

PROF ATSUMBE CALLS FOR MORE AWARENESS ON TVET

The need for fresh re-orientation of Nigerians about the concepts of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and concept of work from grassroots has been stressed.

Prof. Bernard Numgwo Atsumbe stressed this while



Prof. Atsumbe

presenting the 61st Inaugural Lecture of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, titled: **"Implementing TVET Towards Employment Generation and Poverty Reduction in Nigeria: The Good and The Bad,"** on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at the Caverton Lecture Theatre, School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology, Main Campus.

The Professor of Industrial and Technology Education and current Dean, School of Science and Technology Education (SSTE), explained that TVET refers to deliberate interventions to bring about learning which would make people more productive or simply adequately productive in designated areas such as economic sectors, occupations and specific workforce.

"TVET is a range of learning experiences which are relevant to the world of work," he stated.

The don also maintained that TVET drives employments, prosperity and social inclusion embracing a commitment to environmental responsibility and best

practice. According to him, an effective TVET system in any country enables people especially the youths to fulfill their career aspiration while contributing to economic growth and social development.

The major areas of TVET in Nigeria, he highlighted are agricultural education, business education, computer education, home economics education and industrial and technical education.

Highlighting his contributions to knowledge, Prof. Atsumbe found out among others; the need for vocational institution to be properly mobilized financially to coordinate, supervise and ensure overall success of the programme. The Professor also found that there is the need for more emphasis on functional, vocational skills that are in demand in the workplace.

The scholar who supervised some locally designed and fabricated functional projects in ITE Department such as: Solar panel electrically operated foundry machine, Melon sheller and both manually and electronically operated hydraulic press among others.

He recommended that there should be an urgent review of TVET curriculum at all levels of training from primary to tertiary education while calling for the establishment of TVET Resource Centres in all the six geopolitical zones of the country for the purpose of training unemployed youths.

Speaking at the event, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, *FSSSN*, thanked everyone for attending the lecture while acknowledging the presence of the eminent personalities from both the town and gown.

The lecture is the last in the series of inaugural lecture for the year 2017 and the first to be chaired by the new Vice-Chancellor.

FAMILIARISATION VISIT

CLOSE RANKS FOR FUTMINNA PROGRESS, PROF BALA URGES STAFF

In furtherance of his familiarisation tour, the new Vice - Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 visited the five Schools at the Gidan Kwano Campus of the institution where he reiterated his readiness to work with all members of the University community to move the institution to greater heights.



Prof. Bala

During the familiarisation visit which involved interactive sessions, Prof. Bala called on staff to close ranks and work for the good of the University just as he advised them to do their jobs honourably.

He noted that the issues of staffing and accommodation were common to all the Schools and would be addressed holistically.

Prof. Bala urged the academics to go the extra mile in their job and be alive to the task generation knowledge, dissemination and knowledge application, hinting that as the race to attain the peak of their career gets tougher, the University may start considering other criteria such as attraction of grants, patents, funding, and community service.

At the School of Environmental Technology (SET), where the VC made his first stop, the Deputy Dean, Dr. Olurotimi Kemiki led staff to receive him. Prof. Bala promised to look into the issues of addressing manpower challenge through in-breeding and facility needs. He however called for patience as Management tries to address the issues in line with available resources.

Dean, School of Engineering and Engineering Technology (SEET), Prof. Oladiran Abubakre who welcomed the new VC to the School thanked him for creating time for the interface with staff of the School to understand their needs.

Prof. Abubakre and other staff of SEET outlined the challenges facing the School. The need to provide incentives to encourage production was also stressed.

In his response, Prof. Bala disclosed that part of his vision statement was to challenge each department to come up with one product.

He therefore challenged the academics to harness postgraduate research to service the needs of society.

On the need for staff bus to ameliorate transportation challenge for staff, the University's new helmsman pointed out that in view of paucity of funds, Management is giving priority attention to addressing transportation needs of students.

When Prof. Bala came calling at the School of Entrepreneurship and Management Technology (SEMT), the Deputy Dean, Dr. Mathew Oluwole led staff of the School to receive him. Dr. Oluwole thanked the VC for the visit, noting that it was indicative of Prof. Bala's desire to hit the ground running.

He also thanked the University Management for supporting staff development at SEMT.

Part of the challenges SEMT requested the new VC to address were the programmes delisted by the National Universities Commission (NUC); infrastructure and the need to engage them in relevant capacity building programmes instead of out-sourcing resource persons.

Responding, the VC assured that Management was addressing the issue of the delisted programmes. He advised the School to formally inform Management the areas of training they can handle.

At the School of Information and Communication Technology (SICT), the Dean, Prof. Elizabeth Onwuka who welcomed the VC described him as very prepared for the job.

In response to the issue of office accommodation raised by SICT staff members, Prof. Bala said that Management would try to complete the Cyber Security Science building .

He urged the staff to work together to develop new programmes as SICT has come to stay in the University.

The School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (SAAT), the VC parent School was his last port of call. There, he was received by visibly elated colleagues led by the Deputy Dean, Dr. Michael Ojo.

Some of the areas in which they sought intervention were provision of furniture and internet connectivity for the new SAAT complex, decaying infrastructure, security among others.

Prof. Bala called for patience, assuring that the challenges will be addressed. He thanked them for their support.

PROF BALA COMMENDS FUTMINNA CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

... I Will Be Fair, Just

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala *fsssiv* has commended members of the University Christian community for promoting peace on campus and for their contributions to the development of the institution.

The Vice-Chancellor gave this commendation yesterday when the University Christian community paid him a courtesy visit to felicitate with him on his well-deserved appointment as the new helmsman of the University at the VC's Conference Room, Main Campus.

Prof. Bala stated that members of the University Christian community have made substantial contribution to the progress and development of the University, adding that the University would not have been where it is today if not for the cooperation and



Rev. Dr. Onimole presenting a copy of the Holy Bible to Prof. Bala while the Registrar looked on with smile

support of the Christian community.

The Vice-Chancellor thanked the University Christian community for praying and fasting for peaceful transition in the University.

"Many members of this community prayed and fasted that we should have somebody from within to be the Vice-Chancellor and God has granted us that wish. We have to make best use of this opportunity to tell the world that the University has come of age and that we do not need people from outside to come and be superintending over us", Prof. Bala disclosed.

He reiterated the need for the University to begin to have an orderly transition process, saying that the University has the capacity in terms of human resources, cooperation among staff and the prevailing peace in the University.

The University helmsman said he will be fair and just in the discharge of his duties as the Vice-Chancellor of the University without recourse to race, ethnicity, religion, political differences or tribe.

"In terms of fairness and justness, only God can be perfect but I know that I shall try my best to be as inclusive as it is practically possible. I don't intend to be

bias in favour or against any segment or community". "I will be father to everybody within the University because I have taken that solemn oath and I intend to abide by that oath. Not that I will not make mistake, I am human but God sees my heart and God knows that I have no intention of shortchanging anybody", the VC enthused.

He further assured them of the University Management support towards ensuring that they have places of worship worthy of the Christian community and the University.

Speaking earlier, the Chairman, FUT, Minna, Chapel of Grace, Dr. Mathew Kolo said the Christian community in FUT, Minna work within the vision of the University and that of the present administration to mode lives that would become instrument of growth and development in the society.

Dr. Kolo expressed appreciation to the University Management for supporting the various religious bodies on campus, particularly in the construction of worship places and solicited for further financial support.

Earlier in his address, the Chairman, St. Malachy's Chaplaincy, FUT, Minna, Prof. Hussein Anthony Makun congratulated the Vice-Chancellor on his appointment and urged him to be fair and just in the discharge of his duties.

The highpoint of the visit was the presentation of the Holy Bible by Rev. Dr. Michael Onimole to the Vice-Chancellor of the University. The Reverend read Second Chronicle chapter 1: 6-12 and the book of Jeremiah chapter 9; verse 23-24 to the VC before presenting the Holy Bible to him. He urged the Vice-Chancellor to make out time to read the Holy book so that he can gain more wisdom and knowledge on how to move the University to greater heights.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Bala (m) flanked by member of the University Christian Community in a group snapshot

ENGINEERING STUDENTS CONSTRUCT CONCRETE ROAD

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala, *FSSSN*, has flagged off the concrete road pavement constructed by students of the School of Engineering and Engineering Technology (SEET).

Prof. Bala flagged off the project on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at the Main Campus.

The 31 metre concrete road pavement has a drainage with dual walkway is the output of the 2016/2017 Student Work Experience Programme (SWEP) done by 200 level students of the School.

It was technically supervised by Engr. Dr. Stephen Kolo and Dr. Mustapha, Head of Department, Civil Engineering .

It was coordinated by Engr. Dr. Olayemi Olaniyi.

Professional Accreditation



The Vice-Chancellor, FUTMinna, Prof. Abdullahi Bala (m) flanked by other Principal Officers and Officials of Estate Surveyors and Valuers Registration Board of Nigeria during a courtesy visit to the University Management before commencing the process of Professional accreditation exercise to the Department of Estate Management and Valuation

Money Matters

Weekly Financial Digest (Monday, December 4, – Friday, December 8, 2017)

| N/S | RECEIPTS | ₦ |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Clearance Fees | 1,197,000.00 |
| 2 | Collection of Certificate | 280,250.00 |
| 3 | Academic Transcript Fees | 140,000.00 |
| 4 | Verification/Confirmation of Certificate | 6,000.00 |
| 5 | Turnitin | 82,500.00 |
| 6 | Statement of Result | 8,000.00 |
| 7 | Staff I.D. Card | 24,000.00 |
| 8 | Teaching Practice | 210,000.00 |
| 9 | Semesterial Result | 1,800.00 |
| 10 | Inter University Transfer Form | 41,500.00 |
| 11 | Acceptance Fees | 9,900,000.00 |
| 12 | Personel Allocation From - Abuja | 308,217,220.90 |
| 13 | Overhead Grant From - Abuja | 8,217,694.75 |
| | TOTAL RECEIPTS | 328,325,965.65 |
| | PAYMENTS | |
| 14 | Contractors/Suppliers | |
| | (i) Staff | |
| | (a) November, 2017 Salary/ Deductions | 330,758,647.92 |
| | (b) Earned Allowance (1st Payment) | 544,462,546.97 |
| | (c) Advance | 492,240.00 |
| | (d) Refund | 6,800,000.00 |
| | (ii) Contractors/Suppliers | |
| | (a) Entourage Publishing Magazine Ltd. - Publication | 2,714,285.72 |
| | (b) Dele Otitoju & Co Chartered Accountants - Audit Fee | 1,425,000.00 |
| | TOTAL RECEIPTS | 886,652,720.61 |

2017 SAAT End of Year Party



The Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdullahi Bala (m), POs in a group photograph with staff of the School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (SAAT) during the School's 2017 end of the year party held today at the School.