

## **UoN and Xinyu to offer course in new energy engineering**

The University of Nairobi and Xinyu University, China, have entered into discussions in offering a joint programme in the area of new energy engineering with special focus on solar energy.

This was the discussion when the President of Xinyu University, Prof. Shi Ke, paid a courtesy call on the UoN, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi.

Prof. Mbithi thanked the Chinese university for expressing an interest to collaborate with the university in the new venture. He said that a programme of solar energy in the engineering field will add value to the University's portfolio.

"This programme will be appropriate for our College of Architecture and Engineering. It is important for Kenyan institutions of higher learning to look into offering courses in the area of new energy engineering," he said.

The President, Xinyu University, said that his institution is strong on new engineering and technology courses. He said that Xinyu will explore potential collaboration activities between the two. He revealed that already several Kenyan students are pursuing the new engineering and technology courses in Xinyu University.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Production and Extension, Prof. Lucy Irungu, noted that UoN through the Department of Physics has conducted a lot of research and training in photovoltaic study area since 1998. She said that the Department through the Solar Academy has trained over 500 technicians drawn from both government and private sector.

A team to draw up the memorandum of understanding led by the Principal, College of Architecture and Engineering, Prof. Peter Ngau from UoN side and a professor from Xinyu will be set up.