# COLLEGE OF BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATICS STUDENT MENTORSHIP REPORT 2011/2012

# 1. Introduction

The School of Computing and Informatics recognizes the need to enhance the quality of its undergraduate students by creating interactions, exchanges and sharing of experiences and knowledge so that the students can achieve their goals. To this extent, the School aims to produce holistic graduates, who are practical and problem solving-oriented and capable of life-long learning.

The mentorship programme of the School is spearheaded by three academic members of staff:

- Mr. Christopher Moturi Deputy Director
- Prof. Peter Wagacha Associate Professor
- Dr. Wanjiku Nganga Senior Lecturer

# 2. Objective

- Increase student knowledge of professional life
- Gain experience and confidence in personal and professional relationships
- Identify personal strengths, areas for improvement, interests and goals
- Identify future employment opportunities
- Establish professional networks

#### 3. Mentors

The School aims to identify various mentors drawn from alumni, employers, professionals from industry, and visiting professors. The mentors guide students on various aspects of student and professional life. They are expected to inspire and encourage students thereby making a difference in the student growth and success. Mentors will therefore assist students in academics, personal development, career development, as well as social and emotional support.

# 4. Activities

The mentorship activities include professional and motivation talks, competitions, start-up weekends, boot camps, internships, placements, bonding, sharing experiences, alumni dinner, and one-on-one links. The School provides coordination, venues for meetings, presentation facilities and material, and snacks. The School maintains a website to provide information. The mentors provide facilitations, materials, and industry networking. They also provide internships, industrial attachments, projects, and job opportunities.

# 5. Mentorship Activities Undertaken in 2011/2012

# 2.1 Summary

During the 2011/2012 academic year, the School undertook a variety of mentorship activities whose summary is shown in the table below:

Activity	Description	Participants
Competitions	Garage 48	Catherine Mahugu/ Kelvin Kimani
	Global Social Entrepreneurship Competition -	Catherine Mahugu
	Foster School of Business, University of	
	Washington, Seattle, USA	
	Rice University Business Plan Competition, Texas,	Catherine Mahugu
	USA	
	Ignite Hackathon Nokia Competition	8 students
	Wellcome Sanger Prize Competition	Andrew Ntwiga
	NASA Space Apps Challenge	Boniface Muganda, Nyongesa Telewa
	Mobile Garage	Kichitaro Shiojiri
	Tandaa Digital Content Grant	Brian Kinyua
	GSMA Mobile Health University Challenge, Cape	Evelyn Kavata Mwango, Nancy Saruni
	Town	
Boot Camps	Google Startup Weekend	43 students
•	Mobile Garage	12 students
	Nailab Start-Up Weekend	17 students
	Junior Achievement Kenya	18 students
	Science Hack Day	Boniface Muganda , Peter Kamiri,
	,	Samuel Kariu, Michael Kimathi, Bernard
		Banta
Student	Round Table Discussion	20 students and 4 academic staff
Interactions	NUCOMSSA Fun Day	36 students
	Student-Student Interaction	100 students
Recruitment	Techno Brain	60 students
Drives	Delloitte	500 students from across the University
	Safaricom Internship Programme	Prof Lucy Irungu, DVC (RPE)
		300 student from SCI and School of
		Engineering
High Tech	SasaAfrica Social Entrepreneurship	Catherine Mahugu
SME Nurturing	Deveint.com	Antony Nandaa
(contributed	Tandaa Digital	Brian Kinyua
to CBPS PC)		,
industrial	Students undertook internships in various partner	69 students
attachment	institutions including Nokia/Sizzle Project,	
	Knowledge for Life, Google Kenya, Equity Bank,	
	Equity Bank, KenGen, Aimsoft, NEMA, MoHEST,	
Skill Training	Knowledge for Life – K4Life	40 students
Conferences	Africa Mobile Money Research Conference	Ernest Omolo and Billy Njoka Njoroge
		were involved as assistants
Ambassadors	Google Ambassadors	Paul Njeru, Sylvia Karanja
Alumni	Judith Owigar and Linet Kwamboka were actively	
Involvement	involved in many mentorship activities	
Invited	Avinash Ramtohul, Cluster Leader, Oracle, Africa	All students
Speakers	Annie Njenga, mLab	All students
	ESRI East Africa	All students

# **2.3 Garage 48**

Catherine Mahugu and Kelvin Kimani (both Year 4) participated in this competition and their team (KamataKab) won the Competition for Nairobi, Kenya. KamataKab is a mobile phone application that enables clients with GPS-enabled phones to locate the nearest taxi cab in their vicinity, pick the cab that is ranked highest, and use it and rate it. Garage48 is an application development competition where software developers conceive application and develop it to a working prototype within 48 hours. The 2011 Garage48 in Nairobi was hosted by @ilabAfrica and the event took place in September 2011.

http://garage48.org/blogger/projects-developed-garage48-nairobi http://www.kachwanya.com/2011/10/03/garage48-winner-kamata-kab/

# 2.4 Google Startup Weekend Boot Camp

This was organized by the University of Nairobi Google Technology Users Group (<a href="http://uon.gtugs.org/events/swbc2012">http://uon.gtugs.org/events/swbc2012</a> and <a href="http://swgtugnairobi.eventbrite.com/">http://swgtugnairobi.eventbrite.com/</a>). The one day event was held at SCI labs on February 10, 2012 with 43 undergraduate and 2 MSc students participating. The aim of this event was to help developers and entrepreneurs become more successful. The presentation covered Software Development Best Practice and Trends, Google Maps API, Google App Engine, Android Codelab, Mobile Web and HTTML5, and Entrepreneurship. The facilitation came from SCI Alumni under the leadership Linet Kwamboka (2010 Class) and the students themselves lead by Anthony Nandaa (Year 4), Newton Nyambati (Year 3).

# 2.5 Mobile Garage

The initiative dubbed "Mobile Garage" aims to create sustainable businesses for the knowledge economy through mobile applications development (<a href="www.mobilegarage.co.ke">www.mobilegarage.co.ke</a>). This is achieved by holding social networking activities in Universities and Colleges. On Saturday February 18, 2012, the School hosted the first of a series of events organized by Akirachix. The topics covered included opportunities in app development, how to monetize student apps, identifying possible ideas for apps for competitions. There will also be two annual app competitions whose winners will be linked to labs such as the iHub, Mlab or the NaiLab and be assigned mentors. The event was organized by an SCI alumni Judith Owigar and the speaker included Hilda Moraa- Research Strategist at iHub Research and founder of MyOrder, Isaac Osiemo - Winner of AppCircus Nairobi, Mobile Premier Awards finalist and founder MsemaKweli, and Sean Smith - Investment Analyst and New Investment Manager at Invested Development. Several SCI students attended and benefited from this event.

# 2.6 Nailab Start-Up Weekend

Startup Weekend (<a href="http://startupweekend.org/">http://startupweekend.org/</a>) is a global network of passionate leaders and entrepreneurs on a mission to inspire, educate, and empower individuals, teams and communities. The event was about entrepreneurship and demonstrating how it is possible to yield businesses just in a weekend. It also demonstrated the power of synergy and unity, and collaboration among people from different fields. The Nairobi event took place on 24-26 February 2012 and was conducted by Growth Africa (www.growthafria.com) and Nailab (www.nailab.co.ke), under the overall leadership of Linet Kwamboka, an alumni of SCI.

The School sponsored 17 students with the registration fee of Ksh. 2,000.00 each. The organizers of the event added 3 more free slots for ladies and 3 other slots for the University of Nairobi GTUG (http://uon.gtugs.org) which did mobilization for the event. In total therefore 23 SCI students participating out of 150 participants. Students from SCI were very active in participation. Approximately 10 of them pitched ideas during the preliminary session. After the formation of teams, most of the SCI students played lead roles in their respective teams either as developers, designers or marketers. At the end, we had two teams that were almost made purely of SCI students win: **iMedics** and **iBambe.** It is encouraging to note most of the students are carrying on with their ideas regardless of whether they won.

# 2.7 Global Social Entrepreneurship Competition

The Global Entrepreneurship Competition <u>Global Social Entrepreneurship Competition</u> was organized in February 2012 by the Foster School of Business, University of Washington, Seattle. Catherine Mahugu, Fourth Year and her and teammate Ella Peinovich, an MIT graduate student submitted a product name SasaAfrica. This is a women-owned and operated, social enterprise, that offers an innovative and independent platform for female artisans and entrepreneurs in Africa to create micro-enterprises, connecting developing world vendors to global e-commerce, even if they do not have access to the Internet, a computer, or a bank account, reaching even the most remote communities of entrepreneurs. Focused on promoting under-served communities, SasaAfrica aims to shorten the distance between vendors in developing nations and the global marketplace by integrating MMS uploads, SMS notifications, and mobile money payments with an e-commerce storefront.

The team won the Information and Communications Technology Prize worth US\$10,000 <a href="http://depts.washington.edu/foster/34000-for-best-social-entrepreneur-ideas-of-2012/">http://depts.washington.edu/foster/34000-for-best-social-entrepreneur-ideas-of-2012/</a>.

The team also won the **National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance award worth \$2,500.** This prize money will be used to attend a new venture workshop.

It was unfortunate however that Catherine was not able to travel to Washington to participate despite the School making passionate plea to DVC (RPE) for funding.

# 2.8 Junior Achievement Kenya - Annual Universities Innovation Boot Camp

Junior Achievement (JA) (<a href="http://kenya.ja.org/">http://kenya.ja.org/</a>) is dedicated to educating students in entrepreneurship, work readiness and financial literacy through experiential, hands-on programs. JA prepare young people for the real world by showing them how to generate wealth and effectively manage it, how to create jobs which make their communities more robust, and how to apply entrepreneurial thinking to the workplace. Students put the lessons into action and learn the value of contributing to their communities.

The Junior Achievement Camp took place on 6-8 March 2012 at Twiga Camp within the Nairobi National Park with 130 students from approximately 12 Universities participating. SCI sent 18 students. The event was facilitated by Citibank, Safaricom, Coca Cola and ACCA.

# 2.9 Ignite Hackathon Nokia Competition

Eight students le by Boniface Muganda (Year 3) took part in the Ignite Hackathon Nokia Competition on 24 – 25 March 2012 <a href="http://ignitehackathon.com/">http://ignitehackathon.com/</a>. This was a 36-hour mobile development event that was held at the Startup Garage Nairobi. The event was sponsored by Nokia in conjunction with eMobilis Mobile Academy and Capital FM. This event brought together local developers, techies students, designers, entrepreneurs and investors for 36-hour mobile hacking. During this period participants were required to come up with problem and develop mobile solution within the same period. This event was useful to students as it gave students practical hands on skills and also to test their capabilities.

# 2.10 Round Table Discussion

On 15 March 2012, a group of 20 student representatives held a brainstorming session with 4 academic staff on how to better quality and output SCI students. The group discussed various issues the students are facing and brainstormed on how best these can be addressed. Among the issues were curriculum content and delivery, forums for interaction, student mentorship, innovations, industrial attachment, career opportunities, resources, and participation of female student in various school activities. Suggestions were made for the way forward. The academic staff member who attended were Mr. Moturi (Deputy Director), Dr. Nganga, Prof. Wagacha and Prof. Omwenga. The students were lead by Anthony Nandaa (Year 4).

# 2.11 Student Interaction Session

On 29 March 2012 a group of third and fourth year students organized an interaction session with first and second year students. The aim of the session was to share experiences and provide guidance to the newer students on various aspects of the BSc in Computer Science and campus life in general. More than 100 students attended this whole afternoon event that was organized by Chrisantus Khulabe Maseno — Year 4. The junior students appreciated the event and requested for more similar sessions in future. This will now be made a semester event.

#### Some of the issues that were addressed:

- 1. Computer Science as a Level Playing Field- This involved defining the course as a tool to be applied in different fields and areas. (By Ernest Omolo Year 4)
- 2. Accepting the BSc Computer Science Programme This clarified the opportunities and exposure one gain in the course. (Catherine Mahugu Year 4)
- 3. Programming and diversity in it This detailed the aspect of programming in computer science (Kelvin Nkinyili Year 4)
- 4. Project Management Included life management and meeting school work deadlines and planning (Roy Wanyaga Munge Year 4)
- 5. Financial Challenges Exposed some avenues that students can get money without compromising their academics (Charles Gitau Year 4)
- 6. Planning and it's linkage to surviving campus life- Sharing experiences of how one can overcome peer pressure, balance external and internal life(Kennedy Miruka Year 4)
- 7. Academics How to maintain constant grades and consistence in performance (Joyce Sang Year 4)
- 8. Social and Spiritual Challenges How to manage religion believes and opposing technical environment (Anthony Nandaa Year 4)
- 9. Health Factors How to live healthy with computers (Samuel Njuguna Year 4)
- 10. Administrative and Leadership Balance This clarified balancing activities like SONU and other associations and SCI administration (Ronald Odongo Year 4)
- 11. Entrepreneurship How to come up with business start ups (Bonface Githinji)

# 2.12 Africa Mobile Money Research Conference

Two students, Ernest Omolo (Year 4) and Billy Njoka Njoroge (Year 3) were involved in the organization of the Africa Mobile Money Research Conference (AMMREC2012) that took place at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies 2 - 3 April 2012. This major SCI conference reviewed progress made in MM and consider opportunities, trends, and growth strategies relevant for this important sector of the industry; show cased innovations in MM beyond money transfers, particularly from the region; highlighted the value of research in extending

the MM ecosystem; and developed networks that can spur growth of MM ecosystem. The conference was attended by the VC, PS for ICT, PS for Higher Education Science and Technology among other dignitaries.

# 2.13 Rice University Business Plan Competition – Catherine Mahugu

http://rbpc.rice.edu/RBPC2012 Winners PressRelease/

Catherine Mahugu, fourth BSc in Computer Science student, participated in the Rice University Business Plan competition that was hosted and organized by the Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship, a Rice University flagship initiative devoted to the support of entrepreneurship that took place on 12-14 April 2012 at Houston, Texas, USA. The Rice University Business Plan Competition is the world's richest and largest graduate-level business plan competition.

Catherine and her teammate, Ella Peinovich, an MIT graduate student submitted a product name SasaAfrica, a women-owned and operated, social enterprise that offers an innovative and independent platform for women artisans and entrepreneurs in Africa to create microenterprises, connecting developing world vendors to global e-commerce, even if they do not have access to the Internet, a computer, or a bank account, reaching even the most remote communities of entrepreneurs. Catherine was sponsored by the CBPS and SCI. The team won four prizes worth \$26,250 including the \$10,000 for the best Social Impact Venture Award, \$10,000 for the Best Presentation Award, \$5,000 for Courageous Women Entrepreneurs Award, and Semi-Final Round Award of \$1,250.

Out of the 42 teams that participated, Catherine's team reached the semifinals and emerged 8th overall. The teams competed in five categories: life sciences, information technology, energy, green tech, social ventures and other technologies. The teams presented 15-minute business plans and also competed in a rapid fire 60-second elevator pitch contest on the first night or the competition. The top six finalists were teams from Northwestern University which won the Grand Prize of \$874,300, two teams from Purdue University, MIT, University of Idaho, and Johns Hopkins University.

The competition is designed to give collegiate entrepreneurs a real-world experience to fine tune their business plans and elevator pitches to generate funding to successfully commercialize their product. Judges evaluate the teams as real-world entrepreneurs soliciting start-up funds from early stage investors and venture capital firms. The judges rank the presentations based on which company they would most likely invest.

# 2.14 Wellcome Sanger Prize Competition

Andrew Ntwiga (Year 3) entered the Sanger Institute Prize 2012 and went up to stage 2 of the competition where he submitted an essay entitled "If you could sequence one genome, which one would it be and why". The Sanger Institute Prize is an outreach prize for undergraduate students from low and middle income countries. It targets students in eligible countries who can demonstrate an active interest in research in the genomics field.

# 2.15 NUCOMSSA Fun Day

The NUCOMSA fun day is an annual event organized by the Nairobi University Computer Science Students Association. This year's event was held at Karura Forest on Saturday 21 April 2012 with 36 students attending. Among the activities students undertake are hiking, nature trail, games and team building.

# 2.16 Science Hack Day Nairobi

# http://www.sciencehackday.or.ke/

The Science Hack Day Nairobi event brought together scientists, engineers, developers, students on 13 – 15 April 2012 at Startup Garage Nairobi. The attendees were required to define a problem and hack a solution within 48 hours. The event was sponsored by Github, Google, Microsoft, Safaricom, Poptech and LPI East Africa. The event was attended by several students from the School of Computing and Informatics who worked on various ideas in science related projects. The following third year students attended the event: Boniface Muganda, Peter Kamiri, Samuel Kariu, Michael Kimathi and Bernard Banta

# 2.17 NASA Space Apps Challenge

Boniface Muganda (Year 3) and Nyongesa Telewa (Year 2) competent in NASA Space Apps Challenge by developing a device that not only accurately records the voltage and current and hence power output of a wind turbine, but also automatically communicate this information via SMS. This challenge took place on 21 – 22 April 2012 in 24 cities around the world. Teams were competing to create and invent ground-breaking hard/software solutions that might be applicable to NASA's terrestrial and interplanetary activities. The SCI team won second prize in the national competition and subsequently entered the international finals <a href="http://access-collective.com/category/energy-blog/">http://access-collective.com/category/energy-blog/</a>.

# 2.18 Recruitment Drives

The School arranges recruitment drives by inviting interested companies to come and make presentations throughout the year to graduating students.

On 3 May 2012 Techno Brain spent a whole at the school taking about 60 students through a pre-placement talk, written test, group discussion and a panel interview. Techno Brain is a leading IT solution provider with a decade of experience in developing solutions across Africa, America, and Asia.

On 17 May 2012, Delloitte held their first phase on recruitment of final year student by conduction an online aptitude test at the SCI labs, with over 500 students attending, including 7 SCI students. Two of the SCI students were further invited for round two of the process.

# 2.19 Knowledge for Life – K4Life

The Knowledge for Life is a program aimed at providing free training to University students on various Partner courses that will enable them to understand the different service and product offerings available in the market, consequently enabling them to make informed decisions on their future career choices. A team from Seven Seas Technologies, one of the partners for this programme, led by the CEO, made a presentation to SCI students on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at the School. This programme has benefited several of our students in the recent past. Subsequently, 40 of SCI students were accepted for the programme that commenced on 2 June 2012 at Bandari Plaza Westland. This included 20 final years, 13 third years and 7 second years.

# 2.20 Tandaa Digital Content Grant

Brian Kinyua (Year 4) was one of the 30 grantees of this programme out of a total number of over 2,000 who bid to win bid to secure up to \$50,000 in funding. Brian submitted a project titled "The Kenya Game Developers Initiative" in May 2012. The project's aim is to start a company that develops and distributes mobile interactive entertainment software (games) based on Kenyan and African themes. In the long term, he hopes to venture into production of multimedia content such as feature films that are both entertaining and educational. After going through a detailed process that included submitting a proposal and financial plan online and participating in a professional business plan training, Brian and two others were granted \$10,000 and have 12 months to complete his project.

https://sites.google.com/a/ict.go.ke/tandaa/grants-round01/grantees-round-02/grantees-round-02-announced

# 2.21 Google Ambassadors

Paul Njeru (Year 3) and Sylvia Karanja (Year 3) were selected to serve as Google Student Ambassadors for a period of one year (2012 -2013). The two, along with other selected Ambassadors from over 100 African Universities, were invited to attend a 3-day Google Ambassador Orientation Summit in Nairobi, between 11th and 13th June 2012. The Ambassador program is part of ongoing Google commitment to supporting education in Africa. Ambassadors serve as Google's representatives on campus - they plan and host a few events during the school year, introduce students to new Google products and features, create awareness about Google opportunities, and act as a campus contact for Google teams. http://www.google.com/jobs/students/emea/ambassador/

#### 2.22 SasaAfrica

The SasaAfrica Social Entrepreneurship project of Catherine Mahugu and her partner Ella Peinovich of MIT has continued to win awards and recognitions. These include the following:

# a) Fortune magazine

The SasaAfrica Social Entrepreneurship e-commerce site got a mention in the *Fortune Magazine*- May 2012 issue on page 70. The magazine noted that, although SasaAfrica team of Catherine Mahugu and Ella Peinovich of MIT did not receive a lot of money at the University Business Plan Competition, it was the darling of many judges.

# b) DEMO Africa 2012

SasaAfrica was one of the 15 teams who participated in the DEMO Africa 2012 event sponsored by Microsoft, Nokia, IDG, DEMO, Lions@frica, and the World Economic Forum. DEMO Africa 2012 allows for a collaborative environment where leading minds and companies from African nations can come together to gain exposure on a global level. DEMO's goal is to provide the opportunities necessary to get these exciting companies exposure and, ultimately, success in their respective industries.

http://www.cio.co.ke/news/main-stories/demo-announces-inaugural-demo-africa,-oct-24-26,-2012

# c) 2012 Travel Scholarships from the WTC of Boston

SasaAfrica was awarded one of two 2012 Travel Scholarships from the WTC of Boston. The Women's Travel Club (WTC) is an organization that five Boston women established in 1934 to promote intelligent travel and exploration by women and to provide help to support women to travel for further their professional pursuits.

# d) MIT100K Finale Competition

SasaAfrica received was selected as one of the start-ups to receive the inaugural Founders' Skills Accelerator award during the MIT100K Finale Competition held between 10 – 15 May 2012 at MIT and was one of the semi-finalist teams selected for the Web/IT track.

http://entrepreneurship.mit.edu/news/mit-founders-skills-accelerator-announces-inaugural-teams

# e) Empower magazine

Featured in the May 2012 issue of Empower Magazine http://www.bpbcc.org/

# 2.23 Mobile Garage Competition

Kichitaro Shiojiri (Year 4) came 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Mobile Garage Competition held at i-Hub on 20 May 2012. This competition is run by Judith Owiga (alumni) and the akirachix.

# 2.24 Safaricom Internship Programme

On 4 June 2012, a team from Safaricom's Talent Acquisition Department was at the School to launch an internship programme whose objective is to give students an exposure opportunity in Safaricom as part of their Industrial Attachment. The Safaricom team gave tips on students should present themselves during interview and explained the application process. The Chief Guest at the event was Prof Lucy Irungu, DVC (RPE) and over 300 students from the SCI and the Department of Electrical and Information Engineering attended.

# 2.25 GSMA Mobile Health University Challenge 2012 – Cape Town www.mobilehealthsummit.com

Three final year students, Evelyn Kavata Mwango, Nancy Saruni, and Stephen Mwega participated as finalist in the GSMA Mobile Health University Challenge, a constituent event under the 2012 GSMA-mHealth Alliance Mobile Health Summit that took place at International Convention Centre in Cape Town, between May 29 - June 1 2012. The challenge sought students who can make a difference in the world by pioneering mobile health concepts, applications, and devices that address health care needs within wellness, awareness, diagnosis, treatment and monitoring, clinician support tools, and health information systems. The University of Nairobi and Kenya was represented by Team Mobitherm made up of five team members and a faculty advisor of whom three were successful in attending the Challenge.

The MobiTherm Team presented their entry to a panel of judges consisting of venture capitalists, industry players and leaders in the mobile health ecosystem. Although they did

not emerge the winning team in order to gain a \$5,000 prize of training and mentoring towards the development of their innovation, they gained an unparalleled network through the various mix of companies, organizations and people in attendance, and earned potential partnership opportunities. The team's innovation notably attracted the interest of Orange Group who have shown interest in the application through their Innovation & New Business opportunities for Eastern and Southern Africa Department.

There were 14 finalist teams from various parts of the world, including US, UK, Canada, Indonesia, Jordan, Lebanon and Brazil. The University of Nairobi team was one of the two from Africa, the other being from Senegal. The winner of the 2012 GSMA Mobile Health University Challenge was Massachusetts Institute of Technology (US) and Federal University of Rio Grande Do Norte (Brazil) with their innovation Sana AudioPulse.

# 2.26 Guest Speakers on Topical Issues

The following speakers were invited by the School to make presentations to students on Topical issue of interest.

Date		Speaker	Topic	Remark
24	Feb	Avinash Ramtohul,	Service Oriented	Well attended by BSc Comp Sc and
2012		Cluster Leader,	Architecture	BSc Actuarial Sc students
		Oracle, Africa		
7	Mar	Annie Njenga	Pivot East Competition for	Well attended by year 2 and 3
2012		mLab	Mobile Applications	students
7	Mar	ESRI East Africa	Delivering GIS Solutions on	Well attended by year 2 and 3
2012			Mobile, Desktop, Web	students
			and Cloud Platforms	

# 6. Financial Assistance

There have been occasions when students require urgent financial assistance to address personal problems.

Nyongesa Telewa (P15/1268/2010) - On realizing this second year student had problems with his sight, three staff (Prof. Wagacha/Mr. Moturi/Dr. Nganga) contributed money to enable the student acquire glasses. By second semester is was noticeable that the student was more confident and bold, and actively participating in interesting activities. This included a robot building activity at the iHub that took place on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012, where his group did well <a href="http://access-collective.com/category/energy-blog/">http://access-collective.com/category/energy-blog/</a> (see NASA Space Apps Challenge above)

Patrick Irungu Ngari (P15/1314/2011) – This student had serious family problems that were affecting his studies. At some stage the Administrator Mrs. Emmah Manyeki had to contribute some money to address financial need. The student has since received counseling from the College counselor and he is doing well.

# 7. Conclusion

We believe the mentoring activities undertaken during the academic year will strengthen personal development and motivation of SCI students, encourage their commitment to studies, and ultimately maximize student success. This will contribute to the University's strategic objective of producing holistic graduates.

Christopher A Moturi
Deputy Director
School of Computing and Informatics

27 July 2012