The UoN is apparently facing financial problems and its continued operation depends on the support of the government and creditors. The institution has been running one of the biggest deficits among universities in the country and has been unable to meet pension and other statutory deductions for its workers. What are you doing to address the biting cash crisis at the university?

Three years ago, government funding to universities shifted to the Differentiated Unit Cost (DUC) model. It uses the number of undergraduate students sponsored by the government to determine the level of government support. The implementation of the model resulted in reduction of government capitation in large universities, including UoN, causing a huge payroll gap.

Subsequently, the university was persuaded that increasing the number of Module II students would bridge this gap, an assumption that did not hold. Add to that the "Matiang'i grades" and the accompanying fall in numbers of students qualifying to join university.

To address this crisis, my team and I have to reengineer financial and support systems through a number of reforms to minimise financial utility and increase the value proposition. Further, we have to invest in intangible assets that have a huge potential for revenue growth. This should allow us some small but growing headroom to start discharging our current liabilities.

I also wish to implore the government to review the universities' funding model with a view to capturing the uniqueness of each university. For instance, UoN staff comprises very senior and seasoned professors who have to be remunerated as advised by the Salary and Remuneration Commission (SRC).