



THE OASIS NEWSLETTER

A Publication from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor



Dr. Matilda Auma (Right) in the company of fellow delegates during the Laureate Award Ceremony held at the Iowa State Capitol

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JOOUST DON RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR MENTORSHIP IN ADDRESSING GLOBAL HUNGER



Dr. Matilda Auma is an accomplished Agriculturalist and mentor currently lecturing in the School of Agricultural and Food Sciences

Dr. Matilda Auma, a Lecturer in the School of Agricultural and Food Sciences, has been honoured with the "Inspiring the Next Generation" award by the World Food Prize during the Laureate Award Ceremony held at the Iowa State Capitol. This distinguished award is a testament to Dr. Matilda's unwavering commitment to fostering the aspirations of students through the World Food Prize youth programs, encouraging them to follow in the footsteps of the revered Iowa hero, Norman Borlaug. Jeanie Borlaug, the daughter of Norman Borlaug, expressed her delight in presenting this award, acknowledging Dr Matilda's

23 years of dedicated mentorship to the Borlaug International Interns at the – International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Kenya. Dr. Matilda has warmly embraced all recipients throughout her remarkable tenure.

Throughout the years, Dr. Matilda has been a guiding light, an endless source of encouragement, a dedicated instructor, and an immense source of inspiration to thousands of high school students participating in the World Food Prize youth education programs. This award was established to pay tribute to the invaluable role played by educators

critical to the success of the World Food Prize youth education programs. While the World Food Prize recognizes the accomplishments of student participants through various awards and honors, the "Inspiring the Next Generation" award marks a significant milestone as it acknowledges the hard work and dedication of teachers for the first time. Dr. Matilda, upon receiving the award, eloquently stated, "This recognition has etched my footprints on the canvas of global food security. The inspiration within the Global Youth Institute is immeasurable, and the dividends are



Dr. Matilda Auma during a panel session.

the interns of today." Over the past 23 years, she has provided educational leadership to 33 international interns who are the next generation of champions against hunger. Her wealth of experience in the field has made her a central figure for guidance, motivation, instruction, and inspiration. Jeanie Borlaug Laube, daughter of Norman Borlaug and a former teacher herself, presented the award, emphasizing her father's identity as a dedicated teacher. She expressed her father's deep gratitude for Dr. Matilda's role in inspiring the thousands of students who participate in their programs annually. The "Inspiring the Next Generation" award is an annual recognition given to a teacher involved in the World Food Prize youth programs who has made significant contributions to the program's success and has been a remarkable source of inspiration to the students involved. The World Food Prize is a prestigious international award that acknowledges the achievements of individuals who have made significant contributions to advancing human development by enhancing the quality, quantity, or availability of food worldwide.



Dr. Matilda Auma (Right) conducts an online interview with a farmer during the covid -19 pandemic.

Founded in 1986 by Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, a Nobel Peace Prize recipient in 1970, the World Food Prize has celebrated 48 exceptional individuals who have made crucial contributions across the globe. The World Food Prize annually hosts the Borlaug Dialogue international symposium and a range of youth education programs to stimulate discussions on cutting-edge global food security issues and to inspire the next generation in the fight against hunger.



Dr. Matilda moments before receiving the Award.



Dr. Matilda shares light moment with delegates.

UNVEILING THE NEWLY ELECTED SAJOOUST CHAIRMAN



Mr. Allan Luo, Chairman of SAJOOUST takes oath of office presided over by the Legal Officer Ms. Ivor Nyamita.

Mr. Luo Allan Humwa has been elected as the new Chairman of the Student Association of Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology (SAJOOUST). He is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Education, specializing in mathematics and physics. Allan is a person of strong self-belief and values integrity as a core principle in his life. Many of his qualities are rooted in his honest, confident, and progressive nature. Allan hails from Siaya County, specifically from Kobare in Alego Usonga sub-county. He comes from a family of four, comprising two females

and two males. An outgoing individual, he enjoys nature walks and embarking on adventurous journeys. Allan's journey as a leader began at a young age, during his primary school years when he led his classmates from standard four to standard seven. This leadership experience continued into his high school years, where he held leadership positions until he completed his studies. When he entered university, he initially served as a class representative, a role that demonstrated his potential as a leader. In his second year, he assumed the role of Chairman for the "FRIENDS OF LAKE

VICTORIA," a movement initiated by student leaders from universities in the lake region. The primary aim of this movement was to promote unity among these universities and foster a sense of togetherness. As he progressed into his third year, Allan's leadership potential was recognized by the student body, leading to him being asked if he would consider leading the students. His self-confidence, excellent communication skills, and strong management abilities made him a suitable candidate for the position of school president. Additionally, he is currently serving as the

Chairman of the university's Charity club for the second time.

As the University SAJOUST Chairman, Allan collaborates with a team within the Students Association of Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University School of Science and Technology (SAJOUST) to improve the students' overall university experience. They conduct meetings to exchange ideas and devise effective solutions to address various issues. Since taking on the role, Allan has initiated several improvements, including: Hostel Mapping, which aims to enhance security



Mr. Allan Luo, signs oath of office.

in the hostels, ensuring the safety of students; Student Welfare: Allan visited the Siaya campus and identified challenges such as inadequate and subpar lecture halls; Organizing "barasa" for comrades; Academic Enhancement: Allan is committed to improving the efficiency of knowledge dissemination, whether through online or in-person learning and Entertainment: He recognizes the importance of nurturing talents alongside academic pursuits.

Allan draws inspiration from Pepe Minambo, a motivational speaker and author who encourages

individuals to "Be Inspired before you expire." This mantra fuels his drive to lead and make a positive impact on the university and its student community.



Mr. Allan Luo, makes his acceptance speech moments after being sworn into office.



The SAJOUST leadership take a group photo with the Vice Chancellor, Management, SAJOUST Electoral Board members, accompanied by comrades and supporters.

JOOUST STAFF COMMISSIONED AS PEER EDUCATORS



Ms. Lizzy Misiga, one of the University staff peer educators gives her remarks during the session.

The Directorate of Special Services at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology has officially empowered a group of staff peer educators to play a crucial role in the early detection and rehabilitation of substance and drug abuse cases within the university community. This significant event, which took place recently, involved selecting peer educators primarily from departments that have regular interactions with students and staff.

The opening ceremony was graced by Professor Christopher Gor, the Dean of Students, representing Acting

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof. Denis Ochuodho. During his address, Professor Gor highlighted the alarming rise in drug and substance-related challenges among both students and staff at the university over the past few years. He emphasized the importance of the Directorate's initiative to train and commission these peer educators as a means to extend support to those affected and to potentially save lives. Professor Gor urged the newly commissioned peer educators to take their roles seriously and pass on their knowledge to others, ensuring a broader impact.

Dr. John Anyango, the Bondo Sub-County Medical Officer, served as the Chief Guest at the ceremony. Dr. Anyango echoed the concerns raised by the Dean of Students regarding the prevalence of substance and drug abuse among JOOUST students in Bondo town. He encouraged peer educators to identify both recruiters and drug addicts while safeguarding the privacy and well-being of the victims or those affected. Dr. Anyango also encouraged the peer educators to join the JOOUST health club and train students on drug abuse, while also identifying paralegals who can aid victims unable

to defend themselves.

Prof. Helen Atieno, the Director of Special Services noted that there was a growing concern on drug abuse among staff and students within the University and that was the reason for this initiative. She urged the staff to be vigilant and assist the University in safeguarding the students entrusted to the Institution by parents in ensuring that there was early detection and prevention of drug-related cases. She thanked the staff

for volunteering to take up the role.

These peer educators underwent a rigorous one-week training program facilitated by the National Agency for the Campaign Against Drug Abuse (NACADA) before commissioning. They were carefully selected from various university departments, including catering and accommodation, security, and medical services, among others.



The Chief Guest Dr. John Anyango (left), who is also the Bondo Sub-County Medical Officer, makes his remarks.



Ms. Keziah Ogada, the Corporate Communications officer addresses the peer educators.

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**A Newsletter of Jaramogi Oginga Odinga
University of Science and Technology**

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A glance at the quadrangle from the Administration block.

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