

AFD to Spend \$80 Million on ACE, NUC Blueprint on Higher Education

The Agence Francaise de Development (AFD) in partnership with World Bank, has pledged to commit \$40 million to Africa Centres of Excellence (ACE) III project in Nigeria and another \$40 million to the National Universities Commission (NUC) Blueprint on Rapid Revitalisation of University Education in Nigeria 2019-2023.

The agency also proposed to invest in the provision of standard hostel accommodation for students in partnership with interested universities for which about €25 million had been earmarked.

This was disclosed by AFD Country Officer, Mr. Larrouze Vincent, when he led a delegation to NUC in continuation of previous discussions on possible areas for intervention by the Agency in

Nigerian University System (NUS).

2016, he met a university system that was plagued with lots of challenges and one of the issues



R-L: DES NUC, Dr. G.B. Kumo, Country Officer, Mr. Larrouze Vincent and AFD Deputy Country Director, Mr. Andre Hue,

Receiving the delegation, the Deputy Executive Secretary, Administration, Dr. Gidado Bello Kumo, who represented the Executive Secretary, said that when the current Executive Secretary, Professor Abubakar Rasheed, assumed office in

he had to contend with, was how to reposition the NUS towards effective delivery of quality university education.

He said that some of the major issues the Executive Secretary was prioritising included access

in this edition



Strategic Planning Must For All Universities
— Prof. Rasheed at 2019 CODAPNU Workshop

Pg. 6



Take Teaching Seriously
— Prof. Rasheed

Pg. 11



to and equity in university education, curriculum issues and facilities as well as equipment.

He said that with the teeming population of students seeking admission into public universities which had limited access while the private universities were too expensive for most of the candidates, the Commission was looking into several options of opening up access.

The Deputy Executive Secretary also stated that NUC was very particular about quality in higher education which was the reason the Commission had been partnering with World Bank in the areas of access to quality education and curriculum development.

He said that ACE project was the key intervention of World Bank towards providing access to

gaps so as to align with other countries in the world.

According to Dr. Kumo, the Commission set up an advisory team on the NUC Blueprint to look into the areas of focus which included: access and equity; staffing; curriculum issues; facilities and equipment; teaching and evaluation; quality assurance; governance and management; internal efficiency and graduate output.



Meeting session with the AFD and NUC

Dr. Kumo said that the Commission had expanded Open and Distance Education in the system and more Open and Distance Learning Centres were created to accommodate more students seeking admission annually.

quality education in Nigeria which was also NUC's strategy on expansion. On the other hand, curriculum review was the Commission's way of ensuring that the NUS curriculum was in line with global best practices and part of the strategy to enhance the skills acquisition

He further stated that the Commission was partnering with AFD in three critical areas: ACE, NUC Blue Print and provision of standard hostel accommodation for students.

He said that NUC was passionate



about overhauling Nigerian higher education so as to attract foreign lecturers and students, adding that the Commission would welcome any intervention by AFD to enable it achieve its objectives.

The DES, Adm. also pointed out

through hostel accommodation would be explored.

This, he said, had led AFD to contact NUC as the regulatory agency of Nigerian universities to build a lasting working relationship as they had with World Bank.

to €25 million to commence the pilot phase of the hostel project in some selected universities.

He therefore solicited the help of NUC to get document from the Ministry of Finance to kick start the project.



Group photo with NUC Management and the AFD delegation

that government had been doing its best in revitalizing higher education and ensure efficiency in the education system.

In his remarks, Mr. Vincent, said that AFD had been looking for ways to intervene in university education in Nigeria and how to interface with universities through NUC.

He said the NUC Blueprint on higher education and provision of conducive learning environment

Contributing, AFD Deputy Country Director, Mr. Andre Hue said that AFD was “very committed” to building of hostels for students as a drive towards having quality education, stating that the proposed hostels would have all the necessary facilities required.

Apart from funding ACE and NUC Blueprint on university education in partnership with World Bank, some amounts had been set aside, ranging from €20

Also speaking, the Director, Accreditation, Dr. Maryam Sali, acknowledged the fact that most facilities in Nigerian universities needed upgrading.

She said that the facilities inspection exercise that was carried out this year in selected universities by NUC, showed that accommodation in public universities and/or facilities were either insufficient or non-existent.



Strategic Planning Must For All Universities

— *Prof. Rasheed at 2019 CODAPNU Workshop*

The Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC), Professor Abubakar Rasheed, MFR, FNAL, has said that the increase in demand for university education concurrent with decline in government funding,

Implementation’, at the 2019 Conference and Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Committee of Directors of Academic Planning of Nigerian Universities (CODAPNU) organised in collaboration with Association of Quality Assurance and Productivity Professional

capable of resuscitating the culture of strategic planning and management in Nigerian University System (NUS), especially with the role witnessed in strategic planning in recent years.

Describing the relevance of



Ag. ES, NUC, Dr. Gidado B. Kumo (2nd right); L-R: DAP, Dr. Biodun Saliu; DPA, Ibrahim Usman Yakasai; DRI&IT, Farouk M. Lawan; Chairman, CODAPNU, Prof. Yahaya A. Yusuf and Chairman, AQAPP, Prof. A.S. Ibrahim

as well as the reality and need to compete in the face of emerging models of higher education such as distance education and cross border (off-shore) programmes had compelled universities all over the world and Nigeria in particular, to engage in strategic planning processes.

He made the remark in his keynote address entitled ‘Strategic Plan Development and

(AQAPP) and NUC.

Represented by NUC Deputy Executive Secretary, Administration, Dr. Gidado Bello Kumo, the Executive Secretary described the theme of the conference ‘Developing Workable Strategic Plan: The Role of Academic Planners and Quality Assurance Officers for a Smooth University Administration’, as apt and

strategic planning, he said that the terms strategy, strategic plan, strategic planning and strategic planning process meant different things to different people, adding that strategy could be defined as a plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or over all aim, while it served as the blueprint of all functional actions to position the institution for sustained success. He said that



Strategic Planning process entailed a whole gamut of activities including the requisite preparatory activities, designing the plan, environmental scanning, actual drawing up of the plan and the implementation



Dr. G. B. Kumo
Ag. ES, NUC

and evaluation of the plan in three phases which comprised preparatory activities, formulation and implementation/evaluation.

The NUC scribe also stated that certain trends in Nigerian tertiary education system had necessitated institutional re-positioning. He listed the yet-to-be stable academic calendar in public universities, insufficient avenues for internal/local generation of revenue, inadequate funding, over-bloated enrolment or under-enrolment as was the case with most private universities, decayed facilities,

examination malpractice and other anti-social behaviour, unhealthy rivalry among staff and deterioration in the quality of graduates, as some of the challenges facing tertiary education managers.

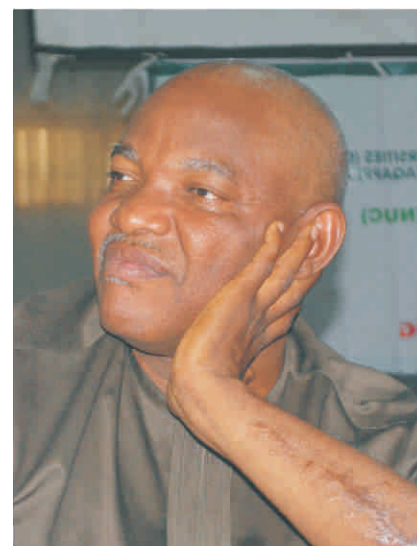
These challenges, he said, had contributed to the exclusion of Nigerian universities from the world league table of the best 200 universities.

He stressed that the goal to get listed on the league of best universities in the world was compelling and a strategic plan for its achievement was appropriate. It therefore meant that through strategic planning, an institution would better be able to respond to the changing needs of its environment.

Harping on the consideration of a model process for developing a strategic plan from formulation, implementation to evaluation and review, he said that a number of factors had to be taken into account including designing the plan, environmental analysis (both internal and external), reviewing the Vision/Mission of the institution, establishment of strategic goals as well as long and short Term objectives for achieving the mission, preparation and issuance of guidelines defining guiding principles or core values and gap analysis.

On the concept of strategy

development, he said that it involved identifying a set of actions through which the institution would achieve its desired future state with major focus on identifying how to get to where the institution intended to be in the future. In other words, strategies for accomplishing each specific goal and objective would be drawn. The end-product of this phase would usually be to bring up a comprehensive set of strategies, covering every area of the business of the institution and an indication of: how the objectives would be accomplished; quantified resources required, and who would be responsible for what



Dr. Noel B. Saliu
Director, Academic Planning

task.

Professor Rasheed further noted that the hardest part of strategic planning was implementation, which was putting to effect what



was planned and to be on alert in the event of any opportunity for action that was clearly better than that in the original plan and then adjust accordingly to fit the emerging circumstances.



Ibrahim Usman Yakasai
DPA

On the other hand, strategy implementation involved synchronising the organisational structure, system and process with the action plan, providing leadership relevant to the strategic directions in the strategic plan, developing functional annual strategies based on the plan, making annual budgets for funding the action plan and creating a motivational system for successful achievement of the institutional objectives.

He highlighted that the choice of corporate strategy marked the beginning of the implementation of any strategic plan as the

institution might decide to expand, contract or even maintain its existing state, regarding its structure and function. The implementation stage should also include development of annual operational (or action) plans, annual budgeting and activity planning. Those he said, would provide clear idea of the resource implication of the plans and enable management to determine priorities and identify key tasks to be undertaken for successful implementation of the new strategies.

The Executive Secretary, however, argued that the plan process might naturally vary from one institution to another as a consequence of the peculiarities of institutional environments, cultures, values and other circumstances. While acknowledging that there was no single best way of developing a strategic plan, he clarified that it was important to follow through the various requirements of the process.

He concluded that it was beyond doubt that the Academic Planner and Quality Assurance Officer would continue to remain relevant in the NUS as they play cardinal roles in the enthronement of effectiveness and efficiency in the management of universities. He urged the Committee to be steadfast in advising universities'

management to develop and sustain the habit or culture of strategic thinking which should lead to continuous process of strategic management in all facets of universities' activities.

In his presentation entitled 'Evolving Action Plan from Strategic Planning Document for Smooth Administration', the Director, Academic Planning, Dr. Noel B. Saliu said that good administration was necessary to bring about development, stressing that without a good administrator, things would not get done in the proper ways. He

said that strategic planning and



Prof. Yahaya A. Yusuf
Chairman, CODAPNU

strategic thinking existed in symbiotic relationship as the two not only work together but required each other to function optimally. He said the benefit of a strategic plan was for organizational planning and managers who are serious about



growth. This helps to build an organization's competitive advantage and communicate organization strategy to staff.

Dr. Saliu further explained that action plan as a process, involved translating strategies and goals into action and was characterised by separate plan for each component and intermediate step, all eventually leading to the

wish to head towards, how do I get there, check progress and where one's position was.

He ended with the assertion that action planning prevented postponement of task and ensured that everyone could achieve his personal departmental goals.

In his presentation titled 'Tools

properly.

He said that media was one out of hundred tools as there were a number of others such as the social media which remained an excellent publicity but could be damaging if not properly handled. He said that a fact sheet was also a good tool as it contained the mission, objectives and reasons for



Participants at the event

ultimate goal. He also said that by developing strategy with a team and setting clear objectives, everyone's task become immediately clear.

He said that one essential element of action plan was to create clear objectives rather than being vague, observing that a target could change in the interim which might lead to some basic questions such as what was the current situation, where did one

for Excellent Results and Implementations', the Director, Public Affairs, Mallam Ibrahim Yakasai informed the meeting that publicity was one aspect of disseminating information. He said that as Directors of Academic Planning (DAPs), they were creators of the university's brand. He reminded them that as DAPs, they were creators of the universities programmes and as such should supervise the programmes

influencing a student to prefer an institution to another.

The Director said a media tour should also be taken by the Vice-Chancellor and the DAP to get firsthand information and to showcase the institution. He advised the universities not to shy away from the media, as it could be damaging based on wrong information perspective. While highlighting the importance of media, he said



that it was necessary to use the media to showcase their respective institutions.

He said that speaking engagements at public events would also provide the

necessary to go with the trend and be visible in all social media platforms notably Facebook,, Instagram and twitter. He advised that to realise a good public relations, a serious university should have a

BELLSTECH Examples’, Akin Adeoye, pointed out that from those three experiences, it was clear that developing university strategic plan was quite a tedious task, stating that development of strategic plan was also a



Group photo

opportunity to promote their universities and a very good publication of newsletter could strengthen the image of an institution, while catalogues or brochures could also promote the brand and programmes as well as countered any doubt on the university.

Alh. Yakasai summed that Social media was a good bypass the DAPs could use to connect directly with the public as it was

publicity team comprising of staff from relevant departments that could act as damage control team. He however, cautioned that before divulging information on their universities, it must be properly verified as fake news always come back to haunt the source.

In his contribution entitled, ‘Roadmap for the Development of University Strategic Plan; UNILAG, FUTMINNA and

thankless job. He urged his colleagues to realise that there was usually delight and satisfaction derived when the university adopted it and the effects were felt with improvement.

The Conference ended with the 2019 Annual General Meeting of CODAPNU.



Take Teaching Seriously

— Prof. Rasheed

The Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC), Professor Abubakar Rasheed, mni, MFR,

Represented by NUC's Ag. HoD Qualification Frame Work and Verification, Dr. Victoria Pillah, the Executive Secretary noted

part of efforts towards improving the outcomes of teaching and learning in the NUS and producing graduates with the



L-R: Deputy Gov. Benue State, Engr. Benson Abounu, Prof. James Ajatse, (Begha U Tiv), Tor Tiv the 5th, Chancellor, Engr. Gamade; VC, Prof. Garnah and Reps. of ES, Dr. Pillah

FNAL, has restated the need for Nigerian universities to urgently address the untoward and degenerative attitude to teaching reduced productivity in the Nigerian University System (NUS).

In a goodwill message at the 4th Combined Convocation ceremony of University of Mkar, Mkar, Benue State, held last Saturday for graduands of the 2013/2014 to 2018/2019 academic sessions, where he stressed that one of the major challenges presently faced by Nigerian universities was that of quality and methods of teaching.

that apart from the fact that many universities adhered to the traditional methods of teaching, majority of the teaching staff engaged in part-time teaching beyond their individual capacities.

According to him, the resultant effect was devoting inadequate time to teaching in both their primary universities of employment and the universities where they undertook visiting appointments. He said that universities had the onerous task of developing new attitudes towards improving effective teaching.

Professor Rasheed said that as

requisite skills and competencies, NUC had been collaborating with University of Sussex to organise intensive pedagogical training workshops for Nigerian faculty.

The NUC, he explained, was committed to sustaining the momentum in the transformation of pedagogy and practice through systematic, train-the-trainer approach with nationwide cascading training workshop at regional and sub-regional levels as a pathway to producing a critical mass of academics with inclusive and supportive skills and competencies in higher





education pedagogies and practice.

Harping on research mandate of universities, the Executive Secretary observed that research was not only required to inform meaningful teaching and learning, but also the source of acquiring new knowledge for innovation, which remained the route through which universities all over the world distinguished themselves and attained relevance to national development.

He lamented that the current state of research activities in the NUS and their relevance were dismally poor with a screaming disconnect between university research activities and Nigeria's socio-economic development and vision.

In his words: "the marginal research activities undertaken across the NUS is concentrated mainly in publications for purposes of promotion and the advancement of academic careers of individual academic staff, with minimal contribution to innovation, patents and other tangible outcomes that can impact on the resolution of real-life challenges of the Nigerian economy, development and technological advancement of the nation.

Adding that "the 'publish or perish' culture is a major reason for the scant attention paid to real-life problem-solving

research that should lead to innovations or patenting that can facilitate the development of new products and services or the improvements on existing goods and services. Worse still, the marginal research efforts and outcomes in our universities are hardly utilized in our national development programmes, while Nigerian universities are not exerting appreciable impact

and resources which such collaboration would have afforded the nation. He encouraged universities to close ranks to jointly design and conduct quality problem-solving research, targeted at specific contextual challenges in their immediate communities or the nation at large.

Professor Rasheed informed that



Chancellor, Mkar University, Engr. Barnabas Gamade in a photograph with the Representative of ES, Dr. Pillah

on their immediate communities and their peculiar local challenges".

He explained that collaborative research between the university and the industry was very rare and even within universities, stressing that the lack of collaboration was antithetical to the trans-disciplinary approach dictated by contemporary global best practices in research and innovation. This, he said, also deprived Nigeria of the opportunity to leverage on synergies and optimise the scarce national research assets

NUC was poised to promoting and encouraging the formation of "University consortia" to tackle national development challenges on sectorial basis predicated on the comparative advantage of member universities. He said that such approach as envisaged when deployed would mitigate the increasingly poor quality and unacceptably protracted duration of time spent on Ph.D programmes, which, in many cases, lingered for over a decade.

He disclosed that the



Commission had also recently advocated research generation in the context of Triple Helix model, which was aimed at tackling the disturbing weakness in the academia- industry relations in Nigeria, although there seemed to be a relatively strong government-industry and government- academia linkages, but with a tripartite lacuna.

On the issue of corruption in the academia, he described it as very disappointing that the Ivory tower had been caught up with the rot in the larger society in terms of the level of pervasive corruption in the university system.

He cited the recent cases of academic staff participating in such vices as grade fixing in return for financial inducement, extortion of money or sexual favours from students, remarking that it was very appalling. There were also issues of compressing a whole semester course into few lectures lasting not more than 20 per cent of the time allocated for the course thereby, short-changing the students and the nation.

The NUC scribe commended the University for creating the ambience for academic productivity and international recognition within a short period of its existence and for sustaining the university tradition and culture, based on merit in order to strengthen its capacity for development and research capabilities. He also noted the robust deployment of ICT in

various operations of the University which had gone a long way in boosting its efficiency of service and visibility among the comity of universities in Nigeria and beyond.



Representative of ES, NUC, Dr. Victoria Pillah (right) and VC, Mkar University, Prof. Dickson Gernah

Addressing the convocation, NKST President and the university's Visitor, Rev. Dominic Zurumbee Anza, while reflecting on the journey so far, recounted that it was the desire of the church to train communicant members and other Nigerians who would become professionals in various disciplines in order to impact the world with biblical tenets, which were foundation for any nation. He said that though the university was established by NKST, the church had been doing its best to support it, stating that it only met about half of its requirements which made it imperative for it to call on government and other well-

meaning individuals to support it in materials and in kind.

Earlier in his speech, the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Barrister Abraham I. Akpe, appreciated the role played by NKST in seeing that

the university maintained an excellent academic culture and discipline. This, he said, had resulted to the graduation of about 1,177 students at first degree level, bringing a total number of graduates produced by the university since inception in June 2005 to 2, 930. He also expressed with pride that since its commencement of postgraduate school in 2014, the University had graduated 35 M.Sc and 23 MBA students, who were already making their marks both in Nigeria and abroad.

Barrister Akpe said that matters relating to staff training and development as well as students'



welfare had been top priorities of the Council, while there had also existed tripartite relationship among the Proprietor through the Synod Committee of NKST, the Board of Trustees and the Management of the university. He acknowledged that funding, just as in government-owned institutions had been their major challenge, but noted that a lot had been achieved in attracting

Government under previous administrations and the present under Dr. Samuel Ortom as well as friends of the University both home and abroad in helping to uplift the university.

He noted that running a university was capital intensive project requiring support from various sources. He recalled that the university commenced

the university was still in dire need of critical infrastructure such as hostel accommodation, laboratories, Lecture Halls, Library including books, staff offices, roads and power supply.

He then appealed to Benue state government to consider giving the university annual grant allocation, as according to him, the university was not for profit-



Fmr, 1st lady Benue State, Her Excellency, Lady Regina Akume and Dr. Pillah

senior academics to the university, although more would have been done with increased finances.

In his welcome address, the President of the Board of Trustees (BoT), Commodore J.I Afeah (rtd), applauded the tireless efforts of the leadership of NKST, BoT and the Governing Council as well as the support from the Benue State

operations with inherited infrastructure from NKST College and the former Institute of Christian and Management Studies (ICMS), but through sheer doggedness it had made efforts to upgrade the infrastructure and also provided new ones to meet acceptable standards.

The President pointed out that despite its level of achievement,

making and was providing a service which was critical to overall development of Benue State and Nigeria.

A major highlight of the convocation was the installation of Dr. Barnabas A.I. Gemade, FNSE, OFR, as the Chancellor of the university.



UGC 大學教育資助委員會
University Grants Committee

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1 August 2019

Consul-General of Nigeria
Suite 502, 5 floor
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RECEIVED
05 AUG 2019
CONSUL GENERAL
WANCHAI

Dear Consul-General,

Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme

I am delighted to inform you that the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong is launching the Tenth Round of the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (the "Scheme"). The Scheme aims to attract top international students to pursue PhD studies in Hong Kong's world-class research universities. The fellowship provides a monthly stipend of HK\$25,800 (approx. US\$3,300) and a conference and research-related travel allowance of HK\$12,900 (approx. US\$1,700) per year for a period of three years. 250 fellowships will be awarded for PhD studies commencing in the 2020/21 academic year. The deadline for initial application is 2 December 2019.

I have pleasure in enclosing posters and leaflets of the Scheme for your information, and should be much grateful if you would grant assistance in posting or circulating them to interested parties of your university / institution. Electronic versions of the above-mentioned publicity materials are available online for download:

Poster: <http://cerg1.ugc.edu.hk/hkpfs/Poster2020-21HKPFS.pdf>

Leaflet: <http://cerg1.ugc.edu.hk/hkpfs/Leaflet2020-21HKPFS.pdf>



If you or any interested parties require further information, please feel free to contact us at HKPF@ugc.edu.hk or visit the Scheme's website at www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd. Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Benjamin Wah
Chairman
Research Grants Council

Encls.(2)





NIGERIAN ACADEMY OF LETTERS

COMMUNIQUE OF THE TWENTY-FIRST NIGERIAN ACADEMY OF LETTERS (NAL) CONVOCATION AND INVESTITURE OF NEW FELLOWS, AND SCIENTIFIC SESSION HELD AT THE J.F. ADE.AJAYI AUDITORIUM, UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS ON THURSDAY, 8 AUGUST, 2019

PREAMBLE

The Nigerian Academy of Letters (NAL), an autonomous, non-political body of scholars in the humanities, held its 21st Convocation and Investiture of New Fellows, and Scientific Session on Thursday, 8th August, 2019, at the J.F. Ade Ajayi Auditorium, University of Lagos. The theme of the Convocation was "Religion and Morality in a Secular State".

In attendance were 121 professors from different Nigerian and overseas universities. The President of the Nigerian Academy of Letters Professor Francis Egbokhare, FNAL, presided over the Convocation and investiture of New Fellows and the Vice President, Professor Duro Oni, FNAL presided over the Scientific Session. Thirty-six new members were inducted six new Regular Fellows (Professors Ademola O. Dasylva, Abdulkrasheed Na'Allah, Sunday Enessi, Ifeorna Mabel Onyemelukwe, Albert 'Lekan Oyeleye, and Jim Unah) and two Honorary Fellows Yemi Ogunbiyi, and Mr Olusegun Adeniyi) were admitted into the NAL College of Fellows, Other key dignitaries in attendance were Rt. Hon. Rotimi Amaechi, newly reappointed Minister of Transportation; Prof Rasheed Abubakar, FNAL, the Executive Secretary of National Universities Commission (NUC); Prof. Is'haq Oloyede, FNAL, Registrar of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board and Professor Obiajulu Emejulu, Executive Director of the National Institute for Nigerian Languages (NINLAN). The vice chancellors included Prof. Oluwatoyin T. Ogundipe, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Lagos; Prof. AbdulRasheed Na'Allah, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Abuja; Professor Eyitope Ogungbenro Ogunbodede, the Vice Chancellor of Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife; Professor Andrew Haruna, the Vice Chancellor of the Federal University, Gashua and Professor Ozo-Mekuri Ndimele, the Vice Chancellor of Ignatius Ajuru University, Port Harcourt.

The Convocation Lecture titled, "Morality and the state". The Nigerian Experience, was delivered by Professor Emeritus Godwin Sogolo, FNAL. Two well researched papers on the Convocation theme were also presented at the Scientific Session by Professor Akin Alao of the Department of History, of the department of History and Professor Umar H.D. Danfulani of the Department of Religious Studies, University of Jos. In the course of this presentation, pertinent issues that need the attention of government and the general public were discussed. These formed the basis of the following observations and recommendations.

OBSERVATIONS

At the end of the engaging Convocation Lecture and the stimulating Scientific Session, the following were observed:

1. The Nigerian state seems to pay scant attention to the education of youth on the ethos and the realities of cultural diversity;
2. There is a rapidly growing culture of moral apathy, especially among the Nigerian youth, due to failure of governance at all levels;
3. Poor attention is given to moral education in the national socialisation processes and, this has created



4. strained relationships and avoidable social distance between the state and the people;
4. The Nigerian Constitution (Section 15(2)) upholds the idea of a secular state but the document equally contains provisions that undermine this secular character;
5. The current absence of a distinction between the state and religion in Nigeria was partly created by the British colonial policies which made religion and ethnicity coterminous;
6. There is the systemic collapse of merit on the altar of religious bigotry and ethnicity, which promotes corruption and insecurity across the nation; and
7. The clear absence of a national philosophy is largely responsible for the palpable moral decay and cultural disorientation of our youth.
8. The running of university education in Nigeria has become so complex and difficult because of paucity of funding. Federal Government still pays lip service to funding of education, and it is most unfortunate; and
9. In recent times, politicians without requisite knowledge of the university system are appointed as Pro-Chancellors. This trend can hardly add value to the running of the University system in Nigeria. .

RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the above observations, the following recommendations were: made in the course of the Convocation Lecture, the Scientific Session and the ensuing discussions:

1. There is an urgent need for a humanising education that could socialise our youth into Nigerian ethos and diverse cultural values; "
2. Government should put in place policies that would guarantee the preservation of our religious diversity, .as well as recover and propagate our waning cultural values, through curriculum review and proper reorientation on core national values;
3. The social distance between the people and the state can OIlly be bridged by a radical value reorientation that is championed by the humanities;
4. There is the need to review relevant sections of the Nigerian Constitution that contradict the secular state status and effectively separate religion from the state;
5. Deliberate efforts should be made to ensure a return to the traditional culture of reward for exemplary acts and punishment of'erring conducts;
6. Adherence to merit and professional ethics will significantly ensure that the funds entrusted to public servants are properly utilised for the benefit and common good of all citizens;
7. Government should expedite actions on evolving the needed national philosophy which would provide the framework for sustainable quality control and, peer review of professional ethics and conduct;
8. To fund university education in Nigeria, Federal Government should increase its, budgetary allocation to the education sector to 25% and progressively increase this annually to 40% within three years. The leaderships of universities are also encouraged to be innovative and creative in sourcing for additional alternative and sustainable revenue streams to enable them survive, thrive and compete well internationally; and
9. For effective university administration, Visitors to all universities in Nigeria should give priority to appointing experienced and knowledgeable people in university administration and similar institutions as Pro-Chancellors.

Professor Francis Egbokhare, FNAL
President, Nigeria Academy of Letters (NAL)





PRESS RELEASE

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS FOR 2019 UNESCO KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL-KHALIFA PRIZE FOR THE USE OF ICT IN EDUCATION

The UNESCO invites nominations from Nigeria for the King Hamed Bin Isa Al-Khalite price for the use of Information and Communication Technologies in Education.

This is to recognize approaches in leveraging new technologies to expand educational and lifelong learning opportunities for all, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Goal 4 on Education.

The theme of the 2019 Prize is the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to innovate Education, learning and teaching.

Nominations should be forwarded to natcom.unesco@education.gov.ng on or before 23rd October, 2019. Receipt of nominations will close by 31st October, 2019 (midnight Paris time)

For more information visit <http://www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize/register>.

Announcer-

Arc Sonny Echono
Permanent Secretary

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR (PRESS & PR) **SHAKE UP IN EDUCATION MINISTRY**

Education Minister, Adamu Adamu has approved the redeployment of eleven (11) Directors and Principals of Federal Unity Colleges in an exercise, the Minister said is designed to strengthen service delivery and also fill existing vacancies in the education sector.

Top on the list of Directors redeployed are Abdulkadir Binta (Mrs.), Principal, Federal Government College (FGC) Kwali, who is now the Director, Basic and Secondary Education Department in the Ministry.

Binta will take over from Dr. Lami Amodu, the current Director of Basic and Secondary Education, who will retire from service on the 14th of October, 2019.

The current Principal of Federal Science and Technical College (FSTC) Yaba, Dr. Ufoegbune Ogochukwu (Mrs.) has

now been moved to the Ministry's headquarters to fill the vacancy of Director, Federal Education Quality Assurance Services (FEQAS), while Mr. Omada David Idakwoji of the Federal Science and Technical College, Uromi, takes over from Dr. Ufoegbune Ogochukwu of the Federal Science and Technical College, Yaba, as Principal.

Similarly, Dr. Mrs. Yakubu Oyinloye of Queens' College, Lagos, is to take over from Akamo Esther (Mrs.) as Principal, Federal Government Girls' College, Shagamu, While Dr. (Mrs.) Essien Funmi of the Federal Government College, Ijanikin, is to take over from Dr. (Mrs.) Yakubu Oyinloye as Principal, Queens' College, Lagos.

Akamo.O. Esther (Mrs.) of Federal Government Girls' College (FGGC), Shagamu is to succeed Dr. (Mrs.) Essien Funmi as Principal, Federal Government College, Ijanikin, while Abdullahi Asmau Yakubu (Mrs.) of the Ministry's Tertiary Education Department is to replace Mr. Manko Kudu (who will be retiring from service on the 6th of September, 2019) as Principal, Federal Government Academy, Suleja.

Mrs. Stella Maris Ufuoma Omu, current Principal of Federal Government Girls College, Bwari (who will be retiring from service on the 10th of November, 2019) will be succeeded by Sodangi Jumai Binta (Mrs.) of Federal Government Girls College, Abaji.

Also, Offonkasi Ifeoma Scholastica (Mrs.), current Vice Principal, FGBC, Apo, is to replace Sodangi Jumia Binta (Mrs.) as Principal, Federal Government Girls' College, Abaji.

Mr. Shehu Dahiru of Federal Science and Technical College, Kafanchan, is to replace Abdulkadir Binta (Mrs.) as Principal, Federal Government College, Kwali.

Finally, Mrs. Oguah Florence of National Commission for United Nation Scientific and Cultural Organization (NATCOM-UNESCO) is now the Secretary General, NATCOM-UNESCO.

Handing over formalities are to be completed by Monday, 9th September, 2019, except where otherwise directed.

Ben Bem Goong
Deputy Director (Press & PR)



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

TRAINING AND STAFF WELFARE DIVISION

ABUJA

P.M.B. NO.130 Garki.
Telegram: Foreign Abuja
Tel. No.: 09-5230874



Ref. No. TSW/IND/34/T
Date: 24th May, 2019

The Executive Secretary,
National University Commission,
No. 26, Aguiyi Ironsi Street,
Maitama District,
Abuja.

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE FOR INDIAN TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION (ITEC), TO HOLD IN INDIA.

I am directed to forward herewith, for your information and further action, a letter Ref. No **ABUJ/231/1/2019** dated **16th May, 2019**, received from the High Commission of India in Abuja, requesting for interested Nigerian's to participate for the short term courses under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC). The list of available courses scheduled to hold from 16th May, 2019 to 31st March, 2020, in India, is hereby attached.

2. In this regard, your esteemed organization is kindly requested to disseminate the above information to interested candidates and request them to fill the online application form @ www.itecgoi.in and to submit to this Ministry for onward transmission to the Indian appropriate authority.

3. While anticipating your response on this matter, please accept the assurances of the Honourable Minister's highest consideration.


M. Badamasi

For: Honourable Minister



Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation Programme
Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Feedback

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Period: From 16 May 2019 To 26 May 2020 Show

Available courses from 16/May/2019 to 26/May/2020

Course	Start	End	Status
(1) STATISTICAL THEORY AND APPLICATIONS	01-Aug-2019	31-May-2020	Open
(2) MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	01-Jul-2019	20-Jul-2019	Open
(3) FUNCTIONAL MODULE ON REFINERIES- CHEMICAL ENGINEERS	01-Jul-2019	18-Oct-2019	Open
(4) TEXTILE TESTING AND QUALITY CONTROL	01-Oct-2019	29-Nov-2019	Open
(5) TEXTILE MILL MANAGEMENT	01-Oct-2019	29-Nov-2019	Open
(6) GENDER ISSUES IN THE WORLD OF WORK	02-Dec-2019	20-Dec-2019	Open
(7) CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	02-Dec-2019	14-Dec-2019	Open
(8) SPECIAL TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR YOGA TRAINERS	02-Dec-2019	29-Dec-2019	Open
(9) CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR VOTER EDUCATION	02-Feb-2020	07-Feb-2020	Open
(10) DIPLOMA COURSE IN DEVELOPMENT JOURNALISM FOR NON- ALIGNED AND OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES	02-Jan-2020	29-Apr-2020	Open
(11) INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME ON SOLAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES	02-Mar-2020	20-Mar-2020	Open
(12) SPECIALISED PROGRAMME ON IOT	02-Mar-2020	24-Apr-2020	Open
(13) ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	02-Mar-2020	21-Mar-2020	Open
(14) TRAINING ON SERICULTURE AND SILK INDUSTRY	02-Sep-2019	29-Sep-2019	Open
(15) INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME ON MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	02-Sep-2019	27-Sep-2019	Open
(16) SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION	02-Sep-2019	20-Sep-2019	Open
(17) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)	02-Sep-2019	21-Sep-2019	Open
(18) OVERVIEW OF MARKETING OPERATIONS	02-Sep-2019	12-Oct-2019	Open
(19) INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM ON RURAL CO-OPERATIVES	03-Dec-2019	09-Dec-2019	Open
(20) EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES	03-Feb-2020	14-Feb-2020	Open
(21) ANALYSIS OF PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF CFR ENGINE	03-Feb-2020	27-Mar-2020	Open
(22) INNOVATIVE LEADERSHIP FOR ORGANIZATION GROWTH AND EXCELLENCE (ILOGE)	03-Feb-2020	27-Mar-2020	Open
(23) ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR SMALL BUSINESS TRAINERS/PROMOTERS PROGRAMME (ESB-TP)	03-Feb-2020	27-Mar-2020	Open
(24) INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ON PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC WORKS	03-Jun-2019	26-Jun-2019	Open
(25) REMOTE SENSING APPLICATION ON THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT	03-Jun-2019	14-Jun-2019	Open
(26) GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR MANAGEMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES	03-Sep-2019	30-Sep-2019	Open

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ITEC : Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation

Course Title	Start Date	End Date	Status
(28) NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE RURAL LIVELIHOODS	03-Sep-2019	30-Sep-2019	Open
(28) INTRODUCTORY TRAINING COURSE IN NANOFABRICATION TECHNOLOGIES	04-Feb-2020	25-Feb-2020	Open
(29) FORMAL SOLUTIONS TO INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS	04-Nov-2019	13-Dec-2019	Open
(30) LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY	04-Nov-2019	22-Nov-2019	Open
(31) PROJECT & RISK MANAGEMENT	04-Nov-2019	22-Nov-2019	Open ✓
(32) SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	05-Aug-2019	16-Aug-2019	Open ✓
(33) INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STANDARDS AND PROMOTION OF GENDER EQUALITY AT THE WORKPLACE	05-Aug-2019	23-Aug-2019	Open
(34) OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE OF CROSS COUNTRY PIPELINES	05-Aug-2019	05-Oct-2019	Open
(35) PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE CITIES	06-Jan-2020	14-Feb-2020	Open
(36) SCIENCE DIPLOMACY	06-Jan-2020	17-Jan-2020	Open ✓
(37) SHORT COURSE ON REMOTE SENSING WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING	06-Jan-2020	28-Feb-2020	Open
(38) TRAINING ON POST COCOON TECHNOLOGY	06-Jan-2020	02-Feb-2020	Open
(39) BUDGETING, ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT IN GOVERNMENT SECTOR	06-Jan-2020	24-Jan-2020	Open
(40) PROGRESS TO PROFICIENCY ADVANCED	07-Jan-2020	27-Mar-2020	Open
(41) PROGRESS TO PROFICIENCY BASIC	07-Jan-2020	27-Mar-2020	Open
(42) PARTICIPATORY PLANNING FOR POVERTY REDUCTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	07-Jan-2020	03-Feb-2020	Open
(43) TRAINING METHODOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS	07-Jan-2020	03-Feb-2020	Open
(44) PETROLEUM REFINING TECHNOLOGY AND PETROCHEMICALS	07-Oct-2019	29-Nov-2019	Open
(45) ENHANCING LEADERSHIP SKILLS	07-Oct-2019	25-Oct-2019	Open
(46) SPECIALISED PROGRAMME ON E-GOVERNANCE APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT	08-Jul-2019	30-Aug-2019	Open
(47) TRADE AND SUSTAINABILITY	08-Jul-2019	19-Jul-2019	Open
(48) BIOGAS PRODUCTION, POWER GENERATION AND UPGRADATION FOR VEHICULAR APPLICATION	08-Jul-2019	21-Jul-2019	Open
(49) MANAGERIAL SKILLS FOR ACADEMICIANS AND ADMINISTRATORS.	09-Dec-2019	20-Dec-2019	Open
(50) SPECIALISED TRAINING ON TRADE REMEDIES UNDER WTO TRIMS WTO DISPUTES AND RTAS	09-Dec-2019	18-Dec-2019	Open
(51) SPECIALISED PROGRAMME ON BIG DATA ANALYTICS	09-Dec-2019	14-Feb-2020	Open
(52) INTERNATIONAL WRITE-SHOP ON PROJECT FORMULATION: CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION	09-Dec-2019	14-Dec-2019	Open
(53) MAIL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME	09-Dec-2019	20-Dec-2019	Open
(54) WOMEN & ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT (WED) - A TRAINERS/PROMOTERS PROGRAM	09-Dec-2019	31-Jan-2020	Open ✓
(55) GEO-INFORMATICS APPLICATIONS IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT	09-Jul-2019	05-Aug-2019	Open
(56) MANAGEMENT OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT PROJECTS AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION	09-Jul-2019	05-Aug-2019	Open
(57) SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAM IN CYBER SECURITY & MALWARE ANALYTICS (REVERSE ENGINEERING)	09-Mar-2020	01-May-2020	Open ✓
(58) PROMOTING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND STARTUP	09-Sep-2019	20-Sep-2019	Open
(59) INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY (IEIDP)	10-Feb-2020	06-Mar-2020	Open ✓
(60) INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME ON COMPETENCE AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS OF LABORATORIES	10-Feb-2020	28-Feb-2020	Open
(61) INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM ON FINANCING INCLUSIVE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL	10-Feb-2020	22-Feb-2020	Open

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