**ISSUE 2, JULY 2019** 





### YOUR FREE AIU NEWSLETTER

# THE 34TH AIU GRADUATION

#### GO YE TO THE WORLD, CLASS 2019

AIU 34th Graduation Chief Guest, AIU Alumni and current Makueni Governor; Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, delivering his keynote address to the Class of 2019 graduands.

n academic achievement is what is valued in the academic arena, and that was the overall mood in Africa International University. This year's Graduation rode on the theme 'Authentic Christianity: Equipped and positioned as effective change agents to transform the 21st Century and society.' Uniquely, the ceremony had a culmination of attached events.

Just to point, it all started with a Thanksgiving Service that was done in Good Shepherd Church AGC Ngong Road. The graduates were massively humbled by the mercies and grace from the Almighty God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Most of them testified of the favor God presented to them that far. The Graduation Banquet held at the Kijiji Restaurant was on another level. The sassy-looking ladies and neatly dressed gentlemen came ready to share the sumptuous meals and fun. The Emcees of the day (Eddy Nika, Joan Maiyo and Samuel Njoroge) did not disappoint the audience with their charismatic jokes and fun. The dance competition between schools (NEGST, SEAS and SBE) became the order of the day with NEGST taking the title as the school with the best dancers led by their Dean Prof. Nkansah and Kelvin Nyamrer. The Student Council President Mr. Kelvin Nyamrer gave an outstanding speech that left the audience gaze and motivated. Thereafter, the Chaplaincy led by Rev. Omondi Siwa performed the feet washing art, a sign that advocates for servanthood and humility. Not only did the Guest speaker Mr. George Wachuiri share his success story but also alluded to the fact that one should always be hopeful in their endeavors.

On the eventful day, the university was packed almost to its brim with families and friends of the graduates.

The well decorated ceremony was full of joy and happiness as the Chancellor, Governing Council, Senate, Lecturers and Graduating Class of 2019 did the procession in their academic regalia. Mr. Victor Audu (now has a doctorate) speaking on behalf of the graduating class clearly stated, "We are bound by friendship, the same value binds us, AIU binds us and its desire to impact the world binds us."

The humble speaking and looking Vice Chancellor Prof. Dankit Nassiuma, in his commencement address, did not mince his words when he threw noticeable punchlines. He told the graduating class that they have been sent out at a time when the world is facing numerous challenges: Economic uncertainties, politics around the world as well as spiritual decay. He challenged them to center their life on Jesus Christ and that authentic Christianity be their portion. He reminded them that





AIU has prepared them to face such challenges. Part of the wonderful introductory speech by the Chancellor Prof. Watson read, "We are proud to fulfill our mandate today having faithfully trained quality leaders for the service of the church and secondly but equally important, having trained professional leaders for the wider market place and society.

The Graduation Guest speaker His excellency the Governor of Makueni County Prof. Kivutha Kibwana enlightened the congregation that he was glad to be back home since AIU was his spiritual and academic home from 2009 to 2012. He congratulated the class of 2019 and notified them of the fact that the end of the journey signals a new beginning. He asked them to translate the acquired knowledge to applied knowledge.

It was very impressive to see a total of 230 graduates receiving conferment of their various degrees inclusive of seven doctorates. AIU is the place to be...



Top: AIU VC commissioning graduates. Left Top: Section of AIU graduates from Nigeria. Left Bottom: SC Leaders with beaming AIU graduate. Below: AIU Mace



## **SC President's Desk**



A Big Thank you!

The Student Council leaders pose for a photo after prayer and fellowship with their Mentors from the University Leadership led by the Vice Chancelor Prof. Nassiuma Still Waters Run Deep.

This statement summarizes my reflection of the May Semester 2019. Comrades, you have shown maturity beyond expectations and have practically demonstrated a true spirit of passion and unity in the few months we have served and studied together.

As we prepare for exams, it is my continual prayer that God may make all things abound for you financially and in all wisdom required for the next few days.

We have enjoyed the highs and cried together in the lows; the mystery and reality of the Life circle. We therefore, pray that God may fill in the gap for those who have lost loved ones and for all of us to remain grateful and purposeful even as we continue living for His Glory.

As we come to the end of the Semester, this is to wish you good health, grace and peace during the brief August break.

At Your Service,

#### KELVIN NYAMRER.



### #CrossoverAiu #StrategicPartnership

lory and glamour was the order of the day at AIU as the award winning show NTV Crossover transmitted our chapel service live to the whole nation.

The event did not dissapoint as the AIU worship team ushered both residents, guests and the live audience into an intimate session of worship and praise. This was followed by a candid reflection on the essence of commitment to the cross and person of Christ as ministered passionately by Dr. Steve Mbogo; Director of Africa Enterprise.

After this, the audience were lured into an energetic praise perfomances led by the reknowed top Kenyan Dj; Dj Moh and Mista Price. Ululations would be the icing of the cake as the audience were wowed with performances from top Kenyan gospel acts such as; Rufftone, Guardian Angel, Mbuvi and others. AIU was equally well represented by our very own AIU Chapel Choir and the mellow voice; Prudence Kanusu who kept us trending on twitter for the bigger part of the day. Our Nigerian community stood out with their unique dresses which captured the cameras and the NTV host MC shared a moment with them on stage leaving the audience in laughter and joy.

Indeed, the event proved a key point as AIU seeks to build strategic partnerships with brands and corporates with an aim to market and promote the institute on a larger scale.

Rev. Dr. Grace, Head of AIU Marketing, promised that more was still to come and this, was just the beginning!

## **AIU CU Worship Experience**

### **Come let us Worship and Bow down**

orship experience on another level is what defined the 26th Friday evening at the AIU Chapel plenary. It was surely an evening to remember.

The AIU Christian Union crowned the May Semester with a life defining moment through the event which drew many into the presence of God as they reflected in thanksgiving, adoration and supplication.

It was easy to note the impact of the recent AIU Chapel Sound Project judging by the quality of the music that was chunned out and the enthusiasm demonstrated by the worship team. The ministry of the Word was delivered by Timothy Nyamgero, who implored the congregation to cultivate a lifestyle of worship and thanksgiving and cease to complain while ignorant of God's marvelous works and miracles like the Israelites did.

The Christian Union under the chairmanship of Peter Ndung'u seeks to further the cause of discipling, mentoring and developing Christ-centered leaders through creating more events that gives its membership opportunities to showcase talent even as they engage in University ministry.

## The 1st AIU InterSchool Sports Event

### **Energetic SBE Crowned Champions!**

he 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of the Inter-school Sports Competition was characterized of mixed enthusiasm with every student, staff and faculty being loyal to its school. The competition made participants from NEGST, SBE and SEAS do their level best to bring points to their school. The schools orchestrated slogans and chants that they used to bring the sense of belonging.

The competition kick started with the half marathon that saw a good number of students participating. The SBE won in the men side while SEAS paid back in the ladies' side. The NEGST had a clean win in the Table Tennis led by Prof. Pam, Mwahos and Solivan. Stiff competition took the center stage in Chess, egg race, short race, long race, tug of war, Darts, Badminton, Volleyball and soccer. The pitch was amazingly full of participants and supporters. The VC Prof. Nassiuma, DVCAA Prof. Katia, DOS Dr. Florence, Deans of various Schools, Prof. Ngewa, Dr. Mutuku, Dr. Mutua just to mention but a few were present. Speaking to the Sports and Recreational Coordinator Edwin Odwor, he sighted that the success of the event is duly because of the management board that gave it a go ahead through the Dean of Students Dr Florence. He saluted Mr. Jonah Michubu, the Sports & Recreational Officer, for the passionate work he did alongside the Sports & Recreational Committee that worked round the clock to ensure all goes well. He applauded the Council members for owning the competition fully and became the cornerstone of the whole exercise. He alluded that there are ongoing talks on how they can adopt the competition as a semesterly event.

It was all celebration when individual participants that emerged best were awarded medals with the winning School SBE presented the winning trophy by the DVCAA and The Chaplain Rev. Omondi Siwa. SBE won with 147 points followed by SEAS that garnered 99 points with NEGST coming third with 85 points.



## **AIU Hosts The 2019 ELF Conference**

frica International University in partnership with Emerging Leaders Foundation – An African youth-serving non-profit organization that provides practical, value-based leadership development and mentorship to promising young Africans - was privileged to host the 2<sup>ND</sup> National Youth & Devolution Symposium that brought in youths from eight counties namely: Migori, Murang'a, Kericho, Bungoma, Kilifi, Uasin Gishu, Makueni and Narok. The healthy discourse was within the facets of how the youths can better engage their respective county governments as agents of good governance, accountability and service delivery.

During his keynote address, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Nassiuma candidly stated, "Youths should take their rightful position as you are trying to do...You cannot confront evil if there is corruption in you and you are a beneficiary of corruption." The event was graced by the CS Devolution Hon. Eugene Wamalwa who was passionately impressed with the work the ELF Executive Director Caren Wakoli and her team (inclusive of the programs officer Stella and Edward Kipkyala) were doing.

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Devolution CS Eugene Wamalwa being received by VC Prof. Nassiuma. Below: Paricipants pose for a group photo after the session with guests.

### **Tunaweza: From Noise To Voice**

The two-day event was self-fulfilling as engagements from various quarters became the order of the day. Leaders from various counties presented what they have been involving themselves in. Words can not fully describe how impactful the symposium was. Raymond Ochieng, the Secretary State Department of Youth, wrapped the symposium by receiving the position paper and gave his real-life leadership escalation story...

The youths left full of hope, empowered and with enhanced understanding in devolution process.

Committed to His missi

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## **Your Column**

## My Environment My Responsibility

#### Eddy Nika Wiwatsu

ailah Gifty Akita considerably penned, "The state of our surroundings, tells the conditions of our soul...If we desire to be close to the Spirit of God, we desire to dwell in clean soul with a clean body." Africa International University holds very dearly the words of Lailah. It is with this same gusto that the AIU Community comes together to clean their environment every first Saturday of the Month. A norm that has since been inculcated as a lifestyle within the university.

The resident students and community children usually roll up their sleeves as early as 6:30 am ready to engage in the collective responsibility exercise. Hostel Residents leaders lead their blocks in ensuring they are clean within and beyond. At the end of the exercise, the hardworking individuals are treated to a free breakfast to help them regain their strength and an act of appreciation.

Speaking to the Social Welfare Coordinator, Betty Koech, she was so much impressed with the ongoing work and promised more goodies to come soon. She confided to the public that she has bought more cleaning tools thanks to the Student Council members who individually contributed their own money to facilitate the cleaning exercise. She further added that she plans to revive the environmental club that will spearhead environmental agenda in the university. She called upon every AIU associate to be mindful of their environment and make AIU a green campus that will set standards for other universities.

### **Two Heads Better One**

#### Innocent Awiti L. Namumaa

My strength is my world's stronghold,

By clinging to the peak then boom! Eyes are on you. In the market of advices you buy some and ignore others,

You choose to keep your head high when all about you,

Is based on your take, experience and honors

They focus on your minor weaknesses, and blames drops like rain!

If you can trust yourself when you are doubted by all,

A chance you get to make an allowance of their doubts too!

All these comes as a parcel advertised as, Two heads betters one

My cheeks gets support on the palms of my hands, When a lion can't wait tirelessly to be proved right by the jungles

No one can't be lied about, you shouldn't deal with lies

No one can't be hated, you shouldn't give ways to hating,

Hey! Don't let negative people turn you to be one of them,

Find a way always to neutralize things or better them As the head of the jungle, do not let anyone walk, Through your progressive mind with dirty feet, Just because; two heads betters one!



## **Self Love**

Amanda Mutebi



I have come to understand that over time, seeking validation from friends, family hat do you think about yourself today? Irrespective of how you may choose to define self-love, it could be this vast unattainable idea or a peaceful vacation that you dream of getting to someday. The absolute truth is, you can only get to feel self-love when you put yourself as a priority in your life, not yesterday, not months ago, but today.

You see, you would even be giving yourself so much love by taking your time to engage in this little journey with me. Self-love can go from treating yourself to tasty meals, getting new clothes and purchasing a new fragrance but like most relationships in life, being able to hold yourself together takes up so much of your effort that does not all come at once, but one step at a time.

or even strangers has never been the best way to boost my confidence. It has been those tireless nights of convincing myself, "I can do this" "I will get better next time" "I am not strong today, but tomorrow I will be stronger" that has placed me in the position I am in today. Being in a generation of young adults has taught me that a lot of us struggle to accept ourselves and would rather have other people put us on a pedestal for some form of authentication. Therefore, there are so many ways that we can show ourselves some love on a daily basis and especially by doing them. Moreover, being a young adult has always left me in the hands of the larger society to judge notwithstanding the fact that I should learn to be my own hero too. You can also be your own hero and give yourself the love that you deserve. In a world of our own where we often get lost in thought, we should learn to practice our self-love in the smallest of actions every day.



Choose, everyday to forgive yourself. You are human, flawed, and most of all worthy of love.

Alison Malee

#### Here are three mantras I live by:

#### **#TAKE YOUR TIME TO BREATHE**

Picture this, have you ever had those moments that you are so overwhelmed by some certain situations? A bad argument with a friend you thought you could trust? An assignment that you cannot seem to wrap your head around? A tiff between family members? Studies about taking a deep breathe shows that it is a reliever of stress. In the moment of anxiety and anger, we often forget that this small technique goes quite a long way. Today, not like any other day, show yourself all the love by taking a step from anything that angers you and that you have no control over. I believe in a 10-minute break technique from my phone, computer and whatever task is at hand in order for me to recharge.

#### **#SAY NO**

My sister once shared an article with me that stated, "You do not have to be in a position of power to feel powerful," and that has stuck with me ever since. Imagine how powerful you are when you say "no" to something that does not feel right with your energy and inner growth? Having such power is one of the most valuable ways of self -love because it is 1000% yours, unconditionally. Here is another thought, have you ever had those days that you wanted to just be alone and spoil yourself? This does not necessarily have to be you shutting the whole world away, but it is you trying to make up for "me" time. It is important to stick up for yourself as the purest act of self-love in which it shows that you are willing to put yourself first.

Saying "no" does not always have to be negative because it just means that you are politely asking someone to believe in your boundaries and you have no time for negotiations. Your act of self-love begins with slowly giving yourself time to probably for example, adjust to a new university, class, circle of friends, work place etc. It is alright to have your time to recharge before going out there to give out your beautiful energy.

obsessively grat

#### **#THERE COMES A TIME FOR GRATITUDE**

Lastly, my efforts of gratitude as an act of self-love have never been the most stupendous things in life. Small acts of gratitude go a long way by beginning to name one thing about yourself that you are solely grateful for. Remember, not yesterday, not years back, but today. It could be simple things such as, getting to class on time, greeting a new stranger, sharing your food with someone etc. Whatever the case, own it! As my Dad has always asked, "What makes you special?" This is the question I would like to share with the beautiful person reading this today. Are you taking stock of your self-love? Be kind to yourself.



### **Notice Board**

### **EXAM SCHEDULE**

FROM MONDAY 5TH TO THURS-DAY 15TH AUGUST

### SEPTEMBER INTAKE

NEW STUDENTS REPORTING DAY -SEP. 3,2019 TO SEP. 6,2019 FROM 8.00AM TILL 5.00PM

# UPCOMING PROGRAMS IN AIU:

PH. D IN LEADERSHIP AND GOVER-NANCE

PH. D IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRA-TION AND MANAGEMENT

PH. D IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY MASTERS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRA-TION

**BA IN TRANSLATION STUDIES AND LINGUISTICS** 

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To be part of this noble initiative and work together towards building and sustaining The ORACLE, kindly get in touch with the Student Council through our AIUSA Secretary General on:

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