

Moi University staff bid farewell to long serving Librarian

Moi University staff on Friday September 14, 2018 threw a party to bid farewell to the Institution's first and long serving Librarian, Dr. Tirong arap Tanui.



In the colourful event organised mainly by the staff of Margaret Thatcher Library of Moi University at main campus in Kesses, Eldoret, it was a moment of acknowledging and appreciating the exemplary service of Dr. Tanui to Kenya's second public University for 33 years since 1985.

Moi University was established in 1984 and Dr. Tanui joined a few months later, hence he holds a lot of its institutional memory.

Among Dr. Tanui's major achievements at Moi University during his tenure as the Librarian were his hand in developing the curriculum for the School of Information Sciences, setting up of the Moi University Sacco (MUSCO) and most importantly sourcing for the construction of the Margaret Thatcher Library.



“Having been educated in the United Kingdom together with my other colleagues, we used our connections with British librarian friends in London to source for the construction of the library at Moi University,” said Dr. Tanui in an interview at the farewell party.

He added: “When Moi University was established, we felt the library was the most important resource in the field of academia. We were lucky enough that then Kenya President, Daniel Toroitich arap Moi, took up the idea and involved then UK Premier, Margaret Thatcher.”

Dr. Tanui said the 8 million pounds project was the largest British library project in the world that was fully computerized in 1993, making it a model ultra-modern library in East and Central Africa.

He fully supervised the construction of the Library from 1991 to 1994 when it was officially opened by Margaret Thatcher, which was the first ever tour of Africa by a UK Premier.

Dr. Tanui urged the staff of Moi University to serve the Institution diligently, noting that what is important is not the titles that they hold, but their dedication to service to humanity.