

#### 4TH AKAD MENTORING FUTURE ENGINEERS SEMINAR:DAY 3



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The 7<sup>th</sup> of December 2017 was a day I found extremely interesting. Not only did I arrive late and found everyone else mid-session, but I also took myself on a journey of self discovery throughout this fine sunny day. The day began with profile presentations, whereby a number of people shared their profiles in exchange for constructive criticism and feedback on the pros and cons of their presentations from the unbiased audience. An activity which, to quote Dr. Weche "This is not to kill you, but to sharpen your abilities so that you can one day be able to sell yourselves to important people."

While anticipating the arrival of Eng. Albert Mugo, the former CEO of KenGen, Dr. Weche shared with us on the importance of a good public image. Which then taught me that in order for you to be taken seriously, you need to have a clean and sturdy digital footprint that gives authentic and professional information about you.



When Eng. Albert Mugo arrived, I was most surprised by his casual yet sophisticated and humble way of dealing with us. The wisdom he imparted us with was enthralling and I was more than honoured to hold his presence, learn and relate to him on a personal level as my aspiration for my future career is Electrical Engineering.

He even cared to break the monotony of speaker narration, whereby a speaker would generally narrate along the lines of their work. He also addressed us on how young people should communicate and dress according to the many contexts of today's world. He gave his experiences as a

long-time panelist on a board of hiring new recruits, most of which were young people, some of them with dissatisfying modes of addressing others and other off-putting qualities that would immediately disqualify them for the much-coveted job. It was a lovely experience to have a whole CEO grace us with his presence and also take time to have lunch with us, in order to impart just a few more words of gold.



We were then taken on a tour of the Ruaraka sub-station of KPLC. Getting to learn more about the production, transmission and distribution of power gave me an insight on what my future job as an Electrical Engineer would be like. During the tour, we were under the jurisdiction of Mr. Langat who despite the fact that we were not his normal audience of students with insight on all things electricity, he did his best to try and get us to understand as much as we could. Kevin Macharia, a peer mentor, had a very impacting opinion. To quote him "We may not know all that he is saying, but we were told that in all we do we should strive to be the best. So I'm trying to be the best at understanding," A valuable reminiscence if you ask me.

*A section of the Kenya Power Ruaraka substation.*



Finally I would like to thank The Almighty for providing this opportunity this day, Dr. Weche for having a heart large enough to care for the future of young people, Eng. Albert Mugo for taking time to inspire the Akad mentees and finally the Akad peer mentors for their willingness to exchange valuable information and experiences with the rest of us. Thank you and God bless!

