



# Soj Launches Centre of Excellence in Media and Communications

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The School of Journalism has officially launched the Centre of Excellence in Media and Communications.

Speaking during the event at Norfolk Hotel, University of Nairobi Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi noted that the Centre will offer a forum for dialogue and joint programmes exhibiting the diverse resources and strengths at the University. "As a University, we are continuously seeking new ways of strengthening on our mandate of educating holistic graduates, the collaborative effort between the partners represented here and with other stakeholders in industry shall have an impact on our curricular and also on the practice of media and communication," said the Vice-Chancellor.

Prof. Mbithi also noted that the University is ready to work with professionals in the industry to improve the capacity within the media and communication sector by mounting short courses and in-service training. Further, the University will offer good capacity in research using multi-disciplinary approach to develop new knowledge that can influence policy and practice.

Present at the launch were several partners that played a key role in the establishment of the center of excellence. These being; The Ford Foundation, Kenya Institute of Mass Communication, Media Council of Kenya and the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology.

On his part, Prof. Enos Njeru, the Principal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, noted that the Center will play a pivotal role in training of media practitioners in the country and across Africa.

The launch was attended by; the following partners; Mrs. Rosemary Okello-Orlale from Ford Foundation, representatives of UNESCO, Representative of Public Relations Society of Kenya, media and communication centre. From the University of Nairobi, we had; Prof. Timothy Waema, from the School of Computing and Informatics, Dr. Ndeti Ndati, the Director, School of Journalism, [Dr. Samuel Siringi](#) [9], Associate Director, School of Journalism, Dr. Wambui Kiai, Project Coordinator, Ford Foundation Project – Establishing the Media and Communication Project and Mr. John Orindi, Director, Corporate Communications among others.

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