



University of Eastern Africa, Baraton

Office of the Vice - Chancellor

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2017 Vice Chancellor's End of Year Message

On behalf of the University Administration, I wish to extend our special appreciation to every student, faculty, staff, Council and Board of Trustees member of the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton, the surrounding community and other stakeholders.

Reflecting on the year 2017, we are assured that it was only by the grace of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ that we have successfully come to the end of the year 2017. This is because of your resilience and commitment to serve God. All of us acknowledge that the year 2017 had difficult challenges; but many of these challenges were historical in nature and were therefore beyond our control. But others may have been caused by myself or members of my administrative team. If there is any university decision that may have affected you negatively and caused unnecessary inconveniences to you because it was not taken in your favor, it was because there was no alternative appropriate decision and I therefore request for your forgiveness. Despite the challenges of 2017, each student, faculty, staff, Council and Board of Trustees member demonstrated his/her commitment to the mission of the University and contributed in a significant manner to its fulfillment. It is not possible for humans to fully reward your contribution, but it is only the Lord who can reward you most appropriately for your service.

During this holiday season, I am requesting every one of us to pause for a moment and reflect on the way we have served the University in 2017; and let us answer the following questions:

- 1. 2017 Review of my performance at UEAB:**
 - a) What were my achievements during my service at UEAB in 2017?
 - b) What were my failures and successes in 2017?
 - c) What did I do well in 2017 for UEAB?
 - d) What did I do wrong in 2017 for UEAB?



2. **2017 Lessons and Analysis of my performance at UEAB:**
 - a) What could I have done better for UEAB in 2017?
 - b) How could I have done better for UEAB in 2017?
 - c) What lessons have I learned from my mistakes at UEAB in 2017?
 - d) What lessons did I learn from the 2017 experience at UEAB?

3. **2018 Strategies to improve my performance at UEAB:**
 - a) What are my goals with regard to the achievement of the University's vision and mission in 2018?
 - b) How will I do things differently in 2018 to achieve these goals?
 - c) How can I improve my service delivery at UEAB in 2018?
 - d) What strategy can I use to do things better in 2018?

It should be emphasized that the University's success is solely dependent upon the availability of competent human resources since they are critical to the University's fulfillment of its mandate. Jesus Christ likened the worker's performance to fruit bearing tree; whereby the worker is the tree and the outcome of performance is the fruit. "So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit." A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. "Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire" (**Matthew 7:17-19**). "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit (**Matthew 12:33**). This implies that the tree that produces good fruit is a competent worker and vice versa. Therefore, in 2018, we have to make a choice to be competent workers or incompetent workers. Let us all choose to be competent workers at UEAB in 2018.

2017 IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS

1. **The Chancellor:** We are very grateful to the Chancellor of the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton, Pastor Dr. Blasious Ruguri, ECD President, for his visionary leadership, practical and wonderful advise from his wealth of experience and managerial skills in guiding the university to financial stability. His ability and deliberate action to take hard decisions in 2017, is highly commendable. Without his support, there was no way the University could have attained financial stability. May God continue to bless his ministry.

2. **University Council:** We thank the University Council under the leadership of Pastor Ken Maena, Council Chair. In 2017, he was firm and very understanding in handling difficult situations. The University could not have made these significant achievements without the support of the University Council members. The Council members have been invaluable assets in this difficult and stormy journey, because they understood and approved the recommendations of the Administrative Board. Without their approval, there was no way the University could have been financially stable.

3. **Board of Trustees:** We thank the members of the Board of Trustees under the leadership of Pastor Dr. Samuel Makori, Board of Trustees Chair. In 2017, the members of the Board of Trustees participated actively in decision-making to ensure that the University is financially stable.

4. **Revised Strategic Plan 2015-2020:** The revised Strategic Plan 2015-

2020 that was approved by the University Council is strictly being implemented. We thank the University Council, university administration, faculty and staff for the fulfillment of major strategic initiatives.



5. Turnaround Strategy: The turnaround strategy that was approved by the University Council has continued to be implemented in 2017 and we thank the University Council for accepting the turnaround strategies for implementation.

6. 2017 Graduation Ceremony: The University of Eastern Africa, Baraton, celebrated its 35th Graduation Ceremony on **July 7-9, 2017**. The Consecration Service and Baccalaureate speaker was the Hon. Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, **Justice David Maraga**, while the Graduation Guest Speaker was **Prof. P.L.O. Lumumba**. This was a successful graduation where 500 students graduated in different disciplines. On behalf of the university administration, I wish to extend our special appreciation and thanks to all those who participated in making this graduation ceremony successful.

7. New Faculty Members: During this year we received new faculty members in different departments. We appreciate the contributions they are making at the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton. The new faculty and staff members are welcome to be part of the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton family.

8. Retirement: During the year 2017, several workers went on retirement and some are in the process of going for retirement. On behalf of the university administration, we thank these employees who have rendered meritorious service to the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton. We wish them well and the Lord's blessings in their retirement years.

9. Vice Chancellor's Major National and Regional Assignments:

a) **National Joint Working Group on Quality Assurance:** In February 2017, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Phillip Maiyo was selected by the Ministry of Education, Government of Kenya to serve as a member of the *National Joint Working Group on Quality Assurance of the Commission for University Education* for a period of one year.

b) **Kenya Association of Private Universities (KAPU):** In May 2017, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Phillip Maiyo was re-elected as the Vice Chairman of the Kenya Association of Private Universities

c) **EASTECO Governing Board Member:** In May 2017, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Phillip Maiyo was selected by the Ministry of Education, Government of Kenya to serve as a member of the Governing Board of the East African Science and Technology of the East African Community.

d) **End of Assignments in Inter-University Council for East Africa:** In June 2017, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Phillip Maiyo ended his **three year term** as a member of the **Audit Committee** of the Inter-University Council for East Africa in Uganda.

e) **KAPU ICT Committee:** In November 2017, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Phillip Maiyo was selected to serve as Chairman of the ICT Committee of Kenya Association of Private Universities (KAPU).



10. ***New and continuing students:*** The students under the leadership of Students Association of Baraton University (SABU) have continued to conduct themselves well by reflecting the mission and vision of the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton. Congratulations for being responsible students.

11. ***Necrology:*** Unfortunately, during the year 2017, we lost two of our workers and one student, namely Mr. Daniel Ruto, Mr. John Tiony and Ms. Faith Jebet Korir respectively. On behalf of the University administration; we once again extend our sympathies and prayers to the affected families.

12. ***Government Sponsored Students:*** The University received the second cohort and offered admissions to 712 new government sponsored students in different departments. The students are most welcome to be part of the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton family.

13. ***Research and Publications:*** On **July 11 to 13, 2017**, the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton organized the **4th Annual Baraton International Interdisciplinary Research Conference** and Exhibition was held with the theme **“Transforming the Future through Research and Innovative Solutions”**. 109 researchers presented papers as distributed below:

- a) Papers presented by UEAB Faculty and Staff – 78
- b) Papers presented by UEAB Alumni – 7 (PhD – 2; Master’s – 5)
- c) Papers presented by UEAB Students – 12 (PhD – 6; Master’s – 1; Undergraduate – 5)
- d) Papers presented by members from other universities – 12.

The **5th Annual Baraton International Interdisciplinary Research Conference** is planned for **May 2 to 4, 2018** with the theme **“Combating Challenges of the 21st Century through Research”**. Deadline of submission of abstracts (not more than 200 words) is **February 1, 2018**. I wish to extend my appreciation to the organizers and participants of the Baraton International Interdisciplinary Research Conference for their commitment to research and scholarly work.

14. ***Collaborations and partnerships:*** I wish to extend our appreciation and special thanks to our international partners in different countries and especially those in the United States of America and Europe. We appreciated your support and contributions that you made in 2017. We hope that these collaborations and partnerships will be enhanced to a higher level in 2018.

15. ***Baptisms:*** On May 27, 2017, the Chaplaincy Department assisted by the Outreach team of the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton organized the Annual Outreach Rally and was attended by over 13,000 guests. By the grace of God, during the event, **1,195** individuals were baptized. We thank the organizers and God for the success of this event.

16. ***Free Medical and Sports Camp:*** Dr. Erling Oksenholt and his team of doctors and sports trainers from the United States of America conducted a Free Medical Camp on **March 23- 28, 2017** in Nandi County through the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton and Sports Camp for the neighbouring schools at the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton. On behalf of the University administration, I wish to extend our special appreciation to Dr. Erling Oksenholt and his team for their generous contributions to make the camps



successful. **Scholarships:** I wish to extend our special thanks to Dr. Erling Oksenholt, leader of the Medical Camp Team for the financial assistance given to many of our needy students in 2017. May God continue to bless your ministry.

17. **Reduction of workforce:** In 2017, due to financial constraints, the university took a difficult decision to reduce the number of workers in the university. This action negatively affected many families and we sincerely apologize to the affected families since the university had no alternative but to take this drastic action to ensure continuity of the university's existence.

18. **Closure of Campuses:** In 2017, again due to financial constraints, the University took another difficult decision to close all the extension campuses. Again, this action negatively affected many families and we sincerely apologize to the affected families since the university had no alternative but to take this drastic action to ensure the University's survival.

19. **Members of the surrounding Community:** We want to thank the members of the surrounding community for their understanding and cooperation during the difficult times when the University was reducing the number of workers. The surrounding community was severely affected but they maintained cordial relationships with the University. I sincerely thank them for attending the several meetings to discuss the issues related to workers whose services were discontinued.

20. **Austerity Measures:** In 2017, in order to reduce and control expenditure, the University implemented several austerity measures affecting faculty and staff and we want to thank the faculty and staff for being cooperative and making sacrifices by working without grumbling or arguing (Philippians 2:14) and ensuring that the University continued to function. May God bless you abundantly.

21. **Financial Stability:** On behalf of the University administration, I want to thank the Almighty God, faculty and staff for the great improvement in the financial stability of the University. The University is currently more stable than before and we give glory and honor unto the Lord for His enabling power. May God bless each one of you for the part you played in these great achievements.

22. **University administration:** I wish to extend my appreciation and thanks to my administrative team. In 2017, they performed wonderfully in the decision making process. This year's decisions were outstanding and by the grace of God, we managed to make the University better and stronger than before. May the Lord continue to lead us to make even better decisions in 2018.

23. **Exit Strategy and University Restructuring Committees:** I wish to extend my special appreciation and thanks to these two committees that were chaired by Pastor *Dr. Rei Kesis*, the University Chaplain and coordinated by *Mr. Amose Mule*, the Business Manager. The two committees made substantial and outstanding contributions on financial matters at University of Eastern Africa, Baraton in 2017. The recommendations from these two committees have guided the University administration in financial decision making.



The year 2018 will bring a new set of challenges but the Lord has promised as follows:

a) **1 Peter 5:7:** “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you”.

b) **Proverbs 3:5-6:** “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:4.” Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man”.

c) **Philippians 4:6-7:** “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”.

d) **Jeremiah 29:11:** “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”.

e) **Matthew 11:28-30:** Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

On behalf of the University administration, we look forward to 2018 with optimism and the opportunity to work closely with you again in the coming year.

Let me conclude by wishing you:

HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON &
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018

May God bless you and UEAB.

Prof. Phillip Maiyo,
Vice Chancellor.

Date: 29-Dec-2017.