



STUDENTS BRIEFS

November 2023

WHAT 1ST-YEAR STUDENTS REALLY NEED



www.focuskenya.org



FRESH ON CAMPUS!

Do you remember the excitement or anxiety from the first time you walked into your school as a first year? Over 285,000 students (KUCCPS 2023 reports) across the country are in almost the same state as you were. Each intake is an opportunity to share the gospel with the new students and to support them in their journey of faith.

CUs are getting more creative and innovative in their registration of new students. An example is SEKU's friends allocation strategy that has seen every first year get a mature student in their area of study to guide the first year students to settle properly on campus. After drawing the first years to the CUs, they are taken through a FOCUS discipleship program named Anza Fyt to help them settle on campus, live out their faith, and integrate with the other members. Please pray for these 1st years for God's preservation in the faith and make them a great blessing to the CUs and the community in their institutions.



Tharaka University CU registering their 1st years

1ST YEARS INDUCTION



1st years being welcomed to the fellowship at Karatina Main CampusCU



Garissa University CU Help Team created to support students from all religions and consequentially registered several 1st years who benefited from their kindness.



Cooperative University CU taking their 1st years for a retreat after a week-long of registration and orientation.

1ST YEARS INDUCTION



Registration of 1st years in Embu University CU



Tom Mboya CU during their 1st year's retreat.



Oriantaion of 1st years in CIT CU in Pwani



Registration of 1st years in Bomet University College CU



Registration of 1st years in Chuka University CU



UON Chiromo CU during their 1st year's retreat.

NORTHERN NAIROBI'S 1ST YEARS RETREAT

Over 475 first years attend the mentorship retreat in the 3 clusters; Kitui CUs, Murang'a CUs and Thika Road CUs. 46 associates from the 6 Branches in the region and 23 staff joined the retreat as mentors and shared their experiences and lessons from campus. We pray that these first years will find a right bearing in campus.



Over 215 first years attended and 13 associates at SEKU Main Campus. The question and answers forum in the small groups was the highlight of the retreat.



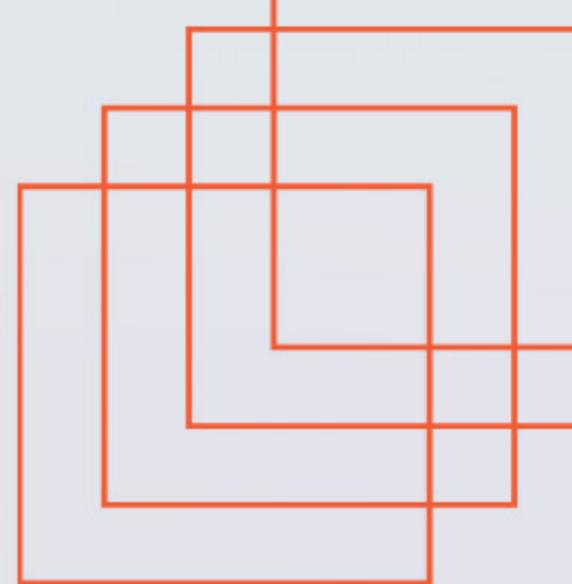
95 1st years from 3 colleges in Murang'a and three associates met at Edinburg College. They had deep conversations about relationships and sexuality in small groups based on gender, facilitated by the associates. Students also bonded through team-building games.



Over 130 first-year students from Thika Road colleges and 30 associates from Kasarani, Ruiru, and Juja Branches gathered at FOCUS Centre Kasarani for a networking and mentorship retreat. The attendees were enthusiastic and very cheerful



WHAT A 1ST YEAR REALLY NEEDS



1st years are eager to learn and experience new things, even the gospel. They are crucial for the growth of the CU and future transformation agents for the church and society. One of the ingenious ways of achieving this goal is to ensure that every student in the first year hears the gospel at least once.

For this reason, CUs strategize their Evangelism to attain 100% evangelization of first years in their first 30 days on campus. The EveryFresher4Jesus campaign is designed to help the CUs meet this goal. The campaign must be urgent, intense, and focused. In obedience to the great commission, share the gospel with a 1st year and teach them to obey God's will.

PRACTICALLY ACHIEVING EVERYFRESHER4JESUS:

- Pray for 1st years to be stirred by the gospel as you pray for yourself to be an effective witness.
- Map out places you would find a 1st year for one-on-one evangelism; hostels and other hangout spots.
- Create relationships with the freshmen to unpack the gospel and our response to God's grace.
- Build your capacity to respond to the trends/issues that would be raised by the 1st years.
- Consider group activities that can enable the 1st years to understand the gospel with greater clarity. They can vary from sports evangelism, Evangelistic Bible study, or Cyclical Evangelism Triangles..

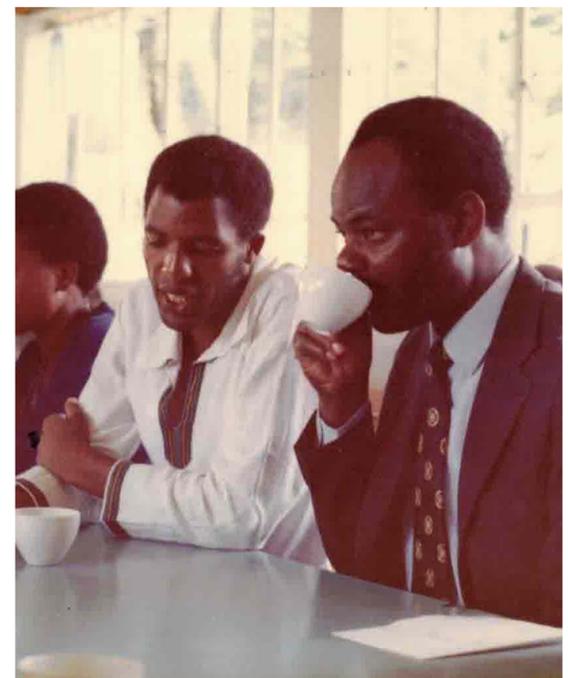
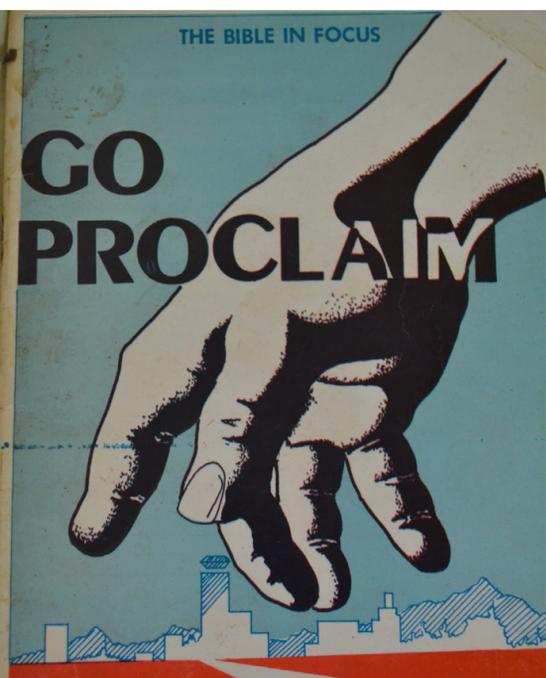
[Read more about the campaign](#)



FOCUS HERITAGE

During the dawn of FOCUS Kenya, there was only one university in the country, University of Nairibi, and its different campuses. With a lean team of 5 passionate staff, pioneering ministry to students was rather challenging. Particularly, lobbying students to have structured bible study and developing the capacity of leaders was counter cultural. The stretch was even harder as the number of institutions grew, presenting infrastructural needs for the Movement.

God led our forerunners in great wisdom to establish the foundations for this Movement with great patience. 50 years later, we are harvesting from a rich heritage of their labor. Students have found lifelong convictions in the labor of the forerunners, including the rich conferences, robust bible studies, specialized discipleship programs like Anza Fyt, Vuka FiT, BEST-P, STEM and many others.



Highlights of our story from left; One of the 1st BS guides by FOCUS. Moments from the 1st Commission with John Stott, Bible study training and a fellowship in PAFES.



The journey of the Movement and its impact is published in a FOCUS Kenya production namely, *The Mustard*. True to its name, our heritage has been a journey of faith yielding up to a great display of splendor. We launched this book during the Grand Celebration as a preservation of the history of FOCUS Kenya. You can grab a copy today from your CU office or [click to order](#) a copy. You can also watch the film version [here](#).

We marked our 50th Anniversary with a colorful Grand celebration on 30th September at UON Main Campus with over 950 in-person attendees, and 200 more joining virtually and in watch parties. The testimonies shared were hearty celebrations of the impact of what belonging to FOCUS is. We also had some exciting presentations from different generations, including a dance from Cooperative University CU. You can catch it all again [here](#).

CUs are also marking their anniversaries and joining in the celebrations in their own ways. We celebrate the former students who contributed to the growth of these CUs thus far. May God use you to impact the next generation of students in your CU as well.



Moments from the Grand Celebrations

SOME CUS ANNIVERSARIES



Machakos University CU celebrating their 8th Anniversary. Happy Anniversary to Machakos University CU.



Africa International University CU celebrating 10 years of God's goodness. Happy anniversary!



University of Eldoret CU in their celebration together with members of Faculty and alumni. Happy 31st Anniversary to them!



NASEC 23/24 Members

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Regional Students Executive Committee (RSEC) meetings are important opportunities for CUs to benchmark, network, and learn from each other. Chairpersons and secretaries from each CU share ideas on how they are implementing the strategic priority areas. RSEC meetings inform national decisions on CU management by cascading the way forward to the National Students Executive Committee from all 7 regions.

“RSEC was timely for me. Filling the data workbook was an opportunity for me to evaluate what the CU had done so far. I was able to gauge the results of our activities and take note of the areas of improvement. Interacting with the other leaders really encouraged me in knowing, there are others who still serve God diligently. I was almost tempted to compare our CU, especially our weaknesses, with other thriving ones. But I took it as a way to learn more instead of being discouraged.” - Uzima, Secretaty UON Parklands CU.



RSEC in Northern Nairobi Region at FOCUS Center, Kasarani. 42 students from 26 institutions and 26 staff were in attendance.

RSEC MOMENTS



RSEC in Southern Nairobi Region at FOCUS Center, Kasarani brought together 34 students from 20 CUs. The retreat culminated with prayers at the Hatua construction site.



RSEC in Pwani Region



North Rift RSEC themed 'Changing the Odds'. 32 students were present at KMTC Iten. Students took a walk to the mountains after intense business meetings and peer mentorship sessions.

RSEC MOMENTS



Empowering Through Strategic Delegation,” was the Theme for the Western Region’s RSEC It was held at Maseno University and had 43 students, and 13 staff from 24 CUs, with 4 new CUs.



The Central Rift RSEC attracted 29 students from 15 CUs. The retreat took place at DTI, Naivasha and the theme was Finishing Well reflecting on the life and ministry of Paul.



Mount Kenya RSEC at DKUT

ULIZA FOCUS

A believer naturally desires to ascertain whether they follow God's standards correctly. While some areas are simple, some pose difficult life questions. In our digital age, the internet grants easy access to vast information. Many turn to search engines for profound life answers but struggle to find godly and edifying answers to their questions.

We bring you Uliza FOCUS!! Uliza FOCUS is our Digital Ministry initiative, contributing to the truth pointers. Questions can be asked by anyone seeking knowledge or insight on doctrine, and social and cultural issues. The questions will be sorted and responded to by our theologically trained team of sincere believers. You can expect a special feature every Friday on YouTube and Facebook. We will also have personalized inbox responses, blog posts, and other ways of addressing the issues raised.



We hope to support you and other believers in navigating the complexities of following God's standards. From straightforward matters to the more intricate, our platform provides answers that uphold soberness, truthfulness, relevance, and accessibility.

You can share your questions via WhatsApp at 0723 412 412, inbox us, or leave them in the comments on our social media platforms. Let's journey together toward understanding and growth.

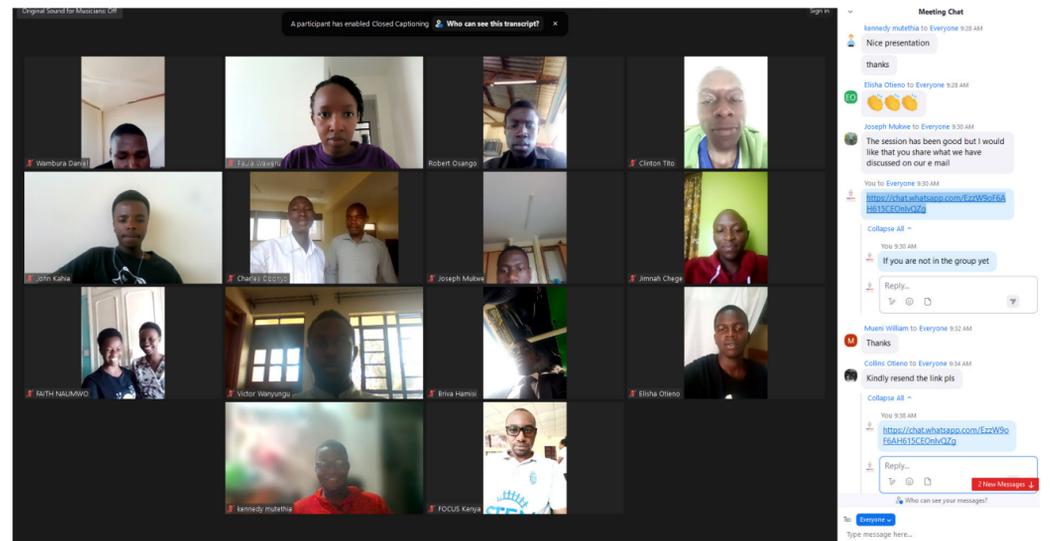
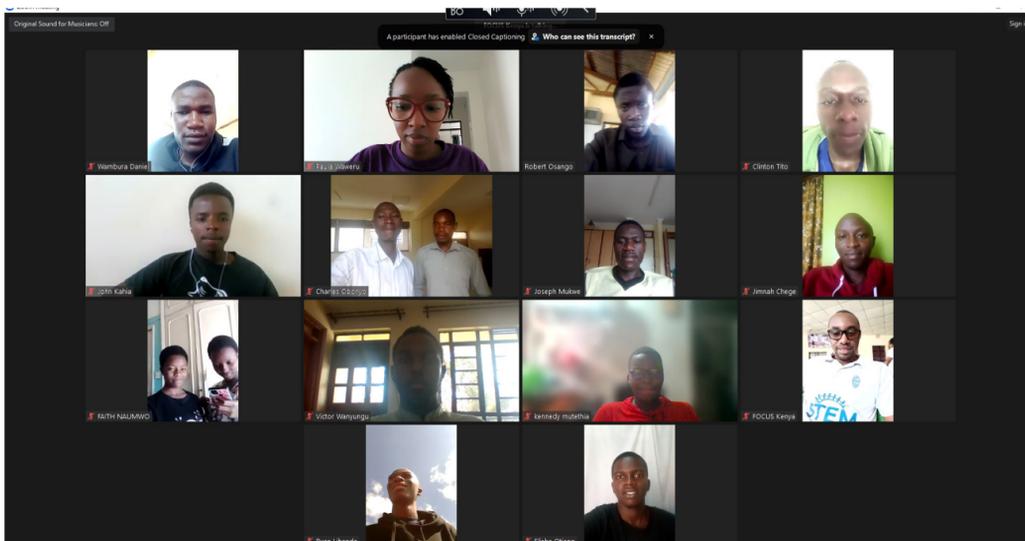
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LINKING AND NETWORKING



Highlights from FOCUS Intercessory Network (FIN) in Kitale Sub-Region bringing together 6 CUs for a night of Prayer at Equip Africa College. Such a refreshing night it was for the students to pray for each other.



Closing a virtual hangout of ICT heads; the forum was useful for idea sharing and building the capacity of ICT heads on CU branding and publicity. ICT heads can plug in to the group by sending a text to 0723412412.



HATUA Champions from CUs in Nairobi at the FOCUS center in preparation for this year's HATUA dinner in December. The champions were able to visit the construction site, deliberate on the best strategies to raise funds, and pray for the project.

EZRA CONFERENCE - BACK TO THE BASICS

5 Stimulating Bible Expositions

5 Enriching Plenary Sessions

Uplifting Praise and Worship.

Interactive Small Bible Study Studies

Connecting and Networking with other CU students, Associates, and International Delegates

Over 30 Seminars on Discipleship, Scripture Engagement, and Contemporary Issues.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

28th Dec 2023- 1st Jan 2024 | Kabarak University | Ksh 3950 per student

1

We extend our gratitude to the 4067 delegates who have registered for the EZRA 2023 conference. This is an affirmation of the timeliness of this conference.

2

To ensure effective planning, by now, all delegates should have already paid the registration fee of sh. 1,000. We have now reopened the registration to allow additional delegates to fill up the remaining slots by paying sh. 1,000. The registration will close as soon as all slots are filled.

3

To raise funds for the conference, please log in to your Ezra account and download either the **Ezra 100 challenge card** or the **Ezra support card**. Compile a list of 50 friends, family, and acquaintances who can offer support and share it with them.

See you in EZRA | Register now:

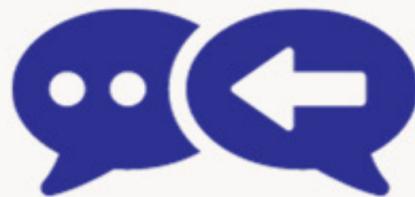
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PARTICIPATION AND CONTACTS



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Tell a friend to tell a friend about our story and impact their lives as well.

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