How does a country adopting a new constitution go about structuring the system of governance? How does one overcome the challenges facing a major government department at a time of massive political transition? And how does one apply the knowledge and skills gained from an MPA degree from WMU in the ever-changing context of a developing country? Mr. Kaituko will present on these issues by drawing from his public service experience in planning and effecting change in Kenya. Please come with your inquisitive questions for greater participation and insights into the speaker’s experiences.

**Using MPA Education in Improving the Governance System and Practices: Experience from Kenya**

**Geoffrey Kaituko**

*Special Secretary and Advisor at the Presidency for Social Sector*

*Office of the Deputy President*

*Republic of Kenya*

Mr. Kaituko is currently an Advisor in the Social Sector unit of the Office of the President and Special Secretary of the Office of the Deputy President, Republic of Kenya. His prior professional positions in his home country, Kenya, include Public Policy Advisor and Consultant at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Speaker of the Turkana County Assembly, Project Coordinator at the National Drought Management Authority, District Coordinator at the Constitution of Kenya Review Commission, and Field Coordinator at K-Rep Development Agency.

He holds a professional membership at the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in the United Kingdom and Kenya as well as the Turkana Professional Association. He is a recipient of the Certificate of Excellence for Outstanding Leadership from the Ford Foundation and a Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Service from the African Studies Association at WMU.

An alumnus of the WMU MPA program, Mr. Kaituko’s other academic degrees include Bachelor of Laws (LLB, University of South Africa) and Bachelor of Arts in Government and Arabic (University of Nairobi).

**Date:** October 10, 2019

**Place:** 3510 Sangren Hall

**Refreshments at 5 p.m.**  **Talk from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m.**

Students: Please note that attending this event counts toward WMU Signature Program (with the chosen focus areas listed on your transcript and diploma) where you attend a total of 18 events and reflect on your experience (www.wmich.edu/signature)

**Upcoming talks:** November 13—Thomas Crothers, Battle Creek Community Foundation

January 8—Adrian Vasquez, El Councilio Kalamazoo