



THE OASIS NEWSLETTER

A Publication from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor



Inside

- » *JOOUST shines at the 2023 ASK Kisumu regional show!*
- » *Ajira digital team visits JOOUST*
- » *The return of engineers without borders*

JOOUST SHINES AT THE 2023 ASK KISUMU REGIONAL SHOW!



Prime Cabinet Secretary of Kenya, Hon. Musalia Mudavadi (Centre), hands the Ag. Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic, Student Affairs and Research, Prof. Denis Ochuodho (Right) the trophy for the stand that Best Interprets current show theme, during the official opening of the Kisumu ASK Show 2023.

Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology has yet again posted a sterling performance at the just concluded Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) Kisumu Regional Show sending the clearest signal that they are not dropping the high standards any time soon. During the Show that ran between 24th -30th July 2023, JOOUST was crowned The Stand that best interprets the Show's Theme through Education and / or Research, Best Organization/Association in Community Projects / Services Stand and The Best University Stand.

The University showcased Research projects and Innovations that resonated exceedingly well with this year's show's theme: "Promoting Climate, Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for Sustainable Development." The University had six (6) entries in Trade Exhibition classes namely: The Best Stand that Interpret the Current Show theme; The Best University Stand; The Best Stand in Research and Development; The Best Innovation and Invention Stand; The Best Organization/Association in Community Projects/ Service Stand; The Best Stand Demonstrating the

Application of Environmental Quality Standards.

Apart from emerging top in the three fore-mentioned categories, the University was also ranked 2nd and 3rd in The Best Stand Demonstrating the Application of Environmental Quality Standards and The Best Innovation and Invention Stand and The Best Stand in Research and Development categories respectively..

Exhibits that fascinated members of the public at JOOUST's Stand included: the Innovation on Seed dispensing robot

with smartphone control (Seedbot) which is an automated android based smart farming assistant designed to enhance seed dispensation via remote control from the comfort of an android. The device navigates through terrain dispensing seeds at intervals of 30cm spacing automatically and manually. This project was presented by the School of Biological and Physical, Mathematics and Actuarial Sciences, and Floconic Technology; a technology that integrates biofloc-based aquaculture with an aquaponic system. It is an integrated agri-aquaculture system that combines the beneficial fungi, bacteria, planktons, aquatic animal and vegetable productions. The Floconic systems maximizes the advantages of biofloc technology (BFT) and traditional aquaponics using recirculating aquaculture system (RAS), just to mention but a few.

JOOUST has kept her high performance at the ASK Kisumu Show since 2012 when it stamped its authority in research and innovation on its first appearance, edging out bigger and the then seasoned research organizations and institutions of higher learning.



Ms. Diana Mola (from left), Dr. Caleb Olweny, Dean School of Agricultural and Food Sciences, Prof. Denis Ochuodho, Ag. Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academics, Student Affairs and Research, Mr. Oscar Osika, VLIR-JOOUST Project Manager display all the trophies scooped by the University during the ASK Show 2023.



Dr. Peter Otieno, Deputy University Librarian receives the ASK Show Judges at the Library section of the Univeristy stand.



The sericulture team all smiles, displaying the Mulberry Wine and Silk products being generated from the JOOUST Sericulture Unit.

AJIRA DIGITAL TEAM VISITS JOOUST



Ajira Digital Program team pays a courtesy call to the Ag. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Joseph Bosire

Ajira Digital Program team paid Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of science a courtesy call on 24th July, 2023 to discuss the prospects of partnering with the University on the creation of digital job opportunities for students and the youth around the University. The program is a Kenyan government initiative under the Ministry of ICT, Innovations and Youth Affairs aimed at empowering over one million young people to access digital job opportunities.

The team had a very fruitful

interactive session with the Ag. Vice Chancellor, Professor Joseph Bosire on issues related to what the students can do on the digital space and how the University stands to benefit from the initiative.

The team particularly thanked the University Management for their fervent support during the launch of the Ajira Digital club in JOOUST. The digital team trained the student club members last semester and promised to engage more students in their upcoming events.

The wider vision of the program includes seeking to position Kenya as a choice labour destination for multinational companies as well as encouraging both the local private companies and the public sector to create digital jobs. Its main objectives are to raise the profile of digital work, promote a mentorship and collaborative learning approach to finding digital work, and provide Kenyans with access to digital work and to promote Kenya as a destination for online workers.

The team added that the

government digitization projects are already creating lots of viable job opportunities in the digital space. They further reiterated that access to digital work will rapidly create wealth and grow the middle class across the country since a larger middle class means more opportunities for businesses and direct growth of GDP.



Deliberations on partnership prospects.



The Ag. Vice Chancellor Prof. Joseph Bosire (Centre back) receives the Ajira Digital team in his office.

THE RETURN OF ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS



The Ag. Vice Chancellor Prof. Joseph Bosire with the team from Engineers without Borders

A fellowship of engineers under the umbrella of Engineers without Borders from the United States are back to strengthen their rather forlorn relationship with Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology. Engineers without Borders is a team of engineering professionals whose aim is to build a better world through engineering projects that empower communities to meet their basic human needs. The highly skilled volunteers work with communities to find appropriate solutions

for their infrastructure needs.

The team, led by Eng. Jack Moody, a professional water engineer, first came to the university in 2015 through the current Alumni Chairman Mr. Noah Okidia and were introduced to the School of Engineering and Technology by the then Vice Chancellor Prof. Stephen Agong'. The team then helped the university to put up a modern Hydraulic Laboratory for use by the engineering students during practical lessons. Indeed, The Dean School of Engineering

and Technology, Prof. Eng. Maurice Nyadawa happily confirmed that the Hydraulic Lab built by the team remains a unique one within the region and that they frequently receive requests from other institutions to use the lab for their practical lessons.

In addition to building the lab, Engineers without Borders strengthened the University's mission of community outreach by constructing water pans within Sakwa Community, in Siaya County, to alleviate the acute water problem facing the locals.

While giving his welcoming remarks to the visitors who paid his office a courtesy call on Tuesday 25th July 2023, the Ag. Vice Chancellor Prof. Joseph Bosire reassured the engineers that the university is more than ready and willing to venture into more projects together with the team in view of their clearly demonstrated goodwill to the university. Prof. Bosire further promised the team of the University's full support including safe accommodation for the team any time they come visiting and/ or doing projects. He welcomed the idea that engineering students from Arizona State University will have exchange programs with JOOUST engineering students so as to exchange ideas.

Eng. Jack Moody on his part, while responding to and in support of the Vice Chancellor's sentiments, gave a commitment that their next series of visits will be scheduled when the students are in session so as to enable free physical interaction between the peers. He said he will be keen to involve our students and have them in the frontline in the community projects that they will be undertaking. Though sorry about the fact that their

planned activities had been slowed down by the cruel corona pandemic, Eng. Moody exuded confidence that they will pick up again and do much more in partnership with JOOUST.



Engineering without borders at the JOOUST hydrolic laboratory.



The team keenly examining the laboratory equipment.



The team takes a group photo at the University Administration Block.

PICTORIALS



The Department of Special Needs Education and Early Childhood Development was well represented led by, Prof. Charles Omoke.



Dr. Caleb Olweny(right), explaining to Ag. Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Student Affairs and Research, Prof. Denis Ochuodho (center) and Prof. Julius Manyala, the state of the stand during the Pre-judgement day at the ASK Kisumu Showground in Mamboleo.



The ASK Show judges signing the visitors book at the Vice Chancellor's office stand on 25th July, 2023 after their tour round the stands.



JOOUST Sericulture Unit showcases the wooving loom.



Mr. Samuel from The Department of Special Needs Education and Early Childhood Education explains to the judges how the braille photocopy machine works.



Prof. Ochuodho tours the JOOUST stand for a mock judgement accompanied by Dr. Richard Magwanga (DRIP)

PICTORIALS



The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Planning, Administration, and Finance, Prof. Aggrey Thuo (center) delights in the INSEFOOD stand showcasing the cricket biscuits, porridge made from cricket flour, and pastries.



Prof. Denis Ochudho and Registrar Academic Affairs, Rev. Dr. Walter Akuno share a light moment during the ASK Show exhibition.



A slight debrief session at the end of the ASK Show judgement.



JOOUST members of staff pose for a group photo after the ASK Show judgement day on 25th July, 2023.

The Oasis

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

A publication from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor



Congratulations!

TO ALL OUR STUDENTS
(2023/2024 cohort)

On your placement to JOOUST, Karibuni!

TO DOWNLOAD YOUR ADMISSION LETTER: <https://admissionsportal.jooust.ac.ke/>

057 205 8151 | racademic@jooust.ac.ke | Apply for Government sponsorship through: www.hef.co.ke | #oasisofknowledge

Editorial Board:

***Ms. Keziah Ogada, Dr. George Odhiambo, Mr. Godfrey Binaisha, Mr. Oscar Osika,
Ms. Lizzy Misiga, Ms. Yvonne Akinyi, Ms. Sharon Meroka, Ms. Rejoice Gudu***