

TRANSLATE YOUR BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH INTO PRODUCTS FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT – GOV BELLO URGES RESEARCHERS

The Executive Governor of Niger State, Alh. Abubakar Sani Bello has urged researchers in the field of biotechnology to translate their various researches into products that would aid sustainable national development in the country.



Representative of the Niger State Governor, Alh Mohammed Mugi delivering the Governor's address at the event

The Governor gave the charge on Monday, August 28, 2017 while declaring open the 30th Annual International Conference of the Biotechnology Society of Nigeria (BSN) held at the Multi-Purpose Hall, Gidan Matasa, Minna, Niger State.

Gov. Bello said researchers need to provide practical and sustainable ways to national development rather than just writing papers and urged them to translate their research into products that would help the country in various fields of human endeavours.

The Governor who was represented by the Hon. Commissioner of Solid Minerals, Alh. Mohammed Mugi disclosed that in recognition of the importance of science and technology as a tool for national development, the State Government has converted some secondary schools in the State to science colleges with the aim of encouraging students to study science and technology related courses.

He commended the Society for choosing Niger State as a venue for the conference, adding that the conference would provide stakeholders with the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas on emerging trends in the field of biotechnology.

Delivering his welcome address, the Vice-Chancellor of

the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Musbau Adewumi Akanji, *FAS, FNSBMB*, applauded the Society for giving FUT, Minna the rights to host the conference while expressing confidence that the conference would lead to the much needed change in the country as well as introducing comprehensive workable agenda on how to create jobs for the youths.

Prof. Akanji informed participants at the event that Minna is a peaceful town and urged them to explore the city before leaving.

While delivering his address, the National President, Biotechnology Society of Nigeria, Prof. Benjamin Ewa Eva, said since its emergency as a field of study biotechnology has continued to provide vast array of opportunities for industrial development with significant impact on several sectors of global economics.

Prof. Eva stated that biotechnology would serve as catalyst for building a robust bio-economy that can transform the abundant biological resources in Nigeria into finished products, foster a second revolution for the attainment of food security for the country in the face of increasing cases of climate change and foster improved healthcare delivery.

He pointed out that the natural resources based in Nigeria was enormous and its efficient utilization in a sustainable manner would jump start diversification of mono-economy, which is currently largely depended on fossil energy particularly as the end of the oil era is fast approaching.

The President disclosed that the conference, would have a biotechnology care involving various biotechnology stakeholders to brainstorm and define priorities and initiatives for boosting biotechnology research and development in Nigeria.

In his goodwill message, the Director General Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA), Prof. Lucy Ogbadu, said NABDA remains the agency set up to coordinate all matters relating to biotechnology in Nigeria towards the development of agricultural improved seeds, improvement of health care diagnostic kits for Ebola disease and Laser fever, industrial capacity processed foods and environmental pollution.

Contd. on page 4

ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTRE HOLDS CAREER WORKSHOP

The Entrepreneurship Centre of the Federal University of Technology, Minna held a career workshop on Wednesday, August 30, 2017 for some selected students of the University.

Speaking at the event, the Vice-Chancellor of the University Prof. Musbau Adewumi Akanji, FAS, FNSBMB, commended the Centre for organizing the workshop,



Seated: The representative of the VC, Prof. Oni (Middle) flanked by the resource persons, guests and participants in a group photograph after the workshop

adding that the workshop is timely in view of the need to provide applicants with the necessary skills needed in writing good curriculum vitae and how to be successful during job interview.

Prof. Akanji, represented by the Dean, School of Entrepreneurship and Management Technology (SEMT), Prof. Emmanuel Oni assured the Centre of the University Management commitment and support.

He tasked the participants to take advantage of the workshop by paying rapt attention to all the resource persons, stating that the workshop was made free because the University wants more people to acquire curriculum writing and job interview skills from experts.

In his welcome address, the Dean, School of Entrepreneurship and Business Technology, Prof. Emmanuel Oni said the world of entrepreneurship is evolving from what it used to be and implored all the participants to always look out for opportunities in the centre, be informed of situations around in order to be creative and innovative in their chosen field of entrepreneurship.

Prof. Oni said the trainees are privileged to be learning from experts in the field of career training, noting that the resource persons are couple from University of Edinburg, Napei, United Kingdom.

The first resource person, Engr. Ahmad Ahmad of Global Emeraland Ltd who is an alumnus of the University said one of the goals of the company is to

give back to the society, adding that he decided to start from FUT, Minna where he got his first degree.

Engr. Ahmed said that everybody has something special in them which can be turned into an idea and a successful venture saying that everyone should be focused at all times.

He further described some of the skills needed to become a successful entrepreneur as outstanding communication and interpersonal skills, keeping calm under pressure, and adhering to details, attention to details, demonstrating leadership and management skills.

The second resource person, Mrs. Aisha Ahmad also from University of Edinburg, Napei, United Kingdom spoke on the contents of a good curriculum vitae (CV), saying that it should be able to describe the passion of the applicant at a glance. She also spoke on the different types of interviews and how to be composed during interview.

In his goodwill message, Prof. (High Chief) Casmir Obialor, the Programme Director of the Entrepreneurship Develop Centre, Central Bank of Nigeria said students should start thinking of what to do in life before graduation because there is no more white collar jobs for them.

Prof. Obialor urged them to developed entrepreneurial skills while in school in order to excel in life.

Giving the vote of thanks, the Secretary of the Centre, Mrs. Lucy Peters thanks the University Management for giving the Centre all the necessary support to host the workshop.

Mrs. Peter also expressed appreciation to all the resource persons and participants for honouring the Centre's invitation.

Part of the mandate of the Entrepreneurship Centre is to train individuals on skills acquisition and community development.

2017/2018 PRE-ADMISSION SCREENING EXERCISE

This is to inform all candidates who have applied for admission into the Federal University of Technology, Minna for the 2017/2018 academic session that the University's Pre-Admission Screening Exercise (UPASE) will hold at the University Main Campus, Gidan Kwano, Minna as follows:

(i) **UTME - Monday, 18th - Friday, 22nd September, 2017**

(ii) **Direct Entry - Tuesday, 24th - Thursday, 26th October, 2017**

Note: The screening exercise will be conducted using Computer Based-Test (CBT) platform.

REGISTRATION

Registration for **UTME** candidates, including those **awaiting** O'level results will commence on **Thursday, 31st August, 2017** and end midnight of **Friday, 15th September, 2017**.

Direct Entry candidates will commence registration from **Monday, 9th October, 2017** to end midnight of **Sunday, 22nd October, 2017**.

Candidates are to pay a non-refundable fee of **Two thousand Naira (N2,000) only (i.e. One thousand Naira (N1,000.00) only** for the Computer Based Test (CBT) and **One thousand Naira (N1,000.00) only** as University Processing Fee) through **REMITA** platform.

Candidates are advised to visit the FUT Minna website www.futminna.edu.ng for details on the procedure for on-line registration, requirements for the screening exercise, procedure for payment and other general information.

ELIGIBILITY

(i) Only UTME and DE candidates who selected Federal

University of Technology, Minna are eligible for the screening exercise.

(ii) UTME candidates must have a minimum UTME score of 180, except for those courses for which higher cut-off marks have been indicated on the University Website.

(iii) All candidates must possess a minimum of five 'O' level credits, including Mathematics and English Language, obtained at **not more than two sittings** in subjects relevant to their proposed courses. Any candidate who does not have these requirements is considered as an **Awaiting Result (AR)** candidate. Awaiting Result (AR) candidates should refer to (vi). In addition, Direct Entry candidates must possess a minimum of **Lower Credit** at National Diploma and/or Higher National Diploma levels or **Merit** at NCE level.

(iv) UTME candidates that have met the minimum score of their chosen courses, but do not have the UTME or O'level subjects combination are eligible to change to any other course the requirement they meet.

(v) Only 'O' level result print-out(s) downloaded directly from the website(s) of the National Examining Bodies (WAEC/NECO/NABTEB) or photocopies of original certificate(s) will be accepted for verification.

(vi) Candidates awaiting results must submit such results latest by **30th September, 2017**.

All enquiries should be directed to the following: infoupase@futminna.edu.ng or call **09083075187** and **08028949142**.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION INTO PRELIMINARY DEGREE 2017/2018 AND INTERIM JOINT MATRICULATION BOARD (IJMB) PROGRAMME FOR 2018/2019 SESSION

Applications are invited from qualified candidates for admission into the One-year Preliminary Degree programme for 2017/2018 session and Interim Joint Matriculation Board (IJMB) programme for 2018/2019 academic session of the Federal University of Technology, Minna. The University runs various Science and Technology based degree programmes in the following Schools: (1) **Agriculture and Agricultural Technology;** (2) **Engineering and Engineering Technology;** (3) **Environmental Technology;** (4) **Entrepreneurship & Management Technology;** (5) **Information & Communication Technology;** (6) **Life Sciences;** (7) **Physical Sciences** and (8) **Science and Technology Education.**

Entry Requirements

To qualify for admission, a candidate must have at least five (5) credits to include **English Language, Mathematics** and any three of the following subjects: **Physics, Chemistry, Economics, Biology/Agricultural Science/Health Science and Geography** at **SSCE, GCE O' Level, NECO and**

NABTEB. The results obtained should not be at more than two sittings. For IJMB programme **Agricultural Science and Health Science** are not acceptable.

Method of Application

Candidates are to log on to F.U.T., Minna website (www.futminna.edu.ng) to obtain instructions for the purchase of application forms.

The application form costs five thousand Naira (**N5,000.00**) only, excluding bank charges.

Duration of Sales

a. Pre-degree - 15th August - 15th September, 2017

b. IJMB - 15th August - 15th November, 2017

Classes for successful Pre-degree candidates start on Tuesday, October 3, 2017; and for IJMB, Wednesday, January 3, 2018.

Please, note that the Centre is not liable to give reason(s) for rejecting any application, nor will it enter into correspondence on the subject matter with any applicant.

TRANSLATE YOUR BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH INTO PRODUCTS FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT Cond. from page 1

The DG further reiterated that the conference is another opportunity for scientists and researchers to rub minds and proffer solutions to the myriad of problems in Nigeria and Africa as a whole.

In his remark, the Chairman Local Organizing Committee, Prof. Samuel Garba welcomed all the participants and prayed for a successful deliberations.

He commended the University Management for their support towards making the conference a reality, he also appreciated the Dean, School of Life Sciences and members of staff for their personal sacrifices in supporting the hosting of the conference.

In a related development, the executive members of the Society later paid a courtesy visit to the University Management in appreciation of their support towards the successful hosting of the event.

Speaking during the courtesy visit held on Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at the Council Chamber, Main Campus, the Chairman, Board of Trustees of BSN, Prof. Vincent Ado Tenebe expressed gratitude to the University Management for the warm reception accorded to the Society during the course of the 3-day conference.

Prof. Tenebe charged other universities and professional bodies to learn from the University on how to organize a perfect conference.

Prof. Tenebe appealed to the University Management to encourage members of staff of the University to re-activate their membership of the Society because they all have a role to play to the development of the nation.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Akanji thanked the Society for bringing the conference back to Minna after twenty years and expressed delight with the theme of the conference and other papers that were delivered by researchers at the conference.

The VC apologized to the Society for the inability of the University to accommodate them on campus and assured them that the University would soon create a department of Biotechnology before the 2018/19 academic session.

The School of Life Sciences of the University played host to the event.

SALLAH GREETINGS

Following the declaration of Friday, 1st and Monday, 4th September, 2017 as public holiday, to mark this year's Eid-il Kabir celebration. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Musbau Adewumi Akanji, **FAS, FNSBMB**, wishes members of the University community and the general public happy Sallah celebration.

Money Matters

Weekly Financial Digest (Monday, August 21 – Friday, August 25, 2017)

N	RECEIPTS	N
1	Clearance Fees	15,000.00
2	Collection of Certificates	309,250.00
3	Academic Transcript Fees	350,000.00
4	Verification/Confirmation of Certificate	10,000.00
5	Turnitin	4,000.00
6	Statement of Result	144,000.00
7	Letter of Introduction	1,000.00
8	Campus Radio	40,500.00
9	Replacement of I.D. Card	500.00
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	874,250.00
	PAYMENTS	
10	Contractors/Suppliers	
	(i) Staff	
	(a) Advance	3,454,218.77
	(b) Refund	11,924,642.62
	(ii) Contractors/Suppliers	
	(a) Wandel International Nig. Ltd. - Supply	315,000.00
	(b) Far-views Mult Service Ltd. - "	2,386,227.04
	(c) Gimsourse - Retainership Fee	75,000.00
	(d) Websoft Ltd. - Renewal of Domain	20,000.00
	(e) Pioneer Int. Service Ltd - Servicing of Photocopier	135,000.00
	(f) Sarki Pawa - Repair	39,600.00
	(g) M.B. Shukura - Supply	464,625.00
	(h) Nigeria Postal Service - Courier Service	40,635.00
	(i) Electronic Test Company Ltd. - JAMB Test	2,079,220.00
	(j) DHL Int'l Nig. Ltd. - Courier Service	362,997.00
	(k) Alexander Shea - Supply	4,305,000.00
	TOTAL PAYMENT	25,602,165.43

COUNSELLING TIP

Learn to control your anger. The most powerful person on earth is not an army general, a warrior nor the richest person but he/she that can control him/herself, his/her utterances, attitude and action in the face of provocation. Ask for God's grace to be one of such.

Guidance and Counselling Unit, Students' Affairs Division.