

The members of University Management Board were in the coastal city of Mombasa to access the facilities of Mombasa Campus and to get the views of the staff as part of the strategy to ensure that students get the best education. The meeting was held today, January 30, 2015 at the School of Law Boardroom, UniPlaza.

Speaking during the meeting, University of Nairobi vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi said “We are here to discuss challenges facing this Campus and how to make it stronger”. The Vice-Chancellor noted that the objective was to get the issues on the ground, so that management can have a baseline.

Mombasa Campus has a student population of over 3,000 enrolled in programmes offered by the Colleges of Education and External Studies and Humanities and Social Sciences in particular programmes and has the School of Law, School of Business, School of Continuing and Distance Education and the Faculty of Arts.

Prof. Isaac Jumba, Principal, College of Education and External Studies introduced the Memorandum of the soon to be renamed ‘Indian Ocean Campus’ by giving the background to the University’s history in Mombasa that dates back to 1987 with the then Institute of Adult Education, followed by the Mombasa Extra Mural Centre and now the Mombasa Campus.

Prof. Enos Njeru, Principal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences noted that among the challenges facing Mombasa Campus include; lack of senior academic staff and hence air-lifting lecturers from Nairobi which leads to increased costs. Inadequate student welfare facilities like sports and games, inadequate staff supervision, lack of a campus bus, major renovations to UniPlaza building, cumbersome procurement procedures and lack of student hostels are some of the challenges that were highlighted.

Prof. Mbithi challenged Mombasa Campus staff to ensure that Campus facilities are maintained to the level of any other tourist hotel in the town. The Vice-Chancellor insisted on quality of education even as the university extends to the other counties. He urged management to ensure that the students are committed to the University brand.

Mentorship of students will be key in ensuring that the University produces holistic graduates. The Vice-Chancellor assured staff members that his administration was keen on supporting the staff to deliver on their mandate.

The entire University Management Board composed of the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellors, College Principals and Deputy Principals were present.

Also present during the visit to Mombasa campus were; Managing Director, University Enterprises Services, Prof. Julius Ogen’go, Finance Officer, Mr. Michael Karue, Registrar Administration, Dr. Dismus Bulinda, Estates Manager, Mr. Trancisio Thuita, Construction and Maintenance Manager Architect Jarett Odwallo.

As part of his strategy, the newly appointed Vice-Chancellor has been visiting the various Colleges and Campuses to meet the staff members and tour the facilities as he gets to know the real issues on the ground.

