



Issue #5

# THE NEWS

IvE - Kenyatta University

*The Launch sequence Initiated*

*Vital Signs: Strong*

*Prognosis: Transformative.*

**HIGHLIGHT!**

**Patient Zero.**

## First Cohort Selection Underway

IvE - KU closed applications October 31st for its new M.Sc. Biomedical Engineering (Medical Device Innovation) program, set to launch January 2026.

The 18-month program in partnership with Rice University's Rice360 Institute for Global Health Technologies has its curriculum emphasize "Impact Invention," combining technical training with practical problem-solving.



IvE Faculty held information sessions from August through October, covering curriculum structure and application requirements.

Students will complete hands-on device development projects throughout the program, learning both technical design and business implementation skills. The curriculum draws on methods developed at Rice's Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen- OEDK.

Applicant screening is currently underway. The first cohort begins in January 2026.



## WARD ROUNDS

### Building the Care Team.



## A Rooftop Evening of Possibility

Sunset views, light bites, and serious conversations about Africa's healthcare innovation—October 21 brought an unconventional approach to graduate program recruitment.

IvE -KU team hosted prospective students at Golden Tulip Hotel's rooftop bar, trading formal information sessions for relaxed networking. Faculty, current innovators, and applicants mixed freely, discussing the M.Sc. Biomedical Engineering (Medical Device Innovation) program launching this January.

The informal setting encouraged direct questions. Prospective students asked about curriculum challenges, project expectations, and career pathways. Faculty shared unfiltered insights about the 18-month venture-based program developed in partnership with Rice University.

Ideas met opportunity over cocktails as prospective future classmates began forming the networks that will carry them through intensive coursework ahead.

*Be sure to catch the next episode....*

## NEST360 Alliance Meeting - Invention Education Workshop

The Rice360 IvE Africa Workshop, held in Nairobi on November 8 and 10, 2025, convened clinicians, innovators, educators, and design studio leaders to discuss how invention education can translate early ideas into scalable health technologies. The CDIE Manager and Assistant Manager participated, gaining insights to strengthen internal systems and elevate CDIE's role in the regional innovation ecosystem

The Workshop highlighted four main areas for the CDIE's growth and evolution:

- **Formalize Translation Pathway:** CDIE should formalize its internal pipeline with defined stages, documentation, and mentorship to smoothly progress projects from concept to implementation, mirroring successful institutions.
- **Deepen Clinical Partnerships:** Strong clinical engagement and co-design are vital for creating effective, contextually appropriate technologies, reinforcing the need to embed students in real healthcare environments.
- **Refine Studio Operations:** Benchmarking against the Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen (OEDK) model revealed opportunities to improve safety, efficiency, and sustainability through practices like workshop digitization, structured training, and better governance.
- **Train for Scale:** Integrating training on design for manufacturing, regulatory readiness, and quality assurance is necessary to prepare students to advance prototypes into technologies deployable outside academia.

The workshop confirmed that CDIE is well-positioned to become a leading force in Kenya's health innovation landscape.



# MedTech Connect Series

*Operating Instructions:* Gather innovators, add expert facilitators, mix thoroughly with practical learning.

*Warning:* May cause sudden urges to file patents.

Episode 6

## Women Leading in Medtech innovation

Six professionals from across Kenya's health and technology sectors gathered September 18 at The Chocolate Room, Harmony Centre, for a hybrid event examining the role of women in medical technology innovation.

Invention Education in partnership with Medevice organised a session that brought together Emily Maranga from Amnesty International Kenya, Wambui Nyabero of MEDevice Africa, Sahar Jamal from Maziwa, Emily Macharia representing Duke Global Health Innovation Center, Julliet Hinga from Strathmore Business School, and Dr. June Madete from Kenyatta University.

The guests shared their stories spanning human rights advocacy, engineering, business development, research, and academia. Participants attended both in-person and via Zoom, engaging in discussions about cross-disciplinary collaboration in healthcare innovation.

The series aims to connect professionals across different aspects of medical technology development, from technical design to market implementation.

*Be sure to catch the next episode....*



## From Concept to Prototype

Student teams spent five days developing medical device prototypes aimed at improving maternal and neonatal care. The Centre for Design, Innovation and Engineering – CDIE ran the IvE Design Challenge, inviting teams of two to four students to propose practical solutions for newborn and maternal healthcare. Top-performing projects would advance to the continental RICE360 Design Competition.

Projects addressed various clinical needs, including fetal monitoring, newborn temperature regulation, and maternal health tracking systems. Teams tested designs against local healthcare infrastructure constraints and resource availability.



# Milestone Acheived

*Patient Milestone: Continental Competition Victory.*

*Current Interventions: Design challenges, team competitions, strategic partnerships.*

*Status: Excellent recovery trajectory.*

## Team EDEN Wins Rice360-IvE Design Competition

Invention Education delivered on the continental stage. Team EDEN captured first place at the Rice360-IvE Africa Network Design Competition finals on November 21, claiming \$2,000 and recognition as Africa's top maternal and neonatal healthcare innovators.

Their winning solution: a blood loss measuring device for the postpartum period—a practical innovation addressing one of Africa's leading causes of maternal mortality.

Competing against fourteen teams across seven African institutions, EDEN stood out for combining technical excellence with deep empathy for the communities their innovation serves. The judges' verdict: "This solution is ready to take the next step."

A second Kenyatta University team placed fourth in the finals. Africa's healthcare future isn't coming. Kenyatta University is building it now.



## Power Players Join Forces

October 2025: Invention Education launched its Strategic Advisory Board—a powerhouse lineup of biomedical engineers, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and industry leaders committed to shaping Africa's medical device future.

The board oversees curriculum development, industry partnerships, mentor networks, and resource mobilization for the new M.Sc. Biomedical Engineering program. They're connecting classrooms to clinics, prototypes to patients, and ideas to scale.

Africa's next generation of MedTech innovators now has serious firepower behind them.

## Readiness Check

Faculty and staff from IvE -KU at Ole Sereni Hotel for a day-long curriculum review ahead of the January 2026 launch.

The session covered teaching materials, course alignment, and instructional methods. Led by Prof. Mathew Wettergreen faculty members – Njeri, Muthoni, Ken, Morrison, Howard – conducted practice lectures with peer feedback. The afternoon agenda included faculty development planning, assessment strategy development, and mentor network coordination.

By day's end, the blueprint was clear—January's students will enter a program built for impact, not improvisation.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

[Msc Biomedical Engineering –  
MDI Cohort 1 Onboarding](#)

January 2026

AFYA Moja – One Health  
Summer School

February 2026

[International Maternal Newborn  
Health Conference](#)

23 March, 2026

[Infrastructure : To Refurb or Rebuild?  
Practicalities and Costs.](#)

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025

Biodesign Training Workshop for  
Early Stage HealthTech Innovators

21st-22nd February 2026  
Kigali, Rwanda.