

UoN Health IT Project wins USD 4.2 Million grant from USAID

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The United States Agency for International Development, (USAID) is working closely with the University of Nairobi, School of Computing and Informatics after the School won USD 4.2 Million grant for development of healthcare data systems, research and capacity building.

This was revealed today, July, 28, 2017 when a team from the School, headed by the Director of the School, Dr. Agnes Wausi together with the College Principal, Prof. Bernard Aduda, paid a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi.

The Project Leader, Prof. Peter Waiganjo Wagacha observed that the University was working closely with USAID and Ministry of Health to implement health informatics project, where health data is captured for better decision making process at policy level with capacity building being conducted for the local populace. The outputs of the project are: health informatics system, data analytics, capacity building and research.

“Unlike in the past where USAID would work with other international Non-Governmental Organizations, (NGOs), we have noted that USAID is keen on working with local institutions and developing capacity,” said Prof. Wagacha.

The health informatics project has since incorporated the local county governments and local universities like Maseno University and Masinde Muliro University with the University of Nairobi being

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the focal partner. Plans are also underway to establish an online learning module, where more counties and more universities will be engaged in the project as Kenya makes significant advances towards data-driven decision making processes in the healthcare sector.

On his part, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi congratulated the team for securing strategic partners like USAID and the Ministry of Health; for laying the foundation for data-driven decision making and for building local capacity in their research endeavours. Prof. Mbithi urged them to carry out impactful research that will influence the lives of people. He challenged the team to develop and mentor young researchers.

The health IT project falls under University Enterprise Services Limited (UNES), headed by Mr. John Kenduiwo , the Managing Director, who also accompanied the team . UNES is a key player in supporting University research endeavours.

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Contact Person:

Peter Oluoch

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