



EMBU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
(A Constituent College of the University of Nairobi)



EMBU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AWARDED EQUIPMENT BY SEEDING LABS' INSTRUMENTAL ACCESS PROGRAM.

Embu University College is extremely pleased to be amongst 16 universities benefiting from scientific equipment from Seeding Labs' 2016 Instrumental Access programme. The Equipment was awarded through the department of Biological Sciences. Instrumental Access makes high-quality laboratory equipment and supplies available to university departments in developing countries around the world. The equipment to Embu University College is worth approximately (USD 115,506) about Kshs 11.5 Million.

Embu University College's award is the culmination of a rigorous screening process in which 67 applicants outlined the details of their department's research and the equipment needed to remove barriers to scientific discovery and education. Seeding Labs, a US-based nonprofit, recognized 16 outstanding university departments in 11 countries. Each has inspiring goals, which include advancing cutting-edge research, expanding training opportunities for students, and building the infrastructure that is critical to a thriving scientific community. Embu University's College's award was spearheaded by Dr. Romano Mwirichia, a reknowned Scientist in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Embu University College was established through the Legal Notice No. 65 of 17th June, 2011. The objective of the University College is to play a leading role in the development and expansion of access to opportunities for higher education and research in Agriculture, Agribusiness, Veterinary Medicine, Forestry, Water and Biological and Physical sciences. The University College has experienced tremendous growth since 2011. It has 5 schools, with a total student population of about 3,000. Our vision is to be a dynamic epicentre of excellence in training and research for service to humanity.

The Department of Biological Sciences is one of the three departments in the School of Pure and Applied Sciences. The department was started in 2012 and currently has undergraduate student enrolment in the first, second, third and fourth year. There are 4 Master of Science students and 6 Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) students. The Department currently has 1 full Professor, 2 Associate Professors, 2 Senior Lecturers, 3 lecturers, 1 Tutorial Fellow, 2 Research assistants, 1 Chief Technologist and 2 Technologists. Specializations of the academic staff include Entomology, Microbiology, Genetics, Ecology, Parasitology, Environmental Science, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology among others. At the Department, we believe in offering quality practical oriented training. The equipment grant from Seeding Labs could not have come at a better time. The University College will utilize the equipment on campus, once delivered.

More information about the department is available at <http://embuni.ac.ke/biologicalsciences.embuni.ac.ke/>

The announcement of the 2016 Instrumental Access awardees was made during Seeding Labs' "Positively Instrumental" event on March 24, 2016, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. At the event, Seeding Labs also recognized valued corporate donors from the life sciences industry who supply the organization with equipment needed to support their network of scientists around the world.

"Our 2016 Instrumental Access university departments are home to some of the most talented global scientists in the developing world. We are thrilled to be helping catalyze their research and teaching," said Seeding Labs' founder and CEO Nina Dudnik, PhD. *"Their work is vital not only to their own communities, where research can have enormous impact on daily life, but also will benefit the entire global scientific community."*

To date, Seeding Labs has shipped 84 tons of equipment to 34 universities in 24 countries around the world. Additional information on Seeding Labs and Instrumental Access is available at <http://seedinglabs.org/>.

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