



# THE OASIS NEWSLETTER

A Publication from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor



*Vice Chancellor Prof. Emily Achieng' Akuno takes oath of office*

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## PASSING OF THE GAVEL: THE VICE CHANCELLOR'S SUCCESSION

**I**t is a new dawn for Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology following the installation of Prof. Emily Achieng' Akuno as its second Vice Chancellor. Prof. Emily signed her acceptance letter on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September, 2023 in the presence of the University Council. The day not only marked the arrival of a new Vice Chancellor but also heralded a profound shift in the University's management history. JOOUST, an institution built on a rich heritage of progress, appears to have taken a bold step forward. With Prof. Emily Akuno at the helm, the oasis of knowledge is ready to embrace a new era of promise.

The Vice Chancellor took the oath of office in a ceremony that was witnessed by the University Council and members of the University Senate, before the instruments of power were handed over to her by the former acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Joseph Bosire. As she placed her hand on the University's seal, she vowed to uphold the Institution's mandate, foster academic excellence,



and serve the University's interest in all her endeavors.

The Chairman of Council, Prof. Shem Wandiga, while noting the transitions the University had had in the recent past culminating to that day, assured the Vice Chancellor of the Council's unwavering support under her leadership.

While giving her acceptance speech, Prof. Emily Akuno spoke passionately about her vision for the University, emphasizing her commitment to innovation, research, and steering the University's milestones to a higher level. She thanked her predecessor, the former acting Vice Chancellor, for his dedication and pledged to build upon his legacy.



*Outgoing Acting Vice Chancellor Prof. Joseph Bosire hands over the instruments of power to the incoming Vice Chancellor Prof. Emily Achieng' Akuno*

The Senators took on the special privilege to introduce themselves to the new Vice chancellor, affirming their commitment to serve and support her in steering the academic agenda.

Her Magnificence Prof. Emily holds the honor of being the first female Vice Chancellor of Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology, with a robust experience in University Management

having served in Cooperative University of Kenya as a Deputy Vice Chancellor, in charge of Academic Affairs. She is a steller scholar, a reputed administrator and professor of Music, with an admirable trail of tutelage in both local and international Universities. She has also served as the President of The International Music Council.

The University Council, Senate, members of staff and

students take this chance to congratulate the Vice Chancellor on her new appointment and wish her all the best of God's well in her endeavours.



*Members of University Council and Senate take a group photo with the newly installed Vice Chancellor Prof. Emily Achieng' Akuno.*

## SHAKING WAVES IN MOMBASA!

Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology (JOOUST) participated in the Mombasa International Show that was held from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in Mombasa County at the invitation of the Ministry of Education, State Department for Higher Education and Research.

The invitation was in recognition and appreciation of University's previous participation at the Ministry's stand which has gone a long way to enrich the exhibits showcased.

Participation and exhibition at the Ministry's stand provided a valuable opportunity for the Institution to create awareness about? offering ground for local and international recognition. The stand was populated by a series of promotional material and outstanding innovations from the University's research front, seamlessly aligned to this year's theme of the show: "Promoting climate-smart agriculture and trade initiative for sustainable economic growth".

The University presented three main research projects

including JOOUST VLIR-IUC Project, ACE II INSEFOODs project and Sericulture project that showcased the University's research initiatives towards sustainable economic growth. JOOUST emerged second position in two trade classes, namely; the Best University Stand and The Stand that Best Interprets Current Show Theme: Education and/or Research



JOOUST's awards for best University stand and stand that best interprets the theme of education and research.

Showcasing the JOOUST brand through the Ministry of Education platform not only raised the University's portfolio but also fostered an opportunity for collaboration and networking with the Ministry of Education Officers on key strategic areas.



A group photo of a section of the exhibitors who participated at Mombasa International Show



**Prof. Monica Ayieko (seated) displays edible snacks produced by JOUST INSEFOODS..**



**Prof. Julius Manyala expounds on the interventions envisioned under the JOUST VLIR-IUC Project**



**Dr. Richard Magwanga explains the silk production value chain.**



**Prof. Silvanca Abeka engages guests touring the stand on various innovations on display.**

## THE FIRST STEPS: JOOUST FRESHERS ORIENTATION

**T**wo thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight candidates who sat for their KCSE in December 2022 have started their new academic journey at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology after successfully going through the Admission process.

The students who, in the company of their parents and guardians, excitedly thronged the university grounds on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 have been taken through a meticulous one week long orientation program to help them familiarize themselves with different departments and sections within the university.

While giving her official address to the first years at the climax of the orientation program, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Emily Achieng' Akuno challenged the fresh men and women to take advantage of the opportunity they have of joining the university and use it for their own benefit in order to shape their future. Prof. Akuno, who in jest referred to the freshers as her agemates in JOOUST, explained to the students



*The Vice Chancellor Prof. Emily Achieng' Akuno makes her maiden speech.*

how the bigger fraction of their academic journey is to be covered by themselves and so they ought not rest on their laurels. “You are the main players in this game, the rest of us are just giving you company may be to cheer you up and see you excel. So the ball is in your court my dear students. Your lecturers are here just to show you how to do it but not to do it for you, always remember you are the doer” stressed the Vice Chancellor.

During the orientation program, the first year students were also introduced to the University dons drawn from the eight schools who addressed them on various academic programs currently offered in the university. The

lecturers explained to them in detail their significance in the job market. This marked an awesome moment to most of the students having an opportunity to interact closely with the academic chiefs, especially professors.

The arrival of the new students has swiftly changed the “atmospheric temperature” around the university which has been evidently on low key since May 2023 when the continuing students were released for their long holiday break.

# PICTORIALS



*University members of Senate, Staff Union officials during the Vice Chancellor's address to the first year students.*



*First year students listen keenly to the remarks made by the University Management.*



*First years share smiles with the Vice Chancellor Prof. Emily Achieng' Akuno over a group photo*



*Brave first year addresses her peers during the feedback session.*

# *The Oasis*

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

**A publication from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor**



**JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**WELCOME!**  
*to the oasis of knowledge*

*Your journey begins today.*



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