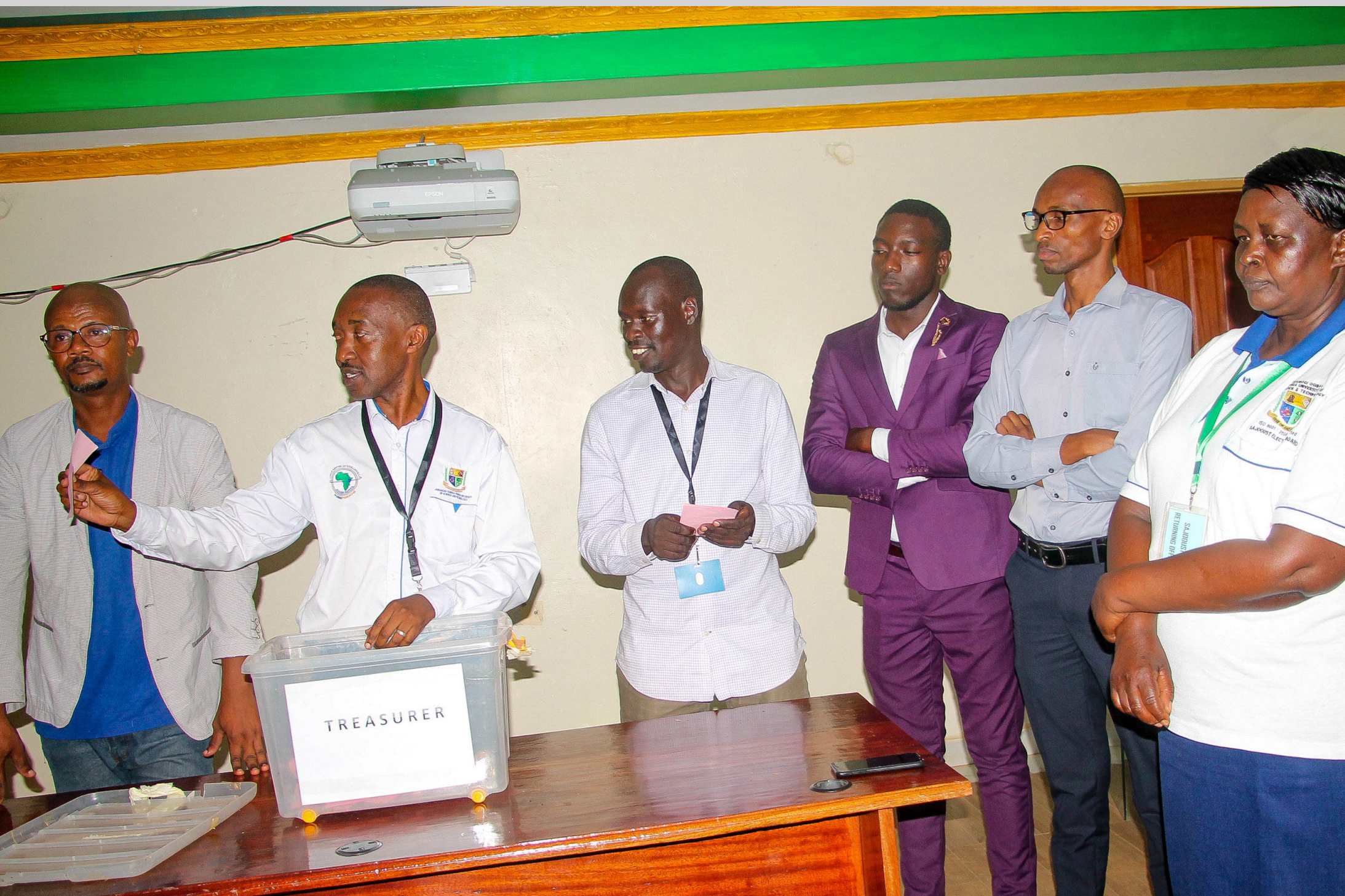




THE OASIS NEWSLETTER

A Publication from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor



The SAJOUST Electoral Board members overseeing the electoral process of the Student Governing Council.

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JOOUST CONDUCTS SUCESSFUL SAJOOUST ELECTIONS



Chairman elect Mr. Allan Luo with his deputy during the Aspirant's debate.

The execution of democratic electoral processes and procedures is quickly becoming the norm all over the world. Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology has once again exemplified its commitment to democratic governance and student leadership by successfully conducting the SAJOOUST 2023/2024 student elections for both the Electoral College Representatives (ECRs) and Student Governing Council (SGC).

The SAJOOUST elections, a pivotal event in the university's academic calendar, was

closely monitored by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Planning, Administration, and Finance (PAF), Prof. Aggrey Thuo who commended the SAJOOUST Electoral Board for the dedication and meticulous execution of their duties, which ensured a seamless and efficient election process.

Dr. Walter Akuno, the Registrar for Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Research, equally played a key role in overseeing the election process. Under his guidance, the election calendar was meticulously planned and adhered to, ensuring a transparent and democratic

student election process. The first phase of the election process, which saw the election of the Electoral College Representatives (ECRs), took place on the 18th of October 2023. A total of forty seven ECRs were elected to represent their respective academic departments also dubbed constituencies. Subsequently, the ECRs conducted the election of their speaker and secretary in readiness for the SGC aspirants' debate, scheduled to take place the following day at 11 am.

The anticipation was palpable at the peak of the elections on the 19th of October,

2023. The entire student community eagerly awaited the outcome of the SGC elections with bated breath.

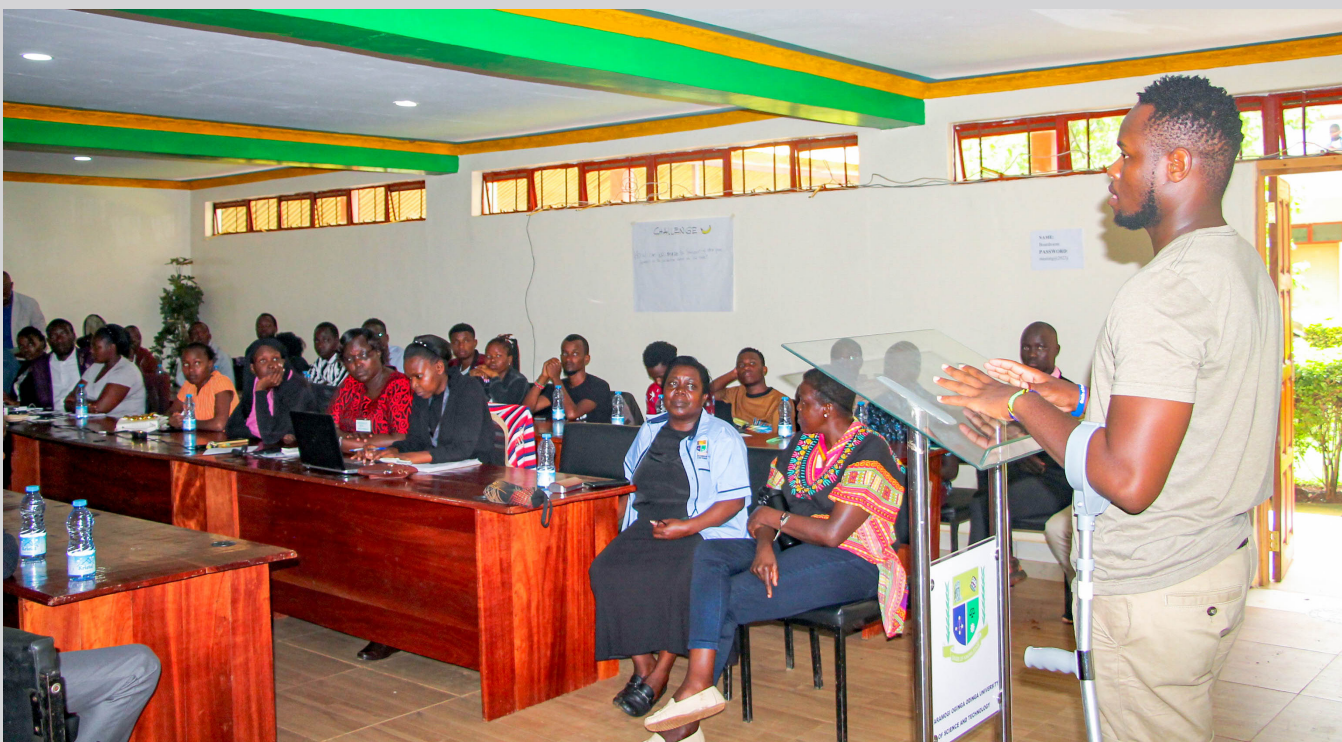
The election process took a hybrid approach allowing aspirants to engage with the ECRs physically, presenting their manifestos to an already elated team, moments before the voting commenced. The physical voting process was conducted with utmost transparency and credibility, with aspirants' agents given the opportunity to witness the election proceedings. Aspirants, although anxious, patiently waited outside the East African Community Integrated Institute (EACII) which served as the tallying center.

The moment of reckoning finally arrived as Dr. Mary Onditi, the Returning Officer, announced the winners of the SGC elections. The newly elected student leaders include: Mr. Allan Luo Humwa – Chairman; Ms. Diana Nekesa, Deputy chair; Mr. Kiprop Edward, Secretary General; Mr. Khisa Wanjala Paul, the Treasurer; Ms. Apella Joy Achieng, the Director Curricular; Mr. Ongaro Richard Otieno,

The victors will be officially sworn into office during a ceremony presided over by the Vice-Chancellor on the 26th of October, 2023 following a formal handover ceremony by the outgoing student leaders.

The new office is expected to serve a one-academic-year term and will undergo leadership training to prepare them for the responsibilities that lie ahead.

JOOUST continues to demonstrate its commitment to nurturing responsible and capable student leaders who play a vital role in shaping the University's future. The successful completion of the SAJOOUST 2023/2024 student elections is a testament to the university's dedication to having credible, verifiable and transparent elections towards achieving excellence in student governance.



An aspirant for the treasurer position addresses the ECRs and the Electoral Board during the Aspirants Debate.



An ECR casting his vote in the ballot box.



An ECR meticulously voting an aspirant.

DELVING INTO THE WORLD OF INTELLIGENT DESIGN



Dr. Lencer Ndede, from BioCosmos Kenya gives a lecture on The Place of Intelligent Design in the Question of Origin of Life and the Universe.

Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology through the School of Biological, Physical, Mathematics and Actuarial Sciences, hosted a team of professionals from BioCosmos and the Center for Science and Culture at Discovery Institute. The team delivered a public lecture which targeted faculty members, Dean of Students, postgraduate and undergraduate students. The aim of the lecture was to introduce and explore the concept of Intelligent Design (ID) while examining the positive case for design in various domains. The

presentation quested to foster critical thinking and engage attendees in a thoughtful examination of the interface between science, psychology, philosophy, and the concept of purpose in the universe. Setting the stage was Dr. Richard Ochieng', Chair of Biocosmos Kenya Trust Foundation. He is also in-charge of all operations of the foundation. Dr. Ochieng' took the members present through the Background of BioCosmos Kenya before providing a comprehensive introduction to Intelligent Design. BioCosmos Foundation is a registered trust foundation in Kenya

whose main mandate is to advance the theory of Intelligent Design which holds that many features of the universe and life are best explained by an intelligent cause. This multi-disciplinary concept cuts across all disciplines. The attendees were introduced to the fundamental principles underlying this concept, highlighting its distinction from other scientific and philosophical viewpoints, with the objective being to establish a foundation of understanding for further exploration.

Other speakers included

Dr. Lencer Ndede, a Board member of BioCosmos Kenya Trust Foundation and also the National Coordinator of BioCosmos Students Clubs in Kenya. She tackled the place of Intelligent Design in the question of origin of life and the universe. Fr. Martin Tanui unpacked the Introduction to Intelligent Design and Intelligence Vs Religion while Dr. Morris Mwatu engaged the thrilled audience on Intelligent Design in fine tuning the Universe and the Earth.

At the end of the lecture, Dr. Angeline Ochung'-Orwa from the Department of Physical Sciences thanked the participants for turning up and the trainers for taking the audience through such an informative lecture and further emphasized on the importance of intelligent design especially to students. "Students will be able to have a broader perspective in science through Intelligent Design." She reiterated.

The participants gained a thorough understanding of Intelligent Design, its relationship with scientific inquiry, and the positive case for design in various domains at the end of the lecture before being provided with books on Intelligent Design by the teams from both



Participants keenly listening to the public lecture.

BioCosmos and the Center for Science and Culture at Discovery Institute. The lecture sought to promote an environment of intellectual curiosity, respectful discourse, and open-minded exploration while empowering the attendees to engage with complex topics at the intersection of science, psychology and philosophy. BioCosmos has student clubs from some of the Universities in Kenya including University of Eldoret, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, Rongo University, Kaimosi Friends University, Moi University among others.

The team is also in the process of forming student clubs in Pwani University, Catholic University of Eastern Africa, St. Paul's University and most recently Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Technology.

The students from these learning institutions will be drawn from diverse backgrounds and brought together with a view to realizing a common goal of upholding and advancing the core theory of Intelligent Design which states that "many features of the universe and life are best explained by an intelligent cause."



JOOUST Team receives book donations from the facilitators.

BIG HEARTS TOUCHING SMALL HOMES: A STORY OF JOOUST DISABILITY ADVOCACY CLUB



The Club members during an interactive session with students of Maranda special school for the mentally challenged.



Club members share lights moment over a soccer match with Learners at Maranda Special School.

The Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology Disability Advocacy Club organized an outreach programme on the 14th of October, 2023 to Maranda Special School for the Intellectually Disabled and Nyamonye Small Home for the Physically Challenged which is hosted inside Nyamonye Primary School.

The club made merry with learners engaging in sporting activities and later enjoying drinks with the grateful lot. The members of the club also participated in an array of cleaning activities in the school compound from the

classrooms, dormitories, kitchen to washing clothes and beddings for learners as well as cleaning the learners. To crown it all, the head teacher and sister of Nyamonye Small Home received bountiful donations from the club members which included soap, toilet towels, Tissue Papers and clothes.

The Disability Advocacy Club is a registered club at JOOUST with the office of Dean of Students. The club's mission is to facilitate better understanding and positive attitude towards the society based on the nature and acceptance of disability. The club has taken

the initiative to visit special schools to encourage the differently abled learners alongside charity donations and mentorship programs. The club members also participate in planning and organizing fun and sports days for special schools with the aim of developing and promoting the talents of the learners with disabilities.

The objectives of the club include to enable: the society at large to accept the individuals with disabilities and develop positive attitude towards PWDs, the differently abled children develop their talents through creation of sports and fun days, the



JOOUST Disability Advocacy Club members wash clothes at Maranda Special School for Mentally Challenged during the outreach.

long time stereotype based on the nature of disability and engage in door-to-door visitations and equip the club members with the knowledge and experience in handling and understanding the individuals with hearing impairment through training

and also promote awareness about disability among others.

The club appreciates the immense support accorded to them by the University Management in facilitating transportation to and from the schools.

In a special way, the Club also expresses gratitude to the patron Prof. Charles Omoke and his assistants Mr. Gregory Jumah and Dr. Ruth Otienoh for donating clothes and fruits to the children and lastly Dr. Brian Oduor for supporting the cause financially.



JOOUST Disability Advocacy Club pause for a photo with students of Nyamonye Small Home for Physically Handicapped.



JOOUST Disability Advocacy Club pause for a photo with students of Nyamonye Small Home for Physically Handicapped.

The Oasis

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

A publication from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor



The University Administration block at a glance

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