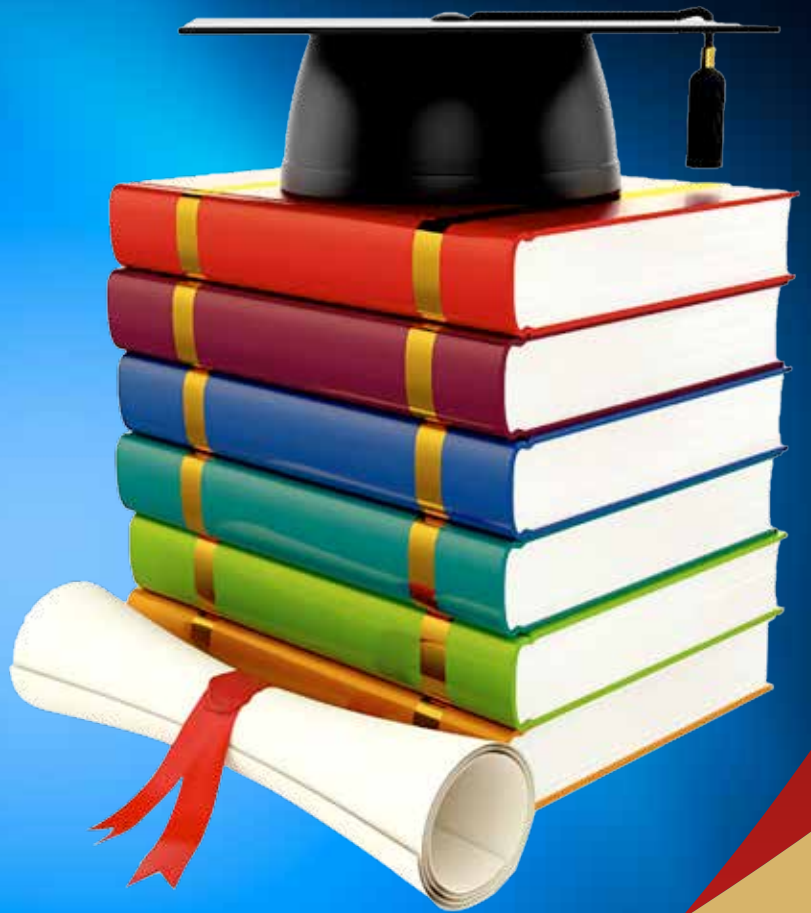


CAMPUS *Talk*

...Keeping you updated

INSIDE

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END OF YEAR PARTY

SPORTS



CELEBRATING THE
CLASS
of
2019



GRETSA UNIVERSITY

Quality Education for the Real World



Academic Programmes	Minimum Entry Requirements	Tuition Fees Per Semester
<p>Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) Specialization Options: Accounting, Business Administration, Credit Management, Human Resource Management, Entrepreneurship & Enterprise Development, Finance, Marketing, Procurement and Supply Chain Management 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KCSE Mean Grade C+ or Business Diplomas from an accredited University, KIM, KNEC or KASNEB (ATD, DCM, CPA/CPS/CCP/CSIA-Part II) to join in the second year of study or KNEC Higher Diplomas in Business & CPA/CPS/CCP/CIM /CSIA-Part III join in the third year of study or KACE with minimum of 2 principal passes and 1 subsidiary 	<p>Kshs.51,000 (Full-time, Evenings & Weekends)</p> <p>Kshs.45,000 (Distance Learning)</p>
<p>Bachelor of Science in Computer Science</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KCSE Mean Grade C+ (plus) or KACE Certificate with a minimum of 2 principal passes and one subsidiary pass or KNEC or University relevant Diplomas 	<p>Kshs.55,000 (Full-time, Evenings & Weekends)</p> <p>Kshs.45,000 (Distance Learning)</p>
<p>Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management</p>		<p>Kshs.55,000 (Full-time, Evenings & Weekends)</p> <p>Kshs.45,000 (Distance Learning)</p>
<p>Bachelor of Arts in Community Development</p>		<p>Kshs.50,000 (Full-time, Evenings & Weekends)</p> <p>Kshs.45,000 (Distance Learning)</p>
<p>Bachelor of Education (Arts) Teaching Courses: English and Linguistics, Literature, Geography, History, Religious Education, Kiswahili, Mathematics and Business Studies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KCSE Mean Grade C+ (plus) and C+ (Plus) in two teaching subjects, D+ (Plus) in Mathematics and C (Plain) in English or KACE Certificate with a minimum of 2 principal passes and one subsidiary pass and a minimum of a principal pass in each of the 2 teaching subjects or Diploma in Education (Arts) from accredited institutions 	<p>Kshs.50,000 (Full-time, Evenings & Weekends)</p>
<p>Diploma and Certificate Programmes in:-</p> <p>Business: Accounting; Banking & Finance; Agricultural Enterprise & Project Management; Business Information Technology; Business Management; County Governance & Management; Credit Management; Entrepreneurship & Enterprise Development; Human Resource Management; Marketing Management; Sales Management; Project Management; Public Administration; Public Relations; Procurement & Supply Chain Management; Quality Assurance & Standardization.</p> <p>Computing: Computer Science; Desktop Publishing & Graphics Design; Information Technology; Software Development; 3D Animation and Modelling</p> <p>Education, Humanities and Social Sciences: Education Arts (In any of the following subjects:- English, Literature in English, Kiswahili, C.R.E, History, Geography, Mathematics, Business Studies, Agriculture) Early Childhood Education; Special Needs Education; Journalism & Mass Communication; Social Work and Community Development; Counseling Psychology and Diplomacy and International Relations</p> <p>Health Sciences: Environmental Health; Community Health; Health Records and Information Technology and Nutrition & Dietetics</p> <p>Hospitality and Tourism: Food and Beverage Management; Food Production; Hotel and Restaurant Management; Travel and Tourism Management</p> <p>Library and Information Science: Library and Information Science; Records and Information Management</p>	<p>Diploma in Education (Arts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KCSE Mean Grade C+ (Plus) and C+ (plus) in two teaching Subjects, D+ (plus) in Mathematics and C (Plain) in English <p>Other Diplomas KCSE Mean Grade C- (minus) or a certificate qualification</p> <p>Certificate Programmes KCSE Mean Grade D (Plain) or an artisan certificate qualification</p>	<p>Diploma Programmes Kshs.25,000 (Full-time, Evenings & Weekends)</p> <p>Kshs.22,000 (Distance Learning)</p> <p>Certificate Programmes Kshs.25,000 (Full-time, Evenings & Weekends)</p> <p>Kshs.22,000 (Distance Learning)</p>
<p>Duration of Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree Programmes: 8 Semesters (2 1/2 Years) Diploma Programmes: 6 Semesters (2 Years) Certificate Programmes: 3 Semesters (1 Year) 		
<p>Modes of Study Full Time, Distance Learning, Evening and Weekends</p>		
<p>For more information Call: 0711 949006, 0703 917 155, 0712 959 293 or Email: admission@gretsauniversity.ac.ke, gretsauniversityadmission@gmail.com SMS the word GRETSA to 20133 free of charge, Website www.gretsauniversity.ac.ke</p>		



10th Graduation Vasco Da Gama Revisited

By Prof. Wabuke Bibi,
Academic Dean

Those of us who were in school up to the time Kenya and many other countries in Africa got, wrestled, “grabbed” or were “granted” their independence from the colonial Whites will no doubt remember a central theme of the history of Europe and Africa. David Livingston, Cecil Rhodes, Cortez, Vasco Da Gama, and an army of other well-intentioned, adventurous and Christ-Loving Europeans sacrificed life and limb to travel to Africa and the Americas to “open” the continents and save the natives from darkness.

Once in a while the narrative would insert small print to the effect that the explorers would in the process look for spices, gold, and eventually even slaves. This narrative was imposed on us, but it did not fool us for long. The truth of the matter is that the Europeans were running away from hunger and economic hardship. The whole explorer story was merely a manifestation of a common truism: “Necessity is the mother of invention”. Of course, the European “exploration” history has had tectonic consequences.

Every Age has its challenges, just as the Europe of the 18th Century had. The 21st Century has its challenges, but these should not be considered unique,

even though they appear dramatic in scale and manifestation. Unfortunately, the public space is awash with narratives and testimonies which paint a very bleak picture for our young people, suggesting that the future is hopeless. Stories and testimonies of tarmacking 1st class graduates resorting to extremely innovative ways to attract attention and sympathy abound. It would be tragic to buy into the misconception that either the problems and/or the people are special or unique to the current Age.

This would mislead one into the fallacy that there is a grand Conspiracy. This train of thought inevitably entices one to look for, and unavoidably find and “flash out” the conspirators. It is such warped reasoning that leads to the absurd suggestion that the “old” generation is responsible for the tribulations of our young people.

This is Scapegoating. It is built upon a defeatist Mindset, which entices one into looking for excuses, instead of setting one’s eyes on the bigger goal, and identifying opportunities. Vasco Da Gama and his kindred spirits did not look inwards to cannibalize their countries or institutions. Instead they broke off into the unknown to search for new opportunities and solutions.

There were risks, no doubt. But they set themselves on a one-way trip into the

unknown in search of better opportunities. They freed themselves from the burden of the familiar and comfortable, and were willing to dirt their hands and risk their lives in pursuit of the distant goals.

Our young people need to define the problem we face: a drastically changed technical, social and hence economic environment that demands new solutions. They need to drop baggage and forsake familiar comforts - personal conveniences, old solutions, entitlement, preference of “quick outcome” over “the process”, combating the popular-“get-rich-quick/impatient mindset.

Like the Americas’ explorer Cortez, young people need to burn the ships in which they sailed to get here, to ensure that there is no return to the old ways. Do not look back; do not delude yourself into popular excuses. There are new opportunities in this Age.

Other than the technical skills and knowledge, the only other enduring tool needed is a solid value system: goal-oriented determination and self-organization, hard work and sacrifice, self-respect, integrity and accountability. These will facilitate your navigation in the New Age Real World.

And like Vasco da Gama, you will find your “spices” at the end of your voyage.

ADVISE TO CLASS 2019 GRADUANDS

WHAT NEXT AFTER GRADUATION?

By: Mugambi Frankline

Department of Library and
Information Services

Transitions are never easy. Remember when you had to join high school and even campus? You had to face the new environment, weather, friends and the culture shock, but you eventually adjusted to your new life. Graduation signifies the end of an era and many graduates are left wondering 'what next?!' There are many options available to you after graduation but remember everyone's journey will be different.

As a university graduate in Kenyan competitive job market, you will soon realize sometimes having a certificate is not enough to get you a job. You are fresh out of university with little or no job experience and that puts you at a disadvantage position because most employers are looking for candidates with experience. However, as a Greta University graduand, you have acquired a lot of competencies and exposures that make you better placed to navigate your life after graduation. Remember the knowledge and skills you have gained during your interactions with professors, lecturers, colleagues, books, journals and other sources of information as you undertook your course, the academic trips that you did, the Public Speaking Forums and Community Events that you participated in, the Debates, the challenging Research Projects you had to undertake, the Entrepreneurship Projects, Sporting Activities and other activities in the university were all geared towards preparing you for the job market.



After graduation, the following are options worth considering:

Internship positions

An internship can be a great way of starting your career since it's an important stepping stone between university and work. Internships equip you with valuable work experience that gives you advantage over other skilled candidates. In this competitive job market, graduates who have some level of experience are preferred by employers. Some even argue that the internship is the new entry-level job.

You can begin by looking for internship opportunities at Public Service under the Public Service Internship Programme which is a Government initiative designed to offer opportunity for university graduates to acquire and develop valuable technical and professional skills while gaining work experience. Apart from public service look out for internship opportunities in reputable organizations.

Graduate jobs

Graduate jobs are the entry level jobs that require someone to hold a degree to start their career in that profession or industry. The majority of graduates look for a job after graduation. To find a graduate job you'll need to be

proactive, try different approaches, stay positive, learn from any set-backs and continuously improve your job applications and interview skills until you succeed. Also consider small and medium sized employers (SMEs) instead of focusing on the popular well known employers where everyone is looking at. Work on building contacts, make the most of your personal network, friends of friends, and even parents of friends, you may be able to create important links between you and potential employers.

Don't be nervous about asking for help, as persistence often pays off. Finally remain focused. Making applications in all directions even in fields in which you don't meet the minimum requirements is not the right move, narrow your search and focus your energy on the jobs you really want and qualify. Unfortunately knock-backs and rejection are an inevitable part of the job seeking process and while feeling disheartened is natural, you will need to be resilient. Getting a mentor and asking questions can really help you in this stage. If you've been unsuccessful in an interview, don't be afraid to ask for feedback, it's the best way to learn and you can then put what you're told into practice.

Self employment

If you can't find your dream job, why not create it by setting up your own company? Perhaps you have a great business idea or believe that your entrepreneurship project has commercial potential. If so putting your entrepreneurial skills to the test could be a smart move. You should prepare a roadmap of how you intend to transition into self-employment, whether you are considering operating as a sole proprietor, freelancer or as a more formal entity such as a limited company. Being your own boss might sound fun, but you need to be fully committed. Starting or running your

own business can be an exciting option, giving you personal fulfillment and the freedom to make your own decisions.

Postgraduate study or professional studies

If work isn't the place for you just yet, further study is another avenue you could explore. However, studying for a Masters or a professional course takes time and money so make sure you're entering into it for the right reasons.

Seek for elevation if already working

Most of our distance learning students and even some of our full time students already have a job.

Now that you have graduated why not seek for a pay rise or a promotion at your work place? Your additional qualifications whether certificate, diploma or degree is an indication of acquisition of additional knowledge and expertise and skills which are invaluable to your employer. Of course you have a duty to demonstrate in your workplace through enhanced job productivity that your education was worth the while.

All in all graduation is an important milestone in your life. And it should present to you a multitude of opportunities to better your life. Take the challenge and be in charge! All the best!



Dr Rachael Munyoncho, a Management Consultant gives a keynote speech at the event

By: Irene Kinyua
Lecturer School of Business

Succeeding in job search and Interviews Forum was hosted by the School of Business on 21st of February 2019. The agenda was to sensitize students on job searching skills, expectations of employers and survival skills at the work place.

Dr. Rachel Munyoncho a distinguished Management Consultant, with over 25 years of experience was one of the guest

SUCCEEDING IN JOB SEARCH AND INTERVIEWS FORUM >>>

speakers. Dr. Rachel advised students to enter the job market with an open mind and not to be choosy because the job market is very competitive, any job offer is pathway to a fulfilling career.

She gave an example of her career path where having studied Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Botany and zoology back in 1980s she went ahead and accepted a job offer in marketing, which later shaped a career into successful business oriented person and she has had no regrets.

She also advised students to use their current network and talk to others outside their network when searching for a job and finally to remember that the best way to guarantee future job search is to excel in their current job which is their studies. Other tips given were: Update CV regularly, create time to reflect on goals, do research on potential employer and to turn passion/hobby into a business.

Prof. Elegwa Mukuru a professor of Entrepreneurship at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology closed the forum with his presentation on work ethics which play a critical role in shaping individuals behavior within an organization and the society.

Prof. Elegwa Mukuru emphasized the critical role of ethics in our society giving examples of Volkswagen and BMW which have been rocked by fuel emission scandals while herein Kenya, National Youth Service has recently been faced with fraudulent payment scandals. He noted that students need to act ethically whether employed or in their own businesses for the betterment of the society. Quoting Josiah Charles Stamp he concluded that: "it is easy to dodge our responsibilities, but we cannot dodge the consequences of dodging our responsibilities".

CREATING YOUR FUTURE AFTER GRADUATION

By Prof. George N. Reche
Director Research and Publications

Graduation is a momentous occasion. The Gretsia community is celebrating with your friends, family and sponsors during this graduation ceremony. As you celebrate, it is your responsibility to continually create your future. The University has been preparing you by offering you quality education for the real world. During your academic endeavour here at Gretsia, you have developed your potential. Yet there is room for further professional development. Education is life-long.

Gretsia University has introduced you to the concept of life-long education by its very nature of the University mode of facilitating learning through formal lectures, tutorials, class discussions besides the non-formal



An elated 2018 Graduand

and informal educational process outside the classroom setting. There were no bells to attend classes, to engage in co-curricular activities or even to go for your meals. The only

time restrictions were made is when you enter and exit the Campus gate. This was for your own security and safety within the institution. Even identification at the gate is a security measure for your own good and institutional accountability. The Gretsia University alumni in which you are a life-long member by the fact that you are graduating today is proud to let you go to the real world. It means you have to continually create your future.

The Gretsia University core values of honesty, integrity, excellence, transparency, accountability, fairness and concern for others should ideally form the basis for our interaction with the real world of family, community, work, and business to enhance personal and professional development.

Best Wishes as you create your world.



2018 Graduands on their graduation day

A WORD FROM ALUMNI

By **Mariam Mponda Charles**

Gretsa University has brought out the best in me. When I joined the University, I had a fear of not fitting in given that I was from another country (Tanzania). That did not stop me from attaining good grades and graduating in December 2016.

I was attracted to the University because of its conducive learning environment and the small class sizes. Throughout the application process, everyone was so helpful, courteous, and professional, which made even the beginning of Grets University education a positive experience.

I pursued a Bachelor of Commerce (Finance Option) programme and was able to secure a good job in the banking industry three months prior to my Graduation. The skills and knowledge I acquired gave me the chance to build a successful career by gaining an understanding of what is needed for working in a company today. I have been working at Standard Chartered Bank of Tanzania for the last three years.

“Don’t let complexity stop you. Be Fearless. It will be one of the great experiences of your lives.”

Congratulations to a class of 2019



Mariam Mponda Charles – Class of 2016 Bachelor of Commerce (Finance Option) Cash Management Operations Officer, The Standard Chartered Bank of Tanzania

By **Joseph Karanja Kariuki**



*Joseph Karanja Kariuki
Bachelor of Arts in Community Development Programme – Class of 2018 Kiambu County Government Office of the Governor, Administrator*

Gretsa University is not just an institution that provides you with valuable knowledge and training for your professional life, it has also an experience that will change your life forever.

The flexibility of their modes of study made me achieve a Bachelor of Arts in Community Development programme through Distance Learning while I was working. The University has empowered me to focus on the things I wanted to do to improve my life and has kept me relevant in an ever-changing industry.

Academic programmes at the University are designed to give students numerous opportunities to help secure their dream careers. My degree brought clarity of thought, knowledge, confidence, courage and conviction to me and my goals. Real-time exposure was immense throughout the program. I owe my success to Grets University and presently feel proud of being alumni. To the Graduating Class of 2019 just remember that Grets has equipped you with what it takes to be successful.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

3RD INTERNATIONAL MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CONFERENCE



A group photo of the Conference Participants



Guest Speaker Bernard Njoroge addressing the Conference Participants

By: Pascaline Ndila
Department of Library and
Information Services

Gretsa University held its 3rd International Multidisciplinary Research Conference on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th October 2019. The conference attracted scholars, students, and professionals from different fields from within and outside Kenya who came to share their research findings and experiences with reference to the conference theme which was “Transforming Society and Organization through Research and Innovations.

The event was graced by the Chancellor Dr. Kibathi Mbugua, the Gretsa University Governing Council Chair, Prof. Kibera, Governing Council members, Prof. Daniel Mukunya and Prof. Peter Shalo, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. J. Kuria and two keynote speakers Mr. Bernard Njoroge, the Managing Director Sky Foods Ltd the manufacturers of the famous Treetop Juice Brand and Prof. Kennedy Mutundu, Dean of Social Sciences, Mount Kenya University.



The University Chancellor Dr. Kibathi Mbugua visiting an exhibition Stand at the Conference

The Governing Council Chair commended the research progress in the university and noted that conferences provide platforms for knowledge sharing which promotes better decision making. On his part, the Chancellor encouraged the participants to embrace change by reminding them how the market share for the famous Nokia brand diminished for failure to embrace change. Mr Bernard Njoroge gave an account of his entrepreneurship journey and how he managed to jump off the employment cliff to become an entrepreneur.

He insisted that hard work and discipline is the key to any success.

Prof. Mutundu alluded that there is need for more investments in research for the country to realize accelerated economic growth and societal development. Paper presentations were done in 3 clusters. Cluster 1 had presentations on Computing and Library and Information Science papers while Cluster 2 had Business and Hospitality & Tourism Management papers and Cluster 3 housed papers from Education, Community Development, Communication, and Health Sciences.

PHOTC ACCREDITATION INSPECTION OF DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN PUBLIC HEALTH

By: Hillary Mutugi
Lecturer, School of Health Sciences

The Public Health Officers and Technicians Council (PHOTC) visited the University on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, to assess the University for Full Accreditation of the Diploma programme in Public Health. The programme had been granted provisional accreditation in the year 2018.

PHOTC is a statutory body established by the Public Health Officers (Training, Registration and Licensing) Act No. 12 of 2013 to regulate the training, registration and licensing of public health professionals in Kenya. The Council’s main undertaking is to prescribe the courses of instruction for public health practitioners in Kenya guaranteeing appropriate regulation of public health practice in the country.

When granted full accreditation, the university will be the second university in Kenya to receive full accreditation of the programme.

Full accreditation will act as a national seal of approval and give students the security of knowing they are enrolled in a quality program as they earn their diplomas.



Samwel Ongeru, Head School of Health Sciences, makes a presentation before the PHOTC Accreditation Team



A Group Photo of PHOTC Inspection Accreditation Team with University Staff

TVET ACCREDITATION INSPECTION OF GRE TSA INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

The Technical and Vocational Education Training Authority (TVET) visited Gretsra Institute of Technical and Professional Studies (GITEPS) on Monday 2 December 2019

for an accreditation inspection. The TVET team included Janice Bogita, Julius Serem and Susan Njagi who are members of the TVET accreditation Department. The Gretsra team was led

by Dr Odhiambo Odera (Director of GITEPS) and included Faith Kamau (Head of Student Recruitment & Customer Experience), Musa Diyar (University Accountant) and Carol Chuma (Academic Registrar).



A Group Photo of TVETA Inspection Team with University Staff

The TVET Accreditation inspection focused on three significant areas of GITEPS; Administration and Human Resources, Physical Resources and the Curriculum to be offered by GITEPS.

At the end of their inspection, the TVET team stated that they were satisfied with the physical and academic resources at the university.

ACADEMIC TRIPS



School of Hospitality and Tourism Management Field Excursion

By Peter Irungu
Lecturer, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management

The excursion involved visits to the Giraffe Center, Bomas of Kenya, Nairobi National Museum, Snake Park, Lake Naivasha Sawela Lodge and Lake Naivasha. These tourism destinations provided guided tours to the students under the supervision of a university lecturer in-charge. In addition to acquiring tourism product knowledge from the organizations visited, the students had fun as tourists with the happiest moments being recorded at Bomas of Kenya where some participated on-stage in cultural dances.



Snapshots of some Tourism Management Students at Bomas of Kenya, Giraffe Centre and Sawela Lodge

School of Health Sciences Visits the Kiandutu Community Health Unit

By Nelly W. Mburu
Lecturer School of Health Sciences



Gretsa Health Sciences Students Pose for a Group Photo at the Kiandutu Health Centre

Community Health and Environmental Health Students visited Kiandutu Community Health Unit to attend monthly meeting by the regulatory body for level one health care, convened on 27th July 2019. The meeting gave a chance to the students to interact with Community Health Volunteers (CHVs), Public Health Officers from Thika Sub-county, Public Health Department and community health specialists from LVCT which is a non-governmental organization.

ACADEMIC TRIPS

Academic Trips for School of Computing and Informatics Students

By Vincent Maundu
Lecturer, School of Computing and Informatics

School of Computing and Informatics Students at Andela Kenya In an effort to expose our computing and informatics students to emerging technologies, they undertook an academic trip to Computers for Schools Kenya (CFSK). And Andela Kenya (Software Developers). During the trip to CFSK, students learned about NComputing technology.

NComputing is a desktop virtualization technology that creates zero clients or thin clients which enable multiple users to simultaneously share a single Operating System or Central Processing Unit. With NComputing technology each user’s monitor, keyboard and peripherals connect to a small NComputing access device (virtual PC) that connects to the shared OS/PCU. NComputing virtualization software shares the overabundant processing power of the



School of Computing and Informatics Students at Computers of School Kenya



School of Computing and Informatics Students at Andela Kenya

PC and transmits the signals between the virtual PC and the shared PC. The solution is easy to deploy and maintain. NComputing systems are compatible with Windows, Linux and standard PC applications. As a major leap forward in green computing.

At Andela Kenya students had the opportunity to meet with Andela learning community which is a

School of Computing and Informatics Students at Andela Kenya

network of technologist from across Africa dedicated to learning how to use technology to provide business solutions. During the trip, the students had the exposure on the resources and environment they need in order to become world class problem solvers.

Health Science students trip to Nyeri County Referral Hospital

By Hillary Mutugi,
Lecturer School of Health Science

The study visit was conducted on Thursday 28 February, 2019 and was meant to expose the students to the real work environment and also to give them a chance to relate the knowledge learnt in class to the actual health care provision setup. The visit also opened an opportunity for the students to interact with practicing health officers and they also got a chance to learn different aspects of health records from experienced practitioners.



School of Health Students at the Nyeri County Referral Hospital





4TH ANNUAL FOOD CONTEST

By Peter Irungu
Lecturer School of Hospitality and Tourism Management

The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management held its 4th Annual Food Contest on 28th June 2019. The contest brought together Kasarani Catering College, Cascade Institute of Hospitality and Greta University.

- ✓ Amazing cutting and food presentation skills
- ✓ Creative preparation of food from surprise ingredients
- ✓ Professional service of sparkling wine
- ✓ Demonstration of the art of cocktail making
- ✓ Creative use of available ingredients to produce a 'chef's specialty' dish.

The theme of the event was **'Showcasing of Culinary Skills-Episode 2'** with team work being the main focus. Competing institutions were represented by two teams with each team consisting of 3 students and the winning institution was selected based on the average scores of the teams. Winners were awarded cash prizes and a lunch treat at Sagret Hotel Equatorial Nairobi.



Christine Tiko, Greta University Student being Awarded by the Judges



A Judge inspects a Contestant's Service of Sparkling Wine



Contestants showcase food presentations skills



Spectators cheering their favorite team

THE NATIONAL PROGRAMMING CONTEST

By: Rency Chebet
Lecturer School of Computing and Informatics

The national Programming Contest was held on 18th July 2019. The event was held to provide a platform for computing students to showcase their creative ability in programming IT solutions to prevailing community challenges. This years event attracted 35 contestants from Gretsas University, University of Nairobi, Thika Technical Institute and Egerton University. The contestants were required to create and present within five hours mobile applications, web applications or basic website that would make it easy for ordinary Kenyan citizens to access services on the Big Four Agenda on universal health, affordable housing and food security.



A Group Photo of contestants, judges and staff during the event

PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM

By Michael Waweru
Lecturer School of Education

All business came to a standstill in Gretsas University on Wednesday 27th February 2019. This was undoubtedly an afternoon to reckon with when ladies and gentlemen of Gretsas University exhibiting their oratory prowess during the Public Speaking Forum organized by the School of Education. The event began with a word of wisdom from Prof.

Wabuke Bibi who was the chief guest. He took the opportunity to urge students to utilize such forums to

enhance their public speaking skills. "Universities are the cradle of knowledge and skills, from them, we acquire the power to become whatever we wish in life," said Prof. Wabuke.

The judges had a hard task in deciding on the winner as the very competitive participants took on the stage to display their public speaking skills. However, in every competition, there must be a winner and a loser goes. Immaculate Ayola from the School of Education proved that ladies have what it takes by scoping the first place followed closely Isaack Maruga.



Ronald Sang a Student in the School of Education gives a Presentation at the Forum



Students at the Public Speaking Forum

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

FREE COMMUNITY MEDICAL CAMP

By Nelly Mburu
Lecturer, School of Health Sciences

Gretsa University in collaboration with Doctors and Nurses from the Thika Level 5 Hospital, St. Matia Mulumba Hospital, Caritas Community Hospital and the support of Jungle Foundation successfully organized a Free Community Medical Camp on Friday 14th June 2019 targeting members of the community from around the university. Medical services offered included Nutrition Assessment, General Consultation, Blood Pressure Screening, Blood Sugar Testing, Family Planning Services, Cervical Cancer Screening, Prostate Cancer Screening, Breast Cancer Screening and HIV Testing Services. The event was also meant to offer practical learning experience to the students in the School of Health Sciences.



A Group Photos of Professional Health Workers from Thika Level 5 Hospital, St. Matia Mulumba Hospital, Caritas Community Hospital and Greta University, School of Health Sciences Staff

Snapshot of Health Practitioners busy at work during the Free Community Medical camp.



KOHA LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WORKSHOP

The department of Library and Information Science organized a training workshop on one of the commonly used library management system (KOHA). The workshop sought to provide a forum to Library and Information Science Professionals to acquire technical skills and share ideas and experiences on management of Koha in their institutions.

The workshop attracted 42 participants among them University Librarians, High School Librarians, Primary School Librarian and two Librarians from the banking sector.



A photo of the participants of Koha LMS Workshop



Participants of Koha LMS during the training

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP EVENT

By John Kimathi
Lecturer, School of Health Sciences

The School of Health Sciences successfully conducted a community outreach event to clean up Jua Kali area in Thika Sub County on 29 March 2019. The event was done in collaboration with the Department of Environment, Kiambu County. The theme of the clean-up was ‘Mazingira Safi, Jukumu Langu’.

The events aim was to give back to the community by sensitizing the community on the need to live in a clean healthy environment.



The theme of the clean-up event was ‘Mazingira Safi, Jukumu Langu’

GRETSA UNIVERSITY IN SUPPORT OF THE GIRL CHILD AT BISSIL TOWNSHIP KAJIADO COUNTY

By Joshat M. Muriuki
Lecturer, School of Education Humanities and Social Sciences

The Bissil outreach mission was successfully held on 6th March 2019 at Bissil Boarding Primary School. This venture was a joint collaboration between Gretsa University, Thika and Jordan College. It was coordinated by the Marketing committee and Community outreach thematicgroup of Gretsa University. The function begun by marching round Bissil Township where the students participated in marketing and sensitization campaign in support of the girl child. The outreach whose theme was “My education my destiny, help me reach my destiny” targeted the girl child in Kajiado who undergo various challenges such as forced marriages, female genital mutilation and lack of education.

Gretsa University actively participated in the event where the University was able to donate an assortment of things including sanitary towels,

mattresses, Exercise books, pens, pencils and other personal effects. Many speakers and dignitaries graced the occasion. The Kajiado Deputy Commissioner challenged the members of the community to aspire to make a difference by positively impacting the society rather than merely existing. John Gitau, a lecturer at Gretsa emphasized on the commitment of Gretsa University in support of the needy in the society.

Rose Wambui a Lecturer at Gretsa University inspired the girls to aim high in life as she counseled them to work hard and maintain their integrity and discipline.



Il-bissil Primary School Pupils pose for Photos with Gretsa University Community Outreach Members



Rosemary Siamito a Student in the School of Hospitality Tourism Management gives a talk to IL-bissil Primary School Pupils



Gretsa University Dance Group Performs during the Visit

TALENT DEVELOPMENT

KENYA NATIONAL DRAMA FESTIVALS



Snapshots of Gretsas Drama Club Participating at the Kenya National Drama Festivals at Kibabii University in Bungoma County

By Hezron Manyasi
Department of Library and Information Services

Gretsas Drama Club participated in the 60th National Drama Festivals which were held at Kibabii University in Bungoma County and presented five items i.e. Oral Narrative (Nanjululu), Solo Verse (Daah!), Choral Verse (Wasanii) Modern Dance (The Big Heart) and Spoken Word (Hajui atajua).

The performances were outstanding with Solomon Wanasamba’s powerful Spoken Word scooping the award of best Spoken Word in Kiswahili, Kerubo Mangera’s Solo verse Daah emerging the most Original.

CENTRAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES DRAMA FESTIVALS

Gretsas University was well represented at the just ended Central Colleges and Universities Drama festivals. On the menu, Thespians had the following genres to offer: Solo verse entitled “Daah!”, Choral Verse entitled “Wasanii”, Spoken Word entitled “Hajui Atajua”, Modern Dance entitled Big Hearts and Oral Narrative entitled “Nanjululu”.

Kerubo Mangera being articulate with the best facial expression and gestures, moved the audience with her solo verse entitled “Daah!” Which emerged position one. The verse was performed on day one of the festival but remained the marking scheme for the rest. Modern Dancers white washed the stage with their acrobatic moves as they told a story that almost left Judges shading tears and emerged position three. Spoken Word entitled “Hajui Atajua” and Oral Narrative entitled “Nanjululu” also emerged position three in the competition.

THE GRE TSA TALENT SHOW-2019 EDITION

By William Simel Laisa GUSA Finance Secretary

This event was held on 29 March 2019. Hundreds of contestants turned up for the show with 70 contestants being selected to showcase their talents in different categories which included Music, Spoken Word, Comedy, Dance, Art and Football Commentation. The show returns next year and promises more fun and thrill.



Students showcase their singing talent



Thrilled Gretsas Students at the Talent Show

CREATIVE MINDS

By Chereste Wahome

“Your talent determines what you can do. Your motivation determines how much you are willing to do. Your attitude determines how well you do it.” Lou Holtz



The Creative Gretsas Students dupped as Gretsas Art Inc, from Left to Right: Miguel, Faith, Amos, Enoch, Douglas, Donicious, Peterson and Sarah showcase some of their creative works

Gretsa University Shines at Kenya National Music Festival at Kabarak University

By: Hezron Manyasi
Patron Music and Drama Club

The 93rd edition of the Kenya National Music Festivals kicked off on Saturday 3rd August 2019 at Kabarak University in Nakuru County. The music fete brought together participants from Kenya and the rest of the East Africa Community including Uganda, Burundi and Rwanda. The event, which is a culmination of the schools, colleges and universities music extravaganza, attracted over 150,000 participants.

The road to Kabarak University seemed bumpy since the Gretsa Music club students had just finished their end of semester examinations. However, the experienced perennial music Champions headed to Kabarak University for the National Music Festival with great expectations.

The University competed in nine registered items in different categories that comprised of poems, public

speaking, music and traditional folk songs among other categories. Out of the nine items presented, four items scoped position one in their respective categories that is “Taambia watu nini” sponsored by KCB Bank. The item was Promoting 2jiajiri Initiative, “First Grade citizen” the poem was sponsored by Public Service Commission. The poem condemning nepotism among civil servants, “My x-factor” an item sponsored by Communication Authority of Kenya was an alert to youth on cyberbullying and “Adjudicators’ Comments” an item sponsored by Kenya National Bureau of Statistics spoke on the importance of the National census.

Four other items scoped second position that is “Kunguni” a Kiswahili choral verse sponsored by Kenya Police Service. The piece promotes community policing as a way of counter-terrorism, “Tandabelua” a Kiswahili original composition verse (Ngonjera) which is conversational poetry, the poet is a whistleblower to money laundering and a welcome to new Kenyan currency, “Azizi” a Kiswahili solo verse with a musical orientation composed by Doreen Ndalila a first-year student, the verse talks of Campus life and “Tochi” a Kiswahili choral verse sponsored by Communication Authority of Kenya talked about cyber-bullying.

The last item was performed by Mark Angachi who displayed different skills in guitar playing skills and emerged third position in Guitar playing Competition category.

Congratulations to Music Club!



Gretsa University Music Club Celebrate their triumph during the Kenya National Music Festival at Kabarak University



MR AND MISS GRE TSA UNIVERSITY PAGEANT

By: Isaac Chemiat
 Outgoing GUSA Council Chairman

The Mr. & Miss University pageant is a competition that brings together contestants from different schools, who are judged on their physical attributes, personality traits, intelligence and talent. This year's contest attracted 25 contestants who came out to showcase their talent and skills on the run-way dressed in occupational, urban, African, smart casual and dinner wear. Speaking following her crowning as Miss Gretsa University, Eunice Njeri praised the role the university had played in her victory, noting that it was through university events such as Public Speaking Forum where she gained her confidence from. Barry Amango who was crowned

as Mr Gretsa University on his part credited Bachelor of Commerce course that he is currently undertaking and participating in music events as the source of his confidence.

While the actual pageant is only one night, contestants spend weeks preparing for the contest, at the end of the event it is more than a beauty contest as the experience is life-changing. "it kind of sparks in you a new life, a desire to go beyond, to live for a greater good, to find new ways of doing things and a desire to really make a difference" Mercy Kendi a contestant noted. "That's what I learned. "That's why I encourage the other students to participate in such events"

Snapshots of the Mr and Miss Gretsa University Pageant 2019



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

GUSA COUNCIL INSTALLATION

By: Stella Marete
Head, Student Welfare and Placement Services

Students, faculty and invited guests from other universities gathered to celebrate the installation of newly elected GUSA officials for the academic year 2019-2020 on Friday 15th November 2019 at the University Grounds. It was a marvelous day for newly elected Chairperson Moses Kinoti who arrived at the ceremony in style with a motorcade to the amazement of

onlookers and the university community. The Vice Chancellor advised the newly elected leaders to lead with integrity and look beyond the borders of the campus for skills to provide effective leadership to the university students. The installation ceremony concluded the electioneering period at the university which was very competitive, peaceful and orderly.

The outgoing GUSA officials were also awarded with gifts for their service to students during the academic year 2018-2019.



1. *Moses Kinoti: Chairperson*
 2. *Bilques Noor: Vice Chairperson*
 3. *Diana Bosibori: Treasurer*
 4. *GUSA Council Grand Entrance during the Council Installation*
 5. *Millicent Wanjiku: Secretary Religious Affairs*





GOING PLACES

By Dominic Korir
Sports Coordinator

Samuel Muthui, a Bachelor of Commerce student at Gretsia University, was selected to join the Kenya National Men Rollball Team.

He had represented the country in the 4th East African Championship in Uganda on 16th to 19th May 2019 and also at the 5th RollBall World Cup 2019 from 12th to 17th November 2019 at the prestigious K.D. Jadhav Wrestling Stadium (Indira Gandhi Stadium Complex), New Delhi.

"I feel great and awesome to know that my talent is recognized in such a way and that I am even being moulded to become better at it. I advise my fellow students to dream, believe and then make it happen" - Samuel Muthui, Gretsia student



Samuel Muthui (left) at the Ministry of Sports, Heritage and Culture before their departure to India



Samuel Muthui (3rd from the right) in action during the 4th East African Championships held in Uganda Christian University

SNAPSHOTS OF SPORTS ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR



Netball Ladies: Gretsia vs JKUAT Karen Campus



Gretsia Spartans vs St. Paul University in a Rollball action



SPORTS

SNAPSHOTS OF SPORTS ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR

By: Chereste Wahome Media and Photography Unit



Handball ladies: Greta vs Mpesa Foundation Academy



Handball Men: Greta vs St. Paul University



Hockey Men: Greta vs Daystar University



Volleyball Ladies: Greta vs St. Paul University



Football Men: Greta University vs USIU



Greta Football Ladies Team

UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT

LEARNING INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES



The New Library Research Centre

By: Mugambi Frankline
Department of Library and Information Services

LIBRARY RESEARCH CENTRE

The university has developed a Research Centre in the library. The Research Center offers expert guidance to students through the research process: from refining a topic to finding and evaluating relevant literature sources - to creating a bibliography.

One-on-one research consultations are available to students, faculty, and staff at any stage of the research process. The centre is equipped with the latest computing technology; N-computing has provided 33 computer access points to facilitate students carry out research. The computers come with full suite of standard software and specialized software such as Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) to aid in research.

Software Laboratory for Computing Students



The New Computer Software Development Lab

The university has created a new software lab which offers computing and Informatics students and lecturers a dedicated space to work creatively and collaboratively on software projects that will offer solutions to societal challenges.

YEAR CLOSURE

GRETSA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS CELEBRATE END OF YEAR IN STYLE

By: Ann Wangari
Outgoing GUSA Council Vice Chairperson

It was a great evening for Gretsa university students on Friday 15 November 2019 after a day-long cultural festival, as they came together at a party to celebrate the end of year organized by the Gretsa University Students Association (GUSA). The party was nothing but incredible as students slaughtered five goats and a bull. The meat was meticulously prepared by the Hospitality students who came in with their culinary skills with the end result being mouth-watering fried beef and chevron which was served with fried rice and soda. The essence of the celebration was to reflect on the year’s achievements and challenges as well as promote cohesiveness among students. The event culminated with awards to students who made it to this year’s Vice Chancellors List of Honor; an initiative that recognizes and awards students who have excelled in academics, sports, drama among other areas.

Among those awarded were

- Student of the year - Betty Kwamboka**
- Sportsman of the year - Joshua Kaburu**
- Sports-woman of the year - Mercy Nduta**

No doubt the party was beautiful.



Snapshots of the End of Year Party activities



Sportsman of the year Joshua Kaburu being congratulated by the Vice Chancellor



Sportswoman of the year Mercy Nduta being congratulated by the Vice Chancellor



Student of the year Betty Kwamboka being congratulated by the Vice Chancellor

THE GRE TSA CULTURAL DAY

By: Hezron Manyasi
Department of Library and Information Services

The office of Dean of Students in collaboration with Student’s Welfare and Talent Development Thematic group organized a day-long cultural event on Friday 15 November 2019 to enable students to appreciate the cultural diversity in the university. The occasion was nothing short of spectacular as vibrant students showcased various performances representing different cultures in Kenya. Some of the performances on stage included traditional songs and dances, traditional food and narrations of various cultural events such as initiation and marriage which were presented by students dressed in the respective community’s traditional attires.

Speakers encouraged students to embrace positive culture behaviours stressing the need for unity as none is born with culture but all are born into a culture. Members of staff present during the event were; The Vice-Chancellor, Academic Dean, the Director of Research and Publications, Dean of students as well as academic, administrative staff among others. Celebrated annually, this year’s cultural event lived up to its billing as the biggest cultural event in the University Calendar.



Students show how “anjera” is prepared among the Borana Community



Michael Waweru and Stella Marete, members of staff, taste Fermented Porridge from the Kikuyu Community



Kerubo Mangera demonstrates how Kisii Community prepares different types of bananas



Students showcase preparation of “mursik” in the Kalenjin Community



Grand stage entry to perform a Kisii Traditional Dance



Students Perform Maasai Traditional Dance

THE GRE TSA CULTURAL DAY



A Kamba Traditional Dance



Students Showcase a Kalenjin Traditional Dance



Demonstration of a Luhya Traditional Circumcision Process



Showcasing of a Kikuyu Traditional Dance

ENTERTAINMENT

POETRY

Song of Agony by Bogonko Daniel Student, BCOM

1. GAMBLING YOU CAME
THOUGHT TO BE A SHORTCUT TO RICHNESS
NOT KNOWING THAT IT WAS
A TICKET TO POVERTY
2. EVERY COIN I HAVE
FILLS IT TO 49 SHILLINGS
I SEND TO MY GAMBLING DARLING I BET I LOSE
3. IN MY MPESA NO COIN LEFT I EVEN FULIZA
TO BET BUT I LOSE
4. GAMBLING LEAVE ME ALONE
LET ME STUDY AND FOCUS ON MY LIFE THAT IS MY
DAILY MOTIVE
BUT YOU BRING A JACKPOT AND TEMPT ME
5. THAT IS MY DAILY SONG
GAMBLING LEAVE ME ALONE
STOP SENDING ME NOTIFICATIONS
WINNING YOUR JACKPOT IS A DAY DREAM
6. TO ALL COMRADES
STOP GAMBLING
YOU WILL RETAIN A COIN
A COIN TO BUY SOMETHING



Comrade Chronicles

By Ezekiel Muthama - School of Computing and Informatics





Quality Education for the Real World

GRETSA INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (GITEPS)

Skills for the Workplace

VISION

To be a Centre of Excellence in Technical and Professional Training.

MISSION

To provide students and practitioners with relevant Technical and Professional Training in the fields of Business, Computing, Hospitality, Health and Social Sciences in order to enhance their skills and enable competitive contribution in the workplace and advancement of humanity.

TVET Approved Programmes

COURSE NAME	LEVEL	MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENT	EXAMINING BODY
Diploma in Supply Chain Management	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Sales & Marketing	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Cooperative Management	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Business Management	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Investment Management	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Tour Guiding Management	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Tourism Management	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Food & Beverage Management	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Housekeeping Management	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Baking Technology	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Catering & Accommodation Management	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Information & Communication Technology	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Dietetics Management	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Nutrition & Dietetics	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Child Care & Protection	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Counseling	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Social Work & Community Development	Module I, II and III	KCSE C- Minus or Craft Certificate	KNEC
Diploma in Early Childhood Development & Education (ECDE)	• KCSE Mean Grade C (Plain) or PTE certificate or KNEC ECDE Certificate		KNEC

KASNEB Approved Programmes

COURSE NAME	LEVEL	MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENT	EXAMINING BODY
• Certificate in Accounting and Management Skills (CAMS)	Level I and II	KCSE D+ (Plus)	KASNEB
• Accounting Technicians Diploma (ATD)	Levels I, II and III	KCSE C- (Plus)	KASNEB
• Diploma in Information Communication Technology (DICT)	Levels I, II and III	KCSE C- (Plus)	KASNEB
• Diploma in Credit Management (DCM)	Levels I, II and III	KCSE C- (Plus)	KASNEB
• Certified Public Accountants (CPA)	Parts I, II, III,	KCSE C+ (Plus) and C+ in Maths and English	KASNEB
• Certified Secretaries (CS)	Parts I, II, III,	KCSE C+ (Plus) and C+ in Maths and English	KASNEB
• Certified Investment and Financial Analysts (CIFA)	Parts I, II, III,	KCSE C+ (Plus) and C+ in Maths and English	KASNEB
• Certified Procurement and Supply Professional of Kenya (CPSP-K)	Parts I, II, III, IV	KCSE C+ (Plus) and C+ in Maths and English	KASNEB
• Certified Information Communication Technology (CICT)	Part I, II and III	KCSE C+ (Plus) and C+ in Maths and English	KASNEB
• Certified Credit Professionals (CCP)	Part I, II and III	KCSE C+ (Plus) and C+ in Maths and English	KASNEB

Internal Courses Examined by Gretsa University

❖ **Short Courses in Various Capacity Building Areas**
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❖ Consolidated cost for **9 Packages: Kshs. 7,000/-**
Single Package: Kshs. 1,500/- (Duration 2 weeks)

For more information Call: 0711 949006, 0703 917 155, 0712 959 293 or
Email: admission@gretsauniversity.ac.ke, gretsauniversityadmission@gmail.com

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