



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

**REMARKS BY PROF. PETER M. F. MBITHI, DEPUTY VICE-
CHANCELLOR (A&F) DURING THE TRAINING OF CBPS
LECTURERS IN PEDAGOGY ON MONDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER
2007 AT UPPER CCU**

It gives me pleasure to participate and be part of the team that is spearheading the training of our lecturers in pedagogy.

This training which started at the College of Education and External Studies, has lately been carried out in all the faculties, Schools and Units in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Our intention is to train all teaching staff in CBPS and CAE by December 2007.

It is important for our staff to appreciate that this training is not ad hoc. It is part of the undertakings of the University as contained in its current Strategic Plan (2005-2010) and the current Performance Contract of 2007/2008

It is crucial for our staff to note that this training is part of the University's effort to equip its human resource with relevant knowledge and skills. The University has also undertaken to invest resources in competitive programmes, which will be taught using modern delivery techniques.

One key strategic objective of the University as contained in the 2005-2010 Strategic Plan is to work and ensure the University offers innovative programmes with inbuilt quality control systems. This objective is to be realized through implementing policies and practices designed to enhance capacity and quality teaching and learning. Training staff in pedagogical skills is intended to enhance performance in this regard.

As indicated earlier, the University of Nairobi has in 2007/2008 undertaken to train all teaching staff in CBPS and CAE in pedagogy. But my thinking also is that as this team of trainers continues from one faculty to another, the process becomes easier as you have already mastered the skills. It would therefore be desirable if the trainers could end up

training up to three colleges. This would also assist us in completing the targeted numbers sooner. It is not very appropriate to have a gap of 4 years between the first and last batch of trainees in the same institution.

I am aware that the training is coming with various challenges. The University continues to operate in an environment of various financial constraints even as we aspire to deliver “more with less,” through various cost cutting measures.

That is one reason why our training workshops and seminars are increasingly being held within the University, to cut on costs. It is of course also to be appreciated that many are the times we go out to use other institutions facilities, at a considerable cost, even when they are not superior to ours.

This will require a change of attitude and appreciation of what is our own.

I want to especially ask for understanding and commitment from our trainers, upon whom the success of this programme depends. Let us pull together to also make up for any resources gap that may be experienced.

Ladies and Gentlemen, my office will continue to be open and available to facilitate these training sessions. We are ready to receive your informed suggestions on how this process can be improved. Feel free to communicate the same to us.

Lastly, I wish to thank the Principal, CEES and all the trainers and facilitators from the college for their good job to-date. I

wish you productive training here and other sessions in the coming future.