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# MKSU Connect NewsLetter



## This Week Highlights

EDITOR

**Ms. Valarie Katemi**

GRAPHICS & DESIGN

**Ms. Stella Amaya**

PHOTOGRAPHY

**Ms. Stella Amaya**

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Second left Dr. Tindih Heshborne during a Courtesy call to the Governor of Hwasun County

## **Machakos University Scientist Selected for Prestigious International Vaccine Training in South Korea**

In a significant recognition of its growing stature in scientific research, Machakos University proudly announces that one of its own, Dr. Tindih Sheltone Heshborne, has been selected to represent Kenya in the Kenya Bio Vaccine Expert Training Program in Daejeon, Republic of Korea.

Dr. Tindih, a dedicated lecturer and researcher within the University’s Department of Biological Sciences, is one of only twenty top-tier Kenyan scientists chosen for the program, scheduled from October 22<sup>nd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025. The initiative is a collaboration between the world-renowned Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) and the International Vaccine Institute (IVI). The intensive ten-day program in South Korea will feature advanced technical workshops, hands-on training, and visits to state-of-the-art vaccine production facilities. The goal is to equip participants with the latest knowledge and technologies in vaccine development and manufacturing.



For Dr. Tindih, this opportunity is a direct extension of his work at Machakos University. “At Machakos University, we are building a robust foundation for biotech research,” Dr. Tindih remarked before his departure. “This program is a crucial bridge. It allows us to connect our efforts here with global leaders like KAIST. The skills and collaborations I bring back will be instrumental in strengthening our curriculum and enhancing our research capacity right here in Machakos County.” The program, fully funded by KAIST, is seen as a pivotal step towards fostering equitable scientific collaboration between Kenya and Korea. It aligns perfectly with Machakos University’s vision to be a leader in innovation and technology transfer.

# MksU Hackfest 2025 Concludes, Crowns Winning Innovators Across Five Tech Tracks

Photo Gallery of the HackFest

The much-anticipated MksU Hackfest 2025, annual flagship hackathon, successfully concluded on October 24th after three electrifying days of innovation, collaboration, and intense coding. The event, themed "Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure," brought together the brightest student minds from across the region to develop tangible tech solutions for real-world challenges. The hackathon culminated in a thrilling final presentation and awards ceremony, where the following teams were declared winners in their respective tracks:

## 🏆 2025 Hackfest Champions

### 🏠 Industry Track Winner: Kumi na nne team

Members: Nicholas Gitau, Ian Teka (Machakos University); Albert Kungu, Blessing Kaliet, Naomy Njoroge (Tharaka University).

Project: A groundbreaking solution addressing industrial challenges.

### 🔗 Blockchain Track Winner: Predators Team

Members: Davis Ngetich, Teddy Gichohi, Kenneth Kagunya, Alex Mwera, Victor Musembi (All from Daystar University).

Project: An innovative application of blockchain technology.

### 🎓 Education Track Winner: Campus Hub

Members: Brian Kuria, Callagan Sikuche, Meshack Karani, Francis Karanja (Machakos University); Joshua Karani (Tharaka University).

Project: A platform designed to transform the educational experience.

### 🏗️ Infrastructure Track Winner: Optimus

Members: Hyacinth Flavius, Pauline Kinyajui, Abel Mwirigi, Maryleen Boyani, Tirus Tendwa (All from Daystar University).

Project: A cutting-edge prototype aimed at improving physical or digital infrastructure.

### ☁️ Cloud Computing/Cybersecurity Track Winner: Cyber Sentinels

Members: Jackline Karimi, Victor Inzoberi, John Paul (Machakos University).

Project: A robust solution addressing critical challenges in cloud computing and cybersecurity.

### 🌱 Agriculture Track Winner: Soil Hack

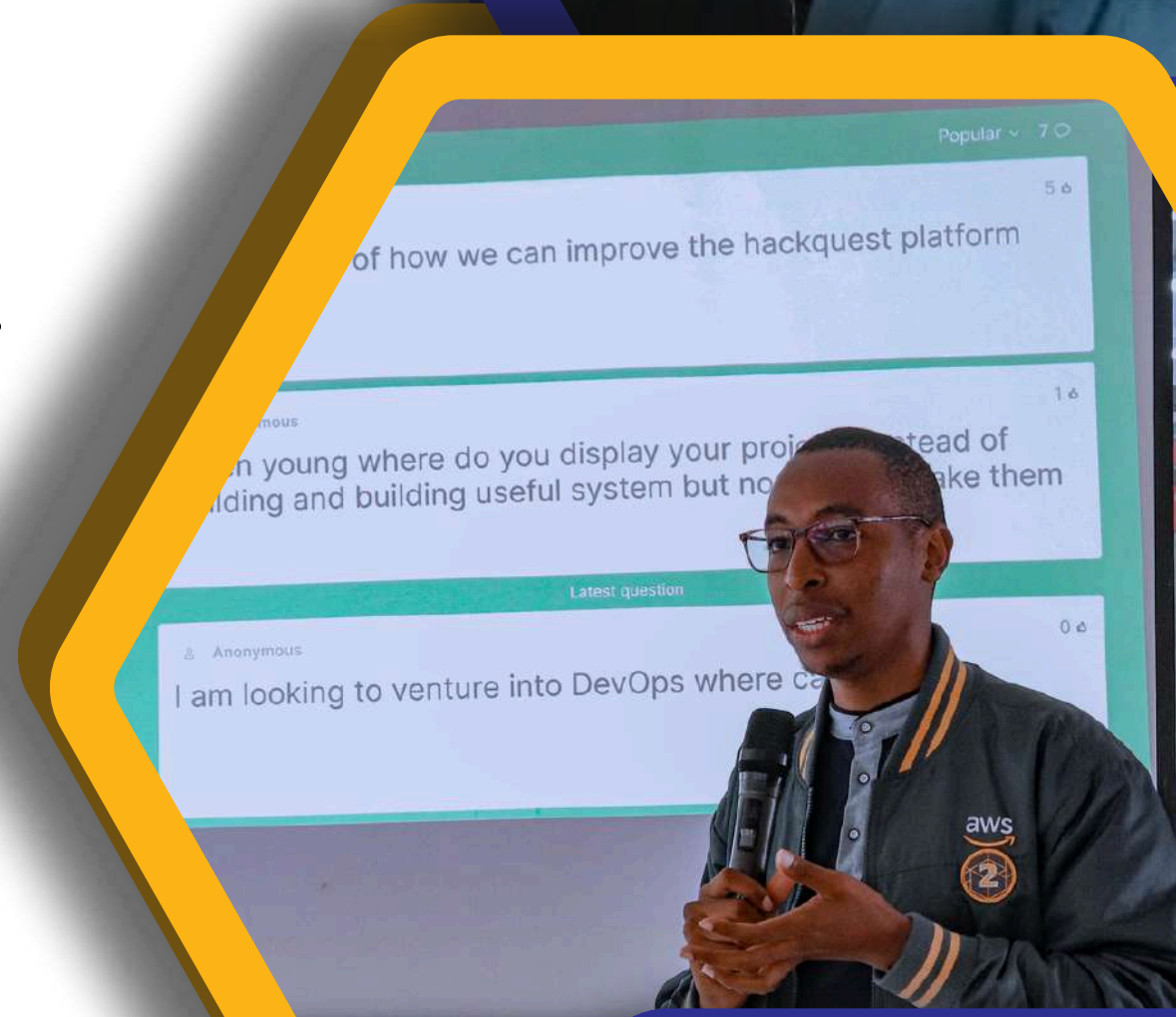
Members: Dennis Muli, Nyaga Robinson, Arnold Njeru, Ochieng' Felix (Machakos University).

Project: A tech-driven innovation designed to boost agricultural productivity and sustainability.

A Celebration of Collaboration and Talent

The event lived up to its promise of being a cross-campus celebration. The diverse list of winners, featuring teams from Machakos University, Tharaka University, and Daystar University, highlighted the powerful spirit of collaboration and the high level of talent spread across partner institutions.

The students have not only demonstrated technical prowess but also a deep understanding of how to apply their skills to create meaningful impact. MksU Hackfest 2025 has once again proven to be a vital platform for empowering the next generation of tech leaders, fostering innovation, and strengthening the ecosystem that will drive Kenya's digital future.



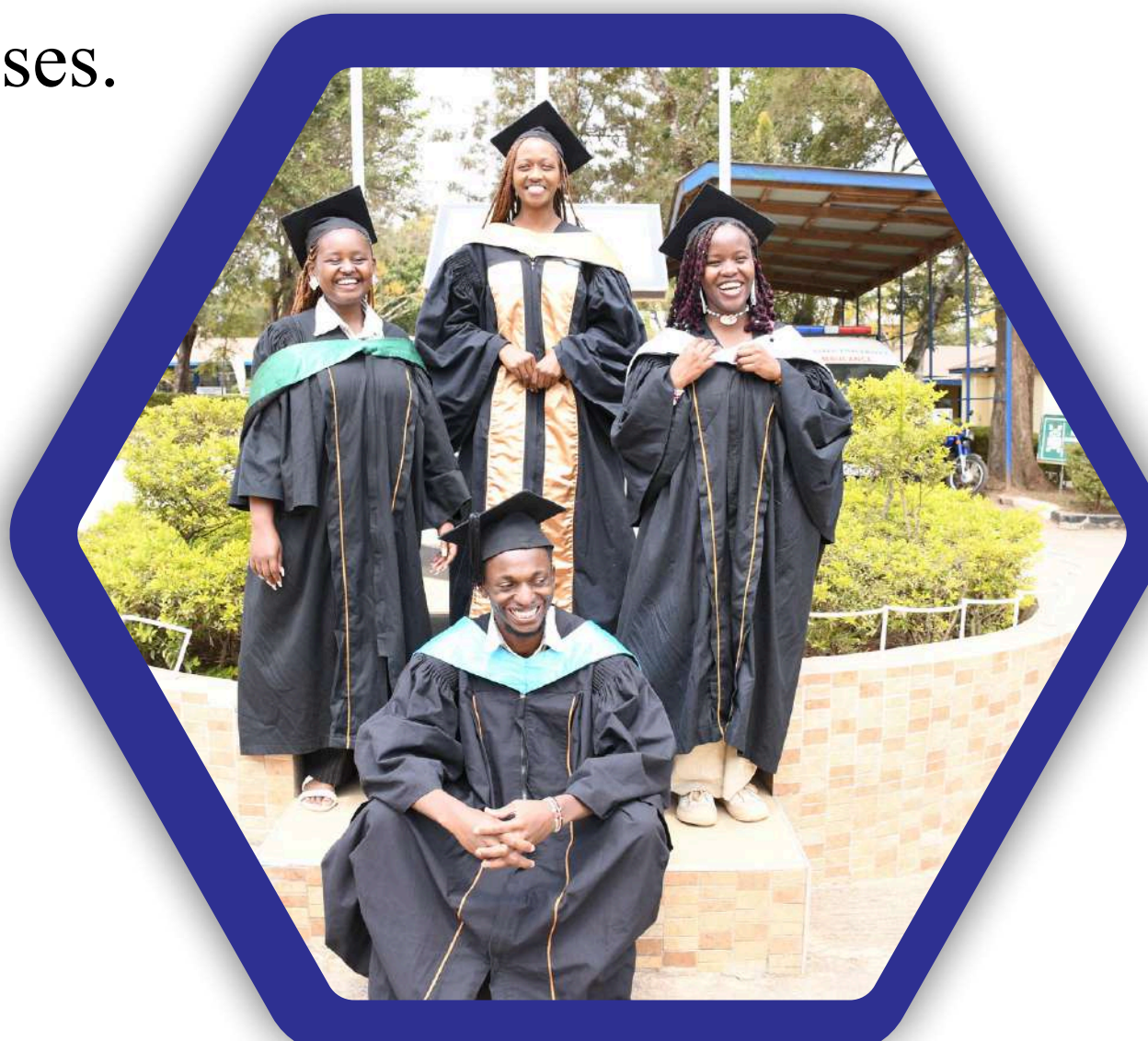


# NOTICE

Graduation Count Down - 6 days to go.

Collection of Gown change of date from 3rd  
November, 2025.

All graduands and invited guests are requested to  
carry their graduation invitation cards for ease of  
access to the premises.



# Contact Us



[info@mksu.ac.ke](mailto:info@mksu.ac.ke)



[Mksu\\_Official](#)



[MksU Official](#)



[www.mksu.ac.ke](http://www.mksu.ac.ke)



[+254 735 247 939](tel:+254735247939)



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