



# MksU CONNECT

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

- Leadership Transition at MksU: New DVC – APF Assumes Office
- International Youth Day at MksU Highlights Sustainable Development
- Kenya's Ambassador to Russia Visits Machakos University to Explore Academic Partnerships
- Student from MksU Among Top Performers in African Human Rights Contest
- A Bitter Dose for MksU Staff FC – Doctors Prescribe Four-Goal Treatment



*Co-creating Sustainable Futures*

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### Leadership Transition at MksU: New DVC– APF Assumes Office



(centre) Vice Chancellor, Prof. Joyce Agalo (left) Prof. Florence Memba, incoming DVC-APF, (right) Prof. Mugendi M'Rithaa, the outgoing Ag. DVC-APF.

On 11<sup>th</sup> August 2025, Machakos University warmly welcomed **Prof. Florence Memba** as the new Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration, Planning & Finance) in a ceremony marked by reflection and optimism. The handover, held in the Vice Chancellor's Boardroom, brought together the University Management Board led by the Vice Chancellor, **Prof. Joyce Agalo**, alongside Deans, Directors, and Heads of Departments.

A key moment was the symbolic presentation of statutory documents, including the University Act (2012), Charter (2016), Statutes (2019), Staff Establishment (2022), and the 2023/2024–2027/2028 Strategic Plan, providing Prof. Memba with essential tools to steer her leadership mandate.

In her remarks, Prof. Agalo applauded the outgoing Ag. DVC **Prof. Mugendi M'Rithaa** for his dedicated stewardship and invaluable role in advancing strategic projects, wishing Prof. Memba every success in driving the University's administrative and financial vision forward.

### International Youth Day at MksU Highlights Sustainable Development

Machakos University hosted the 2025 International Youth Day celebrations on 12<sup>th</sup> August under the theme “Youth Empowerment for a Sustainable Future.” Organized by Youth for Sustainable Development (YSD) Machakos, the vibrant event brought together young innovators, community leaders, civil society, and government representatives to champion sustainable change.

The day was marked by inspiring activities, including a Kenya Red Cross blood drive, youth-led exhibitions, thrilling football matches, and panel discussions on entrepreneurship, creative arts, sports, governance, and civic education.

Guided by the locally developed **4Ts Framework**—Tuchanuane (Motivation & Sensitization), Tujitume (Empowerment & Skills), Tujengane (Networking & Community), and Tuomoke (Entrepreneurship & Sustainability)—participants reaffirmed the youth's vital role in shaping an inclusive, innovative, and sustainable future.



from left, Prof. Stanley Makindi, DVC-RIL, 3rd from left, Prof. James Muola, DVC-ASA, 2nd from right, Ms. Margaret Wanja, Executive Director, (YSD)

## Kenya's Ambassador to Russia Visits Machakos University to Explore Academic Partnerships



(centre) from the left, H.E. Dr. Peter M. Mathuki, Kenyan Ambassador to Russia, (on the right) Prof. Joyce Agalo, Vice-Chancellor, Machakos University.

On 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025, Machakos University was honored to host **H.E. Dr. Peter M. Mathuki**, Kenya's Ambassador to the Russian Federation, for a courtesy call aimed at strengthening Kenya–Russia academic ties.

The Ambassador discussed potential collaborations with leading Russian universities. These partnerships will focus on student and staff academic exchange programmes, joint research initiatives, and cultural exchange opportunities.

## Student from MksU Among Top Performers in African Human Rights Contest



*MksU Bachelor of Education student: Michael Ombasa Nicodemus*

Machakos University proudly celebrates **Michael Ombasa Nicodemus**, a third-year Bachelor of Education Arts (English and Literature) student, for securing **third place** in the prestigious African Human Rights Inter-University Essay Competition, organized by the International Human Rights Art Movement.

Michael's award-winning essay, "Bridging the Gap: Human Rights, Youth Empowerment, and Africa's Developmental Promise", champions youth empowerment as both a moral imperative and a fundamental right, addressing challenges such as marginalization, gender inequality, and mental health.

His achievement underscores Machakos University's dedication to nurturing talent, fostering innovation, and connecting students to global opportunities that shape a sustainable future.

The continental contest, held virtually from Nigeria between May and July 2025, brought together outstanding students from across Africa to explore critical issues of human rights and social justice.

## A Bitter Dose for MksU Staff FC – Doctors Prescribe Four-Goal Treatment

On Wednesday, 13th August, Machakos University Grounds hosted a spirited football match between **Machakos University Staff FC** and the youthful **Machakos Level 5 FC**. What began as a friendly match quickly turned into a clinical lesson in football.

The first half saw MksU Staff FC in control, displaying composed, well-coordinated play and earning a well-deserved opener to lead 1–0 at halftime. “We hit them exactly where we wanted,” remarked Captain **Kitheka Wa Katui**, brimming with confidence.



*MksU Staff FC: squatting from the left: Cyprian Maina, Wellington Wanyama, Richard Masaku, Anthony Wambua, and Ancent Muema*

But the second half brought a complete turnaround. The medics stormed back with relentless pace and precision, netting **four unanswered goals** — an equalizer, a swift second, a counterattack stunner, and a final strike that sealed a 4–1 victory.

Despite the defeat, the match ended in high spirits with smiles, handshakes, and good-humored banter. “Losing 4–1 hurts,” admitted Captain Kitheka, “but this was a learning dose. We will regroup, train harder, and next time, we’ll be the ones prescribing the medicine.”

## Student Testimonial – Lavenda Atieno Were



*Lavenda Atieno, MksU Bachelor of Science in Statistics and Programming student*

*“Machakos University has been more than a place of learning—it has been a launchpad for my personal and professional growth.”*

Lavenda Atieno Were, a graduand from the **School of Pure and Applied Sciences**, reflects on her enriching journey pursuing a **Bachelor of Science in Statistics and Programming**. Her studies equipped her with strong analytical and technical skills while igniting a passion for solving real-world problems through data and technology.

She credits the challenging yet rewarding curriculum, coupled with the unwavering support of dedicated lecturers, for sharpening her focus, resilience, and curiosity. Beyond academics, Lavenda gained confidence, embraced teamwork, and built lifelong friendships that enriched her university life.

“As I graduate, I leave with more than knowledge—I carry a strong foundation, a growth mindset, and memories that will forever make Machakos University my proud starting point,” she says.



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**Reporting date for first-year students is 25<sup>th</sup>  
August 2025**

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