

Mount Kenya  **University**

REMARKS

BY

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VICE-CHANCELLOR

**DURING SCHOOL OF NURSING
ACCREDITATION CERTIFICATE HANDOVER
CEREMONY**

ON

21ST MARCH, 2018

Salutation

- ✓ Registrar, Nursing Council of Kenya – Madam Edna Tallam Kimaiyo
- ✓ Deputy Vice-Chancellors
- ✓ Registrar, Academic Administration
- ✓ Principals present
- ✓ Dean, School of Nursing
- ✓ Heads of Departments present
- ✓ Staff
- ✓ Ladies and Gentlemen

2.0 Opening Remarks

On behalf of the University Management, I welcome our guest Madam Kimaiyo to Mount Kenya University. I also express gratitude to the Nursing Council of Kenya for the support and guidance it continues to accord to the Mount Kenya University (MKU) School of Nursing. The support and guidance have made it possible for the School to offer programmes and services that meet regulatory training requirements. Indeed the Accreditation Certificate from the Nursing Council of Kenya is an assurance of the quality of the MKU Nursing programmes and services.

3.0 Thinking Outside the Box

Ladies and gentlemen, thinking out of the box is a metaphor that refers to thinking that is different from the ordinary and has outcomes that exceed expectations. I will give three examples to illustrate the metaphor “thinking outside the box.”

a). Example 1: Jill’s Approach of Delegating Everything

Jill, a Business Unit Leader told a friend, Michael that he delegated everything. Intrigued by Jill’s statement,

Michael asked “If you delegate everything, what exactly do you do? In response to the question, Jill said: “I do the things not anybody else can do. I focus my attention to only those things that require my level of experience, approval, authority or confidentially”

Question: Why did Jill delegate everything?

Jill’s leadership approach of delegation was to increase efficiency and effectiveness. If Jill spent time doing things that others could do, then she would not have time to do the things others could do.

Question: Does delegation have any benefits? Yes it does. Delegation:

- i) Allows employees to develop critical thing and judgment.
- ii) Creates an environment where employees lead in thinking.
- iii) Allows skills development and enhancement.
- iv) Improves motivation and job satisfaction.

- v) Increases loyalty as there are career job opportunities.

Lesson Learnt

A leader who thinks outside the box is able to achieve efficiency as a result of innovation.

b). Example 2: Four Industrial Revolution (4IR)

Question: What are the four industrial revolution?

The four industrial revolutions are:

i. The First Industrial Revolution

The first industrial revolution took place in Europe and America in the 18th and 19th centuries. It marked a shift from use of hand tools to use of machinery which improved efficiency of production of goods

ii. The Second Industrialization Revolution

During the second industrial revolution there was high demand for products / goods led to mechanization of industries and factories, and mass production.

iii. The Third Industrial Revolution

The third industrial revolution is based on digitalization of manufacturing and creates a digital economy.

Question: What is a Digital Economy?

- A digital economy is the network of economic activities, commercial transactions and professional interactions that are enabled by information and communications technologies.

iv. The Fourth Industrial Revolution

Ladies and gentlemen, participants at the 6th Africa Humanitarian Logistics conference held on 14th and 15th March, 2018 in Nairobi shared ideas about the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR).

Question: What is the fourth Industrial Revolution?

The fourth industrial revolution has five key areas:
Namely;

a). Artificial Intelligence / Robotics

This area of 4IR uses machines to work on behalf of man eg. A driver less car, drones that deliver medicine etc.

b). Internet of things

This area of 4IR relies on internet to do things eg; fridges are connected to internet.

c). Data Mining Technology / Data Science

According to the conference participants:

“The capture of vast amounts of data when combined with powerful computing capabilities and algorithm generate unprecedented amount of insights”.

d). 3D Printing

The 3D printing involves designing and printing eg a tooth is designed and printed.

e). Block chain / Trust Technology

The Block chain technology allows use of open, distributed ledger that can record transactions between two parties efficiently and in a verifiable and permanent way.

National Big Four Economic Agenda

The big four economic agenda are:

a. Food security

- b. Affordable housing
- c. Manufacturing
- d. Affordable health.

According to President Uhuru Kenyatta:

“Universal Medicare will be achieved by undertaking major policy and administrative reforms, collaborating with National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) and reviewing the cost of medical insurance.”

President Kenyatta’s recent visit to Cuba has created opportunity for benchmarking and cooperation. Cuba has one of the best healthcare systems in the world which was established after their revolution of January 1959.

Cuban Health Care System

The story about development of universal healthcare system in Cuba is as follows:

Pre-revolutionary Health Care

Prior to Revolution of 1959, there were no free government-funded health programmes in Cuba. Only

the rich, ten percent (10%) of the Cuban population afforded to go to privately owned hospitals and the rest of the population went to 46 overcrowded and understaffed government hospitals.

Post-revolutionary Health Care

- Fidel Castro overthrew the Batista government in January, 1959.
- Fidel Castro transformed the health care system with Soviet Union's support.

Between 1962 and 1968, the Ministry of Public Health merged all medical facilities. The merged medical facilities were government managed.

1985: The Ministry of Health was awarded the Edward Bar-Sky Award for Achieving the World Health Organization goal. "Health for All"

1986: The Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology was established. The center CIGB is a Centre of Excellence in:

- i) Research in molecular biology, genetic engineering etc.
- ii) Production of medical equipment and pharmaceuticals.

Today the Cuban Health Care system meets the standards set by the World Health Organization, WHO.

Lesson Learnt

Fidel Castrol's ability to think outside the box and giving priority to health over amassing wealth facilitated transformation of the Cuban health care system.

Conclusion

Madam Registrar, in recognition of the importance of the metaphor "Thinking outside the box", the Mount Kenya University Management will continue to identify and mitigate areas of improvement with the aim of ensuring compliance with the set training standards.

Thanks and God Bless You All