STAFF INTEGRITY IN HANDLING DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS: THE CASE FOR SECURITY OF INFORMATION

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SUMMARY OF THE PAPER

* THE PURPOSE OF THIS PRESENTATION
* THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PAPER
* DEFINING THE TERM RECORDS
* EXPLAINING IMPORTANCE OF RECORDS
* PRUDENT MANAGEMENT OF RECORDS
SUMMARY

- BENEFITS OF MANAGING RECORDS WELL
- INTEGRITY AND ETHICAL ISSUES
- GOOD ATTRIBUTE OF STAFF
- GUIDELINES IN PLACE
- STAFF RESPONSIBILITY
- CONCLUSION
PURPOSE:

* This paper is meant to awaken the thinking of UON staff on matters of safety and security of records and document
OBJECTIVE.

To enable the participants to re-evaluate their actions with regards to management of University records and documents-information generally.
“Information created, received, and maintained as evidence and information by an organization or person, in pursuance of legal obligations or in the transaction of Business”: Source-ISO 15489 Standard
Field of management responsible for the efficient and systematic control of the creation, receipt, maintenance, use and disposition of records, including processes for capturing and maintaining evidence of and information about business activities and transactions in the form of records.
Records are important component of corporate governance. Any organization in business is judged on the basis of performance - good or bad performance.
In the public sector, where tax payers’ money is used to fund activities and operations of various offices set up for the welfare of the people, it is only fair that resources are used for the intended purposes. The evidence of prudent use of public resources is found in records.
The level of efficiency and accountability in a public organization is dependent on how well that organization manages its information resources - both manual and electronic records.
Management of records in a professional manner and in a manner internationally acceptable requires the following:

- Adherence to the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and relevant laws governing the management of public sector records.
 Existence of records management policy framework
 Existence and implementation of sound records classification and indexing schemes
 Application and implementation of sound records retention and disposal schedule
* Improvement of housing for records
* Purchase of sound records storage equipment
* Adherence to procedure manuals and regulations issued from time to time by the Government and the parent body
Informed workforce who are educated, practice good organizational culture and uphold integrity.

Increased use of appropriate technology.
Proper coordination and control of receipt of in-coming mail for accountability, identification, accessibility and use

Efficient coordination of the creation of mail within established pre-determined file plan for ease of filing, identification, maintenance and storage
BENEFITS OF MANAGING RECORDS PROFESSIONALLY

RESULTS IN:

* Well established procedure for control of mail and files in the registries and offices
* Efficient and systematic filing of correspondences in well labeled and referenced files
Sound storage of current and closed records in appropriate rooms, environment and equipment for ease of identification and access during retrieval

Well established records units- registries and storage rooms
* Adequate staffing in records management units/ and staff with proper skills and experience
* Prompt records disposition
BENEFITS

* Informed staff
* Efficient and effective use of information
* Secured information at all times
In Ethics, integrity is regarded as the honesty and truthfulness or accuracy of one’s actions. Integrity is adherence to moral and ethical principles; soundness of moral character; honesty.
When we talk about integrity and ethical issues in records management, we refer to good attributes that result in creation and receipt of authentic and reliable records and information.
GOOD ATTRIBUTES OF STAFF

* A person who:
  * Understands the vision and mission of the organization
  * Know and cherish the core values of the organization
GOOD ATTRIBUTES

* Understands the importance and values of records
* Respects the laws governing management of records
* Able to apply and implement records management policy
* Able to apply systems and procedures in place for management of records
GOOD ATTRIBUTES

* Upholds honesty in creation, receipt and use of records
* Knows how to differentiate different categories of classified information
* Knows that information must not be recklessly handled and disseminated
GOOD ATTRIBUTES

* Understands the official channel of giving/releasing information to a third party
* Does not get tempted to steal information for personal gain
* Does not get tempted to hide information for personal gain
* Does not get tempted to destroy information for whatsoever reason
* Does not corrupt information to conceal criminal activity
All public officers, regardless of grade or rank, follow the following:

* The current constitution
* Code of ethics
* Relevant Acts of Parliament
* Policies of parent organizations
* Systems and procedures set out by the Government and parent organizations
* Circulars issued from time to time by the Government and parent organizations
* Service charter
* Any rule set out by the parent organization
* International Standards adopted by the parent organization
  - Personal common sense
  - All these form the culture of a public servant.
It is an individual’s choice to work for the University of Nairobi, once offered an appointment. Once you are inside and accept to work and earn your living as a member of staff of the University of Nairobi, you must respect the rules and regulations set by the Management and the Government of Kenya- with regards to management of public sector records and information.
If you do not want to respect the rules set out, then you must leave at the earliest possible time. You must not engage in unethical conduct of mismanagement of records and information. You may do it today and even tomorrow, but be assured that you will be held personally responsible.
If you know that you are carrying out records management responsibilities, but you have no skills and ability, better acquire the required skills and ability or ask to be redeployed somewhere else.
UON CORE VALUES:

* BULLET 2: GOOD CORPORATE GOVERNANCE
* BULLET 5: PROFESSIONALISM
* BULLET 6: RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP
* BULLET 8: TEAM SPIRIT AND T. WORK

ISO 9001:2008 Certified
http://www.uonbi.ac.ke
REFERENCE AREAS: UON DOCUMENTS

POLICY ON RECORDS MANAGEMENT:

SECTIONS: 4.1, 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.2, 4.3.2, 5.0, 6.0 AND 6.5
SECTIONS:
1. PURPOSE
2. OBJECTIVES
6. RESPONSIBILITIES
7.6. RECORDS STORAGE AND PROTECTION
CIRCULAR ISSUED BY THE DVC (A & F) ON AUGUST 2, 2010
Directed the establishment of RMC’s in all colleges.
MEMO ON STREAMLINING FLOW OF MAIL

MEMO ISSUED BY THE DVC (A&F) ON FEBRUARY 7, 2013

DIRECTED ALL COLLEGE REGISTRARS TO ENSURE THAT REGISTRY STAFF IMPLEMENT SECTIONS 4.1 AND 4.2 OF THE R.M POLICY
EXTERNAL DOCUMENTS

THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICE ACT, CAP 19.

SECTIONS 7 AND 8
OP CIRCULAR- 28/11/1985

REF: OP.1/48A/66 ON

DESTRUCTION OF NON-CURRENT GOVERNMENT RECORDS
ISO STANDARDS: 15489

INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION-RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

SEC: 4 – BENEFITS OF RM

6- RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 – PRINCIPLES OF RM PROGRAMME

7.2.4 – INTEGRITY