

## **University to implement a new ICT Plan**

The University of Nairobi (UoN) management has approved the implementation of a new Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) master plan that will enable the University to improve on its service delivery.

This was the agenda at a meeting of the University Executive Board members together with deans, directors and heads of departments at the University of Nairobi Towers on July 13, 2017.

The new ICT master plan will ensure that the university systems are integrated together, secure, robust and able to serve over 80,000 students and staff effectively and efficiently. Also in the ICT master plan is the ICT call center that will be integrated with university student management information system, SMIS and university social media accounts. The university broadband internet and the network are also bound to be upgraded in the ambitious plans that will see the university ICT services enhanced for the next 10 years.

Speaking during the meeting, the Chairman of the ICT Master Plan, Prof. Timothy Waema, from the School of Computing and Informatics noted that with improved network infrastructure, staff and students will easily bring and use their electronic devices within the university, the concept popularly known as 'Bring your own device - BYOD.'

Other university systems that will be integrated in the new ICT master plan are online admission, research and grants management, automation of documents and implementation of business intelligence to enable quick decision making processes.

Also discussed during the meeting of University Managers are; increase in the student enrollment in Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) courses. University of Nairobi brand image and its visibility, improvement of research outputs, management of research grants, were among the issues discussed as well.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi, urged staff members to give their best in order for the university to remain a market leader in the education sector. "We must attract the best staff and students, retain the best staff, focus on student affairs and stay ahead of the competition. We must inculcate a disciplined culture among staff and students," he said.

Going forward and based on its strategic plan and its short term implementation plan for the year 2017/2018, the University of Nairobi is working on improving its competitiveness, quality of graduates, quality of research outputs, quality of service delivery, its brand image, employee performance and making a significant contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).