



## **UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

**REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROF.  
PETER M.F. MBITHI ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD IN TAIFA  
HALL ON FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2016 AT 9.00 A.M.**

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**Chairman, University of Nairobi Council**

**Chairperson, University of Nairobi Alumni Association**

**Deputy Vice-Chancellors**

**Principals of Colleges**

**Deans/Directors of Faculties/Schools/Institutes**

**Heads of Departments**

**Distinguished donors**

**Prize recipients**

**Parents**

**Members of staff**

**Invited Guests**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

**Welcome to the University of Nairobi.**

**Apart from graduation, Prize presentation day is one of the most important days in the University's calendar. It is a day that we celebrate success by rewarding top achievers. The outstanding performers who represent the resilient spirit of this University.**

**This occasion provides a rare opportunity for the University Community to meet and interact with the parents and sponsors. Congratulations to you the**

**recipients for posting the best results in your various fields of specialization!**

**I sincerely share in your sense of pride and greatness! To be a champion in a great University is quite a fulfilling experience. I believe that you have put in a lot of effort and discipline to be recognized and be rewarded today.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen, today we are going to award 489 students for 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 academic years with prizes donated by 82 donors. The notable trend, as in the past few years, is the impressive performance by the female students in fields traditionally presumed to be the male domain.**

**This shows that our ladies have come of age and have taken the competition to their male counterparts. It further debunks the myth that only male students can perform well in certain courses.**

**In this regard, I urge all our current students to remain competitive and also challenge more organizations to volunteer prizes for our best performing students.**

**The University of Nairobi is the only World Class University in Kenya and the best in the region today.**

**Being world class is about maintaining global standards and universal values! We shall jealously guard our standards in all areas! Be it in academics or in extra-curricular activities.**

**As our brand ambassadors you must reflect us in a positive image through your work and behavior.**

**The University of Nairobi will not entertain any form of mediocrity and misconduct.**

**We attract the best students! We provide quality training because we have the best Professors and there is no doubt that we shall continue to produce the best graduates for the market.**

**Our alumni dominate the leadership landscape of this country. You will find them in all the sectors and in all the professions.**

**Becoming great requires a positive mindset, determination and indomitable spirit because the path to greatness is full of obstacles. But even in the face of the many obstacles and adversities, we shall never give up!**

**As students of the University of Nairobi, I want to advise you to optimize your presence here to build a strong foundation for your future and the future of this country.**

**Maintaining a leadership position in the field of academics, research and innovation requires a concerted effort of all the stakeholders - students, parents and partners (sponsors and donors).**

**I wish to encourage more sponsors to volunteer and support activities that will improve the quality of our academic programs. You are the ultimate beneficiaries of our products. Currently we only have 82 donors or sponsors. Our appeal during last prize giving ceremony has yielded six new sponsors.**

**I also wish to encourage our current donors to upscale their prizes to be in tandem with the current economic realities.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen, I am happy to recognize and welcome the new donors who have joined in the 2013/2014 and 214/2015 Academic Years, whose prize presentations ceremony will be held at a later date.**

**These include the following:-**

- **Dennis Omondi Adari University Awards.**

- ✓ **A price of Ksh. 30,000 to the best final year student in Civil and Construction Engineering, Faculty of Engineering.**

✓ **A prize of Ksh. 60,000 to the best student who has undergone first year undergraduate programme in Civil and Construction Engineering.**

- **The Agnes Zani Award**

✓ **A prize of Ksh. 10,000 to the best final student in the Department of Kiswahili, Faculty of Arts.**

- **Prof. Godwin O. Patrick Obasi Award**
  - ✓ **A prize of Ksh. 5,000 to the best overall student in the Department of Meteorology.**
  
- **Prof. Laban A. Ogallo Award**
  - ✓ **A prize of Ksh. 4,000 to the second best overall student in the Department of Meteorology.**

- **Dr. Joseph R. Mukabana, MBS Award**
  - ✓ **A prize of Ksh. 3,000 to the best overall student in Dynamic Meteorology in the Department of Meteorology.**
  
- **Prudential Award.**
  - ✓ **An Award scheme – “Prudential Actuarial Support System” for excellence in Actuarial Sciences in Kenya for the top three graduating students in Actuarial Science, School of Mathematics.**

**I need to further thank Kaplan and Stratton Law firm, who have upscaled their prize value from Ksh. 25,000 to Ksh. 30,000.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen, let me also take this opportunity to thank the management and staff for dedicating their time and energy to the service of the Institution. We have embarked on a long and worthwhile journey of transforming the University of Nairobi into a model institution of higher learning in**

**this country and region. The fact that we are here today to celebrate excellence is indeed confirmation that our efforts are already bearing fruit. Let us work together to ensure that we consolidate the gains that we have made so far.**

**Lastly, I want to thank the parents and guardians who are with us here today for the sacrifices they made to ensure that these young men and women completed their studies. By excelling in their**

**studies, they are living proof that your investment was not in vain. Congratulations for a job well done!**

**Thank you.**

**PETER M.F MBITHI, PhD, EBS**

**VICE-CHANCELLOR**

**AND**

**PROFESSOR OF VETERINARY SURGERY**