SOUTH EASTERN KENYA UNIVERSITY

SEKU GRADUATION NEWSLETTER

13TH GRADUATION EDITION, 2026

A PUBLICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



Celebrating excellence, harnessing innovation. shaping the future

SEKU IS ISO 9001 :2015 CERTIFIED

Mandate

The core mandate of the University is research, teaching and learning, community service, innovation and commercialization.

Vision

A globally competitive Centre of Excellence in Research, Teaching and Learning, Community Service, Innovation and Commercialization.

Mission

To provide quality education through research, teaching, extension, innovation and entrepreneurship with emphasis on food and nutrition security, health, engineering and technology, environment and natural resources management for sustainable development.

Core Values

In order to achieve the vision and mission, the University will be guided

by the following core values: a) Patriotism b) Professionalism c) Democracy and good governance d) Innovation e) Integrity, transparency and accountability f) Inclusivity, equity and equality g) Freedom of thought h) Teamwork i) Sustainability

Philosophy

Arid to green ……. Transforming lives.

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Table of Contents

UNIVERSITYCOUNCIL 5
THE UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT 6
MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR 7
MESSAGE FROM DIVISIONS 4
Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Research and Innovation Division 4
Deputy Vice-Chancellor Corporate Services Division 11
Empowered academically - for a bright future 12
MESSAGE FROM UNIVERSITY 13
DIRECTORATES 13
Director of Facilities management and Administration (DFMA) 13
SEKU smart city development 14
Director of Human Resources Management 17
Director of Information, Communication .. 20
and Technology Services 20
Director of Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation (DPRM) 21
Director of Open, Distance and E- 23
Directorate of Technical and Vocational 24
Education and Training (TVET) 24
MESSAGE FROM 26
SCHOOLS 26
School of Health Sciences 26

School of health sciences advancing excellence and impact 27
Message for our 2026 graduands 37
Development and review of academic programmes 37
IEEE EPS Summer School 2026 38
MESSAGE FROM MAINSTREAMING UNITS 42
Resolution of Public Complaints Unit ... 42
Professional development programmes 42
Research and innovations 42
Alcohol and Drug Addiction (ADA0Unit 43
HIV and Aids Control Unit 43
Disability Mainstreaming Unit 44
Research and Collaborations Unit 46
SEKU leads the mobile learning revolution 48
Master trainers equipped for the task 49
Looking ahead 49
RESEARCH AWARDS 50
Recognition and appreciation 52
SEKU Reseacher wins EU funded Erasmus+project 53
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES 53
Learning beyond the classroom 54
Life in Germany 54
STUDENT AFFAIRS 55
Student leadership and governance 55
CAMPUSES..... 58
Kitui Town Campus Opens its Doors to the School of Health Sciences 58
BEHIND THE SCENCES 59
Development of Makueni University College 59
MESSAGE FROM SEKU ALUMNI 62
CONGRATUALTION OUR 64
VALEDITORIAN 64
CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2026 . 65
PICTORIAL. 66

SEKU ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ACCREDITED 67

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Graduates, Parents, Guardians, Faculty, and Friends,

It is with great joy and pride that we present this 13th graduation newsletter, a special edition dedicated to celebrating the achievements, memories, and milestones that have shaped our journey right from divisions, schools, research, partnerships and collaborations and exciting suceess storis from our alumni.

As we reflect on the journey behind us, we are reminded that success is never achieved alone. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our academic and non academic staff and mentors for their guidance, to our parents and guardians for their unwavering support, and to everyone who has played a part in making this day possible.

This newsletter captures the spirit of our graduating class through the stories, experiences, reflections, and memories that have made our time together meaningful. It is a tribute to how far we have come, the friendships we have built, and the lessons we will carry into the future.

To our graduates, as you step into a new chapter, remember that this is not the end of your story but the beginning of another exciting adventure. Embrace new opportunities, remain true to your values, dare to dream boldly, and never stop learning. The future may hold uncertainties, but the knowledge, resilience, and experiences you have gained will serve as a foundation for the road ahead.

May this graduation mark not only the end of one journey but also the beginning of countless possibilities. As we celebrate today, may we do so with grateful hearts, cherished memories, and renewed hope for tomorrow.

Congratulations to the graduating class! Your journey has been worthwhile, your achievements deserve to be celebrated, and your future holds endless possibilities.!

Lilian Okwili

Member editorial committee

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SEKU 13th Graduation Edition is published by the

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The editorial team acknowledges the contributions from, Division heads, Deans, Directors,Coordintoors staff, alumni and student

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MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR



On behalf of the Senate, the University Management Board and the entire South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) community, .

I am delighted to welcome you to the 2026 Graduation Ceremony

Graduation is not just conferment of degrees and award of diplomas but it symbolizes resilience, personal growth and the courage to pursue one's dreams despite the challenges encountered along the way. I congratulate all our graduands on this remarkable achievement and thank Almighty God for His grace and guidance throughout their journey.

This year, **1347** graduands have fulfilled the University's academic requirements and have been recommended by the Boards of Examiners and approved by the Senate for the conferment of degrees and the diplomas. The graduating class comprises **8** PhD**, 26** Masters**, 1238** Bachelors **1** Diploma **,1** Honorary and **73** TVET graduands.

To our parents, guardians, sponsors and other supporters thank you for your sacrifices, encouragement and commitment have contributed to this success.

I also acknowledge the dedication of our staff, whose efforts continue to advance the University's mission.

South Eastern Kenya University continues to grow in response to the changing needs of Kenya and the wider world. With a student population of approximately 13,000, the University remains committed to expanding academic opportunities, strengthening research and innovation, and providing quality education.

To our graduands, today marks the beginning of a new chapter. As you step into the professional world, I encourage you to uphold integrity, responsibility, creativity and a commitment to lifelong learning. Embrace emerging opportunities, think critically, innovate and work collaboratively to address the challenges facing our communities and the world.

I take this opportunity to thank the Government of Kenya, particularly the Ministry of Education, for its continued support to the University.

Class of 2026, step into the future with confidence, determination and purpose. May your achievements bring pride to your families, communities, our nation and South Eastern Kenya University. I congratulate you all and wish you success in your future endeavours.

Prof. Douglas Shitanda, PhD
Vice-Chancellor

MESSAGE FROM DIVISIONS

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Research and Innovation Division



The Academic, Research and Innovation Division extends its heartfelt congratulations to all the 2026 graduands. The cohort comprises PhDs, Masters Bachelors and Diploma graduands, reflecting South Eastern Kenya University's (SEKU) growing contribution to higher education and its commitment to providing relevant, accessible and quality training.

As we celebrate you, the University proudly reflects on a year of remarkable growth, achievement and impact. The year has been defined by academic excellence, research and innovation, community engagement , environmental stewardship, strategic partnership and an unwavering commitment to transform lives.

Your achievement is celebration not only of academic success , but also of your determination , resilience , and unwavering commitment to persuing your dreams.

As you step forward into new opportunities, carry with you the knowledge, skills, and values you acquired at SEKU to make a meaningful difference in your communities

May your achievement be the beginning of an even greater journey, filled with purpose, impact, and success.

Today, we celebrate your achievement. Tomorrow, we celebrate the impact you will make. Congratulations!

As I congratulate the graduating class of 2026, I wish to highlight a few achievements made by the Division in the 2025/2026 Academic Year.

Making education accessible

SEKU continues to expandaccess to higher education through the Directorate of Open, Distance and e-Learning (ODeL).

By embracing digital technologies and flexible approaches to teaching and learning, ODeL is opening new pathways for learners who may face geographical, location or time-related barriers to conventional brick and mortar university learning environment.

This commitment to flexible learning demonstrates SEKU's determination to ensure that quality education is not limited by distance or circumstance. Through innovation and technology, the University is reaching more learners and creating opportunities for lifelong learning.

Getting ready for Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET)

The University has made tremendous strides toward preparations and strengthening of competency-based education and training.

The University continues to retool teaching staff to align its curricula with Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET). The training strengthened staff understanding of competency-based approaches and encouraged reflection on how university curricula can respond to emerging educational and societal needs.

These initiatives position SEKU to deliver learning that goes beyond theoretical knowledge—building to practical

competencies, creativity, adaptability and problem-solving skills.

SEKU researchers win major research grants

Research and innovation remained at the heart of SEKU's activities during the year.

Over the last few months, SEKU has recorded significant milestones in research and postgraduate training, securing grants worth millions of shillings.

These grants have been won either by SEKU staff alone or in collaboration with researchers from both local and international institutions.

Dr. Pauline Tarkwen (PI) in partnership with collaborators from the University of Nairobi wins a big research grant for GREEN META AFRICA Project.

Prof. Joseph Nzomoi (PI) secures research grant for GREENFIN Kenya Project (Green financing for Kenya). The research is on food security specifically focusing on access to credit by smallholder farmers in two counties: Mango and Green grams in Kitui and Sunflower and Fish farming in Siaya.

SEKU makes history as the only university in Africa to win research grant under the TWIN4READY Horizon Europe Grant funded by the European Commission. The research will focus on *flooding disaster management*.



VC Prof. Eng. Douglas Shitanda accompanied by Dr. Joel Ngesa (PI) and Dr. Kezia Mbuthia (Co-PI) receiving TWIN4READY Award Letter.

Prof. Malonza (PI) secured a research grant from the UNESCO-TWAS Programme. The grant includes computing equipment to

strengthen postgraduate training and mentorship particularly in mathematical research.



The Vice Chancellor Prof. Douglas Shitanda, flanked by DVC (ARI) Prof. Harrison Maithya and Dean, School of Science and Computing Dr. Linturi Mugambi receiving computers and other research equipment as part of the grant from UNESCO-TWAS project

Together, these achievements demonstrate SEKU's growing research capacity, expanding productive international partnerships and contribution to scientific training, innovation and knowledge generation.

Culture of innovation and entrepreneurship entrenched

The University held the inaugural SEKU Student Innovation Challenge in April 2026. The activity gave students an exciting platform to develop and showcase innovative solutions. The University celebrated creativity, entrepreneurship and problem-solving while encouraging students to

transform ideas into solutions for real-world challenges.



Participants of the student innovation challenge

The University in July 2026 hosted the IEEE Electronics Packaging Society (EPS) Summer School. This premier electronics engineering students event brought together industry experts, researchers, technology enthusiasts and students from 14 universities in East Africa for technical presentations, practical sessions, discussions and

professional networking.



IEEE Electronics packaging society summer school in progress

In addition, the University hosted an innovative 4-day Data Science Regional Hackathon themed: *Building Age Classification from Satellite Imagery*. It brought together students from various universities to work on their innovative ideas to build solutions that address the needs of society. The event was sponsored by Agrobots Development in Africa with Radio Astronomy (DARA) in collaboration with Hack4Dev Hachathon.



DVC-ARI Prof. Harrison Maithya, Hachathon mentor Dr. Casper Shikali and Mr. Enoch Nzioka, SEKU alumnus and co- director, Founders Haus Africa

The event provided students from SEKU and other universities to test their innovation ideas, encouraged creativity, and entrepreneurship.

In the last one year, SEKU innovators and researchers registered 3 innovations in the field of IT, food and agriculture, and security.

The Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI) registered three (3) innovations, 2 from SEKU staff and one from a student.

Dr. Sedina Misango developed the Multisystem Food Dehydrator, which was registered as a utility model under Application No. KE/U/2024/2785

Victor Kyeva, a first-year student made history by developing and registering with KIPI an AI powered
"A Unified AI-Assisted Academic and Administrative Management System (ELIMULINK)"

Prof. Josephat Kimatu developed and registered an innovation on KIM Biopesticide Formulation for the control of fungal diseases and pests.

These products confirm SEKU's growing culture of innovation and entrepreneurship giving both students and researchers platforms to connect knowledge/theory with practical solutions.

Partnerships that work for the University and communities

Through its partnerships and collaborations, SEKU's impact extends beyond the classroom and laboratory into the fields and communities.

Through a five-year strategic partnership SEKU and Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) aim to enhance food security in the Lower Eastern region of Kenya through grain value chain.

The partnership brings together EAGC's expertise in grain management and SEKU's academic and research strengths in agriculture and food science, creating opportunities for research, knowledge exchange, innovation, capacity building and sustainable agricultural development.

Building on this collaboration, SEKU, EAGC, AGRA and the County Government of Kitui hosted the Lower Eastern Region Agribusiness Expo in July 2026 at the University's Main Campus.



Dr. Benjamin Muli explaining to farmers how to maximise vegetable yields using appropriate technology

The Agribusiness expo themed " Climate Smart Technologies and Practices for Sustainable Food Systems" brought together farmers, researchers, policymakers, development partners, agribusiness enterprises, students, financial institutions and agricultural technology providers.

The event was not just an exhibition, it was a meeting space for ideas, innovation, markets

and opportunity all geared toward food security.

To further provide skills and information on innovative technology and its practical use for better yields and increased food security, the Customised Aviation Service (CAS) in collaboration with the University conducted a daylong training on the use of Drone Technology in Planning and Resource Management. The training included a demonstration at the University on the use of drones to spray for better management of pests in crops and fruits hence higher yields.



Customised Aviation Service (CAS) conducting a training on use of Drone Technology in Planning and Resource Management

SEKU is taking bold steps to protect the environment and build climate-resilient communities.

In a memorandum of understanding, SEKU has partnered with the World Vision on *Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR),* a programme that focuses on sustainable land restoration and community resilience. Through this partnership FMNR students and community champions have been trained including **40** National Government Administrators to steward sustainable environmental management in their local areas.



Dr. Harun Kiruki, FMNR expert conducts a practical session during trainingof local national government administrators

The University in partnership withHearts of Green Organization and the WangariMaathai Institute for Peace and Environmental Studies is engaged in a programmethat seeks to transform the University's landscape while promoting biodiversity, climateresilience and sustainable environmental management.



The Vice Chancellor Prof. Eng. Douglas Shitanda with the CEO, Wangari Maathai Institute planting trees near the main administrative block

The University in partnership with Pioneer General Insurance Limited, under the Landscape Repair and Transformation (LANSRET) initiative, is greening both sides of the 9 km avenue/road from the main gate to the Main Campus as part of the *Green Avenue Enhancement*. Once this is complete, it will give gateway to the University a new and impressive look that is environmentally

attractive.



Pioneer Insurance General Manager Mr. Timothy Mutua (in a tie) and DVC-ARI Prof. Maithya holding umbrellas after leading staff in planning trees along the main highway

Knowledge that serves society

Community engagement remains a powerful expression of SEKU's mission and mandate.

As part of community service/outreach the University through the School of Law conducted a Legal Aid Clinic at Kwa Vonza urban centre in April 2026. Under the guidance of their lecturers, the students provided free legal services to the local community.

To further buttress its commitment to outreach services, the University through the Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences staff and students, strengthened University's community engagement, social responsibility and experiential learning mandate by organizing a free medical camp at Kwa Vonza Chief's Camp in February 2026. This enhanced community's access to essential health and laboratory services while providing students with practical experience as well as reinforcing the University's contribution to community health and wellbeing.



Laboratory Science students with their lectures providing services at Kwa Vonza Chief's Camp



SEKU staff and students distributing food and other stuff to Katangi Special School

The involvement of the University in these life changing initiatives shows that education matters most when it positively impacts lives. At SEKU education does not end at the classroom door step.

Championing women in STEM

SEKU continued to champion opportunities for young women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics through the

ENGAGE Project (Enabling Girls in AI and Growing Expertise).

Implemented in partnership with the University of Nairobi, University of California, San Francisco, and Takeda, the project equips talented young women from less privileged backgrounds with practical skills in Artificial Intelligence, Data Science and Machine Learning.

Through hands-on projects, participants develop skills in problem-solving, teamwork, data analysis, communication and innovation.

By opening doors to emerging technologies, SEKU is helping nurture a generation of young women ready to shape the future of STEM.



ENGAGE participants going through a session

Conferences and workshops

To mentor young researchers and postgraduate students, the

University organizes research workshops to strengthen research capacity and promote impactful research that address societal and national development challenges.

South Eastern Kenya University was, in May 2026, privileged to provide space to host the 3rd Annual Regulatory Authorities and Agencies (RAAs) Conference that brought together Principal Secretaries and senior government officials to reflect on regulatory responsibilities and improve service delivery. The event was held under the auspices of the Head of Public Service and Chief of Staff, Felix Koskei and was officially opened by Kenya's Deputy President, Prof. Kithure Kindiki. The conference confirmed SEKU's preparedness to provide space and facilities for national policy dialogue and knowledge sharing.



RAAS conference participants led by the head public service and chief of staff Felix Kosgei.

To buttress its place in the national policy engagement SEKU hosted a Commission for University (CUE) stakeholder consultative meeting on the Draft Universities (General) Regulations, 2026, which brought together stakeholders in higher education to review the proposed regulations and inform the University's memorandum to the Ministry of Education.

Inspiring prospects

The University opened its doors to secondary school learners from the region through academic visits. The schools included Kyaani Lions Girls, St. Mary's Ndovea Secondary School, St. Paul's Senior School – Kwa Vonza and Katutu Girls' Senior School

For these young learners and scholars in the making, the visits offered a glimpse into

university life, academic programmes and future career possibilities.

SEKU believes such engagements are an investment in the next generation of future scholars, researchers, professionals, innovators and leaders.

Welfare of our students

SEKU is fully aware that life at the campus can sometimes be stressful. To support students' academic and social life on campus, the University has robust student services through the office of the Dean of Students. These include counselling services, talks and mentorship by staff and invited guest speakers and professionals. In addition, students participate in regional and national sports activities where they have won trophies. The University was privileged to host the - National Cross-country competition in 2026 and has been given rights to host the 2027 edition.

And as the Class of 2026 crosses the graduation stage, a new chapter begins.

Congratulations, Class of 2026!
Prof. Harrison Maithya
Deputy Vice Chancellor-Academic, Research and Innovation

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Corporate Services Division



To the Graduating Class of 2026, Congratulations on achieving this important milestone in your life. I am privileged and heartened to celebrate this special occasion with you as you graduate and join your preceding cohorts to make a difference in the community in your own unique ways.

Your experience at the South Eastern Kenya University has been one of self-discovery, transformation and achievement. Whether it was time spent amongst friends and classmates who cheered you on, or lecturers who guided you through course work, I have faith that these are memories which you will cherish for a lifetime.

It is now time to pursue your dreams and make a positive impact on society through the skills and knowledge you have gained. You have learned important problem-solving life skills that will serve you well in your future endevours. Your journey with SEKU will stay with you and shape the path you take in life.

As you complete this phase of your university journey, I would encourage you to take some time and reflect on your passion and consider your goals in life. Whether you are embarking on a career or pursuing further studies, do reach out to our experienced education and career guidance counsellors who stand ready to guide you through your journey of career paths and lifelong learning opportunities.

I am certain that whatever path you take, SEKU will remain close to your hearts. I look forward to reconnecting with you as our alumni.

Once again, Congratulations and best of luck in your endeavors.

The Corporate Services Division is delighted to have served you while you were at SEKU. The Division is headed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor assisted by the Director Facilities Management & Administration; Director Finance & Accounts; Director Human

Resource Management; Director Information, Communication & Technology and Director Strategy, Quality and Performance Management. The Division is concerned with overseeing all financial, planning and development activities, overall management of human resource activities, and coordination of cross-cutting services such as health, transport, security, administration, student accommodation, catering and other central services. It also oversees the development, implementation and review of Quality Management Systems (QMS), administrative and operational procedures.

The Division has several cross-cutting Units headed by Unit Coordinators that ensure the welfare of both staff and students. These include: Alcohol, Drug and Substance Abuse Prevention Unit which provides advice and counselling services on alcohol, drug and substance related cases. It ensures that SEKU is an alcohol, drug and substance abuse free zone. The Gender Mainstreaming Unit (GMU) advocates for gender responsive pedagogy, working and learning environments. The Disability Mainstreaming Unit (DMU) ensures that the physically challenged students with special needs have equal opportunities of acquiring education and as much as possible participate in all aspects of university life. The HIV/AIDS Control Unit (HACU) ensures that both staff and students are adequately capacitated to deal with issues related to HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases. The Resolution of Public Complaints Unit (RPCU) facilitates timely and efficient resolution of complaints lodged at the various service points within the institution. The Corruption Prevention Unit (CPU) coordinates the implementation of the institutional corruption prevention policy.

The Cohesion and National Values Mainstreaming Unit (CNVMU) seeks to foster a cohesive and value driven University community.

During the 2025/2026 Financial Year (FY), the Division oversaw the development, preparation and submission of three (3) capital project concept notes to the Ministry of Education and also carried out prefeasibility and feasibility studies of the three (3) projects. The Division also continued to fully mainstream productivity measurement in the University with the University's productivity score being rated as high.

In the 2025/2026 FY, the Directorate of Human Resource Management established a mental health wellness committee to provide support to staff on matters related to stress management in the workplace. The Directorate ensured the furtherance of staff welfare issues and played a critical role in the implementation of the negotiated Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs). Retirement training sessions were also held for staff exiting the University. Further, the Directorate automated a number of HR functions

Prof. Francis N. Wachira PhD
Deputy Vice-Chancelor, Corporate Services

Empowered academically - for a bright future



From the office of the academic registrar , we warmly congratulate the class of 2026 for this milestone of graduating from this great University. Your graduation today marks the end of your academic journey in SEKU, where you have been armed with requisite knowledge and skills to usher you into the professional world. We therefore urge you to step out in confidence and be ready to take up the opportunities and face

the challenges that come your way with the same resilience that you have demonstrated during your time in SEKU.

SEKU is founded on the vision and mission of preparing our students to be world class citizen through offering high quality education and an all-round socio-cultural experience. The University, therefore prides itself in not only releasing new graduates into the professional world but also in the assurance that the graduates have gained quality education, which gives them global competitiveness.

Through the office of the Academic Registrar, the University has put in place systems and procedures that ensure high standards and quality of teaching, learning, assessment, and research are achieved within the good academic environment that SEKU is known for.

From the Office of the Academic Registrar, we wish you all the best in your future endeavors and urge you to always aim to maintain high quality standards and integrity in all aspects of your professional and daily life, since this will be your true key mark of success. Finally, we wish to remind you that your graduation today marks a beginning of a long lifetime pursuit of knowledge and therefore you should aim to look for opportunities to further your education. Always remember that 'Knowledge is Power'.

Prof. Peter G. Njuru
Academic Registrar

MESSAGE FROM UNIVERSITY DIRECTORATES

Director of Facilities management and Administration (DFMA)



The Directorate of Facilities Management and Administration (DFMA) warmly congratulates all graduands on successfully reaching this important milestone in their academic journey. We celebrate your hard work, dedication and determination, and wish you every success as you embark on the next chapter of your lives.

DFMA is responsible for the planning, development, management, maintenance and efficient utilisation of the University's physical infrastructure and support services.

Through its work, the Directorate contributes to providing a safe, conducive and well-maintained environment that supports the University's core mandate of teaching, research, innovation and community engagement.

As you celebrate this achievement, we encourage you to carry with you the knowledge, skills and values gained at the University and become ambassadors of excellence in your communities and beyond. Congratulations, and best wishes for a bright and successful future!

The Directorate implemented and supervised a range of capital development, maintenance and operational activities at the Main Campus and other University campuses and facilities. The activities were financed through Government development funding, internally generated funds, support from the

County Government of Kitui and other development partners.
The Directorate also continued to coordinate and monitor strategic infrastructure projects, including projects under the Government's Affordable Housing Programme, while undertaking routine and preventive maintenance of existing facilities.

The government allocated KSh 53 million for the 2026/2027 Financial Year. Designs, technical drawings and Bills of Quantities have been prepared for tendering. The planned development includes 10 lecture halls, each accommodating approximately 50 students, together with associated infrastructure.

The University is exploring water sources, including sand dams and SUMP wells along River Mwitasyano, in collaboration with the County Government of Kitui and development partners.

SEKU pursued a proposed 5,000-bed student hostel at the Main Campus and 340 bed hostel at Mtito Andei to address accommodation needs.

County government of Kitui support

The County supported infrastructure improvements, including solar security lighting, road grading and access routes and site clearing. Solar lights along the Kwa Vonza–SEKU road are 50% complete, while lighting and road works at Kitui Town Campus and other access works were completed.

PPP projects

SEKU has continued pursuing Public–Private Partnership (PPP) projects to mobilize private-sector financing, technical expertise and management capacity for infrastructure development and income-generating initiatives, while maximizing the use of University assets.

SEKU smart city development

A major PPP initiative is the proposed SEKU Smart City, being advanced in collaboration with Frugal Ventures Ltd. The proposed development seeks to integrate the University's land and infrastructure with renewable energy, innovation and technology hubs, academic and research facilities, residential developments, commercial facilities, sports and recreation, tourism, agribusiness and environmental conservation.

Renewable energy/solar power project

During the 2025/2026 Financial Year, SEKU continued to pursue strategic development projects under the Public–Private Partnership (PPP) framework to expand infrastructure, improve service delivery and generate additional revenue.Key initiatives include:
Solar/renewable energy project and Agribusiness investments

Students accommodation section

The Students Accommodation Section continued to coordinate allocation, management and maintenance of University residential facilities. Key Activities included allocation of rooms to eligible students, coordination of check-in and check-out, inspection of hostels, reporting and follow-up of maintenance requirements, coordination of hostel cleanliness, monitoring of hostel utilities, addressing accommodation-related student concerns, coordination of repairs and maintenance, monitoring occupancy levels, supporting safety and security within student accommodation.

To handle shortage of accommodation for students, the University entered into an MoU with Frugal Ventures Ltd which provides for

construction of a 5,000 bed capacity hostels under the PPP programme. The University was also identified by the State Department for Housing and Urban Development for construction of a 2,500-bed capacity ultra-modern students hostel under the affordable housing programme at Main campus and Mtito Andei TVET Centre. The Proposed hostel architectural impression submitted to the University by the State Department for Housing and Urban Development is presented in the following photograph. Though the projects are yet to be implemented, the University Management is making follow up with relevant government agencies to ensure that they pick up.

Transport section

The Transport Section provided transport services in support of the University's academic, administrative, research, fieldwork and official activities. Major Activities of the department included provision of vehicles for official assignments; transportation of staff and students on approved activities; maintenance and servicing of University vehicles; vehicle inspection; fuel management; monitoring of vehicle utilization; coordination of drivers; management of vehicle records; compliance with statutory requirements; and emergency transport support where required.

The University is working on measures to modernize the fleet, including consideration of electric and energy-efficient vehicles as part of its sustainability strategy.

Health unit

The University Health Unit continued to provide health services to students and staff. Major Activities of the HU included outpatient medical services; basic diagnosis and treatment; health education; first aid; referral of patients requiring specialized treatment; health screening; emergency response; public health and sanitation support; support during University events; and health-related advice to students and staff.

Farm section

The Farm Section supported the University's agricultural activities, training, research, environmental conservation and income-generating initiatives. Major Activities included crop production; livestock management; maintenance of farm infrastructure; demonstration and practical learning activities; nursery management; tree seedling production; environmental conservation; support to academic programmes; and management of agricultural land.

The Farm Section also provided opportunities for practical learning, research and demonstration of appropriate agricultural technologies. The Farm Section has ventured into gala goats farming. We also keep a herd of cattle and goats for research purposes. See photos.



Picture of pawpaw fruit trees at the orchard



Picture of SEKU Cattle

Security services

Security services continued to be provided across the University's campuses and facilities. Major activities of the Department included access control; gate security; protection of University property; patrols; monitoring of strategic facilities; incident reporting; visitor management; support during University events; coordination with law enforcement agencies where necessary; and security sensitization and awareness.

The department continued to monitor the performance of the contracted security service provider.
Emphasis was placed on ensuring that security checks at University gates are undertaken professionally, humanely and in accordance with University procedures.

Treegrowingcommittee

The University continued to implement tree-growing and environmental conservation initiatives in line with national environmental sustainability objectives.

The University collaborated with development partners and other stakeholders in tree-growing activities. Among the initiatives collaboration between SEKU, Hearts of Green and Wangare Maathai Foundation who have partnered with the University in planting 4,500 tree seedlings along the 9 km stretch of the University highway from the Main gate to Northen. The architectural impression of the highway after completion of the project is presented in the following picture.
The University also received Kshs. 70,000.00 and 1,500 tree seedlings from Safaricom Foundation to support the Tree Growing Initiative., The University planted over 17,000 trees seedlings and propagated over 27,000 tree seedlings in the tree nursery.

Key Activities of the TGC included establishment of tree nurseries; seedling production; distribution of seedlings; tree planting; replacement of failed seedlings; tree survival monitoring; environmental awareness; collaboration with development partners; and maintenance of planted trees.

The University established fruit tree orchards where crafted mango, pixies and pawpaws were grown and nurtured. The University will soon be harvesting pawpaws from the orchards. See picture:

The Directorate has played a critical role in supporting the University's mandate through the development, maintenance and management of physical infrastructure and essential support services. Its key activities included coordinating Government-funded projects, internally funded infrastructure improvements, affordable housing initiatives and developments supported by external stakeholders.

The Directorate also oversaw the maintenance of buildings, grounds, student accommodation, transport, health facilities, farms and security services, alongside environmental conservation and tree- growing initiatives.

Despite these achievements, challenges persist, including rising infrastructure demands, ageing facilities, maintenance needs and funding constraints. Sustained

investment in infrastructure, preventive maintenance, student accommodation, water security, transport, environmental conservation and security remains essential to enhancing operational efficiency and supporting the University's continued growth and strategic objectives.

Appendix 1: Architectural Designs for envisaged 5,000- Bed Capacity Students Hostel under the PPP.



Dr. David Namasaka
Director Facilities Management and Administration

Director of Human Resources Management



The Directorate of Human Resource Management (DHRM) at South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) plays a strategic role in enabling academic staff to deliver quality teaching, research, innovation, community engagement and university leadership. The Directorate functions not merely as an administrative unit, but as a strategic partner in academic excellence, staff development, employee welfare and institutional performance.

By ensuring that the University has the right academic staff, with the right competencies, in the right positions and under appropriate working conditions, the Directorate contributes directly to SEKU's mandate of providing quality university education and advancing research and innovation.

It supports academic staff by providing the human resource services, policies, systems and working environment necessary for effective teaching, research, innovation, postgraduate supervision and community engagement.

Recruitment and promotions

The Directorate's contribution can be assessed through key Human Resource indicators that measure workforce adequacy, employee performance, staff development, employee welfare, compliance, productivity and the overall effectiveness of HR service delivery. This contribution may be seen in an achievement of 90% percentage improvement in recruitment of academic staff in critical areas and a similar percentage of acceptance rate of the job offers, timeliness of processing promotional requests over the last one year has seen the promotion of two (2) Associate Professors to full professors, seven (7) Senior Lecturers to Associate Professor level positions and eight (8) Lecturers to Senior Lecturer level positions thus increasing the number of Full Professors to seven (7), Associate Professors to eighteen (18) while that of Senior Lecturers increased to twenty nine (29) hence helping improving the University global ranking in as far as the number of professors is concerned. This career management of staff among other factors have seen the reduction in staff

turnover rate of 1.87% to 0.64% over the last one year.

Training and capacity building

In an effort to equip Deans, Directors, Chairs of Departments and Section Heads with the knowledge, skills and competencies required to provide effective leadership, manage institutional resources, supervise staff and implement the strategic objectives of SEKU, the directorate of HRM planned and coordinated the first ever two days' workshop that was held at Makueni University College in June 2026.



Participants of the capacity building workshop

The induction workshop sought to strengthen the leadership, managerial and administrative capacity of Deans, Directors, Chairs of Departments and Section Heads at SEKU with a view to enabling them to discharge their responsibilities effectively, promote accountability, enhance staff performance, ensure compliance with institutional policies and contribute to the achievement of the University's strategic objectives.

SEKU, has over the years ensured that staff that are willing to advance their careers are granted study leaves for the during of their course of study demonstrating SEKU's commitment to career development of her staff.

Employees' welfare and wellness

In order to better manage employee welfare, the Directorate of HRM spearheaded the establishment of a Mental Wellness Committee to deal with the health as well as the mental issues that are affecting our staff. Through the same committee four (4) staff members have been assisted and have bounced back to their work with a lot of efficiency and effectiveness. Further, the Directorate has ensured that staff consistently have a staff medical cover and a Group Life Cover in place to ensure that staff's health is well taken care of based on the premises that SEKU staff's health is SEKU's wealth.

Employer-employee relations

In an effort to maintain positive employee relations the Directorate with the support of the University Management has ensured that consultative meetings are held between the Management and the workers representatives on a regular basis with a view to fostering a harmonious, fair, and productive work environment that aligns individual employee well-being with the University's goals. Involvement and participation of staff as well as the workers representatives in University committee's where key decisions are made is one of the ways in which fostering the harmonious relationship is maintained within the University. Examples of the committee involvement and participation has been witnessed in tender evaluations, budget, technical and Local Implementation committee's on Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA's), resumption of automatic annual increments, successful implementation and payment of arrears and placement of staff as per the signed national CBA's.

Staff recognition and awards

Staff recognition and awards are important human resource management strategies for motivating employees, promoting a culture of excellence, improving productivity and strengthening employee engagement at South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU).

A structured Staff Recognition and Awards Programme would enable SEKU to acknowledge employees who demonstrate outstanding performance, innovation, professionalism, exemplary service, teamwork and commitment to institutional values and strategic objectives.

For the very first time, SEKU has recognized some staff members on various accounts as cited from the Awards Standing Committee's report dated 21st August, 2026 in line with the SEKU Policy on Excellency Award.

S/No.	Nature of the Recognition	Nature of the Specific Recognition
1.	Researcher of the Year Award – Publication Category	Highly published and cited scholar consistently for the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 academic year
2.	Researcher of the Year Award – Grants Category	Attracted the highest amount of research between 2014 and 2026.
3.	Innovator of the Year Award Category	Innovation of Fuel Gas Production as well as Multi System Food Dehydrator
4.	Outreach Champion Award	Exceptional outreach and service to community, academia and nation. In 2025, he was honored as a National hero under the Category of Scholarship, professionalism and Research during Mashujaa Day celebrations
5.	Long Service Award	Having diligently and faithfully served the institution for extended periods of ten (10) years and above

The Directorate of Human Resource Management is a critical enabler of academic excellence at SEKU. Its contribution extends beyond recruitment, payroll and personnel administration to strategic workforce planning, staff development, performance management, employee wellness, talent retention and organisational transformation.

The ultimate goal should be to create an enabling environment in which every academic staff member has the competencies, resources, motivation and institutional support needed to excel in teaching, research, innovation, supervision and community engagement.

When HRM aligns its policies, services and performance indicators with SEKU's academic priorities, it becomes a key partner in improving staff effectiveness, student learning experiences and the University's overall performance.

Chrp Erastus Ndeleva
Director, Human Resource Management.

Director of Information, Communication and Technology Services



It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Class of 2026 on this significant milestone. Your graduation marks the culmination of years of dedication, perseverance, and hard work. As you celebrate this achievement, the Directorate of Information Communication and Technology Services (ICTS) is proud to have supported your academic journey through reliable digital services and infrastructure that have enabled learning, research, communication, and collaboration.

To support a connected and digitally enabled University community, SEKU currently provides 1,523 Mbps internet capacity, with Wi-Fi connectivity available across University buildings for staff and in student hostels and common areas. The University has also rolled out a Learning Management System (LMS) to support blended learning, giving students and lecturers' convenient access to learning materials, assignments, assessments, announcements, and other academic resources. The Student Portal continues to facilitate essential student services, including online unit registration. These platforms are helping move University services from traditional processes towards more accessible, efficient, and user-centered digital experiences.

A major milestone has been the successful implementation of the University's Web-Based Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System, comprising 15 integrated modules and transforming key University processes through automation, integration, accessibility, and efficiency. In 2026, the University further on boarded the Asset Management Module, strengthening the management, tracking, and accountability of institutional assets through a centralized digital platform. In alignment with Government directives, University services have also been integrated into the e-Citizen platform, enhancing visibility, transparency, and convenience in accessing services. Looking ahead, SEKU Directorate of ICTS is focused on building a more connected, integrated, secure, automated, and data- driven University. We will continue to strengthen existing digital platforms while exploring opportunities in artificial intelligence, cloud services, data analytics, cybersecurity, mobile-enabled services, and intelligent automation to enhance teaching, research, administration, and decision-making. In preparation for the transition to Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) by 2029, the Directorate strategically strengthening digital learning platforms, ICT infrastructure, and systems to support competency-based teaching, assessment, content delivery, and learner engagement.

Dear graduands, as you leave South Eastern Kenya University, you enter a world where technology continues to transform how we learn, work, communicate, and create value.

Carry with you the knowledge and skills you have acquired, continue learning, adapt to change, and use technology responsibly to solve real-world challenges and create opportunities. On behalf of the Directorate of Information Communication and Technology Services, I congratulate you on your remarkable achievement and wish you every success in your future endeavors.

"***Connect knowledgewith opportunity, technology withinnovation, andinnovation with impact.***"

Joshua mweke
Ag. Director ICT

Director of Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation (DPRM)

Connecting SEKU to opportunities, partnerships, resources and communities



The Directorate of Partnerships and Resource Mobilization (DPRM) playsa strategic rolein connecting South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) with funding opportunities, strategic partners, government, industry, alumni and communities. Its key functions include resource mobilization, partnership development, grant management, marketing, institutional visibility, stakeholder engagement and alumni relations.

The Directorate mobilizes financial and technical resources by identifying funding opportunities, developing proposals, managing grants and supporting compliance and reporting. It also facilitates partnerships that promote research, innovation, academic programmes, training, technology transfer and community engagement.

During the 2025/2026 Financial Year, DPRM strengthened SEKU's visibility through exhibitions, career events, media advertising and stakeholder engagements, including the RAAs Conference, National Career Event in Nakuru, STRI Week, Madaraka Thematic Week in Wajir and the Kitui Green Run. These activities generated at least 2,300 direct visits and engagements, in addition to more than 700 people reached during the Nakuru engagement.

The Directorate also supported community engagement and resource mobilization through sporting initiatives, including participation in the Strathmore VC Run and preparations for the SEKU Red Ribbon Marathon scheduled for 31 October 2026. The marathon is expected to attract 5,000 participants and promote health, youth engagement, community mobilization and the fight against drug abuse.

DPRM further promotes SEKU's research, innovations and products, providing platforms for researchers and innovators to showcase their work and engage potential users, investors and partners.

Alumni relations are another important area, with the Directorate supporting alumni chapters, communication and engagement. SEKU has established a Students Alumni Governing Council and designated a staff member to coordinate the Alumni Office at Kitui Town Campus.

Overall, DPRM contributes to SEKU's growth by integrating resource mobilization, partnerships, institutional marketing, stakeholder engagement, community outreach, research and innovation promotion, and alumni relations, thereby

strengthening the University's visibility, networks, sustainability and contribution to society.

DR. Faraj Yatundu
Director,Partnerships and Resource Mobilization

Director of Board of Postgraduate Studies (BPS)



The Board of Postgraduate Studies (BPS) coordinates the development of postgraduate programmes, admission of postgraduate students, improvement of postgraduate students' welfare and serves as a link between postgraduate students, academic staff and other stakeholders.

The Directorate aims at excellence in postgraduate training, research and dissemination of research findings. The Mission of the Directorate is to provide high-quality Postgraduate training opportunities with emphasis on Dry Land Agriculture, Natural Resources Environmental Management, Natural Science and Information Technology among other disciplines. Our highly qualified staff offer competitive programmes and guide the students through their research.

Today marks a significant milestone in the lives of our graduating 2026 class. It is a day of reflection, celebration and new beginnings. Graduation is not just the culmination of years of hard work, determination and sacrifice but also the dawn of fresh opportunities and greater responsibilities.

As you step forward, you carry not only the knowledge and skills acquired through your studies, but also the value of resilience, integrity and service. You have grown academically, socially, personally and have been prepared to make meaningful contributions to your communities and beyond.

As a directorate, we celebrate you today and believe in the greatness you will bring in future and for the generations to come. As you embark on the next phase of your journey, remember that you carry with you the knowledge, skills and experiences gained during your time at SEKU.

Your diverse backgrounds and unique perspectives will be instrumental in shaping a brighter future for Kenya, the East African Community and beyond. The world eagerly awaits your creativity, vision, and determination to make a meaningful impact. Continue to be the leaders, innovators, and compassionate individuals you have become.

Once again, Congratulations and best of luck in your endeavors.

Prof. Augustus Wali
Director Board of Post Graduate Studies

Director of Open, Distance and E-Learning

SEKU goes blended learning!



South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) is proud to announce the official rollout of Blended Learning beginning this semester. This marks a historic milestone in

the university's journey toward academic excellence and digital transformation. By combining the strengths of traditional face-to-face teaching with the flexibility of online learning, SEKU is positioning itself at the forefront of higher education innovation in Kenya and beyond.

Blended learning is more than just a teaching method—it is a philosophy that recognizes that education can occur in diverse locations and moments. It empowers students to take charge of their learning while still benefiting from the guidance and mentorship of their lecturers. This approach ensures that students are not confined to the classroom alone but can access knowledge and resources wherever they are, whenever they need them.

Through the SEKU eLearning Portal, students will now enjoy a wide range of opportunities designed to enrich their academic experience:

(i) Access to resources: Lecture notes, recorded sessions, and digital materials available on demand.
(ii) Interactive learning: Online discussions, quizzes, and assignments that complement classroom engagement.
(iii) Collaboration opportunities: Seamless interaction with lecturers and peers in both physical and virtual spaces.
(iv) Flexibility and inclusivity: Learning tailored to diverse schedules, needs, and circumstances, ensuring no student is left behind.

This transformation reflects SEKU's unwavering commitment to academic excellence, inclusivity, and preparing graduates for the demands of the modern world. By embracing blended learning, SEKU is responding to the evolving needs of students, the realities of the digital age, and the global call for universities to adopt innovative teaching practices.

The rollout of blended learning is also a testament to the dedication of the Directorate of Open, Distance and e-Learning (ODeL), which has worked tirelessly to prepare the necessary infrastructure, training, and support systems. Lecturers have been equipped with the skills to deliver engaging online sessions, while students have been provided with user guides and orientation materials to help them navigate the new system with ease. Blended learning offers multiple benefits: it enhances student engagement, promotes independent learning, and provides flexibility for those balancing academic work with personal responsibilities. It also fosters digital literacy, a critical skill for graduates entering today's workforce. Importantly, this technology-driven approach strengthens SEKU's resilience in the face of challenges such as disruptions to physical learning, ensuring continuity of education under diverse circumstances.

Looking ahead, SEKU envisions blended learning as a foundation for further innovation. Plans are underway to expand digital resources, integrate advanced tools such as virtual labs and simulations, and strengthen partnerships that will enrich the learning experience. By embracing this model, SEKU is not only preparing students for academic success but also equipping them with the adaptability and skills required in a rapidly changing global environment.

As SEKU embraces this new chapter, the university invites students, staff, alumni, and the general public to join in celebrating this bold step forward. Together, we can explore new possibilities, engage in meaningful

learning experiences, and excel in our academic pursuits.

Welcome to Blended Learning at SEKU!

Prof. Dorothy Mutisya
Director 0pen Distance and e -Learning

Directorate of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

TVET organizes and participates in collaborative mentorship and career day



The Directorate of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) successfully conducted collaborative mentorship and engineering career day on Friday 18th October 2026. This was organized by the South Eastern Kenya University Engineering Association (SEKU-ESA) leaders and students in collaboration with the School of Engineering and Technology

During the event key topics that positively impact on student educational journey at the university were addressed. Some of the topics and sub-topics include Career Opportunities and Professional Growth in Engineering, Setting career goals, time management, continuous learning to re-learn, building soft skills and seeking appropriate mentors. The main speaker for these topics was Prof Raphael M. Wambua. Other topics covered are choosing friends wisely and seven skills required by every student-technical skills, communication skills, leadership skills, entrepreneurship skills, problem solving skills, skills acquisition and research skills conducted by Dr. Peter M. Musau, (Dean School of Engineering and Technology).

Additionally, understanding the engineering journey academic success and study strategies in engineering, what to expect as a student are topics delivered by Eng. Benson Ojwang

(Chairman of the department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering). Students opportunities and skills beyond classroom-innovation, leadership and professional skills was handled by Mr Humphrey Kagia

SEKU-ESA members group at the mentorship event



Prof. Raphael M. Wambua,
Director TVET

Director of Research Innovation and commercialization (DRIC)

Driving impact through research, innovation and commercialization.



The vision of South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) is to become world class centre for research, innovation, and community engagement. The Directorate of Research, Innovation and Commercialization is mandated to drive the

vision of the university to generate knowledge, stimulate creativity, and translate research into products, services or technologies that sustainably address societal challenges.

The directorate coordinates all research work in the university by providing administrative support through the research cycle for quality, ethical and impactful research that aligns to national development priorities and global targets such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); supports entrepreneurship and innovation and facilitates intellectual property protection; and has established strategic partnerships to build a vibrant innovation ecosystem within the university. In an era where institutions of higher learning world over are facing significant declines in state funding of research, commercialization of research offers avenues for income generation. The SEKU Council and University Management is keen to realize the transformation of research outputs into and sustainable businesses, products, services.



SEKU students with the DVC-ARI during the Campus Spark with NEIL officials

For the last three years, SEKU has successfully organized annual innovation weeks for students and staff innovators to showcase their innovations. The DRIC has also enhanced collaboration with government agencies such as Kenya National Innovation Agency (KeNIA), Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI), National Research Fund (NRF) and National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). These partnerships have enabled SEKU staff and students to participate in trainings, participate in the Network of Entrepreneurial Institutions Leaders (NEIL) Campus Park Innovation Challenge supported by KeNIA and the Science, Technology, Research and Innovation for Society (STRI4Society) Week 2026 themed "Igniting Innovation: Bridging Science and Society for Sustainable Development" and write grant winning proposals through NRF. Over the years, SEKU faculty have established national, regional and international research collaborations that have led to staff and student exchange programmes, internationalization of curricula and joint research and publication.

To enhance the research ecosystem in SEKU, the Technology Transfer Office (TTO) and Research Grants Management Office (RGMO) have been established. The TTO's mandate covers Intellectual Property (IP) protection and commercialization; innovation disclosure and evaluation and industry and research partnerships

With the foundation laid down to date, the future is bright for research, innovation and commercialization at SEKU. We endeavor to grow our partnerships and networks and continually improve SEKU's research ecosystem while ensuring that no one is left behind. We can be contacted via the directorate email sekudric@seku.ac.ke or visit our office at the Research and Innovation Centre building at the Main Campus

Prof. Eliud Muli
Director Research, Innovation and Commercialization

MESSAGE FROM SCHOOLS

School of Health Sciences

Celebrating achievement, advancing knowledge and inspiring service to society



Itgives me great pleasure to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all graduands of South Eastern Kenya University on the successful completion of your academic programmes. This milestone represents years of dedication, perseverance, sacrifice, and personal growth. It is a moment of pride not only for you, but also for your families, lecturers, mentors, and the entire University community.

As you celebrate this achievement, you join a distinguished community of graduates equipped with knowledge, skills, and values to contribute meaningfully to national development and the advancement of society. Your graduation is both a recognition of what you have accomplished and the beginning of new responsibilities, opportunities, and aspirations.

School of health sciences advancing excellence and impact

This year's graduation comes at a time when the school of health sciences continues to strengthen its contribution to education, research, innovation, and community service. Across its departments, the school remains committed to producing competent, ethical, innovative, and socially responsible graduates who can respond to the needs of a changing world. Within the School of Health Sciences, we are proud of the progress made in strengthening practical training, research, and community engagement. Our medical camps and community outreach initiatives have provided opportunities for students to apply their knowledge in real-life settings while extending essential health education and screening services to surrounding communities. The health screening exercise conducted at Kwa Vonza Chief's Camp on 27 February 2026, for example, brought together fourth-year Medical Laboratory Science and Medical Microbiology students, academic staff, and the student association to provide screening and health education to community members. Such initiatives demonstrate the University's commitment to ensuring that knowledge acquired in lecture rooms and laboratories translates into tangible benefits for society.

We have also continued to invest in professional formation and academic development. The White Coat Ceremony held on 1 October 2026 welcomed new Medical Laboratory Science students into their professional j xourney, reinforcing the values of integrity, competence, compassion, and accountability that must guide their future practice. In research, the School continues to build its capacity through competitive research grants, collaborative initiatives, and scholarly engagement aimed at addressing pressing health challenges. These efforts strengthen our contribution to scientific knowledge, evidence-based practice, postgraduate training, and the development of solutions relevant to our communities and beyond.



Medical lab students taking an oath during the white coat induction

The relocation of clinical-year training activities to Kitui, closer to the teaching and referral hospital facilities, is another important step towards improving access to clinical learning opportunities, strengthening supervision, and integrating theoretical instruction with practical experience. Together with ongoing efforts to enhance teaching infrastructure, curriculum delivery, and partnerships, these initiatives reflect our commitment to continuous improvement and educational relevance. These achievements form part of the wider institutional progress taking place across South Eastern Kenya University. They demonstrate what can be accomplished through dedicated staff, committed students, supportive university leadership, strategic partnerships, and a shared vision for excellence.

A call to purposeful leadership and service

Dear graduands, as you prepare to take the next step in your professional and personal journeys, remember that the true value of education lies not only in the qualifications you receive, but also in how you use your knowledge, skills, and abilities to improve the lives of others. Whatever your discipline or chosen career path, remain committed to integrity, professionalism, innovation, lifelong learning, and service to society. The challenges facing our nation and the world require graduates who can think critically, solve problems, work collaboratively, embrace responsible innovation, and provide leadership grounded in sound values. Do not be afraid to pursue new opportunities, undertake research, establish enterprises, serve in public institutions, or explore paths that challenge conventional thinking. Let your education be a foundation for creating solutions, generating employment, strengthening institutions, and contributing to sustainable development.

As you move forward, remember the University that nurtured your ambitions and provided the environment in which you developed your abilities. Be proud ambassadors of South Eastern Kenya University, uphold its values, and let your conduct and achievements reflect the quality of education you have received.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the University management, academic and administrative staff, parents, guardians, sponsors, and all stakeholders whose support has contributed to the success of this graduating class. Congratulations to all the 2026 graduands of South Eastern Kenya University! May you go forth with confidence, lead with integrity, serve with distinction, and use your knowledge to make a lasting difference in your professions, communities, and our nation.

Your journey does not end at graduation. It begins with the opportunity to turn knowledge into action, ambition into achievement, and service into lasting impact. Congratulations, and I wish you every success in the years ahead.

Prof. Stanslaus Kiilu Musyoki, PhD
Dean, School of Health Sciences

Training nutritionists and dietitians

South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) has been re-certified by the Kenya Nutritionists and Dieticians Institute (KNDI) to continue

offering the Bachelor of Science in Food, Nutrition and Dietetics. The approval, which runs for the next four years, follows a re-certification exercise conducted at the University on 27th July 2026. KNDI is the statutory body that regulates the training and practice of nutritionists and dietitians in Kenya. Its approval is far more than a formality. Only graduates of approved programmes can sit the KNDI licensure examination and be registered to practise. For our current and prospective students, this outcome means that a SEKU degree remains a recognised and respected route into the profession.

The re-certification exercise

Following the assessment, KNDI confirmed that SEKU meets the Institute's regulatory requirements for training in nutrition and dietetics. In its public statement, KNDI commended the University for its continued commitment to academic excellence, quality assurance and the advancement of professional practice, noting SEKU's niche in dryland agriculture and it's motto,
"Arid to Green."
During the visit, Dr. Okeyo reaffirmed KNDI's collaborative role in strengthening training institutions and upholding professional standards. He also noted that institutions offering nutrition and dietetics programmes will have the opportunity to benchmark with KNDI's Centre for Capacity Building and Professionalism, which recently set up a standard Food Service Diet Therapy kitchen at the Institute's headquarters. The Department of Nutrition and Dietetics thanks KNDI for its guidance, and the University management, academic and technical staff, clinical placement partners and students whose dedication made this achievement possible.

Why it matters for our region

The South Eastern region faces persistent nutrition challenges: food insecurity in arid and semi-arid areas, undernutrition among young children, and a rising burden of diet-related non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and hypertension. Meeting these challenges requires well-trained nutrition professionals in hospitals, communities, schools, and county health and agriculture departments. SEKU's dryland focus gives the programme a distinct identity. Students combine food science, clinical nutrition, community and public health nutrition, and dietetics practice, and apply them in the very settings where nutrition and food security matter most. Through supervised placements at health facilities in Kitui County and beyond, they learn to assess nutritional status, manage therapeutic diets and design community nutrition interventions.



Prof. Harrison Maithya, DVC-ARI receiving assessment report for re-certification from KNDI CEO, Dr. Okeyo

Dr. Pauline Turkwey
COD, Nutrition and Dietetics,

From the lab bench to the village square:

The compound of the Kwa Vonza Chief's Camp in Kitui County looked more like a clinic than an administrative office. Screening stations were set up, forms were

ready, and residents were arriving to have their health checked free of charge.

Behind the stations were fourth-year students of BSc. Medical Laboratory Science and BSc. Medical Microbiology at South Eastern Kenya University. They worked under the direct supervision of lecturers and laboratory technologists from the Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences, alongside the student association (SEKUMLSA). The outreach formed part of the students' practical community engagement programme and reflects the University's mandate for community service. For many of the students, it was the first time they had taken the skills they learned in the laboratory into the community, and they did so under the close guidance of their supervisors throughout the day.

A total of 54 community members took part, drawn from the surrounding catchment area. Most were women, most lived in rural areas, and ages ranged from 20 to 78 years. Every participant gave written informed consent, and permission for the exercise was obtained from both the University and the Chief.

Four kinds of screening were offered: blood pressure measurement, random blood sugar testing, weight and height measurements used to work out body mass index, and urinalysis using dipstick tests and microscopy. Students also reviewed each participant's medical history and counselled them on healthy living. Residents already living with hypertension or diabetes were encouraged to keep taking their medication and attending follow-up visits.

What the screening revealed

The results showed why community screening matters. About one in six participants (17.6%) had blood pressure in the hypertensive range, and roughly one in eight (11.8%) had a raised random blood sugar that calls for further testing. More than a third of those measured (35.3%) were overweight or obese, while nearly a quarter (23.5%) were underweight, pointing to both over- and under-nutrition in the same cmunity.

Urine tests also found abnormalities in many participants, including signs that may indicate urinary tract infections and possible kidney concerns. Several findings were in people with no previous diagnosis. Those who screened positive were advised to seek confirmatory tests and care at their nearest health facility. Screening is not diagnosis, but it gives residents a chance to act early.

Learning beyond the classroom

For the students, the day was as much about learning as about giving. They practised patient interaction, point-of-care testing, careful data collection and health education, all central to laboratory practice that serves communities and not only hospitals. Throughout, departmental lecturers and technologists supervised procedures and checked results, ensuring every test was performed safely and correctly. Working under this close supervision, the students saw first-hand that behind every laboratory result is a person waiting for an answer. The outreach also strengthened the University's partnership with the local administration, and the data collected will help inform future health interventions in the area.

Way forward

The department hopes to make the outreach an annual programme with a wider scope, possibly adding lipid profiles, malaria rapid tests, and HIV counselling and testing. It also plans to hold follow-up health education sessions and to work more closely with county health authorities, so that people found to have abnormal results are linked to continuing care.

To the Class of 2026: thank you for serving with skill and compassion. Wherever your careers take you, we hope you will keep taking your knowledge to the people who need it most. Congratulations, and go well
Dr. Lameck Ontweka
COD, Medical LaboratorySciences

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Celebratingclass of 2026



Today marks a defining moment for our graduating Class of 2026. It is a time of pride and reflection as we celebrate perseverance, growth, and achievement. To all our graduates of PhD Kiswahili, MA (Master of Arts) Sociology, MA Kiswahili, MA Gender and Development Studies, MA Linguistics, BA (Bachelor of Arts), BA in Social Work, and BA Gender and Development Studies, congratulations on reaching this remarkable milestone. You have demonstrated resilience, commitment, and excellence. we are confident that you carry forward the values of integrity, empathy and service to humanity that define our School.

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) is a dynamic academic unit dedicated to cultivating critical thinkers and compassionate leaders who embody the University's broader mission of transformative, values-driven education. Anchored in this shared vision, the School's mission is to advance knowledge that transforms individuals and societies through teaching, research, innovation and community engagement. Beyond the programmes represented in this year's graduating class, the School also runs BA Criminology and Social Justice, BA Hospitality Management, MA Geography and MA Religious Studies. The BA Hospitality Management programme received its first cohort of students in this year's intake, and the University Guest House, among other facilities, serves as a base for practical, hands-on training. In totality, the programmes in the School are designed to produce graduates who are well grounded in analytical thinking, ethical leadership and social innovation, equipping them to respond effectively to the challenges of the 21st century.

The school continues to champion impactful research addressing pressing social issues such as gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI), environmental, social and governance (ESG) concerns, language and culture, human rights, governance, and community empowerment towards sustainable community development. The faculty and postgraduate students engage in collaborative research projects that inform policy and promote inclusive and equitable growth. Through fieldwork, outreach, and partnerships with government agencies, community organizations and international partners and other institutions of higher learning, the school actively contributes to social transformation.

As we celebrate the Class of 2026, we also look ahead with optimism and confidence, as we embrace Competency-Based Education (CBE) in our programmes. The School of Humanities and Social Sciences remains steadfast in its pursuit of academic excellence, transformative scholarship, and service to humanity. We believe our graduates will continue to be ambassadors of positive change, shaping a sustainable future for generations.

Congratulations once again to all our graduates.

Go forth with courage and confidence, the world awaits your creativity, your innovation, your voice and your leadership locally, regionally and globally.

Dr. Felista Waihuini Muriu-Ng'ang'a,

Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences

SEKU YAADHIMISHASIKU YA KISWAHILI DUNIANI



Chuo Kikuu cha South Eastern Kenya (SEKU) kimeendeleza dhamira yake ya kukuza, kuimarisha na kueneza Kiswahili kimataifa kupitia kongadao la kimataifa lililowakutanisha wawakilishi wa taasisi za elimu ya juu kutoka Afrika na mabara mengine, katika kuadhimisha Siku ya Kiswahili Duniani tarehe 7 Julai 2026. Maadhimisho hayo yaliandaliwa na Idara ya Lugha, Isimu na Fasihi katika Shule ya Insia na Sayansi za Jamii, na kufanyika kwa njia ya mkondoni. Kongamano hilo lilitoa jukwaa muhimu la kujadili nafasi ya Kiswahili katika elimu, utafiti, mawasiliano na maendeleo ya jamii, huku likilenga kuimarisha ushirikiano wa kitaaluma na kuongeza mwonekano wa SEKU kama kitovu cha ufundishaji, utafiti na uendelezaji wa Kiswahili katika ngazi ya kimataifa.

Ushiriki wa uongozi wa juu wa SEKU ulikuwa kielelezo cha dhamira ya taasisi katika kuendeleza lugha ya Kiswahili. Makamu Mkuu wa Chuo, Prof. Douglas Shitanda, akishirikiana na Manaibu wake, Prof. Francis Wachira na Prof. Harrison Maithya, walishiriki kikamilifu katika maadhimisho hayo kuanzia mwanzo hadi mwisho

Kuwepo kwa viongozi hawa katika kongamano lote kulidhihirisha mshikamano wa uongozi wa SEKU katika kuunga mkono juhudi za kitaaluma na kitamaduni zinazolenga kukikuza Kiswahili. Ushiriki wao pia ulionesha kuwa ukuzaji wa lugha hii si jukumu la idara moja pekee, bali ni sehemu ya dhamira pana ya Chuo katika kuendeleza elimu, utafiti, ubunifu na ushirikiano wa kimataifa. Vilevile, Wativa wa shule mbalimbali, wakurugenzi wa kurugenzi mbalimbali, wadiri wa idara mbalimbali, wahadhiri, wafanyakazi na wanafunzi walijiunga kwa pamoja kusherehekea siku hiyo muhimu. Ushiriki mpana wa jamii ya SEKU uliimarisha ari ya pamoja ya kutambua thamani ya Kiswahili na nafasi yake katika kuunganisha watu, taasisi na tamaduni mbalimbali duniani. Kupitia kongamano hilo, SEKU iliendelea kuonesha kuwa Kiswahili ni zaidi ya lugha ya mawasiliano; ni nyenzo muhimu ya elimu, utafiti, utambulisho wa kitamaduni na ushirikiano kati ya mataifa. Mijadala na mwingiliano wa washiriki kutoka maeneo mbalimbali duniani ulitoa fursa ya kubadilishana maarifa na uzoefu kuhusu

namna ya kuimarisha ufundishaji, matumizi na maendeleo ya Kiswahili katika mazingira ya kisasa. Siku ya Kiswahili Duniani huadhimishwa kila mwaka tarehe 7 Julai kufuatia kutambuliwa kwa siku hiyo na Shirika la Umoja wa Mataifa la Elimu, Sayansi na Utamaduni (UNESCO). Maadhimisho hayo yanatambua mchango wa Kiswahili katika mawasiliano, elimu, utamaduni na kuimarisha uhusiano miongoni mwa watu wa mataifa mbalimbali.

Kongamano lavuka mipaka ya kitaifa

Maadhimisho ya Siku ya Kiswahili Duniani yaliyoandaliwa na SEKU yalivutia washiriki kutoka nchi saba, ambazo ni Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Ghana, Ujerumani na Marekani. Kwa mujibu wa takwimu za usajili, watu 361 walikuwa walijisajili kushiriki katika kongamano hilo, huku zaidi ya taasisi 18 za elimu ya juu zikiwakilishwa. Ushiriki huu ulidhihirisha nafasi inayozidi kuimarika ya Kiswahili katika mijadala ya kitaaluma na kimataifa.

Kongamano hilo liliwakutanisha wazungumzaji kutoka nchi mbalimbali waliowasilisha mada zinazohusu maendeleo, ufundishaji, utafiti na matumizi ya Kiswahili katika mazingira tofauti. Miongoni mwa wazungumzaji hao alikuwa Dkt. Zainabu Iddi kutoka Chuo Kikuu cha SUZA nchini Tanzania; Dkt. Sarah Marjie kutoka Chuo Kikuu cha Ghana nchini Ghana; Dkt. Aidah Mutenyo kutoka Chuo Kikuu cha Kabale nchini Uganda; Bw. Gordien kutoka Chuo cha Walimu Burundi; Prof. Mosol Kandagor kutoka Chuo Kikuu cha Moi nchini Kenya; na Prof. Leonora Anyango kutoka Chuo Kikuu cha Pittsburgh nchini Marekani.

Ushiriki wa wataalamu hawa ulitoa fursa ya kujadili mitazamo na uzoefu mbalimbali kuhusu nafasi ya Kiswahili katika elimu ya juu, utafiti, uchapishaji na mawasiliano ya kimataifa. Aidha, michango yao iliimarisha ubadilishanaji wa maarifa kati ya wasomi na taasisi za elimu ya juu kutoka Afrika na maeneo mengine duniani, huku ikionesha umuhimu wa kuendeleza Kiswahili kama lugha ya kitaaluma na kimataifa.

Kupitia kongamano hili, SEKU iliimarisha uhusiano wake na taasisi nyingine za elimu ya juu na kufungua fursa zaidi za ushirikiano katika ufundishaji, utafiti na uendelezaji wa Kiswahili ndani na nje ya Afrika Mashariki. Kongamano hilo pia liliweka wazi dhamira ya Chuo ya kutumia majukwaa ya kimataifa kukuza Kiswahili, kuimarisha mitandao ya kitaaluma na kuchangia maendeleo endelevu ya lugha hiyo duniani.

Kongamano hilo lilishirikisha taasisi za elimu ya juu kutoka Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Ghana na Marekani. Nchini Kenya.

Kiswahili kama lugha ya maarifa na utafiti

Mojawapo ya mafanikio muhimu ya maadhimisho hayo ilikuwa dhamira ya wazungumzaji kuendeleza mada zao kuwa makala za kitaaluma kwa ajili ya kuchapishwa katika jarida la Kiswahili la SEKU, ***Jarida la Dira ya Lugha***. Hatua hii inalenga kuhakikisha kuwa mijadala ya kongamano inazalisha maarifa yanayoweza kuhifadhiwa, kusomwa na kutumiwa na watafiti, wanafunzi na wadau wengine wa Kiswahili. Aidha, inatoa fursa ya kuimarisha utamaduni wa utafiti na uchapishaji wa

kitaaluma kwa Kiswahili. Kupitia juhudi hizi, SEKU inaendelea kuimarisha nafasi ya Kiswahili kama lugha inayoweza kutumika katika kuzalisha na kusambaza maarifa, pamoja na kushiriki katika mijadala muhimu kuhusu lugha, utamaduni, jamii na maendeleo.

SEKU YAPENDEKEZA MAADHIMISHO YA KILA MWAKA

Kutokana na mafanikio yaliyopatikana, Idara ya Lugha, Isimu na Fasihi inapendekeza kuwa SEKU ianzishe utaratibu wa kuadhimisha Siku ya Kiswahili Duniani kila mwaka. Hatua hiyo itaimarisha mchango wa chuo katika kukuza Kiswahili, kupanua ushirikiano wa kitaaluma na kuendeleza utafiti na uchapishaji. Maadhimisho ya mwaka 2026 yameonyesha kuwa Kiswahili ni zaidi ya lugha ya mawasiliano; ni nyenzo ya kuunganisha watu, kujenga maarifa na kukuza ushirikiano kati ya mataifa. Ushiriki wa taasisi za elimu ya juu kutoka nchi mbalimbali umeimarisha nafasi ya SEKU kama mdau muhimu katika kukuza taaluma ya Kiswahili. Kwa kuungana na taasisi za elimu ya juu kutoka Afrika na sehemu nyingine za dunia, SEKU inaendelea kuchangia katika kuifanya Kiswahili kuwa lugha yenye nafasi imara katika elimu, utafiti, uchapishaji na mawasiliano ya kimataifa.

Dkt. Sarah Ndanu Mwangangi Ngesu
Mhadhiri wa Kiswahili na Tafsiri
Mudiri, Idara ya Lugha, Isimu na Fasihi-

First industrial attachment for third year undergraduate students



For the first time in its history, SEKU placed her Bachelor Arts in Psychology, Sociology, Social Work Gender and industrial attachment in the months of May to August, 2026. The purpose was to expose students to practical work environments where they could apply the knowledge, skills and classroom learning. A total of 70 students were successfully attached and assessed by staff from the Department of Sociology, Community Development. Each student stayed for at least eight weeks in the host organisation. Before proceeding on attachment, students were comprehensively briefed on the purpose of the activity, the duration, behaviour expected of them and the documents to generate namely logbook and final report. Each was issued with a university letter of introduction. Students were placed through individual application to organisations of choice and linkage by the departmental coordinator with relevant institutions in the counties of Kitui, Machakos, Makueni, Nairobi, Kiambu and Kajiado. The field assessment was conducted in July through field visits during which discussions were held with host supervisors and students, logbooks reviewed and students'

professional conduct and application of classroom knowledge critiqued. Each student was given instant feedback on areas for improvement and advised to identify practical problems they could solve in host institutions. On return to campus in September, all the students made oral presentations and submitted their filled in logbooks and written reports for grading.

The attachment enabled students to translate theoretical knowledge into professional practice. For example, Psychology students applied technical assessment tools, and carried out counselling, psychoeducation, trauma-informed care, mental status examination, health education, advocacy, documentation, ward rounds, multidisciplinary teamwork and continuous medical education. They experienced the emotional demands of working with clients in distress, how to maintain professional distance and ensure confidentiality, ability to empathise without being emotionally overwhelmed and risks that come with working in sensitive sectors.

Gender and Development Studies students participated in various gender mainstreaming activities, disability support programmes, youth empowerment initiatives, gender-based violence interventions and community outreach. Social Work students participated in case management, patient and family support, referrals and linkages to social services, advocacy, community outreach, humanitarian assistance and disaster response support.

All the students gained insights on the nature of their professional fields, taking advantage of working under and alongside experienced professionals. They built professional and social networks with clients, workers and fellow students attached from other universities, which enabled them to share experiences and ideas on the nature of their prospective professions. A Social Work student indicated that, for the first time, she understood the nature of her profession, which fortified her commitment to it. The key areas of learning included:

(a) Sharpening communication, report writing and conflict-resolution skills.
(b) Applying counselling skills in social work and institutional settings.
(c) Developing case management and problem-solving skills.
(d) Understanding family and community dynamics.
(e) Appreciating the role of social institutions in addressing societal problems.
(f) Developing skills in group facilitation and community engagement.
(g) Understanding referral mechanisms and inter-agency collaboration.

Host supervisors expressed satisfaction with the students' performance, noting that they demonstrated professionalism, punctuality, diligence, ethical conduct, confidence, accountability and willingness to learn. They acknowledged that the students immensely reduced the workload of regular employees, contributing to clearance of backlogs and efficiency in delivery of services. Of significance was that some hosts were willing to eventually absorb the attached students as interns and full time employees, amounting to a vote of confidence in SEKU.

There were not significant challenges. However, students faced financial constraints related to cost of food, transport and accommodation. Some institutions lacked basic protective supplies, particularly masks and gloves, meaning that students had to purchase these items using own meagre resources. There were also cases of congested offices, occasional inadequate workload and mismatch between the place

of attachment and specializations. Language barriers were also encountered when students interacted with clients they did not share a common language with. This was addressed by seeking assistance from peers and host supervisors.

In general, the students acquitted themselves well and demonstrated satisfactory acquisition of practical competencies relevant to their disciplines. Their good behaviour and performance built the university's reputation, with all host organizations expressing the willingness to accept future students from SEKU.

The Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Community Development has compiled a report on this exercise and assembled the students' reports for use as references in future exercises and is developing a database of host institutions, with over 40 already listed.

By Dr. Okumba Miruka
Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Community Development

School of Education

Celebrating excellence in educational leadership, research and innovation

The Department of Educational Administration and Planning, is one of the largest and most vibrant departments in the School of Education at South Eastern Kenya University. The Department is supported by a team of dedicated and committed academic staff, including Prof. Selpher Cheloti, Prof. Gideon Kasivu, and Dr. Rose Mwanza, who continue to contribute significantly to teaching, research, mentorship, and community development.

The Department offers a diverse range of academic programmes at undergraduate, master's, and doctoral levels. Undergraduate programmes include Bachelor of Education (Arts) and Bachelor of Education (Science). Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education and Extension and Bachelor of Science in Nursing are also serviced bt the Department. At postgraduate level, the Department offers Master's and PhD programmes in Educational Administration, Educational Planning, Curriculum Studies, Corporate Governance, and Economics of Education. These programmes are designed to equip learners with the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary to provide effective leadership and contribute to the advancement of education and society.

In line with the University's philosophy of training, research, and innovation for community impact, the Department remains committed to academic excellence, knowledge generation, and the professional development of education practitioners and researchers. Faculty members have published several articles in peer-reviewed journals, demonstrating the Department's commitment to advancing scholarship and contributing to educational policy and practice.

As the University prepares to celebrate its 13th Graduation Ceremony, the Department is proud to present 6 Master's degree graduates and 4 PhD graduates. This achievement reflects the dedication of our students, the commitment of our academic staff, and the University's continued investment in postgraduate education and research. The Department congratulates all graduands and wishes them success as they apply their knowledge and expertise in advancing education, leadership, and community transformation. Congratulations to the Class of 2026!

Dr. Janet Mulwa
Chair, Department of educational administration &Planning-

School of Business and Economics

Messageforour2026graduands



Congratulations to all our graduands! You have done us proud. Your hard work and sacrifices have finally paid off.

May you of your hard work and education. Be good ambassadors of the School of Business and Economics and the university at large. We wish you well in your next chapter of life.

The School of Business and Economics has been growing over the years in terms of staff, students, programs and capacity. We are proud to contribute to the development of human capital, especially in business- related areas that help in addressing contemporary issues such as national debt, sustainable development, unemployment, poverty and inequality.

In the 2025/2026 academic year, the School of Business and Economics experienced as development and review of academic programs, new staff members, research and academic field trip.

Development and review of academic programmes

Our aim is to produce competent professionals with actionable knowledge and reputable character. To achieve this goal, the school developed Bachelor of Science in Accounting, a new programme that empowers students with critical accounting concepts. This programme will enable our students to meet the current accounting needs in the job market. We are committed to ensuring our students have the relevant skills their productive capacity. The Master of Business Administration programme was reviewed to adjust it to current market needs.

The demand for postgraduate programmes in our school has also increased. In 2026 alone, the PhD in Business Administration and Management has attracted over twenty (20) students, the highest number in a year since the roll-out of the programme. We also have other prograduate programmes such as Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Arts in Economics, Master of Science in Supply Chain Management, Master of Science in Project Management and PhD in Project Management. Students in the first cohort of the Master of Arts in Economics, a programme that rolled out in 2023, are 13th graduation ceremony. This is a testament of our commitment and growth of our school.

Research and collaboration

Our staff members have published various articles in credible peer reviewed journals. There is diversity in our research portfolio diverse specializations. These include economics, finance, strategic management, accounting, project and procurement. All staff members are engaged their research skills and expand their productive capacity. They are also actively engaged in and postgraduate students in their research. The school is working closely with the directorate of research of SEKU to participate in various research activities within the university, in the country and across the globe.

SBE staff have taken part in several collaborations. leveraging on the partnership between SEKU and Kitui County, the school has engaged in capacity building exercises.

Academic field trips: Bridging theory and practice

In, 2026, students from the School of Business and Economics embarked on an exciting educational trip to Mombasa, turning classroom knowledge into real-world experience. The experienes included exploring logistics and warehousing at Mitchell Cotts CFS to understanding port operations at Kenya Ports Authority, gaining data insights at Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and witnessing sustainability in action at Haller Park. The trip offered hands-on exposure across key areas of business, economics, project management and environmental management. Guided by Dr. Onesmus Mbaabu and Dr. Vincent Ochieng, students gained valuable insights that will shape their professional journeys. The field trip was a truly impactful experience preparing future leaders for the dynamic world of work. The school will continue exposing its students to practical aspects of their disciplines through such impactful trips.

Dr. Onesimus Mbaabu
Dean, school of business and economic

School of Engineering and Technology

Insights from the DU-Brain AI- conference.

SEKU was recently represented by the school of engineering and technology at the DUBRAINS AI conference hosted at Daystar University,. Convened under the theme "Reimagining Africa with AI: Ethics, Innovation, and Inclusion for a Transformative Future," the conference brought together scholars, industry leaders, policymakers, innovators, students, and practitioners to examine how Africa can shape and use artificial responsibly and inclusively. intelligence The conference was graced by Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, who is the Principal Secretary for the State Department for Science, Research and Innovation in Kenya. A significant milestone of DU-BRAINS 2026 was the launch of the Journal of Artificial Intelligence, Digital Innovation and Society (JAIDIS), a scholarly platform dedicated to advancing interdisciplinary and contextually grounded research on artificial intelligence and digital innovation. I was also able to present a research paper on "Interrogating Algorithmic Bias: Creative Agency Restitution in Nairobi's Upcycled Fashion



Mr. Ian Slade Ashivende presenting at the conference

IEEE EPS Summer School 2026

Introduction to circuit board design and electronics manufacturing



Participants of IEEE EPS summer school

In July 2026, the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering hosted one of the graduating cohort's standout milestones: a two-day Summer School on circuit board design and electronics manufacturing, held at SEKU Main campus.

The conference was organized by Dr. Oin partnership with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)

A keynote address traced the journey from advanced packaging used in today's most sophisticated chips, followed by an industry-and-academia panel on careers and entrepreneurship in the field. A parallel track ran alongside

Full delivery of the planned two-day programme covered more than 8 technical

basic circuit boards to the

sessions, two hands-on design labs, two panel discussions and a keynote address.

One hundred and three participants were trained. More than sixteen facilitators from industry, academia, and the engineering community contributed to the programme. Membership in the profession's local student and young-engineer community grew to 45 members following the event.

The Summer School gave students a .practical, hands-on foundation on how electronic devices are designed and built

Dr. Eng. Benson Ojwang,
C.O.D. Electrical and Electronics Engineering

School of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources

Inaugural researchworkshopadvances solutions forresilientcommunities

The School of Agriculture, Environment, Water and Natural Resources brought together researchers, postgraduate students and University leaders to strengthen knowledge sharing and translate research into responses to climate, food, water and environmental challenges. South Eastern Kenya University's School of Agriculture, Environment, Water and Natural Resources held its first research dissemination workshop on 3 June 2026, marking a milestone in the school's efforts to strengthen research, innovation and scholarly exchange. More than 200 postgraduate students attended the event, where faculty members and students presented research addressing some of the most urgent development challenges facing Kenya. Held under the theme "Advancing Research, Innovation, and Knowledge Sharing in Agriculture, Water Security, and Environmental Resilience in a Changing Climate," the workshop created a platform for sharing findings, receiving scholarly feedback and building connections across disciplines. The event was graced by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Eng. Douglas Shitanda, and brought together University management, researchers, lecturers and students. The workshop reflected SEKU's conviction that university research must extend beyond academic inquiry to generate solutions that improve lives. Participants explored how scientific evidence, innovation and collaboration can respond to climate variability, food insecurity, water scarcity, land degradation, biodiversity loss and growing pressure on natural resources. These challenges are particularly significant in Kenya's arid and semi-arid lands, where the University is strategically located and where livelihoods depend heavily on climate sensitive natural resources.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor described the workshop theme as timely and aligned with SEKU's aspiration to be a key development partner in the arid and semi-arid areas. The University's motto, "From Arid to Green," captures this institutional commitment to supporting productive landscapes, resilient communities and sustainable livelihoods through teaching, research, innovation engagement. and community

Three interconnected research priorities
Presentations and discussions were organized around three closely related areas: sustainable agriculture and food security; climate change, environment and sustainable development; and water and natural resources management. Together, these themes reflect the complex realities facing households, institutions and ecosystems. Progress in food production, for example, depends on reliable water resources, healthy soils, functioning ecosystems and the ability of farmers and communities to adapt to climatic risks. By bringing these subjects into one forum, the School encouraged interdisciplinary thinking and the exchange of ideas among researchers working in different fields. The workshop showcased studies on climate adaptation, sustainable technologies, agricultural water-resource innovation, environmental conservation, food security and social resilience. Each presentation contributed to a broader understanding of how research can inform policy, improve practice and resilience. strengthen Prof. Charles Ndung'u' Dean, SAEWNR School of Science and Computing community

Prof. Charles Ndung'u'

Dean, SAEWNR

School of Science and Computing

Statistics, Actuarial Science, Biology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Physical Sciences and related



The School of Science and Computing plays a central role in advancing the mandate of South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) in teaching, research, innovation and community service. Strategically positioned within the University's broader focus on dryland agriculture, water resources, mining, environmental conservation and technological advancement, the School continues to contribute significantly to the development of skilled graduates, scientific knowledge and practical solutions for societal transformation. To fulfil this mandate, the School continues to offer, review and develop relevant academic programmes that respond to emerging national, regional and global needs. Its programmes provide strong foundations in science, mathematics, computing, technology and applied research, while also supporting the training needs of other schools within the University. Through this service role, the School contributes to the delivery of science-based courses across several academic disciplines, thereby strengthening the quality and relevance of teaching and learning at SEKU.

The School is currently organized into four departments: Mathematics and Actuarial Science, Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, and Computer Science and Technology. These departments provide a broad academic platform for undergraduate and postgraduate training, research supervision, innovation development and professional capacity building. The School currently serves more than 1,295 undergraduate and postgraduate students pursuing various programmes across these departments. In line with SEKU's commitment to market driven and quality academic programmes, the School offers and continues to develop programmes in areas such as Computer Science, Information Technology, Cyber Security and Networking, Mathematics, disciplines. It has also developed postgraduate and specialized training programmes, including M.Sc. in

Applied Statistics, PhD-level training in computing-related fields, and short courses such as Data Analysis, aimed at equipping learners with practical and industry-relevant skills. The School is supported by qualified academic, technical administrative staff and who are committed to excellence in teaching, mentorship, research and innovation. Through intensive student training, laboratory-based learning, field exposure and research supervision, staff members prepare students to c ontribute meaningfully to Kenya's Vision 2030 and to respond to emerging challenges in science, technology, innovation and sustainable development. The School is also well positioned for practical training through its and research modern laboratory facilities. Key facilities include well equipped laboratories for teaching and research in biology, molecular biology, computing and the physical sciences. In addition, the School houses specialized scientific equipment, including an Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer for analytical research and a Gamma-Ray Spectrometer for radioactivity measurements. These facilities support research in environmental



Interior part of physics lab



Interior part of chemistry lab

analysis, radiation physics, materials characterization, biological sciences, data science and other applied scientific field Beyond classroom teaching, the School continues to contribute to research, innovation and student engagement. Its academic programmes and research activities support SEKU's philosophy of "Arid to Green… Transforming Lives" by generating knowledge and skills that can be applied to environmental conservation, natural resource management, health, data-driven decision making, technology development and sustainable community transformation. As science, technology and computing continue to shape the future of education, industry and society, the School of Science and Computing remains a key driver of SEKU's academic and innovation agenda. programmes, growing Through dedicated student relevant staff, numbers, modern facilities and a strong commitment to research and innovation, the school is well placed to strengthen SEKU's contribution to national development and global scientific advancement.

Dr.Mugambi Linturi
Dean, School of Science and Computing.

MESSAGE FROM MAINSTREAMING UNITS

Resolution of Public Complaints Unit

Driving service excellence through capacity building, research and community engagement

Resolution of Public Complaints Unit (RPCU) plays an important part in enhancing the issues of accountability, transparency, and satisfaction among its customers. By conducting staff training, research, and outreach programs, RPCU strives to improve its responsiveness toward all stakeholders and improve their services.

Professional development programmes

During the 2025/2026 academic year, RPCU Coordinator Dr. Mary Atieno Juma participated in several professional development programmes aimed at strengthening her competencies in teaching, research, curriculum development, and resource mobilization.

Key programmes included Course Content Development Training, Quantitative Research Methodologies Training, SEKU School of Education Training on Alignment of University Curriculum-Based Education, AICAD Grants Writing and Resource Mobilization Training and KENET Grant Proposal Writing Training Workshop for Faculty

Research and innovations

The Resolution of Public Complaints Unit has continued to support research initiatives within the University through its involvement in different innovative research projects. One such project that the unit is undertaking is titled “Design, Deployment and Evaluation of a Low-Cost IoT-Based Soil Moisture and Temperature Monitoring System for Precision Irrigation Management at the South Eastern Kenya University Farm.”

The research is focused on developing a low cost IoT-based monitoring system that is able to provide real time information regarding the conditions of soil moisture and temperature.

Among the expected results of the project are efficient utilization of water resources, sound decision-making in irrigation scheduling, enhanced agricultural production and fostering the adoption of modern farming technology among the local farmers and agricultural bodies.

In addition, the Unit is working on other opportunities of innovation for enhanced performance, efficiency and community development.

Dr. Rose Juma
Coordinator RSPU

Alcohol and Drug Addiction (ADA0Unit)

ADA unit celebrates graduates, champions of a drug free generation



As we celebrate the Class of 2026, the Alcohol, Drugs and Substance Abuse Prevention (ADA) Unit proudly honours every graduate who has chosen the path of clarity, discipline, and purpose. Your achievement is not just an academic milestone; it is a statement that young people can rise above substance abuse and build brighter futures.Through peer counselling, campus prevention programmes, and our partnership with NACADA, the ADA Unit has walked with you. We remain committed to ensuring that SEKU is not just a centre of academic excellence but a sanctuary of wellness and drug-free living.

As we mark this graduation, we invite the entire SEKU community to join us for the SEKU Red Ribbon Marathon 2026 on Saturday, 31st October 2026 at SEKU Main Campus, Kwa Vonza, Kitui, Under the theme *"Make a Difference. Be a Hero. Stay Drug Free."* The marathon will bring together over 5,000 participants across four streams: 21KM, 10KM, 5KM, and the 2.5KM Family Fun Run.



Congratulations Class of 2026. You are our heroes. Stay drug-free. Stay victorious.
Dr. Joel Ngesa

Coordinator, alcohol, drug and substance abuse

HIV and Aids Control Unit



South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) as a higher education institution and a responsible corporate institution, recognizes the significant impact of HIV & AIDS in the society. The University is committed to contributing to local, national, regional, and global efforts aimed at preventing HIV infection, reducing the impact of HIV and AIDS, promoting

healthy lifestyles, and ensuring that people living with and affected by HIV receive appropriate care, support, and protection from stigma and discrimination.

HIV/AIDS Control Unit (HACU) provides a coordinated institutional framework through which HIV and AIDS-related activities are integrated into the University's academic, health, students' welfare, community engagement and research functions. The unit enhances and facilitates comprehensive HIV and AIDS prevention and management, support, mitigation, advocacy and research activities within the university.

The unit recently held a successful sensitization meeting with the first-year students, 2026/2027, on HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, non- communication diseases, mental health and prevention of pregnancy. The students were also cautioned against drug abuse. Last year's World Aids (WAD) Day- Kitui was hosted in SEKU and included planting of trees, marathon race and the winners were awarded prizes. WAD culminated in speeches from leaders and spokes persons from the key population, dances/songs and sharing of meal, all together as a county.

The unit has aligned more exciting and informative activities around the year. Such events include; public lectures; visitation to the communities around the university, to create awakeners on HIV/AIDS, mental health and other syndemic diseases. HACU has also planned for" SEKU Health week", where the students and staff will be screened, treated and referrals will be made where necessary. The planning for peer educator training is underway; The unit also advocates for research, networking and fundraising in support of its activities for the university. HACU works so closely with the University health unit, which ensures continuous HIV/AIDS services; MOH, Kitui count, which has been very instrumental in ensuring a steady supply of condoms and also provision of health experts that engage our students and staff.

Looking forward for an active engagement and collaboration, stigma free environment where learning is enjoyable, effective and efficient.

Ms Janepher Masai
Coordinator, HACU

Disability Mainstreaming Unit

University outreach initiative highlights compassion, talent and the power of community partnership

On a bright Friday morning in January 2026, Katangi Special School was filled with excitement as a distinctive convoy arrived at the school. SEKU's largest university bus, accompanied by two support vehicles, carried students, staff and donations as part of the "Katangi Special School Mercy Basket" initiative.

The outreach was organized by the Disability Mainstreaming Unit, under the former Coordinator, Dr. Sarah Ndanu Ngesu, in collaboration with the Cohesion and National Values Unit, formerly coordinated by Dr. Maureen Muleka.

For the 60 SEKU students who voluntarily joined the visit, the journey was more than a Friday trip. It was an opportunity to and national values while connecting with learners outside the university environment.

A basket of support

The SEKU community generously contributed a range of items to support the school, including: Food supplies to complement the school's nutrition programme; clothing and footwear;

and textbooks, exercise books, pens and other educational materials.



Contributions of SEKU to Katangi Special School

The contributions represented more than material support. They conveyed a message of solidarity and affirmed the importance of ensuring that learners with disabilities are recognised, supported and given opportunities to thrive. "Seeing our big bus filled to capacity with students and gifts was a testament to the compassionate culture we are building at SEKU. True national values are lived out when we reach out to those who need our support the most."

Discovering talent at Katangi

While the SEKU delegation arrived with the intention of giving, the visit offered an equally powerful lesson in return. The learners showcased impressive artistic talent through handmade African artefacts, beadwork, weaving and traditional decorative pieces. Their work demonstrated creativity, patience and valuable vocational skills. It also highlighted the potential of creative enterprise to contribute to confidence, independence and economic participation. The artefacts produced by the learners are available for purchase, providing an opportunity for members of the public and organisations to support the school's vocational programme.Every purchase is an investment in talent, dignity and opportunity.

SEKU therefore encourages individuals, businesses and well-wishers to visit the school, appreciate the learners' work and explore ways of supporting their creative and vocational activities.

Building a culture of sustained outreach

The Katangi initiative is part of SEKU's continuing commitment to disability inclusion and community engagement. In 2023, SEKU visited Mwingi School for the Hearing Impaired, providing specialised learning materials and other support. The University returned to Mwingi in 2025 to strengthen the partnership and continue its support. The 2026 Katangi outreach represents an expansion of this commitment to another institution serving learners with disabilities. The progression demonstrates that community engagement is most meaningful when it goes beyond one-time donations and develops into sustained relationships and partnerships.

Beyond the lecture halls

The Katangi experience also demonstrates the wider role of a university in society.

Universities are centres of knowledge, but they are also institutions of citizenship, leadership and social responsibility. Through initiatives such as the Mercy Basket, students have an opportunity to put values such as compassion, responsibility, teamwork and service into practice. The participation of 60 students was therefore significant. Their presence demonstrated that community engagement can become an important part of the student experience and contribute to the development of responsible citizens and future leaders. SEKU's media engagement around its outreach activities also serves an important purpose. By highlighting the achievements and needs of special schools,

the University can help connect these institutions with potential partners, customers, donors and well-wishers.

A call to partnership

The story of Katangi is ultimately a story of opportunity. The learners have demonstrated that, when given the right support and platforms, they can develop skills, create valuable products and contribute meaningfully to society. SEKU calls upon businesses, government agencies, civil society organisations, individuals and other well-wishers to support Katangi Special School through the purchase of learners' products, vocational training, learning resources, mentorship and other meaningful partnerships. The Katangi Special School Mercy Basket has therefore become more than a collection of donations. As SEKU continues to expand its academic and institutional footprint, the University remains committed to being not only in the community, but truly for the community.

Dr. Sarah Ndanu Mwangangi Ngesu
Outgoing Coordinator-Disability Mainstreaming Unit

Research and Collaborations Unit

Use and application of drones in research: drones training opens a new frontier of research and collaborations at SEKU.

Drones (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles—UAVs) are becoming increasingly important tools in research because they enable rapid, high-resolution and repeatable data collection over relatively large or difficult-to-access areas. Equipped with RGB, multispectral, thermal or LiDAR sensors, drones can support research in agriculture, biodiversity, forestry, rangelands, water resources, climate change, land degradation, wildlife, disaster management and infrastructure. They can generate detailed imagery and spatial data for mapping, monitoring changes, assessing vegetation and crop health, estimating biomass, and evaluating restoration interventions. ecosystem

The applicability of drone technology aligns well with SEKU's research interests in the ASALs. Drone technology has huge potential to strengthen interdisciplinary research, postgraduate training and innovation by integrating aerial data with GIS, remote sensing, IoT sensors and artificial intelligence. In the case of SEKU and the arid lands, drone technology can be applied to monitor Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) and ecosystem restoration, map bee-forage resources and pollination landscapes, assess agricultural productivity, and monitor drought and land degradation. Establishing a shared drone research facility would therefore provide researchers and students with a practical platform for data collection, analysis, experimentation and decision-making. evidence-based

In recognition of the potential of drone technology in research, SEKU has established a strategic partnership with Customized Aviation Services Limited (CASL). The implementation of this partnership realized the first ever training on drones for SEKU staff and students on 22nd September 2026. During the first training session 56 students and members of staff were trained on use of drones for research their various disciplines. Through this partnership, SEKU will improve its research and innovation ecosystem as well as equip its students and staff, through short courses on drone technology, with skills that make data collection fast, cost effective while improving safety and access.



Drones at work

SEKU staff attends world visions integrated program framework learning forum.

Five staff members from South Eastern Kenya University attended the two-day leaning event at Moi University, Annex campus. The event was organized to celebrate the achievements and lessons learnt from the Central Rift Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration Scale-Up Project (CRIFSUP), a World Vision led FMNR project in Baringo, Elgeyo Marakwet, Nakuru, and West Pokot counties. The project partners include, farmers, KEFRI, respective county governments, Kenya Forest Service and Moi university. This experience was important for SEKU as we are partnering with World Vision on Greater Regeneration for Evergreen Environment (GREEN) Project in Makueni, Kajiado and Narok counties. Day 1 was marked by presentations and exhibitions from project staff, farmers and partners including SEKU. A key note speech was given by Prof. Tony Rinaudo, the founding father of FMNR who joined the meeting online and gave a brief history of FMNR and its success across the tropics. In Kenya, he noted that FMNR practice reduces farming risks by improving soil fertility, conserving water, and protecting farms from the effects of climate change such as drought and land degradation.



Participants of the IPF learning forum

The farmers shared on how their lives have been changed by the FMNR project aspects including improved food security, financial empowerment through the savings programme, improved livestock husbandry through the grass regeneration initiatives, bee keeping, women's participation and gender inclusivity in environmental conservation.



Dr Lucia from SEKU joins other panelists on Climate, Livelihoods, Nutrition and Peace Nexus during the IPF learning forum at Moi University

Day 2 was set aside for field learning to see how FMNR has changed the lives of Farmers and communities in Kerio valley. The famer we visited gave a brief history of the farm indicating that when she purchased it, it was bare. With the guidance of the CRIFSUP project the farm was transformed into a self-sustaining venture with trees, grass, food crops, fruits and water harvesting systems.



A farmer taking participants through the benefits of FMNR at her farm in Kerio Valley and section of the Farm under grass

The key learnings from the IPF learning forum is that indeed FMNR improves livelihoods and restores the ecosystem. However other aspects such as financial empowerment, gender inclusion, key stakeholders buy in and value chain.

Dr, Harun kiruki
Assistant project coordinator, SEKU World Vision

SEKU leads the mobile learning revolution

SEKU's journey in the initiative began with the Regional Inception Workshop, held from 6th to 7th November 2025 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. UNESCO-IICBA organised the workshop in partnership with PAU.

The workshop brought together representatives from the five participating African countries to discuss the project's objectives, expected implementation strategies outcomes, responsibilities of participating institutions. Participants engaged in keynote presentations, group discussions, country level presentations and collaborative planning sessions. The discussions provided an opportunity for representatives to examine the education needs of their respective countries and develop strategies implementing the project effectively. SEKU was represented at the workshop by Dr. Sarah Ngesu. The University's participation reflects its commitment to innovative teaching approaches, digital transformation and the development of resilient education systems.

SEKU establishes a team of master trainers

Project leaders advised each participating university to establish a team of five Master Trainers who would spearhead training and support the implementation programme at institutional level.

The Vice-Chancellor of appointed the a multidisciplinary team of five master trainers comprising:

1. Dr. Sarah Ndanu Ngesu – Team Leader/Focal Person
2. Prof. Dorothy Mutisya – Director, Open, Distance and e-Learning (ODeL)
3. Dr. Antony Njue – Coordinator, Teaching Practice
4. Dr. Andrew Omala – Deputy Director, Research and Innovation
5. Mr. Alex Mwithi – ICT

The five master trainers, together with the Vice-Chancellor, form the six-member SEKU team representing the University in the project. and for The team brings together expertise in education, teacher training, ICT, open and distance learning, teaching practice, research and innovation. Such a combination provides a strong foundation for implementing the project's training and mobilisation activities.

Master trainers receive intensive training

UNESCO-IICBA conducted an intensive four-day training programme for the SEKU Master Trainers at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), hosted at the African Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD). The training introduced the Master Trainers to GOOGUS, a new digital learning platform designed to

support the implementation of the project. A Japanese company funding the project is supporting the development and use of the platform. GOOGUS will provide the technological environment through which trainers will deliver learning to primary and secondary school teachers, school leaders, teacher trainees and other students preparing to become teachers. The training equipped the SEKU Master Trainers with practical knowledge on how to use the platform and deliver training on the integration of mobile-based learning into education, particularly during crisis situations. The four-day programme also marked an important stage in preparing SEKU to undertake its institutional training responsibilities under the project.

Master trainers equipped for the task

Each of the five SEKU Master Trainers received a tablet and a powerful power bank to facilitate access to the GOOGUS platform and support training activities.

The tablets will serve as important working tools for the trainers as they access course materials, interact with the platform and conduct training activities. The power banks will provide additional support where access to electricity may be limited. The equipment is expected to strengthen the University's ability to deliver mobile-based training and reach educators in different locations.

SEKU mobilises participants

SEKU has already commenced mobilisation of teachers, school leaders and teacher trainees who will participate in the online training. The University has established a WhatsApp mobilisation platform to provide information, sensitise prospective participants and guide them on the registration process once the training portal is opened. The mobilisation exercise has generated encouraging interest among educators and teacher trainees. A total of 400 teachers, student teacher trainees and school leaders have so far been mobilised by the SEKU team and are ready to commence training. The participants are currently awaiting the uploading of the courses by the UNESCO-IICBA–PAVEU team, after which registration and training will commence.

Mobile technology for education during crises

The project addresses an important challenge facing education systems across Africa: maintaining learning when emergencies interfere with normal schooling. Crises can prevent teachers and learners from meeting physically in classrooms. Mobile phones offer a practical avenue for communication, sharing learning materials, conducting lessons and maintaining contact between educators and learners when physical access to schools becomes difficult. The project therefore seeks to transform mobile phones from ordinary communication devices into effective tools for teaching and learning.Teachers will gain skills that can help them deliver learning remotely, communicate with learners and provide educational support during emergencies. School leaders will also gain knowledge that can help them coordinate and support mobile-based learning within their institutions. Teacher trainees stand to benefit from early exposure to these approaches before they enter the teaching profession.

A significant honour for SEKU

SEKU's selection among the eight public universities representing Kenya in the initiative is a significant achievement for the University.The project provides SEKU with an opportunity to participate in a continental education programme while strengthening its capacity in digital learning, teacher education and innovation. The initiative also creates opportunities for the University to engage with international partners and institutions

working to address emerging challenges in education. SEKU's Master Trainers will play a central role in translating the knowledge and skills acquired through the project into practical training for educators and teacher trainees.

Looking ahead

SEKU is now preparing for the next phase of implementation. The Master Trainers have received specialised training and the necessary digital equipment, while the University has already mobilised 360 prospective participants. The next major step will involve the uploading of the training courses by the UNESCO-IICBA–PAVEU team. SEKU will then support participants with registration and guide them throughout the training process. The University's goal is to ensure that the knowledge acquired through the initiative reaches teachers, school leaders and teacher trainees who can apply it in real educational environments. The project also presents an opportunity for SEKU to strengthen its leadership in digital education and contribute to the development of resilient teaching and learning systems. SEKU participation in this continental initiative represents a commitment to ensuring that education can continue even when circumstances make conventional classroom teaching difficult. SEKU is proud to be part of a continental partnership that is harnessing mobile technology to empower educators, strengthen teacher preparation and promote continuity of learning in times of crisis.

Dr. Sarah Ndanu Mwangangi Ngesu
Team Leader, UNESCO-IICBA-PAVEU Project

RESEARCH AWARDS

International recognition for SEKU research on climate-resilient WASH

South Eastern Kenya University continues to strengthen its global research presence through participation in international scientific forums. In February 2026, Dr. Eng. Jokastah Kalungu of the Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, received the Best Poster Presenter Award at the WASH and Climate Conclave hosted by the Centre for Water and Sanitation (CWAS), CRDF, CEPT University, India. The recognition was awarded during the Global South Academic Conclave (GSAC 2026), which brought practitioners, together researchers, policymakers, and development partners working at the intersection of water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH), climate change, and sustainable development.

The award recognized a research poster focusing on the impacts of climate change on water resources and WASH systems, particularly how increasing climate variability affects water availability, water quality, infrastructure performance, and community resilience especially in informal settlements (slums). The research highlighted the need for integrated approaches that combine infrastructure ecosystem participation, restoration, development, community and climate adaptation measures to improve the sustainability of water and sanitation systems in vulnerable regions/groups.



Presentation of research paper at the WASH and Climate Conclave, CEPT University, India



Presentation of research poster at the WASH and Climate Conclave, CEPT University, India.

The opportunity to participate in the conclave provided an opportunity to engage with leading researchers and practitioners from across the Global South and beyond. The event facilitated knowledge exchange on emerging challenges facing water and sanitation systems under changing climatic conditions and showcased innovative approaches for strengthening resilience in both rural and urban settings.

The engagement formed part of broader discussions under the Global South Academic Conclave (GSAC 2026), where participants explored the interconnected roles of engineering, public health, governance, climate science, and community development in addressing water-related challenges. Discussions emphasized that climate-resilient WASH systems require multidisciplinary solutions and stronger collaboration between academia, practitioners, policymakers, and local communities.



Fi Best Poster Presenter Award received during the WASH and Climate Conclave, February 2026.

Several important lessons emerged from the conference. A key highlight of the discussions was the consensus that there is a need to strengthen the link between academic research and practical implementation by promoting field-based learning, applied research, and evidence-based policy development. There was also strong emphasis on integrating climate resilience, ecosystem restoration, gender-responsive approaches, and community participation into water resources planning and management.

These discussions closely align with ongoing research and professional work in climate resilience, watershed management, water infrastructure assessment, and community adaptation initiatives. Experiences from field based projects have demonstrated that sustainable WASH systems require more than physical infrastructure. Long-term resilience depends on healthy ecosystems, effective governance systems, adequate financing mechanisms, and active community involvement.

The conference further reinforced the importance of integrating engineering solutions with climate adaptation and livelihood improvement strategies. Infrastructure interventions must be complemented by catchment restoration, soil and water conservation, tree planting, and protection of natural water sources to ensure long-term sustainability.



Presenters responding to questions and engaging with researchers and practitioners during discussions on WASH, climate resilience, and sustainable developmen



Experts and participants engaged in panel discussions on key thematic issues

At South Eastern Kenya University, the knowledge and experiences gained through this international engagement continue to inform teaching, research, innovation, and community outreach activities. They actively contribute to curriculum development and review in the fields of water resources management, climate resilience, natural resource management, infrastructure engineering, food security, and sustainable livelihoods, integrating contemporary research, policy frameworks, and practical applications to strengthen teaching, learning, and professional practice. The experience also supports student mentorship, innovation initiatives, and practical learning opportunities that encourage students to develop solutions to real world climate and water challenges.

Furthermore, the recognition enhances the visibility of South Eastern Kenya University on the global research stage and demonstrates the University's growing contribution to climate resilience, water resources management, and sustainable development research. It also strengthens opportunities for future international collaboration, research partnerships, and knowledge exchange.

Figure 6 and Figure 7 demonstrate the intersection of engineering, climate change, and community resilience, showing how flood events can exceed infrastructure design capacity and disrupt community livelihoods.



Intersection of Engineering, Climate Change, and Community vulnerability.



Community resilience, water access, and infrastructure challenges linked to climate change

The award represents not only a personal achievement but also recognition ofthe quality of research being undertaken atSouth Eastern Kenya University. It underscoresthe importance of interdisciplinary research, international collaboration, and evidence-based solutions in addressing climate change challenges affecting water resources and vulnerable communities across Kenya and the Global South.

Recognition and appreciation

The author gratefully acknowledges the Centre for Water and Sanitation (CWAS), CRDF, CEPT University, India, for supporting participation in the WASH and Climate Conclave and Global South Academic Conclave 2026. Appreciation is also extended to South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) for providing an enabling environment for research, innovation, teaching, and community engagement. The experience has strengthened international research networks and contributed to ongoing efforts to advance climate-resilient development and sustainable water management.

Eng. Jokastah Kalungu,

Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

SEKU Reseacher wins EU funded Erasmus+project

A team of researchers from SEKU are part of a consortium that has won a grant under the ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CBHE, strand 9, Sub-Saharan Africa. The Project is titled "Green Financing for Kenya" (GREENFIN KENYA Project) and is led by Prof. Joseph Nzomoi as the Project Coordinator.

The research brings together four public universities in Kenya () as well as Farming Systems Kenya, an NGO based in Nakuru. Other partners include the Ministry of Education and the Association of Microfinance Institutions of Kenya. The European partners include the HSWT University of Applied Sciences, Triesdorf – Germany, the Wroclaw University of Economics and Business – Poland, the Western Balkans Institute (WEBIN) – Serbia and the OBREAL Global Observatory – Spain. The Project's associated partners are the STIHL Kenya Limited and Equity Bank Limited.

The Project's SEKU Team includes Prof. Joseph Nzomoi who is the overall Project coordinator, Prof. Matheaus Kauti, Dr. Benjamin Muli, Dr. Onesmus Mbaabu, Dr. Grace Mutia and Dr. Judy Wambua. The main objective of the project is to contribute to the development of a resilient, inclusive, and climate-smart green finance and innovation ecosystem in Kenya, in which Higher Education Institutions play a central and sustained role in shaping knowledge, green skills and practices. The specific objectives are:

1) To strengthen the capacity of Kenyan HEIs to design, deliver, and govern nationally aligned and future-oriented education programmes in green banking and climate finance;

2) To support structural reform and policy harmonization across HE, agriculture (businesses), climate finance, and financial regulation frameworks to enable coherent and sustainable green finance implementation in Kenya;

3) To strengthen value-chain integration and inclusive access to green finance for smallholder farmers, with a particular focus on women and youth, through tailored financial products and institutional linkages.

The primary targets of the project are the universities, staff and students. Secondary targets include the Smallholder farmers, Financial institutions, Policy makers and Industry partners. Currently the project is in the stage of preparation and signing of the grant agreement and then the project launch will take place at SEKU which is the host institution. It will be implemented within a period of 48 months. As the lead institution, SEKU will provide the overall project

coordination, governance and ensure alignment with our "Arid to Green" philosophy. SEKU will also facilitate cross-institutional collaboration, oversee research integration and ensure the alignment of green finance curricula with national priorities. Finally, SEKU will provide a central project management office for regular consortium meetings and will also host the project kick-off meeting

Prof. joseph Nzomoi
Principal Investigator

EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

From Kitui to Bavaria: SEKU nutrition student completes Erasmus+ Exchange in Germany

Felister Munee Mbuva, a fourth-year student in the Bachelor of Science in Food, Nutrition and Dietetics programme at South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU), has returned from an Erasmus+ exchange at Hochschule Weihenstephan-Triesdorf (HSWT), University of Applied Sciences, in Bavaria, Germany. She took part in the HSWT Exchange Summer Program 2026, which ran from 4 May to 22 July 2026. Felister was one of five students nominated by SEKU for the programme. After submitting her application documents, she was interviewed by the host university and offered a place.



SEKU student participates in the exchange programme in Germany.

Learning beyond the classroom

At HSWT, Felister studied Agriculture in Germany, Production Proceduresand the German language, and took part in an Interdisciplinary Research Project. Her coursework covered food technology, food safety, nutrition and sustainable approaches to food production and consumption. She found the teaching style markedly different from home. Sessions ran for about four hours with short breaks, and placed strong emphasis on practical work, group projects and independent learning, supported by modern facilities. "Students were encouraged to ask questions, share ideas and take more responsibility for their learning," she notes. For Felister, the most valuable part was seeing how Germany's agriculture and food industry link technology, food safety and sustainability. Theexperience, she says, broadened her understanding of the nutrition professional's rolebeyond clinical settings, and sharpened herteamwork, communication and critical thinkingskills.

Life inGermany

Outside class,Felister travelled, tried new foods, joinedsocialand cultural activities and made friendsfrommany countries, including Kenyan master'sstudents at HSWT who helped hersettlein.She was struck by the punctuality,cleanliness and efficiency of daily life,andbyatransport system built aroundbicyclesandtrains. Adjusting to the weather,whichswung from rainy days to heat above35°C,aswell as to the language, food andanewacademic system, was a challenge.Sheovercame it by staying open-minded,talkingtofellow students and asking for helpwhensheneeded it.

> *"My time in Germany opened my mind to new ways of learning, living and understanding nutrition. It was an unforgettable*

journey that helped me grow as a student and as a person."

Bringing it home



Group photo of Felister and other students in Germany

As she begins her final year, Felister plans to apply what she learned to her studies and practical training. In her career, she hopes to use her international experience to strengthen nutrition education, food safety and sustainable food practices in Kenya, adapting useful ideas to local communities. Her advice to other SEKU students considering an exchange: "Always be positive, open-minded and ready to learn, and above all be smart in terms of creativity, thinking, teamwork and collaboration." Felister thanks the Erasmus+ programme for funding the exchange, HSWT for its warm welcome and support, SEKU and her lecturers for the opportunity, and her family for helping her prepare for the journey.

Dr. Pauline Turkwey
COD, Food science nutrition and dietetics

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Enhancing Student Welfare, Leadership and Campus Life

The Dean of Students Office continued to play a central role in promoting student welfare, leadership development, guidance and counselling, sports, financial aid coordination, and student engagement throughout the 2025/2026 Academic Year. Guided by the University's commitment to holistic student development, the office successfully implemented a wide range of activities aimed at creating a conducive learning environment and enhancing the overall student experience. The office remained dedicated to fostering positive relationships between students and the University administration while ensuring that students received the necessary support to excel academically, socially, and personally.

Student leadership and governance



SEKU SGC with the university management during the inauguration ceremony

During the year under review, the Dean of Students Office successfully coordinated and administered student leadership elections, ensuring a transparent, democratic, and peaceful electoral process. The office also facilitated a smooth transition of leadership within the Students' Governing Council (SGC), enabling continuity in student representation and governance. Through regular consultative meetings and engagement forums, the office strengthened communication between student leaders and University management, ensuring that student concerns were effectively addressed and that students remained actively involved in University decision-making processes. The office continued to serve as the critical link between the Students' Governing

Council and various University organs, promoting dialogue, collaboration, and mutual understanding.

Student welfare and support services Student welfare remained a key priority during the academic year. The office coordinated and supported numerous welfare-related activities aimed at improving students' well-being and campus life. Among the activities successfully undertaken were: Coordination of student welfare events and support initiatives, assistance in planning and directing student-centered activities and functions, provision of support during bereavement and other welfare-related situations affecting students, facilitation of communication channels between students and University administration to enhance harmony and reduce potential conflicts. The office also worked closely with various departments to ensure students had access to essential support services whenever required.

Guidance, counselling and development

Recognizing the importance of mental health and personal development, the Dean of Students Office continued to provide guidance and counselling services to both individualsand student groups. Throughout the year, students benefited from: Professional counselling services, Personal and academic guidance sessions, Mentorship and motivational talks and Public educative lectures addressing social, academic, and personal development issues. These initiatives contributed significantly to student wellness, resilience, and academic success.

First year orientation programme



The office successfully coordinated orientation programmes for newly admitted students, helping them transition smoothly into University life. The orientation sessions provided students with information on, University policies and regulations, Student welfare services. Academic support systems, Student leadership structures,Available clubs, associations, sports, and recreational activities. The programme enabled first-year students to integrate quickly into the University community and begin their academic journey with confidence.

Student clubs, associations and co-curricular activities

To promote talent development, leadership, and social interaction, the Dean of Students Office continued to register, support, and monitor student clubs and associations. The office worked organizations closely in with organizing student various entertainment and recreational activities that enriched campus life and encouraged active student participation outside the classroom. Through these engagements, students were able to develop leadership skills, teamwork, creativity, and community engagement competencies.

Sports and games

The office continued to oversee sports and games activities within the University. Students actively participated in various sporting disciplines that promoted physical fitness, teamwork, discipline, and healthy competition. Collaboration with relevant departments and sports stakeholders ensured the continued growth and support of sports programmes across the University. These activities contributed significantly to students' holistic development and enhanced the University's vibrant campus culture.



SEKU Women's Volleyball Team at a past KUSF Central Conference tournament at Karatina University.

A new chapter to its sporting history has been added through the introduction of Disc Golf, an emerging sport that is rapidly gaining popularity across the world.

Student Discipline and Quality Assurance

The Dean of Students Office continued to coordinate the management of student disciplinary matters in consultation with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics, Research and Innovation) and the Students' Disciplinary Committee. The office ensured that disciplinary processes were handled fairly, transparently, and in accordance with University regulations while promoting responsible student conduct. In addition, the office-maintained compliance with Quality Management Systems (QMS), Performance Contracting requirements, and other statutory and regulatory obligations. This strengthened accountability, service delivery, continuous improvement within department.

Financial aid and HELB support

The office remained actively involved in coordinating student financial aid services and supporting students experiencing financial challenges. Working closely with the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), the office assisted students in resolving funding-related issues and facilitated communication between students and relevant agencies. These efforts helped many students access financial support and continue with their studies without interruption. Research, partnership and sevice delivery In line with the University's commitment to continuous improvement, the office undertook research on student affairs-related issues to enhance service delivery and respond effectively to emerging student needs. The office also strengthened partnerships with other University departments and external stakeholders whose activities focus on student welfare and development. These collaborations enhanced the quality and reach of student support services across the institution. Additionally, the office facilitated the clearance of students travelling outside the counter-boring closely with relevant government ministries and agencies. Looking ahead As South Eastern Kenya University continues to grow, the Dean of Students Office remains committed to providing responsive, student-centered services that support academic excellence, leadership development, personal growth, and student welfare. The office will continue to strengthen student engagement, enhance

support services, promote inclusivity, and foster a vibrant campus environment that enables every student to realize their full potential. "Empowering Students for Academic Excellence, Responsible Leadership and Holistic Development." *Prof.*

Prof. Cornelius Wanjala, PhD.
Dean of Students 2025/2026 Academic Year

From ideas to Impact: The Growing Innovation Culture at South Eastern Kenya University

Innovation begins with an idea, but an idea becomes meaningful when it is developed into a solution that responds to a real challenge in society. At South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU), the Innovation and Incubation Club (SIIC) provides a platform for students to explore this journey.

SIIC brings together students from different disciplines who are interested in innovation, technology, entrepreneurship, research and problem-solving. The club provides a space where students can share ideas, work together, learn from one another and connect with opportunities that can help transform their ideas into practical solutions.

Over time, the club has continued to participate in and support innovation-related activities within the university, including innovation challenges, student pitching sessions, exhibitions and engagements with innovators and industry stakeholders. These activities give students an opportunity to move beyond classroom learning and begin addressing challenges they communities. encounter in their



Students at the SEKU Students' Innovation Challenge 2026, themed "Innovative Solutions for Sustainable Societal Transformation."

One of the important areas the club is focusing on is connecting students to opportunities. Through partnerships and engagements with university offices, innovation organisations, mentors and other student innovation networks, the club seeks to ensure that students are aware of opportunities for training, mentorship, competitions, intellectual property protection, funding and incubation.

A good innovation can come from any discipline.

The club also believes that innovation should not be limited to students pursuing technology related courses. A good innovation can come from any discipline. Whether a student is studying agriculture, education, business, engineering, environmental science, health sciences or computing, their knowledge can contribute to solving real-world problems. As SEKU continues to strengthen its culture of research, innovation and entrepreneurship, SIIC looks forward to playing its part by encouraging more students to identify problems, develop ideas, test solutions and pursue opportunities to create impact.



wards lined up for the winners of the Students' Innovation Challe

The message to every student is simple:

You do not have to wait until you graduate to start innovating. Your idea today could become the solution of tomorrow.

Victor Kyeva,
Chairperson, SEKU Innovation and Incubation Club (SIIC)

CAMPUSES

Kitui Town Campus Opens its Doors to the School of Health Sciences



Kitui Town Campus has entered a new chapter in its growth and development following the relocation of students and staff of the School of Health Sciences to the Campus in September 2026.

The relocation was informed by the need to bring students, academic staff and other closer proximity to facilitate effective teaching, learning, supervision and practical sessions. The Campus's strategic location within Kitui Town, and its proximity to the Kitui County Referral Hospital, offers an added advantage for health sciences training by providing opportunities for practical and clinical exposure.

The arrival of the School of Health Sciences further strengthens the position of Kitui Town Campus as an important academic hub of South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU). Located at BLI, Manyenyoni, the Campus has continued to grow in both academic programmes and student population, providing accessible university education to learners from Kitui County and beyond. The School of Health Sciences is expected to enhance collaboration among students, academic staff, clinical partners and other stakeholders, while strengthening the University's contribution to health training, research, innovation and community service. It also provides an opportunity for students to connect classroom knowledge with the realities of healthcare delivery within the community.

The Campus provides a conducive environment for teaching and learning, with facilities that include lecture rooms, staff offices, a computer laboratory, library and e learning facilities, internet connectivity, a lecturer's lounge, cafeteria and other student amenities. Its serene and accessible location also makes it an ideal setting for academic engagement and community interaction.

As the University celebrates yet another cohort of graduands, Kitui Town Campus proudly joins the wider SEKU community in celebrating the Class of 2026. Their graduation represents the culmination of

years of hard work, resilience, commitment and academic pursuit.

The Director, staff and students of Kitui Town Campus warmly congratulate the Class of 2026 and celebrate their achievements. As they step into the next chapter of their lives and careers, the Campus wishes them success as they go forth to make a positive impact in their professions, communities and the nation. **Congratulations, Class of 2026! Your journey continues, and Kitui Town Campus is proud to have been part of it.** *Pr*

Prof. David Malonza
Director, KituiTown Campus

BEHIND THE SCENCES

Development of Makueni UniversityCollege

Since his appointment as the acting director of Wote Campus on 24th October 2023, Prof. Josphert N. Kimatu has helped translate SEKU's regional mission into institutional growth, wider educational access and a research agenda grounded in community needs. His service spans the campus's transition into Makueni University College, subsequent responsibility for Facilities Management and Administration, and redeployment to SEKU .

Working with university leadership, staff, students, county authorities and partners, he leaves a record of institution building and a portfolio of opportunities whose completion could strengthen the region's academic and economic future.

A defining achievement was his leadership of the campus-level transition process.

He coordinated administrative preparations, stakeholder engagement and the institutional case for establishing a constituent college in Makueni. The August 2025 establishment brief brought together academic priorities, governance arrangements, staffing, infrastructure, learning resources and financial projections. This work helped articulate why locally accessible university education mattered and how a growing campus could develop into an institution serving the distinctive needs of Kenya's drylands.

There was a full-time student enrolment, increasing progressively from zero students to 601 students and then to 932 at the constituent-college transition. That growth represents an expanding opportunity for young people to pursue higher education closer to home.

During the campus period, Wote also recorded three doctoral graduates at SEKU's eleventh graduation in 2024. Its training capacity included 14 TVETA-approved programmes at Wote and 7 at Mtito Andei, demonstrating the breadth of the institutional platform he helped lead.



Prof. Kimatu on NTV media, articulating the need for an informed innovative job creation agenda for the academia, government, civil society and industry in providing careers for the youth.

Prof. Kimatu also contributed to engagement through which campus land expanded from 28.27 to 51.8 acres, an additional 23.53 acres. This enlargement created greater scope for teaching facilities, research, recreation and future development. He prepared spatial concepts and artistic impressions and pursued sports-field levelling and a borehole initiative with stakeholders.

As Director of Facilities Management and Administration, he coordinated maintenance, cleaning, security, utilities and space use. Completing the professional master plan, borehole and sports field remains essential to converting these foundations into dependable infrastructure.

This Institutional growth required administrative capacity. He developed and contributed to MUCO's vision, mission, philosophy, motto, flag design, statutes, human resource instruments, staff establishment proposals, policies, academic regulations and documentation. service-delivery As MUCO Management Board Secretary, he organised institutional business and prepared Council papers, supporting decision-making and continuity. He negotiated the 2025/2026 performance contract and prepared the draft Strategic Plan 2026–2031. Completing consultation, costing and approval of outstanding instruments will consolidate this work and guide the ambition of progressing towards full university status by 2031. His contribution extended to students' daily experiences. He developed a digital hostel landlord application connecting students with accommodation opportunities in real time, linking campus services with local enterprise. He advanced relationships supporting health referrals, sports facilities, digital skills, entrepreneurship and participation. Football community teams, county competitions, tree planting, educational fairs and cultural activities strengthened the campus's connections with its surroundings.

His donation of 170 book titles to the MUCO library in May 2026 provided tangible support for teaching, learning and research.



Mobile Phone Apps developed by Prof. Kimatu to assist linking students' external accommodation experiences with university goals.

He helped shape MUCO's emerging niche around fruit diversity, production, value addition, digital technologies, marketing, postharvest management and agribusiness, alongside Creative Arts and Sports.

He developed two academic programmes on the two areas which are awaiting review and senate approval. His scholarship continued alongside administration: including ten journal publications in the year 2026, spanning restoration, agriculture, education, governance and leadership.

Research on FMNR addressed land restoration, economic benefits, gender participation and women's empowerment, giving the institution a scholarly foundation for community-oriented development.

A significant innovation was patenting of the KIM Biopesticide formulation, for which he achieved intellectual-property protection through KIPI filings under reference KE/UM/2026/4150. This is a priority for linking university science to practical agricultural needs. This supports locally developed pest-management products, student research and enterprise opportunities

The unfinished fruit research portfolio deserves coordinated academic and economic investment. The proposed Fruit Research and Innovation Park at Emali, Makueni Safe Fruit Alliance and Digital Agriculture collaboration with Farmbetter provide complementary routes towards safer production and stronger markets. Research should prioritise pesticide risks, pollinator interactions, postharvest losses, processing, traceability and market requirements. These initiatives need confirmed partnerships, feasibility studies, financing and measurable pilots. Their potential extends from postgraduate training and laboratory capacity to farmer incomes, food quality and regional processing enterprises.

His cassava research leadership offers another route from field experimentation to economic opportunity. The NRF project identifies him as principal investigator and documents work on multiplication, varieties and a collaborative research network. Outstanding priorities include processing, nutrient analysis, safe products, packaging, branding and market development. Equipment and industry partnerships are imperative for testing viable products and business models. Advancing this work could connect dryland crop research with food diversification, farmer enterprises and postgraduate training, while generating evidence relevant to other African production systems.

Equally urgent are the MycoStaple Africa concept, FMNR and regreening studies, and proposed botanical garden and digital herbarium. These initiatives bring together soil biology, crop resilience, biodiversity conservation and indigenous knowledge. Regional university collaboration can support shared research capacity and locally relevant technologies. Adult-focused research on regreening and child protection should assess how environmental partners and inform interventions whose benefits reach beyond ecological restoration.

Prof. Kimatu's return to SEKU creates an opportunity to sustain this portfolio through institutional cooperation, postgraduate supervision and shared research facilities. Pending priorities require talented scholars, protected records, realistic budgets and implementation schedules. His contribution is visible in enrolment growth, expanded land, administrative foundations, student services and scholarly outputs. Carrying the research agenda forward would extend those achievements into knowledge, technologies and enterprises that address the region's development needs. This requires SEKU and MUCO to maintain working partnerships that preserve research momentum through the change in deployment. The imperative is continuity: invest in the foundations already laid and evaluate their benefits for communities across the region and Africa.

MESSAGE FROM SEKU ALUMNI

SEKU Alumni Association Enters A New Chapter

The South Eastern Kenya University Alumni Association (SEKUAA) has entered a new chapter following its formal registration as an independent body, providing a structured platform through which its members can organize and advance alumni affairs while maintaining a strong and mutually beneficial relationship with the University.

The Association was officially launched during SEKU's 12th Graduation Ceremony on 31 October 2025, an occasion graced by the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Hon. Julius Migos Ogamba. The launch marked an important step towards strengthening lifelong connections among SEKU graduates and between alumni and their alma mater.



Since the launch, considerable progress has been made towards establishing the Association on a firm institutional and legal foundation. The University supported the registration process, culminating in the formalization of the Association with the Registrar of Societies. This marks an important transition from the formative stage to an operational alumni body with structures to coordinate and manage the affairs of its members.An important distinction as the Association grows is that every graduate of South Eastern Kenya University is an alumnus or alumna of SEKU by virtue of havinggraduated from the University. However, being a SEKU alumnus or alumna does not automatically make one a registered member of the South Eastern Kenya University Alumni Association. Membership in SEKUAA is attained through registration and payment of the prescribed membership fees. The Association's Constitution provides that kgraduates are eligible for ordinary membership and prescribes the applicable membership fees.

SEKUAA therefore provides an organized platform through which alumni can translate their lifelong connection with SEKU into active participation. Its mandate includes promoting professional networking and collaboration, mentorship, volunteerism, stronger engagement between alumni and current students, and alumni contribution to the continued growth of the University.

Dr. Kezia W. Mbuthia
Chairperson, South Eastern Kenya University Alumni Association (SEKUAA)

From Student to Staff: A Journey Back to My University



My journey with the University began in 2021 when I joined as a student to pursue a Bachelor of Education Science, specializing in Mathematics and Physics. Like many students, I came with hopes, ambitions and a desire to build a meaningful career. At the time, I never imagined that the institution where I was beginning my academic journey

would later become the place where I would begin my professional career.

My years as a student were a period of learning, growth and personal development. Studying Mathematics and Physics taught me the importance of discipline, patience, critical thinking and perseverance. Beyond academics, the University gave me opportunities to develop skills in communication, teamwork, problem-solving and working with people—skills that have proved valuable in my professional life.

In 2025, I graduated with my Bachelor of Education Science degree. Graduation was a proud and memorable moment, marking the completion of one chapter and the beginning of another. Today, I am privileged to serve the same institution as an administrative staff

The transition from being a student to becoming a member of staff has given me a different perspective of the University. I now understand more clearly the important role that administrative staff play in supporting students, academic staff and the wider institution. My current role has continued to challenge me to learn, adapt, communicate effectively and serve with professionalism.

One of the greatest lessons I have learned from this journey is that graduation is not the end of learning. The world of work requires us to remain curious, adaptable and willing to acquire new skills. To the graduating students, I would encourage you not to be discouraged if your first opportunity after graduation is not exactly what you expected. Start where you can, give your best, learn from every experience and remain open to new opportunities. I would also encourage graduates to value relationships and the people they meet along the way. Your lecturers, colleagues, friends and professional networks can become important sources of guidance and opportunity. Most importantly, remain disciplined and patient with your journey. Success does not always happen immediately after graduation; sometimes, it is built gradually through Small opportunities, consistent effort and a willingness to keep moving forward.

My journey from joining the University as a student in 2021,gr aduatingin2025,and now serving as an Administrative Assistant—has shown me that the institution where we begin our education can sometimes become part of our professional story as well.

As I continue serving the University, I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the institution that helped shape me. To the graduating class, I wish you courage as you begin the next chapter, wisdom to recognize opportunities, and determination to make the most of every step along the way

Newton Kamuyu,

Administrative assistant- DFMA

CONGRATUALTION OUR VALEDITORIAN



As we celebrate this remarkable milestone, I am filled with gratitude, joy, and humility. Graduation is not only a celebration of academic achievement but also a reflection of the hard work, resilience,sacrifices,and determination that have shaped our journey.

My time in school has been filled with valuable lessons, unforgettable memories, and challenges that have helped me grow. Through examinations, assignments, and difficult moments, I learned the importance of perseverance, discipline, teamwork, and believing in myself ourselves. Today, i celebrate not only what i have achieved but also the people we have become.

To my lecturers and school administration, thank you for your guidance, dedication, and unwavering commitment to our success. To our parents and guardians, we are deeply grateful for your sacrifices, prayers, encouragement, and unconditional support. Your contribution has been instrumental in bringing us this far.

To my fellow graduates, congratulations! Each of us has a unique story of determination and triumph. Let us remember that success is not measured by grades and awards alone, but also by our character, integrity, kindness, and the positive impact we make on others. Being named valedictorian is a great honour, and I recognize that every achievement is made possible by the support and inspiration of those around us.

As we step into a new chapter, let us embrace the future with courage, confidence, and open minds. There will be challenges along the way, but may we always remember the lessons we have learned and never allow setbacks to discourage us from pursuing our dreams.

Graduation is not the end of our journey; it is the beginning of greater opportunities and possibilities. Wherever life takes us, may we remain humble, uphold our values, and strive to make a meaningful difference in our communities and the world.

Congratulations to the graduating class! Welcame as learners, we leave with knowledge and experience, and we step intothefuture ready to make a difference. Our journey continues, and ourgreatest achievements are yet to come.

Nehemiah Kipkurui Bett
Schoolof
Education, Bachelor of Education Science

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2026 BEST STUDENT PER SCHOOL

1. Nehemiah Kipkiru Bett School of education
2. . Michelle Robai Lusweti School of Health Sciences
3. Francis Lekula Sajoni
School of Science and Computing
4. Christine Munee Mutuku
School of Business and Economics
5. Masud Idris Gelmal School of engineering and technology
6. Jemy Mutende Musila
School of Agriculture, Environment water and Natural Resources
7. Faith Karimi Kirema
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

PICTORIAL.



Participants Engage project



IEEE Summer school partipants



Tree planting led by theVice-Chancellor and and Biashara Bridges



SEKU students and allumni at HACKATHON conference



Matriculation ceremony 2026



Participants at the SEKU RED RIBBON pre-run

SEKU ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

1. Bachelor of Education (Arts)
2. Bachelor of Education (Science)
3. Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood
4. Master of Education
5. Master of Education in Kiswahili Methods
6. Master of Education in Early Childhood Education
7. Master of Education in Guidance and Counselling
8. Master of Educational Psychology
9. Doctor of Educational Psychology
10. Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Administration and Planning

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

1) Bachelor of Science in Hydrology and Water Resources
2) Bachelor of Science in Fisheries Management and Aquaculture
3) Bachelor of Science in Forestry and Community Development
4) Bachelor of Science in Environmental Conservation & Natural Resources Management
5) Bachelor of Science in Land Resources Management
6) Bachelor of Science in Environmental Planning and Management
7) Bachelor of Science in Climate Change and Agroforestry
8) Bachelor of Science in Meteorology
9) Bachelor of Science in Geology
10) Bachelor of Science in Agriculture
11) Bachelor of Science in Dryland Agriculture
12) Bachelor of Science in Dryland Animal Science
13) Bachelor of Science in Horticulture
14) Bachelor of Science in Range
15) Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness Management & Entrepreneurship
16) Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education & Extension
17) Bachelor of Science in Aquatic Sciences
18) Master of Science in Agro meteorology
19) Master of Science in Agricultural Resource Management
20) Master of Science in Livestock Production Systems
21) Master of Science in Agronomy
22) Master of Science in Agricultural Economics
23) Master of Science in Range Management Master of Science in Aquaculture

24) Master of Science in Integrated Water Resource and Watershed Management

25) Master of Science in Mineral Exploration and Mining

26) Master of Science in Environmental Management

27) Master of Science in Climate Change & Agroforestry

28) Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Management

29) Doctor of Philosophy in Climate Change & Agroforestry

30) Doctor of Philosophy in Water Resources Management

31) Doctor of Philosophy in Dryland Resource Management

32) Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Economics

33) Doctor of Philosophy in Animal Science

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND COMPUTING

1) Bachelor of Science in Biology

2) Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology & Biochemistry

3) Bachelor of Science in Mathematics

4) Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science 5) Bachelor of Science in Statistics

6) Bachelor of Science in Electronics

7) Bachelor of Science in Physics

8) Bachelor of Science in Chemistry

9) Bachelor of Information Technology

10) Bachelor of Science

11) Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

12) Master of Science in Computer Science

13) Master of Science in Biotechnology

14) Master of Science in Biochemistry

15) Master of Science in Physics

16) Master of Science in Biodiversity Conservation and Management

17) Doctor of Philosophy in Physics

18) Doctor of Philosophy in Information Systems &Technology

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

1) Bachelor of Science in Medical Microbiology

2) Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory

3) Bachelor of Science in Public health

4) Bachelor of Science in Population Health

5) Bachelor of Science in Nursing

6) Bachelor of Food, Nutrition and Dietetics

7) Bachelor of Health Records and Information Technology

8) Master of Science in Epidemiology

9) Master of Public Health

10) Master of Science in International Health

11) Master of Science in Infectious Disease Diagnosis

V SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

1) Bachelor of Commerce

2) Bachelor of Business & Information Technology

3) Bachelor of Procurement & Supply Chain Management

4) Bachelor of Project Planning & Management

5) Bachelor of Economics &Statistics 6) Bachelor of Economics

7) Bachelor of Freight and Logistics Management

8) Master of Business Administration

9) Master of Arts in Economics

10) Master of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management

11) Master of science in Project Management

12) Doctor of Philosophy in Project Management

13) Doctor of Philosophy in Supply Chain Management

14) Doctor of Business Administration & Management

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

1) Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

2) Bachelor of Science Textile Technology and Applied Fashion Design

3) Bachelor of Science in Electrical & Electronics Engineering

4) Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

5) Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

1) Bachelor of Arts

2) Bachelor of Arts in Social Work

3) Bachelor of Arts in Gender & Development Studies

4) Bachelor of Arts in Criminology & Social Justice

5) Bachelor of Hospitality management

6) Master of Arts in Sociology

7) Master of Arts in Gender and Development Studies

8) Master of Arts in Kiswahili

9) Master of Arts in Linguistics

10) Master of Arts in Religious Studies 11) Master of Arts in Geography

12) Doctor of Philosophy in Kiswahili

SCHOOL OF LAW

1) Bachelor of Law

LICENSED TVET PROGRAMMES

1) Diploma in Civil Engineering

2) Diploma in Building Technology

3) Diploma in Architecture

4) Diploma in Quantity Surveying

5) Diploma in Automotive Engineering

6) Diploma in Mechanical Engineering

7) Diploma in Electrical and Electronics Engineering (Instrumentation)

8) Diploma in Agricultural Engineering

9) Diploma in General Agriculture

10) Diploma in Entrepreneurial Agriculture

11) Diploma in Information Communication Technology

12) Diploma in Supply Chain Management
13) Diploma in Cooperative Management 14) Diploma in Project Management
15) Diploma in Social Work and Community Development
16) Diploma in Disaster Management
17) Diploma in Food And Beverage Production, Sales and Service Management
18) Diploma in Food and Beverage Management
19) Diploma in Nutrition And Dietetics
20) Diploma in Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
21) Diploma in Environmental Science and Technology
22) Diploma in Water Technology (Water Supply)
23) Diploma in Water Technology (Sanitation)
24) Diploma in Water Technology (Surface Water)
25) Diploma in Water Technology (Ground Water)
26) Diploma in Petroleum Geoscience
27) Diploma in Fashion Design and Clothing Technology
28) Diploma in international Freight Management
29) Diploma in Photo Grammetry and Remote Sensing
30) Diploma in Culinary Arts –TVET-CDACC

31) Diploma in Electrical Engineering – TVET-CDACC

32) Diploma in Agricultural Engineering – TVET-CDACC

33) Diploma in Environmental Science– TVET-CDACC

34) Diploma in Mechanical Plant Engineering–TVET-CDACC

35) Diploma Computer Science –TVET-CDACC

36) Diploma in Artificial Intelligence - TVET-CDACC

37) Diploma in Civil Engineering-TVET-CDACC

38) Diploma in Computer Programming – TVET-CDACC

39) Waste Water and Sanitation Engineering Technician-TVET-CDACC

40) NVCET in Fashion Design & Garment Making Technology

41) Certificate in Petroleum Geo-Science

42) Craft in Electrical and Electronics Technology

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES- NOT ACCREDITED

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

1) Master of Educational Foundations

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND NATURAL

RESOURCES.

1) Bachelor of science in Animal Health & Entrepreneurship

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND COMPUTING

1) Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Computer Science

2) Bachelor of Science in Data Science

3) Bachelor of Science in Cyber Security & Computer Networks

4) Bachelor of Science with Education

5) Master of Science in Applied Statistics

6) Master of Science in Pure Mathematics

7) Master of Applied Statistics

8) Master of Science in Chemistry

9) Master of Science in Entomology

10) Master of Science in Data Science

11) Doctor of Philosophy in Entomology

12) Doctor of Philosophy in Biotechnology

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

1) Bachelor of Science in Food Science & Technology

2) Master of Science in Food Science and Nutrition

3) Master of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

1) Bachelor of Entrepreneurship, Innovation & technology

2) Bachelor of Economics and Finance

3) Master of Science in Supply Chain Management

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

1) Master of Science in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

2) Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

1) Master of Arts in Comparative Literature

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SEKU IS ISO 9001 : 2015 CERTIFIED