

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI VISITED BY UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, WWAMI TEAM TO SHARE EXPERIENCES ON DECENTRALIZED MEDICAL EDUCATION



University of Nairobi (UoN) is hosting University of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho (WWAMI) team following a program on decentralized Medical Education that has been implemented by UoN through Partnership for Innovative Medical Education in Kenya (PRIME-K) program for the last five years. The goal of PRIME-K is to strengthen and build the clinical and research capacity Kenya, hence improve human resource capacity for health and health outcomes in Kenya.

The team led by Prof. Carey Farquhar, were welcomed at the UoN by the acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Isaac Mbeche, who appreciated the collaboration and support of US government and University of Washington, WWAMI program to UoN through PRIME-K. The WWAMI team were on a three days' visit on decentralized medical education September 23rd to September 25th, 2015. The aim of the visit was to share experiences including successes, lessons learnt, best practices and challenges towards implementation of decentralized medical education by both Universities. The other team members among the WWAMI team were; Prof. Michael Chung, Prof. William Bremnar, Prof. Thomas Norris, Prof. Misbah Keen and Prof. Stephanie Page.

While at the College of Health Sciences (CHS), the team were hosted by the Principal, CHS, Prof. Isaac O. Kibwage who is also the Principal Investigator for PRIME-K and the Director PRIME-K, Dr. Onesmus Gachuno. Other members visited by the WWAMI team were; selected decentralized clinical sites (Mbagathi and Naivasha), College of Health Sciences Management Board, Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentist Board (KMPDB) and County Executives of Health (CEH) from the Counties implementing decentralized medical education sites.



The decentralized medical education by the University of Nairobi which has 18 training sites was modelled on the 44 year old University of Washington's WWAMI program where one medical school serves 5 states in the USA and students do their clinical rotations in public and private health facilities within these states under mentorship of the honorary lecturers.