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KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2014/2015

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

APP 817: PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS

DATE: FRIDAY 10TH APRIL 2015 **TIME: 5.30 P.M. – 8.30 P.M.**

INSTRUCTIONS: **Answer questions ONE and any other TWO from the list below. Question one carries 30 points and each of the other two is worth 15 points, so that the total possible number of point is 60.**

Question 1 - Compulsory

"Kaimenyi must review form one selection .... Every year there is an outcry about high performers being discriminated against after being left out of national schools. And every year it is the same song about fairness..." (Daily Nation, January 29, 2015).

There are many ways to view the "fairness" or equity of a policy proposal. This includes whether you feel the situation is best viewed in terms of horizontal or vertical equity and your view about who should pay (or not pay) and who benefits (or should not benefit).

a. Evaluate the equity of the recent form one selection policy and describe all the equity concepts that support the "fairness" of the policy as well as those that question their fairness.

b. Briefly summarize the literature on equity in public policy analysis. What are the theoretical constructs?

Question 2

You are a policy analyst in a city where a new sewage depot is being proposed. The city has become polarized over the thought of the project which has not yet been submitted to the city council.

A. What information would you seek to assist the city manager and the city council in grappling with this issue?

B. What techniques would you employ?

C. What criteria would your analysis have to address?

Question 3

What are the most important factors to consider in conducting a political feasibility analysis? Take a specific example, such as raising gasoline taxes to reduce reliance on imported oil, cutting mandatory prison sentences to lower the cost of keeping nonviolent offenders in prison, or capping student tuition payments to permit greater access to higher education.

Question 4

Should employers continue to carry the burden of providing health care benefits to employees or should the government institute a form of national health insurance instead? What difference might this make for the ability of Kenyan companies to compete internationally when most other countries provide national health insurance?

Question 5

One design for a new geothermal-based electricity complex costs KShs9 million to construct, will produce KShs.15 million worth of power, and will lead to KShs.2 million in operating and maintenance costs. A second design will cost KShs.6 million to construct, produce KShs.10 million worth of power, and lead to KShs.2 million in operating and maintenance costs. Find the net benefits, benefit/cost ratio, and percentage rate of return on each of these two projects.

Project 1.

Net Benefits	= ....
Benefit/Cost Ratio	= ....
Rate of Return	= ....%

Project 2.

Net Benefits	= ....
Benefit/Cost Ratio	= ....
Rate of Return	= ....%

If you can only recommend one choice, which is the best according to each measure?

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