

## OUR DEGREES SHOULD ADDRESS NATION'S PROBLEMS - VC

By Abdullahi U. Danbakaba



VC Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta (2<sup>nd</sup> left, sitting) listens with rapt attention as Director Academic Planning, Prof. Abdullahi Mohammed (standing) makes his presentation. *Photo Credit: Elijah Yisa*

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta has stressed the need for Universities to lay emphasis on ensuring that their degrees are targeted at solving the nation's problems.

Prof. Kuta stated this on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at the Senate Chamber, during a briefing on the Core Curriculum and Minimum Academic Standards (CCMAS) organised by the Academic Planning Unit of the University.

"It is high time we take ownership of our problems; and the only place problems can be addressed is the university. Our curricular should be focused towards addressing such problems," he further elaborated.

He also noted that the event was designed to specifically sensitize Dean's and Heads of Departments in the University on the modified curriculum in order to have a clear understanding of the task ahead of them.

"The principal purpose of this meeting is to actually sensitize us; to let us know that something is coming on board in the name of CCMAS. The meaning of that is that NUC is trying to fine-tune the types of degrees we award in Nigerian universities and make the universities take ownership of the degrees they award "the Vice-Chancellor further clarified.

Making a presentation at the ceremony, the Director, Academic Planning Unit, Prof. Abdullahi Muhammed, explained that the CCMAS which was unveiled by the National Universities Commission (NUC) on December 5, last year, sought to include all stakeholders in curriculum development, thus, affording the universities the platform to contribute 30 percent in the curriculum development process with the view to reflecting the uniqueness and contextual peculiarities of the respective institutions while on the other hand, the NUC provides the required 70 percent.

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Prof. Muhammed further explained that in order to fulfil its cardinal mandate of making up the 30 percent of the curriculum, each university is tasked to develop and submit two (2) home-based courses in each of its programmes to the NUC on, or before January 15, 2023 for further review.

The CCMAS has stipulated 150 credit units for 5 year courses and 120 for 4 year courses as requirements to be to be met by students before graduation.

The 70 percent of each of the above as to be derived from the CCMAS stand at 105 and 84 credit units for the 5-year courses and the 4-year courses respectively.

There was also a question and answer session at the event.

## QUALITY ASSURANCE AND PRODUCTIVITY (QAP) CORNER

**A**cademic corruption is eroding quality in the African higher education system and if not uprooted, will continue to weaken the infrastructure of teaching/learning, research and community services.

The vital requirement for assuring quality and fighting corruption in the educational institutions, is for the institutions to foster an internal quality culture, of which Quality Assurance and Productivity Unit of FUT Minna is a key manifestation.

This is because assuring and achieving quality in higher education is the primary responsibility of higher education providers and their staff.

Some of the corrupt practices are corruption in regulation of higher education systems, teaching/learning, facilities, student admissions and student assessment.

Others are corruption in credentials/qualifications, research theses,

publications, public awareness, examination administration and award of degrees/graduation of students, as well as corrupt practices in staff discipline, school/departmental administration, contract awards and management of funds.

Subsequent publications in this column will highlight some of the examples of associated corrupt practices, preventive actions and the emerging good practices for combatting academic corruptions.

They will be offered simply as guidance and provide an array of initiatives that government, higher education institutions, schools, departments, staff, students and professional bodies may wish to consider in the fight against academic corruption.

## CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT

Council at its 149th meeting held on Thursday, 14th April, 2022 approved the confirmation of appointment of Gana, George Ndaba as Academic Planning Officer II with effect from 18th November, 2021.

## RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENTS

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the renewal of appointments of Arc. Muhammad Bako Ismail and Dr. Mrs. Talatu B. Sa'idu as visiting lecturers in the Departments of Architecture and Microbiology with effect from April 1, 2022 and May 31, 2022 respectively.

## SECONDMENT

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the request of Haruna Adoke Ilyasu, Registry Department for the extension of his secondment to Kogi State Internal Revenue Services, Lokoja, for another period of two years with effect from January 2, 2023.

## WITHDRAWAL OF SERVICES

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the request of the withdrawal of services of the underlisted staff from the University:

- 1) Mal. Dauda Ahmed, National Pension Commission with effect from 1<sup>st</sup>, May, 2008
- 2) Sauma'i Bazallahi Kabara, Department of Information and Media Technology with effect from 28th July, 2022.
- 3) Dr. S. U. Jatau, Department of Logistics and Transport Technology with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2022
- 4) Hussain Abdullahi Adamu, Department of Chemical Engineering, with effect from 10th December, 2022

## COUNSELLING TIPS

Your set goals should be specific, measurable and realistic. That is to say, that you should specify the actual task you can undertake within a time limit on daily basis.

Guidance and Counselling Unit,  
Students' Affairs Division.

## MONEY MATTER

### Weekly Financial Digest for 19th December - 31st December 2022

N/S	RECEIPTS	N
1	ACCEPTANCE FEES	8,000,000.00
2	TRANSCRIPT	970,060.00
3	POST UTME	155,000.00
4	CERTIFICATE (UNDER GRADUATE )	284,000.00
5	CERTIFICATE (POST GRADUATE )	141,000.00
6	CLEARANCE FEES	15,000.00
7	SALES OF FORMS PRE-DEGREE	119,000.00
8	POST GRADUATE SCHOOL FEES	5,291,750.00
9	REGISTRATION FEES PRE-DEGREE	582,750.00
10	HOSTEL FEES	115,000.00
11	SEMESTERIAL RESULT	600.00
12	VERIFICATION OF RESULT	35,000.00
13	TURNITIN PG	78,000.00
14	TENDER FEES	100,000.00

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15	CODEI ACCEPTANCE	25,000.00
16	CODEI REGISTRATION	66,900.00
17	UNDERGRADUATE FEES	28,450.00
18	COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES SHOP	66,000.00
19	PREPAID METER	49,500.00
20	ITS DIPLOMA CERTIFICATE	3,500.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,126,510.00</b>
21	<b>(i) Staff</b>	
	(a) Refund	22,037,317.73
	(b) Advance	4,121,771.53
	<b>(ii) Contractors/Suppliers</b>	
	(a) Abuja Electricity Company Plc - Electricity Bill	4,868,417.35
	(b) Maishara Tech. - Supply	297,980.00
	(c ) Leah Eyagi Yisa - Refreshment	1,477,680.00
	(d) Okoli Business - Supply	140,000.00
	(f) DHL Int'l Nig. Ltd. - Courier Service	22,971.43
	(g) DHL Int'l Nig. Ltd. - Courier Service	1,695,051.64
	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>34,661,189.68</b>