

## UoN and Tsinghua sign agreement of cooperation

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**The University of Nairobi and Tsinghua University, China, have today signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The two universities signed an agreement of cooperation on September 1, 2017 at UoN, Main Campus.**

The agreement was signed by UoN Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi and Tsinghua's Chairman of University Council, Prof. Chen Xu.

The University of Nairobi and Tsinghua University agreed to engage in cooperation and exchange in cooperative education and research activities, for the mutual benefit of both institutions.

According to the agreement, the Tsinghua University- University of Nairobi Office of Global Competence Development will be established by both parties to facilitate the collaborations and activities between the two universities. It is expected that each university will provide office spaces on campus and appoint a director to coordinate the office operations.

In addition, the two universities will run student and staff exchange programmes and Tsinghua will award two scholarships for Masters and PhD for successful applicants to study at the Chinese based university.

Speaking during the signing ceremony, Prof. Mbithi welcomed the collaboration saying that the university was committed to implementing tenets of the agreement.

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“Internationalization is a key pillar of the University of Nairobi,” he said. “To this end, we are keen on establishing partnerships with universities and organizations that will be of mutual agreement. We are committed to enhancing our research activities and developing innovative and creative ways of addressing the challenges affecting the society.”

Prof. Xu thanked the Chinese Embassy in Kenya for linking Tsinghua University to the University of Nairobi.

“It is through the embassy that we were able to start discussions on collaborations and today, we finally sign the agreement,” she said. “As Tsinghua University celebrates its 106<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we have developed a global strategy in order to improve various aspects of the university. In this strategy, partnerships and collaborations are key.”

Tsinghua University will work closely with the Colleges of [Architecture and Engineering](#) [8], [Biological and Physical Sciences](#) [9], [Health Sciences](#) [10] and [Humanities and Social Sciences](#) [11].

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