

**SPEECH BY PROF. DANIEL MUGENDI, PRINCIPAL, EMBU UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE DURING THE ETHICS AND INTEGRITY TRAINING FOR
MANAGEMENT, STAFF AND STUDENTS LEADERS OF EUC HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 30TH SEPTEMBER 2015
AT 9.00 A.M. IN LECTURE HALL 7**

- Deputy Director in charge of EACC, Central Region;
- EACC Facilitators;
- University Management Board Members;
- Deans, Directors and Heads of Departments;
- Teaching and Non-teaching Staff;
- Students leaders;
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Morning,

It gives me great pleasure and honour to join you this morning to attend the first Ethics and Integrity Training bringing together the Senior Management, the Staff and the Students' Leaders of Embu University College.

This is indeed an indication of our commitment and determination to ensure that EUC remains corruption free.

It is also a testimony of our resolve to join in the fight against corruption and unethical conduct in our Country for our own prosperity.

I take this opportunity to thank the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) officials who are here with us today for organizing this training and also thank you all for finding time to be part of this noble programme to promote good governance and integrity at Embu University and by extension the entire Country.

We appreciate the fact that you all are very busy officers at the EACC and for you to spare some time from your busy schedules across the country to be with us, is indeed a great honor for us at Embu University College.

As you are all aware, the role of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) is to continuously fight and prevent corruption and economic crimes in Kenya through law enforcement, preventive measures, public education and promotion of best standards and

practices of leadership as well as instilling a sense of integrity and ethics in all citizens.

This training has been organized through a joint effort by the Management of EUC and the EACC to enhance compliance with Chapter Six of the Constitution by strengthening our capacity as a University to institutionalize programs that promote ethics and integrity.

The objective of the training is to equip our staff and students with the necessary skills and knowledge that will enable us to mainstream ethics and integrity in our day to day activities.

This will be achieved through the sharing of knowledge, experiences and skills on how to enhance our governance, leadership, ethics and integrity in order for us to deliver on our statutory obligations.

It is my sincere hope that this training will afford us all the opportunity to interact and get to understand;

1. What this monster called corruption really is.
2. The different faces that it manifests itself in; and,
3. How it affects our social-economic and institutional wellbeing.

After the workshop, we will all be expected to transfer the skills and knowledge acquired to other members of EUC community especially in the Departments that you work in or head.

The ultimate objective is to ensure that the song of ***Ethics, Integrity and Corruption intolerance*** becomes the chorus to be sang every day and night by all the staff, the students and the stake holders of Embu University College.

Embu University College Management is strongly committed to ensuring zero tolerance to corruption by promoting transparent, accountable and results-oriented governance structure that is all-inclusive and participatory. I am sure that during the course of your working or studying at EUC you have observed that we, the Management of EUC, practice these values in all our activities and undertakings. I would like to re-iterate that we shall continue to promote transparency and accountability in all our activities at EUC.

Ladies and gentlemen;

I am pleased to let you know that the University Council and Management have put in place various measures to ensure that high ethical and integrity standards are maintained in the University; these are:

- 1) The Code of Conduct (aligned with The Leadership and Integrity Act (LIA), 2012,
- 2) Continuous Training and sensitization of staff
- 3) Operationalization of the Disciplinary Committee
- 4) Establishment of Complaints registers
- 5) Establishment of Corruption reporting channels i.e. Corruption reporting boxes, University College Web site, Telephone hotlines, suggestion boxes, Direct reporting to the Principal and EACC among others avenues.

As I conclude, my challenge to you is to come forth and respond to this humble call to join in the good fight against this social evil that is slowly eating away and eroding the gains that we as a country have attained over the years. We all know that corruption is a major barrier to our social, economic, and human development.

- It is destroying our economy
- It is crushing our youths' hopes and dreams
- It is causing extreme poverty
- Poor infrastructure and basic services
- Lowering our education standards
- Poor health services

Among others

It is an individual's responsibility to resist all forms of temptations to engage in corrupt and unethical practices. Let us always remember that as public officers, it is our duty to always demonstrate sound leadership and commitment to integrity in all our undertakings. Our main motivation should be providing quality service to our customers and not personal gain.

Colleagues,

Please allow me to emphasize that fighting corruption is not a sole responsibility of University Management or the Council, but for all of us as the EUC Community. We should all discharge our individual and

collective responsibilities with utmost integrity if we are to record any meaningful success in this campaign.

Today, my challenge to every one of us is that the success or failure of our University will depend on how we will embrace integrity in whichever Department, Unit or role that one is entrusted with at Embu University.

It is only by working as a team to combat corruption, will we have a chance to stem this widespread cancer across our country and stop it from encroaching into our University system.

Hopefully, when we all have a clear understanding of what corruption entails, how it permeates every sector and layer of society, and we begin to take the required decisive actions against it, then we will be able stop those who are corrupt from contaminating us, and to whatever small extent restore the pride in our beloved country, and improve our well-being and our social- economic development.

I am hopeful that by the end of this training, we will appreciate the challenge and task ahead of us and that we will be fully equipped to spread the gospel of integrity to other members of staff in our institution and the society at large.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

With those few remarks, I want to wish you a fruitful training. I request all of us to set aside our office routines during the duration of the training and engage freely so that we can give our University the best of what we are going to learn.

It is now my pleasure to declare this Training on ethics and integrity officially open.

Thank you very much.

God bless you.

Prof Daniel Mugendi
Principal, EUC