

### **Actuarial Science students challenged to diversify.**

The President, Institute of Faculty of Actuaries, IFOA, Mr. Nick Salter on his second tour of the Kenya visited the University of Nairobi today May 13, 2015 and gave a public lecture to the Actuarial Science students at the 8-4-4 Building on the topic diversity, where he challenged the students to diversity their careers from the norm.

Most Actuarial Science students work in risk areas of Insurance and Pensions. This is about to change as students have been asked to consider joining the banking industry, manufacturing among other sectors that deal with risk. "Nobody is best suited to deal with risk, like Actuaries", noted Mr. Salter.

Mr. Salter has a dream that the actuarial skills will help companies make better decisions. He noted that students in Actuarial Science get better training in the management of risks. Institute of Faculty of Actuaries has students from over 100 countries around the world and offers professional certifications in Actuarial Science. He further challenged the students to pursue professional certifications as they give candidates an advantage when it comes to job placement.

The main advantage of diversity, according to Mr. Salter is the efficiency it creates at the work place. Nick noted that companies with employees having different backgrounds work better and achieve more compared to those with employees from the same background.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Salter met the University Management consisting of the Vice-Chancellor representative, Prof. Isaac Mbeche who is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Student Affairs, Prof. Henry Mutoro, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Affairs and Prof. Bernard Aduda, the Principal College of Biological and Physical Sciences.

Prof. Mbeche noted that the University is glad to get advice and get its academic programs benchmarked by industry practitioners.

Prof. Weke, Director, School of Mathematics did not hide his joy at the coming of the IFOA President to Kenya. He thanked the UK Actuaries for the generous book contributions.

Public lectures by industry practitioners is one of the ways of students get to interact with the industry players. It is part of the mentorship programs that the University has prioritised.