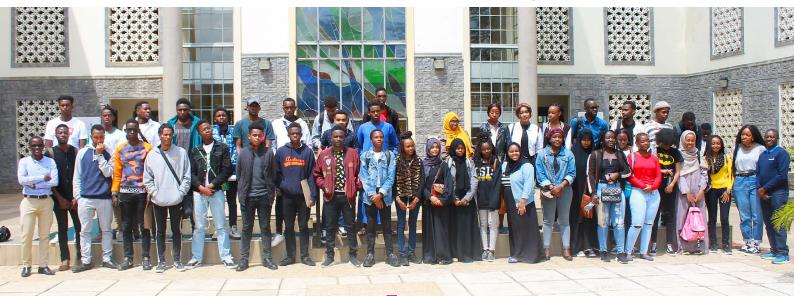




NEWS

The Riara University Newsletter



# September 2019 Acclimation - Freshmen on Board!

From the 4th to 6th of September, 2019, RU held the September Intake Orientation Programme. This was a great time for RU to inaugurate her freshmen into the RU Family. Guidance was given to support these new students' educational and personal goals. It was also an opportunity to facilitate Riara University's academic advisement, course selection and registration processes. By the end of this period, our freshmen were more conversant with the RU Campus environment and also got a chance to socialize with their peers. Karibuni freshmen!

RU would also like to thank all staff whose engagement and support made this event a success.





















































To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear understanding of your destination. It means to know where you're going so that you better understand where you are now and so that the steps you take are always in the right direction.

MARY Y

auotefancy

### YSK 2019!

In support of Nurturing Innovators, Riara University sent out 60 of her students to volunteer in the Young Scientist's Kenya (YSK), Second Annual National Science and Technology Exhibition. This was in partnership with the Ministry of Education, The Embassy of Ireland and BLAZE by Safaricom. The event took place at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (K.I.C.C) from the 6th to 9th of August, 2019.

Over 500 students nationally presented their Science and Technology projects at the National Exhibition, a markup from last year where 160 students presented 92 projects. This year, the Young Scientists Kenya team visited over 200 schools in all the 47 Counties, reaching over 40,000 students, courtesy of the STEM high school outreach program sponsored by BLAZE by Safaricom.

The expanded high school outreach was a response to a challenge from YSK Patron H.E President Uhuru Kenyatta during the inaugural Exhibition last year, where he tasked the YSK organizing team to roll out the program across the country as part of a national effort to

make Kenya a leader in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

The National Exhibition is part of the YSK mandate to spur innovation among students in Kenya. This effort complements that of the Ministry of Education, which holds the annual Secondary Schools Science Congress, now known as Kenya Science and Engineering Fair (KSEF).

"The outreach programme is crucial to achieving the Big 4 Agenda, which is only possible if the youth embrace Science, Technology and Innovation and connect with the STEM ecosystem," said Dr. Kevit Desai, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Education, State Department of Vocational and Technical Training and Chairperson of the YSK Board.

H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta officiated the opening of the exhibition, alongside other dignitaries. During the award ceremony on 9th August, winners walked away with KES 100,000 and a trip to Ireland to participate in the BT-Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition (BTYSTE) in January 2020.



## **Staff Publications**

#### Kina Cha Fikira - Kauli ya Walibora - Taifa Leo

Umilisi wa Kiswahili u katika kuyamudu mambo ya Msingi
 Agosti 7, 2019.

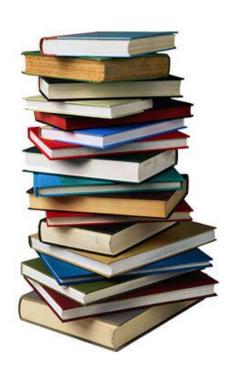
"Hisia za wanafunzi ni kwamba kufundishwa Kiswahili ni kama kufungwa jela na kuongezewa viboko na kazi ngumu. Wakigeukia Sheng wamo kusaka Uhuru."

2. Wakenya wamezoea kuhalalisha makossa ya lugha katika usemaji wao wa Kiswahili - Agosti 14, 2019.

"Ni tatizo la kufanya kosa liwe ndilo jambo la kawaida, jambo lililozoelewa na lililo sahihi kuonekana kosa."

3. Japo safari bado ndefu, ni hatua nzuri kwa SADC kupaisha Kiswahili Afrika -Agosti 21, 2019.





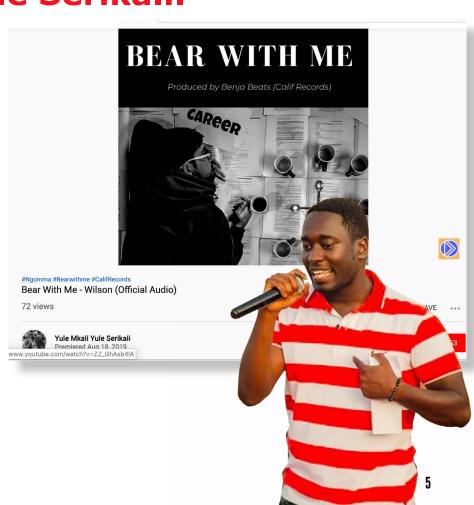
### **RU Stars!**

# Yule Mkali, Yule Serikali.

Featured early this year, Wilson Mukhaye, a 4th year student of LLB, during the Aspiring Innovators Intervarsity Challenge, managed to secure a deal to collaborate with the King of Genge, Jua Cali, in an effort to promote his budding career in music. RU is glad to share that this promise was fulfilled and Wilson has finally recorded and released his hit single, "Been with me."

Congratulations Wilson on this great milestone! #YouMakeRU

https://youtu.be/ykY\_D5Zml6g





The exam season is here with us again. The past thirteen weeks have been hectic trying to juggle classes, term papers, assignments and CATS. That notwithstanding, we still find ourselves unprepared to sit in for this 'Giant' as many would purport it.

End of semester exams are meant to act as a culmination of a learning period. Students are expected to face them with a lot of zeal and confidence since it is already familiar content. Surprisingly, this is not the case since what follows the exam period are sessions of disciplinary cases as a result of exam malpractice and the well-known 'list of shame' that every student dreads to appear on.

In the world we live in today, the excellent grades cliché' has since been replaced. Employers are not just looking out for the grades but also one's ability to practice the theoretical knowledge amassed in class.

That being the case, here are a few tips to guide you through this period. to the questions asked.

#### 1. PREPARE! Prepare! Prepare!

There is no other way to be ready for your exams other than preparing. Preparation is key, it deters you from any temptation to cheat. Go through your weekly readings provided in the course outline, go through your lecture notes and also go the extra mile of making reference to a few texts in relation to the various subjects.

"If you fail to plan, you plan to fail." - Benjamin Franklin

#### 2. Believe in yourself

The path to success comes with a lot of hurdles but believing in yourself can go a long way. Face the exam with confidence. After all, you have interacted with this content for the past 13 weeks!

#### 3. Think beyond the box

At certain points in time, we are faced with situations where we are caught between a rock and a hard place. While sometimes students are not adequately prepared for their exams this should not act as a hindrance to their line of thought in the exam room. They need to exhibit exemplary performance. Some subjects are all about thinking beyond the classroom. Take advantage of such courses, relay your ideas with ease by applying some practicality

#### 4. Power of examples and illustrations

Some questions call for more than just stating your ideas. This may call for the use of examples and illustrations. Examples show a deeper understanding of the statement in question and bring to a broader perspective one's line of thought. They may come in handy during this season. Tough times call for tough measures they say and this can redeem your success chances if used appropriately.

#### 5. Group Discussions

Sharing information and discussions off the classroom is a sure way of attaining success. The power of more than one mind is real. Discussions enhance your rate of understanding because you are sharing knowledge among your peers. in a more comfortable environment where you can speak your mind, ask questions, dramatize, all in the aim of creating understanding. Don't be left behind. Join that friend as they sip coffee, sit on the lawns, read in the library, form groups!

Rehema Mugendi, Lecturer Riara Business School.

# SILL EDU NAIROBI DIGITAL EDUCATION HACKATHON



**3rd - 4th October 2019**Riara University, Mbagathi Way, Nairobi











# **Up- Coming Events**

# DigiEduhack 2019! - Redesigning Higher Education for Empowerment of African Youth

Previously shared, RU is keen on constantly redesigning her teaching techniques and learning experience. As a result, an interactive session was held on Wednesday July 17, 2019 at G/15 between top management, students and external facilitators with the main aim of ensuring transformative learning at RU. In addition to this, RU has partnered with DigiEduHack to have this vision seen to its completion.

To meet the challenges and opportunities related to education in the digital age, the European Commission published a Digital Education Action Plan, as part of the initiatives supporting the creation of the European Education Area. The priority areas of the Action Plan are to improve the use of technologies for teaching and learning, ensure that everyone has the digital skills and competences needed, and exploiting data and digital technologies to the benefit of education.

As part of the Digital Education Action Plan, the launch of a Digital Education Hackathon (DigiEduhack) which will be taking place in Europe and beyond on 3 October 2019 was initiated. The DigiEduHack represents a pioneering way to collect intelligence on the key trends arising from the digital transformation for the education system and an opportunity to listen to stakeholders to influence the European

Commission's policy making in an innovative way.

DigiEduHack aims at helping organizations identify key challenges for education in the digital age and co-creating innovative solutions across disciplines and organizations. More than 50 hackathon events will be arranged simultaneously in Europe and beyond, in collaboration with local host organizations. The host organizations will be schools, universities, other higher education institutions, including Riara University, research organizations, edutech startup companies and NGOs.

During the 24hr event, multidisciplinary teams of educators, students and innovators will get together to solve challenges in digital education and present solutions. After the main event, there will be a final global award contest, in which three teams that best represent the priority areas of the Digital Education Action Plan will be chosen and awarded, in order to implement their solutions.

Signups are highly encouraged. Those interested in joining this exciting exercise can visit the link below:

https://digieduhack.com/en/nairobihackathon-riara-2019

# **Sports Desk Boss Ladies!**

RU Women's Football Team receive a trophy and medals after their great win in the Women's Football category during the Strathmore University Sports Day. These awards were presented by Dr. Vincent Ogutu, Vice Chancellor Designate, Strathmore University.

All we do is win!









