

## **VICE CHANCELLOR'S OPENING REMARKS DURING THE 14<sup>TH</sup> MMUSO LEADERS' WORKSHOP ON THURSDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2016 AT JAMINDAS PARADISE MOTEL**

Deputy Vice Chancellors present,

Members of the University management present,

University staff and students,

Distinguished guests and friends of the University,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning,

It is with immense pleasure and gratitude that I welcome you to the 14<sup>th</sup> MMUSO leaders' workshop. I take this opportunity to thank you all for availing yourselves from your areas of commitment to participate in this intensive workshop.

First and foremost, I want to congratulate all students of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, who exhibited high level of integrity and discipline in the MMUSO elections that saw all of you present today elected into various capacities.

The university management is committed to mainstreaming good governance and leadership skills to our students. As a university, we are alive to the need of institutionalizing mechanisms that will enable our students to practice good governance skills. It is against this background that we have continually committed ourselves to ensure that you gain the hands on skills from our most capable staff.

Ladies and gentlemen, we must admit that leadership comes with responsibility. Leadership is not only the position of being in charge of an organization, but also being part of that organization. A responsible leader

will always create a positive impact to the society. As young leaders we must be cognizant of the reality that, being a leader is not the same like being an activist. A leader is always like servant to the society and as such servant leadership must be highly encouraged among you if you hope to inculcate leadership skills and excel at what you have set out to do.

Ladies and gentlemen, allow me to remind you that leadership comes with too many challenges, therefore, making this workshop very critical to what you will achieve during your term as the 14<sup>th</sup> MMUSO leaders. I would like to advice the 14<sup>th</sup> MMUSO leaders to be focused in all your undertakings.

Always bear in mind that as leaders, your contribution to the world is not measured by the money you will make or the accolades that you will receive; but rather by the way in which we share our unique gifts, selfless service to others and the legacy that we want to be remembered by. However, you have to understand that the only place to find this gift is to look within yourself and make informed choices.

Ladies and gentlemen, good leadership qualities are important to all leaders and cut across all types of leaders. It is with this reason I appeal to all of you to desist from acts of corruption. Let us embrace integrity as the guiding light as we carry our mandate as 14<sup>th</sup> MMUSO leaders. Team work is a crucial ingredient to good governance and will obviously be a determinant of the success of this great team that was overwhelmingly elected by the majority of the MMUST student population.

I would like to appeal to experienced leaders present today and whom you will interact with to take up the responsibility to be your mentors and role models. Let us train these leaders in a right way that will enable them acquire skills that are beneficial to not only our university but also the entire society and our country. We all are aware of the fact that most of the leaders in this great nation started out as student leaders.

Last but not least, it is my hope that the training you will receive at this workshop training during these 3 days will enhance your monitoring function that will in turn aid the implementation of good governance.

With these few remarks, I wish you all a fruitful session.

God bless you all, God bless MMUST, God bless Kenya.

Thank you

Prof. Eng. FAO Otieno, FAAS,

**Vice Chancellor,**

**Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology**