

LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

**CHAIRMAN, LAIKIPIA UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
DR. KEN NYAUNDI, PhD**

**Chancellor, Laikipia University
Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education
The Chief Administrative Secretary/PS State Department of University Education and
Research
Vice Chancellor, Laikipia University
Chairs of Council Present
Vice Chancellors Present
Distinguished Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen**

On behalf of the University Council, and on my own behalf, I am delighted to welcome you all to the 6th Graduation Ceremony of Laikipia University. To the graduands - the class of 2018, I say “*Bravo*”. Today, we celebrate a milestone as over 2000 degrees and diplomas will be conferred and awarded to our graduands. These young men and women have qualified in their areas of specialization and are fully equipped with knowledge and skills resonating with the University’s core values of quality, integrity and respect. As a Council, we have confidence that our graduands are well grounded to take a lead in the transformation of our society.

Distinguished Guests

The year 2018 has seen the Council recast its strategies towards ensuring the smooth transaction of its mandate. This has been necessitated by a clear understanding of both the reforms and challenges in the higher education sector. The Council will therefore focus on a re-engineering process in terms of academic programmes as well as financial management. Towards this end, the Council is reviewing its strategic plan to capture emerging trends in higher education and position itself to play its role in the “Big Four” Agenda. Further, the University statutes are being reviewed so as to anchor reorganisation of the functions and programmes of the university.

Ladies and Gentlemen

I wish to state that the Council has enhanced its efforts towards improving the learning and working environment. The Council is focused towards the completion of the Library and Administration Block as well as the Tuition Block. The completion of the two projects will

greatly enhance the quality of Library Services, Lecture rooms and Office Space for both academic and administrative staff.

The Council signed a Performance Contract with the Government of Kenya as a sign of commitment to service delivery. The key commitment is to enhance the quality of services offered by the university. The university is on track with the transition from ISO 9001:2008 to the ISO 9001:2015 and Information Security Management System 27001:2013 certification. Additionally, the Council is expanding the Local Area Network to cover the whole university and in essence increase access points for internet and online services.

Ladies and Gentlemen

I take this opportunity to thank the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kibett Rotich for having picked up the momentum of the university. As a Council, we have full confidence that he will steer the university to the next level of academic excellence. Further, I applaud the University Management Board, the Senate, Faculty and non-academic staff for the mentorship and provision of a conducive environment accorded to the class of 2018 whose graduation we are witnessing today. *“Hongera kwa kazi nzuri”*.

Ladies and Gentlemen

I wish to sincerely thank and acknowledge the Government of Kenya and in particular, the Ministry of Education for its valuable support and provision of the requisite resources that have enabled the university to fulfil its mandate. It is my passionate appeal that as we move ahead, the Ministry will enhance support so as to minimize financial deficit in our operational and capital budget.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous 2019.
“Mungu awabariki”.