

Annex Students' Choice Awards



Students from School of Tourism Hospitality & Events Management, Moi University

Friday October 12, 2018 was business unusual at Moi University Annex Campus, thanks to Tourism students who organized this year's maiden award ceremony termed Students' Choice Awards.

The event was packed to capacity by 10am at the new magnificent School of Law Library. Minutes later, Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge Academics, Research and Extension, Prof. Isaac Kimengi, arrived.

The DVC was received by the Dean, of School of Tourism, Hospitality and Events Management, Prof. Damiannah Kieti, in the company of Departmental Heads in the same School.

Hosted by a male duet as Event Movers, the first award of the Best Association of the Year would be presented to Tourism Association of Moi University, better known as TAMU.

TAMU has been an active club organizing trips both locally and internationally, charity ventures and training on life skills, hence was well deserved for this feting.

A blend of entertainment, art and craft were showcased amidst an eager audience that comprised students, staff and members of the community.

Then the time came to present the awards for the Best-Groomed Students of the year. The School of Law's Maurice Gilead and Monica Agita scooped the coveted awards for male and female student, respectively. School of Tourism's Sayi Ngwalida from Tanzania and Joy Nkirote, stood out according to the voters for the same category again for male and female student, respectively.

Support staff were not left out either at the event. On the basis of competence, personal relations with the general public and opinions, Mr. Abraham Kirwa was awarded the best Security Guard of the year as voted by the students. He was handed the gift by the University Public Relations Officer, Mr. Alfred Wandera. An almost teary Mr. Kirwa could not believe he was feted at the event, stating that he had not expected such an award, having been his first since he joined Moi University as a staff.

He said he was motivated by the kind gesture to work and invest more time in making the campus a habitable place to live as far as security goes. Smiles were evident as he walked down the podium with his prize as the Event Mover brought to the stage the next performances to cheer up the audience as they still anticipated the awards for Best Lecturer for School of Tourism and School of Law.

Outgoing Mr. Culture, Olekiindi Kooki, was awarded the Best Cultural Outfit of the Year together with Mercy Gathaga, who ably represented the girlchild in the cultural outfit. The award was presented by Makena Kigunda, the outgoing chairlady of the group that organized Mr. and Miss Culture event two weeks ealier, where Mr. Nelson Kuchi and Ms Ruth Awuor were crowned Mr. and Miss Culture Annex Campus, respectively.

Best Cafeteria Personnel of the Year Award featured all the cafeteria personnel as nominees but Mr. Moses Kwalera, better known as Baba, scooped the award, as voted by the students. Mr. Kwalera, who exudes a lot of joy daily while going about his business at the Cafeteria at Annex Campus, was well deserving for the award, a student revealed.

Gilford Muinamo would come in as the last support staff, awarded Librarian of the Year.

Just then it was time to honour the lecturers of Annex Campus. The DVC who was also the guest speaker at the event, graced the occasion with a moving speech on why to uphold morals and later appreciated excellence, as was the theme of the event. Prof. Kimengi, after his keynote speech, proceeded to award the lecturers. The award for the Best Lecturer from the School of Law was won by Mr. Walter Khobe. It was recieved on his behalf in absentia.

School of Tourism lecturers who were majority of the lecturers in attendance had their time to know who was the best lecturer and in which categories.

All the lecturers from the School of Tourism were nominated but Mr. Peter Masila Mutinda emerged the best of them all, having been voted the best lecturer by the students.

In the Hospitality Department, Ms. Rita Schulz triumphed while in the Department of Travel and Tours had Dr. Judy Kibe awarded, though in absentia.

At the time, she was overseeing a field trip in the Mara with Second Year Travel and Tours students.

The DVC, who was presenting the awards to the lecturers also presented an award to Dr. Rita Nthiga, Head of Department for Hospitality. Hers was a special award for being a steward through the practical of the event management.

The DVC likewise presented an award to Prof. Kieti for being the able Dean of the School of Tourism, Hospitality and Events Management.

Prof Kieti's landmark achievements were highlighted in the event. Escorted upstage by Masters students to receive her award, she remarked that the support of everyone is key in making all those mini achievements possible.

The event would later on climax with the awarding of most outstanding students; Isaac Alando, Tune Mohammed and Adhiambo Davina from the School of Tourism and Edith Kerubo from the School of Law.

The Sports docket wasn't left out, receiving a training package for Annex Campus sportsmen and women. A special award was also presented to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Isaac S. Kosgey, who was being represented by the DVC. It was really a red-letter day, so they say.