

The Association of Commonwealth Universities



Dear Sir/Madame,

DATE: 2/07/2016

We write to invite your interest in two forthcoming events.

Following two successful events held in Nairobi, Kenya in 2013 and 2014: a one-day conference and four-day Women in Leadership and Management in Higher Education: Training Workshop, the ACU and the University of Nairobi are collaborating once again to host similar events this year. The one day conference will be held on 12th September, 2016 at the 8-4-4 Building (Main Campus, University of Nairobi, Kenya), followed by a Leadership Training Workshop for Women on Leadership from 13th-16th September, 2016.

The theme of the one day conference is ***The SDGs: An Opportunity to Embed Gender Equity /Equality in Higher Education***. The Conference will be officially opened by **Hon. (Dr). Joyce Cherono Laboso, Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Kenya and the Member of Parliament for Sotik Constituency.**

The keynote speaker will be **Professor Maithree Wickramasinghe (PhD)**, Professor in English, Department of English University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka and the wife to the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. Other Plenary speakers will be **Evelina Vardanyan, ACU-London**, Prof. Rose Mwonja, Vice Chancellor–Egerton University, Rajeev Gupta-Melimu, Hon. Ken Okoth, MP-Kibra, Dr. Christine Gasingirwa-Ministry of Education, Rwanda among other key speakers and interested parties who would wish to be involved in this debate.

This conference will be open to Vice Chancellors, senior academic and administrative staff from universities, colleges, as well as representatives from National and County governments. Other education stakeholders, student leaders and postgraduate students are also welcome.

This one-day conference will focus on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – a set of 17 goals and 169 targets that United Nations member states have endorsed as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The conference will allow participants to debate and deliberate with panellists about the SDG targets to be met within the next 15 years as a means towards ending poverty and hunger, protecting the world from environmental degradation and fostering inclusive societies etc.

The second event will be a four-day Training workshop for Women in Higher Education: **Enhancing Gender Equity/Equality in the Management and Leadership of Higher Education.** Participants will be drawn from universities, national and county governments and colleges around Kenya, East Africa and beyond. The aim of the workshop will be to develop a network of highly trained and highly confident professional women leaders who will be equipped to collaborate extensively across the region and beyond, to draw on each other's strengths and, together introduce initiatives which will help to embed gender equity/equitable practices in their region.

For more details, visit this site: <https://www.acu.ac.uk/events/kenya-2016>

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