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## *Office of the Vice Chancellor*

VC/MM/KIU/26

8<sup>th</sup> June 2020

### **NOTICE TO ALL KIU STAFF, STUDENTS AND PENDING GRADUANDS**

As you may be aware, H.E. the President of the Republic of Uganda, issued new directives regarding the re-opening of education institutions. Whereas it was hoped that Universities and other institutions of learning would re-open on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020 for students in their final academic year (undergraduate and postgraduate), this has now been postponed for an extra 4 weeks. This implies that after the extension, a new date to re-open will be announced. In the meantime, consultations are ongoing between the Ministry of Education and Sports and various University stakeholders and organs, including the National Council for Higher Education; Board of Trustees; University Council; University Senate; University Management and the student Guild (who also relay guidance/input from parents/guardians/sponsors). Issues under consultation include arrangements to re-open, graduation, and most importantly how to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, once the University is re-opened for its normal business.

#### **Please take note of the following updates:**

- 1) The University has set-up a KIU Covid-19 taskforce, which will be at the forefront of implementing and enforcing the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The Taskforce will be charged with the responsibility of ensuring that all required items to implement the SOPs are in place and replenished accordingly. The Main Campus and Western Campus Taskforces will be headed by Deputy Vice Chancellor Finance and Administration and Deputy Vice Chancellor Western Campus respectively.
- 2) The 130<sup>th</sup> University Senate approved the KIU-Covid-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), that are in conformity with the guidelines by the Ministry of Health (MoH). These are in operation and will remain in place requiring full compliance by all staff, students and visitors to the KIU Campuses.
- 3) All finalist students (*left with Semester I and II of their final academic year*) in all University academic programmes (undergraduate and postgraduate), will be determined and confirmed by their respective Deans and Principals. They will be expected back on a new date yet to be announced by government authorities.

- 4) On reporting, the Taskforce will carry out a deliberate sensitization programme (for 2 to 4 days), for staff and students, on compliance with the SOPs, and all preventive measures against the spread of the pandemic, and thereafter conduct:
- i) Lecture Mop up Two weeks
  - ii) Continuous Assessments and Tests One week
  - iii) Lecture Revision and Marking Two weeks
  - iv) End of Semester Examinations Two weeks
  - v) Internships, placements etc. are to be implemented after the end of Semester examinations. Schools/Faculties/Colleges will provide exact dates and modalities based on the date for the end-of-semester exams.
  - vi) Finalists who will require an extra semester to complete the final year, will be advised accordingly by the University through the specific Schools, Faculties or Colleges.
- 5) Efforts and modalities will be made for all students who are currently living in Border Districts of Uganda (restricted from travelling) and those who travelled out of the country (mainly International students or Ugandan students who were unable to fly back in time before the closure of airports and airlines).
- 6) All finalists are required to access online materials through the University Learning Management System, and continue to interact with their lecturers, and related Faculty, School or College to ensure continuity of study.
- 7) The June 2020 Graduation will not take place as earlier scheduled due to the existing Covid-19 lockdown. However, new dates and arrangements will be communicated in due course. Intending June 2020 graduands are advised to continue with the process of clearance in preparation for graduation.
- 8) Students are free to contact Deans, Principals, or Directors of Academic Affairs in case they require any further clarification or assistance with the guidelines provided herein.

Thank you and best regards,



M. Mpezamihigo, PhD  
**VICE CHANCELLOR**

*Cc Chairman Board of Trustees; Chairman University Council; KIU DVCs; Deans, Principals and Directors; Guild Presidents (Main and Western Campuses)*