

## **UON and BUCT partner in research and exchange programmes**

The University of Nairobi (UoN) and Beijing University of Chemical Technology (BUCT) have signed a cooperation agreement. The areas of cooperation will focus on student and staff exchanges, staff development and research collaboration.

The two universities will encourage and promote collaborative research activities between their staff and students in order to promote the generation of knowledge and development of the institutions and their respective societies.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC), Student Affairs and acting DVC, Administration and Finance, Prof. Isaac Mbeche, said that programmes and linkages provide avenues through which academic members of staff and students can further their research activities.

“Through partnerships, we can jointly source for funds in order to promote research activities, institutional capacity building and exchange of publications and journals,” he said. The collaboration will mainly benefit students and staff in the College of Architecture and Engineering (CAE) and College of Biological and Physical Sciences (CBPS).

Prof. Wang Fang, the Chairperson, University Affairs Council, BUCT, gave a detailed presentation of the university, citing its strengths in engineering and physical sciences.

“Through this collaboration, we hope to mutually benefit from each other’s strengths. The partnership agreement states that BUCT will offer opportunities to nominated staff and students from UoN to obtain formal qualifications in the full-time mode at Doctoral levels. The specific terms and conditions will be agreed upon,” she said.

The agreement also states that UON and BUCT will develop and upgrade curricula and qualifications with the objective of offering quality programmes and qualifications subject to the approval by the respective university senates. The parties also agreed to investigate partnership opportunities to raise funds to support this collaboration and exchange programmes.

Prof. Peter Ngau, Principal, CAE and Prof. Bernard Aduda, Principal, CBPS, are among those who witnessed the signing of the collaboration agreement held on May 10, 2017.