

## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Welcome to the department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine. We remain committed to the provision of World Class training in the disciplines of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Oral pathology and Oral Medicine as well as Maxillofacial Radiology and Imaging. The department also provides high skilled clinical care to patients referred from various parts of the country and the entire East African region. Our work is synergised by credible research conducted by members of staff who continue to publish regularly in peer reviewed journals and present findings in regional and international conferences and Seminars.

The academic year 2017/2018 has been full of challenges; like other public Universities in Kenya, the University of Nairobi suffered the disruption of academic programs due to prolonged labour dispute between the staff unions on one side and Universities management and Ministry of education on the other.

The department was not spared from the impact of this disruption of academic programs. I therefore commend both students and staff for making great compromises and sacrifices in our effort to steer our academic calendar back on course. The department was able to complete the syllabus for the BDS IV and MDS III (2014) and successfully conducted examinations for these groups in the month of August, 2018.

There are still a number of challenges facing operations in the department, most of these arising from the reduced funding of public Universities by the government. The operations in our surgical theater and the X-ray departments have been the most adversely affected as they depend on imported materials for repair and servicing.

However, concerted effort has been made by the department with the support of the Dean School of Dental Sciences and goodwill from the Vice Chancellor to expedite the procurement processes and we are optimistic that the year will end on a sound operational note.

We expect installation of five new dental units in the oral diagnosis clinic, at least for new modern microscopes in the pathology lab and a new heavy duty drill in theater. In addition to these new equipment and materials, we are certain that the repairs of the anaesthetic machine and the OPG x-ray machine will be complete in a matter of weeks.

It is my strong conviction that the year 2019 will see us reload our energy reserves as well as renew our intellectual commitment to come up with fresh ideas that will spur growth in the department as we adjust to the paradigm shift occasioned by the new changes in public Universities financing.

To our esteemed students and patients we assure you of no compromise in ensuring quality academic standards and optimum clinical care.

Thank you for entrusting us with your professional training and healthcare.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Walter A. Odhiambo', is written over a dashed horizontal line.

Dr. Walter A. Odhiambo BDS, MDS, FRIS

Chairman,

Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine