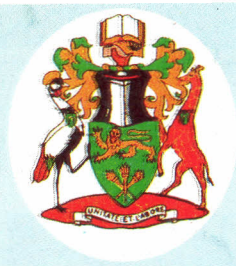


Varsity



Focus

A Newsletter from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor

University of Nairobi

June 2000

A Focus on The 27th Graduation Ceremony



Varsity Focus

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The 27th Graduation Ceremony for the award of diplomas and conferment of degrees of the University of Nairobi

Varsity Focus congratulates the 2,593 graduands

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As we Celebrated our Last Graduation of the 20th Century...

The University held its 27th Graduation Ceremony on 29th November, 1999 - the last in the 20th Century and the 2nd Millennium... in a colourful ceremony witnessed by tens of thousands of friends, family and well-wishers of the 2593 graduands who were awarded diplomas and conferred degrees of the University of Nairobi. The graduands had gone through 27 undergraduate degree and diploma academic programmes, 52 masters degree programmes, 5 post-graduate diploma programmes and 15 doctorate programmes.

The Ceremony which was held at the Chancellor's Court was presided over by the Chancellor of the University of Nairobi His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi who also conferred Honorary Doctor of Science degrees to two outstanding scholars - Prof. David Peter Simon Wasawo and Prof. Richard

Darwin Keynes. Prof. Wasawo is the current Chairman, University of Nairobi Governing Council while Prof. Keynes is now Prof. Emeritus at the Physiological Laboratory, Cambridge.

In his address to the Convocation the Chancellor challenged the public universities to give serious consideration in the teaching of international languages.

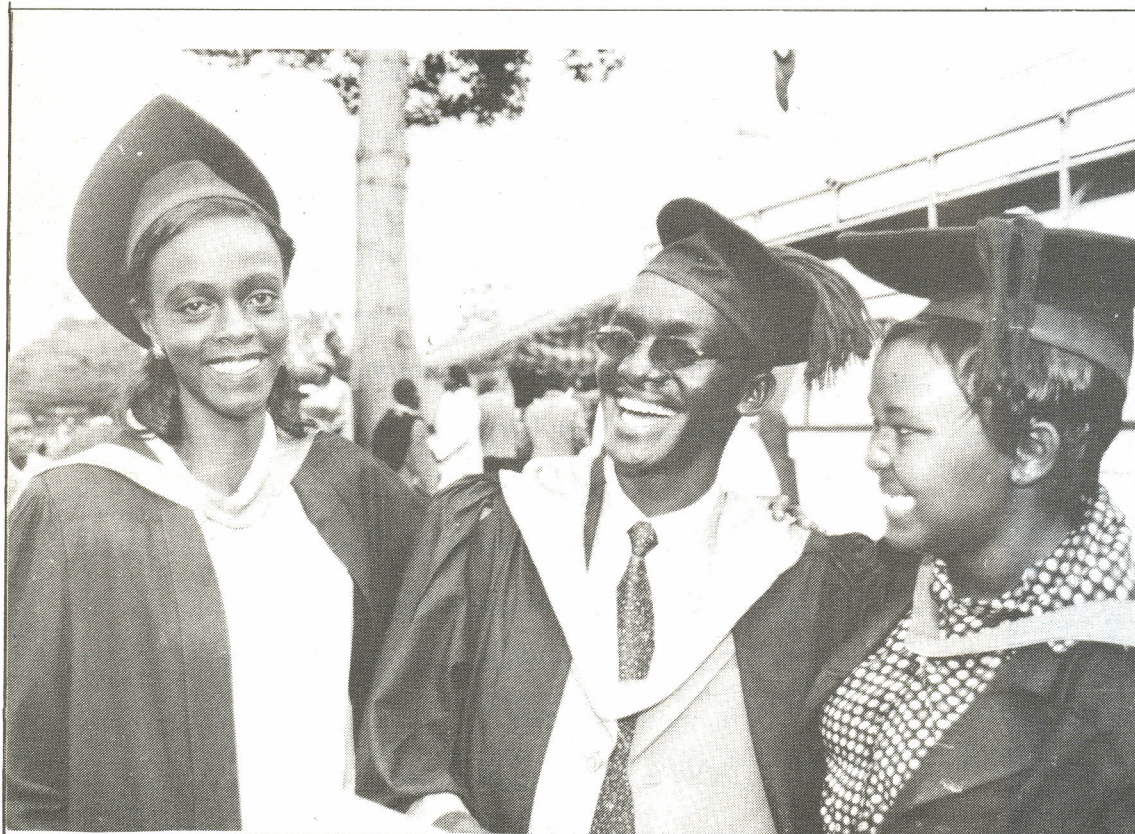
"Our restructuring for high level training must now be done not just for the local economy but with global markets in mind. To access global markets, or international jobs, you will require English and some other international languages, such as French, Arabic, Portuguese, Spanish, German, and Japanese," the Chancellor said. (*see excerpts of the speech*).

In his speech the Chairman of Council Prof. David Wasawo paid tribute to the late Mwalimu Julius

Nyerere, first President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Chancellor of the University of East Africa and University of Dar es Salaam. The University of East Africa was the predecessor to the University of Nairobi. The Chairman also thanked the Chancellor for the "selfless service and the guidance that you have given to us in public universities as we enter the new Millennium." (*see excerpts of the speech*).

The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis Gichaga welcomed all to the 27th Graduation ceremony and noted that the University of Nairobi had so far produced over 57000 graduates since its inception in 1970. The Vice-Chancellor announced a major breakthrough in the area of research in HIV/AIDS. He said that research in the Department of Microbiology of the University, in collaboration with the Universities of Manitoba and Oxford had led to development of a vaccine for HIV sub type found in East Africa which is currently undergoing testing in the U.K. (*see excerpts of the Speech*).

The Graduation also marked another milestone in the history of the University as the very first batch of eleven (11) graduands from the newly introduced parallel degree programme were awarded their Masters of Business Administration degrees. The *Varsity Focus* congratulates all the graduands and wish them well in their future endeavours. ■



*These faces epitomise the graduands happiness and a sense of achievement.
(Photo courtesy of Nation Media Group)*

Excerpts of Speech by The Chancellor President Daniel arap Moi



*The Chancellor President Daniel arap Moi addresses the 27th Graduation Convocation.
(Photo courtesy of Nation Media Group)*

It gives me great pleasure to be here with you this morning, to preside over the 27th convocation, which is also your last graduation ceremony in the 20th Century. During the last twenty six graduation ceremonies you presented before us very highly skilled young Kenyans who have helped this nation to develop and prosper to the level which is the envy of many countries in the developing world.

My government is committed to educating the youth of this country, since by doing so, we are laying the foundation of a sound and secure future. We believe, moreover, that by educating young Kenyans we are developing a marketable resource which can be harnessed primarily for developing this nation and which can also be exported

to foreign lands. This will not only benefit the individuals concerned, but the individuals will also serve as our ambassadors abroad.

It is, therefore, important that the quality of our degrees and certificates should be very high indeed. It is for this reason that the supervisory role of the Commission for Higher Education will be strengthened to enable it to carry out its mission of ensuring effective delivery of high academic and training standards in our institutions of higher learning.

On my part, as your Chancellor, I have on many occasions considered sending to all public universities a visitation team of eminent non-universities scholars to report to me concerning the state of the art in each university - so that I can match what I hear on these platforms with what

actually obtains on the ground. This, incidentally, is one of the powers conferred upon me by the various University Acts, and should therefore not scare any one.

Ladies and Gentlemen, this country has witnessed considerable development in the many sectors of the economy, primarily because we have a large population of educated and healthy Kenyans. This development has also been possible due to the peace and stability which we have cultivated, and continue to enjoy since independence in 1963.

We believe that learning, like development, cannot take place in the absence of peace, tranquillity and discipline.

In this respect, it is very important

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Speech by the Chancellor President Daniel arap Moi

From p. 3

that University authorities instill peace and stability in our public universities, so that the teaching and learning processes are not unduly interfered with. We have, in the last one month alone, witnessed three unnecessary riots in our public universities. The country cannot afford this culture of mindless disorder. It is imperative that channels of dialogue are maintained between the university administrations and the students, so that the problems in our institutions can be solved as soon as they arise. Doing so, we shall avoid frequent closures, and thus save time, in order to achieve the set missions of our universities.

This University should play its role as the mother of all Kenyan universities. We expect it to take the lead academically, and also in the quest for peace, discipline and stability. The University of Nairobi must lead the way in Kenya just like the oldest Universities of Oxford, Glasgow and Cambridge in Britain which set high moral and academic standards for the rest. These old universities practice stringent financial discipline and high moral codes which makes them produce highly patriotic and accountable citizens.

Ladies and gentlemen, the demand for university education in Kenya continues to grow. At the moment it has now reached a level where a large number of parents have to send their children abroad to secure university education at exorbitant costs, which are paid by use of our scarce foreign exchange. This high demand for university education would justify expanding the local capacity to absorb more qualified students into our universities.

I commend the University of Nairobi, along with other public universities - for introducing parallel degree programmes so that more Kenyans can have access to university education. But as I pointed out during the last graduation ceremony at Kenyatta University, caution must be taken, so that high enrollment numbers do not compromise the traditional high academic standards in our universities. Moreover, whatever additional revenue

is raised from these programmes, a generous proportion must be ploughed back into buying books and other learning facilities for the maintenance of the said high academic standards.

With regard to this university, I would personally like to suggest consolidation, rather than expansion. Indeed, you have expanded so rapidly and generally in the last few years that even for non-professionals it has become extremely difficult to identify your strong study areas. Given that Kenya has got many unemployed graduates, we can no longer afford to expand general education. The country is crying for practical and honest doctors and dentists, and practical and honest agronomists and veterinarians. We talk of "honest" because some of our professionals have badly let this country down.

The University of Nairobi must consolidate and lead the way in the production of relevant and needed skills.

One study area which some of our universities should give serious consideration is the teaching of international languages. Our restructuring for high level training must now be done not just for the local economy, but with the global markets in mind. To access Global markets or international jobs, you will require English and some other international languages, such as French, Portuguese, Spanish, German, Arabic and Japanese.

English alone is no longer a sufficient passport to international opportunities. We want young Kenyans to compete out there for jobs and business with Nigerians, Egyptians, Ugandans, South Africans and others from outside this continent. Kenyans have shied away from the lucrative international job opportunities for too long. My Government will continue to advertise international opportunities for those Kenyans with a taste for international adventure.

Ladies and Gentlemen, considering that some of our people find themselves spiritually impoverished, in a world that is dominated by material affluence, the University dons should be involved in reflecting and disseminating values,

ideals and goals for a better future for the rest of mankind. They should be at the forefront of the awareness campaign against the AIDs scourge which threatens to wipe out the most active and vulnerable sector of mankind. Our dons should strive to be part of the world intellectual vanguard with a strong sense of mission for creating a better and happier society.

We expect our universities, thus, to train top class leaders who have love and compassion for their fellow citizens.

And now turning to those of you who have graduated today, it is important to understand and appreciate the limitations of our economy. We should not forget that some of the problems which we are facing today are as a result of the successes we have registered in the education sector. You will be aware that while our economy has been growing at a sluggish pace, the number of Kenyan graduates from local and foreign universities have been growing at a brisk pace, making it difficult for the economy to absorb all of them.

Our hope is that as the economy picks up we shall be able to create more job opportunities.

But, it is also time we encouraged those Kenyans who are capable of finding jobs abroad to go for them. The preachers of globalisation keep telling us to open our borders for trade, human traffic and other opportunities. We too must cross our borders for trade and other opportunities elsewhere. The important thing to remember at this time is that you have been educated by the Kenyan society and the knowledge you have acquired will help you during your life time - here or in any other part of the world.

The University has played its part of equipping you with basic knowledge to enable you to stand on your own. The kind of education you have received places you among the privileged few. My advice to you is that you repay for the sacrifices of those who contributed towards your education by serving the nation selflessly.

As I conclude this address I wish to congratulate you all, for your hard work and self-discipline which has enabled you to finish your courses successfully■

Excerpts of Speech by

Council Chairman Professor David P. S. Wasawo

Your Excellency, I wish to extend to you a hand of warm welcome to the University of Nairobi during this 27th Graduation Ceremony. On behalf of the University Council and the University of Nairobi Community, I would like you to feel absolutely at home. We are greatly honoured that you have always found time to come and preside over our Graduation ceremonies. I also wish to welcome the parents and relatives of today's graduands, as well as all our friends who have come to join us on this important occasion in our University calendar.

The University of Nairobi, as a national institution is to-day nearly twenty nine and a half years old having been born in July 1970 out of the dissolution of the University of East Africa, which also comprised Dar-es-Salaam as well as Makerere. Please allow me Your Excellency, in this connection to pay tribute to an illustrious son of East Africa, Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere. Mwalimu was the Chancellor of The University of East Africa as well as the first Chancellor of The University of Dar-es-Salaam. He inspired us as a scholar. His rendering of Shakespear's Julius Caesar into Kiswahili proved to any doubting Thomases, the richness of our East African language. He authored many books. He led the University community with dedication and commitment. The buildings and the changing inhabitants of University Hill in Dar-es-Salaam are his monuments. We salute his memory.

Your Excellency as we reach the threshold of the new Millennium, we recall and reflect with gratitude the selfless service and the guidance that you have given to us in public universities as our Chancellor. You have continually reminded us of the tenets of a university institution. You have lit the path we should follow. You have given us inspiration in our



*Prof. David Wasawo, Council Chairman ... paid tribute to Mwalimu Nyerere
(Photo courtesy of Nation Media Group)*

endeavours. We thank you as we enter the new Millennium.

We at the University of Nairobi have continued to move along that path that you have beaten out for us. We recognize that our business is to create and develop knowledge through research and scholarship; to digest, collate, and teach that knowledge to our students, and to be of service to our Kenyan community, our region and the world at large.

As our Vice-Chancellor will shortly give details, our academic staff have endeavoured to carry out quality research and scholarship, which is acknowledged by their peers around the world. Even in the difficult area of HIV/AIDS research, there have been some breakthroughs by our scientists to

the extent that they are collaborating with their colleagues at the University of Oxford in the development of a vaccine.

Your Excellency, research and scholarship are prerequisites for informed development. We do have great potential for research and scholarship at this University. We are most grateful for the laboratory, library and computer facilities that have been provided by your Government and by our friends from the Donor Community. I have had the opportunity of going round and visiting some of our laboratories and libraries. There is still a need for the improvement of these facilities, and we humbly plead for more assistance in that regard. We are confident that under your wise

Speech by Council Chairman Prof. David Wasawo

guidance, the government will continue assisting us, especially as the country has stated its vision to industrialize by the year 2020. We also in our need and without bashfulness go back to our donor friends, like Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist* of yore, to ask for more.

We have expanded our teaching through the introduction of parallel courses. Our country is spending considerable amounts of foreign exchange in sending students overseas for university education. Our parallel courses will enable us to retain some of those students; and to be altruistic, provide us with much needed finance to improve teaching and research facilities all round.

We in the University of Nairobi have accepted to meet the challenge of generating income to supplement the funding from the exchequer. It is in this context that the university has registered a private company fully owned by the University of Nairobi and aimed at rationalising and making full use of the high level manpower and the facilities which it commands. As we venture into this area of money making we are conscious of the need to keep clearly in view the purpose and mission of the University which is that of teaching, research, scholarship and the provision of services.

We are most grateful in these difficult times for the understanding and assistance which we are regularly receiving from your office, and from the Ministries of Education and Finance. As the Council is seized with addressing the short and long term financial and management problems of the institution, that understanding and assistance will stand us in good stead.

As we enter the 21st Century, we would like to confirm to you, your Excellency, that our University has dutifully discharged its responsibilities as set out in the University Act. The academic members of staff, for example; have continued to carry out their responsibilities to enable the Kenyans, who constitute the largest portion of students, to acquire knowledge that will help them in developing their future and the future of our nation. They are

also carrying out research leading to publications in international journals, presentation of learned papers at international conferences, in addition to publishing books. They are keen that research should lead to development of technology, which is a prerequisite for accelerated development of our nation. They are also involved with assisting our nation in the arena of development through participation in various committees, workshops and seminars, and in the various commissions that your Excellency appoints from time to time. The University Council is conscious of the need to create and maintain conditions that will enable these academics not to be distracted from their main responsibilities. We appeal for assistance in this regard.

Your Excellency, as the University of Nairobi continues to discharge its responsibilities the Council recognises the need for stable learning and teaching environment which gives opportunity for students to excel in creativity and to develop their full potential. The Student Organization of the University of Nairobi (SONU-98) is carrying out its responsibilities in a commendable manner despite teething problems and some influences from the outside. Their representatives in the University Council are articulate and effective. There is continuous and open dialogue between them and the Vice-Chancellor's office. A stable learning and teaching environment also enhances research productivity by professors and lecturers and by postgraduate students. We appreciate that the Government is committing a large proportion of its national budget towards university education which investment we believe will pay good dividends for this country in the long term.

In addition to looking at the learning environment we are also interested in high level scholarship from our professors and lecturers. We believe as indicated earlier that we must continually take care of their welfare so that they serve the institution and our nation with dedication.

As I conclude, Your Excellency, let me observe that we have continued to

produce university graduates annually because of peace and stability that has prevailed in our country, Kenya. You are the chief architect of that peace and stability which we have continued to enjoy. It is therefore fitting that I thank your Excellency most sincerely for your effort in designing and maintaining that peace and stability.

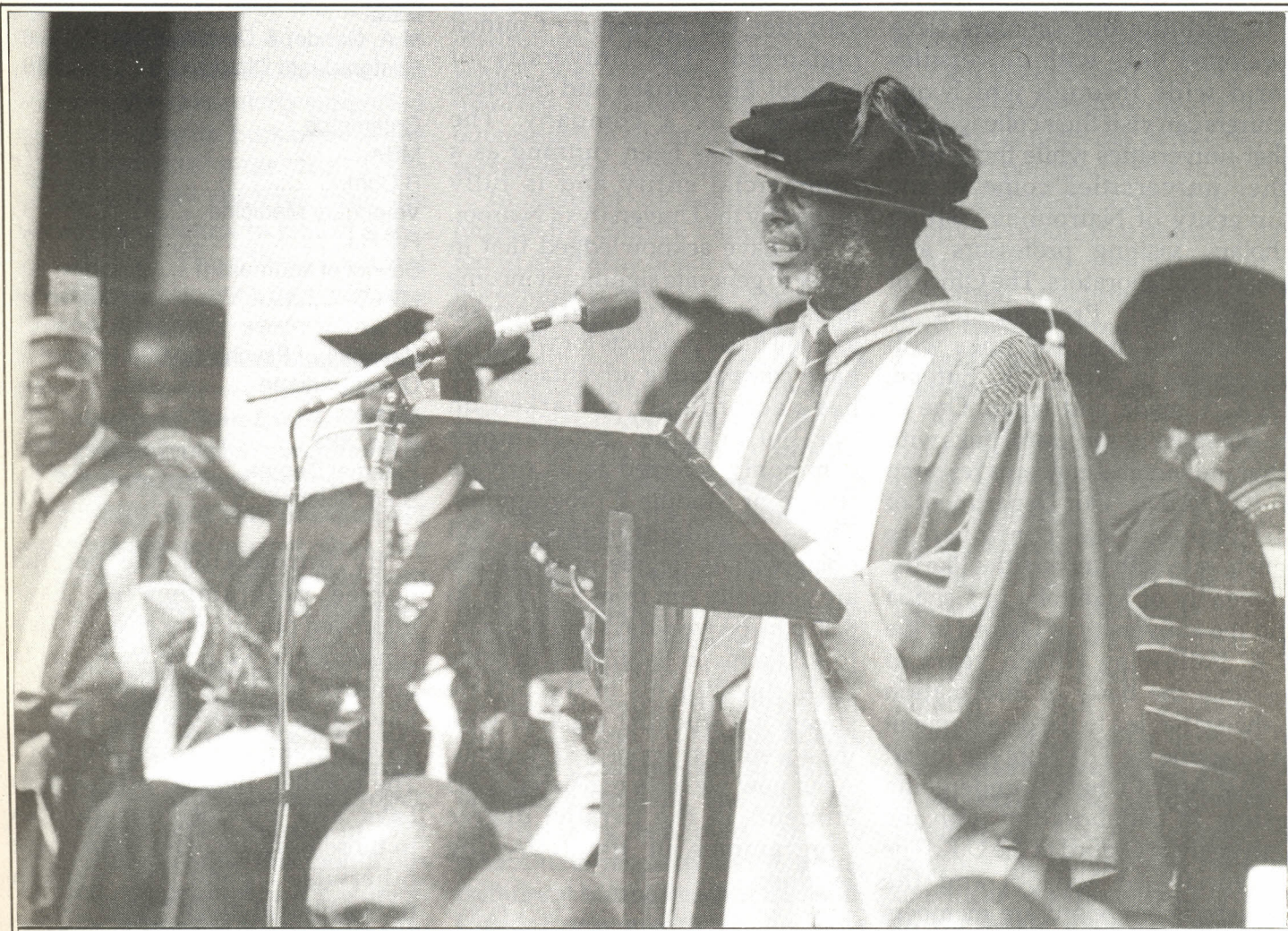
With your permission, Sir, may I take this opportunity to congratulate the graduands for a job well done. Their parents, relatives and friends who have nurtured them and supported them, deserve our recognition. I wish to remind you the graduands that your Chancellor, His Excellency the President will shortly be enjoining you, and I quote, "to read and do all that appertains to your degree". Learning is a life long process, and the task of personal as well as nation building can only be effectively carried out through constant academic, technical, and spiritual renewal. Go out into the world and make things happen. Do not wait for them to happen, otherwise they may bury you!

Your Excellency, Jamhuri Day, which will mark the 36th anniversary of our beloved country's independence, is to be celebrated on 12th December. I wish to send our good wishes to your Excellency during the occasion on behalf of the University Council. I also wish to take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Millennium. Once again I welcome you to your academic home. And now Your Excellency, it is my pleasure to call upon the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gichaga to address the Congregation.

I Thank You ■



Excerpts from the Speech by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis J. Gichaga



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. F.J. Gichaga - announced a major break-through in HIV-AIDS vaccine research

On behalf of the University of Nairobi Community, I wish to welcome Your Excellency Sir, to this 27th Graduation Ceremony of the University of Nairobi. I also wish to express our very deep appreciation to Your Excellency for having found time from your very busy schedule to come and preside over this auspicious occasion. We always look forward, with great interest, to this important day in our University Calendar when we are able to present to Your Excellency, those amongst our students who have passed their examinations and

have satisfied the examiners and Senate for the award of the University of Nairobi degrees and diplomas.

I also wish to extend a hand of warm welcome to all those who have kindly agreed to come and join us during this 27th Graduation Ceremony. We recognize that during the last 26 graduation ceremonies we have produced over 57,000 graduates who have helped this country develop. We are indeed proud to be part of the driving force that has seen this country develop to the level where it is to-day.

I wish to assure Your Excellency that we have continued to steer the various University management organs in strict adherence to the stipulated objectives in the University of Nairobi Act, 1985 and to-day we are gathered in the Chancellor's Court to witness the product of our efforts.

Your Excellency, our academic staff have continued to record achievements on several research fronts. Many of our academic staff continue to be invited to international forums to present their research findings. Some of the

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Speech by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis J. Gichaga

discoveries from the research carried out by our scholars have had great impact on our society.

In addition our scholars have developed links with universities world wide through which our lecturers can visit their colleagues in other universities while those from other universities come to the University of Nairobi as visiting scholars, visiting professors and research collaborators. The Office of International Programmes is coordinating over 100 links with universities in Africa, UK, Europe, U.S.A., Canada and Japan. One of the examples of successful links with other universities concerns research on HIV/AIDS. Our Department of Microbiology has continued to collaborate with universities like the University of Manitoba in Canada and the University of Oxford in the U.K. Following fifteen years of research the body of information gathered has led to the development of a vaccine for HIV subtype found in East Africa which is undergoing testing in collaboration with the University of Oxford in the U.K. The University of Nairobi and the University of Oxford are members of the International Aids Vaccine Initiative.

Your Excellency, Sir, on a number of occasions you have advised us to plan income generating activities to supplement the Government funding and be able to meet some of the costs of running the university operations. We have introduced several forms of income generating activities. In this respect we have production units and service units which are generally involved in income generation. Such income generating units are to be found in the Faculty of Dental Sciences, in the Veterinary Farm at Upper Kabete, irrigation scheme at Kibwezi among others. Income generated through such units has helped greatly in

meeting the cost of buying teaching materials. In order to co-ordinate and expand income generating activities the University Council registered "The University of Nairobi Enterprises and Services Limited" as a company. The company has been running as a commercial entity and is fully owned by the University of Nairobi.

We have acknowledged that in order to generate significant income for the University we need to market and sell those products for which we have comparative advantage. We have accordingly embarked on parallel degree programmes commonly referred to as private stream or Module 2 programmes. These undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes are generally run from 5.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. on weekdays and 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. on Saturdays. In some cases the students in the private stream are studying together with the government sponsored students. As of now we have registered 3,305 students in the parallel degree programmes in the following faculties: -

<u>PROGRAMMES</u>	<u>NO. OF STUDENTS</u>
Faculty of Science	27
Architecture, Design and Development	20
Law	516
Engineering	116
Medicine	228
Pharmacy	61
Nursing	15
<u>Arts</u>	
B.A.	226
Diploma	79
Bridging Courses	54
M.A.	50
S.T.I. (Postgraduate Diploma)	56
<u>I.C.S.</u>	
Postgraduate Diploma	25

M.Sc. (Information Science)	33
B.Sc. (Undergraduate)	9

I.A.S.

M.A. Gender & Development	8
Postgraduate Diploma	18

Commerce

MBA	407
B.Com.	285
Veterinary Medicine	3
P.S.R.I.	20
School of Journalism	30
I.D.I.S.	9

Bachelor of Psychology

Undergraduate	54
Masters	25
B.Ed. Arts	436
External Degree	485
B.Ed. Science	10

By introducing the parallel degree programmes we have improved our income base and as a consequence we have been able to improve teaching facilities which have also benefited the regular government sponsored students. The parallel degree programmes have also provided opportunities to those Kenyans who would have otherwise gone to foreign universities at much higher costs.

In the area of fund raising Your Excellency, we have been trying to attract the big companies from our local industry, and we believe we are making encouraging progress. We have, for example, attracted a few companies who have been interested in financing student prizes, awards and sponsoring games and sporting activities. We are grateful to those who have answered to our call and we are appealing to others to come forward and support us not only in sports but also in financing endowment chairs as well as research and consultancy activities. We also have prominent Kenyans who we believe have the capacity to offer their support and we are therefore appealing to such

Speech by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis J. Gichaga

Kenyan, some of whom are our graduates, to come forward and assist the University. In this respect I wish to record our deepest gratitude to Rattansi Educational Trust which has regularly supported our students with bursaries. In the last academic year the Trust awarded needy students from the University of Nairobi a total of KShs. 1 million. The Visa Oshwal Community also awarded bursaries to our students amounting to KShs.870,000.00 for this academic year.

On our part, Your Excellency, our staff and students have continued to render outstanding service to the community. As a way of example I am pleased to report that the University of Nairobi jointly with Pen State University and Tuskegee University from the U.S.A. have been involved with about 2500 small holder women farmers who are members of organized women groups in Bomet and Murang'a districts in a Nutribusiness Project. The Project which started in 1992 and matured earlier this month has created opportunities for women groups to process food crops into supplemental weaning mixtures for young children. Our Department of Food Technology and Nutrition has been in the forefront in the research and fabrication of the necessary equipment with financial support from USAID.

Your Excellency, in line with the Government policy on restructuring to improve efficiency and effectiveness of our systems we have embarked on a plan of rationalizing and rightsizing the University of Nairobi. In this exercise we have held workshops with stakeholders and we believe we have made progress towards a University structure that fits with our vision and mission and is additionally financially sustainable. We are

taking care to ensure that we do not compromise or jeopardize our basic and fundamental objectives as an institution of higher learning for which we are required to be involved in teaching and carrying out research in addition to providing service to the community.

In respect of funding from outside the country I am happy to report that many donor agencies and governments have come to our aid. Among them include Sasakawa Foundation of Japan, DAAD and GTZ of Germany, SIDA of Sweden, IDRC and CIDA of Canada, USAID, IAEA, UNDP, UNESCO and the World Bank. Last year we signed an agreement with the Government of Belgium through the Flemish Inter-University Council (VLIR) in Brussels in support of (1) University-wide computer networking and internet linkages (2) Training methods in reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS and (3) Marine science and coastal management, to the tune of KShs. 48 million. The grant has additionally enabled us to rehabilitate research and teaching facilities at Moana Beach at the South Coast. Consequently we are now able to accommodate students and research scientists who are involved in marine science and coastal management research adjacent to the ocean. The grant has also a component for postgraduate scholarships for which we have a number of masters and doctorate students and for which we are very grateful. The Government of Sweden through SIDA and SAREC has been supporting PINEP which is a programme for developing pastoral areas in the IGAD countries, for which we have gratefully received KSh. 180 million for use in supporting masters programmes and research. I would also like to express our gratitude to the German Government who through DAAD

has continued to support the University of Nairobi with masters scholarships, doctorate fellowships and postdoctoral fellowships.

I am also pleased to report that the Sasakawa Endowment Fund of 1 million dollars has been a regular source of postgraduate scholarships in this University. I am additionally happy to report that students have continued to benefit through industrial attachment support by Otto Essien Young Professionals Programme through the United Nations Development Programme.

As reported last year we now have two endowment chairs. One of these is financed by the Hindu Council of Kenya and is known as the Vivekananda Chair for Vedic and Oriental Studies and is based at the Department of Religious Studies. The other one is the UNESCO Chair On Women, Basic Education, Health and Sustainable Development which is based at the Department of Sociology. The Chair is expected to be instrumental in promoting action research to improve the quality and relevance of education especially as it relates to the basic needs of girls and women. The main objective of the UNESCO Chair is to contribute to the achievement of basic Education for all in Kenya through community-based actions that enhance the quality and condition of learning in disadvantaged areas and provide safety-net for basic education drop-outs especially girls. UNESCO will also promote the exchange of information and documentation within the framework of UNITWIN and the "Special Project on Women, Higher Education and Development."

Your Excellency, we have utilized the support we have gratefully received from donor agencies and governments to improve our information and communication

Speech by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis J. Gichaga

technologies which we are committed to use in supporting the primary business of the University. We believe that we should not only have access to the Internet but we should also be active participants in the creation of the content that can be accessed by ourselves and the wider world. It is against this background that we developed the University of Nairobi Web Site which was launched in August this year.

One of the indicators of the quality of a university is the number of postgraduates relative to undergraduates. In our case about ten per cent of the graduands are receiving Masters and Ph.D.s. Since postgraduate students are heavily involved in research activities, the number of Masters and Ph.D. students is indicative of the number of high level research projects being undertaken in the various departments and research institutes of the University.

Your Excellency, during this 27th Graduation Ceremony, we have

2,593 graduands who will be awarded degrees and diplomas. The academic programmes which these graduands have gone through consist of 27 undergraduate degree and diploma programmes, 52 masters degree programmes, 5 postgraduate diploma programmes and 15 doctorate programmes.

Your Excellency, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all those who are about to be conferred with their degrees and diplomas from the hand of their Chancellor. I am sure this is the one occasion they have all along been looking forward to. As I congratulate them I would like to remind them that for them to survive in this competitive world they must continue to read in order to update their skills and knowledge. This is the first step in their long journey towards success and a lot will depend on how one charts the course of his or her future. The community has invested heavily in these graduands and the University has equipped them with the

necessary academic foundation upon which they should develop their future. We also believe that over the years our education system has inculcated in them the virtues which will distinguish them as men and women of character. I wish all of them success in their future endeavours. I also hope that this occasion will not mark a final break between them and the University of Nairobi. I welcome them back as scholars, workers, and benefactors of the university.

And finally, your Excellency, I wish to join the Chairman of the University Council in sending our best wishes for the Jamhuri Day to be celebrated on the 12 of December and I also wish Your Excellency a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous year 2000.

And now, Your Excellency, I have the honour to call upon the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs), Prof. Karani, to call upon the Deans of Faculties and Directors of Institutes and School to present their candidates for the award of

diplomas and conferment of degrees of the University of Nairobi. ■



Ten percent of the total graduands are Masters and Ph.D. ... an indication of the level of research being undertaken in the UON.

The University Confers Honorary Degrees

The University of Nairobi conferred honorary degrees to two outstanding individuals who have made a mark in their lifetime commitment to scholarship. Professor David Simon Peter Wasawo and Professor Richard Darwin Keynes. The following are the citations by the respective awarding faculties and responses from the conferees:

Citation: Professor David Peter Simon Wasawo

M.A. (Oxford), Ph.D. (London), Hon. D.Sc. (Kenyatta University).

The school motto of the Alliance High School, the most famous school in Kenya founded in 1926, is a phrase which simply reads "Strong to Serve." Today the University of Nairobi is honouring an Old Boy of that school who has literally lived up to just that expectation. As a distinguished scholar and scientist he has selflessly served Kenya, East Africa, Africa and indeed the world in multifarious capacities ranging from a brilliant academic career to other key activities involving the application of science and technology for development. He is the current Chairman of the Council of the University of Nairobi and yet one can pass without noticing him because he is so immensely simple, humble and approachable despite his remarkable achievements and valuable services he has rendered to Society. This great scholar and scientist is Professor David Peter Simon Wasawo.

Professor David Wasawo was born in Gem Location of what was then called Central Kavirondo, but now Siaya District, in 1923, the son of the late Mzee Peter Osare. His early education took him through Gem and Kisumu before he joined Maseno School in 1937. He passed the Kenya Junior Secondary School Examination in 1941 with distinction and was declared the best overall candidate in the country. Between 1942-43 he attended the prestigious Alliance High School where he passed the Cambridge Overseas School Certificate Examinations with flying colours, scoring distinctions in all the subjects he sat.

Once again he was declared the best candidate in the country. His brilliance was best summarized by Edward Carey Francis, the legendary headmaster who taught him at Alliance. While being interviewed by the *Sunday Nation* Newspaper in 1965 and asked who he thought was the most brilliant pupil he had ever taught, he promptly answered "Far and away, David Wasawo."

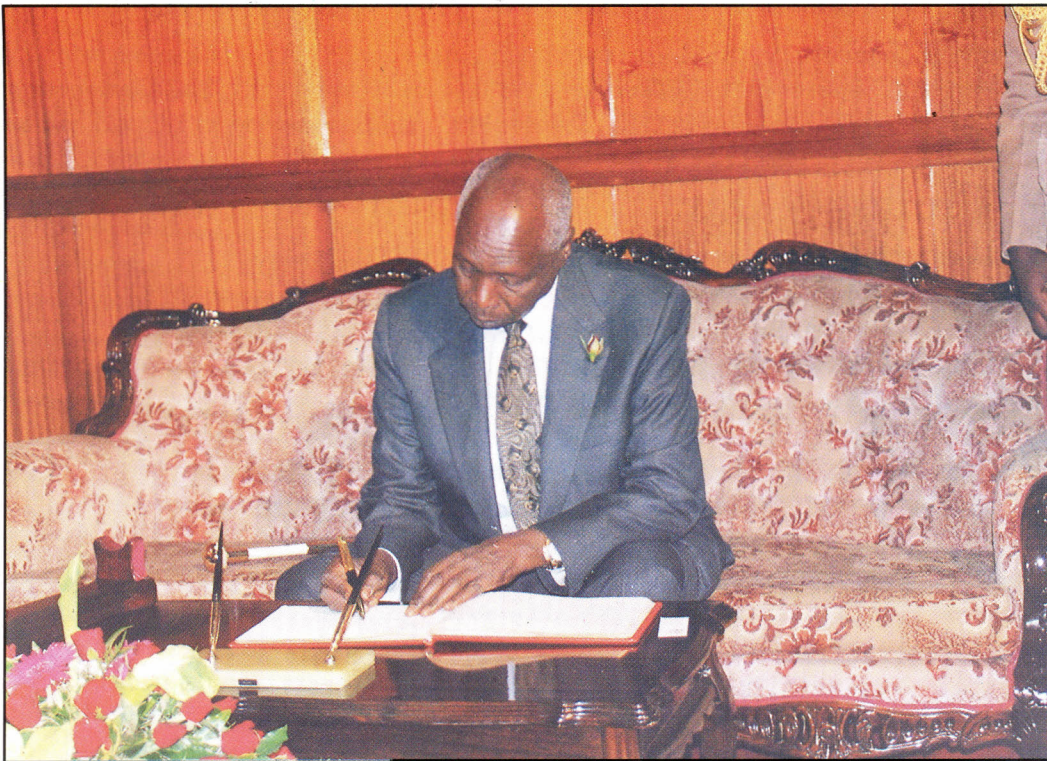
In 1944 Professor Wasawo was admitted to Makerere University College in Kampala, the only institution of higher learning in East and Central Africa at that time which granted only diplomas rather than degrees. He enrolled for science courses with an emphasis in biology leading to London Higher Matriculation Examinations. Towards the end of 1945 young Wasawo had demonstrated superior academic prowess to his all British academic tutors such as had never been witnessed before at that institution. Margaret Mcpherson in her book *They Built for the Future; a Chronicle of Makerere University College, 1922-1962* published in 1964 wrote: "Tutors (Lecturers) had the joy of reporting an outstanding student in Biology, D.P.S. Wasawo, who is now the Vice Principal and Professor of Zoology, having been sent straight to Oxford University from Makerere." Professor Wasawo was on his way to higher academic achievement when in 1946, the Principal of Makerere, C.G. Turner, himself a graduate of Oxford, provided full support to enable him to study for a degree course at

Oxford University.

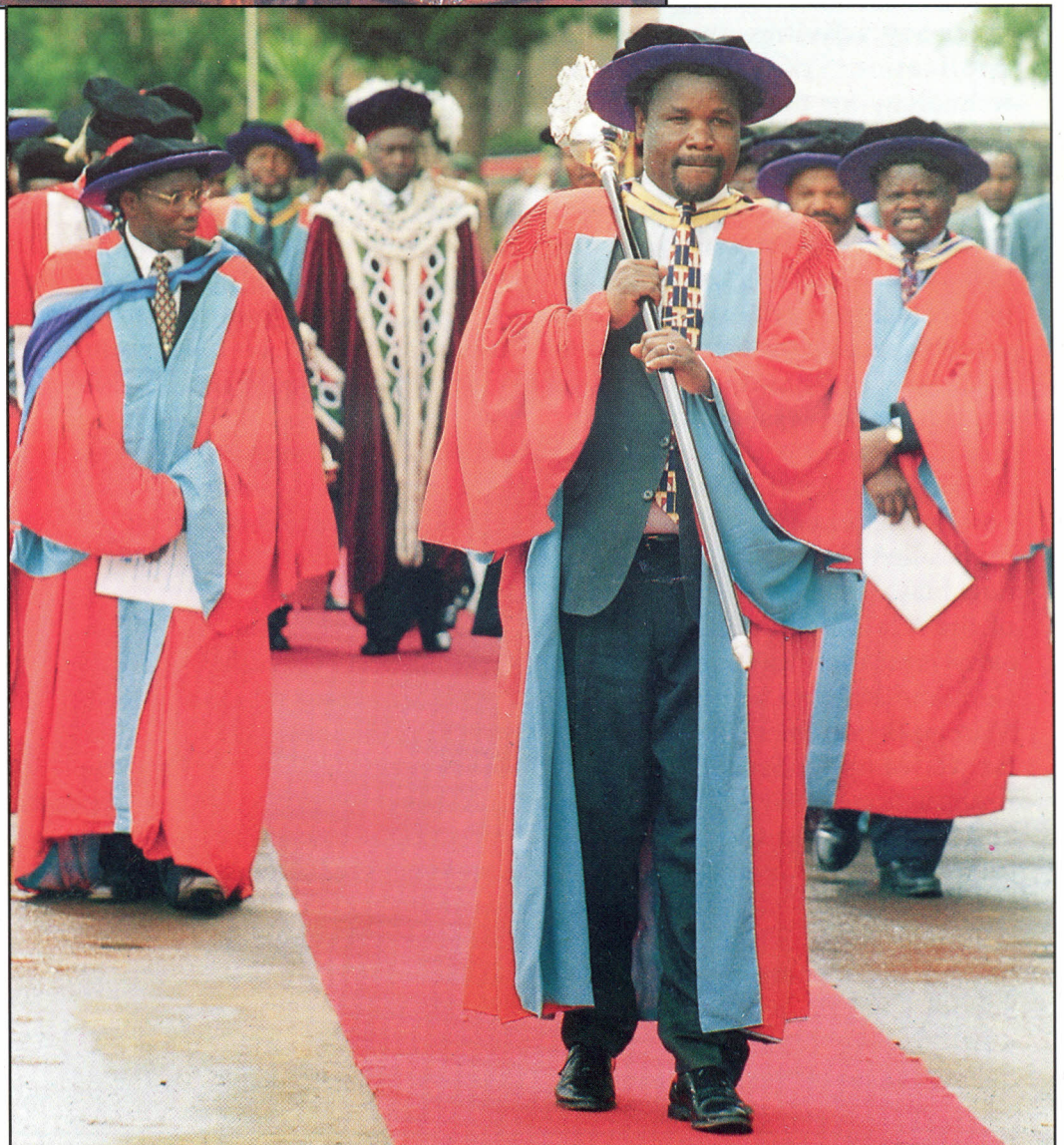
In 1951 David Wasawo became the first East African ever to be awarded a degree in Science: an Oxford M.A. degree in Zoology. Upon returning to Makerere in 1952 he again made history by becoming the first African member of teaching staff in the Faculty of Science. Elsewhere at Makerere at that time there were only four other Africans in the teaching staff, namely, the late Professor Simeon Ominde (Arts), Professor Joseph Lule (Education), Professor Wilbert Chagula (Medicine) and Professor Y.M. Bosa (Veterinary Science). By this time David Wasawo had become a household name not only in his native Nyanza but far beyond and anxious parents could be heard exhorting their sons and daughters to work hard in their studies in order to emulate him by also going to Makerere!

Professor Wasawo taught in Makerere between 1952 and 1965, going through all the academic ranks to full Professor and Head of Zoology Department. During this period he taught students from various faculties such as Medicine, Agriculture and Veterinary Science. So powerful was his intellect that many of his students recall his extraordinary ability to conduct a three-hour lecture without referring to his notes! Many of his former students were later to become prominent in academic circles. Some of the eminent people he taught include the late Professor H.P. Ojiambo (Professor of Medicine),

Please cont. p. 14



←
The Chancellor, President Daniel arap Moi sign the visitors book before joining the Chancellor's procession.



→
Prof. D.W. Makawiti bears the University mace gracefully at the head of the Chancellor's procession.

→
*The University of Nairobi
 Choir under the directorship
 of Dr. Arthur Kemoli gives
 aria to the graduation
 ceremony.*



←
*After the ceremony DVC-A
 (left) and DVC-A&F (right)
 get to know Prof. & Mrs
 Keynes (centre) better.*

→
*Early on the morning of
 the ceremony, all roads led
 to the Chancellor's Court,
 venue of the graduation.*



Citation: Prof. David P.S. Wasawo

Professor J.M. Mungai (Former Vice-Chancellor UON), Professor Fred Kayanja (Vice-Chancellor, Mbarara University), Professor Richard Musangi (former Vice-Chancellor, Egerton University); Professors G.K. Kinoti and C.P.M. Khamala (Zoology, University of Nairobi); as well as Professors N.O. Bwibo (Paediatrics), J.K. Mati (Obstetrics and Gynaecology) and A.O. Wasunna (Surgery), all senior Professors who pioneered the Faculty of Medicine here at the University of Nairobi. While at Makerere Professor Wasawo was the first East African to hold the post of Vice Principal between 1962 and 1965. Professor Wasawo was awarded the Ph.D. degree by London University in 1959.

In 1965 Professor Wasawo transferred from Makerere to University College Nairobi to become its first Deputy Principal, a post he held until 1970 when the University of Nairobi was inaugurated into a full University and a new Vice-Chancellor appointed. He reverted to teaching and became the first Kenyan Professor and Head of Zoology Department and Dean, Faculty of Science, at the University of Nairobi. He served in that capacity until 1971 when he took an early retirement to join the United Nations. After 19 years of University teaching, research and administration he established himself as, and is truly regarded in East Africa as not only the father of science but the father of Professors as well. He has performed extensive pioneering research on various biological species in East Africa and published many scientific papers on study of the Lungfish (*Protopterus Aethiopicus*), the largest fish in the Lake Region before the introduction of the Nile Perch into Lake Victoria.

After retiring from the University of Nairobi, Professor Wasawo's first

assignment was with the United Nations Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) between 1971 - 1973 as Scientific Adviser to the Government of Tanzania during which he assisted in establishing the Tanzania Scientific Research Council.

Between 1973 and 1979 he was the Chief, Natural Resources Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) based in Addis Ababa. In this senior position he was in charge of programmes in science and technology, mineral resources, energy and water resources, human environment, remote sensing, cartography and marine resources. In this capacity he was instrumental in establishing the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing Office in Nairobi. During this period Professor Wasawo authored and edited a host of technical reports and publications.

From 1979 to 1982 Professor Wasawo was appointed the Managing Director of the Lake Basin Development Authority from its inception. The many papers and blueprints he wrote and developed at this time are still being implemented up to now by the Authority.

From 1982 to 1986 Professor Wasawo was appointed as a Development Adviser in the Ministry of Energy and Regional Development. In this capacity his duties included advising the Minister on energy and development matters, assisting the planning division of the Ministry in the preparation of a national energy policy and participating in negotiations with donors and donor agencies.

Throughout his career Professor Wasawo has been a member of numerous councils and committees at the national, regional and inter-

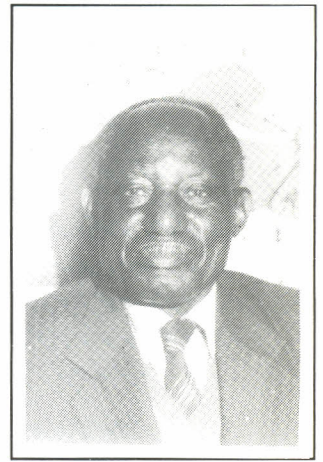
national levels. He has chaired many ECA and OAU panels and committees.

In 1994 he became the first post apartheid Director of Training, Africa Institute for Policy Analysis and Economic Integration in Cape Town, South Africa. At the end of his tenure in 1996 he prepared a report entitled "A Reconnaissance Visit to South Africa on Science and Technology", which he presented to President Mandela's Government as the way forward in co-operation in science and technology for development.

After retiring from his advisory position with the Kenya Government in 1986, Professor Wasawo has devoted his time as a free-lance development consultant to UNEP, GTZ, UNESCO, IDRC, IGAD, SIDA, FAO, the World Bank and many others.

More recently Professor Wasawo, being very concerned about the poor performance in examinations in science subjects in our schools, has initiated a project which is aimed at remedying the situation.

It is in recognition of his impeccable academic credentials, his enormous contribution to research and teaching in science, his outstanding role in the application of science and technology for development and, above all, his unsurpassed humility, that the University of Nairobi is proud to award the Degree of Doctor of Science (*Honoris Causa*) to Professor David P.S. Wasawo ■



Prof. D. Wasawo

Response: Prof. David P. S. Wasawo

May I thank your Excellency for the honour you have just bestowed upon me. I would also like to thank the Vice-Chancellor for the kind words just said; and the Faculty of Science and the Senate for their recognition. I receive the honour with humility.

Today I rejoice with my fellow graduands, all of whom, except one, are much younger than myself, and it is to them that I would like to address a few words.

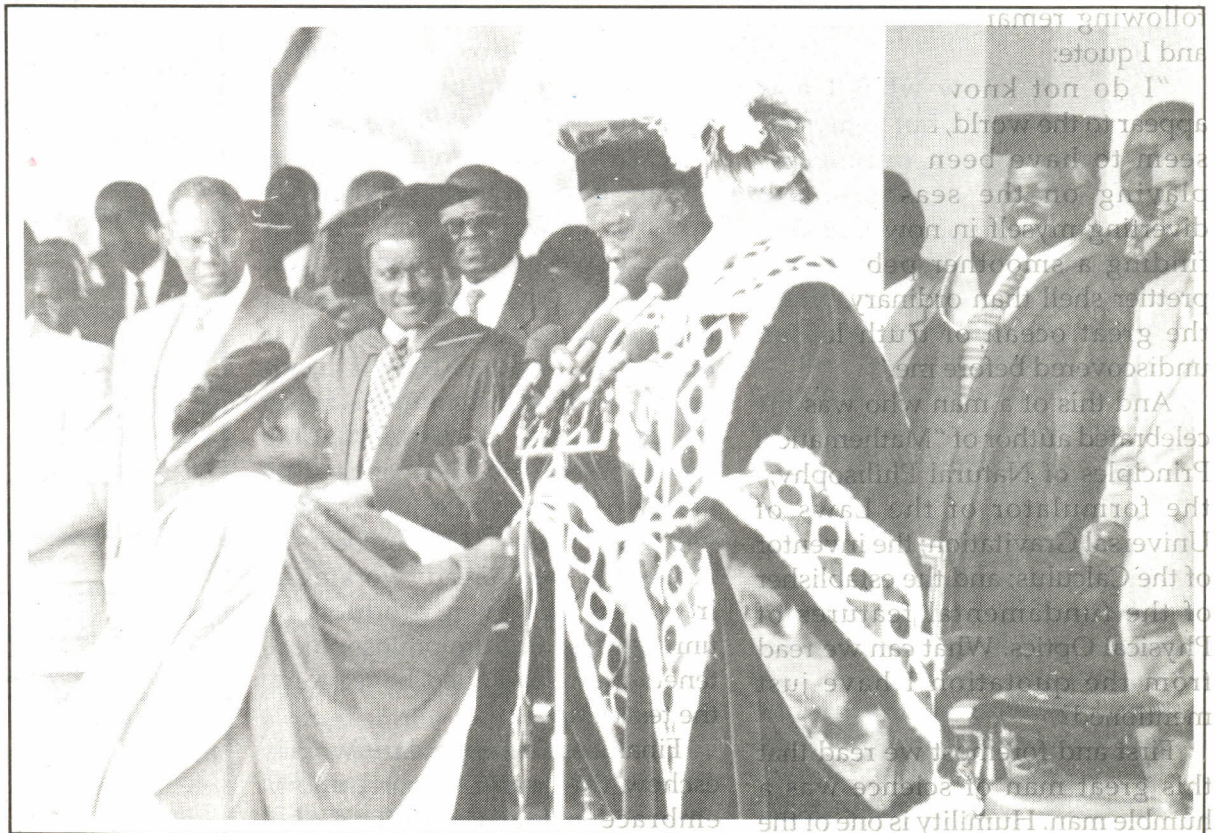
As we graduate today we should remind ourselves that we once graduated from the cradle to the Primary school; from primary school to secondary and from the Secondary to the University. Now you are graduating into the wide wide world out there, to fend for yourselves, and to make a contribution to your families and to society both of whom have contributed so tangibly to bringing you thus far. And what have we learned from that journey of several graduations.

The parental love and concern has been there from birth. You have grown up in a family and I hope the process has awoken in you the importance of a cohesive family unit in the development of human societies. That family unit has stood us in good stead as Africans. As we seek to carve out our place within the international community, we should not throw out the baby with the bath water. Let us seek to evolve our family traditions rather than destroying them.

The graduation from Primary schooling left us with a foundation of the means of communication - what we used to refer to in days of old as reading, writing, and arithmetic and which today should extend to computers and the Internet. We were also moving away from constant and exclusive parental care and authority, to the care and authority of other people in the form of teachers,

grandparents, uncles, aunts, and so on. We interacted with fellow pupils and not only with our brothers and sisters. We were grounded in the rules and regulations, traditions and cultures that make societies tick. One for example, did not wake up one morning and do just what one liked, because doing what one likes may sometimes be detrimental to the cohesiveness of human society.

There is a lot being said in the world today about the need for personal freedom, which arguably is of the greatest importance to the flowering of personal abilities. But I venture to say that equal stress should be laid on our personal responsibility to other people and to society. Human beings cannot think exactly alike; do not behave exactly alike; and do not act exactly alike. And yet by their very nature, they live in societies and are dependent on one another in one



The Chancellor, President Moi congratulates Prof. Wasawo after conferring him the Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa)
[Photo courtesy of Nation Group]

way or another. Thus each society has evolved rules and regulations that govern orderly and beneficial interactions. Personal freedom must be tempered with personal responsibility. I hope we learnt from our graduation from primary to secondary the absolute necessity of those rules and regulations and their importance to the cohesiveness of society. Again let us evolve them as the nature of our societies change, rather than the wholesale imitation of alien ones.

Our graduation to Secondary and to University has seen to the maturation of our thoughts, the development of a questioning spirit; the quest for understanding where we have come from and where we are going to. We have been initiated into the process of trying to make heads and tails out of the world we live in; and provided with the tools necessary to enable us to seek further understanding. How do we plan to proceed as we graduate today?

Some three hundred years ago Sir Isaac Newton made the following remarks about himself and I quote:

"I do not know what I may appear to the world, but to myself I seem to have been only a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me."

And this of a man who was the celebrated author of "Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy;" the formulator of the Laws of Universal Gravitation; the inventor of the Calculus; and the establisher of the fundamental features of Physical Optics. What can we read from the quotation I have just mentioned?

First and foremost we read that this great man of science was a humble man. Humility is one of the

most noble of human traits. It is not easy to develop and maintain and yet it is so necessary in our world. As you go out into the world today, keep it in mind, try to live by it, knowing that you are there but by the Grace of God.

Another thing we learn from it is that there was a man who was acutely conscious of the "great ocean of truth that still lay undiscovered before him." Sometimes one of our greatest failings is our inability to know that we do not know. If we came across a smoother pebble or a prettier shell we should raise questions as to how come it is smoother or prettier. Knowing what is around us and in us is the beginning of observable knowledge. Seeking understanding of the intricate relationships and the forces that move them is the beginning of development. Let us go out into the world and play our part in seeking that understanding particularly of the relationships and forces within, below, and above the African Continent. There is still a great ocean of truth lying undiscovered; and without that knowledge no meaningful development can proceed apace. Seeking understanding is not necessarily the preserve of activities within university walls. Wherever you may be working your sojourn at the university has provided you with tools to enable you to observe, to raise questions on what you observe, and then seek understanding and solutions. Some of the great naturalists and inventors in the last century in northern latitudes were not working within universities. Our forebears in Africa who were already working in iron were not even products of universities; and the philosophical tenets they developed have stood the test of time.

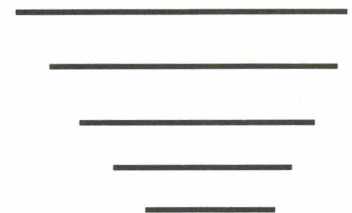
Finally as you go into the world, eschew the cancer of corruption; embrace integrity; defend the

sanctity of the human person; do unto others what you would wish them to do unto you; live in humility; live quality life with whatever you have; and above all put your trust in the Lord God our maker.

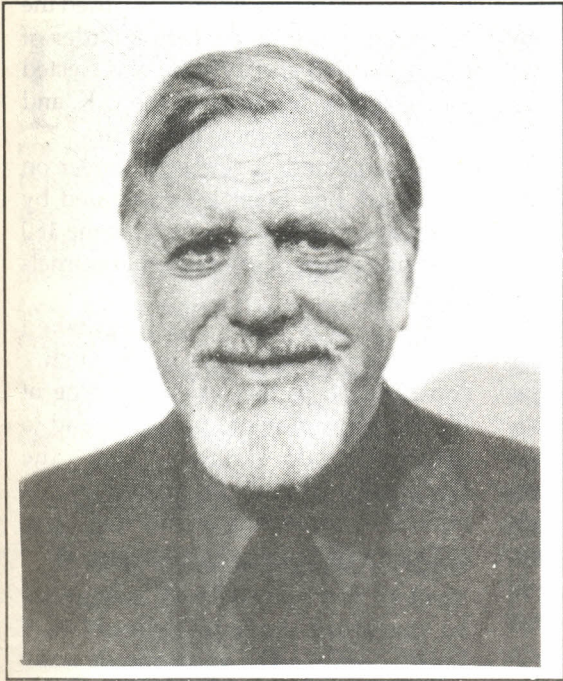
Thank you■

Don Elected WAAP Vice- president

PROF. BANABAS N. MITARU, Deputy Director (Research and Development) of the Institute of Dryland Research, Development and Utilisation (IDRDU) has been elected the Vice-president representing the African Region in the World Association of the Animal Production (WAAP) Board with effect from March 2000 until 2003. Prof. Mitaru has been a council member of WAAP since 1988. The WAAP Board representation is according to continents.



Citation: Prof. Richard Keynes CBE, BA, MA, PhD, DrHe, FRS



Prof. Richard D. Keynes

Professor Richard Darwin Keynes was born in 1919, from the union of two great Cambridge families - the Keynes and the Darwins. He graduated from Trinity College with a first class honours degree in Natural Sciences Tripos Part II Physiology in 1946, having had his University studies interrupted by the 2nd World War. During the war he served as a temporary Experimental Officer for His Majesty Anti-Submarine Experimental Establishment and the Admiralty Signals Establishment between 1940-1945.

Prof. Keynes' education was marked by a series of scholarships and prizes. He was both a scholar at Oundle School and Trinity College. While at Cambridge University, he won the following prizes; the Sir Michael Foster and G.H. Lewes Studentship in 1946; Gedge prize 1948; and the Rolleston Memorial Prize 1950.

After the war he immediately launched into research, choosing the field in which he was going to make such major contributions throughout his career - namely, the biophysics of nerve conduction. He obtained his Doctor of Philosophy in 1949 under the

supervision of the Nobel Laureate Professor Sir Alan Hodgkin.

His long and distinguished research career began immediately with his appointment to the Department of Physiology, Cambridge, from 1949 to 1960. At first he was associated with Trinity College Cambridge as a Junior Research Fellow, a post he held until 1952 when he moved to a Fellowship at Peterhouse, Cambridge. In 1960 he moved to the Agricultural Research Council Institute of Animal Physiology at Babraham, Cambridge, as Deputy Director and Head of the Physiology Department, becoming Director of the Institute in 1965 - a post he held

until 1973. In 1961 Churchill College was opened, with its particular interest in the sciences, and Professor Keynes was a Founding Fellow, a position he has retained ever since. From 1963 - 1978 he was a Fellow of Eton and in 1988 he was elected an Honorary Fellow of Peterhouse.

In 1973 he returned to his old Department at Cambridge, with his appointment to the Chair and Headship in the Department of Physiology. He is now Professor Emeritus, at the Physiological Laboratory.

Throughout his research career he has been concerned with the ways in which Electro-physiological functions are utilized by organisms, and has played a major role in elucidating our understanding of these complex processes. Perhaps his best known contributions have been in the field of nerve conduction, where he has made major contributions to our understanding of the way in which nerve impulses are transmitted. However, his early interest in this field has naturally expanded to a wide interest in the general problems of membrane and multicellular structures. This has led him into elucidating the biophysical processes of muscle

contraction, and the electric organs possessed by organisms such as the electric eel and certain fishes. Electrophysiological processes are fundamental to a very wide range of functions, and in addition to those mentioned he has also been concerned with the transport of metabolites across the rumenal wall. It was for his findings in these areas that he was awarded a Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) in 1965 by Cambridge University. By no means have his concerns been confined to the laboratory, he has also been much involved with international developments in science. Naturally this started with his prime field of interest with the International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics, in which his contributions have included being Secretary General (1972 - 78), Vice-President (1978 - 1981) and President (1981 - 1984). In addition to this he has been deeply involved with the International Council of Scientific Union, for which he has been Chairman of the Finance Committee since 1976 and of the Steering Committee (with UNESCO) of the International Biosciences Network, since 1980. Chairman, (1982 - 1993). The International Cell Research Organization has also benefited from his Chairmanship of the Council (1980 - 1983). In 1981- along with some African Scientists, Professor Keynes was responsible for initiating and launching the African Biosciences Network, which is now well established. In his capacity as Chairman of the International Biosciences Network, Professor Keynes has remained a patron and close supporter of the African Biosciences Network.

Professor Keynes first visited Kenya in 1976 as an Inter University Council/ British Council Visiting Professor in the Department of Animal Physiology, University of Nairobi. During this visit he gave one public lecture as well as lectures on nerve conduction to veterinary undergraduate students. Professor Keynes has trained Kenyan scientists in Cambridge. In 1972, Professor Keynes jointly with Dr. John

Citation: Prof. R.D. Keynes

Bligh supervised research on sweat glands function and evaporative cooling in ungulates following heat exposure by Prof. Geoffrey Maloiy in Cambridge.

Professor Keynes also visited Kenya on behalf of the Royal Swedish Academy, early in 1980 to review the neurophysiological research activities carried out by the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE). In December 1986, along with Professor Eric Edroma and Professor Geoffrey Maloiy, Professor Keynes organized a symposium on African Wildlife in Kampala, Uganda.

Recognition of these remarkable contributions to science came at an early stage: first with his election as Fellow of the Royal Society in 1959, thus becoming one of the youngest members

of this most prestigious scientific society. This was shortly followed by his Vice-Presidency of the Society from 1965 to 1968, and his appointment as Croonian Lecturer in 1983. In 1968 he was awarded a Doctorate *honoris causa* of the University of Brazil, having been a Visiting Reader in Biophysics since 1951. In 1995 the University of Rouen, France similarly awarded him a Doctorate *honoris causa*.

A number of foreign scientific bodies have recognized his outstanding contributions, among them the Royal Danish Academy, the American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Brazilian Academy of Sciences which made him a Foreign Member. In 1984, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II recognized his work with the award of

the Commander of the British Empire (CBE). And in 1997 he was awarded the Brazilian National Scientific Order of Merit. In 1993 and 1994 he was elected an Honorary Member of the U.K. and American Physiological Societies.

As expected, a scientific career on this scale has been accompanied by extensive publications, with some 180 in a wide range of international journals and books.

It is this very distinguished Physiologist who has made such a contribution to our understanding of Electro-physiological processes and to international science, that the University of Nairobi would like to honour by conferring on him the degree of Doctor of Science *honoris causa* ■

Response: Prof. Richard D. Keynes

Your Excellency, the Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, the Vice-Chancellor, academic colleagues, guests and fellow graduands.

It is a very great pleasure and a very great honour to find myself here today, and to be awarded a degree by such a distinguished University.

I am strictly an electrophysiologist by trade, and during the past 50 years most of my researches have been carried out on giant nerve fibres of squid from the North Atlantic, though the results apply equally well to the mechanism of conduction of nerve impulses in man and all other living animals. However, I can claim also the distinction of having been probably the only scientist in recent years to have examined the electrophysiology of an extremely interesting fish found only in Africa, the electric catfish that rejoices in the Latin name of *Malapterurus*. It is found mostly in Western and Central Africa, but should you come across one that has wandered into

Kenyan waters, I would recommend you not to pick it up with your bare hands, for if you do, you will get quite a shock!

More to the point, during a number of years I regularly visited both Kenya and other African countries on behalf of the International Council of Scientific Unions as Chairman of the ICSU-UNESCO International Biosciences Networks, whose purpose was to set up autonomous co-operative networks of scientists in Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Arab countries for the support of research on biology, medicine and biotechnology. The philosophy of this enterprise was that rather than offering direct aid from the industrialized countries in these fields, it would be more helpful in the long run for ICSU's scientists to assist those of the Third World to acquire their own expertise in research and technology, through the provision of training courses where they were considered by yourselves to be most needed, and funds for selected re-

search projects. To operate in this way through the organisation of networks of scientists was a relatively new approach twenty years ago, though nowadays 'networking' has become a somewhat overworked term. The enthusiasm with which it was adopted in Africa was most gratifying, and although the funding provided by the UN agencies for our project was woefully thin when spread over the whole continent, the African Biosciences Network has sponsored a number of highly successful training courses, conferences and research projects.

When your country is faced with a host of challenging and difficult problems in biology and medicine, I am therefore exceedingly happy to see so many promising graduates emerging here today, ready to join in the great endeavour.

Once again I thank you most sincerely for the honour that you have done me ■

Inaugural Lectures

Inaugural lectures are not supposed to be research papers to be read before a learned conference nor are they supposed to be technical reports based on some aspects of research. This would require that the audience consists of fellow scholars in the same discipline in order to benefit from such reports. It is supposed to be broad based but with a definite focus on the discipline being professed giving its philosophical foundation, its development over the years and how you see it developing. The lecture may be quite technical and witty but not too abstract.

In 1999, three inaugural lectures were given. The first one was by Prof. Paul Maurice Syagga, Professor of Land Economics. The title "Real Property Valuation: A Profession in Search of a Discipline".

Prof. Syagga was born in Kagonya Sub-Location, North Ugenya Location, Siaya District on 1st April 1947. He joined Sega Primary School in 1954 and transferred to Ndenga Primary School in 1956 where he sat for the Common Entrance Examination (CEE) in 1957. He joined Ndenga Intermediate School now Ndenga Secondary School in 1958 and sat for the Kenya Primary Examination (KPE) in 1961. He proceeded to St. Mary's School Yala in 1962 and sat for the Overseas Cambridge School Certificate in 1965. Thereafter he joined Nyeri High School where he sat for the Cambridge Higher School Certificate Examination in 1967.

After working briefly as a clerk with Barclays Bank he joined the University of Nairobi for a Bachelor of Arts degree in Land Economics in 1968 and graduated in 1971. He joined the Government service as a Valuation Officer in September 1971 and left two years later to join Martin Heymann and Company Limited as an Estates Surveyor in charge of their real property business in Tanzania in 1973. Prof. Syagga joined the University of Nairobi as a Lecturer in the Department of Land Development in September 1975. He obtained his M.A. degree in 1981 while working as Lecturer. In 1982 he was

awarded Commonwealth Academic Staff Fellowship at the University of Reading to undertake research in property management. He returned in 1983 and registered for Ph.D. studies which he completed in 1985. He was promoted to post of Senior Lecturer in 1984 and became Director of Housing Research and Development Unit, now Housing and Building Research Institute in 1986. He was then promoted to the post of Associate Professor in 1991 and became Chairman of the Department of Land Development in 1992. He was elected Dean, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Development in October 1995. In July 1998, he was promoted to full Professor in the Department of Land Economics. He was also Visiting Professor of Real Estate at the University of Pretoria in 1998.

Professor Syagga has published 3 books and 38 articles in refereed journals as well as several conference proceedings in the field of property valuation, development and management. He has served as a consultant to World Bank, Habitat (UNCHS), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Research Development Centre (IDRC), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Shelter Afrique among others. He has also served as a member of Statutory Boards including being Chairman of Catering Levy Trustees, member of Kenya Tourist Development Corporation, Valuers Registration Board and Board of Governors of two Institutes of Technology and three Secondary Schools.

Professionally Professor Syagga is a registered valuer, registered estate agent, Fellow of the British Institute of Management and member of Kenya Institute of Management. He has been external examiner at Dortmund University (Germany), University of Malawi, Copper belt University (Zambia), University of Dar-es-Salaam and Moi University.

The second inaugural lecture was given by Prof. (Mrs.) Lucia Ndonga

Omondi Titled; "Language and Life: a Linguistic Glimpse at Kenya."

Born in Gem, Prof. Omondi started her education at home under her father Japuoji Simeon Odera, and completed Primary and Intermediate education at Luanda Primary and Intermediate School in 1958. She proceeded to Butere Girls' High School and graduated in 1962. In 1963, she acquired 'A' Level education at Alliance Girls High School until 1964. She then joined Nairobi Campus of the University of East Africa where she studied between 1965 and 1968 and obtained a B.A. degree in English and Political Science. She earned a scholarship from the Ford Foundation which enabled her to proceed to study at the University of Edinburgh. She got a Post Graduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics from there in 1969. Between 1970 and 1971 she studied Linguistics at the University of Nairobi and Graduated with a Post Graduate degree of Bachelor of Philosophy in Linguistics. From 1972 she studied for her Ph.D. at the University College, University of London and obtained her Ph.D. in Linguistics in 1975. In the same year, she was appointed Research Fellow at the Institute of African Studies, University of Zambia where she worked until 1978. Since then she has been in the Department of Linguistics and African Languages, University of Nairobi, rising from Lecturer to full Professor in 1991 and serving as the Chairman of the department from 1989 to 1994 when she was appointed Principal, College of Education and External Studies. She is married with five children.

Prof. Simiyu Wandibba gave his inaugural lecture on 9th December, 1999 making it the last of our inaugural lectures in the 20th Century

Professor Simiyu Wandibba was born in Sikusi Village of what is now Bungoma District in 1945. He joined Sikusi Primary School in 1955 where he sat for the Competitive Entrance Examination (CEE) in 1958. In 1959 he joined Nalondo Intermediate School and sat for the Kenya Preliminary Examination (KPE) in 1962. He then

Inaugural Lectures

proceeded to Kibabii Secondary School in 1963 and sat for the Overseas Cambridge School Certificate Examination in 1966. Thereafter he joined Kenyatta College (Secondary School Division) in 1967 and sat for the London GCE "A" Level Examination in June 1968.

After completing his education at Kenyatta College, his greatest ambition was to become a banker. This was, however, successfully thwarted by his mother who felt that banking was too risky a career for a young man of his age. He, therefore, decided to teach as an untrained teacher at the then Chwele Harambee Secondary School (now Namwela Secondary School), where he taught until he was forced by his eldest brother to join the University of Nairobi in 1970. At University, Prof. Wandibba specialized in History whilst at the same time studying Education which was then an optional subject. He graduated in 1973 as a Certified Graduate Teacher and was posted to

Khasoko Secondary School, where he taught for one year before coming back to the University of Nairobi for an M.A. in Archaeology. He completed his studies in 1976, and was the first student to obtain this degree in this University. In October of the same year, he joined the National Museums of Kenya as a Research Fellow. A year later, he obtained a scholarship from the Foundation for Research into the Origin of Man (FROM) to pursue studies leading to a Ph.D. at the University of Southampton, England. After successful completion of his studies in 1980, Prof. Wandibba returned to the National Museums, where he rose through the ranks to become head of the Division of Archaeology in 1985. He left the Museums in 1989.

After a brief stint as a Senior Lecturer in the Department of History and Sociology at Egerton University in 1990, he was appointed Associate Professor in the Institute of African Studies in July 1990. He was then

appointed Director of the Institute in January 1991 and served in that position until February, 1999. He was promoted to the position of Professor in 1994.

Prof. Wandibba is the author of three books, eleven articles in refereed journals, nine short reports, notes and comments, and fifteen book chapters. He has also edited one book, co-edited another and presented numerous papers at both local and international conferences and workshops.

Professionally, Prof. Wandibba is a Life Member of the Historical Association of Kenya, an Associate Member of *Current Anthropology*, a Scientific Member of the Centre for Bantu Studies (CICIBA), and a Member of the British Institute in Eastern Africa. He has also served as External Examiner at the University of Dar es Salaam, Kenyatta University and Moi University ■

UON Training Target Industries

The Department of Community Health recently launched a training project in Industrial Safety, Health and Environmental Management in collaboration with the Directorate of Occupational Health and Safety Services, Ministry of Labour. The training project focuses on the work environment as one of the determinants of industrial competitiveness. Addressing a luncheon lunch Prof. F.J.Gichaga Vice-Chancellor noted that incorporation of health and safety measures and training at the work place by organizations from within and in the developed countries have reported high dividend to the organization as well as the workforce. He said that injuries and occupational related diseases have been found to reduce to manageable levels and workers productivity rises. It was in the light of the above

that the Department of Community Health of the University of Nairobi has extended its training service to the Industry in the form of the proposed short courses - Training in Industrial Safety, Health and Environmental Management. The course targets all types of industries in manufacturing, hotel and service sectors.

The long-term aim of the course is to contribute towards improved industrial health and safety of workers, minimisation of the negative effects of industries to the environment, and increased industrial productivity and competitiveness. Specifically the participants will be equipped with knowledge and skills that will enable them to:

- Promote occupational health and safety at the place of work.
- Employ techniques of

minimising negative effects of industrial activities on the environment.

- Plan, implement, monitor and evaluate interventional occupational health and safety programmes at the place of work.

The course content is structured into five themes:

- Industry safety
- Industrial Health (occupational health & STD/HIV/AIDS)
- Industrial Hygiene and Environment Management
- Biostatistics/Data Management
- Participants of proposal formulation for intervention programme.

The course is primarily designed for health, safety, environment, personnel, officers, operational manager and clinicians in industrial establishments ■

Towards a Sustainable and Vibrant University

The revitalised Mission of the University of Nairobi is to:

“Maintain a leadership role in the pursuit of knowledge through quality and relevant Teaching, Research, Consultancy and Community Service.”

In pursuing this mission the University is guided by the famous words of a Chinese Philosopher (K'uan-Tzu) who had this to say about investing in people:

“If you plan for a year plant a seed; If for ten years plant a tree; and if for a hundred years educate people. This is because when you saw a seed once, you reap a single harvest but when you educate people you will reap a hundred harvests.”

Guided by the above philosophy, and the need to add an entrepreneurial role to the University's teaching and research in response to the diminishing subventions from the Exchequer, the University of Nairobi (beginning early 1998) opened strategic windows of educational opportunity through the Parallel Degree Programmes, to the hundreds of Kenyans who meet the University admission

requirements, but who do not secure admission due to restricted intakes into the regular programmes.

These opportunities are also available to those whose full-time jobs and other personal commitments would otherwise not allow them to pursue further studies on a full-time basis.

Admission Requirements

The same statutory regulations and admission requirements as the regular programmes govern admissions into the Parallel Degree Programmes. It is therefore mandatory that one possesses the necessary qualifications to enter a public university. Additionally, one must meet the Faculty admission criteria as set out and approved by the University Senate. Even then, attainment of the minimum criteria does not guarantee the applicant admission into any degree programme.

All applicants are subjected to a rigorous selection process to ensure that only those suitably qualified are admitted to fill the declared capacities for each programme. *The bottom line is that admissions are made on the basis of academic merit.* As a result, in some faculties such as Medicine, Pharmacy and Institute of Computer Science some highly

qualified candidates have had to be left out because of the limited space.

Conduct of Lectures

The curriculum followed by the students in the Parallel Degree Programmes is the same as that undertaken by the regular students. Most lectures are, however, conducted during the slack periods, namely, in the evenings between 5.30 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. during weekdays, and between 9.00 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. on weekends when the facilities are not being used by the regular students. However, in the Faculties of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Computer Science, and Engineering privately sponsored students attend the same classes and take the same examinations with the regular students.

Fees Structure

In the Parallel Programmes the student meets the full cost of tuition and related expenses, hence they are a source of the badly needed revenue to the University for teaching materials and general upkeep. It is important to note that the fees charged are degree specific; the latter being set on a full cost recovery basis. The mode of payment is, however, flexible to enable the student pay for the

number of course units one is registered for in a particular semester. Again, it is important to note that the fees charged are fairly competitive. The idea is to make university education affordable to as many qualified Kenyans as possible.

Benefits to the Country

It is estimated that a total of approximately Kshs. 15 billion is spent annually by Kenyans on university education abroad. There is no doubt that the Parallel Programmes are already netting some of this money from students who would have gone abroad but have now registered locally. The trend points towards increasing enrolment and with it more money that would have gone out, being netted, thus saving the country valuable foreign exchange, a phenomenon that is often called "*capital flight*".

Indeed information now available to us indicates that the number of students being cleared by the Ministry of Education and Science and Technology to study abroad, for example, in U.K. has been on a downward trend since the introduction of Parallel Degree Programmes in the local public universities. There is also evidence to show that others are now returning back home courtesy of the high fees charged by overseas universities.

Range of Academic Programmes

The University of Nairobi offers high-level manpower training for

Kenya and Africa in some highly specialised areas. The Parallel Degree Programmes offered by University of Nairobi are Faculty-based. At present the Parallel Programmes are available in the following Faculties:

Faculty of Architecture, Design and Development;

Faculty of Arts;

Faculty of Commerce;

Faculty of Education;

Faculty of External Studies;

Faculty of Engineering;

Faculty of Law;

Faculty of Dental Science;

Faculty of Medicine;

Faculty of Pharmacy;

Faculty of Science;

Faculty of Agriculture;

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine;

Faculty of Social Sciences;

Institute of African Studies (IAS);

Institute of Computer Sciences;

Population Studies and Research Institute (PSRI);

School of Journalism (SOJ);

Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies (IDIS)

How to apply

Application forms can be obtained from the Dean's Office of the respective Faculty or the Office of the Academic Register on payment of the requisite application fee. Please ensure that the Application Form has a serial number on it and that a receipt is provided for any payment made.

Challenges

One of the main challenges in the new millennium for the University of Nairobi is the manner in which it will respond to the emerging trends of delivery and of the globalization of university education. In this respect, it is imperative for the University to embrace Information Technology (IT) in its academic and management structures. The effective use of the new IT offers strategic directions in which the quality, effectiveness, and, in particular, the flexibility of university education can be improved. Thus, the launching last year of a comprehensive Website in the Internet (see www.uonbi.ac.ke) of the University of Nairobi constitutes the initial phase of the University's aggressive response to this challenge.

The rapid expansion of the University of Nairobi during the past three decades has given rise to several other challenges including constrained financial resources, rapidly deteriorating physical facilities, and under-stocked libraries and laboratories. As a consequence, vital aspects of the academic support system have been wanting with such areas as document processing, library acquisitions, research facilities, and transport suffering considerably.

As part of confidence building, and in an attempt to ensure that the increased enrolments do not compromise academic standards, a significant proportion of the income earned through the

Parallel Degree Programmes has been, and will continue to be, ploughed back to the University to improve teaching facilities, purchase of equipment, books and journals. Additionally, the University has seen the need to set aside some funds to finance both basic and applied research through Research Grants to be allocated to potential researchers by the Deans' Committee. Furthermore, some funds have been set aside specifically for Research and Development (R&D) projects. It is therefore hoped that through such endeavours, the University staff would be able to carry their research findings beyond the confines of their laboratories and research offices.

With regard to the physical structures, the fact of the matter is that the University found itself in the so-called "*catch twenty-two*" situation since it did not have any funds then to improve or expand the facilities before introducing the Parallel Degree Programmes. *Therefore, a prudent decision was made to admit the students first, get the money and then begin expanding the facilities.*

It is gratifying to note that within a period of 15 months since the introduction of the Parallel Degree Programmes, the University has completed building a library and a lecture theatre at the Faculty of Law at Parklands Campus. At present, the prestigious Taifa Hall at the main campus is being given a much-needed face-lift. In Chiromo the contractor has been

recalled back to complete the lecture theatres. At Lower Kabete Campus, the academic facilities have similarly been given a face-lift in addition to setting-up teaching computer laboratories. Back in the Main Campus, plans are underway for the rehabilitation of the famous Gandhi Wing, while lecture theatres in the Education Building have already been refurbished. The renowned ADD building along the State House Road has similarly been wire-brushed after many years and an access road is currently under construction at Kikuyu Campus.

On the issue of educational materials, faculties in conjunction with the library are now able to renew their orders for journals and newest editions of textbooks. Indeed as stated by the Vice-Chancellor in a recent interview, *"The standards can only rise because the money earned through the programmes is directly channelled to buying computers, equipment, journals, books and other learning materials. Furthermore, lecturers are now highly motivated because of the extra allowances that they get which, in turn, means that overall productivity is greatly improved."*

The challenge now facing the University is ensuring that both the Parallel and Regular Degree Programmes are synchronized in terms of teaching and examinations. Towards this end, it is anticipated that both programmes, wherever possible, would run concurrently with a

view to offering one examination at the end of the semester with effect from the 2000/2001 academic year. Effectively, therefore, the terms "*Parallel*" and "*Regular*" will simply subsume, the only distinction being sponsorship, whether Government or private.

Searching for More Innovative Ways of Income Generation

Beyond the academic programmes, the University has continued to aggressively search for more innovative ways of generating income in order to supplement support from the Government particularly in those areas that it has a comparative advantage. Part of this process was the establishment of the **University of Nairobi Enterprises and Services (UNES) Limited** as a business-oriented institutional framework for the co-ordination of income generating activities. To this end, the role of UNES in the aforementioned Parallel Degree Programmes has been one of a "*catalyst*" or a "*co-factor*" in a biochemical chain reaction to energize the University.

UNES now intends to move on to other income generating activities as identified in its Strategic Corporate Plan (1998-2001). Such activities will include commercial agricultural and veterinary activities, health services, local and international consultancy services, university-industry linkages, and research and development.

In the area of agriculture, the College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences has already initiated a floriculture project through modest financial assistance from UNES. In the area of health, the Department of Diagnostic Radiology at Kenyatta National Hospital is now able to provide diagnostic services and improve on teaching using equipment purchased with financial support from UNES.

The mandate of UNES to channel the resources of the University of Nairobi towards a commercial direction is loaded with the responsibility to do so with the efficiency that provides maximum benefit to the University and to the Kenyan society at large. According to Professor James K. Kimani, UNES Acting Managing

Director, *"It is a tricky mandate as it places great responsibility on the Company to correctly identify the level it must apply those resources and the strategies it must use in developing those operating levels often at the risk of being misconstrued and condemned."*

Concluding Remark

Finally, in spite of the challenges being faced by the University of Nairobi today, there is hope that given requisite support, the institution is expected to come out of the woods within a period of between 4 and 5 years. Thereafter it will be able to sustain itself as a financially viable and vibrant institution through internally generated income and commensurate Exchequer

subventions. It is this hope and optimism that will drive the University during the early part of this Century. We count on your support!

University of Nairobi Enterprise and Services LTD (UNES)

The University of Nairobi has now established a University company, known as University of Nairobi Enterprise and Services Ltd., whose mission is to engage in business activities where the University has a competitive advantage - including commercialization of resources which comprise of human resources, intellectual property, and specialized services and facilities for the financial benefit of the University of Nairobi and other stakeholders.

Up the ladder ...

PROF. GEORGE A.O. MAGOHA has been appointed on promotion as a full Professor in the Department of Surgery. He holds Mb.B.S., Lagos University 1978 Primary FRCS (Dublin, Ireland) 1980, FMCS (Nigeria), Clinical and general Surgery 1981, fmcs (Urol) 1985 and FWACS, 1990.

Prof. Magoha joined the University of Nairobi in 1988 as a Lecturer and was promoted to Senior Lecturer and Associate Professor in 1989 and 1996 respectively prior to joining the University of Nairobi, he had served as an honorary lecturer in Anatomy at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital from 1979 to 1985.

He has supervised 18 M.Med. students since his last promotion and currently has 5 M.Med. students under his supervision.

Since his last promotion, Prof. Magoha has had 17 publications to his credit. His main areas of research and publication are prostate cancer, cancer of the penis, testicular cancer, torsion of the testis in Africans and male erectile dysfunction.

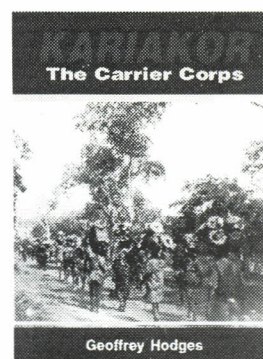
PROF. ISAAC ONGUBO KIBWAGE has been appointed on promotion as a full Professor in the department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry. He holds B.Pharm University of Nairobi 1979, M.Sc. Pharmaceutical Sciences,

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium 1982 and Ph.D., 1985 from the same University.

He joined University of Nairobi in 1985 as a Lecturer and was promoted to Senior Lecturer and Associate Professor in 1991 and 1995 respectively.

He has served as Chairman, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry since 1995 and has therefore participated in many faculty, college and University committees.

Since his last promotion, Prof. Kibwage has written 13 articles. His research activities have concentrated mostly on the analysis of drugs for quality control.



Kariakor: The Carrier Corps

Geoffrey Hodges

KSh. 650 US\$ 17.50

Geoffrey Hodges

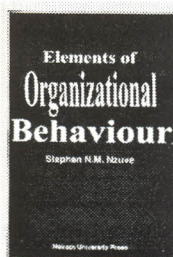
Along the busy Kenyatta Avenue, Nairobi, stands a bronze statue of three larger-than-life African men. Two of the three bronze figures are askaris, one of the King's African Rifles, the other of the Arab Rifles. The third figure represents members of the Carrier Corps who, while non-combatant, suffered heavier casualties than all the other units put together in the East African Campaign of the Great War of 1914-18.

While the soldiers carried guns, Carrier Corps carried everything the soldiers needed to survive and fight — food, ammunition, medical supplies and equipment of every kind. Without the endurance of these unsung heroes, scarcely a shot could have been fired.

The story of the Carrier Corps as told in this book is therefore one of great human interest and pathos. Students of East African history, particularly secondary school and undergraduate students will find the book very valuable. It is a thorough, scholarly and compassionate account.

Geoffrey Hodges went to Eton College where he won the prestigious Rosebury History Prize and a scholarship to King's College, Cambridge University. He taught History in senior schools in England, Wales, Zambia and at Strathmore College, Kenya. He has also written a book on Owain and the Welsh border wars (1995), and

contributed articles in the *Journal of African History*. After the *Carrier Corps* was published in the U.S.A. in 1986, he wished to publish a second edition in Kenya to make it more accessible to people in East Africa. Unfortunately, Geoffrey died in 1994 before the book was published.



ELEMENTS OF ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOUR

Stephen N.M. Nzuve

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Stephen N.M. Nzuve is a senior lecturer and former Chairman of the Department of Business Administration at the University of Nairobi. He is a specialist in human resources management.

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