VICE-CHANCELLOR'S SPEECH DURING THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE IDIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Mon, 06/17/2013 - 06:31 | k_k

Ambassador, Francis Muthaura
Chairperson of the Alumni Association, Dr. Betty Gikonyo
University of Nairobi Managers
IDIS Alumni
Distinguished guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my pleasure to welcome all of you to the official launch of the IDIS Alumni Chapter. This being the seventh Chapter since the inception of the Alumni Association in 2005. Other Chapters which have been launched include MBA, Medicine, Veterinary, Agriculture, Journalism, Science and Range Management.

I also take this opportunity to welcome our official guest Ambassador Francis Muthaura and thank him for agreeing to be the Chief guest at this event.

Ladies and gentlemen, the launch of the Alumni Association in 2005 was to create professional networks among alumni and with the ultimate aim of mobilizing resources for the academic units. Thus the launch of IDIS Chapter will benefit from the worldwide diplomatic networks of its alumni which will help the School in uplifting its academic standards and professional standing. The fact that the IDIS Alumni present are to be found worldwide suggests the need for a new mentorship platform for students and formal engagement with the world.
It is worth noting that IDIS has produced most of Kenya’s diplomats and other professionals working in local and international organizations. It is the desire of the Alumni Association to tap this vast potential of resources the University has helped to create especially, from the number of people IDIS has trained as diplomats, strategists, IR experts among others. We trust that through the launch of this Chapter today, the alumni will find a way to contribute to the development of IDIS and raise resources to build its own capacity.

The University community applauds the government’s effort to maintain intellectual freedom, and to allow the University to use its resources. One resource allowed to us was to construct the IDIS halls of residence near Boulevard. But these resources should be supported by Alumni to make the life of residents memorable and, uplift standards of the Institute to international level.

I thank all of you who have made today’s event possible. In this launch, ladies and gentlemen, we are privileged to have with us a distinguished consummate diplomat and, an elder in diplomacy. His outstanding achievements are worth emulating. We welcome most heartily, Ambassador Francis Muthaura, who has found time from his schedule to officially launch this Chapter. Thank you Hon. Muthaura.

I invite the Ambassador Muthaura to address this gathering.

Welcome.