

UoN to support Council for Distance Education

The University of Nairobi will send some members of staff on secondment to the African Council for Distance Education (ACDE) secretariat in Nairobi.

This was revealed when ACDE's President and Vice-Chancellor of Zimbabwe Open University, Prof. Primrose Kurasha, paid a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, University of Nairobi (UoN), Prof. Peter Mbithi and made a request for staff support.

ACDE is the continental educational organization comprising African universities and other higher education institutions, committed to expanding access to quality education and training through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) headquartered in Nairobi.

Prof. Kurasha thanked the University management for supporting ACDE's activities and called on the Vice-Chancellor to continue making distinct and commendable contributions towards the development of Distance Education at the national, regional and continental levels. Prof. Kurasha highlighted ACDE's programmes which include ensuring quality assurance and accreditation in ODL, establishing collaborations and scholarship programmes, providing African universities with affordable broadband in order to enhance delivery of quality pedagogy, research and management of ODL as well as publishing the African Journal of Distance Education (AJDE). ACDE plans to build capacity in quality assurance in ODL in Africa.

Prof. Mbithi on the other hand, noted that the University of Nairobi is one of the founding institutional members of ACDE which was formally launched in January 2004. He revealed that distance education is a key component of the University's strategic mandate and that through the School of Continuing and Distance Education, UoN has been able to integrate ODL and e-learning in most of its programmes.

Prof. Isaac Mbeche, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Student Affairs, Prof. Henry Mutoro, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Affairs, Prof. Isaac Jumba, Principal, College of Education and External Studies, Prof. Harriet Kidombo, Dean, School of Continuing and Distance Education and Dr. Omoni Bowa, UoN ACDE representative were present during the meeting.

February 20, 2015.