

UoN awarded Charter

FOLLOWING THE ENACTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITIES ACT, 2012, the University of Nairobi (UoN) successfully underwent a quality audit conducted by a panel from the Commission for University Education (CUE) which culminated into the award of a new Charter to replace the University of Nairobi Act, 1985. The University of Nairobi received its Charter in a ceremony presided over by the then President of the Republic of Kenya H.E Mwai Kibaki. The Charter, as the legal instrument, defines the operations and obligations of the University. The objects: seal, logo, and the mace remained as symbols of authority of the University of Nairobi as before.

CUE is the successor to the Commission for Higher Education (CHE) which only used to regulate private universities but, with the new Act, the body will regulate higher education in all public and private universities. The Universities Act,

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2012 places all universities under the Act and repealed the previous Acts that had established individual public universities. UoN is now established under the Universities Act and the University of Nairobi Charter. The Charter was awarded by the President after the University satisfied the requirements for the establishment and operations of a university to offer education in Kenya.

According to the Universities Act, all public universities satisfied the conditions set by CUE before they were recommended for the award of the Charter. The Commission is charged with the promotion of university education in the country, accreditation,

regulation, monitoring and evaluation; develop policy and criteria for admission to universities among other functions. All chancellors of public universities will be appointed through consultation with the respective senates and the alumni.

While presiding over the award ceremony, which also involved other public and private universities, the President Kibaki lauded the growth in the higher education subsector in the last ten years, and challenged institutions to ensure that high quality academic standards are upheld.

The Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, Dr. Joseph Wanjui, led the UoN top management which included the new Chairman of Council, Dr. Idle Farah and the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. George Magoha in receiving the Charter from the president.

Prof. Tolly Mbwette, the Vice-Chancellor, Open University of Tanzania led other experts contracted by CUE in assessing UoN.

