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EDITION

TOM MBOYA UNIVERSITY
KNOWLEDGE FOR SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION ENTERPRISE



CMG ARGWINGS KODHEK FACULTY OF LAW

Inaugural Guest Lecture Memorial

2026

MEMORIAL EDITION

Law, Politics, Human Rights and Patriotism: The Lasting Legacy of CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law

13 November 2026

Tom Mboya University

Prologue

This Memorial records the first year of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law. It gathers the voices of founding faculty, pioneer students and partners who have walked this beginning together. It is both a record of what has been achieved and a commitment to the values that the name Argwings Kodhek demands of us.

Attending the Memorial Lecture?
The full programme for Friday, 13 November 2026 is on page 18. p. 18

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The Legacy Behind Our Name

CMG ARGWINGS-KODHEK

1923 to 1969

Clement Michael George Argwings-Kodhek was the first East African to qualify as a barrister at Lincoln's Inn. He returned to Kenya at the height of the Emergency, declined a colonial government post that paid him a fraction of what his European colleagues earned, and established the only African-owned law firm of its time.

Known as the "Mau Mau lawyer", he defended freedom fighters in colonial courtrooms and cattle-shed courts, and challenged racial barriers in housing and marriage. He later served as Member of Parliament for Gem, Assistant Minister for Defence, Minister for Natural Resources and Minister for Foreign Affairs. He died at the age of 45 in a road accident on the Nairobi road that now bears his name.

In naming this Faculty after him, Tom Mboya University consecrates a conscience within the University: a reminder that the law is a calling to defend justice as much as it is a profession, even when the courtroom is a cattle shed and the system is stacked against the weak.

A LIFE IN MILESTONES

Called to the Bar
First East African barrister of Lincoln's Inn

Founded his own practice
The only African-owned law firm of its time

Defender of the oppressed
Represented freedom fighters during the Emergency

Public service
Member for Gem and Minister for Foreign Affairs

> *Tom Mboya gives us the University, and Argwings Kodhek gives it its conscience: a Law School.*
>
> ELISHA ONGOYA, AT THE OPENING OF THE SCHOOL OF LAW





Message from the Vice-Chancellor

Prof. Charles O. Ochola, PhD

VICE-CHANCELLOR, TOM MBOYA UNIVERSITY

18
Accredited law schools when the Faculty applied

2,000
Law students enrolled nationally each year

500,000
Candidates qualifying for university each year

1 : 4,500
Lawyers to citizens, against a standard of 1 : 1,000

The history of legal education in Kenya dates to 1970, when the University of Nairobi Faculty of Law was established. Before then, Kenyan law students were trained at the University of Dar es Salaam, then an affiliate college of the University of London. With the growing demand for trained legal practitioners, the number of universities offering legal education has grown considerably. By the time we applied for licensing and accreditation of the Faculty of Law, there were 18 accredited law schools, 10 of them in public universities. Together these universities have a student population of about 10,000, with about 2,000 enrolling each year, yet each year the country produces about 500,000 candidates qualified to join university. The places available in law programmes fall far short of the demand for admission, and there is therefore a need to expand legal training to accommodate the ever-increasing number of qualified candidates seeking legal education. Moreover, about 1,000 advocates are admitted to the Bar each year in a country with an estimated population of over fifty-six million, which translates into one lawyer for every four thousand five hundred citizens, far below the ideal world standard of one lawyer for every one thousand people. These are some of the reasons why we conceived and established the Faculty of Law at Tom Mboya University.

The Faculty is named the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law, after the first Black Kenyan barrister. He overcame racial barriers to gain access to legal education and chose to leave a life of comfort in England to return to colonial Kenya, where he joined the struggle for independence as an advocate for the independence movement (Mau Mau). These deliberate steps, though much needed, came at great sacrifice and danger to his life and welfare. We hope that our students will embrace the spirit of patriotism, diligence, sacrifice and service of the two Kenyan patriots, Tom Mboya and CMG Argwings Kodhek, in their studies and in the service of the nation upon graduation.

ABOUT THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Prof. Ochola is a scholar and professional social demographer, with a BA in Geography and an MA in Population Studies from the University of Nairobi and a PhD in Demography from the University of Liverpool. He led the institution's transition from college to full university and oversaw the award of its Charter. He previously served at Maseno University as Director of Students Welfare Services, Coordinator of Evening and Parallel Programmes, and Chairman of the Department of Sociology.

Message from the Vice-Chancellor (continued)

The last year has been most memorable, and I am proud of the milestones the Faculty has achieved. It has laid a strong foundation of excellence and scholarship that I hope will become its defining tradition. We have noted its deliberate efforts to bridge the gap between the practice of law and the legal academy, and I encourage the Faculty to continue its guest lectures, legal aid clinics and outreaches, which enable students to put their learning into practice. I hope that the legal aid clinic will grow into a fully fledged law firm that serves as a laboratory for our students. I am also keen to have our moot court gazetted as a courtroom by the Judiciary, so that we have a resident court within the University. We would be the first university to have a resident court within its precincts, exposing our students to the realities of the practice they will meet once they graduate.

In this last year we took part in external moot court competitions for the first time. I congratulate the Faculty and the students who represented us, and particularly those who represented us at the Great Lakes Training and Moot Court Competition in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights. In our first external moot, our team of Ndaro Mwandaro and Panivi Tenai, students barely out of their first year, reached the finals from a field of 22 teams from six countries, setting up an all-Kenyan final against Strathmore Law School. In the end, we won Best Memorials (First Prize) and were First Runners-Up in the oral rounds (Second Prize). I thank our gallant students and their coaches, Ms Phionah Uhuru, Kimani Kimani and Jane Baraza, for making the wildest of our dreams come true. I also thank the students and coaches who ably represented us at the Hackathon and the Supreme Moot Court Competition, where you were commended for your professionalism and excellence in both conduct and performance. Let me restate my commitment to supporting the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law in its pursuit of excellence. All the best in the upcoming moot courts and events.

Finally, let me remind us that Tom Mboya University is known for its value-based education, anchored on culture, morals and character formation for holistic development, and powered by its vision of being a premier, internationally recognised university distinguished for its teaching, research and innovation. Through the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law, the University has rolled out a market-focused law programme with a bias towards the Blue Economy, innovation and entrepreneurship, aimed at training highly competent and innovative lawyers with a unique ability to resolve legal problems. That is a commitment we will work to realise, and we hope that those who succeed us will keep to it.

Happy first anniversary.

Prof. Charles O. Ochola, PhD

VICE-CHANCELLOR, TOM MBOYA UNIVERSITY · NOVEMBER 2026



Message from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Prof. Elyjoy M. Micheni, PhD

DVC, ACADEMIC, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

PhD, Information Technology | Information systems scholar

Formerly Director, School of Business, TU-K

> *"One year down the line, I am thrilled to confirm that everything we hoped for, and more, has come to fruition.*

I vividly remember the frantic efforts we made in preparing the requisite applications for both the Commission for University Education and the Council of Legal Education. After a long and laborious journey of back-and-forth engagements to get everything right, we finally midwifed the birth of the Faculty of Law when both regulators gave us the green light. We were excited, not only by the accreditation itself, but because we knew that the establishment of this Faculty would be truly transformative for our University, the local community, the county and the nation at large.

One year down the line, I am thrilled to confirm that everything we hoped for, and more, has come to fruition.

As the Deputy Vice-Chancellor overseeing our academic units, it gives me immense pride to confirm that the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law has already distinguished itself. You have proven to be diligent, professional, scholarly and exceptionally collegiate. It has been inspiring to watch you achieve so much within your very first year, and I am confident that your impact will only multiply as the Faculty expands. Thank you for actively opening both the Faculty and Tom Mboya University to vital stakeholder networks; I encourage us to leverage these strategic partnerships to drive further growth.

As you celebrate these milestones, I want to remind you of your core vision and mandate. You were established with the explicit mission "to provide legal education, training, research and consultancy while incorporating the aspirations of the Kenyan people and the global community by generating, preserving, integrating, transmitting and engrossing legal knowledge, with special emphasis on water resources related laws and the blue economy."

Whatever initiatives you undertake, always let this mission be your anchor. Your performance over the past year has been a stellar demonstration of your commitment to it. Furthermore, under the Tom Mboya University Charter, you are mandated to offer specialised training and research within this niche area of water resources law and the blue economy. As you continue to grow, focus on deepening this expertise so that every graduate of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law possesses unique, high-value skills that can only be acquired here.

Finally, I express my sincere gratitude to the leadership of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law for laying such a solid foundation. Thank you to the members of the Faculty for your unwavering support and pursuit of academic excellence, and to the students for setting high standards of discipline, intellectual vigour and professionalism for the entire University to emulate. We are deeply proud of you all.

Prof. Elyjoy M. Micheni, PhD

DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR, ARSA

Message from the Founding Dean



Prof. John Joseph Wamwara, SJD

FOUNDING DEAN, CMG ARGWINGS KODHEK FACULTY OF LAW

> *Let routine become habit, and habit become character. Excellence begets excellence.*

We have had the privilege of laying the foundation for an institution that will impact the world for many millennia to come. It is our purpose that both Tom Mboya University and the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law will be the spring from which evolutionary thought on all aspects of life will flow.

One hundred years ago, the world was recovering from the First World War. Ninety per cent of Africa's population lived under colonialism. Kenya had just been made a British colony. Much of today's reality would have seemed fantastical. It is for a rapidly changing world that we are called to prepare our students. We cannot claim to train them for a world we fully know. We can only hope to impart values that will help them navigate the world that will be theirs.

We will deliberately expose you to philosophy, science, rhetoric, politics, law and sociology, the bodies of knowledge that have made social engineering possible, and we will ask you to interrogate them thoroughly. We will introduce you to great minds so that you may use them as mirrors to craft your own greatness.

You have what it takes to be impactful. Be clear about what you want to achieve. Write the dreams down. Set plans in motion. Be observant. Be diligent. Let routine become habit, and habit become character. Excellence begets excellence.

The last year has been memorable. You have impressed us, and we still hold lofty dreams for you. May God bless every effort as we lay the foundation for a thousand years of vision, excellence and service to God, humanity, continent and nation.

Prof. John Joseph Wamwara, SJD

FOUNDING DEAN

Goodwill Message

PROF. NLERUM SUNDAY OKOGBULE, SAN

Visiting Professor of Law (Sabbatical)

It has been my special pleasure serving as a Visiting Professor on sabbatical at the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law, Tom Mboya University. I have met a Faculty with a demonstrably uncommon passion and commitment to the advancement of legal knowledge, and to how such knowledge can be deployed for the overall development of society. This goal and its attendant tenets are being imparted to the students, who are receiving them with excitement and enthusiasm.

It is therefore not surprising that the Faculty has already recorded highly commendable achievements within the short period of its existence.

There is no doubt that, with the assured support of the University Management, the Faculty will continue to record monumental achievements and become one to be reckoned with in the comity of law faculties in the country and beyond.



Message from Dr Rodgers Otieno Odhiambo

Dean, School of Law, Rongo University | Founding Faculty

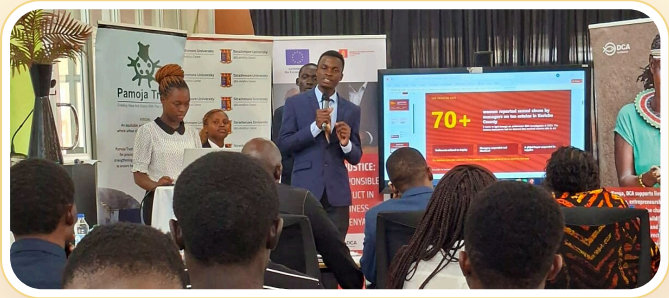
Happy first anniversary!

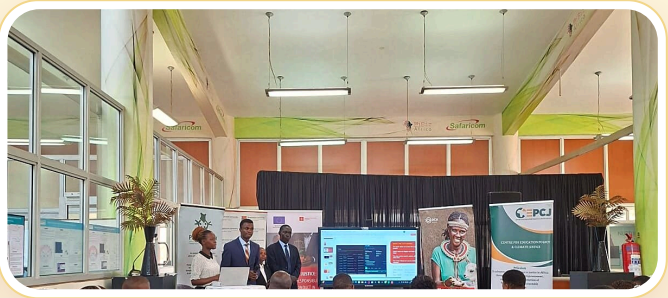
Dear Colleagues, Students and Friends of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law, Tom Mboya University,

It is hard to believe that it has been a year since the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law was licensed to offer the Bachelor of Laws (LLB) programme. Being part of the founding faculty was indeed a privilege and a high point of my career. Reflecting on the past year, watching this law faculty grow from mere blueprints and ambitious dreams into a thriving centre for legal education and debate fills me with deep pride.

Although my career has since moved on to leading the School of Law at Rongo University, I have remained deeply invested in your growth. Your first, and most impressive, performance at the Great Lakes Moot Court Competition and your brilliant participation in the Business and Human Rights Hackathon were amazing and inspiring.

Warmest congratulations on a historic first year!





Dr Rodgers Otieno Odhiambo

DEAN, SCHOOL OF LAW, RONGO UNIVERSITY, AND FOUNDING FACULTY, CMG ARGWINGS KODHEK FACULTY OF LAW

Message from Ms Phionah Uhuru



Ms Phionah Uhuru

Pioneer Faculty Member

Dear Colleagues, Students and Friends of the Faculty,

Greetings!

It seems like only yesterday that the Faculty of Law was launched, carrying with it great dreams, high ambitions and a shared commitment to excellence. As one of the pioneer faculty members, I have found it both an honour and a privilege to be part of this journey. It gives me great joy to help lay the foundation upon which future generations of legal professionals in this country will build their careers.

This Inaugural Guest Lecture Memorial marks an important milestone for the Faculty. It is an opportunity to reflect on how far we have come in such a short time, and to look ahead with confidence and purpose. The lecture affirms our commitment to intellectual engagement, professional mentorship and meaningful dialogue on the role of law in society.

To our students: you are at the heart of everything we do. We encourage you to embrace every opportunity to learn, question, serve and grow. To our colleagues, partners and friends: thank you for your continued support as we nurture a Faculty grounded in integrity, scholarship and service to the community.

As we gather for this Inaugural Guest Lecture, let us celebrate our beginnings, honour the values that brought us together, and commit ourselves to building a Faculty that will inspire excellence for many years to come.

Best regards,

Ms Phionah Uhuru

PIONEER FACULTY MEMBER

Our Faculty

The members of the Faculty in the 2026/2027 academic year.



The Faculty at the start of the 2026/2027 academic year, as the team bids farewell to Dr Rodgers Otieno Odhiambo



Prof. John Joseph Wamwara, SJD

Founding Dean

QUALIFICATIONS

SJD and LLM, Emory University; Advanced LLM, Geneva Academy; LLB, University of Nairobi

EXPERTISE

International humanitarian law, human rights, law and religion, comparative constitutionalism

Formerly Dean of the School of Law at Moi University, he has taught at several Kenyan law schools and worked with the International Criminal Court and the ICRC. In the Faculty's first year he was appointed Chairperson of the Standards Tribunal.



Hon. Lady Justice Anne A. Amadi, CBS

Judge, East African Court of Justice

QUALIFICATIONS

LLB, University of Nairobi; Master's in Criminal Justice, Boston University; postgraduate diplomas in ADR and the law of internal displacement

The first Kenyan woman to sit on the First Instance Division of the East African Court of Justice, she was Chief Registrar of the Judiciary from 2014 to 2024. A former magistrate, she was the first National Coordinator of the National Legal Aid and Awareness Programme and Head of Litigation at FIDA Kenya.



Prof. Nlerum Sunday Okogbule, SAN

Visiting Professor of Law (Sabbatical)

QUALIFICATIONS

LLB and LLM, University of Ife; PhD, University of Glasgow

EXPERTISE

International law

A Senior Advocate of Nigeria and Professor of International Law, he was Vice-Chancellor of Rivers State University, Port Harcourt, from 2020 to 2025, having served as its Dean of Law and Dean of the Postgraduate School. He accompanied the Legal Aid Club to Homa Bay Main Prison.



Ms Phionah Uhuru

Pioneer Faculty Member

QUALIFICATIONS

LLM, Munich Intellectual Property Law Center; LLB, Moi University; PhD candidate

EXPERTISE

Intellectual property, competition law, data privacy, legal technology

An Advocate of the High Court of Kenya, she previously taught at the Technical University of Kenya and advises on data protection and intellectual property. She guided the preparation of this Memorial.

Mission, Vision and Institutional Identity

Tom Mboya University · CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law

OUR VISION

To be a premier centre of legal education that produces principled, competent and transformative legal professionals committed to justice, integrity and service to society.

Principled **Competent** **Transformative**

OUR MISSION

01

To provide rigorous legal training grounded in scholarship, ethics and practical engagement

02

To foster critical inquiry and advocacy skills

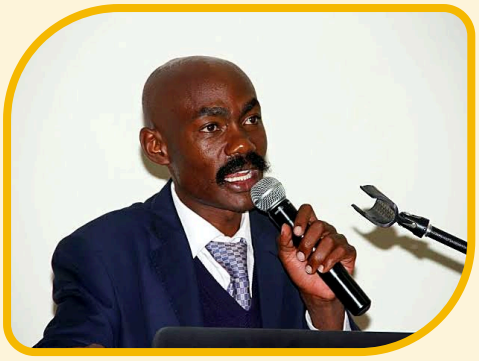
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To contribute to the advancement of justice and the rule of law in Kenya and beyond



Students and staff outside the Administration and Lecture Halls Block, Tom Mboya University

LOOKING BACK: THE LAUNCH, 7 NOVEMBER 2025



Legal Training for Posterity

Lessons from Pioneering Giants: the Argwings-Kodhek Example

The address by Mr Elisha Ongoya, SC, at the launch of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law, reproduced in full.

> *Tom Mboya gives us the University, and Argwings Kodhek gives it its conscience, a Law School.*
>
> MR ELISHA ONGOYA, SC

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

I must begin by confessing that standing here today, in Tom Mboya University, to speak at the opening of the CMG Argwings Kodhek School of Law, feels like standing in the middle of a historic reconciliation.

You see, in the politics of the 1950s and 1960s, Tom Mboya and Argwings Kodhek were not exactly members of the same choir. They sang in the same key of freedom, yes, but very often in competing harmonies.

Both were brilliant, eloquent and deeply patriotic. In fact, on one occasion, Mboya wrote an article titled "The Kenya Question: An African Answer". A reviewer in 1957 believed that such eloquence and mastery of writing and thought could only be attributed to Argwings. Their intellect, brilliance, eloquence and sense of patriotism were remarkably similar.

Yet Mboya was the polished statesman of negotiation and order, while Kodhek was the fiery barrister of defiance and conscience. If Mboya charmed the system into reform, Kodhek challenged it into retreat. If Mboya wrote policy memos, Kodhek wrote legal petitions. If Mboya dined with diplomats, Kodhek dined with detainees. A close friend of Mboya, Bethuel Agot, documents some of these experiences in his chronicle, *Mau Mau and Nationhood: The Untold Story*.

And now, decades later, in an irony that even history must smile at, the two meet again: Tom Mboya gives us the University, and Argwings Kodhek gives it its conscience, a Law School.

When you think about it, this arrangement makes perfect sense. The university provides knowledge, while the law school is responsible for delivering justice. The university trains thinkers, and the law school takes on the task of training defenders. The university preserves memory, and the law school must encourage a sense of morality.

So today, as we open the Argwings Kodhek School of Law, we are not just unveiling another faculty; we are consecrating a conscience within this university.

And what better inspiration could there be than the life of the man whose name it bears? A man who broke racial barriers, who stood alone in the courtrooms of empire and in cattle sheds turned into courtrooms, a man who married across forbidden lines, who fought for the dignity of the voiceless, and who, in dying young, left a legacy that refuses to grow old.

Ladies and gentlemen, I want to share with you six reflections: six lessons from the life and legacy of Clement Michael George Argwings-Kodhek, lessons that speak to what it means to build a law school for posterity.

Legal Training for Posterity (continued)

1. That the law begins where defiance meets purpose.
2. That human dignity is the first jurisprudence.
3. That courage must be taught before case law.
4. That justice lives beyond the courtroom.
5. That integrity, not intellect, is the measure of legacy.
6. And that the true task of legal education is to plant seeds for generations we will never meet.

Let us then take this short journey through the story of a man who made the law in Kenya, and the lessons that should make this law school worthy of its name.

1 Breaking the barriers of exclusion: the law as an act of defiance

Argwings-Kodhek was born in a Kenya that told him, "The law is not for you." And yet he insisted, "Then I must make it mine." When the colonial government forbade Africans from studying law, he crossed oceans and defied decrees to become Kenya's first African barrister. In fact, he sought permission to change his course from social sciences to law, but the colonial government declined. When he made the decision to shift to law, the colonial government withdrew his scholarship. Yet he was so determined that he obtained support from friends and his university, and pursued law on his own. He did not just study law; he conquered it.

From that act of defiance, the foundations of Kenyan legal education were laid. He showed us that the law is not a privilege to be inherited; it is a frontier to be fought for.

And so, to this new law school I say: may your first tradition be defiance; defiance against intellectual laziness, against moral compromise, against inherited injustice. A law school that does not disturb the status quo is merely a library with ambitions. But a law school that questions power, that one shapes history.

2 The law of love: human dignity as the first jurisprudence

Before the courts called him "learned friend", the world called him "lawbreaker". Why? Because he loved.

In the 1950s he married Mavis Tate, an Irish woman, in defiance of the racial segregation laws that forbade an African man from living with a white woman. Colonial Kenya did not have room for their love. Westlands was for whites; Kaloleni was for Africans. He could not live with his wife, and his wife could not live with him. But Kodhek refused to choose geography over humanity. He went to court and fought the act of segregation.

In that act of love was an act of law. He taught us that the law's first client is human dignity. If the law cannot defend the right of a man to live with his wife, then it cannot claim to defend the nation.

Let every student who passes through these corridors remember: the law is not an abstraction of power, but an affirmation of people. Justice begins where dignity is respected: in the home, in the heart and in the human condition.

3 The Mau Mau lawyer: courage as the curriculum

When the State of Emergency darkened this land in 1952, and the cry for freedom was branded treason, one man dared to walk into the lion's den, armed only with his conscience and his gown.

In the kangaroo courts of Githunguri and the makeshift trial sheds of colonial Kenya, some of them in the gutters, such as cattle sheds, Argwings-Kodhek defended those the world had condemned. He defended Mau Mau fighters, men and women labelled "terrorists" but remembered today as freedom heroes.

When the colonial state abolished fair trial and hid witnesses behind anonymity, Kodhek stood his ground, affirming that justice must be seen to be done, even by the condemned. He won acquittals in impossible cases, saved lives from the hangman's rope, and earned the title "The Mau Mau Lawyer".

Ladies and gentlemen, that title was not a nickname. It was a national honour. He turned the courtroom into a battlefield for freedom and proved that courage is the first course in the curriculum of justice.

Let this school, therefore, teach more than case law; let it teach moral law. Let your graduates not only interpret justice but also interrupt injustice.

Legal Training for Posterity (continued)

4 The public lawyer: justice beyond the courtroom

After independence, Argwings-Kodhek could have chosen the comfort of office. Instead, he chose the cause of the people.

He built schools where ignorance reigned; clinics, such as the Malanga, Mareny Ramula, Nyawara and Rera dispensaries, where sickness thrived; and roads where isolation persisted. In Gem, he founded Sawagongo Secondary School and Kambare Harambee Secondary School, and brought the idea of justice down from the courtroom to the village.

Because he knew that law without development is mere eloquence, and development without justice is exploitation.

May this school of law, bearing his name, produce lawyers who go beyond the law firm: lawyers who bring justice to marketplaces, classrooms and county assemblies. For the true test of legal education is not in who speaks best in moot court, but in who listens most in real life, and provides efficient solutions.

5 Speaking truth to power: integrity as legacy

Even as a Cabinet Minister, as Assistant Minister for Defence, Minister for Natural Resources and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Argwings-Kodhek remained that rare breed of politician: a man unbought by privilege, unbent by power. He warned that independence without integrity would be freedom on lease. And he lived that truth. He entered politics, but politics never entered him.

He reminds us that law is not noble because of its robes; it is noble because of its restraint. A law school that trains intellect without conscience is a dangerous institution. May this faculty be a sanctuary where ethics are not examined once a semester but practised every day.

6 Planting seeds for posterity: the road that bears his name

On 29 January 1969, a car crashed along the road that now bears his name, Argwings Kodhek Road. But though his body was broken, his ideals endured. That road has become more than a memorial; it is a metaphor, a reminder that the journey of justice never ends.

He died young, but he lived fully. Unlike influential politicians, he left no skyscrapers, but he left a sky of ideals under which generations still find shelter.

To train for posterity is to plant seeds we may never see bloom. It is to write syllabi that will outlive our careers. It is to teach young minds not only how to win cases, but how to win causes.

Conclusion: a law school as conscience

So today, as we open the Argwings Kodhek School of Law, may we also open our national conscience.

Let this be a place where the law is not memorised but moralised; where students learn that justice is not a profession, but a vocation; where scholarship meets struggle, and where intellect shakes hands with integrity.

Let every lecture here echo his spirit. Let every graduation robe carry his defiance. Let every generation that passes through this school remember that one man, in one lifetime, can turn the law from an instrument of oppression into a weapon of liberation.

Ladies and gentlemen, in honouring Argwings-Kodhek, we are not just remembering Kenya's first African lawyer. We are reigniting Kenya's conscience. May this law school forever stand as his unfinished argument: an argument for justice, for dignity and for posterity.

A call for action

But as we look to the future, I must leave this law school with one challenge. The greatest danger of our time is forgetfulness. We are raising a generation that can quote foreign jurists yet cannot trace the footsteps of its own heroes. How can people who forget their story script their destiny?

Let the Argwings Kodhek School of Law be different. Let it be the place where the study of law begins with the study of self. I call upon this faculty to introduce a compulsory course on African history, not for nostalgia, but for grounding: a course that acquaints every student with the great men and women of our past; with the glories and downfalls of our emperors, kings, queens and chieftains; with the ideas and ideologies that built and sometimes broke our societies.

For only a lawyer who remembers where their people have come from can faithfully lead them to where they must go.

Clearly, this Law School stands on the shoulders of the pioneering giants, and must learn from them.



LOOKING BACK: THE LAUNCH, 7 NOVEMBER 2025

Declaring the Faculty Open

The speech by Hon. Lady Justice Anne A. Amadi, CBS, Chief Registrar Emeritus of the Judiciary, at the naming and launch of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law. Key points are highlighted.

The Vice-Chancellor, esteemed guests, faculty, staff, distinguished members of the legal fraternity, the pioneer class, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

It is with immense pride, gratitude and pleasure that I stand before you today to mark and preside over a truly historic and momentous occasion: **the launch of a Faculty of Law that bears the name of CMG Argwings Kodhek, the first Black Kenyan barrister.**

I want to take this earliest opportunity, with a lot of humility, to thank the CMG Argwings Kodhek family for granting Tom Mboya University, and the Faculty of Law in particular, the utmost and profound privilege to assume and use the identity of their loved and revered patriarch, a towering son of Kenya and Africa.

From the tributes of everyone who has spoken before me, you will all agree with me that this is the most defining and unmatched step that Tom Mboya University and the Faculty have taken in their journey towards a remarkable tradition of excellence, now and in the future.

Further, I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who made the dream of this Faculty of Law a reality: the Tom Mboya University Council, the Vice-Chancellor, the University Management Board, the Senate, staff, students, the Commission for University Education, the Council of Legal Education, the dedicated founding faculty, and all those who provided resources in one way or another.

A new faculty of law is more than just a new building; it is a commitment to an ideal: the pursuit and advancement of justice and the rule of law, and a centre of pre-eminence in providing legal education, training, research and consultancy.

I have also noted that the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law is to provide quality legal education, training, research and consultancy and incorporate the aspirations of the Kenyan people and the global community, by generating, preserving, integrating, transmitting and engrossing legal knowledge with special emphasis on water resources and the blue economy.

I am confident that these will not remain ideals in the founding documents, but will be actualised in the experiences and contributions of every member of faculty, staff and student body of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law. **I challenge all stakeholders to internalise and actualise these aspirations, starting now and into the future.**

I am particularly excited about the Faculty's unique niche area of water and maritime resources and the blue economy, and its commitment to leveraging ICT skills in legal practice. I believe Tom Mboya University's graduates will be well prepared to face current and future challenges in a changing world.

I also note with a lot of excitement that the Faculty has been deliberate in teaching both Kenyan Sign Language and French. The world has become a global village, and training for the global market is the wise thing to do. **An extra language, and extra tools and techniques, are always the first step into the competitive global market.**

It is almost fifty-seven years since the death of CMG Argwings Kodhek on 29 January 1969. He was the first indigenous African Kenyan lawyer and the first East African to qualify as a barrister at the Inns of Court in London.

In just over half a century since he was called to the Bar, thousands of Kenyans have gone on to train and qualify as lawyers, and have taken up various legal and multidisciplinary roles in the public and private sectors. It is indeed very inspiring that the Faculty of Law at Tom Mboya University has been named in his honour.

CMG Argwings Kodhek belongs to the crop of Kenyan pioneers who had a vision of greatness for Kenya. They believed that Kenya could be a soaring giant in the community of nations. They believed in the inalienable right to human dignity and individual progress, expressed through the empowering reality of our cultural identities.

Declaring the Faculty Open (continued)

For them, ethnic identities were not a fault line to be avoided, but a beautiful mosaic of unique and necessary diversity. Like his peers, whenever he found an opportunity to defend the rights of the oppressed, he never hesitated, even at the risk of unspeakable danger.

That is why he distinguished himself as a freedom fighter and the "Mau Mau Lawyer". It is also for this reason that whenever he had an opportunity to serve the young Kenyan nation, he served with unmatched excellence.

It is for this excellence and conviction, I believe, that you have decided to name the Faculty of Law at Tom Mboya University in his honour. **It is these ideals that we hope will be recreated in every student, member of staff and faculty who will have the privilege of walking its corridors.**

Finally, let me address the following important stakeholders of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law.

1 To the first cohort of students

Congratulations on the hard work that earned you a place here in a highly competitive environment. You are the torchbearers of this new faculty at the great Tom Mboya University. The path ahead will require hard work and discipline, but **you are not just here to get a law degree; you are here to be shaped into legal professionals who can effect positive change in our society.**

Embrace the intellectual rigour, interact with your diverse peers, and make use of the support systems in place in this great university. Remember the words of Mahatma Gandhi: "A true lawyer is one who places truth and service in the first place."

2 To the leadership of the Faculty

To the leadership of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law, led by Prof. John Wamwara: I know you as an ambitious and talented young leader. Take up the challenge with grace and explore all the options for growth that we discussed in my meeting with you and the Vice-Chancellor. Dr Rodgers Odhiambo and Ms Phionah Uhuru, you have the rare privilege of being the founding faculty. Bear this responsibility with pride and courage, setting the example that everyone who comes after you will follow.

3 To the leadership of the University

To the leadership of Tom Mboya University, led by Prof. Charles Ochola: I had the chance to discuss with you the establishment and the naming of the Faculty. I am convinced that your vision forms a firm foundation for the excellence that we dream of for this Faculty. Keep believing in and supporting the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law. Your steady and informed leadership will go a long way in making it the best in the nation, in Africa and the world.

4 To our host and neighbouring county

To the leadership of our host and neighbouring county and constituencies: **law, loosely defined, is the science of leadership, and you have a laboratory for leadership training at this Faculty.** Endeavour to be the first to send and sponsor students to the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law. Establish bursaries and scholarships that will enable talented yet financially challenged young people in your areas to earn their law degrees here. Reach out constantly to the University and the Faculty to explore meaningful engagement.

The naming and launch of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law today marks the start of a new chapter. I invite everyone here to participate in and support the mission of this great Faculty. Together, we will build an institution of which we can all be proud in this region, the country and beyond. **The vision is in place; now it is time to do the work and turn our dreams into reality.**

Thank you, and may we all work together to uphold the ideals of justice and excellence. With these remarks, let me take this opportunity to declare the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law at Tom Mboya University officially launched.

Thank you.

Hon. Anne A. Amadi, CBS

CHIEF REGISTRAR EMERITUS OF THE JUDICIARY, AT THE NAMING AND LAUNCH OF THE FACULTY, 7 NOVEMBER 2025

ONE YEAR ON

Lady Justice Amadi, now a Judge of the East African Court of Justice, has joined the Faculty (page 10). Mr Ongoya returns this year to preside over the moot court finals and to moderate the panel discussion at the Memorial Lecture (page 19).

The 1st Annual CMG Argwings Kodhek Memorial Lecture

13 November 2026 | Tom Mboya University

To mark the first anniversary of the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law, Tom Mboya University has established an annual CMG Argwings Kodhek Memorial Lecture. The lecture honours the Faculty's namesake and carries the University's hope that its students will embrace the diligence and service of two Kenyan patriots, Tom Mboya and CMG Argwings Kodhek, in their studies and in the service of the nation after graduation.



THEME

Law, Politics, Human Rights and Patriotism: The Lasting Legacy of CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law

Arise, The Kenyan Patriot

A POEM BY PROF. JOHN JOSEPH WAMWARA

Where is s/he?
Who is s/he?
What does s/he believe in?
What does s/he fight for?
Why s/he is silent?
How long must s/he stay back?

But the Kenyan parrot,
Is everywhere you turn,
S/he is everyone with a megaphone,
'Knows' everything, mastered nothing;
Believes in self; worships the gods of money, power, & influence;
Fights for favours for self, family, friends, & tribe;
After all, Kenya was always 'margi', it was never 'marwa'!
Disdains justice, combats dissention, and commands silence;
Loves the status quo, fights change at every turn.

But the Kenya patriot,
Must emerge from whichever holes they hide;
For Ahab and Jezebel's persecution must end;
S/he loves justice, and eschews evil;
Believes in the Kenya project, would sacrifice self for it;
Fights to end bigotry, unfair entitlement, marginalization, and inequality;
After all Kenya is our only home, properly 'marwa', each of us.
Cherishes a vision of excellence for the land called Kenya;
Been silent, for the time to come.
A time that now is, to reclaim the nation and restore hope.

Oh the Kenyan Patriot arise,
To shake the ramparts and stand for truth and justice;
For now is the time to claim justice as a shield to defend;
Let justice stand as a sword to remedy historical injustices and
And strike conventional injustices that trample truth, dismisses facts & kills hope.
You, and you, and you, and you, and him, and her, are the Kenyan Patriot
When you choose Kenya in the face of every peril.
Of mighty warrior, draw the sword of justice and let freedom reign!

© John Joseph Wamwara, August 2022

FOR OUR GUESTS

Programme of the Day

Friday, 13 November 2026

9:00 to 9:30 am	**Arrival and registration**
9:30 to 10:30 am	**Moot Court Finals** Introduction of the moot court initiative by the MC; finals of the First Years Internal Moot Competition; judges' deliberations; declaration and award of the winners. Presiding: Mr Elisha Ongoya, SC. Coordinator: Ms Phionah Uhuru.
10:30 to 10:40 am	**Transition and short break**
10:40 to 10:50 am	**National Anthem and prayer; welcome and introduction** Counsel Herman Bunde, Master of Ceremonies
10:50 to 11:20 am	**Remarks** Representative of the Law Society of Kenya; representative of the Homa Bay Law Courts; Prof. John Joseph Wamwara, Dean, CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law
11:20 am to 12:20 pm	**Panel discussion: *We Owe it to Ourselves: A Lawyer's Overarching Duty to the Nation*** Panellists: Hon. Dr Maxwel Miyawa, Hon. Brenda Oduor and Hon. Caroline Ateya. Moderator: Mr Elisha Ongoya, SC
12:20 to 12:30 pm	**Remarks by the Vice-Chancellor** Prof. Charles O. Ochola
12:30 to 1:30 pm	**Keynote speech: *Law, Politics, Human Rights and Patriotism: The Lasting Legacy of CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law*** Hon. Justice Prof. Nixon W. Sifuna, Professor of Law and Judge of the High Court of Kenya
1:30 to 1:55 pm	**Question and answer session** Prof. Nlerum Sunday Okogbule
1:55 to 2:05 pm	**Vote of thanks** Prof. Elyjoy M. Micheni, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Research and Student Affairs
2:05 to 3:00 pm	**Close of session, lunch and networking**

Building the Faculty library

As a new Faculty of Law, the Faculty welcomes donations of books from its guests and friends, and hopes in time to establish named collections for those who bequeath their private libraries to it.

Our Distinguished Guests

13 November 2026

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Hon. Justice Prof. Nixon Sifuna, PhD

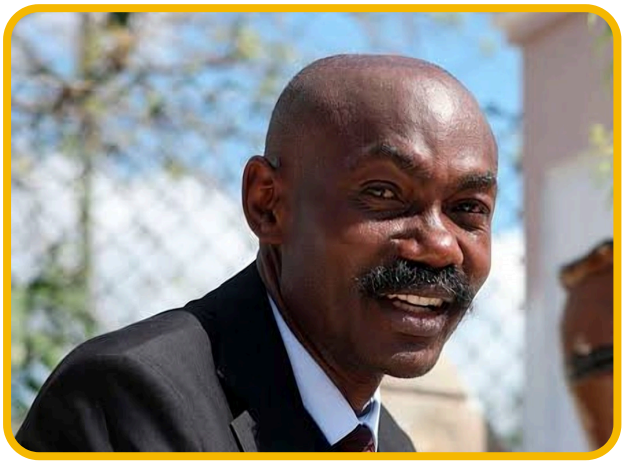
JUDGE OF THE HIGH COURT OF KENYA
PROFESSOR OF LAW



AfDB Award for Accountability and Integrity, 2022 **Public interest litigator**

Former Visiting Scholar, Environmental Law Institute

Justice Sifuna is a Professor of Law and a Judge of the High Court of Kenya, sitting at the Kisii High Court. A former advocate, university teacher and environmental impact assessment expert, he won the African Development Bank's inaugural Award for Accountability and Integrity in 2022 for his public interest litigation on behalf of communities and vulnerable groups. He holds law degrees from the University of Nairobi, Moi University and the University of the Witwatersrand. He delivers the keynote speech, *Law, Politics, Human Rights and Patriotism: The Lasting Legacy of CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law*.



Mr Elisha Ongoya, SC

Senior Counsel **Moot Finals and Panel**

A Senior Counsel and advocate of the High Court of Kenya, Mr Ongoya delivered the address at the launch of the Faculty (page 12). He returns to preside over the finals of the First Years Internal Moot Competition and to moderate the panel discussion, *We Owe it to Ourselves: A Lawyer's Overarching Duty to the Nation*.



Hon. Dr Maxwel Owuor Miyawa, PhD

Chairperson, Water Tribunal **Panellist**

An international development law scholar, Dr Miyawa holds a PhD in Law and Development from Osgoode Hall Law School, York University. A Senior Lecturer at Egerton University and an Adjunct Lecturer at the Kenya School of Law, he researches the accountability of global development institutions. He joins the panel with Hon. Brenda Oduor and Hon. Caroline Ateya.

Highlights of the First Year

In its inaugural year, the Faculty moved from blueprint to living community. These are the milestones of that year.

01

LLB programme launched and licensed

The Faculty's founding milestone and the start of its academic life

02

Pioneer and second cohorts admitted

Two classes of law students in the Faculty's first year

03

Distinguished scholars welcomed

Lady Justice Anne Amadi and Prof. Nlerum Sunday Okogbule

04

Student-led clubs established

The Legal Aid Club and the Legislative Conclave (Parliamentary Club)

05

Inaugural internal moot court competition

The first moot held within the Faculty

06

Best Memorials on our first external moot

Great Lakes Regional Moot Court Competition, finishing as runners-up

07

National recognition for the Dean

Prof. J. J. Wamwara appointed Chairperson of the Standards Tribunal

08

Legal Aid Clinic at Homa Bay Main Prison

Legal education and assistance for persons in custody

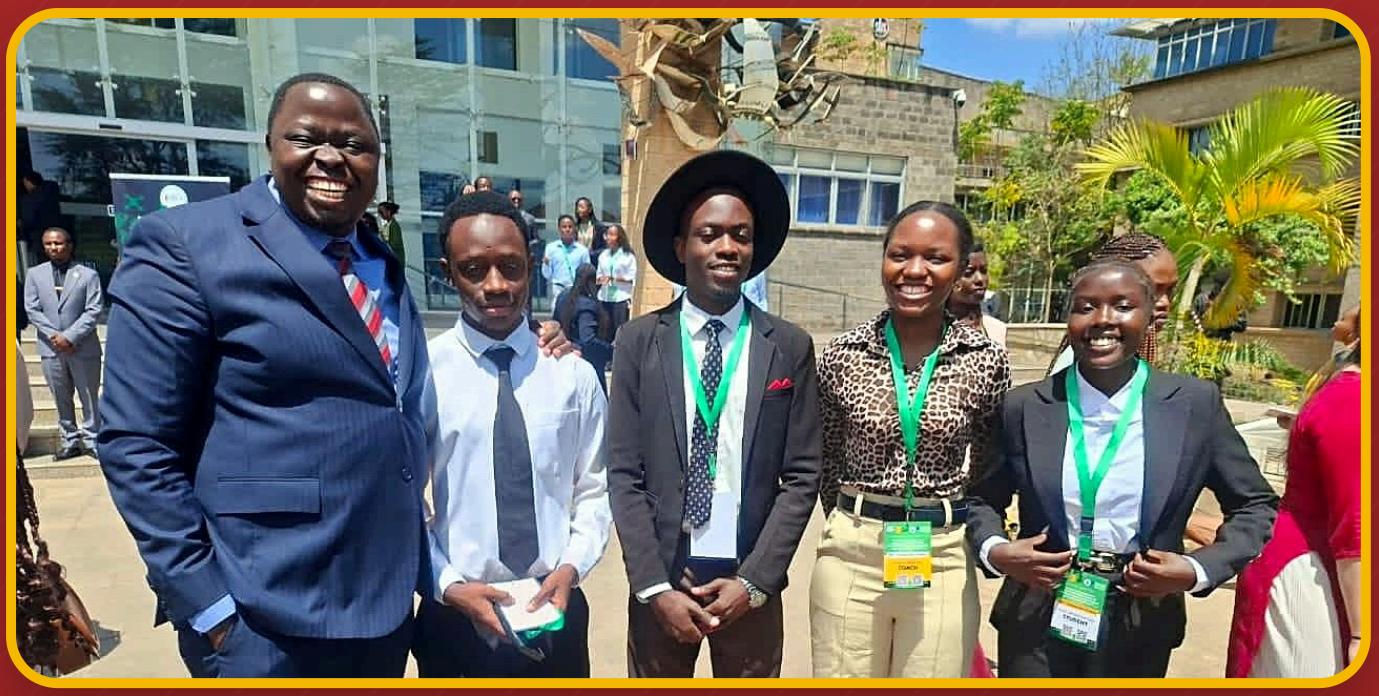
09

Hackathon participation

Students compete in the Business and Human Rights Hackathon

> *"These achievements, secured in a single year by a young Faculty and its pioneer students, set a high standard for the years ahead.*

Great Lakes Regional Moot Court Success



Dean Prof. John Joseph Wamwara with the Faculty team at the 11th Great Lakes Regional Moot Court Competition, Nairobi

1st
Best Memorials
First Prize

2nd
Oral Arguments
Second Prize

Final
Overall First Runners-Up
Against Strathmore University

22
Anglophone teams
In the competition

A year after the Faculty opened its doors, a small team represented the School at the 11th Great Lakes Regional Moot Court Competition in Nairobi, our first external moot. The problem concerned armed conflict in the digital space: cyber operations, biometric data and the protection of civilians under international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

We entered among 22 anglophone teams as complete newcomers. We left with the Best Memorials award and a place in the final against Strathmore University, where we finished as runners-up.

From the Classroom to the Regional Stage

There were no past memorials to learn from, no established mooting society and no senior students to ask. Memorials were written for both sides under a strict format, and the Pedagogical Committee sent us back to redraft them again and again. Our coaches, Ms Phionah Uhuru, Derrick Kimani and Jane Baraza, shaped the way we argued.



WHAT OUR COACHES TAUGHT US

Phionah Uhuru | Derrick Kimani | Jane Baraza

1. **Never read your submissions to the bench**
2. **Open each issue by stating your position plainly**
3. **Be ready to explain every authority you cite**

Standing before judges who interrupt, probe and test every authority is something no classroom fully prepares you for. Reaching the final against one of Kenya's most respected law schools was both nerve-racking and exhilarating.

We did not take the trophy, but we finished as runners-up on our first external outing. If one year can produce Best Memorials and a place in the final, we are curious to see what the next four can achieve.

Panivi Jepchirchir
Moot Court Coordinator

Ndaro Mwatayari
Assistant Moot Court Coordinator





At the Supreme Court of Kenya

Third Annual Supreme Court Moot Court Competition

4 to 6 November 2026 | **Supreme Court of Kenya, Nairobi**

Theme: Promoting Environmental Justice



Millicent Winslet Omenya, Dennis Owen Gumba and Hillary Okoth Bika at the Supreme Court of Kenya, Nairobi

18	**2**	**9th**	**1st**
Law schools in the competition	**Preliminary rounds argued**	**Overall placing, of 18**	**Appearance for the Faculty**

In November 2026 the Faculty sent a team of three students to the Third Annual Supreme Court Moot Court Competition, held at the Supreme Court of Kenya under the theme “Promoting Environmental Justice”. The competition was officially opened by the Chief Justice, Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, alongside other judges and judicial officers, and brought together 18 law schools from across the country.

Registered as Team SC013, the Faculty argued its first preliminary round as Respondents against Kisii University and its second as Appellants against Maseno University. On the combined marks for memorials and oral submissions, the team placed ninth of the 18 law schools on its first appearance at the competition.

The final, presided over by Hon. Justice Smokin Wanjala and Hon. Justice Isaac Lenaola of the Supreme Court, was won by the University of Nairobi against Kabarak University. The team returned with lessons in advocacy, research and teamwork, and has resolved to return stronger next year.

THE TEAM

Dennis Owen Gumba
Hillary Okoth Bika
Millicent Winslet Omenya

Coach: Advocate Jack Okore

The First Years Internal Moot

The Faculty's internal moot competition gives each first year class its first experience of drafting memorials and arguing before a bench.



Participants, faculty and guests of the 2026 competition outside the KnowledgeHUB



A first year law student addresses the bench, 10 November 2026



The judges of the 2026 First Years' Internal Moot Competition

2026

Finals on Friday, 13 November 2026

The Faculty's newest students argued their first problem in the moot court, drafting memorials and presenting submissions against their classmates. The finals will be argued on Friday, 13 November 2026, before Mr Elisha Ongoya, SC, as part of the Memorial programme.



Students with the family of CMG Argwings-Kodhek at the launch

2025

The inaugural competition

The pioneer class argued the first internal moot in the Faculty's founding year, and its finals were held on the day the Faculty was launched.

HACKATHON · SEPTEMBER 2026

Law Meets Innovation

At the Business and Human Rights Hackathon, Faculty students turned legal analysis into a working tool for workers on Kenya's tea estates.

JustiCore

A worker protection and accountability platform

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team_id = "BHRS005"
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The team pitches JustiCore to the panel

In September 2026, students of the Faculty took part in the Business and Human Rights Solutions Challenge, held under the theme "Code for Dignity, Innovate for Impact". Teams were asked to design practical solutions that help people affected by business activity to protect their rights and to reach an effective remedy when those rights are breached.

The Faculty's team, BHRS005, took on worker exploitation on Kenya's tea estates. It built JustiCore, a platform through which a worker can report abuse from any phone and see that report through to a response, framed around the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: protect, respect and remedy.

HOW JUSTICORE WORKS

01 **Report**
Any phone, by USSD or toll-free line; anonymous if the worker chooses

02 **Document**
Every report becomes a case with a reference and a timeline

03 **Address**
Trained case workers respond and refer to legal aid and support

04 **Account**
Employers must answer within set deadlines, or the case escalates



```
theme = "Code for Dignity, Innovate for Impact"
dates = "24 and 25 September 2026"
by = ["CEPCJ", "DanChurchAid", "Pamoja Trust"]
project = "Cultivating Justice, EU-funded"
```

Left: a mentoring session during the hackathon

Justice in Action

CMG Argwings Kodhek Legal Aid Club

UNDERSTANDING LEGAL AID

What is legal aid?

Legal advice, information, assistance, representation or referral for people who may face barriers to accessing justice.

What legal aid involves

Explaining rights and criminal procedure, guiding people through legal processes, raising concerns and connecting them with the right assistance.

Why it matters

It supports fairness, dignity and informed decisions, so that everyone, regardless of background, can be heard and can access justice.

Its role in society

It links legal awareness with public education, accountability and rehabilitation, building stronger and more resilient communities.

The Idea Behind the Legal Aid Club

WHY WE EXIST

The club turns legal knowledge into practical community service. We create space for people to ask questions about their rights and legal processes, and we work together to find clear, helpful answers.

OUR VISION

Communities where people understand their rights and can seek justice with dignity.

OUR MISSION

To promote legal awareness, access to justice and responsible service, while fostering constructive engagement with communities and correctional institutions.

LEARN LAW | SERVE COMMUNITY | PROMOTE JUSTICE

Outreach at Homa Bay Main Prison

16
OCT 2026



Legal Aid Club members, faculty and prison officers at Homa Bay Main Prison

On 16 October 2026, the CMG Argwings Kodhek Legal Aid Club visited Homa Bay Main Prison, accompanied by Prof. Nlerum Sunday Okogbule. The visit promoted legal awareness, engagement with inmates and prison officers, rehabilitation and access to justice.

1

Interactive session

Conversations with inmates on rehabilitation and personal transformation.

2

Questions and answers

Inmates' questions on criminal procedure, rights and access to justice.

3

Tree planting

A tree planted with prison officers as a symbol of hope and renewal.

4

Workshop tour

Vocational training that prepares inmates for reintegration.



The experience deepened our understanding of legal awareness, timely access to justice and the dignity of every person, irrespective of status. When knowledge meets responsibility, communities are strengthened and justice becomes more inclusive and humane.

Ali Rajab, Publicity Director, Legal Aid Club

The Legislative Conclave

Parliamentary Club · A brief report by Ogalo Simeon, President



1 The idea behind the club

The Conclave was founded on the belief that law students should do more than study the law as it exists: they should help identify its gaps, ambiguities and areas in need of reform. The club bridges legal education and the legislative process, so that students can contribute to lawmaking and public policy through research-based petitions to Parliament.

2 Activities and milestones

Since its inception, the Conclave has built a culture of legislative research, critical thinking, civic responsibility and practical engagement with lawmaking. Its key milestone is a platform through which students move beyond classroom discussion to the practical realities of legislative development.

Current focus: fisheries and mining legislation

3 Future plans: where legal scholarship meets legislative action

Legislative review	Complete the examination of fisheries and mining legislation and develop proposals
Forums and dialogue	Research forums, policy discussions and engagement with legislators, parliamentary staff and advocates
Capacity building	Legislative drafting, constitutional petitioning, legal research and policy analysis
Partnerships	Links with relevant institutions for practical learning and engagement with Parliament
Law reform culture	A lasting culture of student participation in law reform and democratic governance

> *"The true measure of our success will be the culture of critical inquiry, responsible leadership and legislative accountability we inspire among law students, as much as the proposals we produce.*
>
> **Ogalo Simeon**
> President, Legislative Conclave (Parliamentary Club)

Beyond the Classroom

My legal journey as a pioneer law student at Tom Mboya University



Darlin Naliaka
Second-year student, pioneer cohort

My first year as a law student was a journey of new experiences, challenges and personal growth. Being part of the pioneer cohort made it especially meaningful, because we had the opportunity to help lay the foundation for a growing law programme.

The good side of my first year

One of the highlights was meeting new people and making friends. I also enjoyed group discussions and class presentations, which allowed me to exchange ideas, learn from different perspectives and build confidence. Being among the first students in the programme gave me a sense of pride and belonging.

Being a pioneer student

Being a pioneer student comes with a unique sense of responsibility. I have come to appreciate that we are part of the programme's history as well as students in it. Our experiences and contributions help shape the foundation for those who will join us in the future.

Challenges and how I navigated them

Preparing for presentations and speaking in front of the class was challenging at first, but practice helped me become more confident. I also had to adjust to legal research and referencing, which required me to identify relevant authorities and support arguments properly. The volume of reading was another adjustment: cases, statutes and lecture notes required careful planning and consistency. I navigated these challenges by working with classmates, consulting lecturers whenever I needed clarification and treating each difficulty as an opportunity to learn.

Lessons and looking ahead

My first year taught me that success requires discipline and consistency, and that growth is gradual. University life also demands independence and personal responsibility. As I continue my legal journey, I hope to keep learning, growing and contributing positively to the programme.

> *The journey to becoming a lawyer begins with small steps, commitment and a willingness to learn.*
>
> DARLIN NALIAKA



A Year of Cases, Friendships, Challenges and Unforgettable Memories



By Mary Wali

I walked into the CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law with the excitement of an aspiring legal mind, believing that law revolved primarily around statutes, case law, courtroom procedure and the pursuit of justice. I had no idea that beyond the statutes, cases, lectures and examinations lay an experience that would challenge me intellectually, emotionally and socially.

My happiest moments in the Faculty have come from interacting with my fellow law students. I enjoy our discussions and arguments about legal issues. It is interesting to hear different opinions, defend our views and challenge one another's understanding of the law. These conversations have made my time at the Faculty enjoyable and have helped me think more critically and learn from others. They were also the moments when I discovered that some of the most valuable learning happens beyond the lecture hall, in conversations that challenge what we think we know.

Behind the memories and the exciting legal debates lies another side of law school, one characterised by pressure, exhaustion and lessons learned through challenge. One of the most exhausting experiences has been managing numerous assignments, especially when several deadlines fall at the same time. At times the workload has felt overwhelming, and finding enough time to complete everything has not been easy. Nevertheless, these assignments have taught me responsibility, discipline and time management, and I have come to appreciate that they are preparing me for greater responsibilities as a future legal practitioner.

I came to the Faculty to study law, and I leave my first year having learnt a great deal more about life, people and my own identity. This is merely the beginning of a much bigger story, and I look forward to the years ahead with greater determination, curiosity and an open mind.

> *"Some of the most valuable learning happens beyond the lecture hall, in conversations that challenge what we think we know.*
>
> MARY WALI



The CMG Argwings Kodhek Supreme Editors

Where Ideas Find Their Voice.

The Supreme Editors is a student editorial team in the Faculty of Law. It grew out of the Legal Research and Writing class taught by the Dean, Prof. J. J. Wamwara, who urged students to read widely, to write about what interests them and to accept that good writing comes slowly, through patience and practice. Six students took up the idea, and the team now promotes legal writing, original thinking, research and responsible publication among law students.

VISION

To establish a lasting tradition of student expression, legal scholarship and thoughtful engagement with society.

MISSION

To encourage legal writing, promote original thought and give students a platform for informed perspectives on law and society.

THE FOUNDING EDITORS

TO — **Travis James Ochieng**
Editor-in-Chief

AK — **Alvin Kipkosgei**
Managing Editor

MM — **Mwatum Makhoha**
Research and Academic Standards Editor

JA — **Josephine Atoka**
Submissions and Talent Development Editor

NT — **Nataly Tunu**
Communications and Public Engagement Editor

EN — **Emmanuel Nyakeri**
Layout and Design Editor

CORE VALUES

Integrity · Accuracy · Originality · Excellence · Intellectual independence · Fairness · Accountability · Collaboration · Inclusivity · Continuity · Stewardship

Photo Gallery

Moments from the Faculty's first year











1 Students at ICIPE with Prof. John Joseph Wamwara and Prof. Nlerum Sunday Okogbule

2 The Great Lakes Regional Moot team presents its trophy and gifts to the Vice-Chancellor

3 Students at the Tom Mboya Mausoleum, Rusinga Island

4 Pioneer students with Ms Phionah Uhuru

5 Tree planting with prison officers, Homa Bay

Moments from the Year

Outreach, lectures and mentorship















6 With a prison officer at Homa Bay Main Prison

7 At Homa Bay Main Prison during the outreach

8 A guest lecture and mentorship session

9 The same session: the guest speaker presents a book in class

10 A guest lecture and mentorship session

11 The Legal Aid Club at the gate of Homa Bay Main Prison

12 On the way to Homa Bay Main Prison for the outreach

Partnerships and the Road Ahead

The Faculty thanks its partners, visiting scholars, the Judiciary, the Law Society of Kenya and the wider legal community.

CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Homa Bay Main Prison

Host of the Legal Aid Club's clinic of 16 October 2026, an exercise in constructive engagement with correctional institutions.

VISITING SCHOLARS

Lady Justice Amadi and Prof. Okogbule

Distinguished jurists and academics who have joined the Faculty.

COMPETITIONS

Great Lakes Regional Moot Court Competition

The Faculty's first external moot, where the team won Best Memorials and reached the final.

INNOVATION

Business and Human Rights Hackathon

Students brought legal thinking to an innovation challenge on business and human rights.

ACADEMIC NETWORK

Rongo University

Dr Rodgers Otieno Odhiambo, of the founding faculty, now leads its School of Law.

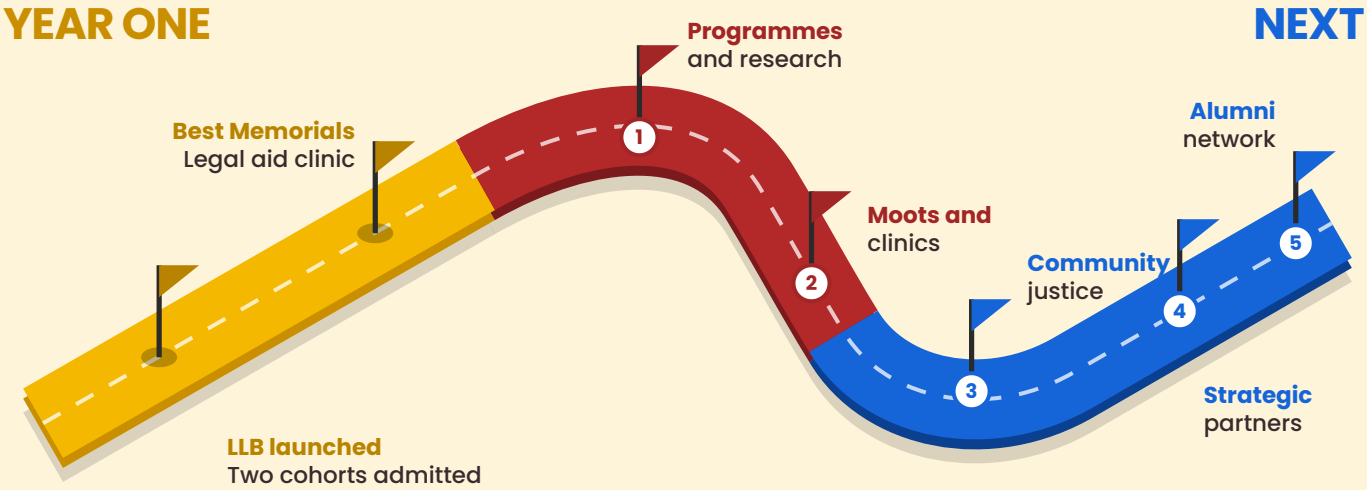
NEXT

Partnerships for practical learning

The Legal Aid Club and the Legislative Conclave are building links with institutions for practical learning and engagement with Parliament.

LOOKING AHEAD

This Memorial is a marker on a long road: the first year is behind us, and the next chapter has begun.



To those who come after us: start early, read widely, and do not fear the bench. Our first year showed that a new school can stand beside the best.

The Faculty was established to produce lawyers of integrity, competence and social conscience, inspired by the legacies of Tom Mboya and CMG Argwings Kodhek. We remain committed to that vision.

Acknowledgements and Credits

Special recognition and sincere appreciation go to the entire CMG Argwings Kodhek Faculty of Law fraternity, including the University leadership, faculty members, lecturers, staff and students, for their invaluable contributions and support towards the success of this Inaugural Guest Lecture Memorial.

Special appreciation is extended to Ms Phionah Uhuru, and to Travis James Ochieng and Lenox Adika, students of the Faculty of Law, for their dedication, teamwork and contribution to the preparation of this magazine.

The collective effort, commitment and shared vision of the entire Faculty community have made this publication a meaningful celebration of the Faculty's legacy, achievements and aspirations.

COMPILATION AND DESIGN



Travis James Ochieng
Editor



Lenox Adika
Editor

GUIDANCE AND SUPERVISION

Ms Phionah Uhuru

EDITORIAL TEAM

The CMG Argwings Kodhek Supreme Editors

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UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

As we come to the end of this edition, we celebrate the ideas shared, the milestones achieved and the memories captured within these pages. This publication reflects our unity, creativity and collective journey as a Faculty committed to learning, justice and service. May we continue to inspire one another, embrace new opportunities and pursue excellence together.

Together, we write the story of our Faculty.



The beginning is the most important part of any work.

PLATO, THE REPUBLIC

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