

# 93<sup>RD</sup> INAUGURAL LECTURE: PROF. OLUTOYE ADVOCATES FOR A RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICIES

By Abdullahi U. Danbakaba



Prof. Olutoye Presenting his lecture.

|Photo by Elijah Yisa

A Professor of Chemical Engineering in the School of Infrastructure, Process Engineering and Technology, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Engr. Prof. Moses Aderemi Olutoye has called on the government to shift focus to a renewable and sustainable feedstock as way to transform the country's economy to be less dependent on fossil energy.

He made the call while delivering the 93rd inaugural lecture of the University titled, "Transforming the Nigerian Economy to be less Dependable on Fossil Fuel: Advocacy for Sustainable Alternative" on Thursday, October 14, 2021 at the University Auditorium, Main Campus Gidan Kwano.

Prof. Olutoye expressed concern that over dependence on fossil fuel as a source of revenue generation is responsible for the worsening events in the natural physical outlook of the

environment, restiveness in the oil producing communities and insecurity in the land.

"The current economic system is undermining our prosperity as it is destroying the natural foundations of our commercial activity," the scholar lamented.

The don further stressed that a transformation is necessary for a benign environment to preserve the natural resources, adding that this will improve the well-being of the people.

Prof. Olutoye who highlighted that the advocacy for a renewable energy policy for the energy sector can achieve important outcomes such as, better resource management, innovations and productivity gains, reducing environmental damage and creating new markets and industries, also stressed the need for a deliberate government policy to

create incentives for any individual to invest in maintaining the quality of the environment.

He said other sectors of the economy, such as agriculture and manufacturing should be given the opportunity to thrive and support revenue from petroleum, especially now that the price of oil is nose-diving, adding that a boost in research and development in the energy sector for transformation from the present structure is also required.

Prof. Olutoye further buttressed that massive investment in the plantation of oil bearing plants and trees which have the potential of producing the feedstocks needed for the generation of renewable and sustainable energy that is environmentally benign should be encouraged thus, improving the economy and creating more jobs for our teaming youths.

Cont'd on Pg. 2

Speaking shortly after the presentation, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, FSSSN, who described the presentation by Prof. Olutoye as great also expressed gratitude to the inaugural lecturer.

## VC APPLAUDS STAFF SCHOOL BOARD PTA FOR NEW PROJECTS

By Aliyu Ibrahim Jidda



**The VC, Prof. Bala (middle) cutting the tape to unveil the main entrance gate to the school, supported by Rt. Hon. Marafa and Prof. Adamu.** |Photo by Elijah Yisa

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala FSSSN has commended the Chairmen of the Board and Parent Teachers Association (PTA) of the University Staff School, Profs. Robert Okwori and Adamu Mohammad, for their prudence in the execution of projects in the school.

Prof. Bala gave the commendation on Thursday, October 14, 2021 during the inauguration of newly completed projects in the school.

The Vice-Chancellor praised the Chairmen, Management and Staff of the School for the accomplishment, despite the little funds at their disposal, adding that he is always happy to release funds to the Staff School and the University Search FM because they always give the University value for its money.

"I shall always contribute to Staff School project and I shall also make effort to purchase the school

bus you requested earlier," he assured.

He pointed out that the construction of the fence and the entrance gate shall give parents a sense of assurance that their wards are safe and that their contributions have been utilised judiciously.

He, therefore, expressed willingness to work on the promotions of the Staff School teachers as a compensation for their services.

Speaking earlier, the Board Chairman, Prof. Robert Okwori, expressed his joy for receiving the Principal Officers of the University and other guests at the event

He appreciated the Vice Chancellor for support to the school, urging him to sustain same.

On his part, the PTA Chairman, Prof. Adamu Muhammad gave assurances of continued execution

of projects in the school.

He added that this is the fourth project the Management is inaugurating, apart from other minor ones that have been completed without official ceremony.

The PTA Chairman listed the projects as: renovation of the administrative block, construction of a block of two classes, office and toilets; renovation of the entire school and fencing of the school and construction of three entrance gates.

He praised the Vice-Chancellor for his donations to the school and as well as the former Speaker, Niger State House of Assembly, RT Hon. Ahmed Marafa Guni for donating the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N500,000:00) and 7.5KVA generator to the School and for being a friend to the institution.

# VC ACKNOWLEDGES PROGRESS AS ACEMFS FUTMINNA COMMENCES EXAMINATION

By: Dorothy Elaigu



**Cross Section of Postgraduate students, ACEMFS, FUT, Minna writing their First Semester Examinations at the Bioinformatics Laboratory, STEP-B, Bosso Campus.**

regulations governing the conduct of examinations and being the maiden examination of the centre, they have been following up with the centre so that standards are not compromised." He hinted this while monitoring the conduct of the examinations.

The Dean expressed pleasure with the conduct of the examination, noting that there was integrity, transparency and professionalism by the centre and that the students have been well behaved.

The Centre Leader, Prof. Hussaini Makun, stated that as a centre of excellence with a good reputation globally and having some of the International Centres partnering as invigilators, he is positive that the examinations will be credible. He added that he is satisfied with the arrangement so far.

The Examinations Officer and Research Theme leader of Heavy Metals and Pesticides Unit, Dr. Alexander Ajai disclosed that, "60 postgraduate students from 7 countries namely Nigeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Sierra Leone and Uganda are concurrently writing their examinations."

Earlier on, the students receive lectures, present seminars and submit assignments online. Thirty-seven (37) lecturers comprising of national and international faculty from Nigeria, Belgium, United States, India, Benin Republic, Kenya, South Africa and Italy were involved in knowledge impartation to the students.

While students in Nigeria are writing the exams at FUT Bioinformatics Laboratory, students in other countries are writing the exams in ACEMFS partner institutions in their respective countries, with contacts from African Centre of Excellence (ACE) in such countries invigilating and sending pictures and videos of the exam progress.

ACEMFS offers Master of Technology (M.Tech) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree programmes in Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics, Food Safety and Toxicology. The 60 students writing the examinations comprise 36 M.Tech and 25 PhD candidates.

Commenting on the significance of having 70 students in a new program, Prof. Makun said, "The sheer number has improved our earnings.

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala FSSSN has expressed gladness that the Postgraduate programmes have been making progress in spite of the challenges of funding and the advent of the COVID 19 pandemic.

The Vice-Chancellor made the declaration while reacting to the success achieved during the conduct of the maiden postgraduate examination of the Africa Centre of Excellence for Mycotoxin and Food Safety (ACEMFS) held on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 at the Federal University of Technology, Minna.

The University helmsman noted that the fact that students of the centre have commenced their examination is testament to the perseverance and ingenuity of the ACEMFS staff and the support of FUT, Minna Management at ensuring that the ACE project progresses without hindrance.

Prof. Bala noted that the new postgraduate programmes introduced by ACEMFS have "broadened the range of programmes offered by the University, enhanced the University's global profile and furthered the internationalisation drive of the University."

In his remark, the Dean of Postgraduate School, Prof. Oladiran Abubakre, represented by the Deputy Dean, Prof. Israel Olayemi said, "the PG School has rules and

Cont'd on Pg. 4

We have earned 96% of the amount of money we are expected to earn on PhD students. ACEMFS is also rated the 3rd performing ACE in Nigeria.

A student of the centre, Macaulay Nsikak Anietie, studying M.Tech in Food Safety commended the University for the conducive environment for the examinations, adding that the faculty staff covered the course contents before the commencement of the examination.

The mission of ACEMFS is to produce skilled manpower with quality education and training in the use of modern functional equipment and innovative research for accessing impacts of food borne pathogens, toxic chemical residues and economy of West and Central Africa sub-region.

## BURSARY DEPARTMENT FIRST ANNUAL LECTURE

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdullahi Bala FSSSN cordially invites the University Community and the General Public to the 1st Annual Lecture of Bursary Department to be Presented by Hon. (Dr) Busayo Olawole Oke (Chairman, House Committee on Public Accounts, National Assembly, Abuja.

Theme: Accountability and Transparency in Nigeria: The Role of Accountants

Date: 21st October, 2021

Time: 10:00am

Venue: PTDF Lecture theatre, Chemical Engineering Complex, SIPET, Main Campus Gidan Kwano

## SABBATICAL

The Vice-Chancellor has approved Sabbatical for the following staff:

1. Prof. P. A. Idah of Agriculture and Bioresources Engineering tenable at University of Calaba, Nigeria with effect from 15th October, 2021 to 14th October, 2022
2. Dr. Taofeek Adegoke of University Health Services tenable at Baze University Teaching Hospital, Abuja, with effect from 1st October, 2021 to 30th September, 2022

## NEWS FROM ALHALAL

Al-Halal Cooperative Multipurpose Society, Federal University of Technology, Minna has slated its 16th Annual General Meeting for Wednesday, 20th October, 2021.

The AGM which is for the Year Ended 31st December, 2020 will hold at CPES Hall, Bosso Campus by 1:30 p.m.

Members are to note that accreditation by proxy will not be allowed at the AGM.

## CONDOLENCE

The Registrar, has on behalf of the Management, Senate, Staff, Students and the entire members of the University Community, condoled Mr, Andrew M. Kolo over the death of his Mother, which occurred on Thursday, 14th October, 2021.

Mr. Andrew M. Kolo is a staff of University Library Services .

# Money Matter

## Weekly Financial Digest for Monday 4th October - Friday 10th October, 2021

SN	RECEIPTS	₦
1	Transcript	487,000.00
2	Collection of Certificate	442,000.00
3	Verification /Proficiency in English	325,000.00
4	Motorcycle Registration	8,000.00
5	Turnitin Undergraduate	42,500.00
6	Commercial Activities (Shop)	88,500.00
7	Teaching Practice	114,000.00
8	Purchase of Academic Gown	380,000.00
9	Clearance Fees	5,028,000.00
10	Prepaid Meter	114,600.00
11	Semesterial Result	5,000.00
12	Acceptance Fees	735,000.00
13	Registration Fees—Pre-degree	2,143,500.00
14	Postgraduate School Fees	8,437,000.00
15	Undergraduate School Fees	120,800,845.00
16	Sales of forms Pre-degree	100,000.00
17	Hostel Accommodation fees	6,380,000.00
18	CODEL Registration	65,750.00
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>145,696,695.00</b>
19	<b>Contractors/Suppliers</b>	
	<b>(i) Staff</b>	
	(a) Advance	2,827,000.00
	(b) Refund /Payment to Staff	13,188,606.40
	<b>(ii) Contractors/Suppliers</b>	
	(a) Princess Az-Zahra Lodge - Hotel Bill	530,420.00
	(b) Federal Inland Revenue Services - Stamp Duty	526,805.24
	(c) Summit Chambers - Bills	500,000.00
	(d) Leah Eyagi - Refreshment	663,300.00
	(e) Leah Eyagi - Refreshment	710,300.00
	(f) Liwat Creation - Publication	300,000.00
	(g) Leah Eyagi - Refreshment	308,200.00
	(h) IBK Arena - Supply	430,000.00
	(i) AG Office Equipment - Maintenance	337,500.00
	(j) Federal Inland Revenue Services - Value Added Tax (VAT)	3,163,470.60
	(k) Federal Inland Revenue Services - Withholding Tax	2,705,254.73
	(l) MTN Bandwith - Subscription	1,795,596.15
	(m) Association of African Universities - Subscription	1,239,000.00
	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>29,270,453.12</b>