

Varsity bags awards on gender and disability mainstreaming

The University of Nairobi has scooped two awards for its efforts towards gender and disability mainstreaming in academia.

The awards were presented to the University by the Gender and Disability Development Centre.

The initiative by the Centre recognises organizations and corporations that have made efforts to make life easier for the physically challenged in the community. The awards ceremony was themed “*Diversity and Inclusion Awards.*”

The Principal Secretary, State Department of Special Programmes, Ms. Josephta Mukobe, noted that everyone needs equal opportunity irrespective of gender or physical abilities. Ms. Mukobe who was also the Chief Guest at the event, quoted the various sections of the Constitution that deals with gender and disability issues. She noted that five percent of jobs should be for disabled persons. Youth, Women and Disabled Persons have 30% worth of government tenders reserved for them.

Mr. Richard Nasongo, the Awards Convener, challenged those in attendance to consider for a moment how the disabled persons survive in the technologically advanced world of ipads, laptops. Due to the challenges the disabled persons face, the issues of gender and disability have been put on the Performance Contract.

Prof. Peter Ngau, the Principal, [College of Architecture and Engineering](#), noted that the University has put in place measures to ensure gender equality. In addition, systems are in place to assist physically challenged members of staff and students. Prof. Ngau was representing the university management.