



Government rolls out the second Cohort of 2,400 interns under PSIP

By Badi Khamis

A two days induction program for the second cohort of 2,400 interns under the Public Service Internship Program (PSIP) was concluded on Tuesday, 17th December 2019.

The induction, which was conducted at the Kasarani Sports Gymnasium, culminated into official issuance of appointment and deployment letters by the Chief Guest, the Head of Public Service Dr. Joseph Kinyua.

Dr. Kinyua appreciated the role played by PSIP in preparing the young graduates to work in government and the private sector at large.

He noted that the youths were technologically savvy; an attribute that if properly leveraged on will improve public service delivery and contribute to faster development.

“I therefore take this opportunity to commend the Chairman of the Public Service Commission Mr. Stephen Kirogo, and the Commissioners for championing the Public Service Internship Programme (PSIP)” he said.



Head of Public Service Dr Joseph Kinyua presents an appointment letter to one of the interns from the second cohort. Standing behind the intern in PSC Chairman Stephen Kirogo

PSC Chairman in his remarks said that the sole objective of the program is to see the young men and women participate in transforming Kenya.

During the opening ceremony for the induction on 16th December, the Chairperson Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC), Ms. Lynn Mengich was Chief Guest.

She said that lack of job experience is a perennial problem for fresh graduates, and congratulated PSC

for the noble initiative of preparing the young graduates for the job market.

The interns have from 2nd to 17th January 2020 to report to their various work stations failure to which their positions will be forfeited.

PSIP is a Public Service Commission initiative aimed at giving young graduates opportunity to turn their knowledge learnt in college into practical skills.

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Applicants for Auditor General's Position fail to satisfy Selection Panel



PSC Chairman Mr. Stephen Kirogo (left) consulting with the Chairperson for the panel charged with nomination of Auditor General (AG) during the press briefing at the Commission House

By Badi Khamis and Habel Shiloli

The search for Kenya's next Auditor General has begun all over again, with the position being re-advertised on 17th December 2019.

Out of the 70 persons who showed interest and submitted their applications in the initial process, 17 were shortlisted; among them 15 men and two women.

However, in the interviews that were conducted from 22nd to 25th October 2019, none of the shortlisted candidates was able to satisfy the selection panel as suitable for the job.

In a press briefing convened by the Chairman, Public Service Commission (PSC) Mr. Stephen Kirogo on 12th December 2019 he said after a

thorough analysis of the candidates' performance during the interviews and subsequent submission of a report to the appointing authority, the panel was unable to pick any names to be considered for nomination.

"Having said this, government will re-advertise the position of Auditor General within seven days," said Kirogo.

The Panel Chairperson Mr. Sammy Onyango said that the shortlisted candidates did not meet the set criteria and the panel was unable to pick the three nominees.

Mr. Onyango stressed that the panel was keen to get the next Auditor General who possesses high level of diplomacy and tact to handle

the relationship with the three arms of government.

He added that the panel was looking beyond technical qualifications, for an impeccable personality to uphold and protect the independence of the Auditor General's Office.

"This was very hard decision to make, considering that the position has been vacant for a while," said Onyango.

The Public Audit Act 2015 requires that after shortlisting and subsequent interviews, the panel should submit three names of persons for consideration for nomination and appointment as AG to the President.

Recruitment process for the new UoN Vice-Chancellor concluded

By Pauline Muriuki

Interviews for the post of Vice Chancellor of the University of Nairobi have just been concluded at the Public Service Commission.

The Universities Act, 2012 (Revised 2018), Section 35(1)(a)(v) and the Statute Law (Miscellaneous Amendment) Act 2018 mandates the Public Service Commission to undertake competitive recruitment for Vice Chancellors and Deputy Vice Chancellors of Public Universities.

The Commission declared the vacancy in the Office of the Vice Chancellor, University of Nairobi and proceeded to advertise as required by the Public Service Commission Act, 2017.

The position attracted a total of 14 candidates out of whom eight (six men and two women) were shortlisted for interviews.

The candidates included acting Vice-Chancellor Prof. Isaac Meroka Mbeche, Prof. Stephen Kiama, Prof. Bernard Njoroge, Prof. Madara Ogot, Prof. Patricia Kameri, Prof. Kareithi Ruth, Prof. Solomon Shibairo and Prof. Elijah Omwenga.

The names of all applicants, shortlisted candidates as well as the interview schedule and a call for public participation requesting for comments on any of the shortlisted candidates were published in MyGov publication of 29th October 2019, the PSC website and the Government Advertising Agency website.

Interviews were conducted at



The 'Fountain of Knowledge' monument at the University of Nairobi

the Commission House along Harambee Avenue, Nairobi on Wednesday 18th December 2019 from 8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Shortlisted candidates were required to bring originals of national identity card, academic and professional certificates and transcripts, together with any other supporting documents and testimonials.

They were required to get clearance from the Kenya Revenue Authority, Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission, Higher Education Loans Board, a licensed Credit Reference Bureau and the Directorate of Criminal Investigation (Police Clearance Certificate). Recommendations from relevant professional bodies were also required where applicable.

Once appointed, the new VC will replace Prof Peter Mbithi who exited after serving

for a period of four years.

Meanwhile, top vacant positions in The Technical University of Kenya and Taita Taveta University have been declared. According to a publication in MyGov pullout of 17th December 2019, the Taita Taveta University is seeking for applicants for the post of Vice Chancellor while the Technical University of Kenya is seeking for a Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Technology). The advertisement closes on 7th January 2020.

Interested and qualified candidates have been invited to apply for the positions. Details concerning the requirements for these positions are available in the Commission's website.

The mood at the two days' induction for second cohort of interns



Successful interns under Public Service Internship Programme queue during registration

By Mercy Shauri and Stephen Chege

Interns who arrived at the Kasarani Sports Gymnasium for their induction programme on 16th and 17th December could not hide their excitement.

Some of them were at the venue as early as 6.30a.m, and were in high spirits as they approached the registration desks.

The registration process was swift, as everything had been set up the previous day. They were grouped in eight clusters according to their counties. Within a short time, 2,400 candidates had been registered.

People living with

disabilities, pregnant women and lactating mothers were given priority during the process. They had a special sitting place where they could conveniently move in and out of the hall. Special rooms for lactating mothers were set aside for changing and breastfeeding the young ones.

Light moments were evident all through the event as most of the speakers appealed to the emotions of the interns.

“Youths are not just normal, they are a complicated cohort, they can do anything for attention hence creating opportunities,” said Raymond Ochieng', Secretary, Youth Affairs. He advised the interns

to be aggressive in their various duties since they have a wider spectrum of ideas as compared to the older generation.

The PSC choir and the Korean group were at hand to entertain the audience and sustain their excitement.

PSC's twitter handle #pscinternship2019 trended at third position countrywide. It was abuzz with interns' comments, 'selfies' and video recordings in real-time, and so was PSC's Facebook page.

The induction program was a success as speaker after speaker gave insightful talks geared towards grooming the interns on what is expected of them in public service.

End of Year Note from the CEO, Simon Rotich

By Habel Shiloli

As the year 2019 draws to an end, Public Service Commission's CEO, Mr. Simon Rotich has termed it as not only eventful, but very successful for the Commission.

During an interview in his office, Mr. Rotich said the year began with the current Commission being fully constituted, when the Vice Chairperson and the Commissioners came on board in January.

"Two months later, the office of the Chief Executive Officer underwent transition and former CEO Dr. Alice Otwala exited, handing over the baton to me," said Mr. Rotich.

He said he was grateful to the Chairman, Mr. Stephen Kirogo and Commissioners for showing confidence in him, by appointing him CEO.

The CEO observed that despite the transition at the top, the Commission accomplished major assignments, among them successfully developing and launching the Commission's Strategic Plan 2019-2024 with key result areas of achieving Efficient Public Service Delivery; Ethical and Values-based Public Service; and Enhanced Commission Capacity.

He said the Commission initiated and implemented the Pension Payment Rapid Results Initiative (RRI) programme, to reduce backlog; and rolled out the Public Service Internship Programme (PSIP) that saw 5,500 interns deployed to various Ministries, Departments, Agencies (MDAs) and State Corporations.

Mr. Rotich added that the Commission has established a Call

Centre as one stop point of call by citizens on service delivery in the public service, and will at the beginning of the year 2020 invite all contact persons in MDAs to attend a training workshop on the contact centre operations.

"We have also started re-branding the Commission in order to conform more to our strategic direction. Our new logo is part of the branding, and we have started marketing it as part of our identity," he said.

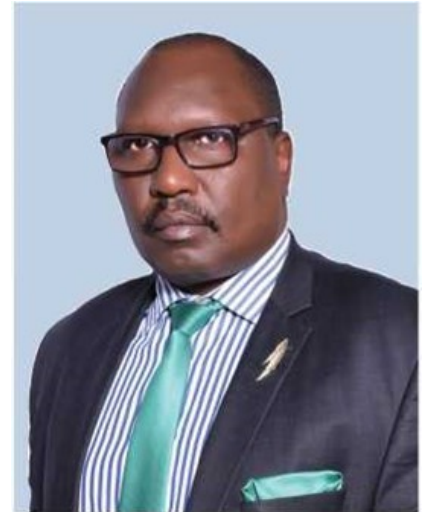
The CEO noted that the Commission successfully conducted staff recruitment for various Ministries, Departments, Agencies, Commissions and State Corporations, including Vice Chancellors of public universities and the trainers of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions.

"As a Commission, we are also proud for emerging overall winner in this year's Financial Reporting Award (FiRe) in Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices category, which recognized our excellence in financial reporting," he said.

Mr. Rotich expressed the Commission's commitment to enhance partnerships and collaboration, locally, regionally, and internationally, that are geared towards improving public service delivery.

He noted that the Commission's partnership with Barclays bank on the Public Service Internship Programme was commendable.

The CEO added that the Commission participated actively



CEO, Simon Rotich

in African forums that sought to improve African public services across the continent. In this regard, he said PSC's Chairman Mr. Stephen Kirogo is the current vice Chairperson of the Association of African Public Service Commissions (AAPSComs).

He underscored the importance of PSC's collaboration with International Youth Fellowship of South Korea that will create avenues to assist PSC inculcate mindset education in Kenya's public service as part of its transformative agenda.

Mr. Rotich commended the Commission board under the stewardship of Chairman Stephen Kirogo for registering impressive achievements within the first year in office.

He acknowledged and thanked all staff for their dedicated service and teamwork that went a long way in enabling the Commission to achieve its goals.

Reflections on the year 2019

The year 2019 has been a slow, but long journey of ensuring I have an article for the newsletter (PSC News) every fortnight. The greatest challenge I faced was balancing between my targets, ad-hoc assignments, finishing my doctorate programme and ensuring the bi-weekly articles are submitted on time.

Many are the times I would sit up till very late in the night to ensure the next article was ready. I am happy that I fulfilled the promise submitting an article every fortnight. Through it all, I have grown and learnt a lot.

Special thanks to Browne, Habel and other members of the editorial team. There were moments when you repackaged my thoughts in a very special way. I reflect back and thank the Almighty God for the endurance. I hope and believe that the articles were inspiring and gave our readers hope.

To all our readers I hope the articles were educative and entertaining. Kindly give us feedback so that we can serve you better. I wish to thank the Commission for introducing this platform.

Let me take this opportunity to wish all our readers and the PSC fraternity a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2020.



Gabriel Juma



Dr. Sylvester Abong'o

The year 2019 has been a good year. We set up the Directorate (Performance and Service Delivery Improvement), and although we have skeleton staff, were able to mount RRI (for payment of pensions backlog).

We look forward to focusing on other areas. We have also been able to contribute to the overall work of the Commission, among them the internship programme.

I see transition into new areas by the Commission – a deviation from the traditional. The shift is crucial.

I take this opportunity to wish the entire PSC fraternity a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year, 2020.

Browne Kutswa

The year 2019 has been an eventful year. We look forward to greater things in the near future. We thank the Commission for the great work.

Special thanks to all who have contributed articles for our newsletter throughout the year.

May I take this opportunity to wish the PSC family a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2020.



Feedback on Social Media for Public Service Internship Program (PSIP)

Twitter

OCHIENG DANFRED @DanfredOchieng · Dec 16
 It's a great opportunity for all of us to showcase our skills, talents and abilities in the best way possible. For this reason, I wanna thank #PSC and the entire fraternity for offering us #GraduateInterns the platform to do so #pscinternship2019

1 retweet 2 likes

magie_peggy @Kienja2009 · Dec 17
 #pscinternship2019 we are grateful for the opportunity



1 retweet 3 likes

Benedict Mwabili @Benedic52654589 · Dec 17
 What a great opportunity for us Kenyan youth to learn through a hands-on experience.. God bless Kenya.. God bless PSC.. Let's go and serve our dearest motherland #UhuruIsaLegend #pscinternship2019



1 like

Benson Mwaura Gitau @mwaurabenny · Dec 15
 Replying to @queenTsherry
 Look forward to being absorbed after the internship #pscinternship2019

3 likes

@aleky macho @AlekyMacho · Dec 16
 That speech buy @PhineasNyaga at some point made me forget am an intern and felt that am a CEO.. Dedicated to serve. But by June PP is knocking on my door in Jesus name. Amen #PSCinternship2019

Facebook

Public Service Commission of Kenya
 @PSCKenya

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Create a Page

2 replies

- Elkana Odhiambo Ouma** It's a great honor to be part of this program, good lessons learnt
 Like · Reply · 1d
- Kenneth Mwoche** I am proud coz i was in the 1st cohort.
 Like · Reply · 20h
- Felix Kimeu** what a remarkable step by the PSC ,appreciate for your good keep for the two days f induction.
 Like · Reply · 1d
- Isaac Kiach** This is really a great commission ...
 Like · Reply · 23h
- Nawoko Nyang'a Jr.** Remarkable initiative
 Like · Reply · 1d
- Isaac Mutahi** Thank you. God bless PSC.
 Like · Reply · 1d
- Lomermuny Leonard** Great to be part of the group
 Like · Reply · 1d
- John Lokwanya** It was really awesome thanks to all the speakers

PSC IN PICTURES



L-R: Mr Isaac Shaasha, Mr John Opondo and Mr Paul Maki chatting at Kasarani



A section of PSC staff and other officers follow the proceedings of the interns induction programme



Deputy Commission Secretary, Technical Services Ms Jane Chege (standing right) and Director HRMD Joan Machayo consulting with Commissioner Andrew Muriuki



A section of PSC staff and other officers follow the proceedings of the interns induction programme



PSC choir performing during the interns induction programme



PSC staff talking during a tea break session at the Kasarani Gymnasium

PICTORIAL: INDUCTION PROGRAMME FOR THE 2ND COHORTS OF INTERNS UNDER THE PUBLIC SERVICE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME (PSIP)



Interns following proceedings



Dr. Ock Soo Park (left) and his interpreter making a presentation



Head of Public Service, Dr. Joseph Kinyua and PSC Chairman Mr. Stephen Kiroga



PSC CEO Mr. Simon Rotich addressing delegates and the interns



Dignitaries (Seated) in a group photo with selected interns



Mr. Raymond Ochieng Secretary Youth Affairs making a presentation

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Vision

A Citizen-centric public service

Mission

To reform and transform the public service for efficient service delivery

Core Values

- Citizen Focus
- Professionalism
- Innovation
- Team-work

Public Service Commission Directorate

- Recruitment and Selection
- Human Resource Management & Development
- Establishment and Management Consultancy Services
- Performance and Service Delivery Improvement
- Board Management Services
- Compliance and Quality Assurance
- Finance and Planning
- Corporate Services
- Legal Services
- Internal Audit

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Ms Charity Kisotu	-	Vice Chairperson
Dr Joyce Nyabuti	-	Commissioner
Dr Mary Mwiandi	-	Commissioner
Dr Reuben Chirchir	-	Commissioner
Amb. Patrick Wamoto, EBS	-	Commissioner
Amb. Salma Ahmed	-	Commissioner
Mr Andrew Muriuki	-	Commissioner
Ms Joan Otieno	-	Commissioner

Secretary/Chief Executive

Simon K. Rotich, EBS