

LIBRARY STAFF SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP

FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 3 2014

CENTRAL CATERING UNIT

OPENING REMARKS

Ladies and gentlemen

Let me begin by congratulating the team that organized this workshop led by the Director, the invited resource persons and the participants. This could not have come at a better time especially when the Library and Information Services has played and continues to play a very crucial role in our University. In particular, the role played by the Library in helping to raise the University of Nairobi to number nine in Africa and the best in East Africa cannot be assumed.

Ladies and gentlemen, allow me to remind you that the mission of the Library is “To provide quality information services that empower the University in carrying out its core activities of teaching, learning, research, community service and consultancy”. This undoubtedly, is a very important mission. To achieve

this mission, the Library system comprises the main library and 13 college and branch libraries situated in the various campus of the University. At the moment, the total number of staff in the library across all categories is 154.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Division is proud to have a comprehensive stock of print books and journals across all branches that are continuously enhanced. These include electronic journals, electronic books, digital repository and multimedia collection. The Library has subscribed to several search engines and continually encourages its stakeholders to utilize the electronic materials.

Ladies and gentlemen as you know, the Library provides regular services like lending of books and reference services. The Division has however, gone a little further to provide information literacy, mounting of teaching programmes such as Masters in Information Studies and setting up of graduate research libraries in

all branches in order to meet the diverse needs of staff and students conducting research at advanced levels.

Ladies and gentlemen, why are we having this workshop? In my opinion, this workshop will assist in cascading the library's priority projects and university core activities to all levels of staff, foster a positive attitude among staff in support of the library's activities and the university's core values and promote team spirit among library staff in order to enhance service delivery. This workshop is therefore, in line with the university's spirit of promoting team work, professionalism and provision of quality customer services.

Ladies and gentlemen, the vision of the division is "To become a World Class information centre committed to excellence in the provision, dissemination and preservation of knowledge". In trying to achieve this vision, there are several challenges which include narrowing the digital divide so as to enhance the

visibility of the university at the global level and increasing population of students.

Ladies and gentlemen, I note that the theme of the workshop is “Promoting quality services through information for all”. It is expected that the workshop will increase staff awareness of the Library’s programmes and activities. The staff will adopt a more proactive role in promotion of available resources and services to students and staff. It will also help the staff appreciate the increasing importance of performance contracting, the role of the Constitution, team work and responsible citizenry.

With these remarks, ladies and gentlemen, I declare this workshop officially open.