



1st KPPC Conference and living with difference Report Feb 2025

Exploring Differences, Building Connections: A Journey of Understanding and Growth for University students



Prepared by
Conference Committee



Call Us
+254113668655



Visit Us
www.kppcnetwork.org

Facebook: KPPC

Instagram: K_P_P_C

Youtube: Kenyan Program on Pedagogies for Community

LinkedIn: Kenyan Program on Pedagogies for Community

Conference Summary



Conference Objectives:

- Enhance Leadership Skills for University Students
- Engage Students in Experiential Learning
- Network with Experienced Leaders
- Build Catalysts for Change

The three-day conference aimed to equip university students with practical tools for understanding and engaging with diversity while fostering intercommunal collaboration and harmony. It incorporated the CEDAR pedagogy, which blends experiential, affective, and cognitive learning through lectures, practical activities, and reflective discussions to promote community building. The conference brought together 22 students from various institutions, including Kiriri Women's University, Catholic University, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Kabianga University, Maasai National Technical Institute, and Kenyatta University (KU). Although students from other universities in Kenya also applied, only a select group was able to participate.





Arrival Day 20TH FEB 2025

- **Arrival and Icebreaking Activities**

- On Thursday, February 20th, participants arrived at Oloosuyian Center in the evening, warmly welcomed by Mercy. The evening began with an engaging icebreaker session, led by Orete, to foster interaction and build rapport among the attendees. Following this, dinner was served, coordinated by Karimi, allowing participants to settle in and prepare for the days ahead.



DAY 1

Differences and the CEDAR Pedagogy Morning Sessions:

- The day started with breakfast at 7:30 am, followed by a housekeeping briefing by Charles. Luciah introduced the conference theme and objectives, setting the stage for the next three days of discussion. Charles then presented an insightful session on the CEDAR pedagogy, helping participants understand its significance in fostering unity and intercultural learning. A tea break followed.
- Luciah led a presentation on overcoming barriers to understanding differences from a student's perspective. This session encouraged participants to reflect on their personal and communal experiences with diversity.





DAY 1 CONTINUATION

Afternoon Sessions:

- After lunch, the group activity “Building a Shared Vision” engaged participants in reconstructing a fragmented map of Kenya, symbolizing the challenges and opportunities in creating inclusive communities. Charles and Luciah facilitated this activity, prompting deep reflection on collaboration and unity.
- A virtual leadership training was conducted by Pascalina Ogutu, enhancing leadership skills among the attendees. This was followed by a discussion on Rule 2 of ‘Beyond Tribal Lines’ (Belonging is Not Fungible), led by Charles.

Evening Sessions:

- To illustrate the consequences of failing to embrace differences, Charles presented images from Kenya’s post-election violence in 2007 and 2013, emphasizing the urgent need for tolerance and reconciliation.
- This was followed by a movie night featuring films on the Nubian and Shona communities of Kenya, depicting resilience and intercommunal harmony. Dinner was served shortly after, concluding the day.





DAY 2

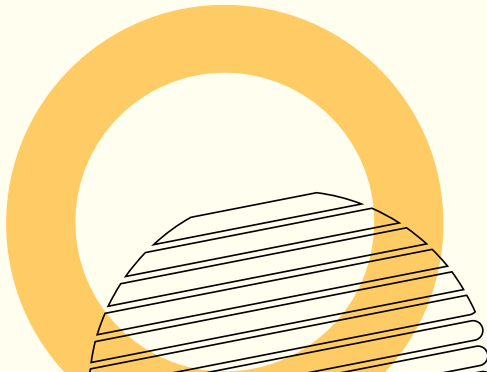
Going on a trip for Cultural Immersion and Panel Discussion

Morning Sessions:

- The day started with breakfast, followed by housekeeping and deconstruction led by Charles. Participants then traveled to Tangaza University in Karen for a Reflective Discussion on Bridging Divides Through Shared Spaces, moderated by Dr. Kagwa. This session sparked insightful conversations on religious and cultural coexistence.

Afternoon Sessions:

- After lunch, participants traveled to the Bomas of Kenya, where they experienced Kenya's rich cultural diversity through traditional performances, artifacts, and architectural representations of different ethnic groups. This was followed by a facilitation session guided by Charles at Bomas. Participants got into groups of 4, making 5 groups, and took part in a facilitation session, which took one hour. At 6:00 pm, the group began the journey back to Kajiado. Followed by dinner at the KPPC center at 9:00 pm, and the day was over.





DAY 3

DAY 3: Knowledge and Practical Applications

Morning Sessions:

- The final day began with breakfast, followed by housekeeping and deconstruction led by Charles. During the discussion, Charles expounded more on trust, confidence, and knowledge.
- After that, there was a discussion on Rule 8 of 'Beyond Tribal Lines' (Knowledge for, Not Knowledge of), led by Charles.
- A facilitation session followed, where participants shared stories of times when love was necessary to achieve something meaningful in their communities. This emotional and reflective session deepened the understanding of empathy and compassion in fostering unity.

Afternoon Sessions:

- After lunch, Luciah led a session on the practical applications of the CEDAR pedagogy in campus and community settings, helping participants strategize on implementing these lessons in their local contexts. Participants submitted very interesting ideas on how KPPC and CEDAR can engage university students further using the pedagogy.
- The conference concluded with closing remarks and the issuing of certificates led by Charles. Some participants departed immediately, while others opted to leave the following morning.





Way Forward

- **Participants proposed the following:**

1. KPPC should assign some of the Students to be KPPC campus representatives, i.e, Kenyatta University, Jomo Kenyatta University, Kiriri Women's University, Maasai Technical Institute, Catholic University, and Kabianga University
2. The student proposed that KPPC should take part in Campus Exhibitions for Branding
3. KPPC should do Research collaborations with Universities and Workshops
4. KPPC should establish ways to mentor young people in the Universities
5. KPPC should carry advocacy campaigns against Tribalism.
6. KPPC should inculcate their programs to conform to interdenominational prayers in Campuses



Conclusion

The 1st KPPC Conference on Living with Differences was a transformative experience, equipping university students with the tools to foster dialogue, unity, and understanding within their schools and communities at large. Through interactive discussions, cultural immersion, and practical exercises, participants gained deeper insights into practical ways to embrace diversity and build lasting connections.