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Uon in Discussions of collaborations with KAIST

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The University of Nairobi has entered into discussions and for possible collaborations with the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST).

KAIST is the 6th most innovative University in the world and seeks collaboration through its global Information Technology Telecommunication Programme (ITTP) course and Global Commercialization Centre.

The Uon-KAIST collaboration would be for creating innovation centres in the University, Research & Development facilities, fabrication labs and commercialization, and would assist the university to develop capacity for locally- developed technology and collaboration in setting up University and R&D facilities in Konza Technopolis.



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KAIST and UoN team take a photo after courtesy call on Mon Oct 24, 2016

Prof. Henry Mutoro, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, speaking on behalf of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi said that the University of Nairobi has the annual Innovation week, maker space, Fablab, and C4D Lab as 'vehicles' to highlight innovations in the entire University, incubate and help commercialize research and start-ups. These have helped the University form partnerships with government, private sector, and industry.

Prof JaeJeung Rho, Director, KAIST ITTP said that Industrialization and creative economy have been the basis of KAIST. Industries set the direction, in terms of telling academia and researchers what the Industry needs and the universities take the lead from them. They teach courses based on the needs of their country.

KAIST has developed partnerships worldwide with the likes of MIT and Harvard University and is growing through the International linkages.

Prof. Rho said that through its Global Commercialization Centre, GCC, KAIST has established a most effective process composed of three phases; technology targeting, matching and business enabling.

The University of Nairobi indicated willingness to participate in the KAIST GCC and Prof. Madara Ogot, Director, Research and extension was assigned to be the contact person to work further on the details of the collaboration.

The courtesy call was at the Vice Chancellor's boardroom on Monday, October 24, 2016.

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