

Varsity's top management holds retreat in Mombasa

The University of Nairobi Council together with members of University top Management held a retreat between May 27 and 29, 2015, in Mombasa. The retreat was one of kind as it was honored by the presence and participation of Dr. Vijoo Rattansi, the Chancellor of the University of Nairobi. It was an opportune moment for the Chancellor to interact with Council members, University Management Board, staff and students of the university's Mombasa campus.

During the retreat, the Chancellor took time to share with council and university management board members some of the issues they (Chancellors') shared with H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta when they paid a courtesy call on the president on Friday May 22, 2015. She reiterated the president's directive of the immediate implementation of the e-procurement and e-payment by all government entities.

In a rejoinder statement, the Chairman of the University of Nairobi Council Dr. Idle O. Farah informed the Vice Chancellor and his management that council expected total compliance to the presidential directive. The chairman underscored the requirement of total compliance by informing members that indeed H. E the President put all Principal Secretaries on notice on the issue of e-procurement. He further urged council members to offer the necessary support to the Vice Chancellor by way of bringing in their diverse expertise, which together would enhance good corporate governance.

Council and Management were taken through an intensive as well as interactive session on Corporate Governance. One of the biggest challenges of good corporate governance was noted to be ownership and promotion of the Vision, Mission and Values of the University. The Chancellor urged members to offer their services with dedication and high level confidentiality.

The retreat presented an early opportunity to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Peter M. F. Mbithi to inform the Chancellor and Council of the changes in the top management by introducing Prof. Bernard N. K. Njoroge as the newly appointed Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Administration and Finance subsequent upon which the VC appointed Prof. Peter Ngau to the position of Principal, College of Architecture and Engineering in an acting capacity. The Chancellor and Chairman of Council on behalf of other members congratulated and welcomed Prof. Njoroge and Prof. Ngau on their appointments and urged them to support the Vice Chancellor and the entire Management in their new Capacities.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Peter M. F. Mbithi thanked the University Council for considering and approving two major proposals; The Short Term Implementation Plan and Priorities of the University for the Period Upto June, 2016 and the establishment of the Graduate School at the University. He assured the Chancellor and Council that as the person entrusted with the university business, he would ensure implementation of the plan and all actionable items as per the set timelines.

In their welcoming remarks to the tour of Mombasa Campus, the Principals of the two Colleges whose programmes are currently running at the Campus by Prof. Enos H. N. Njeru of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and Prof. Isaac O. Jumba of the College of Education and External Studies thanked the Chancellor and Members of Council for finding time to visit and interact with members of staff and students. The guided tour of the campus and facilities was contacted by the Director of the Campus, Dr. Jackson Malu. It was noted with appreciation the Vice Chancellor's commitment to service delivery by the recent appointment of an Assistant Dean of students and setting up a cafeteria. The Vice Chancellor assured announced that due to the recent incidences of insecurity in the country, the university is making arrangements to fence the campus.

To allay the fears expressed by law students in the campus following recent reports in the media about closure of the Campus, the Vice Chancellor assured the students that the university has been in consultations with the regulatory authority, the Council for Legal Education, who had advised on requirements and which the university has engaged to ensure compliance.

In a tour of the Research station at Moana, South Coast, council expressed satisfaction in the manner in which the University Management has preserved and maintained the facility, which has a hostel capacity of about fifty students. The chairman of council observed the high potential development opportunity and encouraged the Vice Chancellor to come up with a proposal for improvement of the facilities