

REMARKS BY MR. ISAAC AWUONDO, CHAIRMAN, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Chancellor, University of Nairobi Dr. Vijoo Rattansi

Vice-Chancellor University of Nairobi , Prof. Peter Mbithi

Chief Guest; Dr. Dabar Abdi Maalim, Commisioner, Ethics & Anti Corruption Commission and
Nursing Sciences Alumnus.

The Key Note Speaker, Dr. Muringo Kiereini; Patron, Kenya Nightingale Welfare Association

Members of UONAA Executive Board Present

Members of University of Nairobi Management Present

University of Nairobi Alumni

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Evening.

On behalf of the University of Nairobi Alumni Association (UONAA) Executive Board,
Secretariat and Alumni, I take this pleasant opportunity to cordially welcome you to the Launch
of the Nursing Sciences Alumni Chapter and 50th Anniversary Celebrations for the School of
Nursing Sciences.

The Nursing Sciences Alumni Chapter will be our seventeenth chapter to be launched since the
establishment of the Association in February, 2005. Journalism, Range Management, MBA,

Veterinary Medicine, IDIS, Human Medicine, Agriculture, Pharmacy, Chiromo, Computing and Informatics, Education, Engineering, Architecture, Design and Development, Law and the latest being Dental Sciences in March this year.

The launch of the discipline/campus based chapters is not only a source of income to the Association but also a forum for our Alumni to re-unite, interact, network and chart the way forward in assisting their alma mater in infrastructural development, mentorship ,work-study programme and curriculum development amongst other activities of the University. Our role as the Executive Committee is to support these chapters to achieve their objectives by facilitating chapter launches such as the one we launch this evening and guiding the chapter officials on the next steps in order to ensure the chapter continues to thrive.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Over the last 13 years, UONAA has supported our alma mater in various ways; First, The Association has supported needy students at the University of Nairobi through our annual **Bursary Fund Contribution of Ksh. 2 Million**. To date, the Association has donated **Ksh.21 million shillings** towards this fund that has seen over **800** needy but deserving students benefit from this support.

The Association also supports other key University activities like the **Annual Nairobi Innovation Week Ksh.2 Million, Annual University of Nairobi Open Day Ksh.2 Million, Students Reward Program Ksh. 1 Million and UON Graduation Ceremonies Ksh. 1 Million**. The Association has also set aside **Ksh.1 Million** towards the **Research Award and Reward Program** that will reward UoN top Researchers and

encourage them to take their research to market. The Association is able to do all these through the support from alumni through membership registration fees and donations.

As leaders of the Alumni Association, we will continue to work closely with the Nursing Sciences Alumni Chapter officials to ensure that your aspirations as a chapter come to fruition. We will also ensure that our members continue to enjoy enhanced benefits that come with joining the Alumni Association. We will also continue to improve on our online platforms especially the Alumni Information Management System (AIMS) and the UONAA portal to make access to information by our alumni is real time.

I am pleased to announce today that our long awaited alumni card is now with us. This card has been developed in collaboration with Charlestone Travel Limited and the International Student Identity Card (ISIC). This card will not only serve as an identity for all our registered life members but comes with an array of great discounts. Alumni with this card will access discounts between 5% and 40% in over 150 outlets in Kenya i.e Bookshops, Pharmacies, Air travel through Charleston Travel and beauty shops just to mention a few. We believe as an Association that registered Alumni need to enjoy tangible benefits that come with being part of this great family of Alumni.

This evening is not only a day for our fellow alumni from the School of Nursing Sciences Launching their Chapter but its also a great evening for the School and the University at large. The School is Celebrating its 50th Anniversary and as an Association, we join the University community in congratulating the School in achieving this important milestone. It is also gratifying to see alumni with us today who were part of the first graduating class. This shows the impact

this great University has had on our lives over the last 50 years. On behalf of UONAA, I would like to wish the school and alumni all the best as you celebrate this important milestone.

In concluding, may appeal to those of you who are not registered members of the Association to make a point of registering with us this evening. Our Secretariat is stationed at the entrance with the requisite registration forms and those that are techno savvy you can simply log in to our portal; **alumni.uonbi.ac.ke** register and pay via Mpesa.

Let me wish you all a happy Jamhuri Day tomorrow, Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2019.

God bless you all

MR. ISAAC AWUONDO

CHAIRMAN, UONAA