

SIPET, SEET HOST 4TH INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

By: Mohammed Abubakar



7th from left: VC, Prof. Kuta in a group photograph with the former DVC, Prof. Osunde (3rd left); Dean, PGS, Engr. Prof. Abubakre (9th left); Dean, SIPET, Engr. Prof. (Mrs.) Osunde (8th left); Dean, SEET, Engr. Prof. Onwuka (6th left); the Keynote speaker, Engr. Dr. Abdullahi (5th left); Chairman COC, Engr. Prof. Alhassan (4th left), participants and members of staff during the 4th IEC 2023.

Photo Credit: Elija Yisa

Most societies are living with unattended complex challenges that require the intervention of Engineers and scientists to unravel the circumstances and problems the world is facing today.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta, stated this while declaring open the 4th International Engineering Conference (IEC) 2023, jointly organised by the School of Infrastructure, Process Engineering and Technology (SIPET) and the School of Electrical Engineering Technology (SEET), Federal University of Technology, Minna.

The conference with the theme: *Smart Engineering and Technology Innovation for Enhancing Economic Growth* held from 21st to 23rd March 2023 at the NITDA ICT-HUB of the University.

Prof. Kuta who described engineering as the

practical application of science and technology to a wide range of world problems we are experiencing today noted that the theme of the conference was apt and timely in view of challenging world where the solutions require the intervention of engineering and science.

"It is on this note that I encourage the keynote speakers and the participants to make exhaustive discussions so that at the end of it all we would have reasons to proffer solutions to our problems." The Vice-Chancellor urged.

He also called on the participants to be free to ask questions, because, the assembly have capable hands who are ready to address whatever problem that would be discussed with a view to proffering solutions.

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The helmsman and Chief Host of the programme thanked and appreciated the Deans of both schools, the organising committee as well as other members of staff for doing a good job.

During his presentation, the Keynote speaker, Engr. Dr. Mahmoud Alfa Abdullahi being an alumnus of the University expressed his delight to be honoured as the keynote speaker of the conference.

As a refresher, he defined engineering as, 'the creative application of scientific & mathematical principles to invent, design, build, maintain and improve structures, machines, devices, systems, materials and processes across a wide a range of industries and applications. Engineers make things, make things work and make things work better'.

According to him, engineers have been responsible for the great achievements in electrification, automobile, airplane, water supply and distribution, electronics, computer, highway, household appliances, internet, spacecraft, petroleum and petrochemical technologies, nuclear technologies and many more.

With half the world living in poverty, he said, and millions of people without sufficient food or sanitation, engineering have continued to have a key role to play in helping countries to progress across the world.

Engr. Dr. Abdullahi revealed that, Smart Engineering comprises a new procedural paradigm for describing, designing and dimensioning Smart Products. He added that it is a strategic approach for integrating advanced control systems with internet technology, enabling communication between people, products and complex systems.

He maintained that this new innovative approach results from the concept of Cyber-Physical Systems which requires products being equipped with embedded systems, sensors and actuators as well as the ability to communicate with other Smart Products.

The Keynote speaker pointed out that the conference is pack full with research contributions and design and implementation of innovative technologies that have the potential to advance smart engineering and realize the goals set-out for Industry 4.0 as the 4th industrial revolution. He called on all to take great advantage of it to learn new ideas, to network with experts and play a part in the revolution that is already taking

place.

He concluded that, Smart Engineering which is a new approach to designing and dimensioning of smart systems can be applied to all fields of human endeavour to optimize productivity and improve the lives and comfort of the people. As technology and know-how continue to improve, people with the skills will continue to bring innovations that will continue to yield economic growth for the shared prosperity of the nation.

Earlier in her welcome address, the Dean SIPET, Engr. Prof. Zinash Osunde welcomed the Vice-Chancellor, the keynote speakers who were physically present and those who joined virtually including array of guests who came from far and near to join the conference.

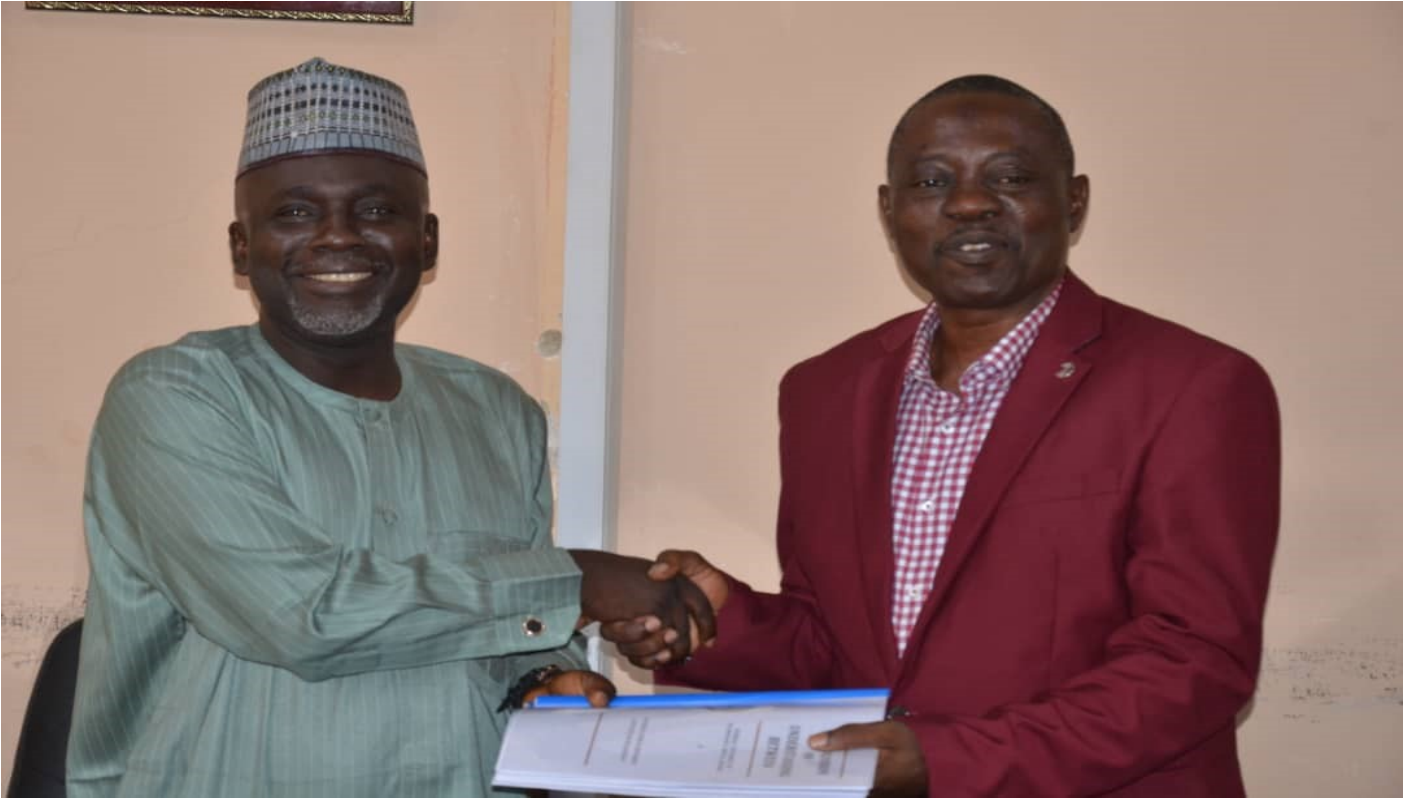
Also speaking, the Chairman of the Conference Organising Committee, Engr. Prof. Mohammed Alhassan thanked the Vice-Chancellor and the Management team for the tremendous support rendered towards the successful hosting of ICE 2023. According to him, the conference is the first to be conducted in hybrid mode in line with global best practice.

"The lack of smart sustainable solutions to many socio-economic challenges is a significant concern for most developing countries. Consequently, the theme for the conference is timely to provide the right forum at IEC 2023 to find, share and create solutions that will sustain our economy in Nigeria and Africa at large." He said.

He assured the conference to be fruitful and informative to all the participants while wishing everyone a delightful and stimulating experience at the IEC 2023.

In her vote of thanks, the Dean, SEET, Engr. Prof. Elizabeth Onwuka thanked the Vice-Chancellor for finding time to attend the conference in spite of his busy schedule. She also thanked Prof. Monica Prakash Rai, of the Centre of Biotechnology and Biochemical Engineering, Amity Institute of Biotechnology, India and Prof. Vjay Anant Thavale from Wachand Institute of Technology, India who both joined the conference virtually. The Dean also thanked Engr. Dr. Mahmoud Alfa Abdullahi from Satellite Systems Department of Centre for Satellite Technology Development (CSTD), Abuja for being the Keynote speaker. Participants and other guest who graced the occasion were equally appreciated.

FUTMINNA, NCRI BADEGGI SIGN MOU



L-R: VC, Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta presenting a copy of signed MOU to Executive Director, NCRI, Badeggi, Dr. Aliyu Umar.
Photo Credit: Elijah

As part of efforts to ensure food security in Nigeria, the Federal University of Technology, Minna and the National Cereals Research Institute (NCRI), Badeggi have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU).

The MoU was signed by both parties on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at the VC's Conference Room, FUT, Minna, Main Campus.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta endorsed the documents on behalf of the University while the Executive Director, NCRI, Badeggi, Dr. Aliyu Umar signed for his Institute.

Speaking shortly after appending his signature to the document, the Vice-Chancellor, while observing that the country was yet to take the knowledge economy seriously, added that one way of addressing the issue was through such synergies as both institutions.

Prof. Kuta maintained that even though the University trains manpower for the nation, in today's competitive world, it would not be out of place to collaborate with a reputable institute like NCRI, Badeggi.

He expressed optimism in the mutual benefits the collaboration holds and urged both parties to ensure faithful implementation of the terms of the agreement so that the collaboration would achieve its aim.

Noting that the trend in research is product-oriented, he stressed the need for both parties to explore ways of making impact on society through the collaboration.

Prof. Kuta further gave assurances of not just his commitment to the collaboration, but determination to expand its scope.

Earlier in his remarks, the Executive Director of NCRI, Badeggi, Dr. Aliyu Umar, noted that the MoU would formalise and strengthen the long existing link between both parties.

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Dr. Umar who is also an alumnus of the University stated that the collaboration was coming at a time when the NCRI was extending the frontiers of research and networking to harness the resources from it.

He expressed hope that the partnership would result in a win-win situation for the parties.

The University's Director of Collaboration Affiliation and Linkages, Prof. Israel Olayemi who gave a brief on the scope of the MoU assured that the collaboration would work as the contents of the MoU were achievable and within the capacity of both institutions.

The MoU is broadly meant to establish cooperative relations between NCRI and FUT Minna in the areas of research, teaching, capacity building programmes and technology generation/dissemination for sustainable food and nutrition security in Nigeria.

It will also involves exchange of faculty and staff for research, which will provide both

national and international exposure to faculty and staff from both institutions; exchange of faculty and scholars for short, medium, or long-term period, which will enhance and guarantee further scientific and scholarly cooperation in research as well as exchange of staff and students for scholarly and research purposes.

Other aspects are joint supervision of postgraduate students and scientific publication; access by FUT, Minna staff to further their research activities at NCRI facilities, and FUT Minna shall give due consideration to the staff members of NCRI to further their postgraduate studies at FUT Minna as well as activities such as exchange of staff study tour, conducting research and/or supervising students' projects, staff secondment for self-improvement and research, attending seminars, colloquia and academic discussions.

Study tour, attendance of courses and research; coordination of curricular/research proposal development; joint use of laboratories in both parties amongst others are also covered in the MoU.

APPOINTMENTS

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the appointments of the under listed persons as Ag. Dean, Heads of Department/Unit and Deputy Director:

S/N	NAME	DEPARTMENT	POSITION	DURATION
1	Prof. Philip Ayuba	Architecture	Director, CDRM&DS	27 th Mar. 2023 to 26 th Mar. 2025
2	Dr. Yunusa Ladi Bello	Crop Production	HOD, Crop Production	27 th Mar. 2023 to 26 th Mar. 2024
3.	Dr. Samaila Kuta Ibrahim	Educational Tech.	HOD. Educ. Tech	27 th Mar. 2023 to 26 th Mar. 2024
4	Prof. Idris Enagi Abdullahi	Mathematics	HOD, Mathematics	27 th Mar. 2023 to 26 th Mar. 2025
5	Dr. Abubakar Ahmed Sadiq	Elect/Elect Eng.	Dep. Director, ITS	27 th Mar. 2023 to 26 th Mar. 2023
6	Dr. Oluibukun Gbenga Ajayi	Surveying & Geoinf	HOD. Survey. & Geoinform.	27 th Mar. 2023 to 26 th Mar. 2024
7	Dr. Chimdi Adindu Chinedu	Project Mgt. Tech	HOD, PMT	27 th Mar. 2023 to 26 th Mar. 2024
8	Prof. Mercy M. Adeyeye	Entrep. Mgt. Stud.	Ag. Dean, SIT	27 th Mar. 2023 to 26 th Mar. 2025
9	Dr. Fatima Halilu Mama	Univ. Health Services	Dep. Director, UHS	27 th Mar. 2023 to 26 th Mar. 2024

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the Leave of absence for Prof. Yahaya Amuda Yusup, Department of Mathematics to take up appointment as Acting Vice-Chancellor, Pen Resources University, Gombe, Gombe State with effect from 20th March, 2023 to 19th March, 2028.

SABBATICAL

The Vice-Chancellor has approved Sabbatical for the immediate passed DVC (Administration) Prof. Emmanuel Emeka Udensi, Department of Geophysics, tenable at Niger Delta University, Yenagwa, Bayelsa State, for a period of one (1) year with effect from 27th March, 2023 to 26th March, 2024.

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND PRODUCTIVITY (QAP) CORNER

COMBATTING CORRUPTION IN CREDENTIALS AND QUALIFICATIONS

Some of the examples of associated corrupt practices are:

- Use of degree mills and accreditation mills.
- Falsification of transcripts and degree certificates.
- False statement about qualifications on CVs and job applications.
- Political pressures on Higher Education Institutions to award degrees to public figures.

Preventive actions:

- Develop international security standard for documents relating to higher education credentials.
- Use document verification technologies to simplify checks by admission officers and employers.
- Check the validity of all credentials presented for university admissions and job applications.

COUNSELLING TIPS

Don't get distracted by those who are not on tract. Irrespective of others opinion be focused on your pursuit, especially when it is inline with your God given vision.

Guidance and Counselling Unit,
Students' Affairs Division.