

Strengthening governance and research structures

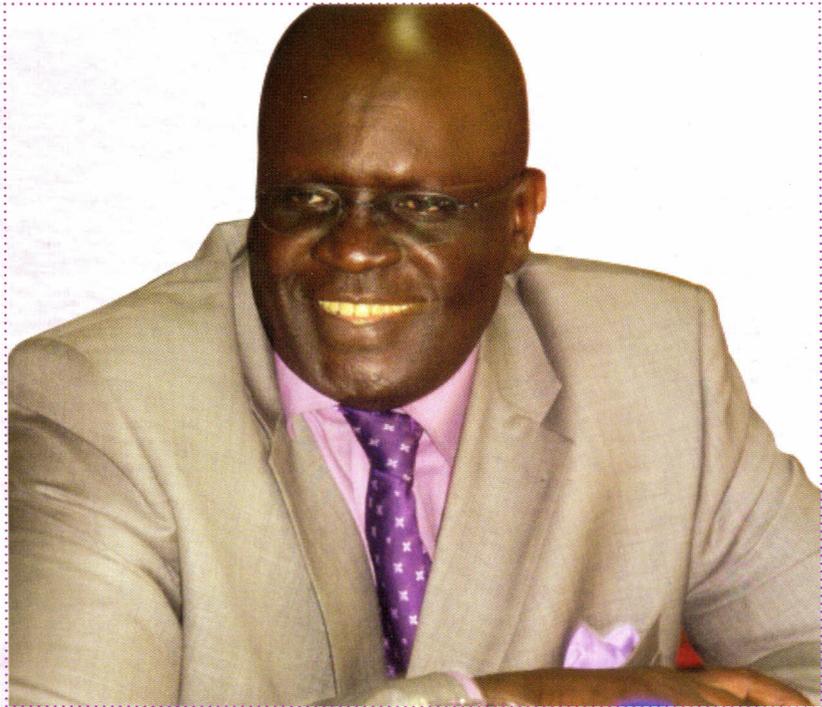
This first half of 2011 has been busy with activities and events that demonstrate our commitment to discharge the mandate of academic excellence.

As part of strengthening our governance and research structures, the University Council appointed two new deputy Vice-Chancellors to be in charge of students affairs, and research, production and extension. These appointees are charged with the responsibility of mainstreaming research and student affairs. Also appointed were two principals and a deputy principal.

The University has developed new infrastructure including modern laboratories at the Kenya Science Campus to boost science learning. Further, we have constructed a new, modern and spacious facility for the Department of Human Anatomy.

We are grateful to our government and other stakeholders who have continued to support our activities. With these resources, we have increased our collaboration in the three pillars of teaching, research and consultancy. The Universities of Helsinki, Washington and Maryland initiated collaboration for joint research, thus adding value to our tradition of activities with scholars from reputable international universities. With more support we can increase output in the three pillars.

We have made strides in internationalising our brand as an institution of higher learning in the region. For instance, the University of Nairobi is offering graduate study in business management to students from Liberia to assist that country in



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rebuilding its economy. Closer home, the University of Nairobi initiated links with the private sector for training, scholarships, and staff and student exchange. In this regard Total Kenya became one of the latest supporters of the University.

UoN has continued to be the first choice university in the region for intellectual discourse. We take pride in the recent interaction with Mr. Li Changchun, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC, Central Committee. We look forward to more interactions with international VIPs.

In terms of outreach, the University participated in the CHE exhibition in Kakamega and held its third Open

Day. These activities showcased the quality of our programmes, facilities and conducive environment available for learning, research, interaction and mentoring from some of the best scholars in the region.

I wish to take this opportunity to commend our students for holding peaceful union elections. They conducted themselves honourably and with discipline. The University looks forward to a time when more of the student body can discard irresponsible behaviour and embrace dialogue to improve our corporate image. Staff has also contributed to the good name of the University by performing their duties with dedication and professionalism.