



KAIMOSI FRIENDS UNIVERSITY

(UNIVERSITY COUNCIL)

3RD GRADUATION CEREMONY SPEECH

BY

CHAIRMAN, UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

**DURING THE 3RD GRADUATION CEREMONY OF KAIMOSI FRIENDS
UNIVERSITY**

HELD ON FRIDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER 2024 AT 9.00AM

THEME: SHAPING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE WITH KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION

1. SALUTATIONS

Distinguished, Ladies and Gentlemen;

2. WELCOMING REMARKS:

Madam Chancellor, distinguished guests, staff, students, and graduands, it is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to this momentous occasion—the Third Graduation Ceremony of our university. We are deeply honored by your presence and enthusiastic participation. Please feel at home and appreciated as part of this community.

This year, our theme, *“Shaping the Future with Knowledge and Innovation,”* reflects our unwavering commitment to our core mandate of teaching, research, and community service. This theme aligns with Kenya’s Vision 2030, the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda, the African Union’s Agenda 2063, and the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. As a university, we continuously engage with our stakeholders to forge strategic synergies that position us as leaders in higher education. I am pleased to share some of the progress we have made toward this goal.

3. COUNCIL APPROVALS

The University Council remains steadfast in developing forward-thinking policies to guide our operations and achieve our performance targets. Notably, the Council has approved the reviewed Statutes, ensuring compliance with the Universities Act (2012). These statutes, along with our Charter, serve as key governance instruments for the university's daily operations.

In line with Section 35 of the Act, the Council has recently approved several critical documents, including our *Strategic Plan for 2023–2027*. Additionally, we have adopted essential human resource instruments, such as the *Human Resource Policy and Manual* and the *Staff Establishment Plan*.

To facilitate research, innovation and outreach, the Council has approved budgetary requests and supported the implementation of the University's research and innovation agenda.

4. COLLABORATIONS

Madam Chancellor, as part of our strategy to enhance our mandate, the university has established key partnerships. We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Vihiga County Teaching and Research Hospital to support the infrastructural needs of our School of Health Sciences. Furthermore, in collaboration with the County Government, we have established the *Centre of Excellence for Climate Action and Research*, addressing the pressing challenges posed by climate change.

These partnerships enable us to enrich the student learning experience while fostering impactful research and innovation. Moving forward, we will continue building such collaborations to strengthen our resource base and expand our contribution to society.

5. STAFF WELFARE

Madam Chancellor, allow me to express my sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff, whose tireless efforts shape our students into responsible, skilled, and value-driven individuals ready to serve society.

To attract and retain highly qualified personnel for our five academic schools, the Council has approved a *competitive Scheme of Service*. Additionally, we remain committed to continuous staff training and capacity-building initiatives to ensure effective service delivery and professional growth.

6. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

To meet the growing needs of our students, the Council has prioritized key infrastructural projects. These include the completion of the ultra-modern library, which will significantly enhance teaching and research capabilities,

and the construction of a perimeter wall to ensure the safety and security of the university community.

We are also equipping our laboratories with state-of-the-art facilities and are in the process of developing an anatomy lab to support the School of Health Sciences. These efforts are geared toward creating an environment that fosters academic excellence and innovation.

7. MESSAGE TO THE GRADUANDS

Madam Chancellor, allow me to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2024. Today marks the culmination of your hard work, resilience, and dedication.

As you embark on this next chapter of your journey, I urge you to embrace service with humility and selflessness. Let your contributions to society reflect our core values, particularly friendship. Be kind and supportive to your families, communities, and, most importantly, yourselves.

Finally, I take this opportunity to wish you all a joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year in 2025.

It is now my honor and privilege to invite the representative of Principal Secretary, State Department of Higher Education and Research, to address the congregation.

Thank you.