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Campus News

Federal University of Technology, Minna

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PROF JUNAID CALLS FOR URBAN SLUM DEVELOPMENT

Nigeria as a nation has instituted several housing policies and the level of achievement is not commensurate with the efforts put, hence the provision of decent and affordable housing for the majority of urban poor has continued to remain a mirage.

Prof. Asimiyu Mohammed Junaid made this assertion when he delivered the 51st Inaugural Lecture of the University, titled: ***Housing for The Nigerian Urban***



Prof. Junaid delivering his lecture yesterday

Poor: A Reality or A Mirage? on Thursday, May 18, 2017 at the Caverton Lecture Theatre, Main Campus.

The erudite scholar, who is the Dean, School of Environmental Technology (SET), described the urban poor as low income earners or households who cannot afford the basic needs to live a healthy and minimal comfortable life. According to him, lack of good housing is associated with insecurity, poor health and wellbeing, poverty and all forms of deprivation.

Prof. Junaid explained that constructing a house is a capital intensive venture, as such, for a low income earner to own a house, there must be a solid financial support either from the government or private sector. Since majority of the low income earners are underemployed or unemployed, who do not have access to mortgage finance. Therefore, the desire to own a house remain a lifelong ambition for the urban poor.

The problem of housing affordability he said, is compounded, by the increase in house rent, housing demand and supply, inflation, economic recession and fall in foreign exchange rates.

The Professor of Urban and Regional Planning further

maintained that the urban poor have no place to stay rather than the slum where they live in constant fear of eviction and demolition. Such exercise, he pointed out, bring about a lot of agonies, grief, frustration as well as feelings of rejection and abandonment of the citizens by the authorities.

"A typical demolition scenario is characterized by protest, hues and cries, hopelessness and helplessness. The aftermath normally leaves behind rubbles of ruined houses of the urban poor, large population of homeless citizen and above all, psychological trauma," he enumerated.

The former Director of CDRM&DS, while recommending the review and completion of the existing housing projects across the country said that the slum provides housing for the huge urban human resources with diverse skills and human ingenuity, adding that this population drives the economy of the cities by providing big market and labour force.

The Dean called for provision of infrastructure in order to make the living condition of the slum better.

He stressed the need for government to ensure the housing scheme reached the targeted poor rather than being hijacked by the rich while ensuring the regularization of the existing informal land titles in Nigeria.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Musbau Adewumi Akanji *FNSBMB, FAS*, in his remark indicated the importance of inaugural lecture in the life a professor as it is presented once. He reiterated the need for other professors that are yet to deliver theirs to do so.

Prof. Akanji while thanking everybody for attending the lecture wished them journey mercies back to their respective destinations.

ITS UNVEILS NEW APPLICATION SOFTWARE

The Information Technology Services (ITS) at its maiden edition of ITS Week flagged off New Application Software aimed at creating awareness and engaging all stakeholders in the University on the various services and developments available to them with regards to ICT while taking into consideration areas that need to be improved upon.



POs in a group photography with invited guests and staff of ITS after the event

The flag off ceremony took place yesterday at the SNEPCO Hall, Main Campus, Minna.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Musbau Adewumi Akanji, **FNSBMB, FAS**, while officially flagging off the software, said he was tremendously grateful to ITS for its efforts in pushing the University forward in terms of technology.

The VC who expressed his satisfaction with the Unit in all ramifications said the new software applications would have cost the University millions of naira if it was contracted to an outsider saying if the applications were put to good and proper use, the University will be ranked alongside international institutions.

Prof. Akanji who promised to support the ITS Centre in any possible ways, announced Management decision to give financial support to the Centre for monies spent on this event.

The Registrar of the University, Mrs. Victoria Kolo, in her goodwill message said ITS has made her very proud as some of the software applications presented at the event were solutions to some of the problems she prayed to solve before the end of her tenure.

Others that gave goodwill messages at the event were Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Oluwole Morenikeji, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Admin), Prof. Yahaya Iyaka and Dean, Postgraduate School, Prof. M. G. M. Kolo saying they were very impressed with the software application presentation, hoping that the University will move from 3rd generation University to the league of 1st Class University with their IT solution.

Speaking earlier, the Acting Director, ITS, Dr. Adamu Mohammed, while delivering his speech said it was

pertinent to have a robust data storage and management machinery especially in an institution like FUT, Minna, while noting that the ITS boasts certified professional instructors, programmers, networking system engineer, system analysts and database administrators who have all made the new software become a reality.

Dr. Adamu spoke extensively on the four (4) unveiled programmes which are Online Undergraduate Transcript Management System that will make transcript processing easier, faster and trackable; Postgraduate School Result Computation Software, which will help the PG School compile and compute the students results; New e-Result and Course Registration Software with parent link, which will keep parents/guardians abreast of the performance of their wards in school and lastly the Remodeled University Website which has a new look with new features for staff, students and the public alike.

The Director ITS, appreciated the University Management especially, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Musbau Adewumi Akanji, for the support and encouragement given to them to discharge their duties. He also highlighted the major achievements of the Unit in the year under review.

NEW NAAT EXECUTIVE

This is to inform the University community and the general public that the National Association of Academic Technologists (NAAT), FUT, Minna election took place on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 and new officials were elected as follows:

1. Engr. Isyaku A. Mohammed President.
2. Sulayman Shu'ayb Vice President.
3. Ajibuwa A. David Secretary.
4. Lifi A. Ibrahim Asst. Secretary.
5. Deborah U. Bako Treasurer.
6. Olasupo Hassan O. Financial Secretary.
7. Bello Aliu Public Relations Officer.

FUTMINNA RESEARCH GROUP VISITS OAU

.Secures Partnership Deals with ACE, OAU Research Group

In view of the need to boost inter-university research collaborations aimed at addressing societal problems, one of the research groups of the Federal University of Technology, Minna known as the Advanced Engineering Innovation Research Group (AEIRG) has concluded a 3-day research tour to the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State.



3rd from right, Prof. Aibinu, other AEIRG members in a group photograph with OAU Communication Research Group after the interactive session

The research group was led by the Director, Centre for Open Distance and e-Learning (CODEL) and Head, Department of Mechatronics Engineering, Prof. Abiodun Musa Aibinu.

The team's first point of call was at the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering where they were received by the Head of the department, Dr. Thomas Yesufu before they were handed over to the Head of the Communication Research Group domiciled in the department, Dr. Solomon Adeniran.

Speaking during the interactive session, Dr. Adeniran said it would be a dream come true for both parties to consummate their research collaborations with the aim of working together for the good of the society, adding that quality research is needed to achieve the much needed development in the country.

He expressed satisfaction with the quality of research works exhibited by the University's team while stating that OAU research group is desirous to collaborate with FUT, Minna because of its antecedents in conducting world class research which has resulted in the group winning many local and international laurels.

Dr. Adeniran who was the leader of the team that launched Nigeria SAT-1 further disclosed that the group has collaboration deals with several notable organizations in the world and expressed optimism that adding FUT, Minna to the list would enhance the fortune of the group.

Responding, the leader of FUT, Minna research group,

Prof. Aibinu said the purpose of the visit was to finalize areas of collaboration with the group based on the outcome of their earlier visit, noting that the group's mission is to collaborate with renowned research groups in the country that have the capacity to address the research needs of the country.

The University research group later had another interactive session with staff of Africa Centre of Excellence in Software Engineering at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.

The group was received by the ACE Project Head, Prof. Aderounmu, who stated that working with the group would be in line with the objectives of the Centre in developing the next generation of scientists, researchers and teachers by stimulating their creativity and excellence in research and innovation.

The ACE Project Head, further disclosed that the Centre is desirous to provide the launch pad for start-up companies borne out of university research activities, and collaboration with partnering ICT companies, who would have the competitive advantage of proximity and direct access to the intellectual infrastructure and output of the university.

He disclosed that he was marvelled by the quantum of research prototypes and designs executed by the group and expressed desire to partner with the group.

Responding, Prof. Aibinu stated that FUT, Minna is a powerhouse in ICT training among Nigerian universities and revealed that the group is ready and well equipped to collaborate with ACE.

He assured them that the partnership would be a win-win situation for both parties.

The next trip for the group will be a week research tour to some federal government ministries, departments, agencies and other notable organisations in Abuja.

THREE FUTMINNA STUDENTS WIN SCHOLARSHIP

A Florida, United States-based organization, Educational Opportunities in Nigeria (EON) has awarded scholarship to three students in the Federal University of Technology, Minna.



Winners of the EON scholarship flanked by the VC, Prof. Musbau Akanji (l) and Pastor Adewumi Ojo (r)

Out of the total of 13 applicants from the University in the 2016/2017 Academic Session, Oluyomi Ayanfeoluwa, 400 level, Department of Cyber Security Science with a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 4.87 emerged first; Adebayo Kabiru, 500 level, Civil Engineering, with 4.81 CGPA came second while Bello Mubarak Ayo, 400 level, 4.82 CGPA, Chemical Engineering got the 3rd position.

Each of the winner got a cash prize of N60 thousand naira.

In his brief remark at the award ceremony which took place at the Vice-Chancellor's conference room, Main Campus, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Musbau Adewumi Akanji, *FNSBMB, FAS*, said that it is always a thing of joy to see organisations like EON coming to the aid of students as poverty was doing a lot of harm to educational progress of many indigent students.

While commending the Student Affairs Division for successfully coordinating the scholarship exercise, he implored the beneficiaries to make judicious use of the money.

In his speech, Director of EON, Pastor Adewumi Ojo, said the group is committed to doing its best to assist education in Nigeria.

The EON, a non-profit organization, is a group of Nigerians based in Florida, United States with the aim of helping indigent students in Nigeria.

The group whose first intervention in the University was in 2015, when all three prizes were won by students in the Department of Chemical Engineering, also plans to assist libraries in Nigeria with educational materials.

APPOINTMENTS

(i) Renewal

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the renewal of appointment of **Arch. Muhammad Dzuru Baba** Department of Architecture as Visiting Lecturer for a period of one year with effect from April 5, 2017.

(ii) Retirement

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the mandatory retirement from service of **Prof. Olusegun Henry Dayo**, Department of Mechanical Engineering with effect from March 17, 2017.

WEDDING CEREMONIES

The family of **Prof. And Dr. (Mrs.) Godwin Nnaemeka Nsofor**, of the Departments of Geography and Science Education respectively cordially invites the University community and the general public to the Solemnization of Holy Matrimony of their son, **Chiemeka Chijioko Jnr. with Ijeamaka Chimdinma**, which will by the Grace of God take place as follows:

Date: Saturday, May 20, 2017

Time: 11:30am prompt

Venue: St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Sabon Gari, Minna, Niger State.

Reception: follows immediately at Sir Cyprian Ojmadu Nweze Memorial Hall, St. Andrew's Church Premises, Minna, Niger State.

Similarly, **Samuel A. Fidelis of the University Security Services Division** cordially invites the University community and the general public to his Solemnization of Holy Matrimony with **Rahab Simi James**, which will by the Grace of God take place as follows:

Date: Saturday, May 27, 2017

Time: 10:00am prompt

Venue: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cathedral, Naka Road, Makurdi, Benue State.

Reception: follows immediately at Bem Hotel, Ankpa Quarters, Makurdi, Benue State.

COLLECTION OF RAMADAN CONSUMABLES

This is to inform members of Al-Halal Cooperative Multipurpose Society, FUT, Minna who have applied for Ramadan consumables that they should endeavour to check what is approved for them between Tuesday, 16 and Saturday, May 20th, 2017.

Sharing of the items is as follows:

Date: Tuesday, 22nd - Tuesday, 29th May, 2017

Time: 12:00noon - 6:pm daily.

Venue: Al-Halal Secretariat, Bosso Campus.

FUT STAFF COOPERATIVE POSTS N18.2M PROFIT, DECLARES 50K DIVIDEND ...SHAREHOLDERS ELECT ASHAFI AS PRESIDENT

The Federal University of Technology, Minna Staff Cooperative Multi-Purpose Society Limited has declared a profit after tax of N18, 260, 134. 35 million for the financial year ended December 31, 2016 and declared fifty kobo per share dividend for members.



The newly elected executive council taking oath of office after the election.

This disclosure was made by the Treasurer, Mallam Yandalu Yusuf at the Society's 22nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at the CPES Hall, Bosso Campus.

Mallam Yandalu stated that the Cooperative Society recorded unprecedented success during the financial year under review, adding that the success was achieved based on members support, understanding and cooperation.

He disclosed that the Cooperative goodwill resulted in 1,426 membership strength at the end of the financial year with a total share capital of N27,771,580.00, adding that the backbone of the Cooperative Society is in the area of thrift savings which amounted to N601,789,512.00 as at December, 2016.

On the need to boost the Cooperative thrift savings, the Treasurer made an appeal to shareholders for minimum monthly contribution to be pegged at N5,000 and urged members to desist from withdrawing their thrift savings so that the Cooperative Society can serve them better.

Earlier, the President, Alh. Mohammed Sani Abubakar Kuta said the Annual General Meeting is an exciting day when members come together to discuss issues that would lead to the progress of the Society.

The President commended members for the mandate given to the Executive to spearhead the affairs of the Society in the last four years.

He disclosed that the following as some of the achievements of the present executive members:

continuous improvement in disbursement of all forms of loan packages to members, purchase of 14.4 hectares of land at Dama village for allocation to interested members on loan and donation of computer sets and accessories to FUT Staff School and Model Secondary School as part of its corporate social responsibility.

At the AGM, a motion was moved for the dissolution of the Executive Council which was unanimously seconded by shareholders. That paved the way for the election of new executive members to pilot the affairs of the Society in the next two years.

The election and counting of ballot papers lasted up to 10 pm in the night by the Electoral Committee members, the Chairman and Dean, School of Science and Technology Education, Prof. Ben Atsumbe announced the following as the newly elected executive members of the Cooperative Society: President, Mallam Ashafi Mohammed Aminu who polled 457 votes to defeat Alh. Ahmed Dauda who got 381 votes; Vice-President, Mrs. Damaris Tsado; Secretary, Mr. Adamu Mohammed E. Others are: Treasurer, Ahmed Ishaku Kuta; Business Secretary, Mr. Simon Gana while the out gone President, Secretary and Treasurer will serve as ex-officio members.

In his acceptance speech, the President, Mallam Ashafi who is also the Deputy Director, Internal Audit Unit, said the emergence of the new executive marks the beginning of a new dawn in the annals of the Cooperative Society, stating that pragmatic efforts are needed to rebuild the Society to greatness.

He urged members to forget about their political differences and join hands with the present administration to move the Society forward, while assuring members that the era of parochial sentiments and favouritism are over and promised to ensure equal rights for all members at all times.

"Our bane is the paradox of putting sentiment and emotion before due process," he noted.

He admonished members to change their attitude towards the Cooperative and solicited for the support of all members.

"We must know that our Cooperative will not change except we change our attitude. The notion of this is how it has always been done should be discarded," he advised.

The newly elected executive members were later sworn – in by the Chairman of the Electoral Committee immediately after the election results were announced.

RANSOMWARE ATTACKS: AWARENESS AND SECURITY TIPS – Dr. Joseph A. Ojeniyi, Department of Cyber Security Science, SICT

Definition: As the name implies, it is malicious software that stops you from using your computer or computer network or files until a ransom is paid or a specified operation is performed. It is a form of denial of service attack with a promise of service restoration on payment of a ransom.

Evolution: Ransomware attack launched against Windows operating system started in 1989. Since then, it has metamorphosed into different forms and complexities. PC Cyborg Ransomware attack was first seen in December 1989. It combined a symmetric key and initialization vector to encrypt the files in the computer drives. Thereafter, different forms of Ransomware emerged. Some of them were Fake Antivirus (AV) Ransomware, Master Boot Record (MBR) Ransomware, Fake FBI Ransomware and SMS Ransomware.

Fake AV Ransomware first evolved in 2004. It provided fake antivirus solution, system performance optimization and registry care. It offered paid solutions to the problems of your system that never existed in the first place. It became significant in 2005.

MBR Ransomware first emerged in 2010. It substitutes the system original master boot record with its own code and denies legitimate services from legitimate users. In most cases, it never encrypts files but only prompts the ransom message at system boot-up time. It was significantly manifested in 2011 with Trojan and Bootlock Ransomware.

Fake FBI Ransomware was first noticed in 2011. It requests for the fine payment masqueraded to be initiated from official local law enforcement agencies. Several other versions were released later.

SMS Ransomware is the one associated with Android platforms. The first in this form was noticed in 2012. Since then, it has evolved in different dimensions infecting android-based devices.

Categories: There are two major categories of Ransomware: (i) Locker Ransomware and (ii) Crypto Ransomware

- i. Locker Ransomware is a computer locker that prevents access to a computer system
- ii. Crypto Ransomware is a data locker denies access to data, files or services in a computer system or a computer network.

Target: The main target or goal of both types of Ransomware is to deny access to a legitimate object until a ransom is paid.

WannaCry Ransomware: It is an ongoing global Crypto Ransomware cyberattack against Microsoft Windows Operating Systems. It encrypts data or files with a

promise of decryption after a ransom is paid. The attack was noticed to have commenced on Friday 12th May, 2017. It has affected over 150 countries. More so, all countries having huge deployment of Microsoft Windows Operating Systems have been tagged as susceptible nations including Nigeria.

Preventive and Corrective Measures:

The following tips will be helpful in preventing or safeguarding against Ransomware attacks:

- i. As much as possible avoid internet connection when not needed
- ii. Use genuine and latest operating systems
- iii. Carry out periodic update of your systems
- iv. Avoid use of free downloads especially when the sources are not guaranteed
- v. When downloading free software, try to read and understand the download agreements before proceeding.
- vi. Never download attachments with anonymous sources or unverified sources.
- vii. Regular security and vulnerability assessment of your system by cyber security expert is recommended
- viii. The list is not exhaustive, always consult a trusted cyber security experts around you.
- ix. Man being the weakest link in a network setup, arm yourself with up-to-date Everyday Cyber Security Best Practice.

The following tips will be helpful corrective measures in the case of successful attack:

- i. Quickly isolate your system from a network environment or internet connection
- ii. Don't pay any ransom as no guarantee of service restoration. Payment of a ransom may further expose your system
- iii. Immediately, call the attention of Cyber Security Expert in your reach for technical solutions as corrective measures are case-specific.

Current Trend: With the recent discovery of the damaging effects of Ransomware and the global consciousness, it seems a lot has not been known about the menace of the malware. It is not what is used to be. It is constantly evolving with sophisticated approaches. Advanced hackers now present Ransomware as a service.

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

This is to inform the University community and the general public that the University Board of Survey has different items for auctioning both at the Main Campus and Bosso Campuses as follows:

Gidan Kwano

Items: Office Equipment, Stationery and others

Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Time: 10:00am prompt

Venue: Central Store, Works and Maintenance.

Bosso Campus

Items: Office Equipment, Stationery and others

Date: Thursday, May 24, 2017.

Time: 10:00am prompt

Venue: Works Yard.

Interested members should report at the venue of the exercise and bidders are to purchase Bidding Form(s) at the cost of Five Hundred Naira (N500:00) only (Not refundable).

For further details please contact:

1. **Dr. I. A. Olatunji**, HOD, Estate Management and Valuation Department, School of Environmental Technology, Main Campus
2. **Alhaji Idris Ibrahim**, Dean's Office, School of Engineering and Engineering Technology (SEET), Gidan Kwano Campus.

Gidan Kwano

S/N	DESCRIPTION	QTY	BENCH MARK
1	CPU	15	350 each
2	Researchable Lamp	2	500
3	Stabilizer	3	1000
4	Laptop	3	Market
5	CPU and Monitor	11 & 13	3,000 each
6	Paper Shredder	1	Market
7	Printer	3	Market
8	Fax Machine	1	Market
9	Sharp Television	1	2, 500
10	Super Max Digital Satellite Receiver	1	Market
11	Scanner	1	Market
12	Office Cabinet	1	Market
13	Keyboard	9	200 each
14	Jincheng Motorcycles	5	25,000 each
15	Old X-Ray Films		120/kg
16	Used Chemical		100/litre
17	CPU	3	3,000 each
18	UPS	3	350 each
19	1000 VA Stabilizer	1	500
20	Visual Graphic Adapter (VGA)/Monitor	2	Market
21	Zinox Laptops	3	Market
22	HP 2015 Laserjet Printer	2	Market
23	Desktop Speaker	1	1,000
24	Mousse	5	Market
25	Keyboards	6	Market
26	Power cables	3	Market
27	Unused paper		Market
28	Photocopier	1	Market
29	Ceiling fan	22	Market
30	Window Unit Air-Condition (Panasonic)	1	Market
31	Sharp Photocopier	2	market

Bosso

S/N	DESCRIPTION	QTY	BENCH MARK
1	Sharp SF-1118 Photocopier	1	Market
2	Chairs with no stand	2	Market
3	Table	1	1000
4	Duplo Machine	1	Market
5	Stabilizers	5	1000
6	Printer		Market
7	Rug carpet	1	Market
8	Cushing	3	Market
9	Mattress	7	Market
10	Rug carpet	1	Market
11	A/C	6	4000 each
12	Chair	6	1,000
13	Iron Stools	6	1500 each
14	Aluminum sheet	3	500 each
15	Kitchen sink	1	Market
16	Table	3	500 each
17	Wash hand basin	1	Market
18	Computer cage with system	1	Market
19	Monitors	3	2000
20	Fridge	2	Market
21	Casement window	3	Market
22	Cooker	2	Market
23	Sliding window glass	11	Market
24	Pumping machine	1	Market
25	Tyres (assorted)	20	Bulk
26	Car Engine (406)	1	10,000
27	Tractor		200,000
28	Electrical fittings		Market
29	Clay roofing sheets/boards		Market
30	System CPU	19	3000 each
31	Stabilizer (5kv)	5	800 each
32	Stabilizer (1kv)	7	500 each
33	UPS	17	2000 each
34	Replaced System power pack	16	Market
35	System monitor (Vacuum Tube)	12	2000 each
36	System monitor (Flat Screen)	4	3000 each
37	System Keyboards	13	200 each
38	Spoilt chairs	8	1000
39	Dilapidated Iron windows	14	2000 each