



School of Business Hosts German African Universities Partnership Conference

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The University of Nairobi's School of Business successfully hosted the German African Universities Partnership Conference on 19th July, 2017. This was the 6th annual conference and the theme for the event was, "Universities, Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development in Africa."

Speaking during the event, conference chair, Prof. Bitange Ndemo said that it was appropriate to host the event in Nairobi since Kenya is one of the leading African countries with the most start-ups and incubation centers where entrepreneurship thrives. Prof. Ndemo also said that, "The conference brings a rich diversity of approaches to understanding entrepreneurship and the range of contexts in which it is taught, studied and used across the globe."

In his remarks, Prof. Justus Munyoki, Chairman, Department of Business Administration stated that, "The theme of this conference befits our current situation in Africa where universities are challenged to embrace entrepreneurial ways of generating income as well as producing graduates who will rather create employment opportunities than seek unavailable jobs."

The conference brought together academics, researchers, industry practitioners and students from Germany, Ghana and Kenya to discuss the interdependence between theory and practice with papers presented focusing on analysis, description and teaching of entrepreneurship.

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Bode, Vice President of International Affairs and Diversity, Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Science said that, German African Universities Partnership is a Platform for the Development of Entrepreneurs and Small/Medium Enterprises. Prof. Bode observed that, "The labour markets in Africa show graduates with sufficient theoretical skills but exhibit lack of practical experience which needs to be overcome. In order to raise the awareness of the potential in the African market, the project addresses German SMEs and universities to get involved with this topic by using the advantages of a university partnership platform."

Since its launch in 2015, the German African Universities Partnership Programme has promoted practical knowledge acquisition through student and academic staff exchange between the participating universities.

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