

# The Vibes

A publication of Gretsas University -Thika

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Why personal competences are integral in job hunt**



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**Mr. & Miss Gretsas, 2018**

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# GRE TSA UNIVERSITY - THIKA

Quality Education for the Real World



ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES	MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	TUITION FEE PER SEMESTER	
<p><b>-Bachelor of Commerce (BCom)</b> Specialization options: Accounting , Business Administration, Credit Management, Human Resource Management, Entrepreneurship &amp; Enterprise Development, Finance, Marketing, Purchasing and Supply Chain Management.</p> <p>Note: The BCom programme allows students to take extra courses and graduate with double major or major / minor combinations such as Bcom(Double Major, Accounting and Finance) or Bcom (Finance Major, Accounting Minor);Bcom (Marketing Major, Finance Minor) etc thus saving time and money.</p> <p><b>Exemptions at no charge for ATD,DCM or part II CPA/CPS/CCP/CSIA to join in 2nd year while part III CPA/CPS/CCP/CSIA join in 3rd year.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● KCSE C+ (plus);</li> <li>● Holders of relevant KNEC Diplomas join in 2nd year of study</li> <li>● Holders of relevant KNEC higher Diplomas join in 3rd year of study; provided credit transfers granted do not exceed 49% of credits offered in the respective degree programme</li> </ul>	<p>Kshs.51,000 (Full-time, Evenings &amp; Weekends) Kshs.45,000 (Distance Learning)</p>	
<p><b>- Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management</b></p>			
<p><b>- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science</b></p>			<p>Kshs.55,000 (Full-time, Evenings &amp; Weekends) Kshs.45,000 (Distance Learning)</p>
<p><b>- Bachelor of Arts in Community Development</b></p>			<p>Kshs.50,000 (Full-time, Evenings &amp; Weekends) Kshs.45,000 (Distance Learning)</p>
<p><b>- Bachelor of Education (Arts)</b> Teaching Courses: English &amp; Linguistics, Literature, Geography, History, Philosophy &amp; Religious Education, Kiswahili, Mathematics, Business Studies.</p>	<p>KCSE C+(plus) with at least C+(plus) in two teaching subjects; or a diploma in Education (Arts)</p>	<p>Kshs.50,000 (Full-time, Evenings &amp; Weekends)</p>	
<p><b>DIPLOMA AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMMES IN:</b></p> <p><b>Business:</b> Accountancy; Banking &amp; Finance;Agricultural Enterprise &amp; Project Management; Business Information Technology; Business Management; County Governance &amp; Management; Credit Management; Entrepreneurship &amp; Enterprise Development; Food Security &amp; Livelihoods; Human Resource Management; Marketing Management; Sales Management; Project Management; Public Administration; Public Relations; Purchasing &amp; Supply Management; Quality Assurance &amp; Standardization.</p> <p><b>Computing:</b> Computer Science; Desktop Publishing &amp; Graphics Design; Information Technology; Software Systems Development.</p> <p><b>Education, Humanities &amp; Social Sciences:</b> Counseling Psychology; Diplomacy &amp; International Relations; Journalism &amp; Mass Communication; Social Work &amp; Community Development; Education (Early Childhood Education); Education (Special Needs Education); Education (Arts) in any two of the following Subjects: English,Literature in English, Kiswahili, C.R.E, History, Geography, Mathematics, Business Studies, Agriculture.</p> <p><b>Health Sciences:</b> Community Health; Community Nutrition &amp; Dietetics; Environmental Health; Health Records, Information Technology &amp; Medical Laboratory.</p> <p><b>Hospitality &amp; Tourism:</b> Food &amp; Beverage Management; Food Production; Hotel &amp; Restaurant Management; Travel &amp; Tourism Management.</p> <p><b>Library and Information Sciences:</b> Library &amp; Information Science; Records &amp; Information Management.</p>	<p><b>Diplomas</b> KCSE C-(minus) or a certificate qualification</p> <p><b>Certificates</b> KCSE D+(plus) or an artisan certificate</p>	<p><b>Diplomas:</b> Kshs.25,000 (Full-time, Evenings &amp; Weekends) Kshs.22,000 (Distance Learning)</p> <p><b>Certificates:</b> Kshs.25,000 (Full-time, Evenings &amp; Weekends) Kshs.22,000 (Distance Learning)</p>	



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# The Vibes

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on content to be published.

# Editorial

## DEMYSTIFYING COMMUNICATION, THE GRE TSA WAY

Ever since the medieval  
period, communication  
has been an integral part of the  
society. From the rudimentary  
to the much-sophisticated  
channels of communication, the  
communication concept remains  
unchanged.

Whether you interrogate  
the concept from classical to  
contemporized worldviews,  
communication remains the  
process of sending messages  
from the sender to the receiver  
via a channel. Mark you feedback  
complements the whole process  
whether positive or negative.

Have you ever conceptualized  
or envisaged how life would  
be without communication?  
In my own view, life without  
communication is like car without  
an engine. In the same vein, I  
opine that the highest you can  
ever reach in any profession is  
communication.

I am not in any way trying to  
parade or exhibit jingoistic ally my  
bias towards the concept, but many  
will agree with me that if you rise  
in your profession communication  
will be part of your life.

Take for example a Chief  
Executive Officer (CEO) of any  
company worth its salt, he or she  
is presumed to be the corporates  
spokesperson in communicating  
the company's policies to the  
targeted audience.

In as much as communication  
is highly credited for the major



achievements in the world  
like catalyzing globalization,  
perpetuation or cultural heritage  
and not forgetting the recent  
discoveries in Kenya where people  
can send money at the comfort of  
their mobile phones.

It has received criticism in  
equal measures as a catalyst in  
exacerbating moral decadence in  
the contemporary society and not  
forgetting abetting cyber-crimes.

But why do many people shy  
away from communication? Is it  
because of xenophobia?

Do they lack skill to  
communicate?

The vibes publication is here to  
bridge the gap.

It gives Gretsa University  
community a platform to air  
their views without fear or  
intimidation.

As the publication's main  
gatekeeper, I welcome all sort of  
articles drawn from the plethora  
of professionals within the  
university.

I take this opportunity to  
welcome all in perusing the fifth  
edition of the vibes publication.

May God richly bless you.

## Warming up for Gretsia University - Thika

By Prof. George N.Reche,  
Director, Research and  
Publications

In the new academic year, you need to interact more with other people in the University Campus.

In your academic interactions, it is important to remain focused on your goals and aspirations. Self-development is a lifelong process. Continually ask for feedback on your learning.

A university is a place to seek knowledge as a part of your academic endeavor. Your education is influenced by your attitude, values and personality characteristics among other factors.

As you pursue your academic interests, it is important to have positive attitude of self and other people. You have your opportunities to develop your potentials as a member of the University community.

The University environment, which you are now part of, enhances critical thinking and nurtures a lifelong culture of seeking knowledge.

Learning occurs not only in classroom setting but also in co-curriculum activities such as Sports, Games, Clubs just to mention a few learning fora. Gretsia offers a balanced education to meet your aspirations. Take advantage. How can you contribute to the warming



Former Mr. and Miss Gretsia

up of the Gretsia University campus?

As a member of the Gretsia University community, make your contribution to the University learning - teaching environment by warming it up by getting involved in the University formal, non-formal and informal educational activities which inculcate knowledge, skill and values.

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***A university is a place to seek knowledge as a part of your academic endeavor.***

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It makes sense that the values you want in your life should be present wherever you are living. As a student- if you believe that your behavior in class, library, dining hall, hostels and in your co-curricular engagement counts- just as much as it counts when you are

with friends and family, then you need to find ways to increase the number of positive actions. Even when studying alone, it is usually for your benefit, other people and the society.

Hence the need to continually improve human services by warming up Gretsia University learning-teaching environment by your participation in University governance.

The University community needs warming up with empathy, exerting yourself, working with minimal supervision, openness to new knowledge ,ideas and giving and receiving feedback

Of critical importance in academia is avoiding plagiarism which entails taking other peoples' ideas without acknowledging them. It is an act of fraud.

As you embark on your search for knowledge, keep up warming the Gretsia University.

# Gretsa trains for more than the degree certificate: Why personal competences are integral in job hunt

By Prof. Wabuke Bibi, Academic Dean



*Prof. Wabuke Bibi*

The Gretsa University logo aptly captures the institution's overall goal: "Quality education for the Real World", which is extracted from the university's vision that promises education that is beneficial to the individual and the society.

This perception is probably at the back of the mind of the majority of the stakeholders of Gretsa – students, faculty and staff, as they play their part in this community.

Many of us subconsciously think of this quality education in terms of excellence in the various fields of technical knowledge and skills which we acquire, and/or seek to impart, via academic programmes in course of our scheduled interactions. But then, how does the concept of the "real world" connect to this? In pondering this, a random scan of the job adverts in the Dailies

was done to check for what this real world expects of the graduates.

Fourteen (14) job adverts were scrutinized.

They included: directors and senior management of major public and private health providers (hospitals); senior and middle level technical managers in the hospitality industry; CEOs, middle level and junior supervisors in public

*Many of us subconsciously think of this quality education in terms of excellence in the various fields of technical knowledge and skills which we acquire*

and private tertiary educational institutions; Business Development Officers and employees of financial institutions; Graduate trainees and interns in business, HR and Sales; Managers and employees of parastatal organizations; various cadres of civil servants; Regional Activation Executives; General Manager/CEO of major parastatals.

In addition to job specific technical knowledge, skills and experience, all these potential employers demanded separate, additional personal competences for the prospective candidates. The following priorities list of personal competences was extracted, (in order of frequency):

1. Excellent communication skills, both spoken and written, in English (and often also Kiswahili);
2. Excellent "people skills" or interpersonal skills;
3. Personal values: Integrity, honesty, trustworthiness, fairness, transparency (compliance to Chapter Six of the Constitution); tolerance to multiculturalism and diversity;
4. Team player and socially adept and with leadership skills;
5. Professionalism, including time management, and commitment to work (work attitude or ethics);

*Continued next page*

## Gretsa trains for more than the degree certificate: Why personal competences are integral in job hunt



*Graduants pose for a photo during a past graduation ceremony*

### 6. Creative and innovative.

This list practically overlaps with the Gretsa University's seven core values: Accountability, Excellence, Fairness, Honesty, Integrity, Transparency and concern for Others.

It is instructive that these competences cannot be learnt in the same way as are technical knowledge and skills. They are acquired and developed over time as one interacts with others. It is this interaction with others that defines character. The "Real world", places a premium on this character, and often overrides excellence in technical skills and knowledge. This is illustrated by the

following incident. A prominent Senator recently circulated this post on social media:

"I recommended a young person from my county to be employed in a reputable organization. The

Director agreed that he (young man) had the necessary qualifications and promised to absorb him. In preparation for the interview the organization did a quick background check.

Today, the director called to say he is not in a position to take him as part of his staff. When I inquired the reasons, I was told that a background

Gretsa University is a vehicle for the realization of goals that benefit the individual and society in the "Real World".

search on the internet revealed that the young man has been hurling insults to others on social media especially Facebook and twitter.

To quote the director, "Sorry we don't think the boy has the right mind, attitude and values for our organization.

Having him here would put our organization in jeopardy. Sorry, Senator, but I can assure you we will help you if we can get the right candidate."

The real world is interested more in "the right mind, attitude and values" than in technical expertise.

Gretsa University is a vehicle for the realization of goals that benefit the individual and society in the "Real World". This can only be achieved if we act together in a synergistic manner as a whole.

The "Others" not only help, but in fact are necessary, for us to develop those essential personal competences and values. The Real World places a premium on soft skills and character. The people around you are an asset: they enable you to develop character and "Know" yourself.

## Gretsa university impacting local community through community outreach



*Gretsa University staff and students during a community outreach activity at Makongeni Market, Thika*

By **Josphat M. Muriuki**,  
**Lecturer, Chairman Community  
Outreach Thematic Group**

Community outreach represents a global paradigm shift in the way Universities interact with and relate to their local communities and neighborhoods. Most Universities have recognized the great benefit in constructive mutual engagement and partnership with the local community, which has demystified the notion of a University being an ivory tower, a perception that portrayed a University as an institution inaccessible to the local community and reserved for the “cream of the society”. “What do you think is the mandate of the University in the society?”

The benefits of University-Community engagement cannot be gainsaid and may include

but not limited to the following: enhancement of university’s academic programs through shared knowledge gained from community experience, improvement of university research programs through community driven research, better community and public relations.

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***A university shall engage  
in community outreach  
that promotes cultural  
and social life of the  
Society***

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Community engagement also provides a University with a unique opportunity of making positive contribution to the local community through public lectures, extension programs, innovation, promoting sustainable development,

environmental conservation and health. To the University it is also a powerful tool for marketing its programs and providing a forum for growth and expansion

Most successful Universities in the world such as Harvard, Cambridge, Boston, Stanford, Zurich, Bonn, Hebrew University, University of Munich and the University of Nairobi are spending millions of dollars in financing community outreach programs. In Kenya, the concept of community outreach has been incorporated in The Universities Standards and Guidelines of October 2014 set by the Commission for University Education (CUE) which states that a university shall engage in community outreach that promotes cultural and social life of the Society.

***continued next page***

It is because of this requirement that Grestsa University has established the Community Outreach Thematic group that is an administrative organ of the University dealing with community outreach and engagements.

Since its formation, the Community Outreach Group has taken its mandate passionately and has identified and undertaken various programs and activities in order to contribute significantly to the local community.

In January-April 2018 Semester Session, the Group has undertaken two successful events. On Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, it held a seminar for students on Drug and substance Abuse which was facilitated by Susan Gitau, an international speaker and a counselling psychologist.

The session was beneficial to the

students as they were guided about the dangers of drug abuse and had a good time of asking questions which were addressed. The lecturers who attended also benefited from the same.

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018; the Community outreach group had its first Outreach program where the members and some students had a successful training extension program in Makongeni Market, Thika.

This was an opportunity of interacting with the community and showcasing our talents and programs as the community was trained on important issues such as basic preventive health measures facilitated by Mr. John Kimathi, handling of finances and savings facilitated by Fridah Gathure, Customer service facilitated by Serah Muthike, and bookkeeping

and business development facilitated by Florence Kaku.

Our students had an opportunity of interacting with the market community. The climax of our event was when the community demanded we dance with them in celebration of our contribution, it was as exciting as Professor Reche stole the show through his dancing style which exhibited a lot of energy and everyone was amazed at his flexibility.

The feedback we received was so positive with the members requesting that we return another time. Let us all arise the Grestsa Community, faculty, students and non-teaching staff to impact lives positively for social economic transformation of our society. We can borrow a leaf from Evander Holyfield who said “It is not the size of a man but the size of his heart that matters”.



*Grestsa University student engages community members during a community outreach activity at Makongeni Market, Thika*



# Government sponsored students at school of education bolster student population

By Lucy Wanyela  
(Head, School of Education Humanities and Social Sciences)

The School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences is experiencing growth and dynamism.

The school has diverse programmes that include Education, Community Development, Psychology, Diplomacy and International Relations, Journalism and Mass Communication, Early Childhood Development and Education, Special Needs in Education and houses the Foundation Certificate Course.

The School has two degree programmes; Bed (Arts) and B.A in Community Development offered in collaboration with Kenyatta University.

The school also intends to roll out more programmes in future. The programmes are B.A Sociology, Criminology, B.A Journalism & Mass Communication, B.Ed. in Early Childhood Development Education and Diploma in Primary Teacher Education (DPTE).

The school aims at offering wholesome education that will empower learners address contemporary issues, cultural change and technological advancement. More so, the programmes offered



*Gretsa University student during a lecture session*

and in anticipation aim at producing and graduation. proactive learners capable of using innovative methods in addressing challenges at learning institutions and organizations.

In addition, the programmes will develop relevant skills, practical

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***The school aims at offering wholesome education that will empower learners address contemporary issues.***

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knowledge and appropriate attitudes that will enable learners handle complex issues in a changing world without forgetting service to community.

I am impressed to report that a good number of our students have been proactive in terms of entrepreneurship, running self-initiative projects upon completion

This is testimony that entrepreneurial education input is fruitful consequently boosting enrolment numbers.

It is encouraging to report that the School has the highest number of students in the Campus, buoyed by government-sponsored students.

Education Arts has a total of 7 Subject combinations: English/Literature, Kiswahili/History, Kiswahili/Religion, Kiswahili/Geography, History/Religion, Mathematics/Business, Mathematics/Geography

Education's dynamism is portrayed by a number of students from the School who participate in core curricular activities as well as leadership positions at Gretsa University.

I believe that most leaders will be from this school.

# Gretsa University Picture Speak



*Gretsa University Chancellor Dr. Kibathi Mbugua presenting an award to a graduant at a past graduation ceremony*



*From Left: University Lecturers Dr. Gachuru Wa Kareng and Prof. George N. Reche*



*From Left, University Governing Council Chair Prof. Francis N. Kibera, Chancellor Dr. Kibathi, Vice chancellor Prof. J.K Thuo and Chairperson Dr. Margaret N. Mbugua*



*Gretsa University graduants during the 8th graduation ceremony*



*A section of the participants during the International Multi-disciplinary Conference held at Gretsa University*



*All participants of the first international Multi-disciplinary Conference held at Gretsa University*



*Students in a fashion show*



*Students relaxing after classes*



*One of the University buses*



*University ladies volleyball team*



*Swimming competition at Gretsa*



*A student during a basketball match*



*Music and drama team displaying won trophies*



*A students cooking session*



*An aerial view of Gretsa University*



*Traders at Makongeni Market, Thika, during Gretsa University outreach programme*

# Media landscape has changed, media training should



By **Ngumbo Njoroge**, Lecturer,  
Department of Journalism

Journalism is under siege. In the past we, as an industry, enjoyed a monopoly of being the ones operating a technology to multiply and distribute what had happened overnight.

The printing press served as a gateway. If anybody wanted to reach the people of a city or province the next morning, they would turn to the newspaper. That era is over.

The intervening years since the advent of the web and the coming of age of the first online news outlets have challenged the conventional methods of gathering, packaging and disseminating information. The rapid spread of digital technology has acted as catalyst of transformation.

In the first world, newspaper revenues and circulation have shrunk, radio listenership dwindled and television viewership has only just survived as millions of traditional media audiences turn to

the new.

News is on demand, when we want and how we want. In recent years, many media organizations have responded to digital convergence and to growth of the internet by migrating towards a multi-platform approach to production and distribution of content.

This means that new ideas for content are considered in the context of a wide range of distribution possibilities (e.g. online, mobile, interactive games and so on) and not just a single delivery platform.

The nature of media audiences has also changed. They are no longer passive consumers but are highly interactive and connected. They don't just take the news, they also contribute.

On their social media feeds and personalized websites, they are active curators of events around them, some attracting massive followership and challenging established media.

The inference of this is that

ordinary men and women, unversed with the skills and ethos of journalism will take to the business as information merchants, peddling clickable concoctions of legitimate news and as merchants of fake news.

To confront these merchants, journalism training has to change. For so long media practitioners have been training in specialized areas such as print journalism, radio journalism, television journalism and public relations independently.

The journalists of the future will not endure in the trade with their limited training.

Convergence journalists (journalists of the future) will need multiple skills to adequately produce copy for web audiences, for print media, file stories in audio format and for television. Future reporting will go beyond telling the 5Ws and H.

The training will have to focus of four key areas, data journalism, and diversification in training, the journalist's burden and extra-academic instruction.

Data journalism will reveal new possibilities that open up when you combine the traditional 'nose for news' and the ability to tell a compelling story with the sheer scale and range of digital information now available.

Data journalism will help journalists tell complex stories



*A model Radio station photo courtesy.*

through engaging infographics or explain how those stories relate to individuals.

Beyond reciting lines from theoretical hunches advanced

over time by men like McQuails, Shaw, McCombs and Stuart Mill, convergence journalists will require extra-academic instruction. Institutions of higher learning

will need to collaborate with industry to have their trainees embedded in field teams, observing and taking leading roles in generation of content.

The audiences of the future will have an insatiable hunger for information. To gratify these needs, the journalists of the future, will need training to seamlessly switch from one bit to the next and view stories through multiple frames.

The era of beat reporting is over.

## Self-management, ethics key to academic progress at university



*By Peter Gakwa, Community Development and Sociology Lecturer*

It is a fact that students in primary and secondary schools do not enjoy levels of freedom college students have. In primary and secondary schools, parents or guardians have control over what students do or intend to. At primary school level, punishment by parents is also applied. Consequently, the teenagers feel caged, eagerly and anxiously waiting for freedom day.

However, freedom can be disastrous if not well managed and as we know it, too much of anything can be boomerang. Sudden freedom enjoyed by university students

has affected both male and female students in different ways.

Student freedom at university is suddenly granted devoid of induction. University life leaves many students,

They are unable to adjust from high school strict life of rigidity and surveillance by principals and the sudden and too much freedom found in the university environment throws them into the deep-end of the sea.

All over sudden the newly admitted students find themselves surrounded by new friendless who are indeed clueless in matters concerning the new life and the immediate need to conform.

The male students quite often than not get into some form of indulgence with some getting into alcohol and hard drugs.

The latter is highly addictive and its other name is “usinjaribu” meaning you are the only in charge

at the first puff or sip.

What kind of freedom am I contemplating?

In some universities (not Greta) attending class is not compulsory—meaning more time for other activities other than learning.

In some universities, again, alcohol taking is no longer a cardinal sin, after all, the students are over 18yrs.

Love affairs amongst students are not restricted and therefore openly displayed and sometimes awkwardly.

The freedom often affects the female students making them bear the blunt of the situation. A sudden infatuation plunges female students into a state of confusion. Sex is the most pleasurable act ever more so penetrative sex. It affects the female more overwhelmingly because it happens inside her. She is definitely on the receiving end.

*Continued next pg*



*Gretsa University students share a moment*

On the other hand, the male student is merely on adventure of the conquest with zero possibility of becoming any body's husband.

After all, he has no wherewithal to take responsibility of a family. Worse still, the female student joins the university with her patriarchy hangover, from their village background.

In fact, female students in both public and private universities are regularly harassed by their 'LOVERS' and sometimes even murdered.

Out of these misguided love relationships, many female students discontinue their studies for birthing and breast feeding only to come back to find their male counterparts graduating.

The female students is further disadvantaged by the simple fact that in the African social context, matters to do with sex are a taboo.

Sex conversation is limited to adults only and young people are not part of it.

Hence, the female student joins

university as a novice in sex matters and consequent to this, rampant, unexpected and uncontrolled pregnancies among the first years make many drop out.

This state of unregulated sexual behaviour affects both male and female students as many are infected with the HIV virus. According to recent National Aids Control Council of Kenya, HIV related illness are the leading cause of death among adolescents and young people, and that 29% of all new HIV infections in Kenya are among this group.

It has also emerged that the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2014 has revealed that many Kenyans between 15 and 18 years are becoming parents and that 3 out of 100 girls already having children by the age of 15, rising to 40 out of 100 girls by the age of 19.

All this happens to teenage girls because the youth of Kenya do not have sufficient opportunity to express their sexual and reproductive health

needs due to cultural and religious beliefs and misconceptions about their sexuality. This is even more compounded by the fact that service providers in Kenya lack capacity to give youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health information and services.

Remember that unplanned pregnancies

greatly affects both physical and psychological health of the pregnant female and negatively affects her social and economic destiny and the overall economic wellbeing of the female population.

It also becomes hard to empower them socially and economically and this entrenches inequalities, which also weakens National and World economies. Economic inequality is reinforced by privileged few able to control their fertility, and, as a result, can develop skills, enter the paid labor force and gain economic power.

In conclusion we say that let us sensitize the university female student right from the first day on how she can influence the sexual tendencies on how the same can influence the sexual her to help her avoid any interruption on her studies.

# Gretsa University shines in national music and drama festivals



*Gretsa University drama club members at Masinde Muliro University*

**By Hezron Manyasi**

**G**retsa has done well both in Drama and music. In April 2017, the university proceeded to the Nationals were held in Kisumu with two competitive items; a solo verse The Blank syringe and Swahili choral verse Tuku Tuku.

Both items left a mark with The

blank syringe scooping an award as the best verse on national cohesion and integration which is a very strong theme.

In July 2017, Gretsa University almost caused a commotion in Kakamega during the National Music Festival by winning five items out of eight registered.

The team under the creative hands of Mulama George and Hezron Manyasi also won Ksh 250,000 under sponsorship of CBK courtesy of our Ladies

who become Third with a verse entitled my vote and our gentlemen who were second with Ndani, a Swahili verse that showered (CBK) with warm soapy and massaging poetic praises.

On behalf of the entire club and Hezron Manyasi, the patron wish to thank the University Administration especially The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kuria Thuo for his tireless support to the Club.

This year, during the national Drama Festival held at Meru University, the university solo verse named “Aisha” emerged number three while a choral verse “Adablakadabla” was fourth.



*Drama students performing at Masinde Muliro University*

## Women have a role in dispute resolution, peacemaking missions



*Gretsa University students pose for a photo*

*By Benter Akoth Okumu - Student, Community Development*

Women have special gifts in constructing social harmony and are excellent in maintaining peace, as they sacrifice ego for the greater good of the community.

As the task force thought of

ways of inducing women to testify about the injustices they have suffered overtime, it became clear that women special aptitude for arbitration could be used as an incentive to bring women into the hearings by encouraging them to play an active role in promoting dialogue among warring sides.

Where women can be

encouraged to rise above their own personal sufferings, their insights easily construct away forward for communities that are unable to reconcile their personal and communal conflicts.

It is hoped that women's rights will be improved in the current socio-political dynamics, and to do so, women's experiences must be addressed not only violence but of the burden of the brunt of violence that they do bear just to make peace in the community.

Their abilities and concerns must be addressed beyond tokenism in all peace building, arbitration and all reconciliatory activities for our future as a country.

Given a chance, women can make a positive change in our country Kenya.

### From Student Recruitment and Admissions Office

*By Michelle Kamau*

Every business performance is attributed to its customers, the end consumer of its services or products.

A university's core service is provision of quality and practical education to its students and should aim at producing competent scholars.

To ensure success, the university must indeed craft a full proof admission procedure that is in line with various regulations set by the higher education oversight bodies.

That is where the Admissions Office ensures enforcement of the set admission policies and oversees the admission of new students.

Is it not the task of a university to convince a prospective student to enroll for a program they offer? If the answer is yes, how then does the university

accomplish this task?

Over the years, we have seen a rise in the number of student who have enrolled for various courses at Gretsa University.

In addition, the Government-Private partnership that has the placement of government sponsored students to private universities has led to a significant rise in the number of students who are able to receive quality, higher education from various universities, Gretsa University included.

The Admissions Office has strived to ensure that more students are able to access higher education through Certificate, Diploma and Degree programs over the years.

Students continue to stream in from various parts of the country and even beyond. As a result, a diverse community has become a reality within the University.



# The Vibes

## Lifestyle

### One on one with Samuel Muthui Mwangi - Mr. Gretsia University

By Halima Lasiri

**Q: Who is Samuel Muthui Mwangi?**

I am a Bachelor of Commerce student at Gretsia University majoring in credit management. I consider myself friendly and approachable. At the university, I participate in co-curriculum activities such as volleyball, roll ball, football & basketball. My hobbies include dancing and listening to music.

**Q: When did you get into modeling?**

I got into modelling in the year 2017. I have participated in many modelling activities one of them



Samuel Muthui,

Mr. Gretsia University, 2018

being the Nairobi North Prespotorial Conference where I was awarded Mr. Nairobi North. This year, I was crowned Mr. Gretsia University.

**Q: How would you describe your modeling career?**

It was difficult at first. Getting used to modeling was a challenge but after regular practice, it became more interesting and fun.

**Q: What do you do apart from modeling?**

I am a roll ball and a volleyball player. This is because the games are interesting and keep the mind at ease.

**Q: I understand there are rewards for modeling at Gretsia University. How lucrative is modelling?**

During the contest, Focus T.V provided two trophies. There was a grand price of Sh50, 000 for the winner. The first runners up went home with Sh30, 000 while the 2nd runners up got Sh15, 000. Other contestants pocketed Sh3, 000 as participation reward.

**Q: What are your aspirations in your modeling career?**

I want to become Mr. Thika and later be crowned Mr. Inter-universities.

**Q: Are you the same person before and after the fame?**

Yes. I have not changed in



Samuel Muthui, Mr. Gretsia University personality. I will always be Samuel.

**Q: How do you balance between education and modeling?**

Modeling is a onetime thing and easy to balance. There is time for everything. It is not hard to find time for education matters.

**Q: Your advice to upcoming modelers?**

There is no easy thing to do. We all need to make sacrifices to achieve goals. In modelling, just like in any other profession, one needs commitment to the course.

**Q: Anything you would like to add?**

I am grateful to Gretsia University and GUSA office for giving us a chance to exploit our talent and interest in modeling.

Halima is a journalism student at Gretsia University.

# Meet Sarah Mukiri Mbaabu - Miss Grestsa University



*Sarah Mukiri, Miss Grestsa University*

*By Patrick Mutisya - Journalism student*

## *Who is Sarah Mukiri?*

I am a 20 years old lady pursuing a certificate in community health and dialectics at Grestsa University.

*Why did you choose to*

## *study community health?*

I love serving the community and I am uniquely talented in social work.

## *Take us through your journey in modeling*

Amazingly, I have never participated in any other contest before, the Mr and Miss Grestsa 2018 was my first one.

## *So did you expect emerging victorious in the contest?*

No not at all, first of all, I was the shortest amongst all the contestants and there is this belief that models should be tall. I thank God that the judges did not consider height only when arriving at the winner.

## *What was the feeling after being declared the winner?*

First, the announcement came as a shocker to me. Sincerely speaking, I didn't see it coming. However, I was confident and I believe that is what convinced the judges.

## *Does modeling pay?*

Absolutely, you can a living through modeling. I won Ksh 50,000 for emerging the best in the category. It may not be a lot but it is good for a start.

## *Who inspires you?*

Mmmmmmm GOD, my mum plus my friends who are very supportive. I also admire Lupita Nyong'o who has proved to the whole world that nothing is impossible when you are dedicated to achieve greatness.

## *What is your advice to upcoming models?*

Never ever give up. They should never be discouraged even if they are never noticed.

## *What are your future plans in modeling?*

Wow, that's a good question. I want to advance my modeling career to the national and even international levels. I would also wish to nurture young talent by even establishing a modeling academy.

## HUMOUR

## School fees goes down a waste pipe

*By Waweru, Senior Pastor*

George's parents told him to return to campus for a new semester and promised to pay fees before deadline.

A week after returning to campus, studies hadn't resumed. As George watched television, his phone, placed on the table a few meters away, buzzed.

He reluctantly headed towards

the table. He had received money via a Mobile Phone Money transfer service. He did not know the sender.

He quickly sent some money to his girlfriend and a friend.

He then rushed to a nearby shop and withdrew the money before the 'wrong sender' could reverse the transaction. He bought fancy outfits he had been longing to possess.

He then decided to hold an impromptu party with his neighbours. On the middle of the party, Albert's phone buzzed as it alerted him of his mother's call.

He stepped out of the house to receive the call.

His mother, informed him that she had sent the school fees using a neighbour's phone.

<b>MAY-AUGUST SEMESTER (SESSION FOR ALL SELF-SPONSORED AND GOVERNMENT SPONSORED STUDENTS –KUCCPS – KCSE 2016 AND 2017 ONLY)</b>	
Reporting of Continuing Students and Registration of New Students	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2018
Commencements of classes for May-august 2018 semester	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2018
ODL Students induction and orientation day ( <b>compulsory</b> )	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
Deadline for Course Registration- Full Time, Evening & Weekend Students	Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2018
Research Projects Proposals Defenses Week ( <b>compulsory for all final year full time and ODL Degree and Diploma students</b> )	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> -Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
Deadline for Course Registration- ODL students	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
Final Research Projects, Entrepreneurship Project Business Plan and Computer Systems Projects Defenses Week ( <b>Compulsory for All Final Year Full Time and ODL Degree Students</b> )	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> -Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
Continuous Assessments Tests(C.A.T.S) for Full Time, Evening and Weekend Students ( <b>compulsory</b> )	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> July- Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
Tutorial and Continuous Assessment Test Session for ODL Students ( <b>Compulsory</b> )	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> July –Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2018
End of May-August Semester Examinations	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> -Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2018

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DOWN		
1. A shortened form of a word or phrase	7. Unlawful act	with you often using force
2. Opposite of king	10. Space	23. Destroy
3. Not present	13. Condensed moisture of the atmosphere falling in separate drops	24. Abbreviation for Intergovernmental Authority on Development
4. Number after eight	16. Restore	29. Therefore
5. Indefinite article used before vowel words beginning with a vowel sound	18. A promise, you will tell the truth in court	31. Abbreviation for Christian Union
6. Word used to give a negative response	20. Direct one's gaze in a specified direction	22. Force someone to go or stay somewhere

**ACROSS**

- 1. A person you knows slightly
- 8. Conjunction used to introduce a negative statement
- 9. God's favor and protection
- 11. On condition that
- 12. Organ used for hearing
- 14. A prefix expressing absence

**DOWN**

- 15. A thin sheet used for printing
- 17. Preposition expressing motion
- 19. Island
- 21. Cease to look after someone
- 24. Pronoun for previously mentioned
- 25. Despite the fact that
- 26. A body of water confined by a carrier

**ACROSS**

- 27. Abbreviation of African Union
- 28. Abbreviation of Operating System
- 30. Abbreviation for District Commissioner
- 32. Reach a specified condition
- 33. Midday
- 34. Fasten



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