

● **ACEMFS Holds Stakeholders' Meeting**



FUTMINNA *Newsletter*

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, MINNA

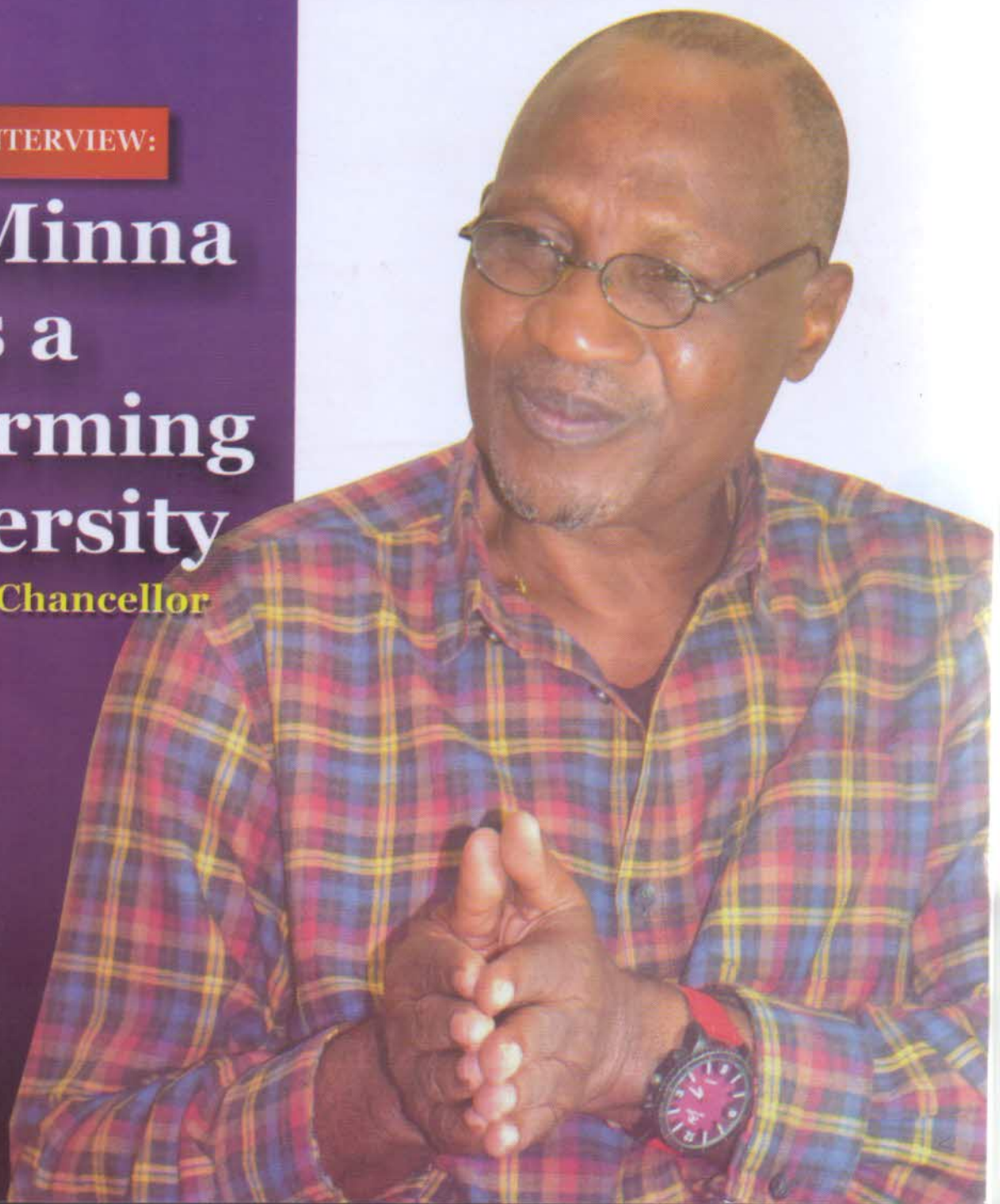
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SPECIAL INTERVIEW:

FUTMinna Is a Performing University -Pro Chancellor





Motto:

Technology for Empowerment

Vision:

To become a world class and leading University recognized for its excellence in capacity building and service delivery.

Mission:

As a specialized university, we are committed to the training of skilled and innovative work-force that would transform Nigeria's natural resources into goods and services driven by entrepreneurship and Information and Communication Technology (ICT), to positively affect the economy and thus the quality of life of her people.

Logo:

The University logo signifies Nigerian culture and the wheel represents "technology." Thus, the institution's logo reflects technology within the Nigerian culture.

Colour:

The University's official colour is Purple.

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All Correspondence to:

The Editor,
FUT Minna Quarterly Newsletter, information and publications
Unit, office of the Vice- chancellor, Federal University of
Technology,
P.M.B. 65 Minna Niger State.
e-mail: information@futminna.edu.org

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EDITOR'S NOTE

I'm glad to bring to your reading delight another well packaged edition of FUT, Minna Newsletter. This edition is top-notch as usual based on the retinue of exciting stories and events that we have captured in this publication to keep you up to speed with happenings in this great citadel of learning under the distinguished reign of Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn. Our cover story is on a special interview that our crew had with the Pro-Chancellor of the University, Prof. 'Femi Odekunle titled: FUT, Minna is a Performing University. The Pro-Chancellor appraised the performance of the University Council under his leadership within the last two years vis-à-vis the issue of staff promotion, Council relationship with Management, Unions on Campus and how the Council has attracted funds and projects to the University. You can't have an interview with Prof. Odekunle without the issue of corruption surfacing, he also bares his mind on how corruption could be tackled in the country and in Nigerian tertiary institutions as well as other germane issues. It is a must read for everybody.

Another key selling point in this superb edition is our special story on the inaugural stakeholders meeting of the Africa Centre of Excellence for Mycotoxin and Food Safety (ACEMFS) hosted by the University recently with the Wife of the Executive Governor of Niger State, Dr. Amina Abubakar Bello and other dignitaries in attendance.

We also have capsule profile of over 15 staff of the University that were promoted to the rank of Professor. As you glance through this edition, you will definitely have so much value for your time based on the numerous juicy stories that we have painstakingly packaged in this edition for your reading pleasure. Until we come your way next time, please stay out of trouble and remain blessed.



■ Lydia Legbo

ACEMFS HOLDS STAKEHOLDERS MEETING



The VC, Prof. Abdullah Bala (left) charting with Dr. Amina Bello (right), wife of Executive Governor, Niger State during the opening ceremony of the ACEMFS Meeting

As part of efforts to ensure safer foods and secured living in the society, the Africa Centre of Excellence for Mycotoxin and Food Safety (ACEMFS), Federal University of Technology, Minna, held her stakeholders inaugural meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at the Chemical Engineering Lecture Theatre, Main Campus, .

While declaring the ceremony open, the Vice-Chancellor of the institution, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, said the University was established to put to effect the nation's desire for self reliance in science and technology, and has since gone from a modest beginning to become one of the leading universities in Nigeria.

“It is therefore not a fluke that FUTMinna competed for and won the grant for the ACEMFS and it is an honour to host the Centre because it has immediate benefits that have direct influence and relevance to, not

only the immediate community, but Nigeria as a nation,” the VC declared.

Prof. Bala said food quality and food safety today is a topical issue, while the coming of ACEMFS is apt, timely and an opportunity for FUTMinna to improve on the international flavour and content of both its faculty and students, adding that the University wholeheartedly welcomes the idea of ACE and the fact that the West Africa and Central Africa sub-regions will be the immediate target for admission of students and also for staff exchange and collaboration.

The VC thanked the World Bank, NUC and all the partners that came together to produce a very competitive grant proposal that saw the University being awarded the Centre. He assured them that FUTMinna will give its support for the Centre to maximally perform and be the best in Nigeria.

The Centre Leader, Prof. Hussaini

Makun in his speech, said the vision of ACEMFS is to be a global food safety training and research authority in order to realise sustainable and secure health for humanity.

He said the mission of the Centre will create an opportunity and such results to address Africa's shortage of expertise and applicable solutions to ensure a safe, controlled and sufficient food supply that will support economic growth and public health.

Prof. Makun added that the Centre intends to tackle some challenges and make sure there are safer foods, resulting in wellness, economic growth and social wellbeing. The Centre, he noted will also have a teaching and research programmes which will focus on surveillance and intervention.

The Managing Director, Research Adviser, National Research Centre, Cairo, Egypt, Dr. Habiba Hassan-Wassef, while delivering her keynote

cont'd on page 3

paper titled: "Crisis Management Strategies in Food Industry," said that the mission of research development is health and wellbeing of mankind.

She said many African countries do not have the appropriate infrastructure to deal with the information and the scientific data produced by centre of excellence.

Dr. Wassef observed that because of poverty, under development and lack of infrastructure, many Africa countries are unable to apply the norms and the relations of the data required by international quality experts, and said the Centre, is here to change the infrastructure prerequisite.

She noted that the health sector is the frontline actor when there is an outbreak or a food poisoning and when such occurs, the most important thing to do is how to

communicate adequately when the cause is not yet identified.

Dr. Wassef said crisis management is a learning experience and every time any country manages a crisis, there is always an experience in it and ACE will also act on these experiences as it is a training process.

She listed some requirements for crisis management to includes: competent trained personnel, public health surveillance system, primary health team familiar with system of existing health hazard, established crisis reporting system and a national network of accredited reference laboratories.

The wife of the Executive Governor of Niger State, Dr. Amina Abubakar Bello who was the Special Guest of Honour at the event, in her remark congratulated the University for getting the grant for the Centre. She

said it is a proud moment for everyone in Nigeria and FUTMinna in particular to be the University in Nigeria that beat all other universities to actually get the grant.

She said food safety is what a lot of people take for granted and described the coming of the Centre as a right step in the right direction because it will help train the relevant professionals.

Dr. Bello who is a medical practitioner, disclosed that her work on cancer has exposed her to what causes cancer and the associations it has with food.

She said the idea of having the numbers of Ph.D's and Masters students that are going to be developed from the Centre is absolutely wonderful and if those students are able to apply themselves very well, something fantastic will emerge. Having the Centre, she opined, is a great opportunity to address everything that is lacking.

QUALITY ASSURANCE: NHIS COMMENDS FUTMINNA CLINIC

The National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) has commended the Federal University of Technology, Minna Clinic for the state of its facilities.

Head of Standards and Quality Assurance of the NHIS in Minna, Usman Yusuf Mohammed, gave the commendation recently when he led the NHIS team on inspection of facilities at the University clinic, Bosso Campus.

Mohammed who noted the neatness of the clinic environment, said he was highly impressed with facilities at the labour room.

"This is what hospital service should be," said Mohammed who further remarked that the clinic has surpassed the requirements for a Primary Health Centre.

He therefore thanked the University Management for providing the facilities.

In his remark after the inspection, Director, University Health Services

(UHS), Dr. Taofeek Uthman thanked the NHIS Quality Assurance Head for the positive comments and assured that the UHS would continue to strive to be better.

Dr. Uthman appealed to the NHIS to fast-track the harmonisation of the UHS enrollee lists in order to have streamlined services for them.

He further appealed to NHIS to, on a later date, come for data capture of University staff who intend to choose the UHS as their healthcare provider, a request which Mohammed assured would be obliged, given

adequate notice from the University.

During the Quality Assurance visit, the NHIS officials had looked at the laboratory, pharmacy, consulting room, medical records unit, labour room and nurses' station of the clinic. They later had an interactive session with staff of the clinic.



NHIS Quality Assurance Unit Head, Usman Mohammed looks at a pack of drugs at the Maternity Ward, while a nurse looks on.

NOTAP DG FLAGS OFF FUTMINNA IP OFFICE

· Prof Bala Commends NOTAP



The DG, NOTAP, Dr. Ibrahim cutting the tape to flag off the IP Office, supported by the VC, Prof. Bala while others looked on with keen interest.

Towards the advancement of intellectual property culture and innovation in Nigeria, the Director- General, National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), Dr. Dan-Azumi Mohammed Ibrahim has flagged off the Federal University of Technology, Minna Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office (IPTTO).

The flag off ceremony took place recently at the PTFD Lecture Theatre, Main Campus.

Speaking at the event, the DG said the establishment of IPTTOs in some strategic tertiary institutions in the country was part of the agency's plans to create awareness on the importance of intellectual property to the development of the country, adding that it, will in the long run, stimulate demand-driven research in the country.

Dr. Dan-Azumi disclosed that what differentiates the developed and developing nations of the world is the level of technological advancement attained by them whereas technology is the product of Intellectual Property. He further stated that proper funding of research and development will translate into product and services for the benefit of the nation.

“Universities in the advanced nations have continued to rank higher than those in the third world nations because the Research and Development (R&D) infrastructure and other social facilities are better, making it possible for research results from the developed countries to translate into products and services, while those of the third world countries remain on the shelves at prototype level,” the DG disclosed.

The NOTAP boss said there was a poor innovative and intellectual property protection culture in the country but the IPTTOs will facilitate the galvanization of research results for onward commercialisation.

He applauded the University for joining the league of tertiary institutions in Nigeria with a functional IPTTO and pledged the continuous support of the agency towards ensuring that the University achieves its mandate.

He expressed appreciation to the University Management for the hospitality accorded to the NOTAP team.

Earlier, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn commended NOTAP for its sustained efforts at establishing IPTTOs across over 45 Research and Development institutions including several universities, polytechnic, colleges and institutes while noting that FUT, Minna is not like other institutions because the University has sustained its acclaimed status as a university of technology that is defined by cutting-edge and innovative research.

“As Deputy Vice-Chancellor in 2012, I had the opportunity to chair the University's IP Policy Drafting Committee which provided for the establishment of an IPTTO. It is therefore particularly satisfying that the policy recommendation is finding its actualization in today's event,” the VC stated.

Prof. Bala expressed gratitude to NOTAP DG for considering the institution worthy of IPTTO, for furnishing the office as well as being present to commission the office and to declare the two-day training on patent processes open. He expressed optimism that NOTAP would be open to partnership and collaborations with FUT, Minna in its continued efforts at expanding available platforms for the exploitation of research results.

“We understand that the place of a university IP office cannot be gain said.

IP Management and commercialisation valorizes our research efforts, enhances public access to products of research, generates wealth for those along the research value-chain and emphasizes our indispensability in national development. As a university, our more than sufficient research activities and products not only make an IPTTO long overdue but guarantee its continuous use, relevance and sustainability,” Prof. Bala disclosed.

The VC assured the DG that the University would avail the new office its full support and grow it to a Technology Office which will be self-sufficient, beneficial to staff and students as well as to be able to contribute to the community.

He urged the participants to avail themselves the specialised knowledge which the training offers.

In his vote of thanks, the immediate past Director, Directorate for Research, Innovation and Development (DRID), Prof. Hussieni Anthony Makun thanked the NOTAP DG for the agency's role in boosting research and development across tertiary institutions in Nigeria.

He solicited for further support from NOTAP to the new office as well as PG scholarship for some staff of the University.

The National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), was established by Decree No. 70 of 1979, amended by Decree No. 82 of 1992 now referred to as NOTAP Act cap 268 LFN 1994. NOTAP is an Agency of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology (FMST), Nigeria.

FUTMINNA MATRICULATES 5,225 STUDENTS



The VC, Prof. Abdullahi Bala addressing the newly admitted students

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, has assured that Management would always maintain the welfare and development of the new students.

The Vice-Chancellor stated this at the 32nd Matriculation Ceremony of the institution, held recently at the SuleimanuKumo Convocation Square, Main Campus.

Prof. Bala advised the students to always be guided by the rules and regulations of the University which are enshrined in Students Handbook.

He urged the matriculating students to adequately make use of the facilities at their disposal such as the libraries, laboratories, workshops and Information Technology Services (ITS), in order to enhance their learning and research. He advised

them to avoid associating with people of questionable character and integrity or those that would distract them from attending to their academic activities.

The VC warned the new students not to be involved in any kind of examination misconduct or acts that are injurious or constitute a threat to their stay in the University.

Prof. Bala emphasized the need for the students to register and use the University Health Services on both Campuses instead of consulting quack medical personnel. He also informed them that there are various Units in the University that would help address their challenges, such as Student Affairs Division, which provides them with Guidance and Counselling, SERVICOM Unit and the Directorate of Quality Assurance and Productivity.

He charged them to utilize the

sporting facilities provided on both Campuses for their physical development, while assuring them that the University would soon address the problem of transportation on Campus.

The VC congratulated the new students on their admission and implored them to maintain the University's peaceful co-existence and live peacefully with the host community.

He disclosed that 10,159 candidates applied for admission into the University, while only 5,242 were successful in getting admission, but a total of 5,225 scaled through the screening exercise and were duly registered.

The Registrar of the University, Mr. Amos Kolo administered the matriculation oath on the new students.

Postgraduate studies in the Federal University of Technology, Minna have earned tremendous respect in the country, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, has said.

Prof. Bala who stated this recently in his speech during the matriculation ceremony for

2018/2019 postgraduate students held at the Centre for Preliminary and Extra-Mural Studies (CPES) Hall, Bosso campus, said it was due to the institution's uncompromising adherence to timelines in its programme implementation, dispassionate and transparent evaluation procedure and very conducive academic environment that is student-friendly.

Excellence and global competitiveness

are the guiding principles of the University, the VC said, adding that it is the leading specialised university in Nigeria and a model which other specialised universities now use to measure their progress.

He said Postgraduate students of the University are expected to be role models for younger ones, warning that the University would not compromise on character component, despite the importance it attaches to meeting academic requirements.

The VC disclosed that less than 30 percent of those who applied for the

We're Now Model For Specialised Varsities - VC



Prof. Abdullahi Bala delivers his speech at the Postgraduate Matriculation as other Principal Officers (seated) listened with rapt attention

University's postgraduate programmes were eventually given admission and therefore, implored the new students to maximize the opportunities thrust on them through their admission.

"On this premise alone, I call on you to be dedicated, hardworking and conscious of time management in order to keep abreast with your programme schedule," he advised.

The VC maintained that upholding the threshold minimum coursework CGPA for Postgraduate Diploma and Master's students and maximum allowable period for defending PhD research proposals, zero tolerance for

examination malpractice, in addition to other milestones in the institution's programme implementation were aimed at sustaining its enviable standard and rating as well as being in tandem with international best practices.

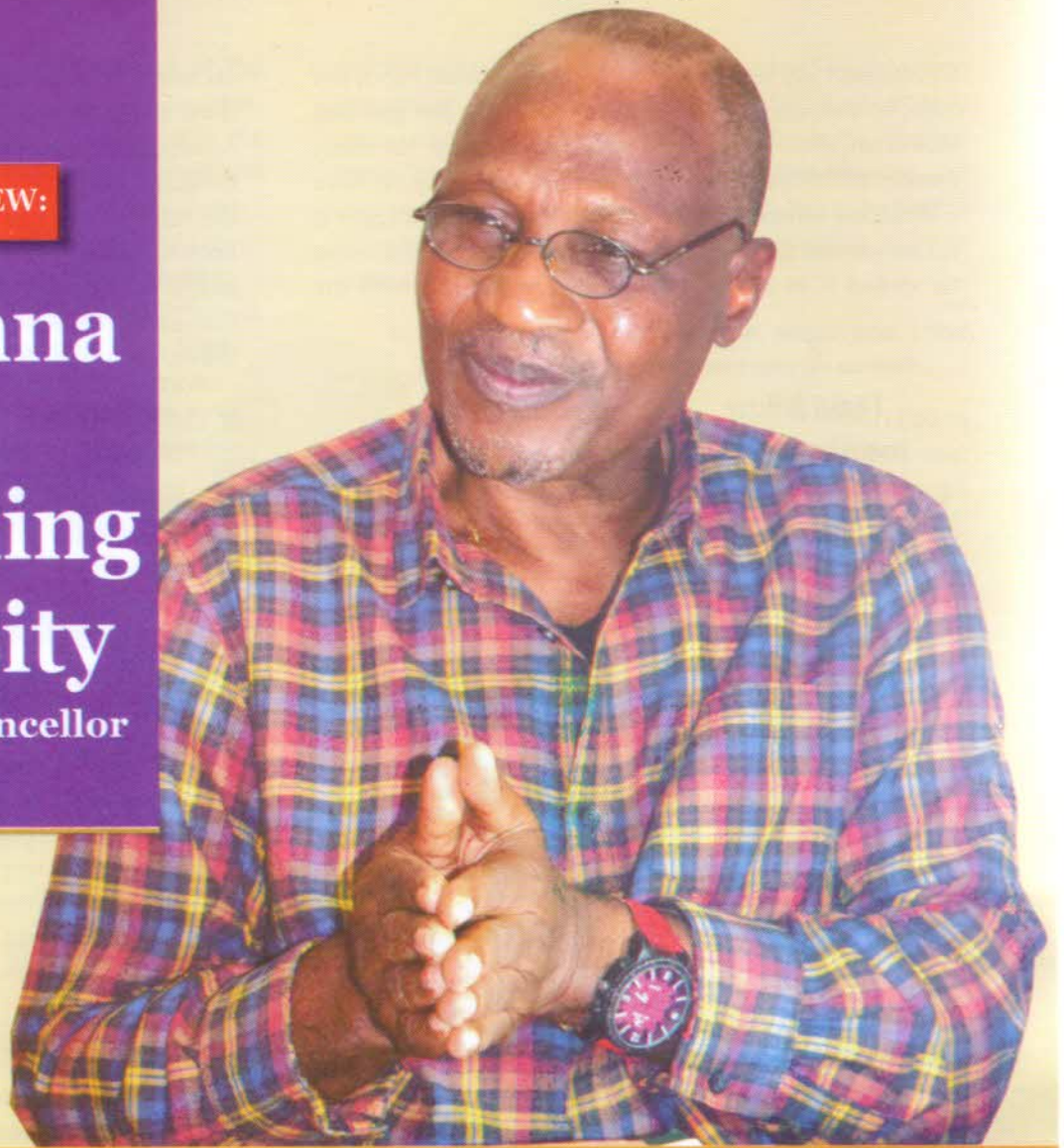
Prof. Bala stressed the need for the students to work closely with their supervisors in order to be properly guided, just as he urged them to study the postgraduate prospectus to get acquainted with the requirements for graduation.

The University Registrar, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo administered the matriculation oath on the students.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW:

FUTMinna Is a Performing University

-Pro-Chancellor



Professor 'Femi Odekunle is the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council, Federal University of Technology, Minna. He is also a member of the Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption (PACAC). In this interview with our reporters, Mustapha Alhassan, Stanley Ugboaja and Winifred Oritogun, the Pro-Chancellor who is the first professor of Criminology in Nigeria gives insights on workings and contributions of the Council in moving the University forward, just as he shares his thoughts on how to make university education in Nigeria better. Excerpts:

Sir, the present Council under your able leadership was inaugurated in May 2017. Two years down the lane, how has the experience been so far?

First of all, whether my leadership is able or not, it is for others to access but from the beginning when we were inaugurated, I told fellow members of the Council that I consider us lucky to be appointed into the Federal University of Technology, Minna. We know that this University is peaceful, secured and it is a performing University. As for our tenure, I will say so far, so good. It is a University in which members of the Governing Council are all happy and proud to be with. It is a University that has a national and cosmopolitan composition. One of the things that is important in a university is that both the staff and students should have a relationship with the character of the country. We have a country with so many ethnic groups,

36 states, 774 local governments. So it is a good thing if a university is not local in terms of its staff and students composition. The University has that national character in terms of its staff and students composition and there is no visible crack along the usual major fault lines of the country because most issues in the country are interpreted in terms of ethnicity and religion. And if you look at the relationship between the staff and students and between the staff unions and Management there appears to be appreciable industrial harmony and you could see that during my tenure, we have been able to appoint a new Vice-Chancellor, and a new Registrar. In most universities, there are usually problems when you have to appoint a new Vice-Chancellor and a new Registrar but we have been able to do it and everybody seems to be happy with the exercise.

Of course, if you look at it, there has been no rancour of any type, no protest, no riot, no agitation, unlike the previous Vice-Chancellor, who could not assume office for many months and there were court cases but in this case, we have a situation whereby the competitors who didn't get it actually wrote to congratulate the new Vice-Chancellor and to spread it to Abuja that they were pleased with the process.

I told fellow members of the Council that I consider us lucky to be appointed into the Federal University of Technology, Minna. We know that this University is peaceful, secured and it is a performing University.

Also, during our tenure, Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi was appointed as DVC, (Administration) and there was renewal of appointment of Prof. Yahaya Ahmed Iyaka as DVC, (Academic). We also have the award of the Africa Centre of Excellence on Mycotoxin and Foods Safety grants to the tune of about four million dollars and numerous other grants from TETFund, from the National Communications Commission, from the Ministry of Mines and Steel, etc.

So what I'm trying to say in summary is that what we have done in my tenure is to add to the brand of the University, particularly in the areas of integrity and in the areas of good governance and the efforts to subdue corruption and corrupt tendencies. We are trying to improve on the discipline in the University, particularly among staff. I would say this is a contribution to the brand of the University, in addition to what I said about the money we have attracted.

We are sure the successful appointment you talked about was not just happenstance. What magic did the Council do to make sure the whole process was rancour-free?

There was nothing like magic; It has to do with the character of the leadership and membership of Council which is that, there should be patent transparency, integrity and honesty from the beginning to the end. Members of the selection committee, Council and Senate were carried along, the criteria for selection was outlined, agreed and determined to the knowledge of everybody and the application of those guidelines was again collective and possible loopholes were minimized and this was to the knowledge of all members of the selection committee, all members of the Council and all the people who applied were shortlisted on the basis of known guidelines. It was not done by either the Vice-Chancellor at the time, the Council Chairman or one or two people; it was done collectively, openly and publicly.

So when it came to the matter of interview, it was also done in a way that every candidate was assured of even-handedness. The transparency of the criteria used, the collective nature of the understanding by members and the transparent application of those criteria and to the knowledge of the candidates. The question of fatigue did not arise and we gave people a chance to explain themselves following what we have listed as the criteria. We did our best to eliminate loopholes collectively.

How was the Council under your leadership able to handle the pressure from outside the University?

The exercise was characterised by visible transparency, integrity and fairness which made it to be credible to a wide acclaim of the University community and other stakeholders. When you talk about pressure, there will always be pressure, which is nothing unusual. The position is transparency, fairness and evenness.

There is nothing wrong with pressure, it is normal. Whether here or abroad, when there is an appointment to be made and there is a committee to do the job, there would be pressure but what is important is that the people charged with the responsibility must think of the interest of the University. The interest of the University must be paramount and that must guide the process you are employing to make the appointment.

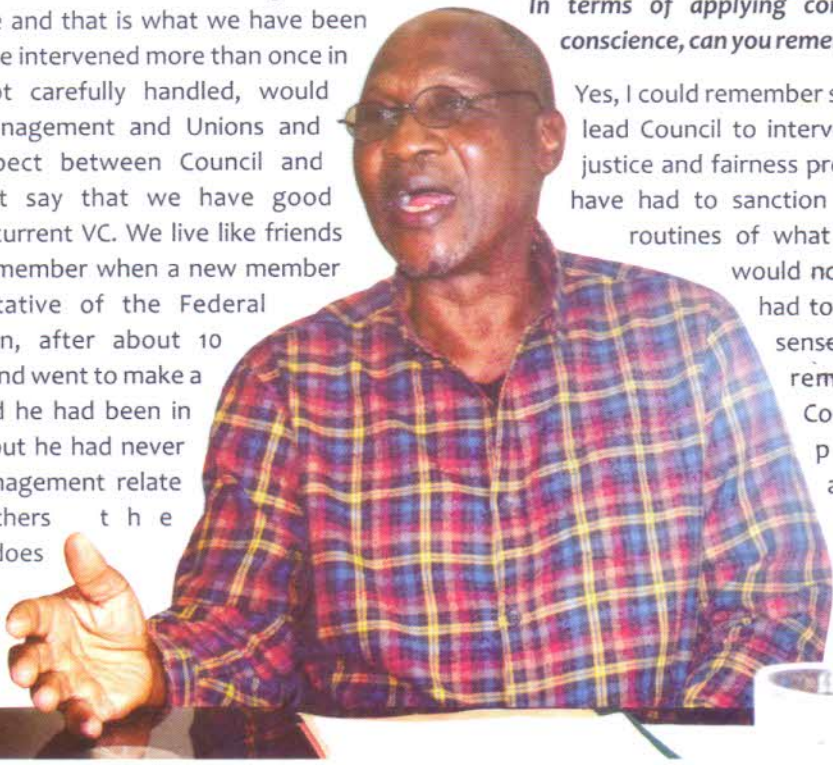
During the inauguration of this present Council in May 2017, the Minister of Education, Mallam Adamu Adamu urged Councils of Federal universities to live above board and to use their contacts in the society to attract funds as well as projects to their various universities. So Prof. Sir, to what extent has the Council under your watch been able to achieve this?

Members of Council are Nigerians and of course, they would have people they know in and outside of government, and to that extent, they are supposed to use their relationship to benefit the University. I'm able to say that this Council has been instrumental to the University in accessing 2.5 billion Naira Needs Assessment Fund, which was previously held up in the Ministry of Finance. We have also been instrumental in the award of three billion naira Special High Impact Fund from TETFund. We have been instrumental in getting donation of sports equipment by Chief Steve Akigha. We have been instrumental in encouraging possible collaborations with security agencies like the National Intelligence Agency, to see how they could help with the Cyber Security Science Department. And I can assure you that we will continue to do more. We are also trying to encourage alumni to give back to the University. These are some of the efforts you could see.

Our Council tries its best to participate in almost all the activities to which we are invited, like the last Convocation, we were part of the football competition. Whatever the University is doing, we try to get involved, to let staff and students know that we are stakeholders. I think, unusually, I would say when I was appointed, I had what was like a town hall meeting with staff and students of the university. I promised them that we will follow rules and regulations as well as common sense and that is what we have been doing. And I think I have intervened more than once in matters, which if not carefully handled, would escalate between Management and Unions and there is mutual respect between Council and Management. I must say that we have good relationship with the current VC. We live like friends and like brothers. I remember when a new member came, the representative of the Federal Ministry of Education, after about 10 minutes, he stood up and went to make a statement and he said he had been in different universities but he had never seen Council and Management relate like friends and brothers the way we do here. That does not mean there is no misunderstanding.

In our Council, we have never voted; when decisions are reached, it is by consensus. We just agree and that is all and to the best of my knowledge, nobody is against anybody. I don't want to say we are unique.

This Council is not nosy; we know the jurisdiction of Council and we don't try to interfere in the work of Management. I go around the Campus may be once a year, we look at the facilities because my argument is that the University exists to service students, so if students are not satisfied, we are not doing our work, so I want to see the situation of the classrooms, lecture theaters, hostels, clinics. So I'm not only hearing from Management; myself and one or two members of Council, we go round to see for ourselves, regardless of the report we get from the Management, we too have seen things for ourselves. It is not that we are going there to do management work; it is just to, as stakeholders, see that everything works well. I remember, during prof. Akanji's time, we went round the Campus, it was during the examinations period. We went to the clinic and from all indications the drugs are not in place and students were complaining of malaria due to stress during the exam period. So immediately, I called the VC and informed him



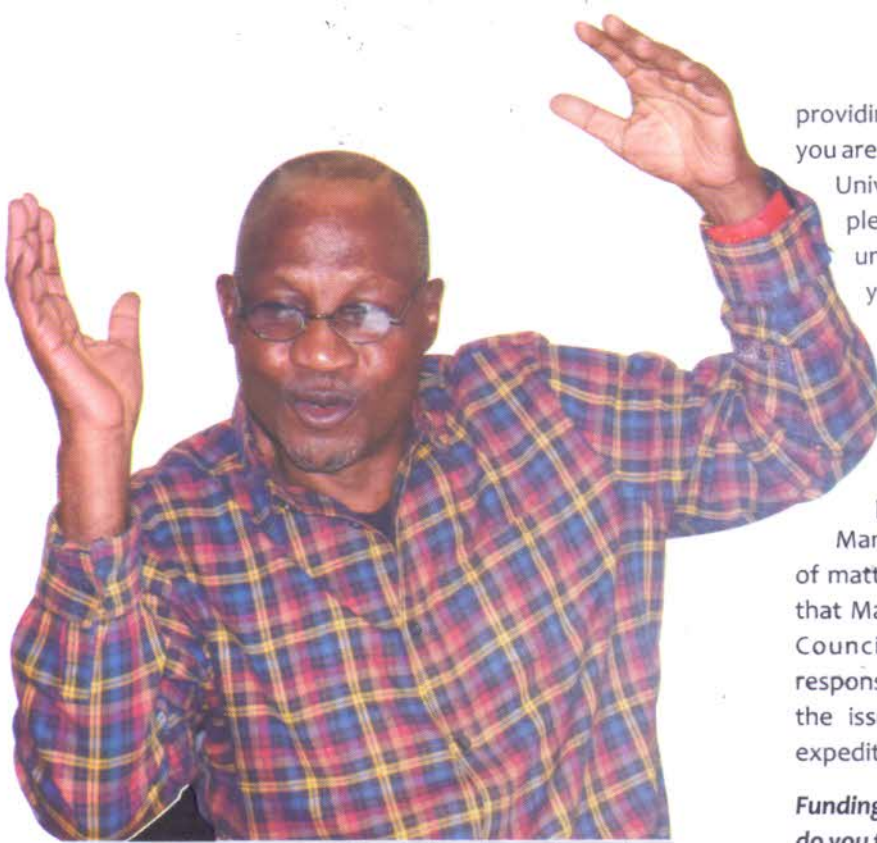
that the drugs at the clinic were finished and he should do something about it. He told me they had already contracted it out but I said no, drugs should be supplied immediately even if it is on loan and in the morning, the drugs were supplied in large quantity. So, this is the kind of intervention we have made. So as stakeholders, we just make sure everything goes well.

In terms of applying common sense and good conscience, can you remember specific scenario.

Yes, I could remember situation in which I had to lead Council to intervene in making sure that justice and fairness prevailed. For example, we have had to sanction the DVC, if you go by routines of what was on the table that would not have occurred but we had to use common sense and sense of justice to judge. I also remember a case where Council had to engage in promotion and appointment, though there was the appointments and promotions committee (A&PC) chaired by the VC. They (A&PC) brought the report to us to ratify.

The report may be 100 pages and we had to read them all that day and give report on it. There was a case of a member of staff who was denied promotion because they said the staff did not have cognate experience. And when I asked in a meeting what they meant by not having a cognate experience, they said she did not work in a government service and I asked to see the rules and regulations and in the rules, it only said experience not government experience and she has experience though she worked in a private service. Despite the pressure, the Council prevailed because the rule did not say government experience; it only said cognate experience and as Nigerians, we know sometimes a private organisation is better than the so-called government organisation.

We know the jurisdiction of Council and we don't try to interfere in the work of Management.



Prof. Femi Odekunle stressing a point

How has Council under your watch been able to manage the issue of promotion towards ensuring that staff get their promotion as and when due?

To the best of my knowledge, people are being promoted as and when due. We do not delay any submission made to Council by Management.

Usually every time that we have Council, two days before

It is systematically dangerous to the survival of the society when corruption eats into the educational system.

Council Meeting, there will be A & P. like now, A&P Committee met on Monday, we have their report and the next day we will consider the report at Council. And most of the time what we have told the University is that please ensure fairness, ensure application of rules and regulations. And if any member of staff has petition, because when I addressed the staff I told

them that they could petition. If there is a petition I don't waste time, I minute on it that Mr. Vice-Chancellor, please brief me, on this. And when they brief me I ask them to prepare it and take it to Council. And Council will determine such case. We are not rubber stamp. We have been doing our job to ensure that the process of promotion is transparent and fair. Like I said before, students are the sole purpose why the University exists. So teaching them and

providing a good learning environment for them, where you are housing them should be one of the priorities of the University. Similarly, if staff of the University are not pleased, if they have a sense of being treated badly or unfairly, then you will not get the best from them. So, you must see to staff well-being. Not just their physical or financial welfare, but also their psychological and social welfare to show that they are not just treated badly or nobody is placed above them unjustly or because of ethnicity or religion or because of other primordial considerations. The University Management is aware of Council's position in this kind of matter. My response to you in terms of promotion is that Management is attending to its responsibilities and Council is also attending to its own assigned responsibilities. However, any staff who wrote petition on the issue of promotion, we have attended to them expeditiously.

Funding has been the bane of universities in Nigeria. What do you think Nigeria universities and government can do to address the problem?

That is a million dollar question. It applies to all sections of the economy. Whether in terms of roads. You guys are young and you cannot know the situation of these roads Abuja to Minna 20 years ago, I used to drive from Zaria to come and deliver lectures at the Federal Polytechnic, Bida with my old Peugeot 504 and I would do so at top speed. The roads were not double carriage, they were narrow but they were good. There was funding for road maintenance, there was funding for building roads. The hospitals and clinics were well staffed with doctors and nurses, but it is not the same now. Federal Government Colleges were cynosure of all eyes. Everybody wanted their children to go to Federal Government College. This issue of funding is general, it affects and it is affecting every sector of the society.

So, the recommendations that I will give may not be satisfactory to you. There is no country in the world today that I know where everybody who goes to secondary school must go to the university. Only in Nigeria that things appear to be that when you leave secondary school, you must go to the university. That is part of the issues that is fundamental to the number of universities and the part of funding. You know that we have private universities; they are there to deal with the matter of access and qualifications because those who enter federal government universities are perhaps more qualified than those who go to private universities. Private universities are not as serious in terms of enforcing admission standards like federal government universities.

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WE'LL REMAIN ON TOP, SAYS VC AS FUTMINNA HOLDS SERVICOM AWARDS

Honour has come the way of 29 members of staff of the Federal University of Technology, Minna adjudged to have distinguished themselves with exceptional achievements within and outside the University.

This was at the SERVICOM Award Ceremony for 2018 held on Thursday, April 25th, 2019 at the Caverton Lecture Theatre, Main Campus.

In his remarks at the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor of the institution, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, said the University which remains the most highly rated in Nigeria in terms of ethics of SERVICOM has an unalloyed commitment to remaining on top through the provision of excellent and quality services to its customers.

Prof. Bala maintained that having in place a protocol for reward and sanction in the service delivery chain is

itself one of the best practices in achieving the University's strong commitment to applying best practices in service delivery.

He added that in demonstration of Management's commitment to good service delivery, SERVICOM Unit was empowered to monitor and evaluate service delivery in the University and as such, the award was organized to recognize those who have demonstrated excellence, diligence, integrity and selflessness in their duty posts.

While assuring that Management remains committed to the spirit of SERVICOM, he pledged their unreserved support to the Unit for the implementation of the institution's service charter.

Prof. Bala said FUTMinna ranks first among specialized universities in

Nigeria and is among the top 100 universities in Africa, pointing out that all the University's accomplishments would not have been possible without a crop of skilled, competent and hardworking staff, adding that the greatest asset of the institution are its staff.

The VC congratulated the awardees for the feat and expressed hope that their achievements would spur other members of staff to be alive to put unflinching commitment to their responsibilities.

He congratulated the SERVICOM Focal Officer for the thoroughness of the award exercise.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Focal Officer of SERVICOM Unit in the University, Prof. Adamu Yusuf Kabiru, stated that the Unit has, since inception maintained a social contract with the staff, students and customers of the University to ensure timely, fair, honest, effective and transparent service delivery.

Prof. Kabiru said that the Unit has been pursuing efforts to make service delivery system in the University more efficient, transparent and accountable.

The Focal Officer disclosed that the complaints and redress mechanisms in the Unit have been upgraded to the level that staff and students now see SERVICOM as the last resort whenever their rights are trampled upon.

He thanked the University Management for their support to the Unit's activities and gave assurances to work with other related Units in the University to address anomalies in the system.

Responding on behalf of the awardees, Prof. Hussein Makun who is

cont'd on page 12



Principal Officers in a group photograph with the awardees after the event

NUC TEAM VISITS FUTMINNA

A team of assessors from the National Universities Commission (NUC) recently visited the Federal University of Technology, Minna for the resource verification of a new programme, Geophysics at the Vice-Chancellor's Conference Room.

Speaking during the visit, the team leader, Prof. Othniel Kamfani Lekkason said the exercise is a routine external assessment quality assurance and to also know if the University is ready to offer such programme.

He said the team is to look at what the University intends to do and also to look at some basic things that ought to be on ground as the resource verification is meant for a course and not the entire department.

Prof. Lekkason explained that, the team would be going round based on their check list to inspect facilities, like the library, classrooms, laboratory, internet connectivity, as well as to interact with the staff. This is to ensure that all the things needed before the course comes on board are available.

He said that he has seen the potentiality in the University, concerning the programme. He appealed for maximum cooperation of both the department and the school during the exercise.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, appreciated NUC for the prompt response to the invitation, while assuring them of all the necessary support.

At the end of the verification exercise, the team leader thanked Management for all the support given to them while carrying out the exercise.

He said the team was able to go round and they are satisfied with everything they have seen. He added that, based on NUC's format and analysis, the aims and objectives of the intended course is well stated as well as adequate current



The VC, Prof. Bala (6th from right), NUC team and Principal Officers in a group photograph after the visit.

books in the library, and good internet connectivity in the Campus amongst others.

The VC, Prof. Bala thanked the team for their commitment and observations.

He assured them that the Management has taken note of all their observations and would address them accordingly.

...We'll remain on top *cont'd from page 11*

the Centre Leader, World Bank Centre of Excellence on Food Safety and Mycotoxin thanked the Management for the award which he said would spur them to do more.

Professors Hussein Makun and Abiodun Aibinu of the Departments of Biochemistry and Mechatronics Engineering respectively as well as Lawal Sius of the Department of Mechanical Engineering won category A of the awards, which is for Invention/Innovation/Grant Winners.

In category B (Medal/Certificate Winners) Odafe Imogu of Search FM 92.3 Campus Radio, Umar Unelat Enny, Busary Department and Fatima Bawa Mohammed, FUT Microfinance Bank won the awards.

The awards for Integrity/Honesty (Category C) went to Samson Jiya and Aliyu Mohammed, both of the University Security Services.

Maikudi Basaba and Baba Tachi of the Vice-Chancellor's Office, along with Reuben Kolo (Registrar's Office), Mrs. Justina Oyaluna (Establishment Division), Shachia Tersoo (Academic

Office), Blessing Salihu (Staff Training Division) and Aliyu Iwa (Bursary) won Category D of the awards, which is for dedication to duty.

Other awardees in this category are Simon Gana (Bursary), Alice Yisa (University Library Services, ULS), Hadiza Kabiru (ULS), Raphael Agboola (Information Technology Services, ITS), Alexander Tsado (ITS), James Nwakupda (Sports) and Abdullahi Wadata (Postgraduate School).

From the Students' Affairs Division, Deputy Registrar, Mr. Zacchaeus Kolo and Idris Umar also won the dedication to duty award as well as Mohammed Ndagi and Mohammed Ndace both of the University Health Services. Suleiman Shuaibu and Engr. Murtala Audu of the Works and Maintenance Services were also awarded in this category.

The event was attended by staff and students of the University as well as SERVICOM Focal Officers from neighbouring institutions.

MONITORING C'TTEE NOT FOR WITCH-HUNT - VC

The Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, has dispelled the notion that the Committee on Monitoring and Quality Teaching is for witch-hunt.

Prof. Bala made the clarification recently when he declared open a 3-day workshop on Students' Registration and Examination Computation Application jointly organized by the Quality Assurance and Productivity (QAP) Unit and the Information Technology Services (ITS) at the Caverton Lecture Theatre, Main Campus.

The VC who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Yahaya Ahmed Iyaka, emphasized that teaching is the most important duty of an academic staff, hence the need to take it seriously.

He said that the workshop became necessary following the challenges that occasion the

computation of results because the existing format puts the burden solely on examination officers stressing the need to get level advisers involved with such duties as well.

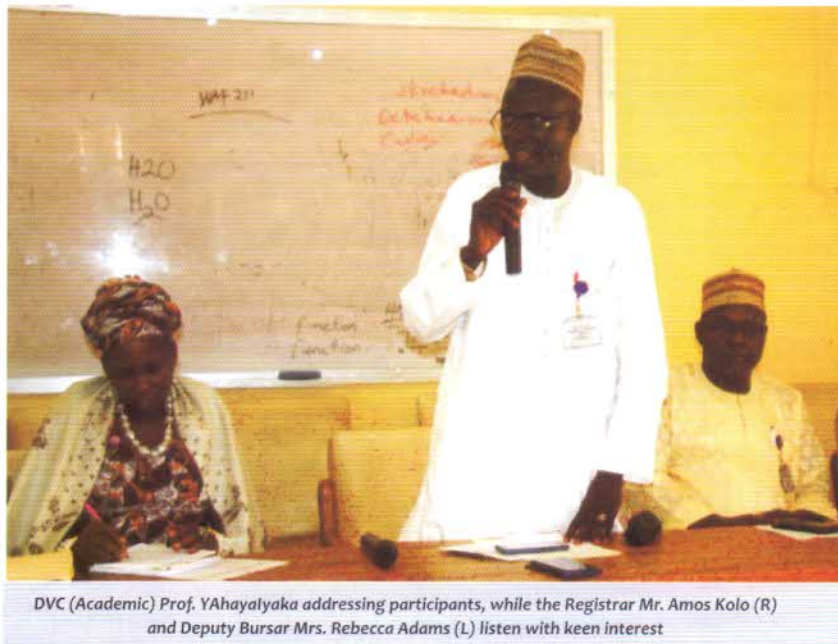
Prof. Bala disclosed that Management therefore tasked the Ag. Director, ITS to come up with a software to help address the issue.

He added that level advisers are to counsel students and compile the results of the level they oversee while exam officers handle only final year

results.

Earlier in his welcome remark, the Director QAP, Prof. Adai Ibrahim said the workshop was organized to keep the participants abreast of happenings, especially in the University's quest for excellence.

Making a presentation, Chairman of the Committee on Monitoring and Quality Teaching, Prof. Akim Osarhiemen Osunde stressed the need for heads of department to get closer to their students in order to get feedback and ensure service delivery.



DVC (Academic) Prof. YAHAYAYAKA addressing participants, while the Registrar Mr. Amos Kolo (R) and Deputy Bursar Mrs. Rebecca Adams (L) listen with keen interest

Prof. Osunde who is a former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) pointed out that HODs were ambassadors of the VC, a reason for them to take charge of affairs in their departments.

Frowning at a situation where some lecturers unilaterally change lecture time table, he warned that no staff is allowed to make changes to the lecture time table without approval from the Head of Department, which must be communicated to the Director of Academic Planning, the only acceptable exception being

rescheduling of a lecture due to unfavourable circumstances such as when a lecture clashes with Senate meeting which the lecturer involved is to attend.

As a way of ensuring service delivery, he said that lecture time tables and course allocations for a semester must be done before the end of the preceding semester.

The former DVC added that as part of global best practices, lecturers are to, before commencement of a semester, prepare their course ware, detailing the objectives, expected outcomes, modes of delivery as well as modes of assessment to enable students prepare ahead for the course.

Giving an overview of the workshop, the Director ITS, Dr. Adamu Mohammed, said the new staff e-portal will enable lecturers update contents and synopsis of the courses they have been assigned, just as it also shows the number of students registered for a course.

He acknowledged the onerous responsibilities of examination officers, adding that it was the reason more sessions of the workshop were devoted to them.

Heads of Department, Postgraduate Coordinators, Examination Officers and Level Advisers participated at the workshop which ended on Friday, April 5, 2019. Sessions for level advisers held simultaneously at the Bosso and Gidan Kwano Campuses.

STAFF CELEBRATE FORMER REGISTRAR



Principal Officers join DVC (Academic) Prof. Yahaya Iyaka (2nd left) in presenting a gift to former Registrar, Mrs. Victoria Kolo (3rd right)

As a show of appreciation for her contribution to the development of the institution, the Registry Department of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, recently organised a send off ceremony for the immediate past Registrar, Mrs. Victoria Kolo.

The event which was alongside the Annual Registry Welfare programme took place at the Caverton Lecture Theatre, Main Campus.

In his remark at the event, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Prof. Yahaya Iyaka congratulated Mrs. Kolo for her contributions to the University.

He extolled her commitment and hard work, described her as an administrator par excellence and wished her good health and long life to continue to contribute to the good of humanity.

Prof. Bala also congratulated the new Registrar and his team for putting together the annual lecture and send off, adding that registry staff are very key to the University system as they put in a lot to make sure they meet

several deadlines to keep the Institution going.

The helmsman urged the Registrar to put modalities in place to have the annual award for outstanding staff as it was necessary to reward them for their efforts. He urged Registry staff to continue to be dedicated to their duties.

Earlier in his welcome address during the programme, the Registrar, Mr. Amos Kolo noted that Mrs. Kolo made immense contributions during her tenure in office and all Registry staff considered it very appropriate to give her a befitting send off.

Mr. Kolo said she made her marks for all staff of the department in the areas of promotion, change of cadre, annual Registry lecture, Registry's annual welfare programme, electronic production and issuance of academic transcript, staff development through training and conference attendance and said he hopes to sustain the level of achievement with the support of his staff and University Management.

The Registrar pointed out that the Registry's annual welfare is now revamped and features talk show on various topics that are relevant to the wellbeing and corporate existence for better understanding of ourselves

which in turn boosts individual and collective morale for better performance in the realisation of the goals and objectives of the University.

Mr. Kolo disclosed that a special award will be instituted as Registry staff of the year award to be given to the outstanding staff at the end of each year.

He thanked the University Management, members of the Registry Department and Unit heads for their co-operation and dedication to duty since his assumption of office. He also commended the executive members of the Registry Welfare Committee for the success of the programme.

In her response, the immediate past Registrar of the University, Mrs. Victoria Kolo, who was full of appreciation to God for the opportunity to serve in FUT, Minna, thanked Council for the appointment, University Management for the love and support and her former staff for their co-operation during her tenure. She also appreciated her husband and family for their support and encouragement.

She urged all present to remain steadfast and be dedicated to duty.

During the programme, Dr. Abdulsalam Abdulfatai of the University Health Services who gave a talk on "Developing Good Mental Health at Work", defined mental health as the absence of mental disorder and went further to describe the types of mental illnesses.

According to him, we can have good mental health at work by having adequate sleep, appropriate socialisation, exercise, treating any form of infection you notice immediately, managing stressful events professionally, avoiding drug abuse and eating a balanced diet.

Highlight of the occasion was a documentary on the immediate past Registrar, Mrs. Victoria Kolo. The Vice-Chancellor also presented a gift to her on behalf of the Registry Department.



VC, Prof. Abdullahi Bala (5th from right) and Brig. Gen. Gideon Ajetunmobi (6th from right) pose for a group snapshot with Principal Officers and other Army Officials shortly after the visit

VC ASSURES MILITARY OF COOPERATION, AS BRIGADE COMMANDER VISITS

As part of familiarisation with organisations in his area of command, the new Commander, 31 Artillery Brigade, of the Nigerian Army in Minna, Brig. Gen Gideon Ajetunmobi has paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Federal University, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, at the Main Campus of the institution.

Speaking when he received the Commander at the Council Chamber recently the Vice-Chancellor said the University, which is leading in the area of collaborations with the Nigerian military is always happy to partner with them to meet the country's needs.

Prof. Bala said that FUT, Minna has a vision to be among the leading universities in the world and has

come a long way with thriving research as it is currently ranked first among specialised universities in Nigeria.

He added that the University is in a good stead for further collaborations with the armed forces, especially in the face of the current security challenges in the country.

Prof. Bala stressed that there were limitless areas for cooperation between both parties, adding that the University hopes to have customized programmes for the military.

Earlier, Brig. Gen. Ajetunmobi told the VC that he deemed the visit necessary to meet principal stakeholders in his area of

responsibility as a new commander, noting the need for the interaction considering the large population the VC controls.

He stressed the need for unity between both parties, saying that no country can develop without cooperation between the military and the academia.

The Brigade Commander was accompanied by the Commander 313 Artillery Regiment, Lt. Col E. Chukwu as well as other officers and men of the Brigade.

Brig. Gen. Ajetunmobi maintained that there was the need for the country to look inwards for the progress of the country.

Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Prof. Yahaya Ahmed Iyaka (Academic) and Emmanuel Emeka Udensi (Administration) as well as the Registrar, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo; Bursar, Mrs. Hajara Kuso Abdullahi and the University Librarian, Dr. Jibril Alhassan were present at the occasion.

The Area Comptroller in charge of the Niger, Kwara and Kogi Command of the Nigeria Customs Service, Comptroller Abba Kazim Yusuf has paid a courtesy visit to the Management of the Federal University of Technology, Minna on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at the VC's Conference Room.

Speaking during the brief visit, Comptroller Yusuf expressed his appreciation to the Management and noted that the purpose of their visit was to familiarise with the University radio station Search FM 92.3 because the University system is a very important system in the development of any country.

He said that the Nigeria Custom Service is an enforcement arm of the Federal Government charged with the

responsibility of enforcing the fiscal policies of the Federal Government, like suppression of smuggling, collection of revenue on imports and facilitating trade by educating traders on what is expected of them as well as engaging the media to publicize its activities.

Comptroller Yusuf disclosed that Niger, Kwara and Kogi command has generated over N800 million as revenue this year from both import and excise duties, adding that the Federal Government has been intensifying its campaign to ban the importation of rice and vehicles through the land borders, which is aimed at boosting agriculture and protecting local assemblers of

CUSTOMS AREA COMPTROLLER VISITS FUTMINNA



The VC, Prof. Bala (5th from right) in a group photograph with the Area Comptroller and other Principal Officers

vehicles in the country.

He said the reason the Custom publicize its activities is for the public to know that all their activities are carried out to promote the economy and provide employment.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor of the institution, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, appreciated the Nigeria Customs Services for their work, adding that the role and importance of Customs in Nigerian economy is what everyone is conversant with.

The VC recalled that for the last three to four years, there has been quite a significant jump in the revenues that

has been collected by Customs, which has contributed to the stabilization of the economy.

Prof. Bala said it is a duty for the University as an organisation under the government to partner with the Customs to facilitate their job. He also assured them that the University is always ready to make the community radio (Search FM 92.3) available for them in terms of educating the public.

The VC said that FUTMinna will remain partners in progress with them and make their task easier by providing expertise and facility at any time of need.

COREN HOLDS ACCREDITATION FOR ENGINEERING IN FUTMINNA



VC, Prof. Bala and COREN team leader Engr. Gyang (M), in a group photograph with POs, other FUTMinna officials and COREN accreditation team members

A team of experts from the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) has visited the Federal University of Technology, Minna for the accreditation of its engineering programmes. The exercise took place recently at the Main Campus.

The team leader, Engr. Tanko Gyang said the accreditation of engineering programmes is a major mandate of the COREN. According to him, it is in accordance with the act setting up the Council, which is about quality assurance, aimed at ensuring that products of engineering programmes in universities, polytechnics, technical colleges are sound and functional personnel that meet the challenges of Society and compete favourably with their counterparts anywhere in the world.

Engr. Gyang said that adequate facilities must be available in the University to build capacity. COREN accreditation he pointed out, is for partnership and growth not for witch-hunt and it is aimed at building not destroying but also a very strict process that is firm but fair.

The team leader disclosed that the accreditation exercise will be on the following programmes: Computer Engineering, Materials and

Metallurgical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Mechatronics Engineering programmes. A team of experienced, skilled and highly knowledgeable professionals had been put together from the industry and academia to carry out the exercise.

He assured the Management that a meticulous work will be done which will reflect a true picture of the situation. Engr. Gyang also appealed to the Management to be open and provide any information required to facilitate the exercise.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor of the institution, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fssn, welcomed the members of the accreditation team to the University, adding that the University has always been of the opinion that accreditation is not meant to destroy but to draw the Management's attention to areas of strength and weaknesses.

Prof. Bala revealed that the University has the intention of creating more programmes under engineering, especially, in the areas of oil and gas and mining.

He assured the team of Management supports during the exercise.

At the end of the accreditation exercise, the team leader expressed profound gratitude to the Management and staff for their

support during the exercise.

He said after going round the University and inspecting all the facilities, as well as interacting with some of the staff and students, the team looked at the academic records of students, accessed their admission requirements, the students course work including laboratory reports, files of academic

and non-academic staff to verify the entire academic curriculum to determine its adequacy in terms of professional requirements, and also the recommendation in the report of the last accreditation exercise in May 2013 to ascertain the efforts made by the University.

Engr. Gyang mentioned some of the areas of concern, which the University should address.

He noted the cordial relationship among the staff of the School of Engineering, adding that no meaningful progress can be achieved without good working relationship. He urged the University to continue with the good work by sustaining its areas of strength and make efforts to remedy the identified weaknesses.

The VC, Prof. Bala, thanked the team for the work they had done so far, and expressed happiness that some improvements have been made from the last visit in 2013.

He assured that Management would address the identified challenged very soon. He commended the team for doing thorough check during the exercise.

He also thanked the Deans, HODs and staff for all their support during the accreditation.

VC COMMENDS NASU, ASSURES OF SUPPORT

The newly elected Executive Council members of the Non Academic Staff Union of Educational and Allied Institutions (NASU), Federal University of Technology, Minna chapter recently paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn.

The new Chairman, Comrade Ayuba Ali who led the delegation thanked the Vice-Chancellor for his support for the Union, adding that the visit was for them to seek the blessings and support of Management.

He said NASU comprises people of different educational backgrounds, young and old, assuring that the Union would continue to do its best

to keep the University moving.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, congratulated the Union leaders on their election, saying their emergence through a democratic process shows the confidence their members have in them.

He said the University holds NASU dear to its heart as it is a critical stakeholder in the Institution with the imprints of its members seen all over the University.

NASU, he said, has always been a reliable partner in the University and thanked them for what they have been doing in the institution.

He called on the officials to ensure that the peace for which NASU is known is

maintained and further advised the Chairman to ensure that all segments of the Union are embraced to ensure peace within the Union, as trying to exclude a segment of the Union would not augur well for them.

Prof. Bala assured them of continued support, adding that Management would always make sure that it consults with the EXCO and members in taking decisions that affect them.

Other NASU officials at the event are Maishera Mohammed, Secretary; Fatima Ahmed, Treasurer and the following Ex-Officio: Bello Jamiu, Yabagi Alfa, Abdullateef Abdulazeez and Ahmed Idris.



NASU Officials in a snapshot with Principal Officers: Middle VC, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, (5th from left) NASU Chairman, Comr. Ayuba Ali

MSSN VISITS VC

The Muslim Students Society of Nigeria (MSSN), of the Federal University of Technology, Minna Branch, recently paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor of the institution, on Thursday, April 4th, 2019, at the VC's Conference Room, Main Campus.

Speaking during the visit, the Ameer of the MSSN, Ibrahim

Abdulmum'min, a 500 level student of the Department of Mathematics, said the purpose of the visit was to show their sincere gratitude for the role the Vice-Chancellor has played towards enlightenment and guidance of the Muslim community in and around the institution.

He also pledged their support by being law abiding students of the University and in any other way possible. He added that the Society is very interested in hearing the VC's fatherly advice.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, appreciated and congratulated all the Executive members, adding that, leadership is a burden and at the end of the day, whatever a person does would be accounted for in this world and hereafter. He urged them to take it as a responsibility, as it is a sign of the confidence other members of the Society have in them.

Prof. Bala who recalled that, for a very long time, the Management has not had any problem with the Society in terms of general conduct, which has made the Management very happy in the way they conduct themselves and assured them of Management support in making their stay in FUT, Minna comfortable.

The VC urged them to continue to keep the peace and draw the attention of others to peace as Islam is a religion of peace, because without peace, there can be no progress.

Prof. Bala further said that the Mosque is supposed to be a home for everybody in a manner that feels welcoming. And the Executive members to show the initiative in embracing everybody.

The Society also presented an award of honour to the Vice-Chancellor in appreciation of his support.



Prof. Abdullahi Bala (m) and Principal Officers pose for a group photograph with MSSN Officials

VC TO STUDENTS: DON'T JOKE WITH SIWES

The Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, has urged students of the institution to take the Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) seriously as it can be the beginning of their future career.

Prof. Bala stated this recently during his opening speech at the SIWES Orientation Exercise for 400 Level students of the Institution held at the University Auditorium, Main Campus.

The VC who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi warned that the 6-month SIWES period is not a holiday period and they must not joke with it,

adding that the University has put in place mechanisms to check their participation during the exercise.

He reminded the students that, as a university of technology, the institution attaches a lot of importance to industrial experience, which is the main reason all its first degree programmes run for five years so that its graduates will be grounded in both theoretical knowledge and practical experience, making them different from products of conventional universities.

Earlier in his welcome address, the University Industrial Liaison Officer, Prof. Job Nmadu said that the exercise was organised early enough to enable the students have a smooth transition from their examination to SIWES period.

Prof. Nmadu also reminded them that the siwes programme is now being graded and an "F" means the student

would carry it over.

In his remark, the Head of Training, Industrial Training Fund (ITF), Minna, Mr. Joe Sale Aruwa who represented the Minna Area Manager of the Fund said that SIWES is a collaborative effort involving institutions of learning, ITF and supervising agencies.

He said the scheme, among other things, provides opportunities for students to acquire skills in their areas of study and maintained that they must choose only industries relevant to their courses of study.

He also commended the University Management for its collaboration with ITF and maintaining a functional Industrial Liaison Office.

During the orientation, the students were also told the code of conduct during the SIWES and how to do the relevant documentation for the programme.

STUDENT UNION GETS LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The Federal University of Technology, Minna has organised a three days training programme on the practical aspect of leadership for the Student's Union and Student Representatives Assembly.

Speaking during the closing ceremony recently at the Entrepreneurship Centre, Main Campus, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, said he was happy for the training of SU executives, because as leaders in their own right, they should have the opportunity of being trained for leadership.

"The essence of this training is that when you are able to identify your weaknesses, then you should also find a ways of turning that weaknesses into a strength," he stated.

The VC emphasised on the team building and said that what they have learnt during the training exercise would really help them in future.

He assured the SUG executive that Management would continue to organise leadership training programme every year for the student executives and the legislature because of their honourest



POs in a group photograph with SUG Exco and CEFE Trainers

responsibilities.

Earlier in her remarks, the Coordinator, Competency-based Economies through the Formation of Enterprise FUTMinna, Engr. Dr. Caroline Aleogheno, said the training focussed on leadership skills; how to work as a team, respect each other's opinion and how to resolve problems.

She appreciated the VC and his Management staff for keeping the tradition of training every member of the Student Union.

In his remarks, the SU President, Comrade Ayodeji Matthew thanked the VC for giving them the opportunity to learn something different on the practical aspect of leadership which impacted their lives positively.

Certificate were issued to participants after the training.

NANISS SOLICITS FUTMINNA SUPPORT

The National Association of Niger State Students (NANISS), FUTMinna Chapter, has solicited for more support and cooperation from the University Management to further strengthen the existing cordial relationship between the University and the Association.

The President of the Association, Comrade Abdulrahman M. Bima made the call when he led other executive members on a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fssn, recently at the VC's Conference Room, Main Campus.

Speaking during the visit, the President felicitated with Prof. Bala on his appointment as the VC of the University and prayed God to continue to guide him in steering the affairs of the institution.

Comrade Bima noted that the problem bothering the Association was the financial embezzlement from the past leaders and this brought no development over time. He pointed out that another challenge was the issue of funding, while saying that no

organisation can function without funds.

The NANISS leader added that the only source of revenue for them was the deduction from Scholarship Board, which is a meager amount that is insufficient for them to carry out their programmes.

He pleaded with the University Management to allow them have access to some facilities and also to mount some physical monument on Campus. He also requested for secretariat that would be used for administrative purpose.

Comrade Bima informed the VC that following the death of their Staff Adviser, late Mall. Ibrahim Magana, the Management should help the association by appointing someone with integrity to serve as their adviser.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Bala, said NANISS always has a financial mismanagement and part of these problems was lack of good staff advisers, because, with good staff advisers monitoring all the activities of the executives, their expenditure, would have been properly accounted

for.

He explained that the association, over the years, has not reached out to some people, who are from Niger State that would give both moral and financial support.

Prof. Bala noted that the Chapter has the largest membership on Campus compared to other associations in the institution and are supposed to be a bridge builder between the State Government and the University.

He advised them not to rely on Scholarship deduction as their major source of revenue but make their members pay dues to the association.

The VC urged the executives to organize programmes and activities that would be relevant to the yearnings of members. He also advised them to reach out to people who can donate for the association.

He however advised them on the appointment of Staff Advisers, that the Union should suggest names and Management would look at the names and approve appropriately.

Prof. Bala assured them of Management's support and cooperation at all times, and urged them to continue to Maintain peace on Campus.



POs in a group photograph with Excos after the visits

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fssn, has pledged support to the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Students (NAAS), FUT, Minna Chapter in their quest to reposition the fortunes of the students' body.

The VC gave this assurance recently when the executive members of the Association paid him a courtesy visit at

The VC reiterated his administration's commitment to the welfare and safety of students on campus, noting that all lecture theatres and classrooms in the University would be given a facelift while large classes would be provided with public address system.

On the proposed excursion by the students' body, he urged them to choose institutions or organisations that would provide them with practical

programme", the VC advised.

The University helmsman further disclosed that the University Management would soon flag off an agricultural training school aimed at providing students and youth from the University's host community with better exposure on agricultural business and entrepreneurship.

Prof. Bala assured the students that Management would look into the issue

of the swampy routes in the School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology with the view of making students and staff to move freely during rainy

He assured the students of the University Management support and cooperation.

Speaking earlier, the President NAAS, Comrade Saidu Adamun Dashiru said the purpose of the visit was for them

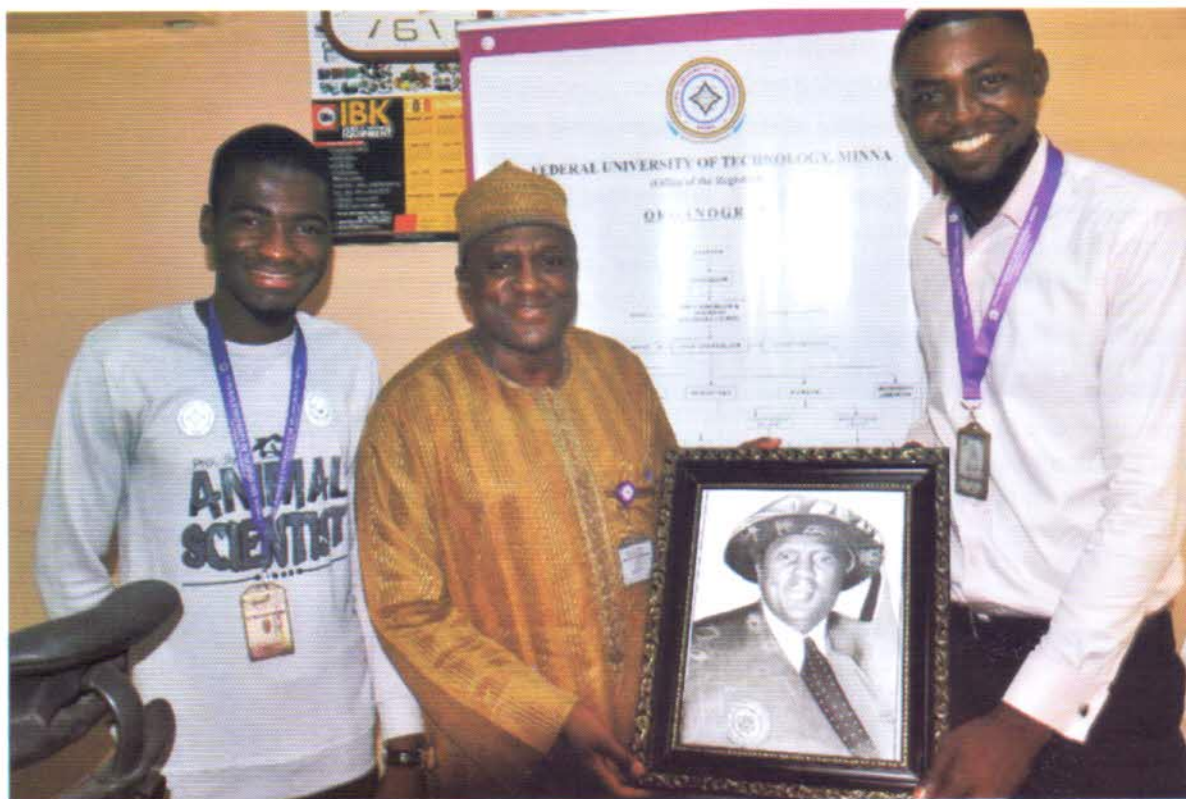
to greet their father and to wish him well on his birthday.

The NAAS President commended the Vice-Chancellor for his sterling performance in piloting the affairs of the University while saying that the students of SAAT are proud of him.

He further solicited for the Vice-Chancellor's support towards the Association's annual excursion.

PROF BALA PLEDGES SUPPORT TO NAAS

• To Set-Up Agricultural Training School



The President NAAS, Comrade Dashiru (first from right) presents portrait to the VC, Prof. Bala (m) with NAAS General Secretary (first from left) during the visit.

the VC's Conference Room, Main Campus.

Speaking during the visit, Prof. Bala expressed gratitude to the students for making out time to visit him and for their best wishes to him on the occasion of his birthday.

"Thank you for the birthday wishes and for the gift. It makes you all to be a worthy children", the VC disclosed.

experience which he noted was an integral component of the training in Agriculture.

"You have to define your scope and aims rather than just going for the sake of an excursion. You need to target a value place and not just to travel. What are the deliverables expected from students after the excursion. So, look at the institutions that can assist you in the practical aspects of your

BUYPOWER DONATES EQUIPMENT TO SEARCH FM

BUYPOWER NG has donated digital audio recording studio equipment worth over two million naira to Search FM 92.3, Campus Radio.

The brief ceremony which took place recently at the Search FM Radio Station, Main Campus.

Speaking during the ceremony, the Chairman, Campus Radio Board, Prof. Akim Osunde said that the radio station had never had a recording studio since its inception as it had been doing all its recordings of announcements, jingles, commentary and drama in the only existing live studio.

He said this prompted the Station Management to reach out to BUYPOWER NG to donate the advanced digital audio recording studio equipment.

Prof. Osunde noted that no other Nigerian university radio station can boast of such; hence, the uniqueness of the gesture.

He said with the set of equipment in place, standard audio recording quality would be achieved and this will boost the revenue profile of the radio station and the University.

“The equipment will also go a long way in complementing the practical components of courses in the Department of Information and Media Technology, thus adding value to the programme of the Department,” the former DVC (Academic) explained.

He revealed that the initiators and



Seated: The VC, Prof. Bala (2nd from left), the University Bursar, Mrs. Hajara Abdullahi (1st from left), BUYPOWER Officials (3rd and 4th from left), Prof. Osunde (standing, 2nd from left) and other dignitaries in a group photograph

founders of BUYPOWER NG are products of FUTMinna, as the current Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Benjamin OjimaUfaruna and Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Leonard DipoAsehinde are both 2008/2009 graduates of Electrical/Computer Engineering and Maths/Statistics respectively.

The CEO of BUYPOWER NG, Mr. Ufaruna said the company helps simplify energy payment for customers of energy utilities in Nigeria and their mission is to enable energy access for Sub-Saharan Africa.

He said they have always tried to figure out the best way to give back to the society because social impact has been a core component of their mission and a better way to start is with their Alma-Mater, so they reached out to a couple of people they knew back in school to find out if there are opportunities for them to help out in any way.

Mr. Benjamin added that as an organisation, most of the progress they have made has been as a result of the seed that has been sown in their lives, and it was only natural when it was time to give back, they came knocking at the University.

He said it was a great honour to sponsor the project because it is this very ground that shaped and prepared them for life after school and they will

continue to look for ways to give back to the society.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor of the institution, Prof. AbdullahiBala, fsssn, expressed excitement saying that he is very much impressed by what he has seen and the University is always appreciative and grateful to its benefactors for their contributions.

He recalled that the Search FM building was donated by an individual and the University has gone along gradually to furnish and provide some facilities, adding that it is only heart-warming to see that other benefactors are coming to sponsor and help in boosting the profile of the station.

Prof. Bala said that the intervention is very special in the sense that former students are coming to give back to their Alma-Mater. He added that as students and ex-students of FUTMinna, it is in their interest to make sure that the University continues to make progress because the profile of the University is also their profile, and there is no university that thrives and becomes highly ranked without the contribution from the Alumni.

The VC appreciated the gesture and assured them that the University will not take it lightly and will make sure that the equipment donated are used properly and wisely.

On Tuesday June 18, 2019, the University held Inaugural Stakeholders' Meeting of the Africa Centre of Excellence on Mycotoxin and Food Safety (ACEMFS). Participants came from different part of the world. Below are pictures of the Opening Ceremony, where Chairperson Northern Governors' Wife Forum and Wife of the Governor of Niger State, Dr. Amina Abubakar Bello was the Special Guest of Honour



Arriving for the event (l-r): Dean, SIPET, Prof. O. K. Abubakre; DVC Admin, Prof. E. E. Udensi; VC, Prof. Abdullahi Bala and the Director, DCAL, Prof. O. J. Oyero



Wife of the Governor of Niger State Dr. Amina Abubakar Bello (m) and other Dignitaries stand for the National Anthem. (2nd right) Prof. Patel, VC Anand University of Agric, India



The Bursar, Mrs. Hajara Koso Abdullahi and the Registrar, Mr. Amos Kolo looked on with interest at the event



Members of the University Governing Council (front row). L-R: Prof. O. K. Abubakre, Prof. E. Onwuka, Prof. Uno Uno, Prof. F.A. Kuta, Prof. A. N. Saidu, Barr. G. Alabi, Alh. M. J. Madigawa, Alh. A. M. Alfa, C. O. Adoyi and Hon. J. A. Agoda,



Centre leader, Prof. Hussaini Makun, making a remark as Keynote Speaker Dr. Wassef looks on



Prof. Abdullahi Bala explaining a point to Wife of the Governor, Dr. Amina Bello



The VC making his remark at the event



Keynote Speaker, Dr. Wassef making her presentation



The Wife of the Governor, Dr. Amina Abubakar Bello delivering her address

Pro-Chancellor and Chairman Governing Council, Prof. 'Femi Odekunle, recently led Members of Council to Flag-Off University Golf Course. Here are the pictures:



The Chairman of Council, Prof. 'Femi Odekunle unveiling the University Golf Course signpost while the VC, Prof. Abdullahi Bala and others looked on with keen interest



The Pro-Chancellor, Prof. 'Femi Odekunle and the VC, Prof. Abdullahi Bala unveiling the second University Golf Course signpost



The Pro-Chancellor, Prof. 'Femi Odekunle (1st from left) making a remark during the unveiling ceremony of the University Golf Course signposts



The Pro-Chancellor, Prof. 'Femi Odekunle in a warm handshake with the Chairman, University Golf Club, Prof. Akin Osunde



The VC, Prof. Abdullahi Bala in a warm handshake with the Chairman, University Golf Club, Prof. Akin Osunde



The Pro-Chancellor, Prof. 'Femi Odekunle (l) with the VC, Prof. Bala in a joyous mood during the unveiling of the University Golf Course signposts with other members of Council behind



The Pro-Chancellor, Prof. 'Femi Odekunle (6th from right) in a groupsnapshot with the VC, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, members of Council and the University Golf Club after the unveiling ceremony



The Chairman, University Golf Club, Prof. Akin Osunde speaking during the unveiling of the University Golf Course signposts

LEAVE-A-LEGACY PROJECT 2017/2018

Prof Bala Flags Off Interlock Walkway



VC, Prof. Bala (5th from left), cutting the tape to flag-off the walkway while other POs and staff of the University looked on

As part of measures to enhance free movement of students from the hostels to lecture halls during rainy season, the Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, has flagged off an interlocking walkway sponsored by the 2017/2018 graduating students of the University under the Leave-A-Legacy Project.

The brief flag-off ceremony took place recently at the project site in front of the Lawn Tennis Court at the Main Campus.

Speaking before flagging off the project, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Bala commended the 2017/18 graduating students for giving back to their Alma Mater through the execution of the project, adding that Management would take full responsibility for the maintenance of the project.

"The Leave-A-Legacy project has proved to be a very useful innovation in the University that has helped in trying to address some of the developmental challenges that we faced in the Campus," the VC enthused.

The VC applauded the students and the University Advancement and Development Office (ADO) for executing the same project that the University Management had in mind while noting that the interlocking walkway would reduce the stress that students go through while plying the road to classes during the raining season.

"Indeed, I am happy that we have a team that is very conscious of addressing the developmental challenges of the University. I am also particularly delighted that the originator of the Leave-A-Legacy Project is today with us as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Emmanuel Udensi. He started the project when he was the Director of ADO. Just to show the kind of dynamism that is associated with what is expected of the Advancement Office which is to bring about meaningful projects and development to the University," Prof. Bala disclosed.

The University helmsman further expressed appreciation to the Registrar of the University and staff of ADO for executing yet another critical project in the University.

Delivering his address, the Registrar of the University, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo said the project would help to alleviate the students' hardship during rainy season while trekking from the hostels to the lecture halls, saying that the students' shoes would be kept clean and by extension, the classrooms and hostels.

The Registrar said the project would also create a sense of pride to the set that executed the project and inspire other students to give something back to the University that has trained them while disclosing that every student that passed through this great institution would be proud to look back and reflect on their contributions towards the development

of the University.

"The University had done so much for you. You should therefore do something for the University. I therefore challenge you all to think of what you can do for your Alma Mater no matter how small. In so doing, it will cultivate Alumni spirit of togetherness in the students and the awareness of the existence of Alumni Association of this University," the Registrar stated.

Mr. Kolo said the execution of the project would not have been possible without the full and unflinching support of the University Management under the leadership of Prof. Abdullahi Bala.

"I want to therefore sincerely thank the Vice-Chancellor and other members of the University Management for the confidence reposed in the Registry Department. We are indeed grateful to you, Sir," the Registrar disclosed.

He further expressed appreciation to the Project Committee members, the staff of Advancement Office, the Director and Staff of Physical Planning and Development Unit and the Students' Representatives for all the efforts made in seeing to the actualization of the project.

While giving the vote of thanks, the Chairman, Students' Representatives of the 2017/2018 Leave-A-Legacy Project, Okoh Supreme Ayewoh thanked the University Management for introducing the Leave-A-Legacy Project which he said has created a platform for students to give something back to the University before graduating.

Comrade Okoh said the project would alleviate the suffering which students go through during rainy season while commuting from the hostels to their respective lecture halls. He commended the University for equipping them with knowledge and good character while saying that they would be good ambassadors of the University in the larger society.

The interlocking walkway, which is about 300 metres long, was constructed from the Lawn Tennis Court to the University Clinic.

PROF BALA FLAGS OFF COOPERATIVE SUPERMARKET

• We Are Financially Healthy Now – Mal. Ashafa

In order to make household shopping convenient for staff and students at affordable prices, the Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, has flagged off the FUT Staff Cooperative Multi-Purpose Society Limited supermarket.

The flag-off ceremony took place on Tuesday, June 24, 2019 at the University Ultra-modern market, Main Campus.

Speaking at the event, Prof. Bala commended the President and other Executive members of the Cooperative Society for the laudable project, adding that the supermarket would go a long in ensuring that students, staff and the University community get quality goods at affordable prices.

Prof. Bala thanked the Cooperative Society for their plans to invest in the construction of students' hostel and event centre at the Main Campus,

saying that Management would gladly allocate land to them for the projects.

The VC further assured them of the University Management support in all their programmes and called on other Cooperative Societies in the University to emulate FUT Staff Multi-Purpose Society by complementing Management efforts in the development of the GidanKwano Campus

Earlier in his address, the President of the Cooperative Society, Mal. Aminu Mohammed Ashafa said the flag off of the supermarket by the Vice-Chancellor would signal yet another milestone in the series of life changing schemes introduced by the present Executives of the Cooperative Society since assumption of office in 2017, adding that the supermarket would make household shopping convenient for staff and students of the University.

"This supermarket is part of our strategic plan to create additional

stream of revenue for the Cooperative Society in order to meet up with the ever demanding needs of our esteemed members," the President disclosed.

The President said the supermarket can be described as a one-stop shop based on the variety of quality goods stocked in it while noting that the it would also afford staff of the University the opportunity to buy goods and pay later at the end of the month through direct deduction from salary.

Mal. Ashafa said the present Executive members have revived the fortunes of the Cooperative Society back in line with the lofty dreams of its founding members.

"We are financially healthy, stable and strong to operate in line with global best practices. We have also concluded plans to key into the University Management's hostel project policy by investing in the construction of students' hostel in GidanKwano Campus to address the problem of students accommodation. Soon we will invite you for the foundation laying ceremony," he noted.

The President expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor and other Management team of the University for the support given to the Cooperative Society to operate. He also extended invitation to the Management team to attend the 24th Annual General Meeting of the Cooperative Society slated for Saturday, 29, June 2019 at the CPES Hall, Bosso Campus.



The VC, Prof. Bala (middle in the front row) supported by the Co-operative President, Mal. Ashafa (L) and the University Librarian, Dr. J. A. Alhassan cutting the tape to flag-off the Co-operative supermarket

FUTMINNA STUDENTS SHINE AT QUR'ANIC COMPETITION

In furtherance of the University's stellar performance across various facets of life, three students of the Federal University of Technology, Minna have won prizes at the 2nd Inter-Universities Qur'an Memorization Competition held at the Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin.

The competition which was held recently.

Speaking before presenting the victorious students to the VC, the President, Muslim Students Society of Nigeria (MSSN), FUT, Minna Branch, Ibrahim Abdulmumin said the students gave a good account of themselves at the event which resulted in their emergence as winners in three different categories.

The President noted that despite the late invitation given to the University for the event, the students gave their all to hoist the institution's flag high at the competition while assuring the VC that the students would aim for the top spot at the next edition.

He thanked the VC for his support to the students' body, particularly his gesture of assisting them with food stuff during the Ramadan period and prayed for Allah's blessings upon him.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fssn, congratulated the students for making the University proud at the event, adding that their performance was a pointer to the fact that FUT, Minna is a leading citadel of learning.

"I feel very excited. It just shows that even though we are a University of Technology, we were still able to beat some conventional universities that have Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies. And then, it



The VC, Prof. Bala (3rd from right) in a group snapshot with the victorious students and some executive members of MSSN, FUT, Minna Branch

emphasizes the fact that extra-curricular activities are limitless for our students"

I am very happy. It goes to show that FUT, Minna is a leader in every aspect. Beyond, the technology that we are known for, we are also leading in Qur'an recitation", the VC stated.

Prof. Bala urged the students to put in more efforts in the next edition by winning the top prize.

The competition, which was divided into three different categories, had FUT, Minna students winning medals in each of the category. In category A; Adekanye Abdulraheem Adedeji of the Department of Civil Engineering

came second in the last ten parts of the Qur'an: Juz' 21-30.

In category B; Adekanye Adewale Abdulazeez of the Department of Biochemistry came third in the last five parts of the Qur'an, Juz' 26-30 while Abdulrauf Toheeb Olamilekan of the Department of Physics won consolation prize in the last two parts of the Qur'an, Juz' 29-30.

The Qur'an memorization competition is an annual event organized by the Centre for Islamic Heritage and Community Development, Al-Hikmah University. This year's event had 12 universities in attendance.

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, has applauded the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA), Minna Network Centre for organising the 7th Ramadan Lecture, 1440 A.H., with the theme "Leadership and Security; the Islamic Perspective".

The event took place on Saturday, May 4, 2019 at Justice Idris Legbo Kutigi International Conference Centre, Minna, Niger State.

Speaking during the event, Prof. Bala, who was the Chairman of the occasion said that this year's topic is very important, especially as some parts of the country are seriously facing security challenges.

He pointed out that leadership is not only placed on the president, governors, Emirs or the Vice-Chancellors but virtually all people are leaders by their own right at different levels, adding that leadership starts from the family level.

Prof. Bala explained that as part of the socialisation process, leadership actually starts from home, depending on how children are moulded before gradually coming into the mainstream of the society.

He reiterated that in northern Nigeria today, the big and major issue was that of kidnapping and this did not happen overnight as sighs were there but unfortunately, the leadership failed in tackling it when it should have been tackled.

"Problems of armed banditry, kidnapping, cattle rustling, we have to look at the fundamental problems and it is only by addressing the fundamental problems that we will begin to experience peace in our areas," the VC said.

"Military action alone would not solve the problems if the underlying problems are not tackle and we are yet to see politicians taking the right steps," Prof. Bala stated.

In his goodwill message, HRH. Alh. Yusuf Nuhu, Emir of Agaie, said that this year's lecture was like a forum where people gather and get enlightened, particularly the Ulama, who were to go into

RAMADAN LECTURE: PROF BALA APPLAUDS NTA MINNA

Ramadan Tafsir.

He also called on the Islamic preachers to teach Muslims to promote peace and unity amongst people.

The Emir urged leaders to always fear Allah and do justice in dealing with their subjects.

In his opening remarks, the DG, NTA, Malam Yakubu Ibn Mohammed who was represented by the Director, News and Current Affairs, NTA, Minna, Moh'd Doma, said the reason for organising the lecture was to remind the Muslims of the responsibilities God bestowed on them and what is expected of them.

Delivering his paper, Prof. Ahmed Bello Dogarawa, Lecturer, Department of Accounting, ABU, Zaria outlined the responsibilities of good leaders in Islam as establishing Allah's law for the people, enforcing judgement among contenders and resolving cases among disputants. As well as preserving their five basic necessities which are: religion, life, intellect, honour and their wealth.

He defined a leader as a servant and guardian who seeks the welfare of the led serves and protects them against tyranny and oppression, guides them to good, Instils the fear of God in them and promotes justice amongst people.

Prof. Dogarawa said that Nigeria is experiencing serious security challenges such as the activities of Boko Haram in the northeast, banditry and cattle rustling in northwest, herder farmer and ethno-religious crisis in the northcentral, Niger Delta militants in south south, IPOB in southeast and OPC and cultism in southwest.



The VC, Prof. Bala, presenting his speech at the 7th Ramadan lecture.

He revealed that the activities of these group have within the last three decades led to the death of tens of thousands of people, displacement of hundreds of thousands and destruction of properties worth billions of naira.

The don noted that security is the business of every member of the society and that individuals and communities should contribute to address it by teaching and inculcating the fear of God.

He advised government to be more proactive and dynamic in tackling security challenges in the country.

The discussant of the paper, Sheikh Abdullahi Aboki, Chief Imam, the Federal Polytechnic, Bida, commended the speaker for a good presentation. He quoted a popular Du'a by Sheikh Usman Danfodio:

"O Allah show us the way and guidance and give us the ability and capability to follow the right path and show us what is wrong and give us the ability and capacity to shun the evil"

He noted that the major causes of insecurity in Nigeria was the issue of imbalance, as the rich are becoming richer and poor are becoming poorer in the society.

He advised the federal government to reduce salaries of both the federal and state assembly members in the country.

Giving his vote of thanks, Dauda Moh'd of NTA, Minna prayed and wished all the participants journey mercies back to their respective destinations.

The School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (SAAT), Federal University of Technology, Minna, held its first International Conference of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (ICAAT 2019), with the theme: "Food Insecurity in Africa: Agricultural Diversification as Panacea," recently at the Caverton Lecture Theatre, Main Campus, GidanKwano.

In his welcome address, the Vice-Chancellor of the institution, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, appreciated the participants who came from outside the University, urging them to use the opportunity of the Conference to tour the Campus and the host state.

He said ICAAT is the maiden Conference in the school and it provide avenues not just for presenting papers, but for people to network and reach out to each other as well as to explore other means of collaborations.

Prof. Bala said the theme of the Conference is very apt because it is agricultural diversification with food security, and the major plan of the present administration is in the Country economic and agricultural diversification.

The VC disclosed that, Management on its part has been working hard in the area of capacity building, as there are a lot of agricultural problems that threaten food security. He urged agriculturists to counsel the government on what needs to be done in agricultural diversification.

Speaking earlier during the opening ceremony, the Dean, SAAT, Prof. Ayodele Ododfin welcomed

participants to the Conference.

Prof. Odofin said the Conference is the first of its kind in the school after 33 years of the existence of the University and hoped that it would mark the beginning of a fruitful collaboration with participants from different institutions.

He said the theme of the Conference captured issues of great interest at the present time in Nigeria, adding that according to UNICEF, 13 million Nigerians suffer from acute hunger and 60 percent of Northerners live in

people at all times have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs.

Prof. Noriss disclosed that as at May 2006, 39 countries in the world were experiencing serious food emergencies and Africans are faced with food insecurity, saying that Nigeria needs to provide enough food for her growing population and also export to earn foreign exchange.

"Results from across country regressions among developing

SAAT HOLDS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



VC, Prof. Bala (8th from left), other Principal Officers and participants in a group photograph after the opening session

subject poverty, he said Nigeria has failed to invest its oil wealth in agriculture and the agricultural sector has not been receiving up to 10 percent allocation for sufficient food production.

Prof. Odofin urged sub-sahara African governments to start paying attention to agricultural development and formulate the right policies. He wished the participants fruitful deliberations in the Conference.

The keynote speaker, Prof. David Noriss, Vice-Chancellor, University of Botswana, who was represented by Dr. O. J. Alabi said the entire world is battling with food insecurity.

He defined food security as when all

countries shows that agriculture contributes to economic growth by increasing the income of majority of the population, while domestic savings largely influences the growth part of the economy," he disclosed

On the way forward in agricultural diversification, he said, governments of African nations at all levels should focus on enhancing social amenities where agricultural activities take place, and assist farmers to gain access to loans and other production assets.

He said the current method of agriculture should be replaced with mechanisation.

DBI HOLDS TRAINING FOR FUT MINNA STAFF

Digital Bridge Institute (DBI) has organised a 5-day training for staff of the Federal University of Technology, Minna. The training held 8th to 12th April, 2019 at the main campus

The Vice-Chancellor of the institution, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, while declaring the programme open, welcomed the team to FUT, Minna, adding that the use of ICT in the institution has become a necessity and the main essence for the establishment of the University is to give effect to Nigeria's desire in science and technology.

Prof. Bala said the training is important as it would help prepare members of staff to render quality services because ICT is the major tool used in the University by both staff and students

The VC assured everyone that the training is going to be a continuous one and urged all participants to take the training serious because they are ambassadors of the University.

Speaking during the opening ceremony, the team leader, DBI, Mr. Chukwuemeka Nzeih said the institute, which has been on for 11 years is a digital body that is fully accredited by the Nigerian Communication Commission (NCC). He added that the training programme is also running in six other institutions across different states in Nigeria.

The team leader said every time they come to FUT, Minna, they always enjoy the support of the Management, which shows the commitment of the Management in developing the staff.

Mr. Nzeih encouraged the participants to give their maximum cooperation and attention in order to have a rich training experience, as the University has done its own part and NCC is committed to training more staff.

He said the training will be in two parts - the internet and Microsoft office productivity tool training and the



VC, Prof. Abdullahi Bala (middle), POs, DBI team and participants in a group photograph after the training

statistical package and science solution.

The representative of the Acting Director, ITS, Hajia Mairo Kanko in her welcome address appreciated DBI for considering FUT, Minna for the training and hoped that they continue to organise more of the training for the University staff.

She said the programme came at a very good time because all offices in FUT, Minna do their work online and the 105 participants comprising teaching and non-teaching staff were selected from different departments in the University.

Hajia Mairo urged the participants to pay attention to the training, while she also expressed her appreciation to the Management for making it a success.

The VC at the closing ceremony, commended the participants and said the University is proud of them for not only honoring the invitation but also honoring the University.

He added that there is still a lot more to learn and urged the participants to make it a duty to always put to practice everything they have learnt during the training.

He thanked the DBI team for coming and hoped that they would come around again.

In his remark, the Acting Director, ITS, Dr. Adamu Mohammed, thanked the participants for making training 100% attendance.

He also appreciated the VC for making sure that knowledge is imparted on the members of staff and for deeming it fit to be a part of the ceremony.

Automobile Technicians Seek More Training



•Principal Officers and NATA Officials in a group photograph. Middle, Prof. Abdullahi Bala

Members of the Nigerian Automobile Technicians Association (NATA), Niger State Chapter, has paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Minna.

The State Chairman of the Association, Mr. Ayuba Oluobor said the purpose of the visit was to congratulate the VC on his appointment as the Vice-Chancellor of the University and that the association is aware of the fact that FUT, Minna is one of the best universities in West Africa

Mr. Oluobor appreciated the University on behalf of the association for doing so much in terms of training and hoped that the existing relationship which started

years back between them continues.

He appealed to the VC for support and assistance to continue with the training of their members in the Entrepreneurship Centre, while also seeking for a Mechatronic Centre so that members of the association who are interested to learn more will get familiar with the new technologies in order to update their knowledge.

The State Chairman thanked the Management for the opportunity to visit, adding that the association comprises artisans, technicians, mechanics among others, with its Headquarters in Abuja.

In his response, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, thanked the association for the felicitations, adding that it is going to be easy working with the

association as NATA is a grassroots organisation.

Prof. Bala said FUT, Minna was essentially established to meet the nations desire for self-reliance in science and technology and the University has the mandate of community service in reaching out to members of the public to make technology and expertise available to the people in need of it.

The VC added that he is happy for the existing relationship between the University and NATA, assuring them that the University has a range of expertise and the centre would be more empowered with the provision of additional facilities and equipment. "The University should be a place where members of the community could come in and get what they desire," he stated.

VC FELICITATES WITH PROF ODEKUNLE ON HIS BIRTHDAY



The Pro-Chancellor, Prof. Odekunle cutting his birthday cake

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, has congratulated the Pro-Chancellor and the Chairman of Council of the University, Prof. Femi Odekunle on his birthday and described him as a national asset.

Prof. Bala stated this during a brief birthday celebration held in honour of the Pro-Chancellor during Council meeting recently at the Council Chamber, Main Campus.

The VC said the University is proud to be associated with him and wished him many more fruitful years.

“You are a worthy example for us to emulate. I pray that God will grant you many more years in sound health and mind”, the VC stated.

Responding, the Pro-Chancellor, Prof. Odekunle expressed appreciation to the VC and other members of Council for felicitating with him, adding that he would continue to work for the growth of the University.

Other members of Council also took turn to speak eloquently on the lifestyle and impact of the Pro-Chancellor.



The Pro-Chancellor, Prof. Odekunle (left) with the VC, Prof. Bala during the marking of the Pro-Chancellor's Birthday

Still on the issue of funding, the Committee of Vice-Chancellors came up with a proposal appealing to the federal government to allow universities to charge tuition fee. Sir, what is your take on this?

My own feeling is that if you start charging, fees it will create a problem. Government cannot do this funding alone but it is not by charging tuition fees that you solve the problem. Do you know that a lot of Nigerians cannot pay WAEC and JAMB fees and a lot of state governments pay for thousands of students to be able to sit for WAEC and NECO. When you ask such people to pay tuition fees, where are they going to get it? Then if you allow that one, you create problems of the gap between the haves and the have not. Logically or rationally, you can say let people pay tuition fees but in reality, you are creating problems for the society; you increase the gap between the rich and the poor which will be very untoward for the existence and even the survival of the country.

You could establish education bank and student loan scheme and scholarship for indigent students not brilliant students. One of the mistakes we make in developing countries where there is socio-economic inequality is to be giving scholarship on the basis of brilliant



FUTMINNA Newsletter crew pose for a snapshot with the Pro-Chancellor.
L-R: Stanley Ugboaja, Deputy Director, Information and Publications Unit, Mrs. Lydia Legbo, Pro-Chancellor, Prof. Femi Odekunle, P. A. to the Pro-Chancellor Mohammed Saidu, Winifred Oritogun and Mustapha Alhassan

performance. The children of the haves who have teachers after school, who are exposed to google, television, those ones are likely to do better in competitive examinations. They are people considered to be brilliant and likely to get scholarship, if you base it on merit. Proportionately, you can have occasionally student from the poor families who will meet such scholarship but most of the people who will meet the scholarship will be those who have had the background of exposure. So I would rather say we should have scholarship for indigent but performing students.

Government must take interest in human development, especially education of its citizens and while we acknowledge that government is trying in the past few years, there has been an increase in what they give to higher education and TETFund has been up and doing, particularly

in terms of facilities but the government cannot do it alone. So parents also need to contribute but not in terms of tuition.

In Nigeria, we can hardly talk about any groundbreaking research, not the type that take people to the moon, but the one's that solve our basic problem of existence. I do not think that there has been ground breaking research from Nigerian universities but this is partly due to inadequate funding in this country for research and development. Our governments over decades, do not seem to believe in

Unless we fundamentally restructure our political economy...We are going to continue to have the problems we are having.

research determining policy. Even when people do research, they put it on the shelves. So, that may explain why there is little or no funding for research. Before America went to the moon, do you know how many billions of dollars they had expended? Do you know how many trials, year-in, year-out costing billions of dollars that had been spent before they achieved

success? All the money they give for research in Nigeria is not up to what one university gets in the USA.

Nonetheless, of course, many of the universities like FUT, Minna show commendable research output, targeted at providing solution to some national challenges. Particularly, this University conducts annual research fair. But the question is how does it translate to something commercial or national? Both the staff and students are active in attracting competitive research grants.

Prof, do you agree that there is a disconnected between universities and industries in Nigeria. If yes, how can this gap be bridged for the benefit of both parties and society at large?



Prof. Femi Odekunle (2nd right) with FUTMinna Newsletter crew during the interview

I think there is disconnect, but it is not a complete disconnect and there is room for improvement. Take for example, here there is collaboration between FUTMinna with the Military, there is collaboration between FUTMinna

and the Nigerian Communications Commission, there is collaboration between FUTMinna and Nigerian Communications Satellite limited and so on. So, I would say here there is disconnect but efforts are being made. Industries do not believe they could get a lot from our universities. Again you relate it to the earlier question, if there is no money to fund research for development, what will the industry be doing relating to the

universities except to donate a building to them and donate a professorial chair, but you find industries in a place like UK devoting millions to a particular problem or project and that one can go on for 5 or 10 years before it materializes but your capitalist position in the country is quick returns, your industries want quick return. Industries in western societies can be investing for donkey years in a particular project without seeing the light of it until they succeed. Local industries want quick returns, foreign industries that come in they want quick returns to make their money and go.

We commend the cooperation and hospitality of the host community, the traditional rulers, the government of the state.

And you have other problems too that make it easier for people to engage in corrupt practices and therefore make quick money. So their thinking is why do you want to go and tie down your money for some projects you don't know when it's going to materialize.

As a member of the Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption, how do you think the issue of corruption can be tackled in Nigerian tertiary institutions?

It has been on now for decades and particularly from the mid 1980s corruption entered the university system. There are all kinds of corrupt practices in the university system. There is the money, there is the admission racket, there is sex or money for grades, there is corruption in promotion system, whether academic or non-academic, you find all kinds of corruption. It is not just financial and it is particularly dangerous in the academic system, just like it is dangerous in the Police Force and in the Judiciary. A country with corrupt judiciary and law enforcement is going to the dogs. Similarly, it is systematically dangerous to the survival of the society when corruption eats into the educational system. Somebody once said that if you want to destroy a country, corrupt its educational system. That means you produce doctors who cannot operate, who will give injection at the wrong place, you would produce engineers who will produce collapsed buildings, you would have politicians who will be dishonest. So if you want to destroy a country, start corruption in the

educational system because it means in the future, all the elites would be manifesting their corruption in every area of life's endeavour. So what we should do is to insist on due process in terms of financial and other transactions. there should be transparency whether you are admission officer, recruitment officer, procurement officer or lecturer giving

To the best of my knowledge, people are being promoted as and when due.

We do not delay any submission made to Council by Management.

marks you must ensure that there is transparency and that there should be integrity in discharging your responsibilities. The recruitment process must also take cognisance, not only of academic qualification, but also of integrity of the people you are employing. If you have somebody with a 2.1 but he's a criminal what does it do to the system? If you have a student

who has scored high in JAMB but they actually engage in exam malpractices, what is the use? So you should ensure that your recruitment process is such that staffs that have corrupt tendencies should be disciplined. When such cases come up, you should handle them expeditiously, equitably and observably to the knowledge of everybody.

We in the council, we told the University that immediately there is any matter of academic corruption or sexual corruption, they should bring it up and immediately you find the person guilty, you terminate or dismiss and make posters of the staff, maybe about 200 posters at strategic places, it will have effect on people who want to commit such criminalities.

From observations, one could say you are a strong advocate of social justice or equity and this is consistent with the statement you have made in public concerning the wide gap between the salaries of workers at the bottom rung of the ladder and those at the top.

In this country, there is the widest of gap between the haves and the have nots and the consequences are what we are having now as insecurity. For us to get over this, there are only two approaches, have more security not benefiting from it, two, put in place socio-economic policies that will close this gap and make the dividends of development more evenly available, that is preparing

against 25, 30 years from now. This problem you are having now didn't start yesterday; it started from the disparities that you have been intensifying for the past 30 years and it became worse from the mid 1980s when the structural adjustment programme started and since that time, we have been going down the drain in terms of this widening of the gap between the haves and the have nots.

This kind of inequality and legalised corruption must be dealt with. If we deal with them, we are reducing the problem for the future. The problem is already here and you can only counter them by flooding the country with more security personnel but the security personnel must be committed.

Unless, we fundamentally restructure our political economy, when you restructure the social-economic relationship between the different sections of the population. I'm not talking about Christian or Muslim; I'm not talking about north or south. I'm not talking about Igbo, Hausa or Fulani. I'm talking about the Nigerian as a citizen. Until that is realized, we are going to continue to have the problems we are having.

What is your advice to staff and the University host community?

I will just say they should continue to keep the peace, work cooperatively with Management and Council, Management should continue to proactively engage with all sections of the University community, including the host community and as Council, we commend the cooperation and hospitality of the host community, the traditional rulers, the government of the state.

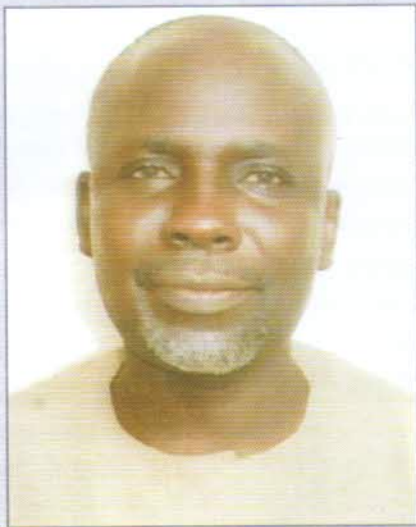
And finally what else would you like our readers to know about you, Sir that they probably don't know about?

My family life is good, I have loving and caring children, a lovely wife, brothers and sisters. I just lost my father, he was aged 102 and he was in good health, and now, that makes me the Olori-Ebi (Head of my family).

I don't have problem of existence because I don't live beyond my means and my material desires are minimal. I don't know why people like to accumulate wealth. There is nothing wrong in accumulating wealth but when you have to steal other people's money, to accumulate the money the society needs to develop roads, to give education, to give health, for peace to reign, one person accumulates it. That is what I detest

For unwinding, I go to parties, I dance, and play tennis.

PROFESSOR FARUK ADAMU KUTA



Faruk Adamu Kuta who hails from Kuta in Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State was born on October 26, 1972. He graduated from Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto in 1998 with a Bachelor's degree in Microbiology, bagged a Masters in Pharmaceutical Microbiology (2004) from the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2004 and capped it with a PhD in Medical Microbiology in 2012 from the same institution. After working as a classroom teacher, Zonal Inspector and College of Education lecturer, Prof. Kuta joined the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2005 as Lecturer II and attained professorship in 2018.

A member of the Nigerian Society for Microbiology, American Society for Microbiology among other professional bodies, Prof. Adamu has attended many conferences and has to his credit dozens of publications in international and national journals. Prof Kuta is presently the Head, Department of Microbiology and a member of the University Governing Council. He has been an external examiner to several universities in Nigeria, just as he has supervised many undergraduate, masters and doctoral projects.

He is happily married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR MUHAMMAD BASHIR NUHU

Multi disciplinary scholar, Muhammad Bashir Nuhu has made history twice. He is the first from Northern Nigeria to obtain a Ph.D in Estate Management and Valuation. And now, he has become the first Professor in that field from Northern Nigeria. An indigene of Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State, born on November 22, 1969, he has, over the years, acquired different training from the following institutions: National Diploma in Architectural Technology (Upper Credit), Sokoto State Polytechnic, 1990; Higher National Diploma in Architecture, Kaduna Polytechnic, Kaduna State, 1993; Bachelor of Technology in Estate Management (Second Class Upper Division) Federal University of Technology, Minna, 1998; Postgraduate Diploma in Management, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi, 1999; Master of Technology Degree in Construction Management, FUT, Minna, 2002; Postgraduate Diploma in Education, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaira, 2006; The College of Estate Management, RICS 450 hours Academic Certificate, University of Reading, UK, 2010; Ph.D in Estate Management, FUT, Minna, 2011.



Pro. Nuhu joined the University on tenure appointment as Lecturer 1 on March 2005, serving for many years as Head of Department, Estate Management and Valuation and progressed steadily to the top. Between 2013 and 2014, he was appointed Honourable Commissioner for Tertiary Education, Niger State. Presently the Director, Centre for Human Settlements and Urban Developments (CHSUD). He is a Fellow of the Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers, Member of the National Council of the Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers (NIESV) for more than nine (9) years, Member, Niger State Projects, Policy and Programme Appraisal Committee, 2019. Prof. Nuhu has supervised many projects at the Bachelor's, Masters and Doctoral levels, just as he has been an external examiner in many universities in the country. He is married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR JIMOH RICHARD AJAYI



Prof Jimoh Richard Ajayi was born on March 5th, 1971 in Kabba, Kogi State.

He had his early education at St.

Andrew's Primary School, Kabba, Kogi State between, 1976 - 1982 and attended St. Augustine College, Kabba 1983 - 1987 for his GCE Level.

He obtained his OND in Building from Kwara State Polytechnic, Ilorin in 1992 B.Tech degree in Building in 1998 and an MSc. in Construction Management from Ahamadu Bello University, Zaria in 2004. He bagged his Ph.D in Construction Management from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

Prof. Ajayi joined the services of the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2001 as an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Building and rose steadily through the ranks to become a Professor of Building on October 1, 2018.

He has held several administrative positions in the University, which include: Head of Department, Building 2006 till date, Coordinator B.Tech, final year 2001 - 2004, Examination Officer Building Department 2007/2008, Deputy Dean, School of Environmental Technology, 2013 - 2015, Ag. Congregation Representative in the Senate, 2014/2015 and other numerous community services within and outside the University.

The scholar has written several articles in journals and presented workshop and conferences papers at local and international levels. Prof. Ajayi has supervised many students project at B.Tech, M.Tech, PGD and Ph.D levels. He is a member of Nigerian Institute of Buildings, Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria.

PROFESSOR OLAYEMI ISRAEL KAYODE

Prof Olayemi Israel Kayode was born on August 29th, 1971 in Zaria, Kaduna State. He hails from Mopamoro Local Government Area of Kogi State. He had his early education at Effo Amuro LGEA Primary School, Effo Amuro between 1976 to 1982 and attended Amuro Community Secondary School, 1982 to 1987 for his WASC and also attended Kwara State Polytechnic, Ilorin from 1988 to 1989 for his A'Level Certificate. In 1995, he obtained his BSc in Zoology from University of Ilorin, Kwara State and an MSc degree in Zoology (Entomology) from the same University in 2002. He bagged his Ph.D in Zoology (Entomology) also from the University of Ilorin in 2009.



Prof. Kayode joined the service of the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2007 as Lecturer II in the Department of Animal Biology and rose steadily to become a Professor of Animal Biology (Entomology) on

October 1, 2018. Prof. Kayode has held many administrative positions in the University which include: Departmental Seminar Coordinator, 2008 - 2010; Academic Level Adviser 100 Level, 2008/2009; Secretary Committee for the Establishment of B.Tech Environmental Science Degree programme 2007/2008, Chairman, Department of Biological Sciences Committee for the establishment of Diploma Programmes 2010 - 2011 among numerous community services within and outside the University. Presently, he is the Deputy Dean, Postgraduate School.

The scholar has written several articles and has also presented workshop, conferences papers at local and international levels. He has supervised many students project at B.Tech, PGD, MSc and Ph.D levels. He is a member of Entomology of Nigeria and member Zoological Society of Nigeria.

PROFESSOR KOVO, ABDUSALAMI SANNI

Prof. Kovo, Abdulsalami Sanni was born on November 21, 1974. He hails from Okene, Okene Local Government Area of Kogi State.

He started his education sojourn at RCM South 1 Primary School, Okene 1981 to 1987. In 1983, he enrolled at the Etahi Community Secondary School, Okene where he obtained his SSCE certificate in 1993. He gained admission into the Federal University of Technology, Minna to study Chemical Engineering and graduated in the year 2000 with a Second Upper Division.

Prof. Kovo bagged his M. Eng. degree in 2005 from FUT, Minna and Ph.D. in 2011 from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom.

He joined the service of the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2001 as an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Chemical Engineering and rose through the ranks to become a Professor of Chemical Engineering in October, 2018.



Prof. Kovo who is a Rutherford Commonwealth Research Fellow also had his sabbatical at the Kaduna Refining and Petrochemical Company in 2017 to 2018. This feat buttress his pedigree as one of the most sort after in his field of study.

He was one time Head of Department, Chemical Engineering from 2012 to 2016 and

also the former Departmental Design Coordinator. He is a recipient of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) National and Institutional based research grants and has also attracted other research grants to the University.

The academic guru is a role model to many students and staff in his Department based on his academic accomplishments. He has supervised many B. Eng., M. Eng. and PhD students.

Prof. Kovo has over 60 scholarly articles to his credit in reputable national and international journals. He is a member of the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) and other notable professional bodies relevant to his field of study.

He is married and blessed with children while his hobbies are reading, watching television and playing table tennis.

PROFESSOR SAFIYA YAHAYA DANIYAN

Prof. Daniyan Safiya Yahaya was born on January 16th, 1968 in Patibokungi, Bida Local Government Area of Niger State.



She had her early education at Kuchi Primary School between, 1974 to 1980 after which she proceeded to Women Teachers College, Gulu for her Grade II Teachers' Certificate between 1980-1985.

She gained admission to the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Niger State in 1986 to study Microbiology, where she obtained her B.Tech degree in Microbiology and an M.Tech degree in Microbiology from the same University in 1999. She bagged her Ph.D in Microbiology in 2011.

Prof. Safiya joined the service of FUTMinna in August 17th, 1999 as an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Microbiology.

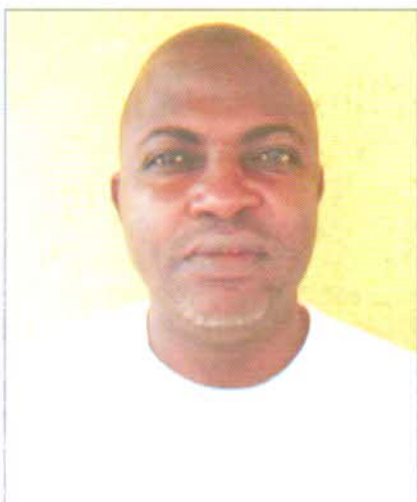
She has held several administrative positions in the University. These include: Academic Level Adviser 100 level 2010/2011, Academic Adviser 200 level 2011/2012, Academic adviser 100 level 2013/2014, Academic adviser 200 level 2014/2015.

Others include; Member Committee to investigate the case of theft of ten (10) Computers from the Office of the University Chief Librarian, Main Campus (2017), Member committee to investigate a case of alleged Sexual Harassment in the Department of Geology (2018).

The Scholar has attracted numerous research grants and she is a recipient of national and international awards. She has attended several conferences, seminars and workshops at national and international levels. She is highly published in reputable journals. She has also supervised a number of students in B.Tech, PGD, M.Tech and Ph.D levels. Prof Daniyan is happily married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR EGENA STEPHEN SUNDAY ACHENEJE

Prof Egena Stephen Sunday Acheneje was born on June 23rd, 1968 at Oganenigu-Aloko, Dekina Local Government Area of Kogi State. He had his early education at LGEA Primary School, Makurdi, Benue State between 1979 to 1981 and attended Government College, Markurdi, Benue State 1981 - 1986. He gained admission to the University of Agriculture, Markurdi, Benue State in 1989 to study B.Agric (Animal Production). He obtained his M.Tech degree in Animal Production from the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2004.



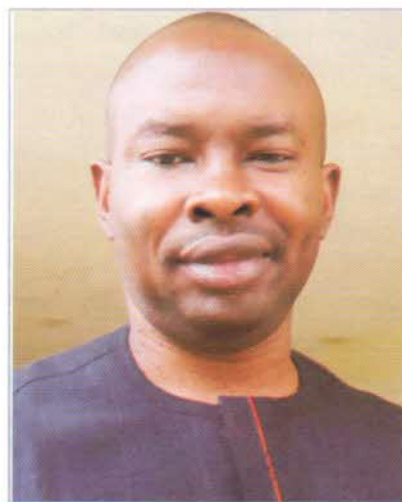
Prof. Acheneje joined the service of the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2006 as an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Animal Production and rose through the

ranks to become a Professor of Animal Production on October 1, 2018. He has held many administrative positions in the University which include: Departmental Examination Officer 2007 to 2011; Departmental Turnitin Officer 2013 to 2015; Academic Adviser 500 Level 2006/2007; Departmental Postgraduate Coordinator 2015 to date and other numerous community services within and outside the University.

The don has written several articles in reputable journals. He has also attended several workshops both locally and internationally. He has supervised many students projects at B.Tech, PGD, M.Tech and Ph.d levels. He is a member of Animal Science Association of Nigeria and member World Poultry Science Association. He is happily married and blessed with children. He is a lover of chess game.

PROFESSOR CHIEMELA ENYINNAYA CHINMA

Professor Chiemela Enyinnaya Chinma was born on February 23, 1976 in Umuahia. He hails from Okpuala Amapu, Isiala Ngwa North Local Government Area of Abia State. He had his early education at Apu Na Ekpu Primary School Isiala Ngwa (1982 to 1987), Umuoha Secondary School Isiala Ngwa (1988 to 1993).



He obtained his B.Sc (2002), M.Sc (2006) and Ph.D. (2012) in Food Science and Technology from University of Agriculture Makurdi, Benue State. He had a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at BERNAS Research Laboratory, Faculty of Food Technology, Universiti Putra Malaysia from 2012 to 2013.

Prof. Chinma joined the service of the Federal University of Technology Minna in 2005 as Lecturer II in the Department of Food Science and Technology and rose to the rank of Associate Professor in the year 2015.

He was promoted to the rank of Professor of Food Science and Technology in October, 2018.

The don has held administrative positions in the University, among which are: Departmental Level Adviser (2005-2018); Departmental Seminar Coordinator (2014-2017); Deputy Director, Academic Planning Unit (APU) (January 8th, 2018 to January 7th, 2019); Deputy Director, Directorate for Research, Innovation and Development (DRID) (January 7th, 2019 to date).

He has attracted research grants to the University. He is also involved in various projects funded by Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), Nestlé Nigeria Plc, Friesland Campina WAMCO Plc., United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund).

He is a member of Nigerian Institute of Food Science and Technology, Nutrition Society of Nigeria, and Institute of Food Technology.

Prof. Chinma is widely published in journal articles, conference papers both local and international. He has supervised many students project work at B.Tech, M.Tech and Ph.D. levels. He is happily married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR DANLADI HAKIMI



Born January 2, 1970, Danladi Hakimi who hails from Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State had his early education at Shiroro LGA Primary School, Gwadami (1979-1984) and Government Science College, Kutigi (1984-1990). He bagged three degrees from

the Federal University of Technology, Minna - Bachelor of Technology (Second Class Upper), Mathematics/ Computer 1998; M. Tech, Mathematics 2004 and Ph.D, Applied Mathematics in 2011.

His career in the University started on September 2, 1999 as a Graduate Assistant in the Department of Mathematics/Computer Science. Where he progressed through the ranks, to become a Professor of Mathematics on October 1, 2018.

Prof. Hakimi was appointed a permanent member of the Niger State Universal Basic Education Board in 2016. He is married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR ABALAKA MOSES ENEMADUKU

Prof. Abalaka Moses Enemaduku was born on July 6, 1968. He hails from Ofu Local Government Area of Kogi State. He attended St. Martins Primary School, Ejule, attended Community Secondary School, Ejule and School of Basic Studies, Makurdi before proceeding to the Federal University of Technology, Minna for his BSc in Microbiology from 1989 to 1994. He obtained his Masters degree in Microbiology from the University of Ilorin in 2004 and his Ph.D from Ahmadu Bello University in 2010.

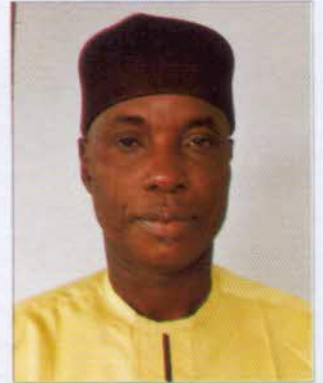


He joined the service of the University in October 2007 as Lecturer I and rose through the ranks to become a Professor of Microbiology in 2017.

Prof. Abalaka has held several administrative positions in the University and he has also been involved in a lot of community services within and outside the University. He is widely published in both local and international journals. He is happily married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR TSADO YISA THEOPHILUS

Engr. Prof. Tsado, Theophilus Yisa is a consummate researcher with over 22 years scholarly experience with superb records. He was born on March 3, 1966 at Emishaba, Gbadafu in Gbako Local Government Area of Niger State.



He had his Primary education at Gbadafu Primary School, Gbadafu from 1975 to 1980. After which he proceeded to Government Technical College, Eyagi, Bida, Niger State from 1980 to 1986 where he bagged his WAEC Technical Certificate in Block Laying and Concreting. His passion for further studies took him to Federal Polytechnic Bida in 1988. He graduated in 1991 with a National Diploma in Civil Engineering.

Based on his excellent academic performance during the course of his ND programme, he won the Federal Government and Niger State Government Scholarships in 1992 for a degree programme at St. Petersburg State University of Technology (SPSUT), St. Petersburg, Russia. He completed the degree programme in Industrial and Civil Engineering (Structures) in 1995. Under the same arrangements, he enrolled for his Master's degree programme in the same University and completed the programme in 1996. In 1999, he won another Federal Government scholarship to undergo a Ph.D. programme in Structures/Construction Engineering and Management in the same University which he rounded off in 2003.

Engr. Prof. Tsado joined the service of the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 1997 as a Lecturer I in the Department of Civil Engineering, School of Engineering and Engineering Technology (SEET). He rose through the ranks to become a Professor of Civil Engineering in 2017. He has held numerous administrative responsibilities in the University such as Director, Industrial Liaison Unit, 2012 to 2017, SIWES and PG Coordinators, Level Adviser, Assistant Departmental Examination Officer just to mention but a few.

The Don is well published in scholarly journals and has also supervised many students at B. Eng., M. Eng., and PhD. Levels. Presently, Engr. Prof. Tsado has over 10 self-sponsored on-going research work aimed at addressing societal problems in the areas of construction Management and Structures. He has attended many workshops, seminars, conference and exhibitions within and outside the country. He is a member of the following professional bodies; Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN), Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE), The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), United Kingdom.

PROFESSOR AKANMU WILLIAMS PAUL



Prof. Akanmu Williams Paul an indigene of Akko Local Government Area of Gombe State, was born on September 9, 1964, he had his early education at Jekadafari Primary School, Gombe, Gombe State

between 1969 - 1975 after which he proceeded to Government Secondary School, Gombe for his WASC, between 1975 - 1980.

In 1981 he gained admission to Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria to study Building Engineering, where he obtained his B.Sc (Hons) in Building. He followed with an M.Sc degree in Building Engineering from the University of West London, Uxloridge England in 1989 and a Ph.D in Mechanical Engineering (Building Services Engineering Option) from the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2011.

Prof. Akanmu joined the service of the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 1990 as a Lecturer II in the Department of Building and rose steadily through the ranks to become an Associate Professor in October 1st, 2015. He had held several administrative positions in the University. These include: Head of Department, Building 1999/2000, 2005/2006, 2011/2012 and 2012/2013, SIWES Coordinator 2014/2015, 2015/2016, Academic Level Adviser 400 Level 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and Senate Representative, Students Welfare Committee 2001/2004.

The scholar has attended several conferences, seminars and workshop at national and international levels and he is highly published in reputable journals. He has also supervised many students in B.Tech, PGD, M.Tech and Ph.D levels. He is a recipient of national and international awards and prizes. He is a member of the Nigerian Institute of Builders; Chartered Institute of Building Services England and Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria.

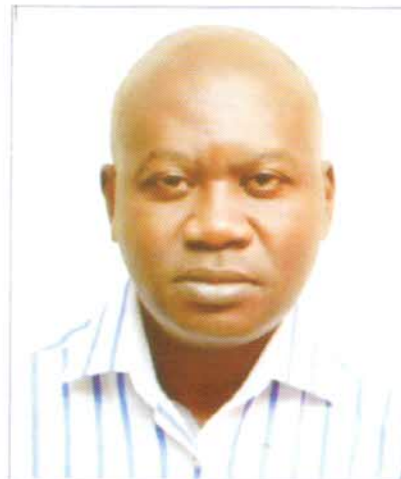
PROFESSOR OCHEME OCHEME BONIFACE

Prof. Ocheme Ocheme Boniface, an indigene of Okpokwu Local Government Area of Benue State, was born on September 24th, 1972 in Jos, Plateau State, He had his early education at Roman Catholic Mission Primary School, Moroa, River Akwanga Local Government Area, Nasarawa State, between 1979 to 1984 after which he proceeded to Government Secondary School, Otukpo, Benue State for his WASC/GCE between 1984 - 1989.

He gained admission to the University of Agriculture, Makurdi, Benue State in 1998 to study Food Science and Technology where he obtained his B.Sc in Food Science and Technology and an M.Sc degree in Food Science and Technology from the same in 2012.

Prof. Ocheme joined the service of FUTMinna on August 10th, 2005 as a Lecturer II in the Department of Food Science Technology.

He has held several administrative positions in the University. These include: Head of Department - 2018 till date; Coordinator, Training and Outreach Unit, Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies, 2014 till date; Coordinator, West Africa Milk Company (WAMCO) Research 2013/2014.



The scholar has written several articles in high impact journals. He has also presented many papers at different workshops and conferences at local and international levels. Prof. Ocheme has supervised many projects at B.Tech, PGD, M.Sc and Ph.D levels.

He is a member of International Union of Food Science Technology and is happily married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR RASHEED OLAKUNLE OJUTIKU



Professor Rasheed Olakunle

Ojutiku can aptly be described as a proven researcher of international repute. He was born in Ibadan, Oyo State on February 5, 1978 but

hails from Ibokun, Obokun Local Government Area of Osun State.

He had his primary education at A. U. D. Primary School, Alagbon, Oyo State from 1983 to 1988. After which he moved to the famous Olivet Baptist High School, Oyo State for his secondary education from 1989 to 1994.

In 1995, his quest for further studies took him to the Federal College of Education Special Oyo State where he obtained an N.C.E. certificate in 1997. Not satisfy with that, he proceeded to the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 1998 and graduated in 2002 with a B. Tech degree in Agriculture (Fisheries) with First Class Honours. He rounded off his academic exploit with a Ph.D. degree (Hydrobiology and Fisheries) from the same University in 2008.

The erudite scholar joined the service of the Federal University of Technology, Minna in November 2003 as an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Water Resources, Aquaculture and Fisheries Technology.

Prof. Ojutiku was promoted to the ranks of Senior Lecturer and Associate Professor in 2012 and 2015 respectively. Based on his superb track records as a proven researcher, he was promoted to the rank of a Professor of Water Resources, Aquaculture and Fisheries Technology in October, 2018.

Prof. Rash just as he is fondly called by staff and students, has been entrusted with different administrative responsibilities by the University. He was at a time; Head of Department, PG Coordinator, School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology, Dean Deputy just to mention but a few. He is presently the Chairman, University Sports Committee.

He is well published in top-notch local and international journals. He is happily married and blessed with children.

He is a passionate about golf and hockey.

PROFESSOR STEPHEN OCHIGBO



Prof. Stephen Ochigbo was born on September 8, 1968. He hails from Ojakpana-Adoka Local Government Area of Benue State. He attended St. John's Secondary School, Amoke, Benue State before

proceeding to the University of Maiduguri for his Bachelor's degree in Chemistry. He obtained his Master's degree in Polymer Chemistry from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka in 1992 and his PhD from the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2007.

He joined the service of the University in April 1994 as an Assistant Lecturer and rose steadily through the rank to become a Professor of Chemistry in October 2017. He has won a number of academic laurels in the course of his educational career and has held several administrative positions in the University. His works are widely published in quality journals both locally and internationally. He is happily married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR ANUONYE, JULIAN CHUKWUEMEKA

Prof. Anuonye, Julian

Chukwuemeka was born on 31st December, 1964 at U m u n o k w u Lagwa Okwuato, Aboh Mbaise LGA of Imo State, Nigeria. He started his early education at the Central School, Okwuato from 1972-1978 where he



obtained his First School Leaving Certificate. The young Chukwuemeka in 1978 then proceeded to pursue his West African School Certificate (O' Level)

at the famous Okenalagho Secondary Technical School where he passed out with flying colours in 1982. His quest for knowledge took him to University of Agriculture, Makurdi where he got his first, second and third degrees in Food Science and Technology between 1984 and 2006 respectively.

He joined the service of FUTMinna as a Senior Lecturer in April 2009 on Transfer of Service from National Cereals Research Institute (NCRI), Badeggi. He rose steadily through the rank to become a Professor with effect from October 1st, 2016. He was one time the Head of Department, Food Science and Technology from 2016 - 2017.

He is widely published. Prof. Chukuemeka likes travelling, he is happily married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR PHILIP USMAN AKOR

Professor Philip Usman Akor hails from Ogbadibo LGA, Benue State. He was born on 5th May, 1965 at Unyi Ogugu, Olamaboro LGA in Kogi State.

Prof. Akor attended People's Comprehensive High School, Lessel-Mbagwa for his WAEC, obtained in June 1978. He



then went to University of Jos for his NCE in 1983. Thereafter proceeded to University of Nigeria, Nsukka where he got his first, second and third degrees. He holds B.A. (Ed.) history with effect from December, 1997, Master of Library Science (MLS) November 2003 and Ph.D in

Library and Information Science (Library Administration) in January 2009. He is a member of Librarians' Registration Council of Nigeria (LRCN) and has published widely in both local and international journals.

The erudite scholar came to the Federal University of Technology, Minna as a Lecturer II on 5th June, 2007 on Transfer of Service from Benue State Polytechnic,

Ugbokolo. He rose through the ranks to become a Professor with effect from 1st October 2018.

The Don who possesses good human relations was one time the Ag. Head of Department Library and Information Technology from 2012 – 2013 and was on Sabbatical at the Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina from 2016 to 2017.

Prof. Akor is married and blessed with children. He loves photographing and attending Christian Fellowship.

PROFESSOR MOHAMMED JIYA



Pr o f
Mohammed
Jiya was
born on August 1,
1975. He hails from
Katcha Local
Government Area of
Niger State. He had
his early education
at Unguwan Rimi Primary School, Kaduna.

He attended Government Day Secondary School, Minna, Government Science College, Wushishi before proceeding to the Federal University of Technology, Minna for his BSc in Mathematics/Computer Science from 1994 to 2000. He obtained his Masters degree in Mathematics from the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2004 and his Ph.D in Applied Mathematics from the same University in 2010.

Prof. Jiya joined the service of the Federal University of Technology, Minna in August 2001 as a Graduate Assistant and rose steadily through the rank to become a Professor of Mathematics in October 1, 2018.

He has held several administrative positions in the University and he is also involved in a lot of community services. He is widely published in journals. He is happily married and blessed with a child.

PROFESSOR RASHEED AREMU MURIANA



Department of Mechanical Engineering. Prof. Rasheed Aremu Muriana was born on 8th October, 1973 at Irepo LGA, Oyo State.

The Professor of Mechanical Engineering had his O'Level in Nov/Dec. 1992. In 1994 he obtained his OND in Mechanical Engineering at the Kwara State Polytechnic, Ilorin. He was at University of Ilorin for his Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering 2000. His quest for knowledge brought him to Federal University of Technology, Minna for his Masters' degree (Industrial and Production Engineering) and Ph.d in Mechanical Engineering (Metallurgical and Materials Engineering) in May 2005 and June 2012 respectively. In 2014 he was at the University of Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa for a one-year Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship.

The former Further Mathematics teacher at the New Horizons College, Minna, took up appointment with the University as Lecturer II in 2005. Through hard work and dedication to duty, the young Professor after nearly a decade and a half, got promoted to the exalted position of a Professor. His promotion as Professor took effect from 1st of October, 2018. Beyond teaching and services, Prof. Muriana is an accomplished researcher. He has published widely in books, both in local/international journals and conference proceedings. The Don has held several administrative positions within the University. Professionally he is a registered member of the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) and a member of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) and Nigerian Institute for Biomedical Engineering (NTBE).

Prof. Muriana's likes outside his academic includes playing football and throwing Javelin.

PROFESSOR ABDULLAHI MOHAMMED

Prof. Abdullahi Mohammed is very dedicated to his students. He commits himself fully to each of his classes, helping them connect with course materials, each other, and the real world.

Born on 28th February, 1972 at Lapai, Lapai Local Government Area of Niger State. In 1983, he got his first school leaving Certificate from Kobo Primary School, Lapai. He then proceeded to Mohammadu Kobo Secondary School, Lapai where he obtained his Senior School Certificate (SSCE) in 1989. Fresh from secondary school, he gained admission into the School of General and Remedial Studies at the prestigious ABU, Zaria from 1992-1991. He also enrolled in the same University for his B. Eng. (Honours) Civil Engineering where he graduated with (Second Class Upper) in 1998.

The calm Professor in 2003 obtained his M. Eng. Civil Engineering (Structures) at the Federal University of Technology, Minna. His thirst for knowledge took him to Universiti Tenaga Nasional, Malaysia



where he got his Ph.D in Civil Engineering on the 7th August, 2010.

The young and agile scholar after the mandatory National Youth Service which he did at Kaduna Zenith Engineers, Kaduna joined the University as Assistant Lecturer in the, Department of Civil Engineering. Since coming to FUT, Minna, he has served in many administrative positions, including Head of Department, Civil Engineering and has supervised both undergraduate and postgraduate students' theses. After nearly two decades he was promoted to the rank of Professor of Civil Engineering. Professionally he is a registered member of the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) and he is a member of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE).

Prof. Mohammed is married and blessed with children. He loves reading and writing.

PROFESSOR GAMBARI AMOSA ISIAKA

Prof Gambari Amosa Isiaka was born on February 25, 1971 in Ilorin. He hails from Ilorin East Local Government Area of Kwara State.



He attended Government Technical College, Ilorin, before proceeding to Kwara State Polytechnic and University of Ilorin, Kwara State for his Bachelor's degree in Educational Technology. He obtained his Master's degree in Educational Technology from the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2004 and his Ph.D from University of Ilorin in 2011.

Prof. Gambari joined the service of FUT, Minna in August 2005 as an Assistant Lecturer and rose steadily through the ranks to become a Professor of Educational Technology in October 2017.

He has held several administrative positions in the University and also involved in a lot of community service within and outside the University.

He is well published in reputable journals.

He is happily married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR (MRS.) OYEDUM GEORGINA UCHEY



Prof. (Mrs.) Oyedum Georgina Uchey was born in September 20, 1962. She hails from Anaocha Local Government Area of Anambra State.

She attended Girls Secondary School, Uli,

College of Advanced Studies, Zaria, before proceeding to the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria for her Bachelor's

degree in Library Science. She obtained her Master's degree in Library Science from the University, in 1992 and her Ph.D from University of Ibadan in 2011.

Prof. (Mrs.) Oyedum joined the service of FUT, Minna in March 1992 as an Assistant Librarian and rose steadily through the rank to become a Professor of Library Science in October 2016.

She has held several administrative positions in the University and she is also involved in a lot of community services within and outside the University. She is a member of the American Library Association (ALA).

She is widely published in journals, conference papers, both local and international.

She is happily married with children.

PROFESSOR JACOB TSADO

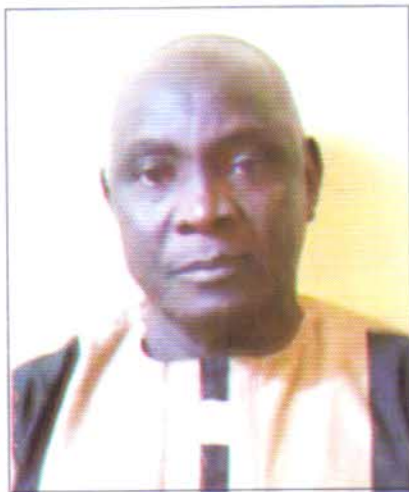


Prof. Jacob Tsado was born on September 27, 1971 at Doko, Lavun Local Government Area of Niger State. He attended Langbafu Primary School, Doko from 1976 to 1984 and

Government Secondary School Minna from 1984 to 1990. In 1991, he gained admission into the Federal University of Technology, Minna and graduated in 1998 with a B.Eng degree (Second Class Upper) in Electrical/Computer Engineering. He got his higher degrees – M.Eng and PhD (Electric Power and Machines) - from the University of Benin in 2001 and 2006 respectively.

A Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria-registered member, Prof. Tsado is currently the Head of Department, Electrical and Electronics Engineering. He has held many other positions of authorities in the University, including Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) Coordinator, among others.

PROFESSOR VICTOR ONOMZA WAZIRI



Prof Victor Onomza Waziri was born on September 27, 1959. He hails from Paikoro Local Government Area of Niger State.

He attended St. Victoria's Primary School, Ishau, St. Augustine's Primary School, Fuka, St. Joseph

Junior Seminary, Zaria and Government Teacher's College, Minna, College of Education (COE), Minna for his Grade II Teachers Certificate before proceeding to Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, for his BSc/Ed in Mathematics. He obtained his Master's degree and Ph.D in Applied Mathematics from the Federal University of Technology, Minna.

Prof. Waziri joined the service of the Federal University of Technology, Minna in August 2005 as Lecturer II and rose steadily through the ranks to become a professor of Computer Science in October 2016.

He has held several administrative positions in the University and is also involved in a lot of community services within and outside the University.

He is widely published in high quality journals, both local and international.

He is happily married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR AMADI AGAPITUS AHAMEFULE

Prof Amadi Agapitus Ahamefule was born on April 29, 1965. He hails from Aboh Mbaise Local Government Area of Imo State.

He attended Oke-Ovoro Secondary School, Uvurn, Imo State before proceeding to



Anambra State University of Technology, Uli for his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. He obtained his Master's degree in Civil Engineering from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria in 2003 and also his Ph.D from the same University in 2008.

Prof Amadi joined the service of the University in November 2007 as lecturer I and became a Professor of Civil Engineering in October 2017.

Within and outside the University, Prof Amadi has held several administrative positions and also involved in a lot of community services, he has written many articles in both local and international journals.

He is happily married and blessed with children.

PROFESSOR OKAFOR JOSEPH ONYEBUCHI



Prof Okafor Joseph Onyebuchi was born in August 8, 1956. He hails from Awgu Local Government Area of Enugu State.

He had his early education at St. John's Catholic School, Owelli, he attended St. Vincent's Secondary

School, Agbogugu, Enugu State.

He had his Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from Timisoara Romania in 1983. He obtained his Master's degree and Ph.D from Enugu State University of Science and Technology in 1994 and 2010 respectively.

He joined the service of the Federal University of Technology, Minna as a Senior Lecturer in January 2008 and rose steadily through the ranks to become a Professor of Chemical Engineering in 2016.

He has held several administrative positions and is involved in a lot of community services within and outside the University.

He is widely published in journals.

He is happily married and blessed with children.

PRO-CHANCELLOR UNVEILS FUTMINNA GOLF COURSE SIGNPOSTS

The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Femi Odekunle has unveiled the University Golf Course signposts aimed at creating awareness about the existence of the game in the institution.

The brief ceremony took place recently at the University Golf Course, close to Works and Maintenance Department, Main Campus.

Speaking before unveiling the signposts, Prof. Odekunle said the event was to show the existence of the University golf course and that FUT, Minna is a brand in terms of work performance, adding that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy".

The Pro-Chancellor said the golf course would provide relaxation platform for staff.

"I believe that your Vice-Chancellor is a reliable person. if he says that he is going to help you, he will help you. Whatever assistance that the VC will need to help you, I will give it to him" the Pro-Chancellor disclosed.

Prof. Odekunle said he is interested in anything that would make FUT, Minna great whether in terms of work or sports.

"I like your University and I want to be a blessing to this University and you have my support", he noted.

In his remark, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdulahi Bala commended the University Golf Club for reviving the golf course and assured them of Management's support towards making the golf course one of the best in the state and in the country at large.



The Pro-Chancellor, Prof. Odekunle unveiling one of the signposts while others look on with keen interest.

Speaking earlier at the event, the University Golf Club Captain, Prof. Akim Osunde expressed gratitude to the Pro-Chancellor and other members of Council for accepting to unveil the signposts despite their tight schedule.

Prof. Osunde who was a former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) of the University disclosed that FUT, Minna is the only university among the thiro generation universities that has a golf course, adding that only two universities among the first and second generation universities have an existing goif course.

"So, this is a pride to the University and we need to make this known to the world. Hence, the need for these signposts to create the necessary awareness" the former DVC Academic enthused.

He commended the Vice-Chancellor for his effort in trying to attract investors to develop the golf course from nine holes to 18 holes which is the specification of a standard golf course all over the globe.

The former DVC Academic further stated that hole number one and two of the golf course are reserved for the Pro-Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor for sponsorship which is the tradition while stating that their names would be tagged on the hole flagstick stands.

He appealed to Prof. Odekunle to assist the University Golf Club to get additional sponsors for other holes in the golf course.

The two signposts located along the University main gate and at the golf course site were donated by Prof. Osunde.

Dignitaries at the event were members of Council and the University Golf Club members.



The Pro-Chancellor, Prof. Odekunle (6th from left) in a group snapshot with other members of Council and the University Golf Club members after unveil one of the signposts.

