

## 20 NEEDY STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM CHINESE AMBASSADOR SCHOLARSHIP

A total of 20 students drawn from the six colleges have benefitted from the Chinese Ambassador Scholarship. The scholarships amounting to 20 million shillings were awarded to the deserving students by the Chinese Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Liu Xianfa in a ceremony held at UON on November 14, 2016.

Speaking during the award ceremony, the Chinese Ambassador to Kenya, Dr. Liu Xianfa congratulated the recipients of the awards. The scholarship was founded in 2013 by the Chinese Embassy in Kenya and UoN. He noted that the first Confucius Institute was established in UON and the 2<sup>nd</sup> in the world. The Confucius institute is one of the 15 models institutes in the world.

Special Students Advisor, Prof, Godfrey Muriuki noted that it is a good gesture and an honor to support bright but disadvantaged students. He also explained the criteria of choosing the students for the scholarship was based on the basis of needy and academic excellence. Prof. Muriuki also noted that by awarding the scholarships it helps the students not to fall into activities that might disrupt their studies. He encouraged the students saying 'coming from a poor background is not a hindrance to success'.

On his part the DVC Academic Affairs Prof Mutoro who spoke on behalf of the Vice Chancellor Prof. Peter Mbithi thanked the Chinese Embassy for supporting the students. He said the ceremony cements the relationship between UON and the People's Republic of China. He also noted this is the third time the embassy is supporting needy students since its Launch in November 11<sup>th</sup> 2014. In 2014 18 students benefited, 20 in 2015 and 20 in 2016 making it a total of 58 students. Prof Mutoro also noted that the 58 students have not disappointed and they have excelled in their performance.

The department of Special Students Advisor conducts a thorough vetting process to make sure only needy and deserving students get the scholarship.

The Award ceremony took place at Taifa Hall and was attended by Mr. B. M. Waweru, Academics Registrar and Mr. Johnson Kinyua, Director, University Advancement among others.