

DAY 5: MONDAY, 18 NOVEMBER, 2024

ADDRESS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR K. O. ADEBOWALE, mni, FAS, fspsp ON THE OCCASION OF THE 2024 CONVOCATION, 76TH FOUNDATION DAY CEREMONY, AWARD OF DOCTORATE DEGREES AND CONFERMENT OF HONORARY DEGREES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN ON MONDAY, 18 NOVEMBER, 2024.

The Visitor to the University of Ibadan, His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu GCFR, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Oyo State, Engineer Seyi Makinde.

The Honourable Minister of Education, Dr. Moruf Tunji Alausa. The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council of the University, Chief Bisi Akande, CON;

His Imperial Majesty, Oba Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi, Ojaja II, the Ooni of Ife.

His imperial Majesty, Oba Akinloye Owolabi Olakulehin, the Olubadan of Ibadanland

The Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission, Mr. Chris Maiyaki

Her Excellency, Professor, Commissioner, Human Resource, Science and Technology, African Union Commission

Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Members of the Governing Council
Vice Chancellors of other Universities
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration)
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic)
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Strategic Partnerships)
Registrar
Bursar
University Librarian
General Officer Commanding 2 Mechanized Division, Nigerian Army, Ibadan
Commissioner of Police, Oyo State Command
Director, State Security Services
Provost, College of Medicine
Provost of the Postgraduate College
Deans of Faculties, and of Students
Director, PAULESI,
Directors of Institutes and Centres
Members of Senate
Members of Congregation
Heads of Departments

President & Members of the University of Ibadan Alumni Association

Members of the University Community

Celebrated Graduands of Today

Gentlemen of the Press

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with great delight that I welcome you to the University of Ibadan and to our 76th Foundation Day Ceremony. We have had a yearlong celebration of the University's 75th anniversary with two insightful anniversary lectures delivered by Professor Babagana Umara Zulum, *mni*, FNSE, the Executive Governor of Borno State, and Mrs. Didi Esther Walson-Jack, OON, *mni*, Head of Civil Service of the Federation. As part of the celebrations, notable Alumni of the University were designated and decorated as UI@75 Ambassadors, while notable friends and eminent personalities who were not Alumni of the University, were designated and decorated as UI@75 Ambassador Extraordinaire. The University also presented priority projects to its ambassadors and secured commitments and favourable responses in terms of benefactions and scholarship schemes from some of the

designated ambassadors. Attaining 75 is a milestone in the life any man or institution and we are truly glad and proud to see U.I. sustain its pride of place as the first and foremost university in Nigeria.

Today, we gather to celebrate the 76th Foundation Day Ceremony of the University of Ibadan, alongside the Convocation for the admission to Doctorate Degrees of the University as well as the award of Honorary Degrees.

I heartily welcome our Visitor, His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, *GCFR*. We wish His Excellency strength, good health, and wisdom to continue to steer the ship of the nation to global glory.

I also warmly welcome His Excellency, the Governor of Oyo State, Engineer Seyi Makinde, who has been supportive of the University in diverse ways. I heartily welcome the Minister of Education, Dr. Moruf Tunji Alausa. I also welcome the Minister of State for Education, Honourable Dr. Yussuf Sununu.

I wish to express my appreciation to Mr. Chris J. Maiyaki, the Ag. Executive Secretary of the National Universities

Commission (NUC) a dedicated supporter of higher education in Nigeria.

I am delighted to welcome our Chancellor, His Eminence Alhaji Sa'ad Abubakar, CFR, *mni*, the Sultan of Sokoto, who has been a great pillar of support to our University.

May I take this opportunity to welcome our royal and imperial fathers, especially, His Royal Majesty, Oba Owolabi Olakunlehin, the Olubadan of Ibadanland; as well as His Imperial Majesty, Oba Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi, Ojaja II, the Ooni of Ife. We thank you most sincerely for the cordial relationship between "Town and Gown".

It is pleasurable to welcome colleague Vice-Chancellors and Registrars from other Universities, Former Vice Chancellors and retirees from this University, members of the University of Ibadan Alumni Association, Captains of industries and all other invited guests.

It is also important to extend a warm welcome to my esteemed colleagues, whose dedication of time and energy

has been instrumental in honing the skills, research focus, and abilities of today's graduands. I would also like to warmly welcome and congratulate the parents, guardians, families, and friends of our graduands. We deeply appreciate your financial investment, unwavering support, and commitment in ensuring the successful completion of the various programs undertaken by today's graduands.

APPRECIATION TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL, MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

We want to express our deep appreciation to the Federal Government for the inauguration of the Governing Councils of all Federal Institutions. University of Ibadan is proud to have quality and respected Nigerians as members of its Governing Council.

First on that list is our Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Chief Bisi Akande, CON, and the entire members of Council. We thank him for his guidance, excellent leadership, and for the outstanding role he has played in the University of Ibadan project since the inauguration of the current Council earlier in April this year. Since he stepped in, it has been one

very good step forward after another in the University of Ibadan.

Without the support and commitment of the Council, to transform the University, our activities as management would have been simply impossible. I am therefore grateful to all internal and external members of Council.

Second are my colleagues in management: the Deputy Vice Chancellor Administration, Professor Peter Olamakinde Olapegba, the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, Professor Aderonke Baiyeroju, the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research, Innovation and Strategic Partnerships, Professor Oluyemisi Bamgbose, Registrar, Mr. Ganiyu Oke Saliu, the Bursar, Mr. Adewuyi Popoola, the University Librarian, Dr Mercy O. Iroaganachi, the Provosts of the College of Medicine and of the Postgraduate College, Professors T.O. Ogundiran and A.S.O. Ogunjuyigbe respectively, and their deputies, all Deans and Directors, Heads of Academic Departments, Master/Mistresses and Wardens of Students Halls of Residence, Chairmen and members of various Committees of Council and Senate.

I am grateful and appreciate the support of all staff of the Registry, the Bursary, Library, Internal Audit, Academic Planning, University Health Services, Centres and Institutes, the Works and Maintenance Department, the Physical Planning Directorate, and the Security Unit. The four Staff Unions; the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), the Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SSANU), the National Association of Academic Technologists (NAAT), and the Non-Academic Staff Union (NASU) also deserve commendation for their support and cooperation. Importantly, the Student Union, under the leadership of Mr Bolaji Aweda had been supportive.

CHARGE TO THE GRADUANDS

My heartfelt congratulations to all the graduands of today. I rejoice with you all for attaining this important milestone in your pursuit of higher education. You have obtained the Doctor of Philosophy in your various disciplines from one of the most reputable universities in the world. May I remind each of you that you are not just a doctor of your discipline but a philosopher within the discipline. In other words, you are philosophers, thinkers and solution providers. The nation

needs many like you who can provide feasible and practical solutions to the complexities that it is grappling with.

The worth of a university degree is not in the number of years spent to acquire it; neither is it in the amount of industry or hard work that was expended while one was a student. The name and reputation of a university may matter but these do not singularly decide the worth of its degree. The worth of a university degree is in the industry, learning and character that the holder of that degree displays daily from the moment of obtaining the degree. It is also in the humane character expressed by the holder in a world that is aching. This is why we cannot overemphasise the importance of your daily conduct once you step out of here today.

People would easily forgive and excuse the holder of a bachelor's degree if such a person displays improper judgement; they might reluctantly overlook the slips of the holder of the degree of Master. It would be difficult for them to explain, ignore or pardon the misconduct or improper judgment by the holders of the highest academic degree possible. It is even more so when the degree comes from a

university like ours whose generations of graduates have been known for unparalleled quality of thought and conduct. We are confident, however, that if you could successfully pass through the crucible of doctoral education in the University of Ibadan, you have all it takes to be exemplary in word and deed in the world out there.

OUR STEWARDSHIP

The University of Ibadan has continued to be a trail blazer in the higher education development of the nation. This is why the University of Ibadan has continued to be the leader and University of first choice in training of high-level manpower, and to increase its PhD outputs to at least 300 per session. We have invested resources in our Faculties for quality teaching and production of quality researchers, by building a time-tested academic culture and tradition which we have continued to maintain and improve upon over the years.

Graduation Statistics

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, on Wednesday, 13 and Thursday, 14 November, a total of 6,553 candidates received the Bachelor's Degrees in the various

disciplines across all our Faculties, while 111 Diploma certificates were also awarded.

On Friday, 15 and Saturday 16 November, a total of 26 candidates were awarded Master of Philosophy; 2,552 earned academic Degree of Master, while 418 candidates were awarded Professional Degree of Master. In addition to these, 132 Postgraduate Diplomas were awarded.

Today, 2 candidates will be awarded Doctor of Medicine from the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences. 483 candidates, from the various disciplines would be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy degree. The Faculty of Education stands on top of the list with a total of 96 Doctoral graduands, followed by the Faculty of Science with 85 graduands. The others are:

Faculty of Arts – 62

Faculty of Agriculture – 33

Faculty of the Social Sciences – 22

Technology – 22

Institute of Education – 06

Faculty of Public Health – 15

Faculty of Pharmacy - 14

Faculty of Renewable Natural Resources - 18

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine -11

Faculty of Multidisciplinary Studies – 29

Faculty of Economics and Management Sciences – 5

Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences – 26

Faculty of Clinical Sciences – 2

Institute of African Studies –13

Faculties of Law - 11

Environmental Design and Management – 11

Institute of Child Health – 2

Award of Honorary Degrees

Honorary degrees will be conferred on four deserving individuals for their outstanding contributions to Higher Education in Nigeria. They are:

1. Emeritus Professor Olufemi Bamiro – Doctor of Science (D.Sc)
2. Chief Mojisola Olusola Ladipo – Doctor of Letters (D.Litt)
3. Mr. Victor Etuokwu (D.Sc)
4. Alhaji Muhammadu Indimi (D.Litt)

Ranking

Undoubtedly, funding has continued to be the greatest challenge facing the Nigerian university system, and the University of Ibadan is no exception. In spite of this debilitating challenge, I am exceedingly elated to report that our great University remains the best in the country, and in West Africa. The University of Ibadan has now moved up to the seventh position in Africa. It has climbed up to the 401 – 500 category in the Times Higher Education 2024 rankings in the area of Clinical and Health. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the cumulative commitment to excellence of planning and execution by the past and current leadership, faculty, and staff of the University. I consider it a privilege to use this occasion to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the University's dedicated and focused Faculty, Senate, Governing Council, and all other stakeholders involved in the University of Ibadan project. Your unwavering hard work and commitment have been instrumental in making this success possible.

I have seen some universities trying to condition and align all their activities towards a particular ranking body. I believe this will be counter-productive because it makes them

completely stereo typed, artificial, and negates creativity and innovation. **University of Ibadan** is continuously sustained and rests on its foundation and tradition of excellence it has built over the years and therefore fits into any ranking regime at any time.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE

Management has continued to give attention to staff development and welfare. The Administration is providing financial support to staff for participation in local and international conferences, seminars, and workshops.

To boost the morale of deserving members of staff, meetings of the Appointments and Promotions Committees held regularly from October 2023 to date. A total of two hundred and sixty three (263) academic staff were promoted. Among them were 84 Full Professors, 64 Readers, 56 Senior Lecturers, 38 Lecturer Grade I, 13 lecturer Grade II, 1 Senior Arts Fellow, 1 Senior Research Fellow, 1 Research Fellow, 3 Principal Librarians, and 2 Librarian I.

Furthermore, a total of three hundred and twenty (320) senior non-academic staff, thirty-nine (39) Junior staff, and fifty-nine (59) safety officers were also promoted.

To facilitate efficiency in the Registry and Bursary, Council approved the appointment of four Senior Deputy Registrars, three Senior Deputy Bursars as well as seven Deputy Registrars and Five Deputy Bursars. Other categories of staff who had career elongation also had a few officers promoted to CONTISS 14 as Assistant Director, Nursing Services. Senior Chief Technologist, Chief Executive Officers in Registry, Bursary and Internal Audit.

STUDENT MATTERS

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, one of the areas in which we have remained resolute and uncompromising is in impacting knowledge to our students. As a testament to the solid foundation they have acquired, many of our students have participated in international competitions, proudly representing both the University and Nigeria on the global stage. Notably, our students took part in the Huawei Competition in China, held from May 26 to 29, 2024. Six of our

students won the Grand Overall Best prize in Computing Tracks and Cloud Computing Track at the competition.

A 300 Level student of the Electrical/Electronic Engineering was accepted by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to participate in the Phase 3 of the Japan-funded training programme on *“Developing Essential Digital Skills for Women and Youth in Africa: Enhancing Employment Opportunities and livelihood Development in the Digital Economy.”*

Another Student from our newly established Faculty of Nursing won the 2024 Undergraduate Nursing Research as Golden Lamp Leadership Initiative Africa.

We have maintained cordial and mutually respectful relationship with the students, under the leadership of Bolaji Aweda Damilola. On this note, we commend the tirelessness of the combination of the Dean and Deputy Dean of Students, Professor Adekeye Abiona and Dr Comfort Aiki-Raji, respectively.

CAMPUS SECURITY

Security has become a critical issue and a growing concern over the past decade. This explains why Management has remained firm and unwavering in its commitment to the security of lives and property on the main and other campuses. Among the many steps taken to strengthen security was enlisting the assistance of the Oyo State Police Command to support the University Security Unit.

As a result of these efforts, security breaches have significantly decreased, and a sense of safety now pervades our main and other campuses. In this regard, we must express our sincere appreciation to the Chairman, Council Committee on Security, Professor S. G. Jonathan, for the excellent job. The administration will continue to provide the necessary support to the Security Unit to sustain the progress recorded in securing the campuses.

OUR CHALLENGES

In this address, I have focused largely on our progress and achievements, but it is important to acknowledge that there are still a number of challenges we face as an institution.

One of the most pressing issues is power supply. A significant amount of our resources is expended on powering the University. With the recent development in the power sector, our monthly electricity bill more than doubled compared to the previous years. As a means of ameliorating the power challenge, this administration, will continue to explore alternative power sources. We have initiated communication with the Federal Ministry of Power to seek solutions, and I respectfully appeal to all stakeholders to support us in this effort, both through resources and potential investments.

In addition to power supply, we are also grappling with challenges such as internet connectivity, the maintenance of aging buildings and infrastructure, and the growing need for expansion, given the University's long history and its role as a leading institution in the country.

I passionately appeal to Mr. President for special priority attention to be given to the University of Ibadan in the form

of dedicated reconstruction and rehabilitation funds, as well as an increased allocation spread over time. As the oldest university and an Academic Heritage of all Nigerians, the University of Ibadan should be given a special status which comes with sufficient support and resources to transform it into a world destination for academic and intellectual pilgrimage. As the intellectual capital of Nigeria, the University of Ibadan plays a critical role in shaping the development of other universities across the nation, and it is vital that it receives the recognition and investment it deserves to continue this important work.

DEVELOPMENTAL STRIDES IN THE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICE (JAJA CLINIC)

The University Health Service made the following strides in the year under review:

- a. Empowerment of individuals and the Community through regular release of health advisories;
- b. Conduct of basic health check for all staff with facilities for adequate follow up and referrals along with creation of ECG and wellness unit;

- c. Opening of a Health Post in Faculty of the Social Sciences as a means of taking health into the Community;
- d. Regular workshop and Health checks for targeted groups, eg. Commercial food vendors, campus cab operators and all whose work can affect the health of the Community;
- e. UHS Pharmacy and Health store across the campus;
- f. Establishment of and location of UHS Fruits and Veggies outlets across the campus;
- g. Training of University Catering Unit staff and to conduct health checks for them;
- h. UHS to collaborate with the catering Unit to implement Healthy living practices;
- i. Migration to Electronic Mode of Operation (EMR) in the UHS which is in keeping with recommended and global best practices;
- j. Data capturing of individuals for migration to the EMR;
- k. Management has installed UPS for the entire UHS using inverter-solar system.
- l. Equipment of Ambulances with facilities for basic and Advanced Life support;

- m. Purchase of equipment of UHS eye service Clinic with facilities for primary and secondary eye care as well as an opening for optical consumables;

DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA SERVICES

Network Infrastructure Expansion

The four-phased ICT infrastructure expansion of the University added a fifth phase to Ajibode campus extension. The infrastructural expansion has been gradual and purposeful. In the last two years the fibre optic to main hubs which serves as the solid foundation for our network infrastructure moved from 65% to 90% coverage in the academic and administrative areas. In addition, 16 hostels and parks with other 6 units are currently being equipped with wireless network devices.

For the internet connectivity, the University renewed its subscription with the Nigerian Research and Education Network (NgREN). This has increased available bandwidth to staff and students by 465Mbps as well as provided access to

national repositories and resources for research managed by the NGRen.

eLearning/Blended Learning

To strengthen the blended approach to learning in the University, the eLearning policy of the University captured in the University IT & Media policy was formally approved by the senate this year.

On a global scale, the University of Ibadan furthered her participation in the Partnership for Enhanced and Blended Learning, West Africa (PEBL-WA) funded by the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU). Twelve Universities across West Africa had been on this program which was concluded this year.

One arm of the PEBL-WA project saw three of our staff participating and successfully completing the Developing Blended Learning (DBL4) trainings facilitated by the Staff Development and Educational Development Association (SEDA), UK. The model course redesigned for blended delivery, TIE 511 (Engineering Management) is available on

educational resource (OER) hosted by OER Africa in the PEBL repository

The trio of Dr Adekunle Kolawole of the Department of Industrial & Production Engineering, Mrs. Abiodun A. Alao of the Directorate of IT & Media Services and Dr Adetunmbi L. Akinyemi of the Department of Science and Technology Education, cascaded the skills gained to 60 lecturers and Technical staff to develop competencies for repurposing course materials for blended mode in the University. At the end, they were awarded:

- i. Developing People and Enhancing Practice(DPEP) SEDA named Award
- ii. Developing Blended Learning (DBL4) SEDA named Award

Digitisation and Automation:

Software development efforts to improve teaching, learning, research, and administration was notable during this period. In line with national drive towards indigenous solutions and global best practices, the following were successfully deployed:

- i. Quality Assurance – lecturer evaluation digitised to replace the paper evaluation that has been in use for years. The solution enable each student to log in and submit evaluation of each of his/lecturer based on set criteria.
- ii. Registration Portal was upgraded – fully developed inhouse. The payment and registration modules were launched this session – students can initiate and complete fee payments and course registration up to course approval fully online without the need to take registration forms round for signatures.

SOME OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS AND HONOURS

- ✚ Allow me to share with you a few of our outstanding achievements and honours from the past year.
- ✚ Professor Olutayo Adesina was announced as one of the eight new Global Professorships by the British Academy for 2023 – 2024;
- ✚ Professor O.O. Adelowo of the Department of Microbiology won a grant of 30, 000 Euro from LISM-CNRS, AIX Marseille University, France in conjunction with Professor James Sturgis, Professor Christophe Bordi;

- ✚ Professor Bamidele I. Olu-Owolabi: Alexander von Humboldt Research Linkage Grant of 55,000 Euro which covers three years. The grant includes a junior Researcher (Dr. Abisola Egbedina)
- ✚ Dr A.S. Ajibola of the Department of Chemistry won the International Research Funds by German Research Foundation (DFG) 2024 at Eberhard Karls Universitat, Tübingen, Germany;
- ✚ Dr Helen O. Omoregie was awarded the Georg Forster Research Fellowship- Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung, 2024;
- ✚ Professors Hafiz Oladosu and O. A. Oyeshile, both former Deans, Faculty of Arts, were inducted as Fellows of the Nigerian Academy of Letters;
- ✚ Professor A.B. Odaibo was awarded the Fellowship of Parasitology and Public Health Society of Nigeria;
- ✚ Professor Mohammed Kuta Yahaya was appointed member/secretary of the Presidential Committee for the Livestock Reforms Implementation in Nigeria. He was also appointed a member of the Governing Council of the University of Maiduguri;

- ✚ Professor L. Popoola of the Department of Social and Environmental Forestry was appointed as the Executive Secretary of Africa Forest Forum, Kenya;
- ✚ Professor B.O. Omitoyin of the Department of Aquaculture and Fisheries Management was re-elected as the President of Association of Nigerian Fisheries Scientists (ANIFS);
- ✚ Dr. O.M. Coker of the Department of Wildlife and Ecotourism management was awarded the Helmholtz Information and Data Science Academy (HIDA) visiting Research Grant;
- ✚ Professor John I. Anetor was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medicine Specialities of Nigeria (FAMedS); He was also elected Chair of a Five Man Committee of new Global task Force – Task Force on the Environmental Impact of Laboratory (TF-EILM);
- ✚ The Department of Aquaculture and Fisheries Management established a memorandum of Understanding with the British American Nigeria Tobacco Limited and with the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Malawi;

- ✚ The Department of Social and Environmental Forestry signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Jaen, Spain, for the Erasmus + Programme KA 17.
- ✚ Professor Olapeju Aiyelaagbe of the Department of Chemistry was inducted as Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Science;
- ✚ Dr. M. O. Omobowale was conferred with the Fellowship of the Nigerian Institute of Agricultural Engineers, FNIAE; He was also appointed member of the Governing council of University of Maiduguri;
- ✚ Professor A S Jegede, the Director of the Research Management Office was inducted as a member of the Sigma Xi, Scientific Research Honour Society;

- ✚ The Department of Agricultural and Environmental Engineering successfully developed and patented two crop processing machines – Centrifugal Airflow Grain Cleaner; Patent No. – F/PT/NC/2024/11736
- ✚ Motorised Tigernut Oil Expression machine. Patent No. F/PT/NC/2024/12459.

✚ Professor A. A. Bakare, FAS of the Department of Zoology, won a small research grant of N948,400 for a Project titled *'Body Burden of Heavy Metals and their Association with Biomarkers of DNA damage in school age children who are living or informally working in major electronic wastes in Nigeria'*



The University of Ibadan was successfully awarded the African Universities Alliance (ARUA) Doctoral School - ARUA Centre of Excellence in Water. University of Ibadan to collaborate with a Network of ten other Universities.

It is heart-warming to note that four of our graduates were elevated to the exalted rank of Senior Advocate of Nigeria.

The Doctor of Pharmacy programme was accredited by the National Universities Commission.

COMMISSIONED PROJECTS

The following are some of the completed projects which had been commissioned since the last convocation programme:

- Construction of Thompson Abayomi Oshin Physiotherapy Building at the College of Medicine;
- Construction and Furnishing of Office Blocks for College of Medicine;
- Construction of Office Block and Classrooms for the Faculty of Technology;
- UI Design Studio, Innovation Hub, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Faculty of Technology.

MAJOR BENEFACTIONS

The University of Ibadan has enjoyed goodwill and benefactions from individuals, groups and corporate organisations too numerous to mention. I would like to take this opportunity to once again express our heartfelt appreciation to all our benefactors—both private and corporate—who have, at various times, extended their hands of fellowship to the University, through both financial contributions and in-kind support. The various donations and awards had been duly acknowledged. May God bless you all.

- N200 million donated to the University of Ibadan by the RAMS Foundation for the Martin Ifeonukwu Etuokwu Scholarship Fund;
- The Department of Psychology received a scholarship donation of N5 Million from the Florence Fakolujo Scholarship Fund;
- Sir Kesington Adebukola Adetubu, OON, CFR, donated a sum of N20 Million Naira to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, in respect of its 60th Anniversary;
- Dr. Martins Oderinde, an alumnus of the Department of Chemistry, generously donated a sum of N1.2 million to twelve first-class graduates of the Department and has pledged to make this an annual initiative;
- Ambassador Abidemi Sonoiki gave N10 million to the Registry to support a Retreat for the Senior Staff of the Department;
- Dr Olakunle Olarinde of Talent Apartment, a private developer gave a sum of N2 million in support of the Registry;
- It is worth noting that one of the University solicitors, Bandele Aiku Co. has had the University on retainership without receiving payment for ten years;

- Class of 1984 of the Faculty of Agriculture donated three hundred and fifty Units of Banquet chairs to the University. The chairs are now in use at the Trenchard Hall;
- Class of 1990 of the Faculty of Law donated an alternative power source (3.5KVA solar powered inverter system with 8 batteries) to the Faculty of Law Library;
- Alumnus Adeyinka Moyosore Kotoye, Senior Advocate of Nigeria, furnished the Common Room of his former Hall, Sultan Bello Hall;
- The 1989 Alumni class of the Faculty of Pharmacy funded the construction of a Pharmacy Garden;
- The Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Class of 2006 donated N2.6 Million for the design of a Result Management system for the B.Pharm and the Pharm. D programmes;

- Dr. Olufemi Rabiú donated disposable laboratory wares worth \$20,000 to the Faculty of Pharmacy

- We shall continue to be grateful to the BUA Group who donated a sum of One Billion Naira(~~N~~1,000,000,000) to the University for the improvement of social, educational and health facilities; Two projects are still on-going. These are, Faculty of Renewable Natural Resources and the building of the Career Development and Counselling Centre

- Mr. Kingsley Aigbokhaevbo, the Deputy Managing Director, Providus Bank endowed a sum of N30 million Naira scholarship Fund.

- Mr. Zhou Yutong of Wellington College, Berkshire UK donated \$50,000 to the University of Ibadan.

OBITUARY

I wish to commiserate with the families of some of our serving and retired members of staff and students who passed away since the last Convocation ceremony.

They are:

1. Emeritus Ayo Banjo, *FNAL*, the longest serving former Vice Chancellor passed on in May 2024.
2. Mr. Jimoh Ayinla Bankole, a former Bursar of the University passed away on 05 April, 2024.
3. Professor O.I. Shittu of the Department of Statistics passed away on 07 January 2024.
4. Dr Honore Mahupego Sewakpo of the Department of Religious Studies passed away on Thursday 14 December 2023.
5. Professor Ifeanyi Onyeonoru, of the Department of Sociology passed away on Monday 07 October, 2024;
6. Professor Idowu Iwebo, a Retired Professor passed away on 10 December 2023;
7. Professor G.N. Amahia, a retired Professor from the Department of Statistics passed away on 20 November 2023;

8. Professor David Dada Oyewusi Oyebola, a Retired Professor of Physiology passed on 13 February, 2024;
9. Professor Folake Onayemi of the Department of Classics passed away on 14 February, 2024;
10. Professor G.N. Egbunike of the Department of Animal Science passed away on 16 February, 2024;
11. Dr. Tinuke Lola Johnson of the Department of Statistics passed away on 24 February, 2024;
12. Professor Samuel Kolade Adeyoju of the Department of Forest Production and Products passed away on 19 June 2024;
13. Professor Ajibola O. Falaye of the Department of Counselling and Human Development Studies passed away on 23 July, 2024;
14. Professor Wester Wemyss Douglas Modder of the Department of Zoology passed on 2 August, 2024;
15. Mrs Blessing Obiageli Akandu of the Campus Safety Unit passed away on 06 December, 2024;
16. Dorcas O. Ajadi passed away on 10 December 2023;
17. Monday Aiyede of the Campus Safety Unit passed away on 21 January 2024;

18. Emmanuel Abayomi Ojo of the University Health Service passed away on 24 January, 2024;
19. Dafe Appearance Gala of Works & maintenance Department passed away on 29 November 2024;
20. Umanah Kingsley Udofia of the Campus Safety Unit passed away on 20 March 2024;
21. Obimakinde Olusina Elijah of the Campus Safety Unit passed away on 05 May 2024;
22. Engineer D.O. Olaniyan of the Dept of Industrial and Production Engineering passed away on 07 May 2024;
23. Musa Mohammed a staff in the Faculty of Pharmacy passed away on 20 May, 2024;
24. J.B sabbath Department of Physiotherapy passed away on 06 June, 2024;
25. Alabi Ayoade Sunday of the Campus Safety Unit passed away on 17 July 2024;
26. Patience Eberechi Opaleke of the Department of Veterinary Pharmacology passed away on 25 July, 2024;
27. Senator Dr Jonathan Zwingina, a member of the Board of Trustees of the UI Alumni Association passed away on October 2, 2024.

May these ones who have gone ahead of us continue to rest in peace, and may the Almighty continue to comfort their loved ones.

CONCLUSION

A few days ago, I began my fourth year as the 13th Vice Chancellor of University of Ibadan. I want to use this opportunity to express my renewed commitment and dedication to the service of our great Heritage. With the support of all, our University will continue to raise the bar and stay on the path of excellence in the area of teaching and cutting edge research with a view to resolving societal problems. We will not rest on our oars and will continue to put appropriate measures in place to sustain our leadership in the Nigerian University system.

Thank you and God bless you.

Professor K. O. Adebowale, *mni, FAS*
Vice-Chancellor