

Varsity to get accreditation from Nutritionists & Dieticians Institute

The University of Nairobi, Department of Food and Nutrition, based at the College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences (CAVS) have undergone full inspection by the Kenya Nutritionists & Dieticians Institute, KNDI for purposes of obtaining accreditation.

Speaking during the visit, the head of the inspection team Dr. David Okeyo, who is the CEO noted that KNDI, has a mandate to ensure quality in the nutrition and dietetics profession. The organization was established under Act, No. 18 of 2007. The organization deals with continuous professional development (CPD) of its members, internship opportunities for students and professional examinations.

Among the recommendations made by the Institute after preliminary inspection of the Department of Food Science, Nutrition & Technology in April, 2016 include: changing the name of the department from the 'Department of Food Science, Nutrition & Technology' to the 'Department of Nutrition and Dietetics', inclusion of students at departmental meetings, full utilization of clinical laboratories, establishment of specialized and general food labs, benchmarking with accredited food labs, minor repairs and paintings of the facility, establishment of skills lab that mimic hospitals set-up, and establishment of Memorandum of Understanding with surrounding hospitals.

Currently, the Department of Food Science, Nutrition & Technology has an MoU with Kenyatta National Hospital and they were urged to increase the number of engagement with other hospitals. Also recommended was engaging stakeholders in program evaluation and in training of students.

On his part, Prof. Henry Mutoro, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Affairs, who represented the Vice-Chancellor welcomed the recommendations and agreed to fully comply.

Also present during the meeting were; Prof. Stephen G. Kiama, Principal, College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, Prof. John Kimenju, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture and Mr. John Orindi, Director, Corporate Affairs.