

### HOW WE IMPROVED SHEA BUTTER QUALITY, WASTE MANAGEMENT - PROF OKAFOR

| By Lydia Legbo



PROF. OKAFOR PRESENTING HIS INAUGURAL LECTURE.

| PHOTO BY ELIJAH YISA

**A** Professor of Chemical Engineering, Federal University of Technology, Minna Engr. Prof. Joseph Onyebuchi Okafor has asserted that the use of rotary drier for shea nut processing will enhance the quality of shea butter products obtained in Nigeria.

Prof. Okafor stated this on Thursday September 2, 2021 at the University Auditorium, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano while delivering the 89th inaugural lecture of the University titled "Process Engineering: A neglected tool in waste management and product upgrade in Nigeria."

The don disclosed that the rotary drier designed and fabricated by his research team has helped local producers of shea butter attain improve the quality of the product.

"We conceived the idea to design

and to fabricate a rotary dryer for Shea butter processing by the local processors in Nigeria to enhance the quality of Shea butter product", he said.

He further stated that with the dryer in operation, Grade A Shea butter, which is of high premium in the international market has been achieved in the country.

According to him, the traditional methods of shea butter production namely sun drying, oven drying and manually operated rotary dryer gave inconsistent results that were below the African Standard for Unrefined Shea Butter (ARSUSB), thereby negatively impacting yield, product quality and pricing.

Prof. Okafor also expressed concern that the world environment is threatened by incessant pollution with untreated industrial waste such as effluents from dry cleaning

services, bottling companies, domestic, chemical and allied industries.

He identified adsorption process as an efficient means of removing contaminants in industrial waste water.

Explaining further, he said one of the most useful attributes of activated carbon is its ability to be economically regenerated and reused even after the spent material has become fully saturated with adsorbate's.

In his remarks at the occasion the Vice-Chancellor of the institution, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, FSSSN who said the lecturer has paid his dues to the University thanked him for taking his time and resources in preparing for the lecture.

He also thanked dignitaries for gracing the occasion.

# FUTMINNA LAUNCHES CUTTING-EDGE e-RECEIPT PLATFORM FOR STUDENTS' PAYMENT

▪ PROF BALA COMMENDS BURSAR, MRS GOJE

| By Ugboaja, Stanley U.

As part of efforts to automate all students' payment transactions in the University, the Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna (FUTMINNA), Prof. Abdullahi Bala, fsssn, has launched an electronic receipt payment platform for all charges for both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The demonstration of the hi-tech payment platform, developed by the University's Information Technology Services (ITS), took place on Thursday, September 2, 2021 at the Senate Chamber, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano.

Speaking after the presentation, Prof. Bala commended the Bursar of the institution, Mrs. Hadiza Goje fena, fcti and the Director of ITS for championing the digitization drive of transactions, adding that the newly developed e-receipt platform is consistent with the mission of his administration to ensure that all financial transactions in the University are automated.

The Vice-Chancellor added that the e-receipt portal would save costs for the University which would have been expended on printing paper receipts.

"As a university of technology, we should be seen to be deploying technology in all of the things that we do. Also, the idea of students rushing to the Senate building each time because of one transaction or the other is largely being checkmated by the deployment of Financial Officers to the various Schools, Departments, Directorates, Centres and Units," the first-rate professor disclosed.

Further, Prof. Bala stated that the e-receipt platform would also enable the Bursary staff to have a summarized information of the various payment transactions with a click of a button on the computer.

"We are happy because it is an



THE VC, PROF. BALA (M) IN A SNAPSHOT WITH THE BURSAR, MRS. GOJE, (L) AND THE DIRECTOR ITS, PROF. ADAMU (R)

additional feather to the hats of the Bursar, Mrs. Goje, the Bursary Department and the ITS that has been driving all these automations in the University," he said.

Putting staff of the Bursary Department through the e-receipt platform, the Director, ITS, Prof. Mohammed Adamu stated that the platform would enhance efficiency and save time for staff of the Bursary Department, saying that the e-receipt platform is in tandem with global best practices.

The Director disclosed that staff of the Bursary Department can access the platform from anywhere in the world to verify all students' charges with just a click of the button, while noting that the e-receipt platform has several security features which would make it difficult for anyone to compromise it.

Speaking earlier, the Bursar of the University, Mrs. Goje, said the launch of the e-receipt platform is in furtherance of her commitment to digitalise all financial transactions in the Bursary Department in order to enhance efficiency, save time, reduce wastage and promote accountability.

Mrs. Goje stated that all e-receipts that would be issued to students henceforth through the platform have unique authentication features to ease the process of verification by staff of the Department.

"Before now, we have been using the manual receipt. After this presentation, you would not be writing receipts again, rather you will be printing it directly from your laptops," she disclosed.

She urged staff of the Department to pay keen attention during the presentation by the Director of ITS

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and to ask questions on the usage of the platform.

The features of the e-receipt platform include acceptance fee

payment, registration for new and returning undergraduate and postgraduate students, e-receipt for transcript, certificates and other charges.

In attendance at the brief ceremony were the Deputy Bursars, Mrs. Rebecca Adams, Mal. Mohammed Kudu Ahmed and other staff of the Bursary Department and ITS.

## CCB SEEKS COOPERATION WITH FUTMINNA

By Abdullahi Zurmi



5<sup>TH</sup> FROM LEFT: VC, PROF. ABDULLAHI BALA AND STATE DIRECTOR OF CCB, MRS. DEBORAH CHARLES FLANKED BY OTHER PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY AND CCB OFFICIALS.

**T**he State Director, Code of Conduct Bureau (CCB), Minna, Niger State Mrs. Deborah Charles, FCNA, ACrCFA has solicited for cooperation with the Federal University of Technology, Minna in the area of ensuring transparency and accountability in public office.

The CCB boss stated this when she led her management team on a Courtesy visit to the University Management on Monday, August 30, 2021 at the Council Chamber, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano.

Mrs. Charles who expressed appreciation to the Management for the audience granted them said

the Bureau has been in existence for quite a while and being the pioneer anti - corruption agency of the Nigerian Government, it is charged with the responsibility of checking all corrupt practices in public offices.

She affirmed that as long as civil servants and public officers are being paid salaries by the federal, state or local government, it is mandatory for them, whether elected, appointed or contracted by the government to fill and submit the CCB form.

The director further requested for the institution's comprehensive nominal roll and a date for a sensitisation exercise where

officials of Bureau will come and enlighten University staff on how to fill and submit the CCB form.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor of the institution, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, FSSSN congratulated the director on her well deserved appointment and said that FUT, Minna will cooperate with them and make their job easier by providing them with the updated staff nominal roll and a date for the sensitisation.

# PROF BALA COMMENDS ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTRE

| By Ugboaja, Stanley U.



THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE VC, PROF. KUTA PRESENTS A CERTIFICATE TO ONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE EVENT

The Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, FSSSN, has commended the Entrepreneurship Centre of the institution for organising the innovative business idea competition for students.

The Vice-Chancellor gave this commendation on Friday, August 27, 2021 during the grand finale of the second edition of the Business Idea Competition (Season 2) held at the Caverton Lecture Theatre, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano.

Prof. Bala who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta stated that the entrepreneurship training is in tandem with the mission of the institution geared towards positively impacting on the economy and the quality of life of her people, adding that the importance of entrepreneurship training cannot be overemphasized in view of the need to provide graduates that are job creators

instead of job seekers.

The Vice-Chancellor disclosed that the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) has promised to provide yearly intervention for entrepreneurship related programmes in Nigerian tertiary institutions for students to be trained in diverse skills.

He congratulated all the students that participated in the training and urged those who did not win to try again during the next edition. He further assured the Centre of the University Management support.

Speaking earlier, the Director, Entrepreneurship Centre, Dr. (Mrs.) Caroline Alenoghena stated that the Business Idea Competition was organised by the Entrepreneurship Centre to identify students with viable business ideas and to provide a support system for them.

“The call for participation saw 37 entries with 29 commencing the boot camp on the 23rd of August, 2021. In the boot camp they were guided through idea validation,

business model canvas, customer acquisition, pitching etc. The pitching competition took place with 21 participants and five judges drawn from the business and banking sectors. The prize for the competition is a space in the HUB so today we are giving admission letters to 10 entrepreneurs who have been able to convince the judges that they have what it takes to succeed. We will be admitting them officially into the FUTECH Incubation Hub,” she disclosed.

Furthermore, the Director added that the pioneer incubates in the FUTECH Incubation HUB were admitted in June 2021 after the Season 1 edition of the Competition, adding that the Incubation Hub has 42 Campus Entrepreneurs who are working to transform the campus into an entrepreneurial haven.

She applauded the University Management for all the support given to the Centre since she assumed office as the Director.

# TEAM FUTMINNA QUALIFIES FOR S/ FINALS

▪ BEATS UNILORIN 4-3

| By Job Haruna



A GROUP PHOTOGRAPH OF VC, PROF. ABDULLAHI BALA (7<sup>TH</sup> FROM LEFT) AND OTHER PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY WITH PLAYERS AND THEIR OFFICIALS AFTER THE COURTESY VISIT.

**T**eam FUTMinna has qualified for the semi-finals of the ongoing Higher Institutions Football League (HIFL).

The FUT, Minna team entered the super four after defeating their counterparts from the University of Ilorin 4 – 3 via a penalty shoot-out as the teams had held each other goalless through extra time in the second leg of the quarter finals decided on Thursday 2, 2021 at football pitch, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano.

The first leg played last week in Ilorin equally ended goalless.

In the semi-finals, the FUT, Minna team will be taking on their opponents from the University of Maiduguri.

Earlier, the University of Ilorin football team paid a courtesy visit to the Management of the Federal University of Technology, Minna.

The brief meeting took place on

Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at the Senate Chamber, Main Campus Gidan Kwano.

The Director of Sports University of Ilorin, Prof. Olufunmilola L. Dominic who led the team expressed her sincere appreciation to the Management for the warm reception accorded them by the FUT, Minna Sports Committee led by Prof. Rasheed Ojutiku.

The aim of the league according to the representative of the Nigeria University Games (NUGA) and the Treasurer/ Chairman Technical committee of NUGA, Prof. Musa Garba Yakasai is to unify the schools, not only in academics but in other aspects as sports.

He said it is an avenue created for students to embrace sports like football which is one of the games that bring people of different tribes and races together.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala FSSSN while welcoming the

team to FUT, Minna appreciated the efforts of NUGA and the sponsors of the ongoing Higher Institution Football League that made this a reality.

The Vice-Chancellor further assured the team of every assistance needed to have a good stay here in FUT, Minna.

He admonished both teams to imbibe spirit of sportsmanship during the quarter final match.

Principal Officers present at the event are: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta; Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi fnip; Registrar, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo; Bursar, Mrs. Hadiza Goje fena, fcti and the University Librarian, Dr. Katamba Abubakar Saka.

# CONDOLENCE

The Registrar, has on behalf of the Management, Senate, Staff, Students and the entire members of the University Community, condoled Mrs. Angela Emmanuel over the death of her husband, late Mr. Paul Emmanuel who died on Friday, August 27, 2021.

Late Mr. Emmanuel until his dead was a staff of the University's Security Services.

## COUNSELLING TIPS



Be mindful of your utterances, be it in official or social matters. In case you have been trapped by what you said, be humble enough to press your plea with your boss, subordinate or whosoever and your conscience will be free.

Guidance and counselling unit,  
Students' Affairs Division.

## Money Matter

### Weekly Financial Digest for Monday 23rd August - Friday 29th August 2021

SN	RECEIPTS	₦
1	Transcript	600,000.00
2	Collection of Certificate	143,000.00
3	I.T.S Diploma Certificate	2,000.00
4	Turnitin Under Graduate	165,000.00
5	Turnitin Master	20,000.00
6	Clearance Fees	15,000.00
7	Replacement of I. D Card	2,000.00
8	Verification/English Proficiency	78,000.00
9	Huawei Academic Training	11,600.00
10	Teaching Practice	42,000.00
11	Prepaid Meter	66,000.00
12	Tender Fees	300,000.00
13	Commercial Activities (Shops)	67,500.00
14	Rent of CPES Hall For Exam	60,000.00
15	Acceptance Fees	560,000.00
16	Registration Fees Pre- Degree	4,293,000.00
17	Post Graduate School Fees	3,771,000.00
18	Under Graduate School Fees	129,744,950.00
19	Sales of Forms Pre-Degree	145,000.00
20	CODEL Acceptance Fees	50,000.00
21	CODEL Registration	61,350.00
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>140,197,400.00</b>
22	<b>Contractors/Suppliers</b>	
	<b>(i) Staff</b>	
	(a) Advance	2,740,280.00
	(b) Refund /Payment to Staff	5,792,323.00
	<b>(ii) Contractors/Suppliers</b>	
	(a) Barocer NIG Enterprise - Supply	825,976.25
	(b) Bishion Integrated Global Ventures - Supply	641,125.00
	(c) Michindo Ventures LTD - Repairs	7,842,931.25
	(d) A.E.D.C - Electricity Bill	12,000,000.00
	(e) Tis & P Dynamics Solution LTD - Metering	6,332,255.25
	(f) Leah Eyagi Yisa - Refreshment	65,250.00
	(g) Kamzaf fast food - Refreshment	112,400.00
	(h) NHIS - Reaccreditation	70,000.00
	(i) Mars Oil LTD - Supply	4,008,675.00
	(j) Leah Eyagi Yisa - Refreshment	779,250.00
	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>41,210,465.75</b>