



SPEECH BY REGISTRAR/CEO

Venue: Mount Kenya University

Date: 21st March 2018

Vice chancellor Mount Kenya University, Dean of School Nursing, Lecturers present, students, ladies and gentlemen, on my own behalf and that of the Nursing Council, I greet you all. I am happy to join you today. Amidst all the

happenings, I have created time to be here with you This explains how much I value you, not only as an institution but as the next breed of young, bright and vibrant nurses of our great country.

ROLE OF NCK-WHY WE EXIST - NCK exist to regulate the education and practice of nurses in this country, we have an act of parliament – cap 257 of the laws of Kenya that mandates us to do so.

Nurses play a critical role in a country's populations' health and health care systems. Furthermore, they are key to achieving universal health care. Therefore, in accrediting Nursing Institutions in Kenya the Nursing Council is

ensuring that the caliber of nurses educated in these institutions are competent

PROFESIONALISM- I remind all my colleagues and nurse students that **there is a code of ethics for nurses.** You must practice competently and with integrity, there are several key elements that guide the nursing profession. A Code of **Ethics** which is a formal statement of the **ethical** obligations and duties of every person entering the **nursing profession.**

As the registrar, I tell you that adhering to the nursing code of ethics is **non-negotiable**. **Ethical** standards guide the **profession** in self-regulation and professional nursing behavior.

I therefore remind you future **nurses**, of the special responsibility bestowed upon you even in the constitution. You must know your boundaries and above all, have the characteristics of a nurse. Do your documentation right, at the right time and on the right patient.

I remind all of us to **respect** our patients, maintain patients' **dignity** and protect patients' rights. Nurses must create an environment of mutual trust and **respect** with patients and healthcare professionals.

NURSE and the DRESSING CODE: Am reminding all those in the profession to adhere to an appropriate and a prescribed dressing code so as to maintain the positive image of the profession.

TRANSLATION OF THEORY TO PRACTICE: A plea to all of us, the gap between theoretical knowledge and the technical knowhow in the nursing profession is evident. Studies have shown that being a distinction nurse does make you a good nurse.

We must all join hands as stakeholders and come up with strategies to bridge the gap between theory and practice, one of the ways is through faculty practice, CPD programs and mentorship.

MANAGEMENT SUPPORT AND EXPECTATION

Nursing council will support any endeavor that is deemed to improve the standards of nursing education and practice.

FUNDING FOR MENTORSHIP

I want to speak on mentorship and its importance.

A **mentor** is a person who 'facilitates learning, supervises and assesses students in a practice setting.

The **mentor** facilitates the mentee to reach negotiated learning outcomes.

Mentoring broadly encompasses formal or informal supporting, guiding, coaching, teaching, role modeling, counseling, advocating, networking, and sharing. In the nursing profession, it occurs within and outside the clinical setting and professional guidance.

My office soon will whip the nurse training institutions that do not have mentors. There is need for well defined outcomes in training of a BScN. Mentorship therefore forms a critical component in any training that makes sense. It's through mentorship that Knowledge, skills and competence required to meet the **defined** outcomes are transferred.

I urge my colleagues and those training to be nurses, let's keep nursing profession on track.

I call upon our leaders, the senate and other arms of government and bodies responsible, to source for funding to employ clinical mentors and sustain the mentorship program.

FUTURE: TEACHING HOSPITAL MODEL

There is need to work out on a model so that Mount Kenya university gets its own teaching and referral hospital. This would in an effort to compliment the provision of health care, decongest clinical placement sites and training

of other multidisciplinary team who are critical in Kenya's health sector. professionals by other tertiary teaching hospitals.

SKILLS LAB: Ensure skills laboratory conforms with the Nursing Council standards, so that we cushion our students before moving to clinical areas.

ACCREDITATION:

In highlighting few things, I want to talk about accreditation, this is because its affects the top management and also the students who sooner or later upon graduation become principals of nursing schools, head of

departments, course coordinators among other responsibilities. All have a role to play.

Accreditation is the process of officially recognizing an institution as having a particular status and is deemed qualified to train.

Mount Kenya University has this status. NCK acknowledges this achievement.

You now have certification of competence in the training of BSCN as a program.

Congratulations for having a node, an official approval from us at the council. As the registrar, I officially recognize you for having achieved this status.

It is my belief that your practices in molding of a graduate nurse are acceptable and that, they qualify as competent, behave ethically and employ suitable quality assurance in nursing education and practice.

It's my hope that you will continue to maintain suitable standards

Thank you for proving to the council and other stakeholders that you indeed meet a general standard of quality.

Last but not least, I would like to recognize that Mount Kenya University is among the first five (5) universities to be accredited to educate Bachelor of Science Nurses. This is commendable! (Pause) clap

We at Nursing Council of Kenya look forward to a continued collaboration with Mount Kenya University in strengthening nursing profession and nurses in **“Unlocking Infinite Possibilities”**.

WISH YOU WELL

THANK YOU & GOD BLESS

EDNA TALLAM - KIMAIYO

REGISTRAR/ CEO