

# Vice-Chancellor addresses new students

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi has challenged students starting a new life at institutions of higher learning to take advantage of the opportunity to build a future that they will all be proud of.

He was speaking at the orientation ceremony for the over 5,000 new students admitted at the University for the academic year 2016/2017.

Prof. Mbithi reminded the students that the University is a perfect engine to use and rise above the humble beginnings. He urged the students to make the best out of the new found freedom and to shun from activities that lead to loss of focus and dreams.

“Choose to work hard and smart and a world of endless opportunities will unfold before thine eyes. Ultimately the choices you elect will make or break you. Choose today which masters you shall serve,” he said.

Prof. Mbithi further reminded the students that it will not be an easy ride, but affirmed the University’s commitment to ensure that the students are comfortable and attain their dreams at the end of it all. He also stressed the University firm commitment to the protection of the environment and urged the students to contribute in transforming the University to green and sustainable campuses.

In his speech, he asked the students to participate actively in club activities and professional associations in order to acquire leadership and personal skills, which are not attained through formal class or lessons but are drawn from interaction and acculturation of best practice.

“The time you will spend in the University will be important for each one of you in specific and personal ways, but overall, each one of you should experience growth in intellectual knowledge, personality, cultural enrichment, building personal friendships and career planning.”

He encouraged them to enjoy their time and experience in campus, by interacting with people from different parts of the world, instead of being cocooned in their respective disciplines because university education is a holistic experience.

During the orientation, the freshers were sensitized on the HIV/AIDS pandemic, drug abuse, and other aspects that are part of students’ lifestyle. The students were urged by the administrators to concentrate on their studies and engage in positive extra-curricular activities.

The orientation week assists the students settle down and adjust to the new life with ease. Some of the officials who addressed the students included the Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Registrars from Central Administration Divisions, Chief Security Officer, Director, Centre for International

Programmes and Links, Director, Board of Common Undergraduate Courses, Director, [Information Communication & Technology Centre](#), Director, Library and Information Sciences, Dean of Students, Special Students Advisor, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Legal Officer, Director, Students Welfare Authority, Managing Director, University of Nairobi Enterprises Services and SONU leaders.