

VC TASKS RESEARCHERS ON PATENTS, COMMERCIALIZATION AS MECH ENGR'G GETS DIGITAL HARDNESS TESTER

♦ Commends HOD, Researcher

|By Mustapha Alhassan



VC Prof. Bala making a remark while inaugurating the Digital Hardness Tester.

|Photo by Elijah Yisa

Determined to see the Federal University of Technology, Minna, and its researchers benefit from their intellectual property, the Vice-Chancellor of the University Prof. Abdullahi Bala FSSN has challenged researchers to strive towards patenting and commercialization of their inventions.

The Vice-Chancellor gave this challenge on Thursday, September 23, 2021 while inaugurating the Digital Hardness Tester newly procured by the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the Main Campus, Gidan Kwano.

His words: "It is not enough for us to organise projects for undergraduate and postgraduate students, but we should be thinking of how we are going to patent whatever innovation comes out it and how we are going to commercialize it.

"As a university, we have tried, in the last few years, to begin to introduce policies that define the boundaries of engagement also how such policies can benefit both the

inventor and the University".

He added that the University now has two major policies – the Research Policy and the Intellectual Property Policy, adding that efforts were on to ensure full operationalization of the latter.

He also urged researchers not to just be satisfied with having project in place but to continue to develop such projects and get more tangible outcomes, assuring that he is always ready to support them.

To position the University for the upgrade of specialised universities recently announced by the Federal Government, Prof. Bala challenged the schools of engineering to begin to think of how to have factory - fitted prototypes, so that when the upgrade comes, the University will move to a higher level.

Prof. Bala who congratulated the Department of Mechanical for purchasing the equipment also commended the Head of the Department, Engr. Dr. Sunday Lawal for utilising research proceeds

accruing to the Department for value addition.

"It is a pleasure to me on two counts, that a department could get money and use it for the development of the department, secondly that the funds that that were used for the purchase of the equipment were as a result of another invention from the department which has now been commercialized and has been attracting a lot of funds for the University," said the Vice-Chancellor.

Prof. Bala acknowledged the tenacity and capacity of Engr. Dr. Sadiq Lawal who invented the product Science Educational Mobile Teaching Aid and Intervention Laboratory for Basic, Science and Secondary Schools.

He recalled how Dr. Lawal had relentlessly pursued patenting of the product.

"We are happy that the product has reached commercialization and the University is able to get money, he said, adding that the fact that Dr. Lawal was not sitting with a sense of

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fulfilment but still working towards making the teaching aid digital was a further testament to his tenacity.

Speaking earlier, the Head of Department, Engr. Dr. Lawal disclosed that the Digital Hardness Tester was purchased at the rate of N1.1 million from the proceeds that accrued to the department from the mobile teaching aid invented and developed by Engr. Dr. Sadiq Lawal.

On his part, the inventor, Engr. Dr. Lawal who recalled the challenges he encountered during his doctoral research due to the lack of the Digital Hardness Tester in department, expressed happiness that, with the equipment now in place, no student in the department will subsequently have such an experience.

Earlier, the Dean, School of Infrastructure, Process Engineering and Technology, Prof. Zinash Osunde welcomed the Vice-Chancellor and Principal Officers of the University to the event.

The newly purchased tester as well as the Digital Mobile Teaching Aid



Principal Officers pose for a group photograph with staff of SIPET. Middle Prof. Bala, flanked by HOD Mechanical Engineering Dr. Sunday Lawal (l) and DVC (Admin) Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi (r).
|Photo by Elijah Yisa

were demonstrated for the Vice-Chancellor and Principal Officers.

Similarly, another invention from the Department, *Waterless Toilet* was demonstrated by a former Head of the Department, Prof. Olufemi Olugboji. It is an invention in anticipation of collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Environment, aimed at addressing the issue of open defecation.

The Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering also showcased the *Thermographic Analyzer* and *Potentiostat* acquired through the Needs Assessment intervention.

Deputy Vice-Chancellors Faruk Adamu Kuta (Academic); Emmanuel Emeka Udensi fnip (Administration), Registrar, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo and University Librarian, Dr. Katamba Abubakar Saka were at the event.

INSIST ON RIGHT THING, VC ADMONISHES BURSAR, STAFF AS BURSARY HOLDS TRAINING, UNVEILS LIBRARY

| By Aliyu Jidda Ibrahim



Prof. Bala (middle) cutting the tape to unveil the Bursary Library.
| Photo by Elijah Yisa

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna Prof. Abdullahi Bala, FSSSN has admonished the University Bursar Mrs. Hadiza Goje

fcna, fcti and her departmental staff to always insist on doing the right thing in discharging their statutory responsibilities.

The Vice-Chancellor made this

admonition on Thursday, September 23, 2021 during the flag-off of an in-house training organised by the Bursary Department of the university at the Senate Chamber, Main Campus, Gidan Kwano, Minna.

Prof. Bala said that most of the challenges he encountered as Vice Chancellor were the financial aspect that has to do with managing resources. He then advised the Bursar to always stand her ground and do the right thing.

The Vice-Chancellor equally called on the entire Bursary staff to work with a new mindset by insisting on always doing the right thing.

He emphasized that the Bursary, internal Audit and the Management must always be on the same page.

Praising the innovation introduced by the administrative prowess of the Bursar, Prof. Bala declared that it is indeed a sense of fulfilment that the University is beginning to see many changes coming from the Bursary

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Department. "The university is happy with some of the transformations coming from the Bursary Department," he declared.

He recalled that the University underwent hardship during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic but managed to come out clean without bank loans, unlike other institutions in the country, due to the Bursar's managerial dexterity.

The Vice- Chancellor, therefore, congratulated the Bursar and the Bursary Department for reintroducing the in- house training. He noted that by learning, staff will be able to improve on the efficiency of their jobs. As such, he promised to continue supporting staff for both the in-house and external trainings.

Speaking earlier, the Bursar Mrs. Hadiza Goje, said that it is part of her vision to train, and retrain the staff of the department.

She explained further that the essence of the in-house training was for those who had the opportunity to go for the outside training to give back to the department as the department cannot sponsor every staff for workshops outside.

Shortly after the flag off, the training took effect, coordinated by Mrs. Hadiza Goje, who was assisted by Deputy Bursar (Payroll and Pension), Mallam Mohammad Kudu, Deputy Bursar Treasury, Mrs. Rebecca



VC Prof. Bala (3rd from left) making his remarks during the Bursary in-house training | Photo by Elijah Yisa

Adams and the Chief Accountant Bosso Campus, Mrs. Ilalokhoin O.Oluwasomi

A team of four resource persons drawn from the various units of the department delivered papers during the training. Mallam Kabiru Shehu (Head of store Bosso Campus) discussed on the topic: Importance of Good Specification in Achieving Organizational Goal as it Affects Procurement and Storage of its Needs.

Hajiya Abdulkadir Hassana (Head of cash office) delivered on " Effect of Increase in Value and Added Tax on Economic Growth in Nigeria ", while Mr. Yandalu Yusuf (Finance Office,

Post Graduate School) enlightened on Sustainability Reporting and Investor's Confidence "

Mrs. Adegoke Raheemot (Acting Head Budget and Financial Account) dwelt on "Overview of Budget Preparation Using GIFMIS Subsystem."

The highlight of the training was the presentation of commendation letters to each of the resource persons by the Bursar.

Earlier the unveiling of the Bursary Library was performed by the Vice-Chancellor and his management team before heading for the flag off of the training.

APPOINTMENT



The Vice-Chancellor has approved the appointment of Mal. Ibrahim Bello Abdullahi of Registry Department as Deputy Focal Officer, SERVICOM Unit for a period of one (1) year with effect from 18th September, 2021 to 14th September, 2022.

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT



The Vice-Chancellor has approved the Renewal of Contract appointment of Abdullahi Mahmoud Kulu of the Department of Soil Science and Land Management for a period of One (1) year with effect from 10th October, 2021 to 9th October, 2022.

VACATION



This is to inform the University community and the general public that FUT, Minna Staff School commenced her two (2)weeks' third term vacation on Friday 24th September, 2021 and will resume academic activities on Monday 11th October, 2021.

VOLUNTARY LECTURING



The Vice-Chancellor has also approved the appointment of Dr. Francis N. Gana, Department of Urban and Regional Planning as a Volunteer Part-time Lecturer.

PROF BALA CONDOLES KONTAGORA EMIRATE

■ Extols Virtues of Late Monarch

|By Mohammed Abubakar



Prof. Bala (left) presenting a letter of condolence to the Madakin Kontagora

| Photo by Elijah Yisa

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, FSSSN, has condoled Kontagora Emirate over the passing away of Sarkin Sudan of Kontagora, His Royal Highness Alhaji Saidu Umar Namaska, CON.

Prof. Bala condoled and commiserated with the family of the late Emir and the people of Kontagora Emirate during a condolence visit to the Madakin Kontagora, Alh. Aminu Ahmed on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at his residence, Kontagora.

"The demise of the monarch has left a huge vacuum and a numbing

sense of emptiness but we are consoled by the fact that he left a proud legacy and lived an exemplary life of honesty, dedication and service to humanity. His reign as Emir experienced unprecedented peace and development in the Emirate", Vice-Chancellor said.

He prayed Almighty God's forgiveness for the deceased, comfort for the royal family and the people of the Emirate as well as the strength to bear the great loss.

In his response on behalf of the royal family and the emirate, the Madakin Kontagora appreciated and thanked the Vice-Chancellor and his entourage for the condolence visit

and prayed for journey mercies back to their destination.

Thereafter, the Director Physical Planning and Development Unit, Arc. Idris Alhassan led a prayer session for the repose of the soul of the deceased.

In the Vice-Chancellor's entourage were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta; the Registrar, Mr. Amos Nmadu Kolo; the University Librarian, Dr. Katamba Abubakar Saka; the Director of Works, Dr. Muhammed Wuna and the Head, Department of Statistics, Dr. Usman Abubakar.

CONDOLENCE

The Registrar, has on behalf of the Management, Senate, Staff, Students and the entire members of the University Community, condoled Mr. Hassan Garba Abubakar over the death of his Sister, late Mrs. Hassana Garba Abubakar who died on Thursday, 16th September, 2021.

Late Mrs. Hassana Garba Abubakar until her dead was a staff of Registry Department.

Money Matter

Weekly Financial Digest for Monday 13th September - Friday 17th September 2021

SN	RECEIPTS	₦
1	Transcript	485,380.00
2	Collection of Certificate	289,000.00
3	Postgraduate Certificate	16,000.00
4	Motorcycle Registration	8,500.00
5	Turnitin Undergraduate	20,000.00
6	Turnitin Master	321,000.00
7	Verification /Proficiency in English	15,000.00
8	Inter- University Transfer	20,000.00
9	Teaching Practice	102,000.00
10	Clearance fees	66,000.00
11	Prepaid Meter	94,000.00
12	Commercial Activities Shop	326,000.00
13	Semesterial Result	2,800.00
14	Acceptance fees	120,000.00
15	Registration fees pre-degrees	1,438,000.00
16	Postgraduate School Fees	4,455,750.00
17	Undergraduate School Fees	73,372,300.00
18	Sales of forms Pre-degree	156,000.00
19	Hostel Accommodation fees	21,883,000.00
20	CODEL other Charges	2,000.00
21	CODEL Registration	30,675.00
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	103,223,405.00
22	Contractors/Suppliers	
	(i) Staff	
	(a) Advance	3,560,300.00
	(b) Refund /Payment to Staff	8,593,548.20
	(ii) Contractors/Suppliers	
	(a) Jat Plus Global LTD - Retention Fess	357,149.13
	(b) DHL Int. LTD - Courier Service	16,642.51
	(c) Sogafvone Enterprise - Supply	37,600.00
	(d) Leah Eyagi - Refreshment	311,500.00
)e) EL- Hassan Global Concept - Supply	104,930.24
	(f) Niger State Board of Internal Revenue - Recurrent Tax	587,786.05
	(g) Town planner registration of engineer - Professional Accreditation	800,000.00
	(h) Lagace Power Ltd - Construction	11,083,433.83
	(e) Mahadi Services & Resources - Construction	14,545,560.00
	TOTAL PAYMENTS	39,998,449.96