

**INTRODUCTORY REMARKS:  
THE BOARD OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES SENSITIZATION  
WORKSHOP ON POSTGRADUATE MATTERS  
CCU, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI  
DECEMBER 10, 2013**

- The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. G. Magoha
  - Deputy Vice-Chancellors
  - Colleagues
  - Ladies and Gentlemen
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I am delighted that you have made time to attend this training on workshop on PhD Supervision

This workshop is an initiative to ensure improved quality of our PhD graduates by putting streamlined supervision structures in place. A number of changes have taken place in the last few years within the university such as an increased postgraduate enrolment, increased postgraduate programmes at Masters and PhD level. In Addition many more universities have come into being, thereby increasing the need for capacity development at postgraduate level specifically at PhD level as a labour catchment for the younger Universities.

In 2012 we made a request to the Vice-Chancellor to approve a budget to train 50 academic staff members in PhD supervision by the Prepare-PhD project team. We managed to train 35 staff

members. Feedback from the participants indicated that the training was valuable to them, hence we requested and obtained approval to train a further 100 staff members in 2014.

When we sent out a call to all heads of departments, Deans and Directors to nominate members of staff to attend the second cohort of training, the response was overwhelming, which is an indication that the training is adding some value to how we supervise our PhD students. We received about 270 names and we had to select 100 out of the 270 names and we hope that those who were not included in this cohort of training will be trained in the near future.

This workshop will therefore provide us with the opportunity to brush up on the processes and management of postgraduate programmes.

At this juncture, ladies and gentlemen, I wish to seek your indulgence at this stage to inform you of the latest milestone in enhancing access to research funding for our researchers. With the approval of the Vice-Chancellor, the University has subscribed to the Research Africa Platform which provides information on funding opportunities. All staff members and students logged into the UoN network can now access the platform and search for suitable funding opportunities. So far with the support of my office,

four training sessions have been undertaken in Main Campus and Chiromo Campus. We will soon be contacting you individually as heads of units in order to run training sessions within your colleges. This will enable staff members and students to utilize the research Africa facility to its full capacity.

The RPE Division is appreciative of the support that the VC and the University management have provided, enabling us to achieve the highlighted milestone and more.

Thank you all for taking the time to attend this sensitization workshop and I look forward to your valuable contributions.

It is now my humble task to welcome the VC to make his opening remarks.

Thank you.