

## **Students to benefit from Africa Digma scholarships**

Needy and bright female students from the University of Nairobi (UoN) will benefit from scholarships offered by Africa Digma Foundation. This was discussed when the President of the Foundation, Dr. Mercedes Barcelo and Vice-President, Ms. Ines Cuatrecasas paid a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi, today, May 26, 2015.

During the meeting, it was discussed and agreed that the two institutions will develop and sign a memorandum of understanding stating the screening method to be used to identify needy and bright female students for support, the number of scholarships to be awarded and which programmes the students should be pursuing.

Prof. Mbithi thanked Africa Digma Foundation for choosing to support UoN students. He revealed that the University is keen on empowering and supporting its students and that scholarships and mentorship is key. He noted that the number of students in need of scholarships and support in the University is growing and that there is need to secure funding for them. In his remarks, Prof. Mbithi proposed the use of the endowment fund model to raise funds for scholarships.

According to Dr. Barcelo, the Foundation has over the years, supported high school students in Northern Kenya and is now focusing on reaching university students. She noted that the Foundation seeks to support students who will in turn have an impact in the communities they come from. Dr. Barcelo said that Digma is Spanish for Dignity and that the Foundation is keen on supporting African students.

Prof. William Ogara, Director, Centre for International Programmes and Linkages, Prof. Jack Odhiambo, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies and Mr. Johnson Kinyua, Director, University Advancement, are among those who were present during the meeting.