



SPEECH BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITY OF ELDORET

**DURING THE STAFF DEVELOPMENT OF FUNDABLE
PROPOSALS WORKSHOP**

AT

**THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION COMPLEX BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM 1**

ON 7TH FEBRUARY 2019

Salutation!

Invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, good morning! I wish to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the 2019 staff proposal development workshop.

As you are all aware, the University of Eldoret vision is to be a premier University that is globally visible in knowledge generation and technological innovations and its mission is to provide high quality education and training in Science, Agriculture and Technology that promotes networking, partnerships and linkages with other institutions and industries.

In order to enhance research, the University has developed the following research related policies:

- Research policy,
- Intellectual property policy and
- Consultancy policy.

The University is in the process of drafting a fourth policy on Research ethics. Since 2013 when the University was chartered, a number of projects have been funded both internally and externally. So far, twenty Seven (27) projects have been funded externally worth Ksh. 216.6 million and 44 postgraduate students have been partially supported with **NACOSTI/NRF** funds worth Ksh. 18.2 million. Through its internal Annual

Research Grants, a total of 25 projects worth Ksh. 13.5 Million have been funded. Over the years, the funding of research is on downward trends due to difficult economic times and it is in this realization that we have to look for more funds to fund our research activities.

As part of its objectives, the University aims to progressively increase internal research funding and dissemination of research findings that will positively impact communities by 5% annually. The University has been conducting training for its staff in various fields annually in order to enhance the skills, expertise and competency. It also aims at achieving

performance targets as set in the University performance contract by 100% annually.

The University of Eldoret has also conducted a number of innovative research projects of which **39** new innovations were achieved. Among the innovations is **KEPHIS list of released varieties**. It is the aim of the University to establish an Intellectual Property Office (IPMO).

The University of Eldoret through its outreach centre has carried out research disseminations through farmer field days, workshops, Agribusiness Trade Fair which is done annually, Agricultural Shows and Exhibitions.

The University has also provided tangible incentives for research and innovations by sponsoring staff and students to attend conferences internally and externally. In the last three years, Kshs 1.8 million was used to support staff to attend **International Interdisciplinary Conference** that was held in Nigeria in 2015, Kshs 1.5 million supported staff to **RUFORUM conference** in Nairobi and Kshs 784,000 was used to support staff to attend the **Fifth International Interdisciplinary Research Conference (IIRC5)** held in Mount Kenya University, Thika in 2018.

The University has also provided opportunities for dissemination of research findings through its three publications Journals platforms; **AJEST, AER & 1 EAPAS** and through conferences abstract books which have been produced in four (4) conferences conducted. Therefore, I would like to encourage University staff to publish in these internal refereed journals.

The university has organized for this workshop in order to sensitize staff on writing fundable proposals and has invited two facilitators, one from Commission of University Education (CUE) on Policy issues pertaining research and another one from Maseno University on Research Proposal.

I therefore urge you to take this opportunity to learn how to seek for funds through proposal writing.

With these few remarks, Ladies and Gentlemen, I take this opportunity once again to welcome you all to this year Staff Proposal Development Workshop.

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Vice-Chancellor