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An Annual Publication

Issue 26, 2017

Pacesetter



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Managing Editor's Note

Welcome to PAC University's Pacesetter Magazine, 2017



The class of 2017 will go down in history as one of the most tenacious, focused and indeed bold. It has endured the high political temperatures brought about by the General Elections in the country, and now, against all odds, it has conquered the battle. To many, what seemed like a mirage is now a reality. It is on this premise that I call upon all and sundry to felicitate PAC University's class of 2017 for this achievement that shall inspire generations to come.

Graduands, savour this moment. You have attained a new status that is worth celebrating. Your calendar has just recorded yet another date, 17th November, which will always come calling for celebrations as you mark an anniversary since you graduate. May this day be a constant reminder that indeed God has good plans for you, and He is faithful enough to take you from one level to another. In the market-place, be a bold influencer. In the Church, be a bold influencer. In your marriage, be a bold influencer. Everywhere you go, leave a mark as a person who boldly influenced people to become a better version of themselves. Congratulations.

Enjoy.

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Bold Influencer Stands out in a Crowd



Bishop Dr. David Oginde, Chancellor
Pan Africa Christian (PAC) University

to shed-off the mentality that they are joining the thousands of university graduates entering the job market and strive to stand out.

While universities, both public and private, are churning out about 60,000 graduates annually, Dr. Oginde believes that PAC University graduands are a cut above the rest owing to the fact that they have been moulded holistically in aspects of academics, spiritual and social leadership. For this reason, PAC University graduands have been equipped to stand out as 'Bold Influencers'.

In fact, Dr. Oginde, who is the Presiding Bishop of Christ is the Answer Ministries (CITAM), contends that even in the Bible, God did not use groups, but always identified individuals like Abraham,

While universities, both public and private, are churning out about 60,000 graduates annually, Dr. Oginde believes that PAC University graduands are a cut above the rest owing to the fact that they have been moulded holistically in aspects of academics, spiritual and social leadership

It takes one bold individual to transform a society or even a country. Indeed history is awash with men and women who transformed the world for being bold and standing up to lead to a point of paying the ultimate price. In Kenya, people like the late Wangari Mathaai and John Michuki stand out as

bold individuals who left a lasting mark in the history of Kenya in aspects of environmental protection and taming the matatu industry, respectively.

It is for this reason that Bishop Dr. David Oginde, Chancellor of Pan Africa Christian (PAC) University, calls on 2017 graduands

Moses, Joshua among many others whom he selected among multitudes and used in His missions. "The world today is not looking for groups, but bold individuals who can transform the society," he asserts, adding that the Class of 2017 should have the boldness and courage to go into the world and charter the path of

doing the right things.

By all accounts, this is critical going by the fact that the Kenyan nation is fast degenerating in many aspects cutting across political and socio-economic. The level of leadership is wanting while corruption and other societal vices have taken route, in the process giving rise to a nation that is not only highly polarised politically, but also creating a widening gap between different social classes.

According to Dr. Oginde, the current problems that Kenya is facing do not emanate from lack of laws but lack of bold men and women who can step up to the right things as stipulated in the laws of the land. "Kenyans are willing to rally behind persons of courage and bold influencers standing up to do the right things," he states.

It is on this prism that PAC University graduates should always view

themselves. As graduates of the premier leadership university, they have been fully equipped with the necessary tools to not only face challenges facing the society and businesses but also lead in finding solutions and solving them.

Being a Christian-oriented institution, PAC University does not just exist to offer training in various disciplines, but is also committed to transform society not only in Kenya but also across the African continent. Indeed, deciding to be a champion of leadership training was informed by the leadership deficiencies facing the continent.

PAC University strongly believes in integrating training with faith. As a Christian institution, the programs are closely interwoven with Biblical doctrines to develop a complete individual in terms of intellect and values, which is addressing the needs of both the mind and the heart. This is important because

God did not use groups, but always identified individuals like Abraham, Moses, Joshua among many others whom he selected among multitudes and used in His missions. "The world today is not looking for groups, but bold individuals who can transform the society,"

Kenya is in desperate need of people with high calibre of intellects and virtues to drive societal transformation.

PAC University clearly understands that academics remain its core business. It's for this reason that the university is implementing various growth strategies to enable it offer the most competitive programs in the market. Plans are already under way to introduce new programs, increase the number of highly qualified faculty, and expand the physical facilities among others.

"We want our facilities to be of international standards to provide a conducive environment for learning," notes Dr Oginde. He adds the university is also committed to become a research centre and that is why it is strengthening its research department.

But even as it pursues growth, values and quality education will remain supreme. For PAC University, deciding to be a cut above the rest is critical. This is because universities bear a huge blame over the problems facing the country. This is due to the fact that many are mainly concerned with training and churning out large numbers of students, and thus give little attention to quality education.



Bishop Dr. David Oginde during the interview at his office

Chancellor

Bishop Dr. David Oginde
PAC University

PAC University is proud to welcome the new Chair of Council, Prof. Emmanuel Bellon, into its community. We celebrate his appointment which we believe will take the University to greater heights of growth through his proven abilities and leadership skills. What a joy to have him on board!

Prof. Bellon's Profile at a Glance...

Prof. Bellon is the Vice President of ScholarLeaders International, Executive Network, (USA). He also directs the Vital Sustainability Initiative (VSI), a program that facilitates sustainability of 19 Christian universities and theological institutions in Latin America, Africa, Middle East, Eastern Europe and Asia. He previously served as the Vice Chancellor of International Leadership University-Kenya and President of International Leadership Universities in Zimbabwe, Burundi, Nigeria, Ghana and Democratic Republic of Congo. Other positions held include Director of Training for International Leadership Foundation, and Senior Advisor to APHRC Research Capacity Strengthening Programs. He holds a B.Comm (Daystar University), MDiv (International Leadership University-Kenya), ThMAICS and PhD (Fuller School of Intercultural Studies, Pasadena, USA). He is a professor of intercultural leadership and passionate about values-based leadership development, executive coaching, and institutional sustainability. He recently published *Leading Financial Sustainability in Theological Institutions, The African Perspective* and operates from the depths of over 20 years' experience



Prof. Emmanuel Bellon, Chair of PAC University Council

in leadership training, consulting, and coaching for governments, corporates and non-profit organizations in 12 African countries and North America. He is ordained and serves as Associate Minister at CITAM Woodley. Prof. Bellon is a Ghanaian residing in Kenya and is married to Leticia. They have three children.

Once again, welcome to PAC University!



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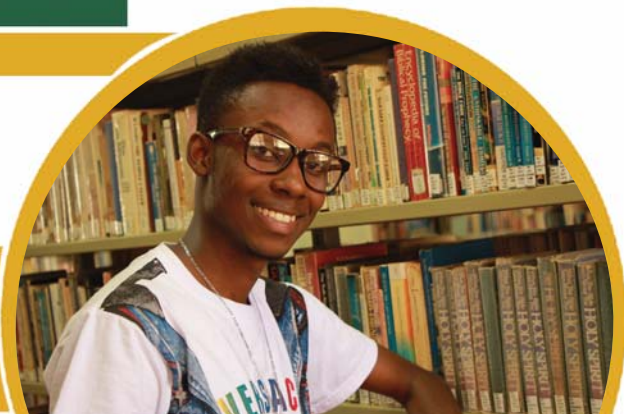
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Leaders Moulded to be Bold Influencers

How do you mould bold influencers in a society that seems entirely fragmented based on political and socio-economic prisms? This is a question that sociologists and behavioural scientists are grappling with as they have observed the Kenyan society, in the last few months, sink deeper into the abyss of disunity.

This question is even more relevant for all institutions of higher learning because they are at a crossroads, torn between the focus of producing quality graduates who meet the needs of society and/or pursuing healthy bottom-line. Indeed, as competition in the higher education sector gets stiffer, for some universities, the line between producing quality as opposed to quantity is getting exceedingly blurred.

That is not so for Pan Africa Christian (PAC) University. It continues to work hard to distinguish itself in all aspects. This explains why the University stands proud in choosing the theme of the Class of 2017 graduands as **'Bold Influencers'**. This is based on the fact that the University is deeply committed to mould the next generation of leaders who stand out in the society and in the job market.

"Our graduates are bold influencers who are called to think and position themselves as leaders," says Prof Margaret Muthwii, PAC University Vice Chancellor. She adds that PAC University is releasing graduates into the job market who have been moulded to be leaders capable of offering solutions to societal needs, take responsibility and be agents of transformation.

It is not hard to see why PAC University can confidently celebrate its graduates. As the pioneer leadership institution of higher learning in the country, the University has undergone significant transformation over the past few years in all facets with the common denominator



*Prof Margaret Jepkirui Muthwii,
VC, Pan Africa Christian (PAC) University*

Our graduates are bold influencers who are called to think and position themselves as leaders," says Prof Margaret Muthwii, PAC University Vice Chancellor

being to position itself as the preferred University in the region.

Under the leadership of Prof Muthwii who joined the institution at the beginning of 2014, PAC University has evolved from a little known Christian University to one moving itself fast to the pinnacle of higher learning in Kenya. Since 2013, the University had been implementing its first phase of transformation and has now embarked on the second phase guided by the 2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan.

"From January next year, we have a new Strategic Plan in which the University is raring to go in our next level of growth," explains Prof Muthwii. She adds that the next growth trajectory not only involves

positioning PAC University as a leading research institution but also modernising it in terms of infrastructure.

PAC University is excited of its next phase of growth owing to the fact that it has already laid a strong foundation in all spheres ranging from its vision and mission, policies, programs, faculty, students, facilities among others. Already, the University has adopted a 'Schools model' and currently prides of four schools namely School of Theology; School of Humanities and Social Sciences; School of Leadership, Business and Technology; and School of Postgraduate Studies. Each Schools is led by a capable Dean who will ensure growth in their respective School.

Developing a school model is informed by the fact that the needs of the job market and society at large are constantly changing. Each Dean is now called upon to carefully monitor what is taught and how it is taught to ensure the students in the School get value for their money. They will be pro-active in improving all aspects of the School's undertakings.

Over the past year, the University has greatly focused on improving its faculty, programs, research capabilities, partnerships with the business community and community engagements. In terms of faculty, PAC University has increased the number of teaching staff. Also apart from hiring new faculty members, it is also encouraging its lecturers to pursue and complete their doctoral studies, as soon as possible. Every support is being extended to them to ensure they complete their programs successfully. This will enable them not only spearhead the drive towards the introduction of new programs but also be in a better position to guide students, particularly those pursuing masters and PhD programs.

"We have continued to beef up the quality of our faculty in all departments because we believe in offering our students quality training," avers Prof Muthwii. She adds that in a department like Theology, the University already boasts of now having five PhD holders who are renowned in their field.

Apart from faculty, PAC University is also committed to increase the number of its programs. Though grounded on the arts and social sciences, the University has already started laying the foundations targeting to start offering science programs. The first program is slated for launch next year. "We are carefully

choosing the science areas to grow into based on many factors, including the resources needed," says Prof Muthwii, adding that PAC University only develops programs based on industry needs and demands.

While carefully and calculatedly venturing into science programs is important for the University, it is however not losing focus on the need to strengthen its existing programs. In particular, PAC University is determined to grow the number of Masters and PhD offerings in all its programs. Plans are already at an advanced stage to introduce a Masters in Community Development program, with others being in the pipeline.

The introduction of new programs will not only enable PAC University to grow the number of students, who have increased steadily over the past few years, but will also help in building a strong financial base. It is paramount to note that currently many universities are experiencing financial distress, something that is impacting negatively on their operations. "At PAC University, by the grace of God, we are managing to stay afloat, thanks to the support of our students paying their fees and encouraging others to join PAC University" states Prof Muthwii.

As it continues on its growth trajectory, PAC University is not losing focus on one critical pillar; the need to ensure the University remains a centre of research. It is for this reason the University brought on board, Dr. Kiambi who is a scientist, to oversee research at the Directorate of Research and to also spearhead the development of the sciences. "Research has now began to permeate the whole of PAC University," says Prof Muthwii. She adds that the university's research and publishing portfolio has grown tremendously culminating this year with the 'PAC University Inaugural Research Conference' on 3rd-5th October 2017 with the theme 'Promoting Research, Innovation and Publications for Academic Excellence'. Amazingly, all the nearly forty (40) graduating postgraduate students had opportunity to present their research work and about sixteen (16) faculty members joined in to present their researches as well.

PAC celebrates this great growth in research which recently was cemented by the fact that a team of faculty members who had joined a national competition won and received Ksh. 18 million from

the National Research Council. Four teams from the University had presented proposals and though three did not win, the university highly appreciates their efforts toward these highly competitive national contests. Indeed, these recent happenings are a testament of the vitality of PAC University in as far as research is concerned.

Focusing on internal developments has been paramount, however, PAC University has not ignored the fundamental aspects of connecting with industry and the community. In March this year, the university partnered with the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) and Visions of Hope for Africa in organising a conference whose key objective was to build strong linkages with the industry. The conference was attended by captains of industry among them Dr Chris Kirubi, Dr Joe Wanjui and Dr Manu Chandaria.

PAC University also remains proactive in community engagements, among them partnering with the residents of Roysambu/Kasarani in carrying out cleaning and environmental conservation initiatives. The University also helped to ease the pain of the recent Moi Girls High School fire victims by offering a team of counsellors besides the ongoing community engagement partnership with Kamiti Maximum Prison.

For any university to achieve its goals, strong governance structures are critical. This is something PAC University understands clearly, more so, considering it is a Christian-based institution of higher learning. It is for this reason that the University has in recent past strengthened its governance and leadership structure by bringing on board renowned individuals both at the Trustee and University Council levels.

"We have had strong governance bodies, and we have made them stronger," notes Prof Muthwii. She adds that the revamped leadership is now poised to steer PAC University to further growth, making it cement its position as the *Leadership University of Choose* not only in Kenya but across Africa.

Vice Chancellor

**Prof Margaret Jepkirui Muthwii,
PAC University**

Committed to Providing High Quality, Transformative and Value-Based Education



Prof. Martin C. Njoroge, DVC- Academic Affairs

By Prof. Martin C. Njoroge

Congratulations to our Graduating Class of 2017

It gives us immense joy to see our students graduate on this day after having worked hard and smart, persevered to the end, remaining focused on the prize. You have been developed through teaching, research and innovation to go out and transform the church and community as

the Lord will lead you.

Graduation Day is the most important day in our University's calendar of events. It is rightly so because we get to award our students with powers to read and to do all that appertains to their degrees, thus giving them power to succeed in life. Graduating Class of 2017, today we celebrate with you and warmly

congratulate you very much for a job well done.

Highlights of the Division

The Vision of Pan Africa Christian University is *to be a world-class Christian University, characterized by high quality, transformative and value-based education*. In the Academic Division, we

We have also had all our programs approved by Commission for University Education (CUE). They include;

- 1. PhD in Organizational Leadership**
- 2. PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy**
- 3. Master of Theology- Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies**
- 4. MA Biblical Theology.... and many more**

endeavour to continually keep raising the bar high on academic performance and strategically positioning ourselves in the competitive edge as a world class Christian University. We strive to excel in all aspects. The University is committed to keep offering unique, attractive and market driven programs in order to produce outstanding students who will immensely influence the society to better tidings. This commitment has seen the University improve its standing over the years.

Some of the gains that we have seen in the recent past include increase in student numbers and faculty. There has been a continuous increment in the number of students enrolling for both undergraduate and post graduate levels since 2013. This is as a result of God blessing us and the University continuing to work towards improved quality and quantity of academic staff.

We have also had all our academic programs approved by Commission for University Education (CUE). They include;

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- 2. PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy**
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- 4. MA Biblical Theology.... and many more**

PAC University posted a commendable performance during the January 2017 CUE Quality Audit on all universities in Kenya. The audit focused on processes

such as student admission processes and requirements, student enrolment and progression, integrity of examination process, certification and graduation.

The audit also considered the status of programs on offer, the qualifications and numbers of staff available to run programs. It also assessed the budgetary allocations to research and library facilities. The exit report shared with the members of the University indicated that PAC University had largely complied with the CUE standards and guidelines for quality. To this end, I salute the faculty, staff, students and governance of the University for a job well done.

What makes education at PAC University unique?

Grounded in the arts and social sciences and enriched by the integration of leadership principles in all programs, PAC University offers students an unparalleled education coupled with inclusivity, intellectual rigor, research and the motivation to enlarge the province of human knowledge to the benefit of individuals and their communities. Apart from the usual face-to-face classes, PAC University also offers online learning, which is an integral part of our core values to provide relevance of training in content, structure and process. Our programs range from certificate, diploma, bachelor, master and PhD levels.

At PAC University, education allows students to explore the academic landscape while instilling servant leadership values among students, faculty and staff. During a student's academic journey, faculty members guide them and fellow students offer diverse perspectives that can shed new light on the path to their future. This instills in all of us excellence in work, spiritual walk and service. All our students fulfill general education requirements, choose among a wide variety of elective courses and pursue departmental concentrations.

PAC University's academic division ensures the University meets its mission of developing Godly Christian leaders, growing disciples of Jesus Christ who are thoroughly equipped to serve God, the church and their communities as they strengthen and actively multiply believers in Africa and around the world and in the latest world of high academic excellence keep on providing the industry with well skilled, qualified graduands that can provide solutions for either local,

national or regional development.

PAC University is the premier higher education institution to be in this season.

Words to the graduating Class

I believe your time at PAC University has instilled in you the desire to serve and lead, in that order just as Jesus Christ taught us in his servant leadership journey. Remember education is a life-long enterprise and you should keep on renewing yourself by seeking after more knowledge throughout your life. You can never ever go wrong with God and education.

I challenge you to be actively involved in the transformation of the society. Don't just be spectators. Be agents of transformation. The world is changing, my friends. I wonder how, say, 25 years from now the world will look like. Going by the current trends in technology, the world will certainly be miles ahead of what it is like today. Position yourself accordingly to reap much from these technological changes and opportunities.

I urge you to do things that have values to you and society, things that you care for. Be passionate about what you do and embrace a moral compass in your life. Get ready to persevere to achieve your goal. Pray to God for His direction and blessings. May He order your steps as you embrace the next phase of your life.

I challenge you to be actively involved in the transformation of the society. Don't just be spectators. Be agents of transformation. The world is changing, my friends. I wonder how, say, 25 years from now the world will look like. Going by the current trends in technology, the world will certainly be miles ahead of what it is like today. Position yourself accordingly to reap much from these technological changes and opportunities

Influence: The ability to Change Hearts, Minds and Behaviour



Dr. Paul Kohls,
DVC- Institutional Planning & Development

By Dr. Paul Kohls

Today I join the 2017 graduating class in celebrating this big achievement which turns a new leaf in their lives. Congratulations.

Here at PAC University we are known as “The Leadership University.” Leadership is hard. That is why we are constantly learning about leadership. We live and breathe leadership here at PAC University.

If you could reduce leadership to a one word definition it would be the word ‘influence.’ I have captured that in my own personal definition of leadership: **INFLUENCING ORGANIZATIONAL DIRECTION TO A BETTER FUTURE THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS.**

Influence is the ability to change hearts, minds and behaviour. It is as simple as that. It is as complicated as that. There are experts who tell us that almost all of

the profound, pervasive and persistent problems that we face in our lives, our organizations and our world can be solved. They can be solved because these problems don’t require solutions that defy the laws of nature: they require people to act differently.

If you want to change the world you have to change how people behave. And if you want to change how people behave you have to change how they think. For example in the book *Influencer: The Power to Change Anything* refers to the disease AIDS and asserts; “Here we have a disease that would never infect another human being if people simply thought and behaved differently”.

Do you know what it takes to exert influence over human behaviour? If you are going to make a difference, if you are going to exert influence, you have to see

yourself as an influencer.

For many of our graduates that have called for a revised self-image, but now as they graduate their goal should be to influence, to move, people through their organizations in the direction towards God’s ideals.

What is the one thing that distinguishes a leader from everybody else in an organization? Leaders are focused on the future. As influencers leaders take you to the future. And it is not any future. It’s a better future. It’s God’s future.

To add an adjective to the descriptor of “influencer” for PAC University’s graduates, to release them with even more energy and purpose I would add the word bold. Bold: showing an ability to take risks, someone confident and courageous. Bold influencers. Now that describes the PAC University graduates that I know and pray for.

Dr. Paul Kohls speaking at a past University event



Do you know what it takes to exert influence over human behaviour? If you are going to make a difference, if you are going to exert influence, you have to see yourself as an influencer

Redefining Excellence in Teaching Christian Ministry

By Dr. Nathan H. Chiroma



Dr. Nathan H. Chiroma, Dean – School of Theology

PAC University School of Theology is a centre of excellence where theological education is a worthwhile journey. Whether you are planning to study for a one-year certificate, four year BA, two or three-year master's degree, or even short courses in theology, our programs are tailored to meet the training needs of the students. All the courses in Theology and market driven and are informed by intensive needs assessments that spell out the industry's needs. The School is enthusiastic about outfitting Christian leaders for serving God's kingdom for global impact.

The School of Theology is aligned to the University's vision of being a world class Christian University characterized by high quality, transformative and value based education. Thus be it in teaching, research or community engagement, the schools endeavors to ensure that all the students receive value for money by focusing on quality in all that we do. The School is committed in its provision of quality education and journeys with all the students in their quest for world class theological education. Our exciting academic programs include among others: Diploma in Theology, Diploma

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in Youth Ministry, Youth Development Programme, BA in Theology, MA in Biblical Theology, MA in Theology – Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies, and coming soon are our Post Graduate Diploma in Theology and PhD in Theology. At PAC University we believe that theology is not a privilege of some few but a right and responsibility of the entire people of God – from those engaged in various ministries, and to those who want to pursue an academic theological career. Our faculty members are experts in their fields, are accomplished researchers in their own rights, and are all committed to mentoring and discipling their students for the glory of God. In addition to training, our faculty members have years of professional church and ministry engagements. Could the Spirit be leading you to join us? We certainly pray that is so, and we look forward to sharing more with you about our programs and journeying with you in your process of prayerful discernment of God's calling for your life. We hope you will consider joining us in scholarship and preparation for a life of ministry. If you are able to visit either of our campuses, please stop by our offices and introduce yourself and we will be glad to help you in whatever way we can.

Practical Theology: Understanding Societal Needs and Providing the Antidote

By Rev. Arthur Okolla Shikanda

Class of 2017, God has done it for you. Did you ever doubt that you'd once graduate? Well, here you are. Such is the faithfulness of our Lord. Enjoy the fete and remember to continue serving God even in your new status. Congratulations on your graduation.

The President of the Republic of South Africa, Joseph Zuma, while addressing a conference of pastors and bishops said:

"My pastors and bishops, you have a serious task more than all of us as the servants of God. Something has gone wrong to our society. I remember when I was a young man, there were few churches and which meant there were fewer people who went to church but sinners were fewer as well. Today there is a church almost in every corner but the sinners are in millions. Something has gone wrong. ... we couldn't have been less sinners when the pastors were few and when we are so many the sinners are more. There is something wrong...."

Such a statement by a person of President Zuma's standing in the society may seem like a projection of a serious indictment to those called to impact the society through the life transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is because the ultimate goal of the body of Christ is twofold: to illuminate (because it is the light) and to preserve (because it is the salt) of the society. Could there be others who share in the frustration the South African president was presented with?

Agreeably, the study of homiletics, hermeneutics and exegesis provide impeccable resource in the exposition of Scripture. But what does this mean to the faithful parishioner who goes to church ostensibly to meet with God? How is our present day theologian impacting the society in comparison to the "Tukutenderaza days?

Biblical and Theological Department is conscious of the high demands and expectations the society has on PAC University graduates because of the strong leadership inclination we are known for. Our academic programs are tailored to meet the needs of the church



Rev. Arthur Okolla Shikanda,
Ag. HOD- Biblical and Theological Department

industry and society in general and reviewed periodically in order to remain relevant.

This year alone, the management has revamped the faculty by hiring four additional full time teaching staff, three of whom are PhD holders and all the four are highly experienced in both the industry and the field of academia. Prophet Joel

wrote on the impending invasion by an army of locusts; *"Hear this you elders; listen, all who live in the land. Has anything like this ever happened in your days or in the days of your ancestors"* (Cf. Joel 1: 2)

Although the context of the cited scripture may differ from this narrative, those who have been at PAC University longer agree that the injected impetus of additional faculty to Bible and Theology department is phenomenon. Nothing like it has been witnessed before.

PAC Bible and Theology graduates are cognizant of the serious task that awaits them and ready to meet the expectations of the industry players they are drawn from. The department also looks to them to continue to play the role of PAC ambassadors through whom others will not only get to hear about us but desire to join a university with a vision to becoming the leading Christian University of choice in Africa, characterized by high quality and professional education in a community of learning and service, which is instrumental in the transformation of society.

East or West, PAC is the university to be in, and Bible and Theology is the program of study. Congratulations once again to the graduating class of 2017.

Biblical and Theological Department is conscious of the high demands and expectations the society has on PAC University graduates because of the strong leadership inclination we are known for. Our academic programs are tailored to meet the needs of the church industry and society in general and reviewed periodically in order to remain relevant

Transforming the Modern Day Church Through Bold Influence

By Abigael Demesi

First, I wish to express my hearty congratulation to the TCL students and all other graduands who are being sent out to the world as bold influencers.

A bold influencer can best be described as a transformational leader, and for TCL it is a Transformational Church Leader. Joshua stands out as an Old Testament example of bold influencer much like Apostle Paul in the New Testament whose bold and transformative influence through his preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ impacted the wider society of his day. Cities in our day need such bold influencers to transform lives and make positive impact on society.

Christians are able to show courage in a variety of other ways. Stephen, the first martyr of the early church, gives a powerful example of someone who courageously stood up for his beliefs even when the result was death (Acts 6:8–7:60).

The apostle Paul encouraged Christians to have the courage to “stand” (Ephesians 6:11, 13) meaning to courageously resist satan and the negative influences of this world. As transformational leaders, it is our responsibility to give back to the community men and women who are courageously able to address the spiritual and moral need of the society.

Individuals who are capable of seeing where the Christian Biblical standards are wanting and courageously through their Godly and transformative influence rebuild society's values that are broken.

Joshua had to accomplish the task given to him by God. For him to do this he needed to be a leader who displays strength and courage. Christians in the New Testament are called to a similar mandate, and as such, there is need to persevere in accomplishing God's will for this is the only way we can receive what He has promised.

We believe that our graduates have been



Abigael Demesi, TCL- Department Coordinator

equipped to be strong and courageous to face the world. Their faith has been built through the Bible and Theology courses and the specialized ministry courses equipping them for service and transformational leadership in their local churches.

The call to all TCL graduates of 2017 is to go out there strong, courageous and boldly influence the society by preaching of God's word, winning souls to Christ and disciplining them to maturity. May you be Bold Influencers who bring transformation to the society.

Individuals who are capable of seeing where the Christian Biblical standards are wanting and courageously through their Godly and transformative influence rebuild society's values that are broken

Expanding Knowledge and Enhancing Skills on Humanities and Social Sciences

By Dr. Rahab N. Nyaga, PhD

Social Science is a major category of academic disciplines concerned with society and the relationships among individuals in a society. The School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Pan Africa Christian University houses the departments of Communication, Languages & Linguistics, Psychology and Community Development. The school has highly qualified faculty, most of them PhD holders. The faculty-student interaction and consultation in a Christian institution creates an environment highly conducive to academic excellence. The school runs academic programs from certificate to PhD.

At the Certificate level, we have **Situational Chinese**; which aims at equipping persons who wish to be interpreters/translators or pursue trade and other interests in Chinese Language.

At the Diploma level, we have four programs under the three departments. The **Diploma in Communication** which focuses on the theoretical and practical aspects of communication for one to effectively work as a communication technician. The **Diploma in Chinese language and culture** offers an opportunity for students interested in pursuing studies in Chinese Language and its culture. The **Diploma in Counselling Psychology** is an integrated program that seeks to provide students with theoretical knowledge and practical counselling skills that prepare them to effectively work in various settings within the communities they seek to serve. The **Diploma in Disability Studies** aims to build capacity among professionals working with people and children with disabilities in various sectors in Kenya.

At the Bachelors level, each department has one major program. The **Bachelor of Arts in Communication** is an exciting program that focuses on developing effective communication skills for business and social interaction. The department has both audio and video production studios that enable students undertake practical work. A modern radio station unit, video cameras and modern editing suites enable students learn how to produce quality work. The **Bachelor of Arts in Counselling Psychology** is intended



Dr. Rahab N. Nyaga, PhD, Dean- School of Humanities and Social Sciences

All our undergraduate and graduate programs are approved by the Commission for University Education (CUE) in Kenya. Our unique graduate programs in MFT under the department of Psychology have been commended by CUE and accredited by the International Family Therapy Association (IFTA) in Canada

for students who desire to serve the community by providing counselling services to individuals, couples, family relations and counselling ministries, as well as small group facilitation and mediation skills. After completion students are prepared to offer counselling services in various situations. The **Bachelor of Arts in Community Development** is founded on the belief that transformation of human life is a divine mandate that has to be undertaken if human dignity is to be restored. Focus is on holistic approaches that create a community whose members

embrace and strive for equity and social justice.

In the Postgraduate level we have a **Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT)** which is a unique program that focuses on the strengths and resiliency of family systems and communal resources to restore and build family relationships in a rapidly changing social context. The **PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy** is an advanced course of the MA in MFT and is based on a Christian worldview that presents a holistic perspective of human nature including physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and social aspects of maturation.

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The state of the art clinical laboratories in psychology and communication studios are a hallmark of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. The School aims to expand the horizon of knowledge through teaching and research that creates awareness and enhances skills related to humanities and social sciences.

Influence Towards Achieving World Class and High Quality Training

By Dr. Augustus Nyakundi

Since the last graduation ceremony in September 2016, the Department of Communication, Languages and Linguistics has continued experiencing and exerting bold influence from and on various partners.

One of the areas in which influence has been experienced and exerted is in student numbers. The department has so far received two groups of government sponsored students. The first batch of 18 students was admitted in September 2016. The second batch has 21 students who were admitted in May 2017.

In addition with the self-sponsored students pursuing degree and diploma courses, our classes are now big, busier and livelier. This increase in student numbers has inevitably had an influence on the teaching and learning activities in the department and their co-ordination and management. This has been done to ensure high quality standards of training are maintained.

There has also been influence from new experiences and interactions that our students have had with students of communication and media studies from other universities. In November last year, 10 students in the department participated in a one week training on photography and video production organized by Canon in conjunction with Kenyatta University.

The training targeted students of communication and media studies from several universities. It took place at Kenyatta University. At the end of the training, our students were able to tell their beautiful stories through photography and videos. The skills they gained will certainly influence their approach towards their studies. And they will influence others.

In May this year, some of our students took part in the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology Multimedia Festival which was held at the main campus in Juja. They presented items in photography and video. Though none of their entries won an award, the students got exposure that will help them to continue improving their skills. They also got an opportunity to network with students of communication from other universities and media employers.

Our students have also been invited to take part in a Film Festival at Daystar University towards the end of 2017. The department will encourage them to take part in this festival.

The Academic Success Centre, which was established in February this year, is one of the key sources of influence in the department. The centre was established with the support and guidance of Mrs Lori Tischler, to whom we are truly grateful, to meet a critical need among all students of PAC University: excellent writing skills.

The centre will play a significant role towards the realization of high quality education, a key element of the vision of PAC University. The first group of peer tutors was trained in April this year. More students have been trained so that they can



Dr. Augustus Nyakundi, HOD- Communication, Languages & Linguistics Department

train others in excellent writing skills. They have become bold influencers in their own right.

To strengthen its capacity to be a bold influencer in communication training in Kenya, the university bought more state-of-the-art equipment for the two studios in the Department of Communication. This will make teaching and learning easy as students will have ease of access to essential media and communication equipment.

One area in which the department is extremely proud of the influence it has exerted this year has been in the successful completion of studies for our students. In May, about ten of our students of Chinese graduated with a certificate in Chinese. We congratulate them. In addition, two of our students in the pioneer diploma and degree classes will graduate this September. We congratulate Mr Muhoro Thuo, the first student to graduate from PAC University with a Diploma in Communication, and Mrs Christine Kamau, the second student to graduate from PAC University with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication. These two students have worked very hard, remained focused and patient to reach this level. We are very proud of them. May God bless

them as they go out to boldly influence those that they will be working with.

We look forward to the year ahead with a lot of anticipation and joy. The department plans to organize a communications event where students of communication will have an opportunity to interact with media practitioners. There are also plans to organize a communications conference. Besides, the department is working on partnerships with several

institutions such as the King's College, New York City. This will provide our students and staff with an opportunity to influence and be influenced by others in terms of knowledge and skills.

In 2018, there will be more than five Diploma in Communication students who will be graduating and more than five Bachelor of Arts in Communication students. We are encouraging the diploma students to enrol for their

degree course at PAC University. Plans are underway to begin Master's programs in Communication and in Translation and Interpretation. This will increase our sphere of influence.

The department wishes to thank the management of PAC University for the support they have accorded us. Without this support, we could not have achieved all that we have achieved. May God bless PAC University.

Bold Builders of Communities

By Dr. Cavens Kithinji

Class of 2017, a very hearty congratulations from the Department of Community Development. We are proud of your resilience and hard work. You deserve all the joy that comes with this occasion.

Walking around the settings of your environs, one will not fail to notice change in the physical, social and more so the nature. These changes are perceived as normal until you seek to understand the force behind such changes. Be it positive or negative, change get noticed. The big question is always this; What is the cost of positive change and who bears it? If tabulated, who would be willing to stand and be counted in transformation of societies towards richer life socially, economically and spiritually?

The Department of Community Development in PAC University offers a chance to people willing to serve humanity in ways and situations that bring both joy and satisfaction to the person serving and great gains to those being served. People who leave the comfort of their homes and posh offices to get down to practical works of making sure that humanity is living better today without compromising the lives of generation to come.

In this years' graduation, we are happy to commission yet another group of people's servants to join those we commissioned last year in actualizing the philosophy of better living for



Dr. Cavens Kithinji, HOD- Community Development

all humanity and environmental stewardships. These men and women are well equipped, ready and bold to engage in transforming the communities around them. As a department, we are proud of you and request that you continue serving and seeking to understand how to do that in a SMART way.

We applaud the directors of programs, project officers, all those holding elective offices and other appointments among our continuing students and alumni for your pursuance of excellence in what you do, practicing the tenets you have learnt during our learning interactions. We exhort you to continue demonstrating selflessness as you seek to positively influence community members into an empowered life.

PAC University offers a course in community development that is designed to give our learners the philosophical,

theoretical and practical foundation to make it easy for you to pursue your desire and calling to serve our communities and humanity in general. As a study area this course helps one understand contextual settings of different communities and equip one with practical skills to;

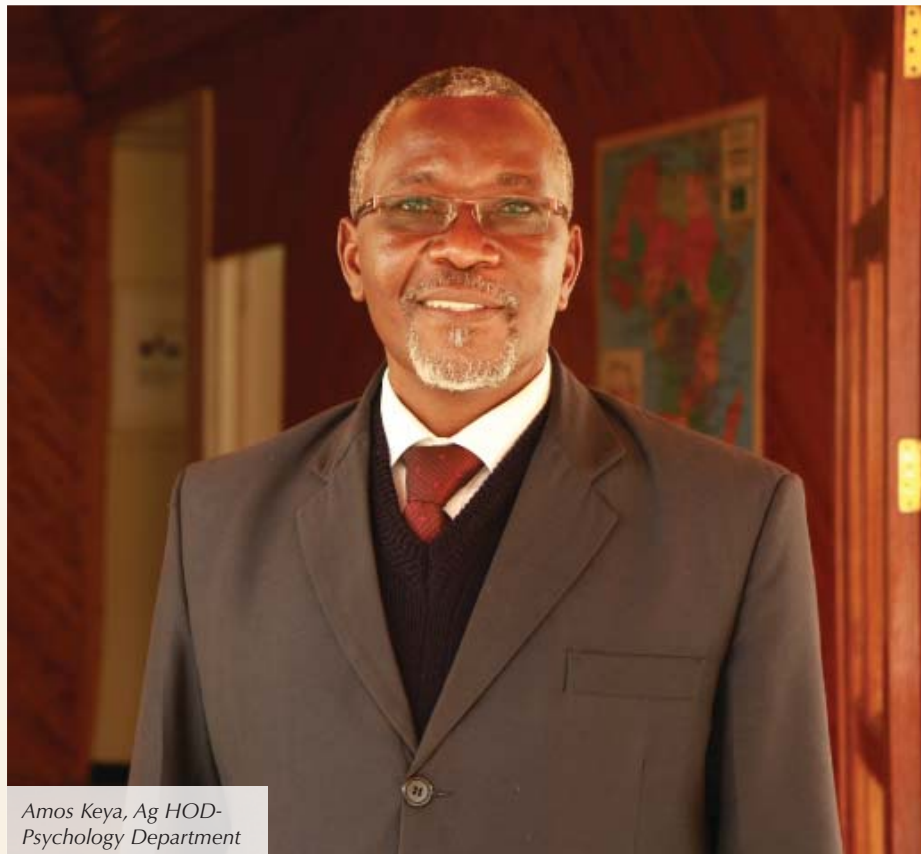
- Understand the needs of the community and what affects their wellbeing
- Understand the community's resources and areas where they can mobilize more
- Organize the community to improve their wellbeing by handling the challenges identified.

Join us as we seek to transform the world in all that we undertake to do.

Once again, congratulations to the class of 2017.

Re-Membering Families Amidst the Contemporary Family Dynamics

By Amos Keya



Amos Keya, Ag HOD-
Psychology Department

We celebrate the 2017 graduating class for making us proud. Your labour as a student has positively contributed to the wellbeing of the many individuals, couples, families and groups you have worked with in the course of your training. May God richly bless your endeavour.

The contemporary family is faced with a myriad of challenges at all levels. Many of these issues contribute to the family disintegration that we are witnessing today. When the foundation of the family is shaken, the shockwaves adversely impact the very core that holds the society together. Hence, the need to re-member the already dis-membered family members are at the core of our teaching and training at PAC University.

One of the goals of the Psychology programs is to challenge students and mental health professionals to recognize that people's experiences are dynamic. There is so much that can never be fully known especially when we narrowly

believe that reality is socially constructed.

Our awareness of this nebulous state should prompt us to take positive stand in regard to our own values, biases and social position. This self-exploration should inspire us to intentionally work towards a harmonious integration of our Christian faith and psychological perspectives given that our values and belief systems affect how we think, feel, make decisions and eventually, behave or act.

As a department, we not only aim at developing market driven programs, but we intentionally work toward developing programs that are transformative, value-based education, research and innovation oriented, able to provide quality learning and to drive the market, and able to prepare our students with the relevant knowledge, skills, and competence in line with our mission and vision of becoming a world-class Christian university in order to serve our communities with integrity.

The conflict between modernism and

post-modernism is a reality that we cannot ignore or underestimate. One of the most disturbing questions has always been; "If the client is comfortable with their state of being, who are we to force them to change?" As the salt and the light of the world, what stance should we take amidst this conflict? Should we remain neutral to the individual, family, contextual, social or national needs? What risks are we likely to encounter if we chose to remain complacent?

To effectively address this issue, we must first understand how the large social context is connected to the clients' (and therapists') worldviews that informs their lived experiences. Oftentimes it is our discomfort with cultural differences that prevent us from engaging in a productive discourse with a culturally different other. This awareness allows us to invite the presence of the Holy Spirit to enable us to create conducive space for these oftentimes-difficult themes to emerge in the course of our therapeutic conversations in order to help our clients to heal holistically.

PAC University, through the Psychology department, is committed to developing a global community of expert faculty and students who are dedicated to improving the human conditions through research and practice. Our four programs (Diploma, BA in Counselling Psychology; Masters and PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy) are designed to help our students for a rewarding career, professional growth and ministry.

A professional career/ministry in Psychology and or Marriage and Family is shaped by a combination of who we are, where we have been and the knowledge and skills we have accumulated as our families underwent different life cycles and transitions. In addition, we emphasize an understanding of how the family of origin, culture and Christian background or lack thereof interact and work in mutual reciprocation with emotions and feelings to influence the decision making processes that inform the human feelings, cognitions and behaviour.

Once again, congratulations to all the graduands!

Driving Positive Change Through Influence

**By Dr. Dionysious
Kiambi**



Dr. Dionysious Kiambi, Dean – School of Leadership, Business & IT

The School of Leadership, Business and Technology (SLBT) offers a wide range of educational programs comprising diplomas, undergraduate and postgraduate courses that are responsive to the needs of the industry in the areas of transformational value-based leadership, business studies and information technology. The School comprises Leadership Department, Department of Business Studies and the Department of Computing and IT. It provides leadership and promotes growth in the constituent departments through support to long-term strategic planning, oversight of academic development, service delivery and establishing links with the industry to ensure that research and academic programs are relevant to market needs and the overall national development agenda. It also oversees the Departments' maintenance and adherence to academic quality standards and regulations established by the Commission for University Education (CUE).

The strength of the Leadership Department is in its well established MA in Leadership and the newly developed PhD program in Organizational Leadership and Development (POLD). These unique programs seek to produce highly qualified and informed scholars who have with a high capacity for practical application of knowledge to issues related to organizational leadership, consulting, and research. The leadership programs carefully balance lectures with leadership based problem solving issues, a learning format that

accommodates personal styles and rates of progress, extensive interactive assignments as well as solving practical problems. The Department of Business Studies offers one postgraduate program (Master of Business Administration), several Bachelors and Diploma programs covering business leadership, commerce, entrepreneurship, supplies management as well KASNEB Packages such as ATC and CPA. The Computing and IT Department

The School comprises Leadership Department, Department of Business Studies and the Department of Computing and IT. It provides leadership and promotes growth in the constituent departments through support to long-term strategic planning, oversight of academic development, service delivery and establishing links with the industry to ensure that research and academic programs are relevant to market needs and the overall national development agenda

equips students with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills to inspire innovative thinking in the dynamic field of information technology. Students are encouraged to develop ICT related innovations that are responsive to the needs of the industry in the current technology driven economies.

The execution of academic programs is very flexible, offering a combination of on-line and face-to-face lectures. In all the programs offered by the Departments, the School ensures that sound academic principles coupled with Christian doctrinal values are well entrenched in the learning discourse. The School encourages and inspires its constituent departments to continuously raise the bar of academic, scholarly and research excellence in all the educational programs. This is in line with Pan Africa Christian University's vision to be a World Class University that offers transformative and value-based education, and its mission to develop transformative Godly Christian leaders through training, research and innovation

In line with this year's PAC University Graduation theme of "Bold influencers", the School envisions the release of highly competent graduands who will influence the industry and the society at large through value based and transformative leadership in their field of expertise and economic sectors. The entire School takes this opportunities to congratulate all the graduands and wish them God's help and guidance as they "boldly influence" and impact the society through dedicated servant leadership in their professions.

Preparing Influential Leaders Through Efficient ICT for the Changing Business Environment

By Eng. Victor Ngatiri

Congratulations to the class of 2017! We join in wishing you the very best as you join the market-place to become key industry leaders who shall be bold to take steps that shall influence others positively.

The department of Information and Communication Technology and eLearning continues to play a pivotal role in driving the Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) agenda for the university. The department's response to the growth of schools and departments is in tandem with the development of ICTs for the academic sector, in the following achieved milestones:

The department continues to focus on the following thrust areas:

- a) A key milestone initiated the mid-2017 was the upgrading of the student information management system (SMIS) and the university's enterprise resources management system (ERP). The new system gives students a better experience when accessing their personal information, grades, statements and other academic content, whereas the faculty and staff are empowered to better serve. Over the next year, new features and functionalities such as e-payments, e-clearance, and graduation request will also be added and existing features fine-tuned to their satisfaction.
- b) In responding to the academic, the department has installed newer computers in a dedicated lab known as LB1 within the General Computer Lab. This resource has specialised applications needed by the C&IT department to deliver quality skills training for our students.
- c) As student numbers increase, the internet speed has also increased. However, the Internet is as open space which exposes our students to both good and bad content. In as much as we recognise it's every person's



Eng. Victor Ngatiri, HOD- ICT & E-learning

The department dreams of highly empowered faculty and greater ICT facilitated learning spaces for student providing seemingly limitless access to knowledge and information for quality learning

responsibility to govern their use of the internet, the ICT department, in keeping with the core values, mission and

vision of the University and applicable policies, has come to the communities' aid by introducing content checking systems. These systems assist internet users by ensuring certain restricted content is not easily obtainable, thus strengthening the focus on building godly Christian values.

- d) The Valley Road campus now has stronger and wider wireless internet access (Wi-Fi) to covering every class and key learning spaces. This is secured and monitored to ensure confidentiality and fidelity of its use.
- e) The department dreams of highly empowered faculty and greater ICT facilitated learning spaces for student providing seemingly limitless access to knowledge and information for quality learning.

To the graduating class of 2017, congratulations once more!

The Business of Creating Influential Industry Captains

By Daniel Mulinge

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2017. Your happiness today is our 'business', and we join you to celebrate the doing of the Lord in your lives. You have been bold throughout and now it is your time to enjoy the fruits.

To many, university education culminates in a graduation ceremony, which is a deserved event. As a matter of fact, higher education should be able to bridge societal gaps that impoverish many people.

Business Department of PAC University not only endeavours to offer quality education not only to bridge societal gaps through training in entrepreneurship, marketing, finance among other disciplines but to also meet job market demands and produce holistic graduates who can make positive impact in the society.

With impartation of the right skills, one should not worry about how the next line is going to be. This is the focus of this Department as we work towards our vision of becoming a premier business school in the region in the next two years.

Business Department is one of the fastest growing in PAC University from a population of less than 200 to almost 400 students in a period of less than three years. Currently, we have two diploma programs, two degree programs and one postgraduate program.

We also offer professional training in Certified Public Accountants (CPA) and Certified Public Secretaries (CPS). This gives us a good foundation as we focus on introducing a PhD program in Business Administration in the next two years.

Business Department of PAC University is determined to stay focused on our resolve to offer high quality business management training by teaching market driven programs, engaging high caliber faculty and student-centered academic, spiritual, innovation and leadership mentorship. This resolve enables us realize



Daniel Mulinge, HOD- Business Department

Business Department of PAC University is determined to stay focused on our resolve to offer high quality business management training by teaching market driven programs, engaging high caliber faculty and student-centered academic, spiritual, innovation and leadership mentorship

the overall vision of becoming a world class Christian university characterized by high quality, transformative and value-based education.

To our 2017 Graduands, I dare you to dream big. You can't put a large box in a small box. Well, you cannot put a full life, such as yours, in a small dream box. As Westheimer puts it, "Take action. Every story you've ever connected with, every leader you've ever admired, every puny little thing that you've ever accomplished is the result of taking action. You have a choice. You can either be a passive victim of circumstance or you can be the active hero of your own life."

Business graduands, we commission you with the right skills and attitude. Go forth and make a bold, influential difference in the industry.

Dennis Njoka: The man with a Tenacious Spirit and a Resilient Mind

By Anthony Taiti

Dennis' appreciation for PAC University and his family is evident throughout the interview. *"I am forever indebted to PAC University. They accepted me and gave me an opportunity to build my future. This is my home, and I will always recommend others to join the University"*



His smile is simply infectious, and he creates presence wherever he goes. His ever high spirit is always a source of motivation and joy for those around him. Born in November 26 1990, Dennis Njoka Njui is a young, ambitious man who has beaten all odds to be in the list of 2017 BA Community Development graduands of PAC University. He chose to join PAC University in May 2014 after being faced with yet another choice of joining USIU. "The environment and atmosphere of PAC University attracted me. The receptionist smiled at me and my confidence grew. I felt at home," says a cheerful Dennis.

Dennis presents characteristics that are associated with Aspergers. This is a condition associated with highly gifted and talented children, and often goes undiagnosed because it presents symptoms that cut across many associated learning disabilities. Children with Aspergers Syndrome find it difficult to adjust in an ordinary classroom set-up because of high levels of distractibility. They need a highly modified classroom environment to enable them utilize that talent/gifting in them. As a result, Dennis's journey has been characterised by resilience and the will to overcome all odds in pursuit of his dream. Not many children with this condition have achieved a remarkable fete like Dennis has. He says

that PAC University has inspired him to become a champion of self-belief and acceptance for all. "The community of PAC University has always made me feel whole. They have always allowed me to serve, especially at chapel, and during events. This is something I enjoy doing, and that door was opened for me" asserts Dennis.

For two consecutive years, (2015 and 2016), Dennis challenged his peers when he contested for Mr. PAC University during the annual cultural week. He says that he did this in order to inspire his peers around campus not to be intimidated by opportunities, but rather to grab them. He says that "So many people have inspired me to become what I am today, and I felt that I should also inspire those around me." Dennis is particularly grateful to one of his favourite lecturers, Mrs. Margaret Kyai, who he holds in high esteem. "She is a great teacher and a friend. She held my hand all along, even when the journey seemed tough. She took me as her own son, and kept on constantly encouraging me. I am forever grateful", says Dennis.

His lowest moment while at PAC University was when he lost his lecturer, Florence Mwendu. Dennis says that he felt the pain, and it really affected him. "Teacher Florence showed a lot of potential, and losing her was such a pain.

Many of us were left in shock".

Dennis has a telegraphic memory with an amazing ability to mention all MPs, Governors, Senators etc. by name and their Counties. He easily mentions all the US Senators without blinking.

Away from school, Dennis is an upcoming farmer who is currently trying his hand in strawberries farming. He is doing this at their home in Kahawa Sukari where his parents have offered him some piece of land to do piloting on this project. He also serves at PCEA Kahawa Sukari where he is an active choir member.

Dennis' appreciation for PAC University and his family is evident throughout the interview. "I am forever indebted to PAC University. They accepted me and gave me an opportunity to build my future. This is my home, and I will always recommend others to join the University. I am also grateful to my parents and siblings who have shown me what love is, and supported me throughout this journey."

As a parting shot, Dennis says that "I have just started. Watch out for me. I will be making history on several fronts. So help me God."

Dennis plans to settle down in marriage in four years' time.

Quality Learning Systems Create Bold Influencers

By Dr. Ciriaka Gitonga

I convey my sincere congratulations to the graduating class of 2017 for making it this far. Indeed God has been faithful and today we are witnesses of this. As an expert in quality assurance, may I submit that I am proud we are gifting the world with a quality work-force that will boldly influence the industry to greater heights of achievements. We have equipped our graduates with the necessary skills to do so.

The recent Commission for University audit on students' progress early this year did send conflicting effects to both continuing students and alumni of various universities across Kenya. They had every reason to be worried; worried about whether the program they are enrolled in meets the standards, or if the qualifications they hold are valid.

What was not shared to the public were the feelings of faculty who have the daunting responsibility of delivering the curriculums and in essence the awards given. The lecturers (faculty) ought to be the creators of bold influencers, yet some of the reports suggested that they are lacking. At this point, I thank God that PAC University is one of the few universities which received a positive review.

The above concerns are part of the global issues affecting higher education. The demand to prepare skilled graduates for the future is a global issue. Reports on the quality of university education continue to be somewhat negative. One of the issues raised has been the quality of the lecturers (faculty) with most suggesting that majority of them are not qualified.

This implies that ongoing transformation of higher education remains challenged since the lecturer is the driver. Jim Collins, the renowned author of "Good to Great" puts emphasis on this by asking the question "First whom, then what". The "whom" is considered critical in achieving quality. This is because the "whom" can take the right or wrong direction in achieving higher quality education. The need to have the right lecturer (faculty) for the right course requires the following:

- A leadership that is responsive to strengths and weakness of the faculty. Quality is an inclusive process, calling on all players to do their part.
- The faculty in a university is tasked with the role of preparing the graduate for the world of work. To whom the graduate will work for must be well known to the faculty who delivers the curriculum. The role of the faculty is to interpret the needs of the economy, which has shifted to innovation and creativity. The question each faculty



Dr. Ciriaka Gitonga,
Director, Quality Assurance

should be answering is "Is this graduate employable?" Jim Collins states that learning institution will produce the quality of graduates who reflect the quality of the faculty. This means that if the faculty is employable elsewhere, even the graduates they produce will become employable in that particular field. Faculty occupies an important part in the delivery of quality. They are at the tail end, and the final delivery is as important as the initial steps in the process of production. The faculty is an important influencer in packaging the graduate for the job market.

- Institutions must be willing to invest in the faculty to move them from Good to Great. Such faculty will exercise academic freedom and be excited about their jobs. Academic freedom comes with responsibilities. It requires one to make educational decisions on what and how they teach. This can happen if the faculty is well resourced and supported to flourish. Such faculty will influence the path to innovation and creativity.
- Finally to achieve the above, a faculty member must take personal responsibility to grow their skills in technology. Faculty who use and can use the technology with confidence powers universities that have embraced technology in all its operations. It is unfortunate that some faculty members remain technophobic. Faculty who use technology to explore learning characterizes quality instruction in the 21st Century.

2017 graduands, congratulations once more.

21st Century Libraries: The learning Commons Fit for Modern Influencers

By Josleen Karambu Rutere



Josleen Karambu Rutere, University Librarian

Based on our library statistics, PAC University faculty and students have embraced the digital culture and the library team is boldly innovating to meet the ever changing information needs of our users

Hearty congratulations to the graduating class of 2017. You have made it, and today we join you in celebrating this fete that has been made possible by your hard work, and of course God's Grace that has been sufficient all through. Even as you prepare to join the world in a different capacity, enjoy this moment.

The doomsayers who predicted the demise of the library failed to understand how libraries could transform to become beacons for interactive learning across print and digital realms. The e-book has made continued inroads into the publishing world but the printed book has defied predictions of its death.

Printed books still play a critical role in supporting learners, but digital technologies offer additional pathways to learning and content acquisition. Students and lecturers no longer need a library simply for access. Instead, they require a place that encourages participatory learning and allows for co-construction of understanding from a variety of sources. In other words, instead of being an archive, libraries are becoming a learning commons.

A learning commons is an inclusive, flexible, learner-centered, physical or virtual space for collaboration, inquiry, imagination and play. The concept of a learning commons is a shift in thinking from a library as a physical space that is

a repository of books, to an inclusive, flexible, learner-centered, physical and/or virtual space for collaboration, inquiry, imagination and play to expand and deepen learning.

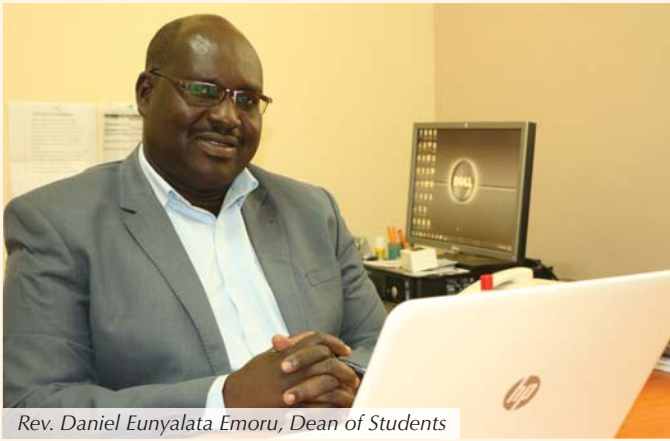
Based on our library statistics, PAC University faculty and students have embraced the digital culture and the library team is boldly innovating to meet the ever changing information needs of our users. The establishment of a Library Commons on the first floor of the Richard Ondeng will change the perception that going to the library is a "very quiet, isolated experience."

This is because learning commons incorporate two key components that are necessary for the immediate and future

needs of the library: flexible spaces and technology. We want the library to be a campfire space where students can gather in a collaborative space where they can work together in small groups.

Computers will no longer be placed in a dedicated room. They will be located everywhere in the commons, in open stations for individual or group use. Work surfaces will have the ability to accommodate personal, portable device usage, which has become the norm in universities. The Richard Ondeng' Library will be the first university library in Kenya to have a library commons. This will indeed contribute to the pursuit of building a world class university. Once again, congratulations graduands.





Rev. Daniel Eunyata Emoru, Dean of Students

By Rev. Daniel Emoru

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2017. Our hearts are bursting with joy for your accomplishments in which we also share in some significant measures. You are our people, and we are your people joined by the threads of scholarship, hard work and achievement. We expect you to be the beacon that the world needs today more than ever.

You are committed, compassionate and well-prepared. You are

Gather Boldness and Take Charge of the Society

equipped to understand and engage appropriately the changing demographics that are bringing much more diversity to our social fabric, increasing gaps in economic fortunes that continue to exclude too many from a good life, divisive politics that mock the promises of democracy and environmental trends that call for our attention.

Intellectuals cannot stand on the sidelines or be concerned only with their personal advancement. It is important to note that you have been purposefully prepared to be bold leaders like Joshua. We expect you to be thoughtful collaborators and passionate scholars committed to transforming others.

Education and knowledge have always been the forces that unite as well as divide societies. As you go out to the world, you will have some part of the future in your hands. Thank you for choosing PAC University to underpin your life's journey. Congratulations once again.

Going Against the Grain to Influence Boldly

By Judith Githae

The word bold means being brave and daring, while influence means having an effect on people. In other forums, we use words like fearless influencers. They probably mean the same thing. However, for our purposes I would like to reflect on how this theme can bring transformation to our context.

I would like to thank this year's graduation class for choosing the theme Bold Influencers. I couldn't have chosen a better theme for this class especially when you think of the political climate of this country at this moment. This graduating class as well as other stakeholders of PAC University know that they have to carry this with the weight and responsibility it deserves.

Let us reflect on the theme verse in which God tells or reminds Joshua three times; *"Be strong and very courageous"*. Joshua must have tried to sneak away from this responsibility that God was now handing over to him after Moses had died. It was not without reason, and I can understand why he was hesitant.

Joshua had a first row encounter of Moses' frustrations and challenges with the people as he led them in the desert. He knew what his people were capable of and he was probably still upset that they had doubted God's promises, and therefore the main reason they were still in the desert. Who could tell they would not doubt again and have Him not enter the Promised Land again. These must have been the questions that bothered Joshua. God was reassuring him; Yes He would be with Joshua as He was with Moses.

How does this apply to us, you ask. Joshua was among the two spies that had a positive report to give. However, the majority were negative and the whole tribe of Israel suffered the consequences of doubting God's promise.

How many times do we come into situations where we are the minority? Where people won't listen to us? Where they shut us up? Where we don't have the courage to say what is right? Who are we anyway to have people listen to us? These are some of the questions we ask ourselves and yet we are being called to be bold influencers. It means we have to get a voice and speak amidst all other voices, we must speak and keep on speaking.

God has called us to stand up for the truth and for His promises, even if it means going against the grain. Being bold can be lonely. It could mean that you are no longer a favourite amongst your peers. You could easily and quickly become an



Judith Githae, President, PAC University Alumni Association

outcast because you are speaking the truth. Can you be counted as one who speaks the truth? Or is your truth based on who is listening? As bold influencers, I challenge you to be the ones that can cause Kenyans to think and act differently, cause them to differentiate themselves, come away from the enticement of wanting to conform to their cocoons.

2017 graduates, you are now going into the market place. You will be asked to compromise, to cut deals, to step on others, to bribe etc. It is your time to take your place. Bold influencing will require that you seek the Lord in everything you do. I will leave you with these words by Apostle Paul *"...Whatever you do, do it in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ"*. Congratulations.

Investing in Research to Create Bold Scholars with Influence



By Dr. Dionysious Kiambi, Director of Research

Graduation is no small event. It is an achievement worth celebrating for as long as God gives you life. Therefore, I urge all the 2017 graduands not to shy away from celebrating the goodness of the Lord which is manifested on this day when you graduate.

Research refers to the discovery of new knowledge about products, processes and services, and subsequently applying that knowledge to create new innovations that meet the needs of the market. Investment in research therefore holds the key to a nation's long term prosperity and posterity.

PAC University researchers, led by Dr. Ciriaka, Dr. Kithinji and Dr. Nyakundi, in partnership with KEPSA, and University of Embu won the National Research Fund grant worth Ksh. 8.4 million- opening new horizons for PAC University scholars who are Bold Influencers. The project title is **Enhancing Youth Employability Readiness Through Career Mapping in Kenya**. This project seeks to examine how graduate employability readiness can be enhanced through career mapping

As the country strides towards a knowledge-based economy, there are numerous areas where research is required to inform the policymaking process, enhance better understanding and furtherance of best practices for all those working in various research fields.

One of the core functions of a university therefore is to promote and facilitate

research and publication of results. In this regard, PAC University has developed a Research Policy and has recently established the Centre for Research, Innovations and Publications (CRIP) which is mandated to advance and promote a culture of research, innovation and scholarly publishing.

The centre is also mandated to enhance the development of a strong relationship between research and teaching thus creating a stable internal and conducive research environment, in addition to providing research support services.

CRIP has operationalized the Research Policy by activating the University Research Committee as a Committee of Senate with the overall responsibility of coordinating all research, publications and innovations activities and promote research partnerships with like-minded institutions.

The centre has also established the Departmental Research Committee with the main responsibility of harmonizing research and postgraduate activities at the departmental level. The members of the committee serve as the liaison with the Graduate School and the Centre for Research, Innovations and Publications.

The centre has made a lot of progress in institutionalizing and promoting a research culture through the organization of five research workshops and seminars and establishment of a PAC University Competitive Grant Scheme. The development of a strategic plan for

the Centre for Research, Innovations and Publications has commenced with documentation and assessment of the faculty's research capacities, and development of priority research themes.

A mechanism of monitoring and tracking the research progress of postgraduate students has been established through the creation of a searchable database. An integrated Online Graduate Monitoring and Supervision System (OGMSS) for enhancing effective and convenient supervision of graduates research activities has been developed and is at the trial phase.

Going forward, CRIP is in the process of developing a strategic plan that is aligned to the overall University Strategic Plan. The strategic plan will serve as a guideline for the centre's activities. CRIP is also in the process of facilitating the development of the university's research priorities, working closely with the Departmental Research Committee and in line with the National Research Agenda in order to make the university's research activities relevant to the country's research and development needs.

It is the hope of CRIP that the 2017 graduands as well as the entire university fraternity will be, "Bold influencers" in setting and engaging in research agenda that are truly responsive to the country's demands and contribute to the scholarly discourse in their areas of specialization. Once again, congratulations to all the 2017 graduands and May God Bless you all!

Destined to Influence a Generation of Bold People

By Bishop Dr. Isaac Kibuthu

I wish to express warm congratulations on behalf of the chaplaincy to the graduands who have come out victorious to see this amazing day. You have done well and we are proud of you.

The graduation theme for Class of 2017 is “Bold Influencers”, drawn from Joshua 1:7 “Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go”.

This implies the class considers itself to be leaders who are fearless and daring, courageous and confident, clear and distinct. It also means they have the capacity to have an effect on the character, development or behaviour of the communities God is sending them to work with.

This is encouraging because the world today is deficient of Godly leaders with such qualities ready to confront the prevailing challenges that are characterized by ungodliness, wickedness, corruption, compromise, moral decay, ethnicity, racial discrimination and many other ills that are facing the nations.

The choice of the theme is therefore very appropriate as PAC University releases the graduating class to wherever God is leading them to be leaders among their communities. Our prayer for them is that they will be true to their chosen theme “leaders who are bold and influence their communities for the glory of the Almighty God”.

When Joshua assumed leadership after the death of Moses, he had reasons to be afraid. He was one of the 12 representatives sent by Moses to spy the land of promise. He was therefore familiar with what awaited them across Jordan (Numbers 13 and 14). He had also served as Moses’ aide for 40 years while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness and was therefore very familiar with their disobedience to God’s commands, their grumblings and murmurings. God called



Bishop Dr. Isaac Kibuthu, Chaplain PAC University.

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them as a stiff-necked people.

I believe it is for this reason that in Joshua 1:6-9, twice God commands Joshua to be “strong and courageous”, once to be “strong and very courageous” and “not to be terrified or to be discouraged”.

God knew that Joshua, with his promises and presence, had all he needed to lead the people across the Jordan to inherit the land He swore to their forefathers to give them. However Joshua needed to be strong and courageous in order to influence and motivate the children of Israel to face the seven tribes and disposes the land from them.

Like Joshua, you may have reasons to be terrified or discouraged by the many challenges where God will send you to serve after graduation. Take courage in the fact that you have been well equipped and you have what it takes to influence your community. However, to be a bold influencer you will need to be strong and courageous.

You need to learn some lessons from Joshua. Joshua found his strength, courage and success first in God’s promises and secondly in God’s word. First, when God commissioned Joshua (Joshua 1:1-5) he gave him three promises, a promise of possession of the land, second a promise of victory over his enemies and third a promise of God’s presence with him throughout his life. Joshua had no reason therefore to be fearful or discouraged because when we stand on God’s promises we cannot fail or

fall no matter the storms of doubt or fears that assail us.

The challenge for you the graduating class is to seek to know, understand and to claim God's promises for your individual locations and circumstances. When you do so you will have confidence and find rest in God as your all in all. Secondly, promises alone were not enough but Joshua had to study and meditate on the word of God. He was to live a life of obedience to the word of God. No compromise was to be entertained. This would help him keep

his bearing and perspective correct. It was by doing so that he was assured of prosperity and success in his leadership and dividing the land of promise among the children of Israel.

The God we serve is the same God of Joshua, He has not changed. If you are going to be prosperous and successful, where the Lord is sending you, you must learn to hide the word of God in your heart, to meditate on it and to appropriate it to yourself (Joshua 1:8). The consequence of obeying the Lord

your God and carefully following all his commands is that he will set you up above the nations and his blessings will come upon you and accompany you (Deut. 28:1-14). To be bold influencers you need to commit yourselves these lessons from Joshua.

The chaplaincy wishes the Class of 2017 God's blessings as you go out to be "Bold Influencers". Always remember "*Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage*". — Anais Nin.

Word from the Students' Council President

Know your Purpose, Fulfil your Destiny and Influence Others



Kathy Kariuki, Students President

On behalf of the students' body, we join in congratulating the class of 2017 as it celebrates this day which turns a new leaf in their lives. You are our inspiration and we are proud of your remarkable achievement.

Our spiritual, academic and social interactions within campus

have taught us that at the very least, every individual should strive to fulfill their purpose in life. In line with this, every member of PAC University community should make a resolution that as they embrace the changing world, they should also dare to be different and influence others towards the same.

The Bible says, "*Do not conform to this world but be ye transformed in your mind.*" In other words, as we engage others, and as we go about our lives, we ought to remember that our goal is one: "*To know our purpose, find our calling, and fulfill our destiny.*"

Our mission in life is to fulfill our destinies in accordance to God's will. "*...And David rested after he had fulfilled God's purpose for his generation in his time.*" We are not called to compromise, but rather to bring positive change in our spheres whether in the political arena, business world, education, medical sector or agriculture. We are called to leadership, which is God-given.

PAC University has instilled values in all students that are Biblically founded and has integrated this with the intellectual aspect. This gives us a good head start. We have a solid, unshakable foundation that enables us to go against the norm.

Kenya is changing considerably fast as we endeavour to be abreast with every new innovation. We should not be left behind. We need to think beyond academics. We need to think beyond the walls of PAC University.

Every person should put effort in creating opportunities not only for themselves but also for others. We must go the extra mile. The sanguinity that the world is looking for can only come about if all of us were to take up our positions in life.

No matter how small your arena is, remember, "*the battle does not belong to the swift, but time and chance happens to them all.*" Grab every good opportunity that comes your way, and stay on course.

To the graduands, once again I say congratulations.

Influencing the Tides of Leadership Through Bold Change



Gideon Osodo,
Manager, Housing &
Hospitality



By Gideon Osodo

By Gideon Osodo, Manager, Housing & Hospitality

This is the day that the Lord has made. Indeed we shall rejoice and be glad in it. Congratulations to all graduands for keeping the faith and coming this far. We are proud to be associated with you, and wish you God's blessings in all your endeavours as you become bold influencers out there.

As a leadership University, we take pride in sending out leaders who are bold influencers; leaders who are in-charge and capable of initiating change. Effective leaders are trusted to make decisions, build healthy decisions and get great results with minimal coaching and direction.

The Housing and Hospitality Department, in exercising courageous leadership, focuses mainly on hosting others. The guest houses and student hostels offer a serene environment that influences others to be in their best element.

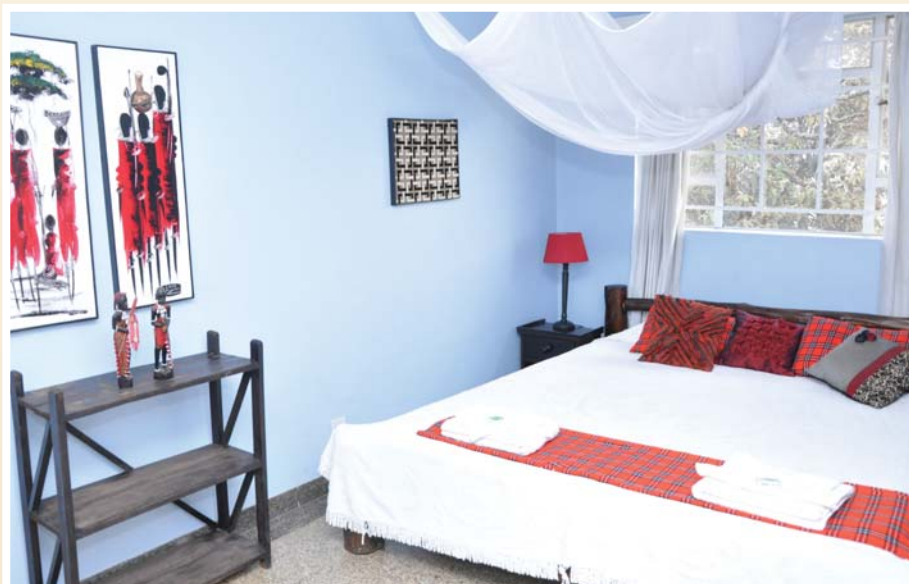
Courageous focus on vision and strategy where a team is going and how it gets there is key. The team needs not to always get back to the leader for direction. Influencing boldly does not mean that it

is the leader who has all the answers; it isn't about knowing everything. The team expects to experience the best of you in areas that will mostly influence their growth. Note that bold influencing means that you provide leadership.

Focusing and casting a compelling vision is the responsibility of the leader. Boldly influencing means being responsible for making sure that the vision gets funded. Influencing means inviting others into

the process. There should be no room to delegate this responsibility to anyone else. A good leader leads other leaders.

The training given at PAC University should move one from a one dimensional person to one who is able to adopt to change. Are you willing to impact change? As Norman Vincent Peale said "*change your thoughts and change your world*". Become a bold influencer. Congratulations to the class of 2017.



Sowing to Soar High by Faith

By Musyoki Muli

When you think of the meaning of graduation, you can't help but smile and give glory to God. It is a tough journey that the graduating Class of 2017 has conquered, one that calls for a pat on their backs for a job well done. We are very proud of you, and we congratulate you for coming this far.

Evangel Publishing House, a strategic business unit under PAC University, has taken a radical strategy to expand its revenue base through looping in new customers. Established 64 years ago, Evangel continues to nurture the Christian community with an unadulterated spiritual menu spanning across the various Christian denominations.

In the new thrust, Evangel has embraced the need to enter the school book market, especially using the newly launched competence based curriculum for which instructional materials will be in schools come January 2018.

Surmounting the challenges

Evangel, and indeed the publishing industry, has had unprecedented hurdles since the introduction of value added tax (VAT) on all book materials, policy indecisiveness within the sector stewards and delays in release of curriculum designs, among others. Evangel stands on the platform of faith and has mounted all the requisite programmes on the basis that it's what we believe in that comes to be.

Among school books that university students will find utterly useful is the *Write like a Writer* series designed to improve a budding writer's penning skills at an early age. The momentum to publish grammar revision books was momentarily slowed down by the new curriculum demands, but our authors are now burning the midnight candle to make this dream a reality.

And now matters digital You can purchase our books via the Jumia digital platform and Snapplify. On publishing, Evangel publishes books on consultancy basis at very affordable rates. We are indeed the leading house on this service front.

Expanding TEE wings

Evangel has ventured out to meet its Theological Education by Extension (TEE) customers in the various corners of this country where our products are consumed. The objective is to attract new customers, address customer concerns and revive the programme where it had closed down or was faced with closure.

We have held meetings in Embu, Nairobi, Mombasa, Nakuru, Eldoret, Kisumu and Nyahururu. Because of this initiative, Evangel has now partnered with Carlile College to review and improve the existing materials as well as introduce new



Musyoki Muli, General Manager, Evangel Publishing House

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thematic areas to address pertinent and contemporary issues. All this to the Glory of God.

Contact Wanjiku Migichi, Lucy Nduta, Julius Omuga and Musyoki Muli for greater details on how to be part of this winning team, the vessels in God's hands for the execution of a big dream.

You can reach us through the following ways:

Visit us: Lumumba Drive, off Thika Road (Roysambu Roundabout)

Email: editorial@evangelpublishing.org,

info@evangelpublishing.org,

Call us on: 0735 352 205, 0722 239 694 or 020 232 0565

Visit our website: www.evangelpublishing.org



Education CS Dr. Fred Matingi at PAC University during a Leadership Conference



Dr. Martin Oduor-Otieno gives a talk during a leadership forum at PAC University



PhD student receives a gift during their Matriculation Ceremony



She was the Queen of Kings during Culture Week



Posing 101- This is how to do it!



FC Viongozi during a training session



Crazy wear by students during Culture Week



With love from South Sudan



Bold smiles from Rwanda with love



In quest for knowledge