



**SPEECH BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITY OF
ELDORET**

AT THE 3RD INAUGURAL LECTURE

HELD ON TUESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2018

AT KERIO HALL

- Chairman of the University Council, Dr. David Ojaka
- University Council Members present
- Members of the University Management Board present
- Members of the University fraternity
- All invited guests
- All protocols observed
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Afternoon!

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to the University of Eldoret.

I begin this address by expressing my sincere thanks to all of you for being here on this auspicious occasion of the 3rd Inaugural Lecture. Your presence here today is a testimony to express great support to the University of Eldoret.

UoE has nurtured generation of leaders in areas of Science, Agriculture and Technology, and this lecture entitled '*SEED SCIENCE: BRIDGE to transforming Agriculture for Food Security and Sustainable Development*' just as presented by Prof.

Julius Onyango Ochuodho, a Professor from School of Education is enough testimony.

UoE like any other world class Universities has contributed enormously to research in both Agriculture, Science and Technology. These high impact researches enhanced by our qualified professionals have contributed immensely to knowledge generation and fundamentally transformed the lives of people within our community.

In enhancing its mandate, the University through such events has ensured that it works towards attaining the '*Big Four Agenda*' of *food security and nutrition*. This it has done by enhancing researches in food production to supplement food supply

through enhancing *fish farming, mushroom projects* and *dairy farming*.

Inaugural lectures are central part of UoE's calendar of activities. These lectures are dedicated to enhance dispensation of viable knowledge in the field of Science, Agriculture and Technology aimed at enhancing the national agenda. As a University, we have made inaugural lectures part of our academic calendar and University academic life. It is an unprecedented opportunity to showcase and summarize one's research and career and to acknowledge the work of close colleagues and mentors. The lecture provides a platform for academic staff to present the

body of research that they have been focusing on during their career.

Today, Prof. Ochuodho is our good example as an outstanding scholar whose numerous academic works and presentations attest to his contribution to food security and nutrition. He is a highly accomplished scientist and the ones he has mentored nationally and beyond in his area of speciality can attest to that.

I would like to commend Professor Ochuodho for the good work and his great contribution to knowledge in one of the *Big Four agenda of Food security and nutrition*, which the government will intensify implementation of research findings. It is evident that wealth creation can be applied through new knowledge and

making local commodities more competitive in the international market. Market-based approaches are the biggest driver in agriculture development beyond primary production level, thus, the need to escalate value addition and one which is supported by knowledge such as this one in today's lecture.

Let me also thank Prof. Ochuodho's family for the support accorded to him during his academic journey and the support you gave him during the preparation for the Inaugural lecture. This, indeed, cannot be understated.

Ladies and Gentlemen

This inaugural lecture which is dedicated towards enhancing further researches in the field of Agriculture, Science and Technology is just but a curtain raiser to the highly anticipated Agribusiness trade fair, slated later during the week as from (20th-22nd September 2018). I welcome you all to attend.

With this few remarks, I take this opportunity to invite our Chairman - Dr. D. Ojaka to come and give his remarks.

Once again, Karibuni, Kongoi, and God bless all of you abundantly.

Prof. Teresa A. O. Akenga
Vice-Chancellor