

CAMPUS NEWS

Federal University of Technology, Minna

No. 828

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5TH ANNUAL REGISTRY LECTURE: BELKO ADVOCATES SINGLE STAFF UNION FOR VARSITIES

By Aliyu Ibrahim Jidda



Mal. Abubakar delivering the 5th Annual Registry Lecture while others listen with rapt attention.

Photo by: Elijah

The Registrar Usmanu DanFodio University, Sokoto Mal. Nurudeen Abubakar Belko has admonished the various unions in the Nigeria University System to streamline into a single formidable union, this, he said will make them farewell and have unanimous decisions regarding their welfare.

Mal. Belko stated this on Thursday November 11, 2021 while delivering the 5th Annual Registry Lecture of the Federal University of Technology, Minna titled, "Professionalism And The Challenges of University Administration in Nigeria" at the University Auditorium, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano, Minna.

The guest lecturer noted that the proliferation of universities in

Nigeria has not only thrown up new challenges of needs and relevance but has also raised the level of expectations from government, and other stakeholders in the Nigeria University System.

on the challenges, the lecturer posited that in order to discharge its responsibility, the numerous needs of the University as a community have to be met. To that effect, he said, there exists a number of administrative challenges that confront the university system in Nigeria.

Underfunding, according to him, is one of the most serious challenges being faced by Universities in the country. The resources being channeled to universities are quite inadequate to cater for their ever increasing administrative needs.

This makes it difficult to implement many administrative policies geared towards promoting learning and scholarship among students.

"Indeed, the issue of underfunding of Nigeria universities has been a serious bone of contention between the Nigeria government and the Academic Staff Unions of Universities (ASUU). That is why there had been many national strikes by ASUU and other unions in the system.

The Registrar enumerated other challenges associated with University administration to include lack of full autonomy, in adequate and deteriorating infrastructure, weak institutional capacity, under staffing and corruption.

Contd on Page 2

Others include: brain drain, poor working conditions, national strikes, religious intolerance, societal influence, exploitation, sexual harassment, arrogance and or ignorance and handling of accidental administrators within the system.

Speaking on the prospects for university administration and the way forward, Mal. Belko expressed optimism that "if ethical standards could be maintained, from the point of employment to issue of promotion and assignment given to members of staff, the system will survive and by far reposition itself towards enhanced productivity".

He, however posited that the system could take some measures to remedy the situation through; increase funding, increase internally generated revenue, veneration of university autonomy and provision of conducive working environment and adherence to professionalism.

On his part, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Abdullahi Bala FSSSN, explained that public lectures of this nature which have increased in the past four years under his administration have added to the different international and local trainings the teaching and non teaching staff are constantly sponsored to attend.

He expressed his gratitude to the Registrar Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo for the organization of the Annual Lecture Series and for his other innovations.

"We would continue to provide facilities, opportunities and resources to increase capacity, address welfare and respond to the concerns of our staff. We

expect the knowledge of this lecture to be a valuable addition to what the University is doing in this regard". Prof. Bala who was represented by the Deputy Vice - Chancellor (Administration) Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi fnip.

The VC also announced that the Annual Institutional Performance Review Retreat which started in 2019 will have its 2nd and 3rd edition between November 29th and December 3rd, 2021.

According to him, during the Retreat, all Directorates, Centres, Units, and Administrative Departments will present to the University their achievements, challenges and suggestions in 2020 and 2021 as well as their contributions to revenue generation and action plans for December 2021 to November 2022.

During his opening remarks, the Registrar and the Chief Host of the occasion, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo noted that there is no doubt that the Registry Department is the nerve centre of University administration from where both administrative and academic services originate and that in order to function effectively and efficiently in the university, there is need for continued updating of knowledge and skills in the ever changing trend in the system.

Mr. Kolo stated that for the three years since he assumed office as the Registrar of the University staff of the department have worked as a team to continue to improve and also bring to bear other initiatives to enable them cope with the modern day administrative challenges.

The Registrar also announced with the unflinching support of

the Vice Chancellor and ITS Unit, Registry Department has acquired the following softwares: file catalogue application for both staff and students, tracking of staff on study fellowship both within and outside the country, direct download for enhanced production of ID Cards for both staff and students, as well as identification and selection of best graduating students in the university for award of various prizes.

He appreciated other visiting Registrars that visited from sister institutions for their presence and the members of the local organising committee for ensuring that this year's lecture holds.

In his vote of thanks Chairman, Local Organising Committee, Mal Mohammed Aliyu, appreciated the Vice-Chancellor for being supportive of the Registry Department and also making sure that the lecture became a reality.

He thanked the Registrar Mr. Kolo under whose leadership the 4th and 5th lectures held and eulogized him for maintaining the tempo in the activities of the department.

Mal. Aliyu appreciated the guest lecturer, Mal. Belko for accepting to deliver the lecture and for eloquently doing justice to the topic and imparting knowledge to the listeners. He equally appreciated members of the University community whose efforts had contributed towards making the event a success.

Highlights of the occasion was the presentation of appreciation plaque as a compliment of the Vice-Chancellor to the guest lecturer.

MATERIALS SCIENTISTS PARAMOUNT TO SOLVING TECHNOLOGICAL CHALLENGES - PROF ISAH

By Abdullahi U. Danbakaba



Prof. Isah delivering his lecture.

Photo by Elijah Yisa

A renowned Physicist in the Department of Physics, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Kasim Uthman Isah has stressed the need to have more material scientists in order to solve Nigeria's technological challenges.

He stated this on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 while presenting the 94th Inaugural Lecture of the University titled, "Generational Materials Modification Towards a Low Cost and Efficient Conversion of Light into Electricity: My Contributions" at the University Auditorium, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano.

The Professor of Physics who bemoaned the lack of materials scientists in the country, further explained that though, government spends huge resources sending scientists abroad for training, poor remunerations and

inadequate facilities remained the basic factors not only responsible for challenges in the proper re-assimilation on return home but also necessitating many overseas trained graduates to stay in diaspora to the detriment of their home country.

Advocating for the adoption of an alternative means of energy generation which is cost effective and environmental friendly, the Professor called for the application of renewable energy sources generated from sun light.

"The world is moving towards more of renewable energy and Nigeria cannot afford to be left behind," he reiterated.

He said, with the abundant solar resources in the country, the conversion of light into electricity in the form of photovoltaics has the potential to supply much of

the country's electricity demands.

Prof. Isah further stressed that in addition to addressing the negative impact of the use of fossil fuels energy generation on the environment, the development also gives a significant room for cost reduction from new and cheaper materials, low cost materials synthesis procedure and improvement in conventional materials, solar technology can increase its contributions to the reliability and resilience of power grid.

"Materials science plays a critical role in achieving the goals of low cost, efficient and renewable sustainable energy source and in understanding device fundamentals based on materials research," the renowned Physicist asserted.

Contd on Page 4

Speaking shortly after the presentation, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdullahi Bala FSSN who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi, Frip congratulated the inaugural lecturer for the successful

presentation of the 94th Inaugural Lecture and acknowledge the presence of guests for witnessing the occasion.

Highlight of the event include presentation of awards to the inaugural lecturer in recognition

of his contributions to knowledge by the anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit, International Organisation of Tijaniya Brotherhood, FUT Minna, Mnteks of the inaugural lecturer and the Department of Physics.

FUTMINNA MATRICULATES 4,706 STUDENTS

By Yusuf A. Zurmi



DVC (Admin) Prof. Emmanuel Udensi (middle) flanked by the DVC (Acad.) Prof. Faruk Kuta (R) and Mr. Eli Gbadafu (L).

A total of 4,706 fresh students took Matriculation Oath during the 34th Matriculation Ceremony for 2021/2022 Academic Session of the Federal University of Technology, Minna on Wednesday November 10, 2021 at the Convocation Square, Main Campus Gidan Kwano.

Speaking at the event the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, FSSN said that the University in order to achieve its vision and mission has as core values, integrity, excellence, resilience, diversity, inclusiveness, entrepreneurship and innovation, adding that consistent with these values the University has grown from its modest beginning into a

colossus, especially in the Nigerian University System.

Speaking further the VC who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi, Frip stated that the University over time has developed a unique brand that every member of the University Community is proud to associate with.

He, therefore, appealed to the matriculants to make conscious efforts to be part of the process of building a community of people who are law abiding. Prof. Bala urged them to stay from patterns of behaviour and social practices that are not consistent with the University's values.

According to him the institution has no tolerance for such practices as cultism, examination misconduct, fighting, assault, rape, illicit drugs consumption or drugs peddling, membership of illegal associations, fraud and financial racketeering.

While imploring them to be security conscious he assured them that the Management will always have their welfare and comfort uppermost in its priorities.

The Registrar, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo who was represented by the Deputy Registrar, Establishment, Mr. Eli Gbadafu administered the Matriculation oath on the students.

NIGER BAPTIST, FATHER “O” CONNELL SCHOOLS WIN SPELLING BEE COMPETITION

By Ugboaja Stanley



The winner, Nasiru Suleiman (middle with the trophy) in a group snapshot with dignitaries, other winners, and participating schools after the event

Niger Baptist Primary School and Father “O” Connell Secondary School, Minna have emerged as winners of the maiden edition of the Inter-School Spelling Bee Competition organized by the School of Science and Technology Education (SSTE), Federal University of Technology, Minna (FUT, Minna) for primary and secondary schools in Niger State.

The two-day event took place at the Centre for Preliminary and Extra-Mural Studies Hall, Bosso Campus.

While the primary schools’ category of the Spelling Bee competition took place on Thursday, November 11, 2021, that of the secondary schools took place on Friday, November 12, 2021.

To emerge winner in the primary schools’ category, Sophia Emmanuel, a primary five pupil of Niger Baptist Primary School saw off eight other contenders to win

the coveted trophy while Khalid Ahmad Sharu of FOMWAN Schools, Minna came second and Nabila Adamu of Mawo International Schools, Minna emerged third.

The secondary schools’ category was keenly contested by ten schools within Minna metropolis. However, Naziru Suleiman from Father “O” Cornell Secondary School, Minna emerged as the winner, with a 100 per cent spelling accuracy of over 50 different words which endeared him to the audience at the event. Ibrahim Maryam Wachiko of Mypa Schools, Minna came second while Reuben Dominic of Father “O” Cornell Secondary School, Minna claimed the third position.

Speaking at the event, the Dean, SSTE, Prof. Amosa Isiaka Gambari said the purpose of the competition was to help students improve their spelling, increase their vocabulary and develop correct English usage. He

expressed optimism that the tournament would be of immense benefit to pupils/students, teachers, schools, and contribute to the overall educational development of the society.

“Today’s world is characterized by so many social vices perpetrated by children and youths. This menace could be attributed to the negative influence of the entertainment industry on the society, where moral decadence is the order of the day, and is being celebrated even by those who should know better. It is, therefore, not surprising to see that even on broadcast media, social media and online media outlets, entertainment programmes with little or no moral values get sponsorship and promoters at the expense of more beneficial curricula and extra-curricular activities of schools,” the Dean disclosed.

Prof. Gambari stated that the role of education in nation building cannot be over emphasized, adding that education is the bedrock for development of any nation.

Contd on Page 6

In his words, "Destroying any nation does not require the use of atomic bombs or the use of long-range missiles but basically requires neglecting the value of education, lowering the quality of education or allowing cheating in the examinations by students and promotion of other vices".

"The School of Science and Technology Education is saddled with the responsibility of training world class educators who would facilitate effective teaching and learning of science and technology subjects in schools. "In achieving the vision and mission of the school, we have successfully come up with laudable community service programmes, focusing on enhancing academic performance and extra-curricular activities.

Furthermore, there are other programmes and events for students in institutions of higher learning. With the support of the University Management, School Board, and the various committees set up, I am very optimistic that the vision to take the school to greater heights will be achieved," Prof. Gambari revealed.

He commended the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, FSSSN and other Management staff of the University for the support given to the school to organize the event.

In her goodwill message at the event, the Head of Service, Niger

State, Hajiya Salamatu Abubakar who was represented by the Permanent Secretary, Planning, Research and Statistics, Dr. Idris Legbo commended the SSTE for organizing a successful event, adding that the event would promote literacy and help the students to learn new words.

At the end of the competition, trophies, medals, prizes and certificates were presented to all the winners in the two categories while a certificates of participation were given to all the 19 schools that took part in the competition.

ANNOUNCEMENT/INVITATION

The Federal University of Technology, Minna wishes to invite the new Postgraduate Students, Parents, Guardians and the general public to its Matriculation Ceremony for 2021/2022 academic session scheduled as follows:

Date: **Thursday, 18th November, 2021**

Venue: **CPES Hall, Beside Bus Park, Bosso Campus.**

Time: **9:00am**

COUNSELLING TIPS



Don't get distracted by those who are not on tract. Irrespective of others opinion be focused on your pursuit, especially when it is inline with your God given vision.

**Guidance and Counselling Unit,
Students' Affairs Division.**

MONEY MATTER

Weekly Financial Digest for Monday 1st November - Friday 7th, 2021

N/S	RECEIPTS	N
1	Transcript	610,680.00
2	Collection of Certificate	323,000.00
3	Verification/ Proficiency in English	62,500.00
4	Commercial Activities (Shops)	16,000.00
5	Purchase of Academic Gown	418,000.00
6	Clearance Fees	747,000.00
7	Prepaid Meter	69,000.00
8	Semesterial Result	5,050.00
9	Acceptance Fees	1,400,000.00
10	Registration Fees Pre-Degree	710,000.00
11	Post Graduate School Fees	39,304,400.00
12	Undergraduate School Fees	8,601,400.00
13	Sales of Forms Pre-Degree	215,000.00
14	Hostel Accommodation Fees	369,280.00
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	52,851,310.00
15	Contractors/Suppliers	
	(i) Staff	
	(a) Advance	8,754,440.40
	(b) Refund /Payment to Staff	5,383,930.92
	(ii) Contractors/Suppliers	
	(a) DHL International Nig. Ltd. - Courier Sercice	557,493.16
	(b) Barocer Nig. Ltd. - Supply	458,720.00
	(c) Princess Az-Zahra Lodge - Hotel Bill	29,920.00
	(d) Mihxbeq Int. Ventures - Printing	1,295,320.00
	(e) Jonah Adama Metal Works - Construction	1,287,330.00
	(f) Muhammed Agro Chemical Nig. Ltd. - Supply	3,805,120.00
	(g) Princess Az-Zahra Lodge - Hotel Bill	284,181.49
	(h) Habees Catering and Rental Service - Decoration	585,000.00
	(i) Ali-Mud Int. Services Ltd. - DSTV Subscreption	1,566,265.00
	(j) Eves Royal Resort - Hotel Bill	881,100.00
	(k) Braidfield Engineering Consultant Ltd. - Consusultancy	2,802,605.03
	(l) Tecture-Crew Ltd. - "	3,954,867.88
	(m) Ambass Engineering Consulting Ltd. "	2,700,018.99
	(n) Three-Eng Consulting "	1,987,888.28
	(o) Maradiq Investment Renovation "	539,815.15
	TOTAL PAYMENTS	36,874,016.30