



Inspiring Innovation and Leadership

KARATINA UNIVERSITY

Weekly Dispatch 4, 2024

Monday 11th March – 15th March, 2024

CAREER WEEK

CAREER WEEK A 3 DAY EVENT 2024: HIGHLIGHTS PRACTICAL INSIGHTS AND RESOURCES IN THE WORLD OF ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTIES.

The 12th Karatina University Career Week kicked off on a high note on Wednesday, 13th March 2024. Organized by the Directorate of Career Services and University-Industry Linkages, the annual event is aimed at offering students, especially those in their last year of undergraduate studies, an opportunity to interact with industry players and to be guided on market expectations. We had 6 schools in attendance that is Weithaga Boys High School, Gititu High School, Iruri Secondary School, Ngurweini Secondary School, Kanjuri High School and Karatina Girls High School, representing a diverse group of ambitious young individuals eager to explore the possibilities that the future holds for them.

The distinguished guest of honor the Lending Manager at Higher Education Loans Board Mr. King'ori Ndegwa addressed the audience on behalf of the CEO HELB Mr. Charles Ringera. He graced the occasion with his insights and experiences. He applauded the University for providing several platforms for the students to gain knowledge. He further went ahead to explain the New Funding Model. "We give 100% scholarships to the Vulnerable Needy Students to enable them study further. I encourage you to take advantage of the scholarships and bursaries offered by HELB so as to achieve career growth." He passionately shared his perspective on the future world of work. While emphasizing on the place of lending institutions in the future of work, he pointed out with the supporting conditions such as high financial

access the students can achieve their dreams by pursuing courses of their choice without financial challenges.



Mr. King'ori Ndegwa the Lending Manager at HELB addressing the students

CAREER WEEK DAY 2

The Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor Prof. Hellen Kamiri launched the career day on behalf of the Vice Chancellor Prof. Linus M. Gitonga on the 14th March 2024. In her opening remarks, she appreciated the chief guests for finding their time and partnership in career week. She went ahead and delivered the Vice Chancellor's Speech.



Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Hellen Kamiri, delivering the Vice Chancellor's Speech.

In his opening speech, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Linus Gitonga, stated that the Career Week serves as a transformative journey, empowering participants with the knowledge, skills, and resources essential for navigating the evolving professional landscape and realizing their future aspirations. He urged all students to fully engage and interact with the guests to broaden their horizons and to seize the opportunity. He further added that the students should explore their interests, hone their skills and to reach their full potential.

The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Nicholas Leting the CEO, Kenya Accountants and Secretaries National Examination (KASNEB) KASNEB. Prof. Leting passionately shared his perspective on the job market. He urged the students to the various professional courses related to their fields of study. While emphasizing on the importance of professional courses he pointed out that most graduates easily get a job due to professional courses they have pursued. Some of these are professional courses are: Certified Public Accountants (CPA), Certified Secretaries (CS), and Certified Information Systems Solutions Experts (CISSE) among others.



Chief Guest, Prof. Nicholas Leting, giving his Keynote presentation

The other accompanying guests: FCS Jeremiah N. Karanja, Chief Executive Officer, Institute of Certified Secretaries (CPS), Ag. Chief Executive Officer CHRP Margaret Nguu, Human Resource Management Professionals Examinations Board among other speakers encouraged the students to ensure they pursue professional courses.

The students were also taken through Curriculum Vitae; how to draft an eye catching CV. The speakers nurtured our students and were willing to share and offer internships, attachment and graduate trainee opportunities in their various organizations. They shed light on current job market trends, the relevance of different fields of study, and the critical importance of choosing a career path that aligns with one's passion and talents.



The audience keenly following the proceedings

Throughout the 3 day event, students had the opportunity to engage in interactive sessions with industry professionals, academic advisors, and university representatives at the Career Week Event. They were encouraged to ask questions, seek guidance, and gain deeper insights into the different career pathways they were considering.

The aim of the event is to positively impact the lives of countless young individuals, helping them navigate their academic and professional journeys successfully. The university's commitment to excellence and dedication to nurturing talent ensures that it remains a beacon of hope and a source of inspiration for generations to come.

KARATINA UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT AND TRADE UNIONS UNDERGO TRAINING ON CBA

From 11th February to 15th March, Karatina University management and the trade unions underwent training in Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The aim of the training was to prepare the parties for when the time to negotiate comes. In attendance was the Vice Chancellor Prof. Linus M. Gitonga, the Ag. DVC P,F&A, Prof. Richard Kiai, Ag. DVC AR&SA Prof. Hellen Kamiri, Registrar P&A Mr. Murage, staff from the human resource office, UASU, KUSU and Kudheihia union leaders. The training was held at the senior common room.

The training was opened by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Linus M. Gitonga. He urged members of staff to be keen during the training. He noted that the aim of the training was to help the unions and the University management at large to re-examine their approaches and ensure that they are CBA compliant. There was need for the management and unions to update themselves on the process of collective bargaining.

The VC further said that the training was part of the University's staff capacity building mandate. He further advised the members present to make the best of the training which would enable them adapt to the new processes to be implemented later on. This was one in many more series of training that the University will be organizing from time to time and he therefore called upon the dons to turn up whenever required to do so.

Remarks from the trainers;

The training was conducted by CS. Joshua Ochuka, Ms. Betty Muthoni from Kenya School of Government (KSG) and Ms. Mary Musau from Salaries and Remunerations Commission (SRC). The facilitators of the training took the team through the process of having a valid Collective Bargaining agreement. They were also trained on the prerequisites for a successful CBA. The facilitators first took the members through the various components of the Collective bargaining and labour relations so that they could later on appreciate the whole process of collective bargaining.

In his remarks the CS Ochuka encouraged the members to bring productivity to CBA and ensuring that they are complying with productivity. He went on and urged the management to invest in capacity building in matters related to labour relations skills. He further urged the Unions representatives to update themselves from time to time on labour relation laws.



CS Joshua Ochuka addressing the members during the training

On the other hand, Ms. Mary Musau trained the members on the signing of the recognition agreement and negotiation process. She encouraged the teams to always bargain and negotiate in good faith and to always ensure that they follow the right process to ensure effectiveness. She further encouraged the parties to formalize operations and ensure they engage with one another in the right way so that they both benefit from the process.



Members of staff keenly following the proceedings of the training

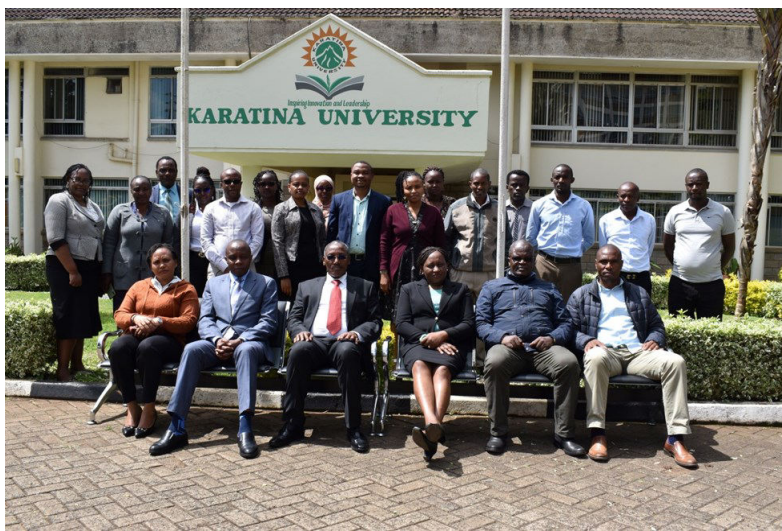
The trainers used various approaches that included lectures and practical tasks that made the training quite stimulating. At the end of the training, the management and the union representatives were satisfied that the session was worth their time as it was quite informative and an eye opener on the collective bargaining aspect.

In their closing remarks the trainers commended the Management and the unions for having a good relationship and for sitting throughout the sessions. They also urged the members to keep walking and working together so as to achieve better results in their processes.

The aim of the visit was enhance self-awareness on students to improve on their daily activities and sound careers choices and also to follow up on the Form 3 Students undertaking Business subject.

The team had a fruitful session with the students. The students were taken through mental wellness, self-awareness and the importance of setting goals. They were also guided on the University programmes offered at Karatina University.

The school appreciated Karatina University for always finding time and mentoring the students.



Karatina university management, trade unions officials and the members of staff from Human Resource Office pose for a group photo with the facilitators. Sitting from left Ms. Mary Musau (SRC), the Ag. DVC PF&A Prof. Richard Kiai, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Linus M. Gitonga, Ag. DVC ARSA Prof. Hellen Kamiri, CS Joshua Ochuka Kenya School of Government and Dr. Gichuki Secretary UASU.

The students at St. Alberts Giakaibei Secondary school keenly following the mentorship session.

MENTORSHIP AT ST ALBERT SECONDARY SCHOOL

A team from Karatina University audit department visited St. Albert Giakaibei Secondary for a mentorship talk as part of community outreach activities for the University. The team led by Ms. Cicely Mukami was welcomed by the form 3 students and Mr. Joseph Karithi.