

CONSULTANCY POLICY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dedan Kimathi University of Technology is an enterprising organisation and seeks to release the talents of its staff and students for the benefit of the community and economy at large. The University management is committed to supporting external engagements of staff that facilitate training, knowledge development and technology transfer. In this process therefore, the University will be contributing to staff skill enhancement, socio-economic development and the country's economic transformation process. Channeling expertise into consultancy brings benefits to the University, Schools, Directorates, Institutes, Centres, Departments and to the individual staff members. We recognize that consultancy forms a necessary and vital part of our function as Institution of Higher learning, in particular in encouraging a close relationship with the community, including industry, business and commerce. Consultancy is considered an effective way of disseminating knowledge that makes an early and direct impact to the society. This is anchored on the increasing recognition of the commercial value inherent in her staff expertise. This notwithstanding a balance between consultancy and the traditional roles of the academic staff needs to be managed while protecting the interest of the university. This Policy provides provisions for conducting consultancy to ensure that consultancies undertaken by staff are consistent with the University's strategic and operational objectives and the costs are sustainable.

Through this consultancy policy and practices, the University will offer an efficient and effective service to the community, based on the excellence of her educational and research provision. DeKUT appreciates and values benefits accruing from offering consultancy services which include: creating opportunities for generating additional personal income or funds for research; networking through creation of links with private and public sector companies and bodies; accessing new industrial and commercial opportunities for collaboration or contract research; providing supporting information for teaching and research since most consultancy deal with contemporary issues; developing new skills and experience; and generating recognition for fostering enterprise that can steer a countries economic development.

In enhancing the capacity of members of DeKUT to respond in an agile and flexible way to external opportunities, this policy clearly outlines: the consultancy process; consultancy pricing; consultancy income to staff; intellectual property emanating from consultancy work; university support in undertaking consultancy work and the ethical considerations in undertaking consultancy. It is therefore the University's policy to encourage staff to engage in consultancy wherever appropriate and in a manner that is consistent with their contractual responsibilities and in tandem with this policy. This policy is a working document for external engagement in as far as consultancy is concerned.

