

'Let university hold Kanu branch elections'

By NATION Reporter

THE out-going chairman of the Nairobi University Students Organisation, Mr. Rumba Kinuthia has appealed to Kanu headquarters to allow the proposed Kanu University branch to hold elections as directed by the President, Mr. Daniel arap Moi.

Talking to EDUCATION NATION, Mr. Kinuthia said after the President had expressed his wish to see the establishment of a Kanu Branch at the University of Nairobi there was a lot of activity on the campus.

He said the students, sent on a surprise "Christmas Vacation" last week, set out making arrangements for the elections but just before the elections were held, Kanu headquarters postponed them indefinitely. He said a small section of the student community sabotaged the elections by feeding Kanu headquarters wrong information concerning tickets on sale at the university.

He said the Kanu tickets they were selling came from the Kanu Nairobi branch and were given to the university by Kanu headquarters though they were marked for the Nairobi branch of Kanu.

"If the idea is not fitting, the branch will die a natural death but if it is good, then the idea will flourish," Mr. Kinuthia said.

He said the branch had



Mr. Rumba Kinuthia

produced a lot of interest in that each ward had produced about five candidates. The student community was anxious to know when the elections would be held, Mr. Kinuthia said.

On the problem of student accommodation at the campus, he said it had now become a national crisis. He said the money the Government is using through the Halls of Residence Institute to house students in sub-standard lodging houses in the rowdy parts of Nairobi would be enough to build a hall in two years.

"These hotels are hardly places to expect one to study in," Mr. Kinuthia said.

He said that there were some 58 women students booked in one lodging house in Nairobi and feared that their social and education life may meet the same fate as the 94 per cent of all the second year women put in hotels last year.

He said the university needed a longterm and urgent solution to the problems now besetting it.