

FARE WELL MESSAGE FROM NAOMI N. OGAMBA

Written on the last day of work at UoN – Wed 31st August 2016

I joined the University of Nairobi (UoN) on 02/01/ 1990 as a copy typist, in the Principal's Office – Internal Audit Section. In June 1991 I was promoted to Assistant Secretary, a position I held up to my last day at the University. Due to family and demanding official obligations I was not able to further my studies.

I joined the Department of Surgery in May 2008 where I have been stationed to date.

A part from my secretarial functions and duties assigned by my immediate supervisors and academic staff, I offered my passionate skill of mentoring and counseling to undergraduate and postgraduate students. Like many other normal young persons, a number of the students face a myriad of challenges ranging from emotional stress to isolated cases of self-esteem. Some of the causes of these challenges include the heavy workloads from studies for exams, financial and to some extent other environmental factors. I must say here that virtually all the young people undertaking various courses within the college of health sciences are extremely responsible and hard working. This is the result of the concerted effort from the parents/guardians, the teaching staff and, as a parent of generally same age persons, I have learned a great deal from them. Through my interactive learning experience coupled with my experience as a parent, I was able to assist a number of the students who had challenges that were at times extremely overwhelming and adversely affecting their studies. I am proud to note that all those who faced such challenges were able to overcome them partly through counseling from me and most importantly, their willingness to tackle the challenges facing them. The affected students were finally able to proceed and complete their studies. I am truly proud of these students and all the other students that I interacted with in one-way or the other. To all students, "I have left the university, a very proud mum to you all. Each one of you, wherever you are, any time, please feel free to call me and say *jambo*. In case you have any worries or challenges to share with me, am the same mum, please feel free to share with me and I can assure you, I will formulate the solutions with you. I thank the Lord and will continue to pray for you all." For ease of contact, you can call me through my personal phone 0722 704 759.

The relationship with colleagues and my seniors was wonderful. I was mentored and guided well. I must confess that through interaction with all of you within the college, I managed to acquire a great deal of skills which will continue to be extremely useful to me in my future undertakings. You are all truly wonderful people. Without you, I would not be having the skills I have today. I remain truly grateful to you all.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all the staff for their support and guidance and above all for creating a wonderful environment for me to work in.

Thank you and may the Almighty God Bless you All

Naomi Nyanusi Ogamba