

Reflecting on 2013 achievements

Our final edition of the 2013 Varsity Focus highlights recent activities of the last quarter of this year and in a nutshell, reflects on some of the major accomplishments.

This year, UoN joins the nation in celebrating 50 years of independence coinciding with the University of Nairobi's 50th graduation ceremony

The University has so far graduated over 151,000 high quality graduates to the market, highlighting its strategic importance in providing quality human

resources to drive the country towards the attainment of the Kenya Vision 2030. Indeed the development of this country and the contribution by the University of Nairobi are quite inseparable if the role our alumni play in key sectors locally and internationally is anything to go by.

On linkages the University has been busy internationalizing its profile. Born out of these efforts are increased collaborations with leading international universities and organizations worldwide in turn increasing our research portfolio and increased staff and student exchanges. In this regard, many universities from the US, UK, China, South Africa, Turkey among others have firmed up their relations with UoN.

The University has also hosted local and foreign dignitaries in intellectual discourse with students and staff. Among the local leading personalities are the retired President, Hon Mwai Kibaki, who interacted with staff and students on developments in the country since independence.

Students on their part have been active in participating in international forums and engaging in innovative ventures. SONU Secretary General, Edith Murigi was in Malawi interacting with student leaders from other countries on youth leadership. Others such as the Women Students Welfare Association (WOSWA) have been instrumental in supporting the girl child in marginalized areas with sanitary towels. The University just concluded its programme on sensitization of staff on the constitution. The programme, which began in August this year, targeted students, staff and alumni. The outcome of this process was an enlightened community that can exploit opportunities provided by the constitution. Other outcomes were several publications including six books and a video. An online resources depository is also available.

These are among the stories which constitute our 2013 final edition of the Varsity Focus.

I hope you enjoy reading and please give us your feedback.

CHARLES E. SIKULU

Over 50 years of developing quality human resources for the international market



Prof. George A.O. Magoha, Vice-Chancellor.

2013 has been an exciting year for the University of Nairobi in terms of revitalizing our core agenda of teaching, research and corporate social responsibility. The University improved its performance in the Ranking Web of Universities (Webometrics) 2013 by being ranked top in Kenya and position 14 in Africa. At world level the University is now in position 1624.

Although the University was inceptioned over fifty years ago, it is joining the nation in celebrating 50 years of independence. The University has keenly taken up its role of participating in the maintenance of scientific standards, the provision of skilled manpower required by the industry, government

and other sectors of the economy and most fundamentally to the accumulation of knowledge and understanding.

In 50 years, the University has been responsible for the production of 151,000 alumni, majority of whom are deployed in the public and private sectors locally and internationally.

The University has also maintained and extended links and collaborations with other institutions of higher learning all

over the world. Our staff continue to make exemplary achievements on teaching and research fronts with their ability to think global and act local.

The challenges that the University is facing in the wake of the ever increasing demand for quality services amidst diminishing resources can be daunting. But in keeping to its vision of world class excellence and as part of Kenyan society, the University is rising to play its rightful role, guided by principles of good corporate governance, responsiveness and team work and professionalism.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the government, benefactors and donors as well as well-wishers who have continued to support us. Further, I would like to thank our staff and students, for without their unfailing dedication to the objects and functions of the University, we would not have achieved so much. I appreciate our alumni; they have done us proud and from all accounts continue to be worthy ambassadors of their alma mater.

The University will continue to forge ahead in the task of teaching, research, development and consultancy, thus contributing directly to capacity building, solving the countries health, education, economic, cultural and development problems.

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