Democracy, Governance and Law

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Research Projects of Thematic Area

The School of Law has received a grant of **CAD 600,000** from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) to carry out a three-year research project on Administrative Law and Governance in East Africa. The project, which is led by Prof. Migai Akech, will examine the rulemaking and adjudication practices of administrative agencies, and evaluate the impact of judicial review, with a view to suggesting policy and legislative interventions that would facilitate the mainstreaming of the principles of good administration. It is motivated by a concern that while much of the power of government is exercised by administrators who therefore regulate the daily lives of ordinary citizens, the latter neither participate effectively in such governance nor have the means to

hold it accountable. As a result, the daily interactions that citizens have with administrators are often fraught with delays, broken promises, extortion and abuses of power. The project's point of departure is that administrative law reform can help to either prevent or considerably reduce this rampant abuse of power, in so far as administrative law constitutes a means of facilitating the realization of day-to-day governance that is based on the rule of law. The project will explore the extent to which the principles and procedures of administrative law are embraced through country case studies in tax administration, environmental regulation, and local government. The project will be completed in 2016. Its outputs will include textbook, model decision-making procedures for administrative agencies, and a regional manual on administrative justice.

Degree Programmes/Course Units Linked to Thematic Area

GPR 113 Constitutional Law

GPR 213Administrative Law

GPR 422 Law, Democracy and Governance

GPR 430 Education Law and Policy

GPR 431 Health Law and Policy

GPR 445 Law and Regulation of the Media

GPR 446 Legal Frameworks for Devolution

GPR 447 Public Procurement Law

Possible Career Opportunities

Competence in the area of Democracy, Governance and Law enables a candidate engage in client representation via proffering legal research, advisory and consultancy services to:

- Parliament;
- Other Government institutions;
- Inter-governmental institutions;
- Candidates in election petitions; and
- NGO's among others;

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