

Needy students to benefit from Rattansi bursaries

The Rattansi Educational Trust recently donated Kshs 12,466,890.00 to support needy students in local institutions of higher learning.

The University of Nairobi was the main beneficiary getting over Kshs 2.3 million to support needy students. The donations were made by the Trust's Chairperson, Mrs Vijoo Rattansi in a function at the University of Nairobi, attended by representatives of public and private institutions of higher learning.

Speaking during the disbursement ceremony, Mrs Rattansi pledged that the Trust will continue supporting higher education in the country by financing the needy students. In what is an annual event, many institutions of higher learning in Kenya, have over the last 56 years received bursaries to support needy students from the



Philanthropist Vijoo Rattansi signs the visitors book in the Vice-Chancellors office.



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. George Magoha receives a cheque of 2.3M from Mrs Vijoo Rattansi to support needy students.

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Speaking on behalf of the University of Nairobi, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. George Magoha, thanked Mrs Rattansi for the support she has been extending to higher learning institutions over the years and challenged other Kenyans to emulate her example.

There was pomp and celebration in August 2012, when 5,550 graduands, consisting of 2,173 women and 3,376 men were conferred with degrees and awarded diplomas during the 47th graduation ceremony presided over by Dr. Joseph B. Wanjui, the Chancellor of the University. The ceremony drew graduands from the Colleges of: Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences; Architecture and Engineering; Biological and Physical Sciences; and, Education and External Studies.

Addressing the congregation, the Chancellor reminded the graduands that while the University was releasing them to a world full of challenges, they had been well equipped with skills to enable them surmount any of the challenges. He said, "The knowledge gained over the years is the power you now have to conquer the world. It is from you that we expect to see more enterprise, innovation and solutions to some of our most pressing needs, no doubt you will soon have more skills, responsibility and authority than you have hitherto imagined. The power may even turn

your heads, but always remember that power without responsibility is dangerous."

Dr Wanjui congratulated the management and staff of UoN for their hard work that saw the University clinch position one in the 2010/2011 Performance Contract. He called for more team work and commitment, and the desire to work harder and excel, because excellence in performance is about re-energizing oneself to new experiences and better practices of management.

In his remarks, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. George Magoha commended the graduands saying that they had worked hard, diligently and smartly. He announced that in 2012 alone, the University had signed 11 MoUs with various industries which will provide internship for students and research opportunities for staff. He assured the congregation that the University would strive harder to remain a model institution of higher learning in the country, the region and the world at large, which is one of the tenets of Kenya Vision 2030.

Others who addressed the Congregation were the



Thousands graduate during the 47th Congregation

Chairman of the University Council Mr. John Simba and the Chairperson of University of Nairobi Alumni Association Medicine Chapter, Dr. Cleopa Mailu. The best overall student, Maimuna Hussein, who studied Industrial Chemistry in the School of Physical Sciences, also addressed the Congregation.

The graduation ceremony took place against a

background of great expectations from society for universities to provide the much needed guidance in the realization of the Kenya Vision 2030. The pillars of the Vision hinge on the improvement of the socio-economic and political well being of the citizens. The University of Nairobi has the capacity to be part of driving this country into realizing this vision.