



EMBU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
(A Constituent College of University of Nairobi)

REMARKS BY PROF. DANIEL MUGENDI,

PRINCIPAL EMBU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIGNING OF THE
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

EMBU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

AND

KENYA UNION OF POST PRIMARY EDUCATION
TEACHERS (KUPPET)

HELD ON

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2014

At 9.30 am

AT EMBU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE GROUNDS

- The Secretary General, KUPPET,
- The National Chairman, KUPPET,
- The National Treasurer, KUPPET,
- County Government Officials
- County Director of Education
- TSC Director,
- Executive Secretary, KUPPET, Embu County,
- KUPPET National and Embu Branch officials present
- EUC Management, Staff and Students,
- Invited Guests
- Teachers
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning;

First, I take this opportunity to welcome all our guests to Embu University College. I am

glad that you found time off your busy schedules to come and be part of this historic event where we will be signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Embu University College and the Kenya Union of Post Primary Education Teachers (KUPPET). Once signed, the MoU will enable teachers across the country to access affordable higher education and also benefit from the latest knowledge and technological innovations in the teaching profession as well as in other disciplines.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

For the benefit of those who may not know, the KUPPET was founded upon the principles of social justice and professionalism and is dedicated to the achievement of greater unity

among its members for the purpose of improving their standards of living. In line with this, the collaboration with EUC will offer the teachers great opportunities for personal development and self-improvement leading to greater opportunities for social and economic prosperity.

Your presence to witness the commencement of this collaboration between EUC and KUPPET is indeed an indication of your readiness to cultivate, nurture and strengthen the relationship for the mutual benefit of teachers and the country at large.

Today, we gather here to append our signatures to an agreement that will see the inclusion of KUPPET members into our special category of students pursuing various

undergraduate and post-graduate programmes at EUC.

I am confident that many teachers in Embu County, the Mount Kenya region and the country at large will take advantage of this collaboration and enroll for various academic programmes at Embu University so that together we can contribute to the improvement of teaching and education standards in our country.

Embu University College currently offers the University of Nairobi degree programmes but plans are underway to upgrade EUC into a fully-fledged University in the next two years. The courses are offered through the Full-time; part-time (evening and weekend or early morning and weekend) and the school-based

holiday modes of study. Very soon, we will also be launching the e-learning mode where courses will be available online. For the part-time mode, this can be evening and weekend or early morning and weekend as may be found appropriate.

In the agreement we are signing today, Embu University College has generously undertaken to offer a 16% discount on tuition fees charges for KUPPET members and their spouses (Only One Spouse!!) who enroll for a Diploma, Undergraduate, Masters or a PhD degree at Embu University College.

The agreement will also enable the University to improve information dissemination to the teachers who are major stakeholders in the education sector through their umbrella body.

In this way, information about courses on offer in various disciplines, new trends and innovations in teaching, learning and research will trickle down to the teachers in a more effective manner. All this is geared towards improving our education system for the benefit of society.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Great teachers help create great students and great students build great countries. In fact, research shows that an inspiring and informed teacher is the most important school-related factor influencing student achievement. So, at EUC, we believe that it is critical to pay close attention to how we train and support both new and experienced teachers to equip them with the necessary

skills and up-to-date knowledge to enable them fit well in a dynamic and technologically advancing learning environment.

In the not too distant future, the collaboration will strengthen the stakeholder role of teachers and schools in the region, particularly in the training of Bachelor of Education (B.Ed) students at Embu University, as the schools in the region will provide opportunities for teaching practice and attachment for trainee teachers. This will definitely be of great help considering the current shortage of teachers nation-wide.

It is critical for veteran teachers to have ongoing and regular opportunities to learn from each other and to retool so as to sharpen their skills. Ongoing professional

development keeps teachers up-to-date on new research on teaching and learning, emerging new technology tools for the classroom, new curriculum resources, and many more.

On our part as Embu University College, we promise to provide the best opportunities for the teachers who take up this offer with a view to enriching their experience, imparting relevant knowledge as an essential link to higher student achievement as well as supporting the teachers' development, both as individuals and as educators.

I am pleased that the collaboration with KUPPET will serve as an avenue for widening participation in higher education for teachers from diverse backgrounds. This is central to

our institutional values and goals of supporting an equitable, socially responsive and progressive society for all.

In Conclusion

Ladies and gentlemen, I must say that it is truly a great honour for us to have KUPPET as a partner in enhancing professional and educational development for the teachers of our country. The signing of this MOU marks the beginning of transformation for the education sector and a future of fruitful partnership for mutual learning and growth, founded on a desire to see our people realize and actualize their full potential.

I wish both Embu University College and KUPPET every success as we work together,

hand-in-hand, to raise the quality of education, research and training and provide even more opportunities for our people to pursue their passions and realize their dreams.

Once again, I thank you all for finding time to be with us despite your busy timetables and schedules. We appreciate you and we pray that the Almighty God will bless you abundantly as you continue to serve your country in your different capacities.

With those few remarks, I wish you all the best and to all our 2014 KCSE candidates, I also pray that the Almighty God will shower his blessings and favour upon them to enable them to achieve the success that they have

worked for in their lives guided by their
parents and teachers.

Thank you,