UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS: 2013/2014

EXAMINATION FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN

DATA COMMUNICATIONS

MDC 6203 ICT POLICY

DATE: AUGUST, 2014   **TIME: 2 HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question One and Any Other Two Questions

QUESTION ONE: [20 Marks]

a)   Select any three objectives of a national ICT policy. Outline the three and justify why you think they should be the driving force of developing ICT policies   (6 Marks)

b)   The MDG goal no. 8 talks about developing a global partnership for development. One of the targets under this goal is to make available the benefits of information technology, especially information and communications. Briefly discuss what measures that any government that you are familiar with has put in place to achieve this. Clearly identify the government (or economy).   (3 Marks)

c)   Critically analyze the elements of the internet that make it a good candidate for regulation. Highlight any two major aspects that you think you be embedded in an acceptable use policy concerning the use of this resource.   (2 Marks)

d)   The concept of social media is quickly spreading and affecting many sectors of our lives. However, this issue has not been explicitly addressed in the Kenyan national ICT policy. Discuss what steps need to be taken to address it, as well as specific reasons why it should be addressed.   (5 Marks)

e)   Discuss the impact of information technology on the concept of the digital divide. In the context of policy development, discuss how governments can ameliorate the problem of the widening of this gap as it becomes increasingly eminent?   (4 Marks)

QUESTION TWO [15 MARKS]

a) There are 5 "C's" to be considered when building ICT strategies. Identify these Cs, outline each of them and discuss how they affect each other in an intertwined web.   (5 Marks)

b) Some of the social effects of ICT include quality of work and employment. As the ICT director in your organization, highlight the policies you would put in place to address the challenges facing these two areas   (4 Marks)

c) Concern that software and information products can be copied for free, rather than be paid for, has given rise to pressures for legislation to protect intellectual property. In the context of data communications, highlight how the CIO can go about protecting his institution. Outline concepts that you would include in an acceptable usage policy that addresses this area.

(6 Marks)

QUESTION THREE [15 MARKS]

a) There are two main resources that need to be regulated under telecommunications: Spectrum and numbers. Outline why this is so, and discuss the global approach to regulating these two

(10 Marks)

b) One of the major challenges of ICT in developing countries is the lack of sufficient human capacity. Describe ONE strategy that your country can introduce to build this capacity, and clearly identify the stakeholders who would help implement this strategy.   (3 Marks)

c) Describe the concerns surrounding data misuse and surveillance. How adequate is the legal protection in this area in the countries you have studied?   (2 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR [15 MARKS]

a) In general, reform of the telecommunications sector, that is, privatization and/or liberalization accompanied by regulation, may serve a number of different objectives. Identify and outline and such 5 objectives that a government may pursue   (10 Marks)

b) Develop a brief policy that would be used in a mid-sized organization to encourage the growth of human capacity development for ICT.   (5 Marks)