

COUNCIL HOLDS VALEDICTORY SESSION

12TH COUNCIL BEST OF ALL - VC | MEMBERS EULOGISE PROF ODEKUNLE | By Abdullahi U. Danbakaba



PHOTO: ELIJA YISA

Members of the Governing Council of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, on May 6, 2021, held its valedictory session to mark the end of their tenure in office.

Ag. Chairman of the outgoing Council, which is the 12th in the history of the University, Alh. Abdulrahman Alfa, who presided at the valedictory session, held at the Senate Chamber, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano, gave each member the opportunity to speak.

Alh. Alfa disclosed that whereas he had previously served on the governing councils of three tertiary institutions, he considered his membership of FUT, Minna Council a great honour in his life which he would never forget.

He congratulated the Vice-Chancellor for the successes achieved so far and urged the Management to sustain the tempo, just as he said he was leaving the University with the impression that members of its Management and staff are humble people.

Every decision the Council took during its tenure was in the best interest of the University, he said, just as he thanked his

colleagues for the confidence reposed in him.

On his part, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, expressed gratitude to God for keeping allowing them see the day.

He described the outgoing Council as the best among the four in which he has served at various times in the University. The 12th Council, he said, appointed all the current Principal Officers without rancour, a situation he attributed to the transparent leadership style of late Prof. Odekunle.

"Prof. Odekunle was just wonderful. You couldn't have a better chairman in terms of personal relationship. The way he brought his nature and character to bear on the deliberations of Council made us have a shares vision," the Vice-Chancellor revealed.

The Vice-Chancellor added that Council acted dispassionately on matters and treated staff welfare with dispatch.

He disclosed that the 12th Council promoted a total of 947 members of staff, out of which 71 were professors and 66 were associate

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professors, confirmed 139 appointments and approved change of cadre for 53 members of staff, a development he described as unprecedented and a sign of success.

External member of Council, Hon. Halims John Agoda, pointed out that the Council initiated many policies that were implemented by the VC. While saying Prof. Bala is a "reformist VC," Hon. Agoda urged Management to maintain the many firsts that the University has scored.

"Looking back to 2017, we have done well as a Council," he said.

On his part, former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Yahaya Ahmed Iyaka, fcsn, the current and immediate-past Vice-Chancellors, Profs. Abdullahi Bala and Musbau Akanji for giving him the opportunity to serve in the Council and for giving them the freedom to air their views.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi, fnip, thanked external members of the Council for the love, support and peace that allowed Management do their work.

The new DVC (Academic), Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta who thanked Profs Akanji and Bala for the "privilege to serve," said his time in Council was time well spent, adding that working with members whom he described as rational and fair impacted his life.

As members took turns to speak, they affirmed the strong sense of togetherness, discipline and dedication to moving the University that existed

during their tenure and expressed desire to sustain the relationship they had built.

They also extolled the sterling leadership qualities of the departed Pro-Chancellor, late Prof. 'Femi Odekunle that saw to their peaceful and successful tenure.

Members also commended the Registrar, Mr. Amos Kolo and the Bursar, Mrs. Hadiza Gone for their promptness in attending to Council Matters.

Other external members at the valedictory session were; Barr. Gafar Alabi and Mr. Ofikwu Adayi, (Ministry of Education representative). The other internal members were: Prof. Oladiran Abubakre, Dean, Postgraduate School; Prof. Elizabeth Onwuka, Dean, School of Electrical Engineering and Technology; Prof. Adamu Kabiru, Focal Officer, SERVICOM; Prof. Abubakar Saidu, Department of Biochemistry; Prof. Abdulrahman Asipita, Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering and Prof. Uno Uno, Department of Physics and Prof. Abdullahi Mohammed, Department of Civil Engineering.

The Registrar, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo; Bursar, Mrs. Hadiza Goje and University Librarian, Dr. Katamba Abubakar Waka.

Recall that the 12th Council was inaugurated May 9, 2017. The Chairman of Council, Prof. Odekunle passed on in December, 2020. Another external member of Council, Alh. Musa Jibril Madigawa had also passes on earlier in 2020.

NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!

This is to inform members of the FUT Minna Staff Multi-Purpose Co-operative Society Limited (SCMS) that, following expiration of tenure of the present EXCOS, elections into various executive positions have been scheduled for Thursday 20th May, 2021.

The offices to be contested for are as follows:

1. President
2. Vice-president
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Business Secretary

Time table for the elections:

- **Sales and submission of forms**
Monday 10th -14th May, 2021

- **Screening of Candidates**
Saturday 15th May, 2021
- **Display of successful candidates on the co-operative notice Board, Bosso Campus**
Monday 17th May, 2021.
- **Campaign for elections**
Monday 17th - Wednesday 19th May, 2021.
- **Election**
Thursday 20th May, 2021 at CPES Hall.

For enquiries, please contact the following numbers. **08069086904, 07068173078**

FUTMINNA COUNCIL CONFIRMS KUTA AS DVC ACAD

By Mustapha Alhassan

The Governing Council of the Federal University of Technology, Minna has approved the appointment of Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

The appointment letter signed by the institution's Registrar, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo and made available to the Information and Publications Unit, stated that Council gave the approval at its 145th meeting today, May 6, 2021.

Kuta, 49, a professor of Microbiology, hails from Kuta, Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State. He had his early education at Central Primary School (Dr. Idris Ibrahim Primary School), Kuta - 1976 -1981 and Government Science Teacher's College, Wushishi, 1982 - 1986. From ,1989 to 1993, he was at Federal College of Education, Kontagora, where he obtained the Nigerian Certificate in Education.

He proceeded to Usmanu Danfodiyo University in 1994, graduated with a bachelor's degree in Microbiology in 1998, added an M. Tech degree in Pharmaceutical Microbiology from Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2004 and capped his educational pursuit with a doctorate degree in Medical Microbiology (with research interest in Virology) in 2012 from the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi.

From 1990 to 2005, he was in the employ of his local and state governments, serving as class room teacher at Central Primary School, Kuta; zonal inspector, Shiroro Local Government Education Authority and part-time lecturer, Niger State College of Education, Minna.

He joined the services of the Federal University of Technology, Minna in 2005 as lecturer II in the Department of Microbiology and progressed



PHOTO: ELIJA YISA.

steadily to the rank of professor in 2018.

The new DVC (Academic) has held many positions in the University, including: Departmental Examination Officer, 2007- 2008; Deputy Dean, School of Natural and Applied Sciences, 2012 - 2014; Deputy Dean, School of Life Sciences, 2014 - 2017; Deputy Director, Academic Planning Unit, 2017; Head of Department, Microbiology; Director, Academic Planning Unit, 2021 and Member, University Governing Council, 2016 - 2020.

Prof. Kuta is a member of the Nigerian Society for Microbiology, American Society of Microbiology, Biotechnology Society of Nigeria and European Society of Virology.

He has supervised many undergraduate, master's and doctoral studies.

In addition to attending many local and international conferences, the new DVC (Academic) has to his credit, more than 50 scholarly publications in reputable journals.

He is happily married and blessed with two children.

80th INAUGURAL LECTURE: PROF ADEJUMO PRESCRIBES PANACEA FOR ACHIEVING FOOD SECURITY IN NIGERIA

By Mohammed Abubakar



PROF. ADEJUMO DELIVERING HER LECTURE. PHOTO: ELIJA YISA.

Nigeria food security challenges is surmountable through innovative approach in the processing and storage of agricultural products that would reduce postharvest losses. Prof. Bolanle Adenike Adejumo made this known when she delivered the 80th Inaugural Lecture of the Federal University of Technology, Minna titled: *Agricultural Crop Processing and Storage: A Panacea to Food Security*.

The event held on Wednesday, 5th May, 2021 in the University Auditorium, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano.

Processing, Prof. Adejumo defined, is an activity which is performed to maintain or improve the quality, change the form or characteristics of agricultural products and that it is undertaken to add value to agricultural materials. She said that storage is an interim and repeated phase during transit of agricultural products from producers to processors and its products from processors to consumers.

"The production of agricultural commodities is seasonal and storage is necessary to ensure availability throughout the year and to provide the products in the best possible conditions," she stated.

The Professor of Agricultural Engineering explained that processing and storage of agricultural produce is an age-long activity which is dependent on the characteristics of the crop. She classified the agricultural product into

three categories namely: cereals and legumes (grain), roots and tubers, fruits and vegetables.

According to her, cereals and legumes are easy to store due to its low moisture content. Roots and tubers are difficult to process and store because of its perishable nature. Fruits and vegetables are processed and stored through drying. She suggested the use of solar dryers for the drying of tomatoes to enhance prompt drying so as to avoid contaminations from dirt, dust and microorganisms.

Prof. Adejumo further stated her contributions to knowledge which include extraction of oil from underutilised seeds.

Pointing out that there are hundreds of underexplored plant seeds rich in oil suitable for consumption or industrial purposes.

She added that the continued rise in population, high demand and escalating prices led to the search for unconventional alternative sources of edible oils, particularly in the developing countries.

In her research on moringa oleifera seed oil, she found out that the matured seed contains 38-40% of oil with excellent quality like the one found in olive oil. Similarly, her investigations in tiger nut oil, watermelon seed oil, fluted pumpkin oil and Delonix Regia seed oil all showed interesting results ideal for different users.

Speaking on her contributions to the development of agricultural crop storage structures, Prof. Adejumo said her technical survey of villages in the Sudan Savannah zone of Nigeria showed that the prominent structures for agricultural crop storage are the mud rhombus, thatched rhombus and underground pit.

Physical defects of the storage structures often resulted in damage on the stored grains in form of pests, insects or microorganism infestations. Variation in climatic conditions and structural failure among others can also cause damage to stored crops. The survey determined the efficiencies of the construction material and therefore developed better grain storage structures.

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In order for Nigeria to have adequate food supply all year round, the erudite scholar recommended the need to structure the training of agricultural engineers in tertiary institutions to provide solutions to the needs of farmers and processors and that industries should be strengthened to enhance technological and industrial growth in terms of agricultural crop processing and storage to attain self-sufficiency in food supply.

The Professor called on government to provide incentives to students and medium scale entrepreneurs to invest in the processing of crops into more suitable forms as well as in production of indigenous equipment for crop processing.

Concluding her lecture, Prof. Adejumo highlighted that with appropriate processing

methods, packaging and storage through the use of adequate structures postharvest food losses can be minimised. Also, some of the oil extracted from underutilised seeds are edible and could be used by cosmetic, biofuel and bio lubricant industries. She reiterated that crop processing and storage would adequately solve the problem of food loss and wastage which is crucial in achieving food security in Nigeria.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, *fsssn* while speaking at the occasion noted that the lecture is well presented. He acknowledged the array of dignitaries that graced the occasion which include among others the former Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Musbau Adewumi Akanji, and the former Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Academic and Administration, Prof. Akim Osunde and Prof Suleiman Sadiku respectively.

MANDATORY RETIREMENT

Dr. Paul Abayomi Bajere of the Department of Building, effective from June 30, 2019.

CORRIGENDUM

In last the edition *Campus News* No. 803, published on Friday, April 30, 2021 under the heading WITHDRAWAL OF SERVICE, it was erroneously stated that Prof. Abdulfatai Jimoh of the Department of Chemical Engineering withdrew his service effective from January 14, 2021, while the correct date is 14th July, 2021.

Money Matter

Weekly Financial Digest (Monday 26h April - Friday 30th, April 2021)

SN	RECEIPTS	₦
1	Transcript	300,000.00
2	Collection of Certificate	179,000.00
3	Collection of Certificate (Post Graduate)	98,000.00
	Turnitin	154,000.00
5	Hostel Fees	87,500.00
6	I.T.S Diploma Certificate	7,000.00
7	Verification/English Proficiency	24,500.00
8	Registration of Clubs	5,000.00
9	I.T.S Fees	15,000.00
10	Purchase of Academic Gown	30,000.00
11	Replacement of I. D Card	500.00
12	Commercial Activities (Motorcycle Operators)	790,500.00
13	Prepaid Meter	98,500.00
14	Commercial Activities (Tricycle Operators)	241,500.00
15	Matric Gown For CODEL	15,000.00
16	Acceptance Fees	10,980,000.00
17	Sale of Forms Pre-Degree	374,000.00
18	Post Graduate School Fees	3,292,000.00
19	CODEL Acceptance Fees	25,000.00
20	Undergraduate Fees	56,900.00
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	16,773,900.00
18	Contractors/Suppliers	
	(i) Staff	
	(a) Advance	1,651,816.99
	(b) Refund /Payment to Staff	5,254,025.18
	(ii) Contractors/Suppliers	
	(a) Ajiboye Printers Ltd. - Printing	120,000.00
	(b) Kanzaaf Fast Food - Refreshment	73,800.00
	(c) Niger State Water Board - Water Supply	100,000.00
	(d) A.E.D.C - Electricity Bill	9,669,294.10
	(e) Hubban Global Concept - Subscription	1,537,683.72
	(f) DHL Int'l Nig. Ltd. - Courier Service	979,505.39
	TOTAL PAYMENTS	19,386,125.38