

University of eastern Africa, Baraton ODeL Centre Profile

Name: University of Eastern Africa, Baraton
Address: P. O. Box 2500 30100 Eldoret, Kenya
Physical Location: Baraton, Kapsabet Municipality, Nandi Central District, Nandi Country, Approximately 50 Kilometers from Eldoret and/or 35 Kilometers from Eldoret International Airport

Brief History of University of Eastern Africa, Baraton

The University of Eastern Africa, Baraton (UEAB) was established in 1979 as a University College under an affiliation arrangement with Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, USA. It was granted a university charter in March 28, 1991 by the Republic of Kenya, making it the first private institution in Kenya.

Enrollment

Currently, 5000 students are enrolled in the University's 33 baccalaureate degree programs,

Schools/Faculties

The University is organized into five schools and three directorates, namely: School of Business (SoB), Education, Humanities and Social Sciences (SoEHSS), Health Sciences(SoHS), Science and Technology(SST), Directorate of Graduate Studies(DGS), Open Distance and eLearning (ODeL) and Quality Assurance.

Accreditations

The University is currently accredited by the Adventist Accrediting Association (AAA) of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the Commission for University Education (CUE) of the Republic of Kenya.

Affiliations and Linkages

UEAB has also formed Affiliations and collaborations agreements and linkages with a number of African and International Universities as well as other institutions for training.

Milestones in Online Learning

The history of attempting online teaching at University of Eastern Africa, Baraton dates back to 2012, when in partnership with two other Universities from Finland (Diakonia University of Applied Science, and Arcada University of Applied Sciences), UEAB mounted a joint master's degree program in Global Health Care. In 2014, UEAB collaborated with four other Universities to enhance online teaching in the school of Health Sciences. This program entailed students and faculty exchange program in which they would be exposed to different learning cultures including Online teaching and learning. The program that was then attempted teaching online was the Master of Science in Global Health Care.

Since 2018, UEAB has been participating in the Partnership for Enhanced and Blended Learning (PEBL), a program aimed at helping universities across East Africa share valuable teaching resources through the development of quality assured, credit-bearing courses delivered through blended learning. In this way, PEBL will enhance teaching quality and student outcomes, and help to address the growing shortage of academic staff faced by universities.

In 2020, when the covid-19 pandemic broke out, the university suspended the face to face teaching and quickly adopted the remote teaching methods to complete the remaining weeks of the semester and conduct its final examinations online using the university LMS integrated with online proctoring using Respondus Monitor and Lockdown Browser.

In early 2020, the university visited Kenyatta University, Mount Kenya University and Strathmore University to benchmark on online teaching. Another benchmarking visit was carried out in March 2021 in 7 universities namely; Moi University, United States International University (USIU), Kenyatta University, KCA University, Daystar University, Strathmore University and Mount Kenya University. The output from the benchmarking included the integration of LMS with University Management Information System, enhancement of synchronous teaching through adoption of Zoom Education tool for video conferencing, identification of potential programmes for ODeL and the developing of UEAB roadmap for ODeL.

In 2021, the university purchased 200 zoom licenses for its faculty for conducting synchronous teaching as a supplement to its face to face programs. The University also established the Directorate of ODeL to coordinate eLearning activities.

In March 2022, the university commissioned its ELearning Centre as part of improvement of its physical infrastructure for ODeL.

An ODeL Policy was approved by the University Council in July 2022 to guide the university in its foray into online learning. A needs assessment for its ODeL Centre and proposed ODeL Programs in August 2022 with the aim of establishing opinions of stakeholders and prospective learners on readiness to uptake of ODeL Programs.

Vision

To be a leading centre of excellence in offering ODeL programs that are market oriented and competitive.

Mission

To provide UEAB ODeL programs that advances wholistic, quality Christian education using modern technology in equipping learners with appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudes for service to God and humanity.

Philosophy

UEAB ODeL operates on the Seventh-day Adventist worldview which holds that God is the Creator and Sustainer of the universe and life and the Source of true knowledge. The entrance of sin caused man's alienation from God, therefore, the restoration of man's relationship to God is the foundation of Christian education, which leads students into self-actualization and to discover and understand the truth through critical thinking. UEAB ODeL believes that technology can be used in providing learners with the true knowledge of God.

Organogram

