



ALUMNI TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN KUC ACTIVITIES

EDITORIAL TEAM

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Inside this issue:

Editor's Note

KUCAA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Principal's message 2

Chairman's Message 2

EPA Conference in Utalii 2

AHTSA conference 3

Alumni Reunite 4

Developments at KUC 5

Movements 6

FROM EDITOR'S DESK:

Welcome to KUCAA News. This is our second edition of the annual publication of KUC Alumni Associational. I am honored to inform you about alumni activities.

KUCAA has set out an ambitious program aimed at revitalizing the organization. Aggressive recruitment drive is in progress. Regional chapters are undergoing reorganization through branch elections. Our members in the Diaspora have been brought in the fold. Please join us and be part of the great KUCAA family.

Bernard Bahati Amaya
Alumni Coordinator

KUCAA AGM NOTICE—20th June, 2011

The much-awaited KUCAA Annual General Meeting will be held on 29th July, 2011 at the Kenya Utalii College Nairobi campus from 2 pm . The KUC Annual Food Fair will be held on the same date in the evening

AGENDA

- Treasurer's Report
- Chairman's Report
- Launch of KUCAA strategic plan
- Launch of KUCAA website
- Elections of new officials: Chairman,V/chairman
- Cocktail Party

All interested candidates are advised to send their nominations for the following positions by 15th July ,2011:

Chairman; V.Chairman; Sec. General; V. Sec. General, Treasurer; V. Treasurer

RSVP.

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THE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



*Dr. Kenneth S. Ombongi
Principal*

It is with pride and great honor that I greet all the members of Kenya Utalii College Alumni Association (KUCAA) for the doing our institution proud in their various capacities where they serve in the lucrative hospitality and tourism industry. Indeed the College has produced some of the most seasoned professionals in tourism and hospitality industry who continue to do a commendable job both locally and internationally. I congratulate you all for your exemplary performance and urge

you to keep up the good work.

Allow me to reiterate the resolve of college management to extend every support possible to KUCAA. So far the college has remained very faithful to this worthy cause. We take pride in each of our graduates for they are an important segment of the Utalii family. KUC management has decided to make KUCAA an integral part of the day-to-day running of the institution. This is because the strength of any training institution lies in its gradu-

ates. To this end, the College has employed a full time coordinator for the association for it to function better. Plans are at an advanced stage to construct an Alumni Lounge to enhance the comfort and convenience of the former students, another indication of our commitment to the alumni cause.

As an optimist, I strongly believe better times lie ahead for KUCAA. I invite all the alumni of Kenya Utalii College to join hands with Management in building a vibrant organization. Many great institutions around the world have done it. KUC can do it Yes, we can.

THE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



*Ezekiel Minabo
KUCAA CHAIRMAN*

Greetings to all the honorable members within and outside the country. KUCAA is a great Association serving the best professionals in vital hospitality and tourism industry. We as the Executive Committee are proud of your achievements in different places where you do duty.

Turning to the benefits of joining the Association, there is no benefit

better than networking with colleagues in the industry. The use of College grounds and Utalii Hotel for functions at discounted rates is available to duly registered members. Kenya Utalii College library with the latest books and journals is open to the alumni to enable them enhance their skills and knowledge. The other initiatives undertaken by the association include Alumni

website, mentorship of KUC students through the guest lectures program by the alumni, alumni recognition program, credit waivers for the alumni and advocating for inclusion of alumni in all key college decisions as well as functions.

Honorable members, I urge all Kenya Utalii graduates to register in large numbers.-energize the KUCAA to occupy its rightful place in the college and industry affairs

Thank you, Dear Comrades.



KENYA UTALII COLLEGE (KUC) HOSTS EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP IN AFRICA (EPA) CONFERENCE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY (MMU)

Kenya Utalii College in collaboration with Manchester Metropolitan University held a joint conference which was held at The Stanley Hotel-Sarova, Nairobi on 20th January 2011.

The conference theme was *“Employability and Entrepreneurial Skills in the Tourism and Hospitality Industry- A Joint Conference for Educators Practitioners Working Together Towards Vision 2030.”*

The conference participants included delegates from the British Council, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK, the UK Hospitality industry, Kenya Utalii College and Kenyan Tourism industry, and private and public institutions of higher learning. During the conference, presentations and discussions were held on EPA pilot projects. A key component was the

Group Consultancy Project was of immense benefit to the hospitality and tourism industry, seeking to contribute to the generation of new ideas and creativity, and providing a cost effective way of engaging the players in the industry.

In the conference, students provided feedback on their experiences in the pilot inaugural projects, whose main aim was to increase employability and entrepreneurial skills in students. KUC alumni from the industry featured prominently,

In addition, participants were briefed on the other components of the project namely Industrial Placement (IP) and Career Development (CD). The purpose of the conference was to provide an opportunity for the respective invited organizations to evaluate the impact and benefit of the GCP programmes from an industry’s perspective. It also provided an opportunity to



the stakeholders to discuss the way forward for the project.

The pilot project was funded by Department for Innovation, University & Skills in auspices of British council.

Mr. David Gachuru, GM Sarova Stanley (left-KUC alumni), Mr. Fred Runye, EPA Coordinator (center-KUC alumni) and Mr. John Wandaka, Deputy Director of Studies (Alumni) /EPA Deputy Project Leader at the function.

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Alumni are requested to register in KUCAA by depositing the registration fee of KShs. 1,000.00 In the account as follows:

Account Name: Kenya Utalii College Alumni Association

Bank: Barclays Bank of Kenya

Branch: Ruaraka

Account No. 067 100 7573

Please send us the bank slip upon making payments to enable the Secretariat process your membership. You are also reminded that the annual subscription fee is KShs.1,000.00



Others in attendance were...



Mr. George Amboso, member of EPA project, and KUC alumnus, Presenting a paper.



Mr. Melphon Mayaka, Lecturer, Tourism Department, Kenyatta University and KUC alumnus makes his presentation at EPA ,Ms Jennifer Maina HOD Tourism Utalii (alumnus) looks on.

KUC HOSTS THE ASSOCIATION OF HOSPITALITY & TOURISM SCHOOLS IN AFRICA (AHTSA) CONFERENCE



Chief Guest, Hon Cecily Mbarire, MP, Assistant Minister for Tourism, addressing AHTSA conference

The 3rd Association of Hospitality and Tourism Schools in Africa (AHTSA) International Conference on Hospitality tourism Research successfully took place from 9th to 11th November 2010. It was held at Utalii. Hotel .The conference themed *Challenging in Hospitality, Tourism and Events Management in Africa*”, saw a total of 18 papers presented by professors and participants, focusing on vi-

brant topics including “Impact turnover assessment, threatened cultural heritage landscapes”, Empirical estimation of customer loyalty”, “Pro-poor tourism initiative and Tourism development in Zambia” among others. Participants were drawn from Kenya, Uganda, Switzerland, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, United Kingdom, and Reunion . The Assistant Minister for Tourism,

Hon. Cecily Mbarire, MP, officially opened the conference. The chief guest speaker was Dr. Timothy Knowles, Senior Lecturer Hospitality, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK.



... Those in Attendance



Mr. Gitonga Director of Studies, KUC and Mr. Ole Lenku, GM Utalii Hotel, both KUC alumni confer during the AHTSA conference.



AHTSA Conference attendees enjoying tea break at the newly refurbished Utalii Hotel.



Mr.

Moses Sakala, AHTSA Vice Chairman and Director Hotel and Tourism Training Institute Trust (HTTIT), Zambia, Dr .Ombongi, Principal and the Secretary centre), Ms Rosalind Gicheru, and AHTSA Coordinator (KUC Alumnus) in consultation during the conference



Chairman College Board of Governors Hon Boniface Mghanga, registers for the Conference



KUC ALUMNI REUNION

The Kenya Utalii Alumni Association held a reunion on February 28, 2009, An event that brought together the former students of the College



Mr. Pinehas Kimathi and other members follow proceedings



Alumni Networking at the Reunion



Liz Ayany, KUCAA Vice Chairperson and MC Reunion function.



Tonny Muiruri, KUCAA Vice Secretary General confers with Alumni



Mr. Gordon Odundo, CEO Gertrude's Children's Hospital makes his contribution



Mr. Peter Ngori of A&K Addressing Delegates



Mark Gathuri, GM, Nairobi Serena Nairobi Serena makes his remarks

KUC ALUMNI PARTICIPATE IN MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Kenya Utalii College runs guest lecture program to expose the students to the industry trends. This was borne out of the realization that linkages with the industry ensures that the students get the insights of the industry while in college. The initiative helps a smooth transition into the actual world of work. KUCAA is grateful to the following resource persons: David Gachuru, GM Sarova Stanley, Mark Somen, GM Tribe Hotel, Omar Mohammed, GM Red Court Hotel, Ezekiel Minabo, Chairman KUCAA and MD Function Masters and Julius Kibe of MD Mighty Tours & Travel, for offering lectures to our students. We encourage the rest of the alumni to emulate them.

Please come and share your experience with the budding professionals.



KUC ALUMNUS COMES BACK HOME TO SHOWCASE HER INTERNATIONAL EXPERTISE

Kenya Utalii College was privileged to host Ms. Jane Kimani, Executive Chef at Umbria, UK. Jane shared her work experiences with the Food Production students during her visit to the college. Her motivational talk inspired the students a lot especially her career, which is dominated by male counterparts.

Chef Jane Kimani (left) Makes her presentation at KUC.

DEVELOPMENTS AT KUC

KUC Alumni to Train Uganda Tourism Industry Personnel

The Kenya Utalii College signed a Memorandum of Understanding with East Africa's oldest and premier institution of higher learning, Makerere University in Uganda, in June last year. The College delegation included, Dr Kenneth Ombongi (Principal), Mr. John Wandaka, (Deputy Director of Studies Alumni and Placement), Mr. Kazungu Mwango, Director of Research & Corporate Planning, and Mr. Henry Koge, the College Legal Advisor. The acting Deputy Vice chancellor of Makerere University Prof. Lillian Tibatemwa-Ekirikubinza represented the Ugandan side. Makerere university in conjunction with the Uganda Hotel Owners Association (UHOA) has invited the college to conduct courses for the Ugandan industry.

The inaugural course, which will target hotel owners and directors, will be held from 6th to 10th June, 2011 at the Hotel Africana, Kampala. While at Kampala, the KUC delegation will also attend the 7th Association for Tourism and Leisure Education (ATLAS) international conference, hosted by Makerere University.



Dr. Kenneth Ombongi, Principal, KUC, and Prof. Lillian Tibatemwa-Ekirikubinza Ag. DVC, Makerere University, exchange copies of the MoU at Makerere. Looking on is Mr. Muhwezi, the university Secretary



KUCAA COAST CHAPTER ELECTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kenya Utalii College Alumni Association (KUCAA) Coast branch has elected pioneer officials.

These are:

- **Chairman : Mr. Paul Kurgat, (Ashnil Hotels)**
- **Secretary General: Yusuf Olela (Voyager Beach Resort)**
- **Treasurer: Jayne Kiragu (Sarova Whitesands)**



Paul Kurgat, Chairman, KUCAA Coast Chapter.

KUC alumni at the coast are requested to contact the secretariat :

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Mr. Yusuf Olela
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Yusuf.olela@voyagerresorts.co.ke
0726513778

Ms Jayne Kiragu
Treasurer



ALUMNI MOVEMENTS

Mr. Ezekiel Minabo, KUCAA chairman, formerly the General Manager, Nairobi Club, is now the Managing Director of Function Masters

Mr. Tonney Muiruri who until recently was the Group Marketing Manager of the Jacaranda hotels is now the Sales Director of the prestigious Tribe Hotel situated in Gigiri..

Mr. Reuben Argut the Secretary General of KUCAA is the General Manager of Hotel Torit ,Equatorial state of Southern Sudan, Africa's new kid on the bloc.

Ms. Liz Ayany, the Vice Chairperson of KUCAA is currently at Leisure Lodge Resort as Sales and Marketing Manager.

Mr. Robert Lugwe is currently at the University of Nairobi as Director Student Welfare Authority

Members are requested to inform the secretariat about their vertical and horizontal mobility. Please keep the alumni posted when you are promoted or transferred to another organization or unit.

Please send to:

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KUCAA Newsletter now has more features to accommodate as many views as possible from the Alumni. The Editor is appealing to the members to forward articles for publishing in the Newsletter.

Contacts

Please forward your articles to :

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