

## Message from the Chairman

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The [Department of Agricultural Economics](#) [8] is one of the oldest departments in the Faculty of Agriculture having started in 1970 when it began training students at the M.Sc. degree level. Due to demand for students trained in the Department, market-driven undergraduate programmes were introduced. The Department trains students for B.Sc. in Agribusiness Management and B.Sc. in Agricultural Education and Extension; M.Sc. in Agricultural Economics, M.Sc. in Agricultural and Applied Economics, M.Sc. in Agricultural Information Communication and Management, PGD and certificate. The Department also offers discipline and non-discipline PhD by research.

The training in the Department of Agricultural Economics equips learners with requisite concepts, knowledge and tools, ability to adapt to the realities of their institutional, political and economic setting, thus producing individuals sufficiently skilled to operate in a setting characterized by lack of human development, poverty reduction and food security. Our graduates therefore have a solid foundation in economic concepts, methods and applied analysis, extension and outreach activities, communication, teaching and business and are able to tackle problems as functioning professionals, researchers, teachers and administrators.

Development economists in the Department have lent much attention to African Social and Cultural requirements for development and avoided making the mistake of ethnocentrism and usually strike a balance between pareto-optimal equilibria and Nash equilibria. Our empiricist or positivist, researchers are confronted with the challenge of generating new research approaches that help contribute to the process of social transformation of our society. Such approaches lead to paradigms that have assumptions about reality, data generation techniques, observation and enquiry.

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It is the vision of the Department that the publications, research outputs, outreach activities, consultancies, partnerships and linkages established will catapult us into a world first class Department and be guide to subsequent scholars who wish to discover the many dimensions of this academic institution.

Dr. John Mburu

Chairman

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