

DoGES PhD scholars attend a one-semester internship programme at University of the Fraser Valley, Canada



Fall 2017 was an interesting, exciting and insightful time for Veronica Mwangi and Stephen Otieno – PhD scholars at the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies. Under the prestigious Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship Program, Veronica and Stephen had the opportunity for internship as research associates at the Agriculture Centre of Excellence, University of the Fraser Valley (UFV), Canada. Prof. Cherie Enns (UFV) coordinates the program with assistance from Dr. Sam Owuor (UoN). Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship Program allows for cross-cultural exchanges of university students in the commonwealth countries enriching them with academic, professional and cultural experiences to create global citizens. Students who go through the program are henceforth part of a wide community of Queen Elizabeth Scholars. The program facilitates interactions between senior researchers and professionals with students through direct supervision, symposiums, workshops, conferences and agricultural tours through which students benefit from increased knowledge and skills. Through these platforms, Veronica and Stephen were exposed to a deeper and wider understanding of their research topic – food systems. According to Veronica “Indeed, the world had become my classroom. It was an experience of a lifetime”.