA



BERNARD MWISHEN NATHAN



BRANDON KIBOCHI NJENGA



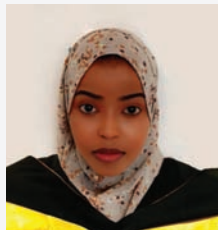
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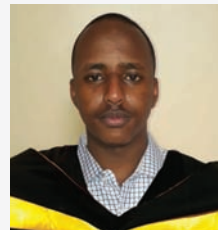
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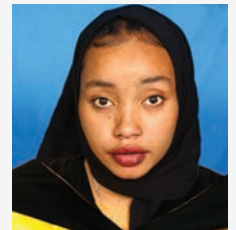
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FREDRICK MACHARIA WAINAINA



HAMZA MOHAMED ABDI



ISAACK ZAMZAM DOYO



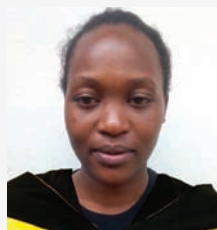
LAUREN GITHU



LEAH WANJIRU WAMBUGU



MIERITSU NELLISHA



NANCY NJAMBI



SAMSON OTIENO



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Diploma in Information Technology (DIT)



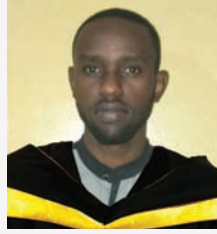
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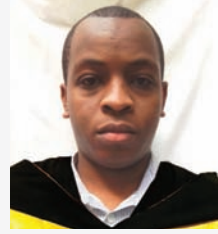
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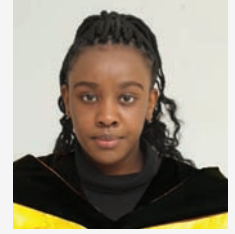
IAN MMBAYA LIHANDA



JOHN MAINA



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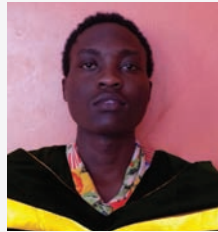


ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



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Diploma in Journalism



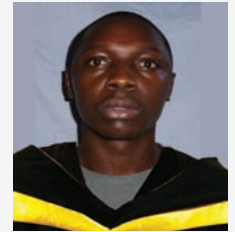
AMOS OMARIBA



BRIAN MOKUIA MOSES



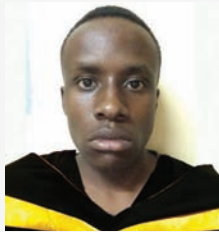
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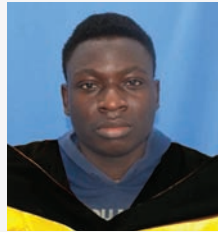
DOUGLAS KYALO



GABRIEL MACHARIA



KAMAU THEGU



KEVIN RAVIN



MALHON MTURI MTUNJI



MAURICE IKILENG OSABALO



PETER KIRAGU ESTHER



PETER OUKO ORRO



TABBY GRACE WANJIRU MBATIA



VENESSA ANGEL OLAGO



VERONICA NYAMBURA MAIGWA

Diploma in Film (DIF)



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ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY



ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSITY

Diploma in Public Relations



CHRISTINA MAUA



EMILY MAKENA



GILBERT OMONDI NYANGWESO



GLADYS MUMBI MATHENGE



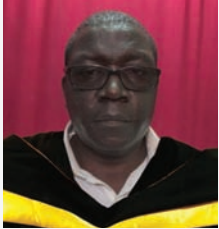
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ISAAC NTAUWASA NKUMAMA



JACINTA MUKAMI KURIA



JOEL MIRINYA AKECH



MERCY WAMBURA KABUI



MICHELLE KATHEU



MUSA TANTE OLE KAITEI



PAMELLA FRIDA ANYANGO



STANLEY MWAREMA MWAKISEGHURA





Prof. Peter Ngunjiri, the DVC-AA, facilitates a Proposal Writing workshop for postgraduate students



Proposal Writing workshop participants taking note of important highlights



Students from Christian Universities in Netherlands visit SPU



SPU gets into an MOU with South Korean Hanyang University



Koitalel Arap Samoei University representatives visit SPU for a benchmarking session on distance learning



The VC with representatives from the Overseas Council of Africa and Principals of SPU's affiliate colleges take a group photo during donation of ICT equipment to the colleges



Mrs. Lucy Gikeri, the Human Resource Manager addresses participants during the annual Career Day dubbed "Life after Campus"



Students Keenly follow the Career Day's proceedings



Academic staff take a group photo during a training session on Distance and E-learning



Live NTV cross over service



Prof. Charity Irungu, the former DVC-AA shares a cake with students during a thanks giving service dedicated to her



The VC, Prof. Galgalo (left) receives a gift from Prof. Ngure (right) during his farewell party at the Annual Planning meeting for the Board of Management

Changed to change others

By Ukaiko Ojiambo

What's in a motto?

A motto coalesces the value and purpose of an organization into a unique expression that defines the culture while simultaneously setting the expectations of those around us. This opportunity to reflect on what the St. Paul's University (SPU) motto, '*Service to God and Humanity*', means is a privilege; I'll reflect on the slogan from the perspective of a servant and then that of humanity. God, as creator, gives us the chance to reach our potential in many ways, one of which is through higher education. Our growth and development as humans, thus, is not devoid of His purpose and enablement. Being His servant means being willing to learn from, be taught by, and be shaped by Him. At SPU, 'spiritual formation' is a catch-phrase that to me, has meant being willing to listen to His voice, call, and direction through His Word and His people. I've found that listening quietly is not easy, yet that is how He often reveals himself. Servitude is not easy, nor is it a natural human posture. How do we relate to those who serve us? Bible stories show how servants were treated in society: some are mistreated, rejected, and ignored; some accompanied their masters and mistresses on missions, gave them advice, and even received salvation in the household where they served. One's identity is important. Seeing myself as a 'servant' of God shifts my attitude to one of humility. If God himself can depend on me, isn't that something?

Again, serving others isn't natural. What is natural is the thought; 'what's in it for me?' Yet the Son of God came to earth and gave Himself for our sins in obedience to His Father. Nothing more. Serving humanity altruistically is not common; yet when we are willing to be used as servants, we become like the candle that shines in the darkness of this world. Obedience then is not about us. It is about those who are touched by us. This also means living in peace, unity, and reconciliation. Once we reach out and touch others for the better, they in turn change, and can help others. Isn't that a powerful image? Getting an education is a feat! We overcome so much to attain those certificates and degrees. I wonder, to what end? Let us take time to reflect on our identity in Christ and relationship with others who bear His image. Let us not miss opportunities to reframe the role we can play as true servants of God and humanity.

The St. Paul's University writing & language resource centre

Write away to Academic Success

By Susan Mwangi

Is there any university student that does not aspire to academic success? The pursuit of academic prowess is often hampered by poor writing skills. The inability to write clearly and effectively leads to frustration and in some cases, failure. Many students think that complicated writing bears scholarly appeal. This cannot be further from the truth. The key to academic success lies in being able to communicate seemingly complex ideas as simply as possible.

While it is no secret that academic writing can be challenging and overwhelming, the good news is that every student has an opportunity to improve their academic writing skills. This automatically translates to better grades and more confident expression of ideas. The *SPU Writing & Language Resource Centre* (SPUWLRC) aims to equip students with the writing skills they need to succeed at the university. Established in January 2020, the centre provides various services to the SPU community that include:

- Peer tutor mentors to guide undergraduate students in their writing assignments
- Writing competitions
- Editing services for postgraduate students
- Workshops & Seminars – Academic writing seminars and Editors training workshops
- Languages - English, French, Chinese, German

Importance of Academic Writing

Academic writing equips students with an array of skills including; research skills, referencing skills, language skills, critical thinking skills and objectivity, evidence-based writing, writing in a focused manner and argument development among others. Every activity in the writing process matters; from brainstorming, drafting, revising and proofreading, to citing and referencing. Attention to detail ensures that each paper, whether a brief assignment or research, is correct in content, grammar and presentation.

In many cases, it is convenient to quickly gloss over an assignment and submit it before taking

the time to edit or proofread it. What many students do not realize is that in the editing and proofreading stages, you try to fix what needs fixing. You may notice a 'their' that should be a 'there' or a 'whose' that should be a 'who's'. All this comes together in your writing assignments. You can choose to enjoy the process, the writing process that is, that begins with prewriting and ends with proofreading.

When it comes to academic writing, students soon discover that much more is required of them at this level. A majority of students joining the university lack the necessary skills required to communicate effectively in writing. The *SPU Writing Centre* appreciates that there is a great need for university students to embrace the importance of good writing skills. The environment in which the students communicate is one of text messaging and social media, which is largely characterized by the use of informal language and abbreviations. Pointers of good writing such as punctuation, capitalization and clear paragraphs are traded in for bits and bytes. At the core of their communication is the aspect of immediacy which ensures that there is little reflection on what is being written and sent or received.

Writing for Academic Excellence

St. Paul's University has been lauded for the commitment to academic excellence. The university endeavours to ensure that the quality of training offered to students is consistent with the vision to foster academic excellence based on Christian principles. The *SPU Writing and Language Centre* engenders this commitment by ensuring that publications reflect the quality and values we stand for.

Someone once said, "writing is like taking a journey. Sometimes the journey is the adventure and not the destination; writing is the adventure, and being a published author is the destination." Sometimes the end goal is not to get published but to achieve good grades. Whatever your reason for writing, there is always room for improvement. Welcome to the **SPUWLRC** and write away to academic success!

Biblical and Contextual Reflections on Being “*Servants of God and Humanity*”

**By Rev. Rowland Van Es, Jr,
Lecturer - Faculty of Theology**

What does it really mean to be ‘*Servants of God and Humanity*’ today? How are we God’s *servants*? The first responsibility that God gave human beings to do in Genesis 1 was to ‘rule’ over all the other creatures God had made (Genesis 1:26 & 28). But how are we supposed to rule or have ‘dominion’? We rule together with God, so we should rule in a God-like way; with justice, care and compassion for all. The creation account in Genesis 2:15, specifically puts mankind in the Garden of Eden, ‘to cultivate and care for it.’ The Hebrew words used here can also be translated to something like ‘to serve and protect it.’ This fits with the biblical notion of *stewardship*. We are not the owners of the earth, just God’s stewards. In the New Testament, there are many parables about stewardship. We have been entrusted with good things (time, talents, treasure, trees, spiritual gifts, etc.) and must take care of them well because one day we will have to give an account of our stewardship of the things God entrusted us with.

For St. Paul’s University, the motto ‘Service to God and Humanity’ means that both staff and students care about obeying God and doing God’s will by serving both God and our neighbors. In 2020, being servants has taken on a broader meaning. We need to seriously re-consider our care for the environment and each other.

First, in this era of global climate change, being servants of God gives us no option other than being better stewards of the environment. It is now clear that humans are causing climate catastrophes. Temperatures at the Arctic Circle have hit a peak of 38 degrees, something that has never happened before. If we don’t mend our ways, the earth will be too warm to accommodate many plants and animals, with dire consequences for biodiversity and food production. As usual, the poor will be the most affected, so we will have to change our behavior for their sake as well as for our own. Remember that, according to the Bible in Genesis 1:29-30, Adam & Eve were vegetarians, not carnivores!

Second, in this era of the COVID-19 pandemic, being servants of humanity means that we look out not only for our own health and well-being but we must also look out for the health and well-being of all our neighbors as well. What we do or don’t do affects their health. If we don’t wear masks, we may infect our neighbors. If they don’t adhere to social distancing rules, they may infect us. We must all obey the golden rule!

In the context of both climate change and the Coronavirus pandemic, change starts with what we do as individuals, but it cannot stop there. As students of history and society, we know that just as local problems require local solutions, global problems also require global solutions. We need to act locally but also

think globally.

Our Christian faith and values are not just for personal change and growth. We are all in this together, as our two original mandates in Gen. 1 & 2 remind us. We are to ‘rule’ the earth (and all creatures) wisely, bringing *shalom* to the entire planet. In addition, we are to serve and protect the garden, our environment, and maintain the right temperature to sustain all of life, including the birds and bees!

The twin crises of climate change and the pandemic have shown us what happens when we serve ourselves instead of serving God (and God’s creation) or serve ourselves instead of serving all humanity. God did not change the earth’s climate, but we did. God did not cause COVID-19 to become a deadly human pandemic, but we did through ‘*wet markets*’ (the practice of selling ‘unclean’ meat like bats and pangolins) and then by our lack of a clear and consistent global health strategy.

As a University, we have been entrusted with many things: Land, labour, capital, buildings and many other resources that we must manage wisely. What we have the most of are human resources: Our faculty, staff, and students. How are we exercising our ‘dominion’ over them? Are we ‘ruling’ each other fairly and peacefully? What about the stewardship of our portion of God’s ‘garden’ here? Are we bearing the kind of ‘fruit’ we should? We need to be productive for God and our neighbors.



Servant leadership in Modern Marketing

By Wanjiku Ng'ang'a Kinyanjui

Today, marketers are struggling to keep up with technological and cultural changes as competitive brands desperately try to position themselves to appear 'admirable'. In this context, the principles of servant leadership are extremely relevant. In his essay, Robert K. Greenleaf emphasized that the leader is first and foremost a servant. He outlined eight key principles of a servant leader as: *acceptance, empathy, knowing the unknowable, foresight, perception, persuasion, deliberation and building communities*. Marketers should also embrace these principles for better customer service. Servant leaders need to create a safe work environment for their employees by making acceptance a major goal. From a marketing perspective, servant leaders need to understand that customers' personalities are also different and that customers will buy products that fulfil their different perceived values. These could be emotional, social, functional or monetary value.

Empathy based marketing is about

walking in the customer's shoes to understand their experiences and how to help them get what they want. This calls for a change on perspective: From thinking like a customer to being a customer. In the marketing context, servant leadership requires leaders to adjust their presentation and style based on their understanding of their customers' needs, values, and aspirations. This can be achieved by improving the leadership performance and forging more meaningful connections with the customers through: Identifying ways you can help your customers make their lives better; providing your customers with what they want by understanding what motivates them; helping your clients identify and solve problems or giving customers content and expertise that helps them get clarity.

A leader needs two intellectual abilities that are usually not assessed academically: he needs to have a sense for the unknowable and also be able to foresee the unanticipated. This is especially important in predicting

the unforeseen changes in customer preferences, customers' needs and wants and the general changes in customers' behavior. Conducting marketing research is beneficial to acquire the necessary information. A good leader is expected to anticipate the unforeseeable. They can draw this from their own experiences, intuition and courage to call out the destination and outcome that they want to attain. The leader is expected to think about possibilities and then rally the human capital and resources towards the achievement of the envisaged outcome. Good marketers thrive in the bravery of their beliefs and they are willing to take the personal risk to lead their team towards the vision.

Foresight is the ability to predict what will happen in future. The present realities are likely to have consequences of decisions made in the future. Foresight requires rigorous analytical review of the past performance drivers and the current business realities. Therefore, leaders must identify potential outcomes from the lessons of the past and a sound understanding of the present. Foresight also requires listening carefully to the many experienced and concerned people involved in their business. Listening to team members, customers and stakeholders is the best way to demonstrate your concern about their input as a servant leader. Customers are the best source of ideas on what products and offerings should be explored, therefore, marketers need to listen to customer feedback and act on it.

To become a servant leader in the marketing profession, one must understand the needs of those they want to serve. Secondly, a marketer needs to treat others as co-creators and collaborators, not consumers. Marketers must create a rapport with the customers so as to understand their needs hence offer products that are of great value. They must also embrace stewardship, because the customers and employees don't belong to them. Finally, marketers must learn to serve their customers, partners, colleagues and employees and not mismanage them. Therefore, genuine care and compassion will most probably create a competitive advantage for the business.



Donation of food stuff to Kiambu County to mitigate the effect of Covid-19 pandemic among residents



Donation of medical equipment to Tigoni Hospital courtesy of the College of Health Sciences



Mr and Miss SPU Machakos Campus distribute food in Machakos town and its environs



Kiyiapi Lekishon Luke

Bachelor of Arts, Communication Studies - Governor (Nakuru)

My leadership experience has been bittersweet. There have been highs and lows. The COVID-19 pandemic has made it difficult to serve students one on one. Moreover, Nakuru student leaders have had to do without face to face meetings. However, St. Paul's University has managed to keep things going virtually. I am specifically grateful to the outgoing Vice Chancellor, Prof. Galgalo, for having the vision to make online learning a reality. May he prosper as he moves on to his next assignment.

Charles Omondi Aroko

Bachelor of Business Administration and Management - Deputy President & Governor (Nairobi)

During my year of service under the leadership and guidance of Prof. Galgalo, I learned a lot! I will always remember him as a father figure who proved to the entire St. Paul's University fraternity that you can be humble and still be successful at the same time. Many of the comrades still refer to him as 'Baba Yao', meaning, he was a man of the people and his office was always open for students to air their grievances. From his favourite quote, 'until the day the lion will learn how to write, every story will glorify the hunter', I'm reminded that each one of us has greatness instilled in us by God and we must use it for His glory.



Edwin Mwangi

Bachelor Of Education-Arts. Finance Secretary (Limuru)

I have had the honour and privilege of serving in the St. Paul's University Students' Association (SPUSA) for two consecutive terms, first as the Limuru Campus Treasurer and second as the Students' Finance Secretary. It has been a fascinating experience and a great task to execute. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the administration and management of the institution at large for ensuring that there was a smooth transition to the online and virtual system of rendering services. My greatest pride and achievement lie in having worked with a great man, a man of few words, full of wisdom, charisma, and humility - The Reverend Canon Professor Joseph Galgalo. His commitment to service has led to his exemplary leadership, lifting St. Paul's University to greater heights both academically and spiritually. As his term as Vice-Chancellor comes to an end, I would like to wish him all the best that life can offer. May the good Lord grant him favour, unending happiness, long life, good health, safety, and security.



Joy Mercy Gachuhi

Bachelor of Arts, Communication Studies- Deputy Secretary General (Nakuru)

I have always said that your time here in St. Paul's University (SPU) is what you make it. My active involvement in all aspects of the university's programmes as a regular student and leader has earned me experience within the student society, academics and all the opportunities that SPU has to offer. My experience as a leader, especially during the pandemic, has given me the opportunity to witness some of the university's biggest transitions. Things have not been so easy, but all things are made possible with God and I'm certain normalcy will resume.

I would like to thank Professor Galgalo for his continued Godly support to all and especially to student leaders. He has been a great mentor to us. 'Prof may God bless you as you embark on a new journey. May your ways prosper and May God lead you all the way, we salute you!'



Tukumbuke Mungu

Painkiller Malenga Sera

Sijakuja kuwabana, mahafali waadhama,
Mausia napeana, ili tuwe wacha wema,
Sizingatie Korona, kasahau ya Karima,
Korona katiti kitu, Mungu kiwa ndani yako.

Siku zako za maisha, tanguliza mbee Mungu,
Zako dhambi ataosha, ukauole uchengu,
Magumu hurahisisha, ya karaha na matungu,
Janga lisikuzuile, kuhubiri lake neno.

Mungu Baba atukuzwe, kila kona duniani,
Neno lake litangazwe, tulipande mitimani,
Apingaye akatazwe, aombewe aponyweni,
Korona isiwe chanzo, cha kutohubiri neno.

Kila kitu na wakati, kazi yetu ni kuomba,
Moyoni tuwe thabiti, tumuamini Muumba,
Shetani ni kizingiti, sipochunga tutayumba,
Kila tukijiombea, tuwaombee wengine.

Kaditama nimefika, kusema nanyi hakika,
Nawaombea Rabuka, afya njema kawaweka,
Hayo niloyaandika, ni mwiko kusahaulika,
Amina Mola Amina, Mungu wetu awe nasi.

What if

I find it funny kubuy maji 30bob yet ni ya dasani, ati ata mvua inyeshe ya elnino Still wasee wa juacali hufanya kazi. I find it funny when tunakuwa searched and frisked for weapons yet we are raising up our arms. And still after God amecreate fox in the forest we are still Cunning design tunamkana. So what if its true that in the beginning the world was filled with water, all you could do is see the water na ka mna nguo chafu basi osheni.

What if the sun as it rises from the east, ina reflect the light of the Son to us juu ya ile design ye anatumia.

What if in heaven hatutahitaji kupumua, all we will be doing is praising God, si hiyo ni mahewa tosha.

What if kuingia heaven hawataangalia how bad you were before you came to Christ, kile watauliza ni kama umeamini na kukiri Yesu ni Bwana.

What if in heaven hautamake kwambia beshte zako about God because hujui kama watamake it there in the first place.

What if on earth, uliishi kuchomea wakristo then in hell upate moto imekungonjea,

What if on earth ulidenie the existence of God, then ukipass upate the air you were breathing was actually His, na ye ndo alikumould from matope so ukimkana you are actually mad (mud).

What if every time tunacomplain God doesn't answer prayers, yet even before He said A word we already said Amen. What if.

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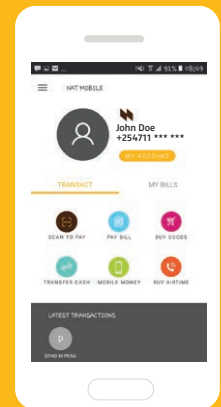
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