

Prof Okojie Hands Over to Acting ES



Acting Executive Secretary, Prof. Chiedu Felix Mafiana, receiving the Hand Over note from former Executive Secretary, Prof. Julius A. Okojie

Erstwhile Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC), Professor

Julius A. Okojie, OON, on Monday, 1 August, 2016, handed over the affairs of the

Commission to Acting Executive Secretary, Professor Chiedu Felix Mafiana, as directed by the

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Prof. Chiedu Mafiana
Acting Executive Secretary, NUC

Minister of Education, Malam Adamu Adamu. This followed his successful completion of a record 10-year tenure, the second in the history of the NUC. The first Executive Secretary to set the record was Professor Idris Abdulkadir (1986 – 1996).

In brief and solemn ceremony, during which he presented his 'Hand-over Notes' and the NUC flag as instrument of office to the Acting Executive Secretary, Professor Okojie said that he relied upon two principles of 'Fear of God and Love for Neighbour' in the conduct of all his affairs, living one day at a time. He said he had always been and would remain himself.

The former Executive Secretary expressed satisfaction that NUC, as a regulator, had come of age. While noting that under his watch, the Commission had applied its laws creditably well to ensure an effective regulation of the Nigerian University System (NUS), he stated that “it will be immodest to talk about my achievement when we have worked as a team.”



Prof. Julius Okojie
Former Executive Secretary, NUC

programmes, among others.

While recalling that he arrived the Commission first, as a Visiting Professor in 2002 and rose to become the Chief Executive in 2006, he noted that the successes recorded was due to a good working team in NUC as well as the political will and support from the Ministers he served under, in the course of his tenure.



Mal. Ibrahim Dan'Iya
Deputy Executive Secretary II, NUC

Some of the achievements, Professor Okojie said, included the establishment of 12 new universities, introduction of new programmes such as Mechatronics and Gerontology, the review of postgraduate

He described Professor Mafiana as an enigma, who had done well in helping to drive the system. He called on the Management to stay on the side of love and truth as “the burden of hatred is too heavy to bear.”



Prof. Okojie appreciating the insignia with NUC logo presented to him by the Management



Prof. Mafiana, 3rd left and Prof. Okojie in a group photograph with members of the Management

Professor Okojie urged the Media to realise that Nigeria would always rely on them for information and in the fight against corruption. They should, therefore, report issues in line with the ethics of their profession. He enjoined them to always remember that truth is mightier than the pen and would always prevail, no matter the circumstances. He thanked them for their support, urged them to extend the same to his successor and prayed that the person coming after him would be greater than him.

In his acceptance speech, Professor Mafiana recounted his own journey into the NUC, first as a Visiting Professor in 2003 and became Director in the Executive Secretary' Office in 2007 and later Quality Assurance, before serving as Deputy Executive Secretary II and I. He described Professor Okojie as a mentor, a very amiable and courageous man. He thanked God for giving him the opportunity to serve the nation

for 10 years, becoming the second Chief Executive to do so.

Professor Mafiana promised that NUC would continue to regulate with courage and that stakeholders would be carried along in the conduct of its affairs. He called on the Management team to extend the same level of cooperation to him, for the period God would allow him steer the ship of the Commission. He similarly drew the attention of the press to the need to maintain the good and excellent working relationship with the Commission and to report every issue truthfully as it was the hallmark of good journalism.

In their separate remarks, members of the NUC Management said Okojie had left indelible marks in the sands of time as he had impacted on every aspect of the Commission. One of his outstanding achievements, they said, was the courage to regulate the system and the addition of value to it. This, they said was achieved with the Programmes

Audit in the NUS, that helped to restore sanity. They acknowledged that his success story was due to God's blessings and mercies, which also enabled him to surmount challenges. The Management prayed for God's blessings, guidance and protection upon him and his family.

In a vote of thanks, Deputy Executive Secretary 1, Mal. Ibrahim Dan'Iya, in said three characters traits that shaped Professor Okojie in the past 10 years were courage, visionary leadership and being a team builder.

One of the major highlights of the ceremony was the formal launch of *Excellence*, a quarterly Magazine of the Africa Centres of Excellence (ACE) Project, which Professor Okojie midwived. An insignia of the NUC logo was also presented to him as a mark of his commitment and service to the system.



Evening of Tribute for Professor Okojie

It was an evening of encomiums, eulogies and praises for the out-



L-R: Profs. Balogun, Essien and Mafiana

going Executive Secretary of the National Universities Commission (NUC), Professor Julius A. Okojie, OON, when past and present Visiting Professors and Scholars of the Commission, organised a reception in his honour, at the Ladi Kwali Hall of the Sheraton Hotel,



Dr. Ramon Yusuf and Mr. Chris Maiyaki

Abuja. Speaker after speaker commended Professor Okojie for the way he piloted the affairs of the Commission in the last 10 years, his large heart,



Prof. Julius Okojie
Former Executive Secretary, NUC

honest man, whose character bears testimony to the fact that there are still good people in the country. Prof. Atatahi explained that her coming to NUC without any referral from any influential



Prof. Okojie receiving a Baobab tree from Prof. H.M. Inuwa on behalf of her colleagues

politician was a confirmation of Professor Okojie's kind heart and honesty.

Another visiting Professor, Stanley Okolo who spoke on behalf of the Nigerian academics



Prof. Okojie receiving a Card from Prof. H.M. Inuwa on behalf of Visiting Professors and Scholars

in the Diaspora, described Professor Okojie as a frank and courageous man, who communicated effectively on all issues affecting the Nigerian



Some members of NUC Management

University System. He recalled how Professor Okojie had coordinated a group of Nigerian academics to apply for a grant abroad for the NUS within a very short time that the notice was given, adding, however, that even though the grant was not eventually won, his timely response showed how concerned and passionate he was about the NUS.

On her part, a former Visiting Scholar, Dr. Emem Omokaro expressed appreciation to Professor Okojie for giving her Foundation (the Dave Omokaro Foundation) the platform to stand and the wing to fly, through his role in midwifing and birthing the Gerontology and Geriatrics programmes in Nigeria. According to her, “in my view, there is nothing Professor Okojie does that does not come from a good heart and with the best of intentions.” She recalled her first encounter with professor Okojie, 2004, in Sokoto, when she won the Nigerian Universities Doctoral Thesis Award (NUDTAS). Her husband, Professor Dave Omokaro, threw his weight behind her findings to draw attention to the need to care for the elderly. Dr. Omokaro stated that, since after the death of

her husband, Professor Okojie had been supportive in ensuring that her vision for the aged in Nigeria came through. The Gerontology programme, has been fully domesticated in the NUS with policies and regulations being debated all over the country. She said that she and her children were eternally grateful to him.

Vice Chancellor of Tansian University, Professor Chima Iwuchukwu attributed the success of the Commission and the entire NUS to Professor Okojie, describing him as a stickler for rules and regulations, a perfect gentle man, who brought honour and visibility to the System. In his words, “Professor Okojie is a man of his words. When I took up appointment with the Tansian University, I told my employers the things that we must avoid, subsequently when we had a meeting with Professor Okojie, he started with the things I had early told my employers and they were surprised.”

Professor Doris Onwukaeme attributed the approval of the Pharm D. programme to Professor Okojie. She said, “when I came from UNIBEN to request for

appointment as a Visiting Professor, little did I know that I would not only be accepted, but that God would also use Professor Okojie to approve the Pharm. D. programme. Today, wherever Pharm D. programme is mentioned in Nigeria, Professor Okojie's name will be mentioned.”

In his own remarks, the former Director General, Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC), Professor Peter Onwualu described him as a man who is concerned about other people's well being. He said “Professor Okojie's name is synonymous with open-door policy. As the DG of Raw Materials, I used to think I was running an open-door policy until I met Professor Okojie. He is a problem solver. I came to inform him that I had finished my tenure as the DG of Raw Materials and he ask what I intended to do next. He said I could come to the NUC as a visiting professor.” Professor Onwualu advised him to remain the person that he is as he had carved a niche for himself.

Earlier in his opening remarks, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Private



Some visiting Professors and staff of the Commission

Universities and Chief Host of the Dinner, Professor Akaneren Essien, appreciated Professor Okojie, on behalf of the organisers, for inviting them to contributing their quota to the development of the NUS. He said that Professor Okojie had touched many lives, through his magnanimity. He described him as a man with a large heart as he accommodated and touched the lives of every one that came in contact with him, irrespective of their status, class, tribe or religion. "He has touched my life significantly", he said.

Presenting a souvenir of a Baobab tree to the Executive Secretary on behalf of the group, Professor Patricia A. Akeredolu said that

Professor Okojie could be likened to the big tree, under which all kinds of birds find shelter and succour.

Responding Professor Okojie attributed all that was said about him to God. He described himself as a product of other people's benevolence haven lost his father, early in life. He noted that he had given a significant part of his life to the service of the Commission, first as a Visiting Professor and Executive Secretary for two consecutive terms. He said that although he may never meet some persons again after the dinner, he promised not to be too far from the Commission and to always remember it in his daily prayers.

In a vote of thanks, the Director Executive Secretary's Office, Mrs. Constance Goddy-Nnadi appreciated the Executive Secretary for being a Mentor and for repositioning the Commission by giving those in the system the opportunity to grow. Prior to Professor Okojie's appointment, she said, Directors were appointed from outside the Commission. She expressed happiness that the he reversed the trend as virtually all the current management staff were beneficiaries of his goodwill, who grew within the system.

The dinner was attended by some members of Management and staff of the Commission.



Visiting Professors and Scholars in a group photograph



Prof. Okojie Thanks Staff as He Exits NUC

The entire Management and staff of the National Universities Commission (NUC), converged on the Idris Abdulkadir Auditorium, on Friday 29 July, 2016, at an interactive session in honour of the erstwhile Executive Secretary, Professor Julius A. Okojie, OON.

In his farewell address, Professor Okojie thanked the staff for their cooperation over the years and urged them to extend the same to whoever takes over him. He charged them to work, not only to ensure a better NUC and Nigerian University System (NUS), but also enhance their own careers. Professor Okojie recounted the journey of his life, which he described as a



Prof. Okojie giving his Valedictory Address

product of God's divine guidance and relationship established over time with different persons.

The erstwhile Executive Secretary recalled that all through his primary education, up to the university, he built bridges

with Nigerians across different walks of life, with whom he had remained friends, colleagues and associates. He remarked that on graduation from the university, he initially took up job as a Forestry Research Officer, but discovered that there was limited career



Prof. Okojie, accompanied by some members of management to the Ceremony



Prof. Okojie with Dr. MacJohn Nwaobiala

due to the strategic vision and robust reforms carried out under his watch. He particularly expressed delight that four of the Directors are women. He informed the staff that he would not miss his office, but his staff as he had enjoyed good working relations with them at all levels. He charged the staff to learn how to respect and work closely with their superiors, while urging the superiors to also mentor the younger ones to ensure synergy in the system. He also charged them to work hard if they wished to make any meaningful impact and trust God to help them climb the ladder of life as it happened to him.

Professor Okojie submitted that the NUS had grown in spite of the obvious challenges of illegal universities, which the NUC confronted head-long;

progression in the establishment and thereafter moved to the University of Ibadan and later Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta (FUNAAB) as a lecturer. According to him, the switch to the university system was the beginning of his upward movement and success. This, he said included the award of a Fulbright Fellowship with Yale University, USA and serving as Vice-Chancellor of FUNAAB and Bells University, Ota, Ogun State.

he did his work with an utmost sense of duty and responsibility. He described his emergence as the Executive Secretary and serving for two terms of 10 years, as an act of God. He told the staff that he had seen a lot of changes take place in the system, while some challenges had also been thrown into it. He added that many of the staff that he met at the lower levels had enjoyed career progressions,

Professor Okojie said that his tenure at the NUC was quite eventful, coming first as a Visiting Professor and later appointed Chairman, Standing Committee on Private Universities (SCOPU), during which he played a major role in the establishment of many private universities. He noted that during this period,



L-R: Mal Dan'Iya, Mrs. Goddy-Nnadi and Dr. Adesina



L-R: Mr. Yakasai, Dr. Kumo and Mr. Abdullahi

expressed his willingness to work with him in these endeavours in future.. He wished the Executive Secretary more rewarding service to the nation and the Nigerian University System (NUS), where he still had two years to work as a Professor.

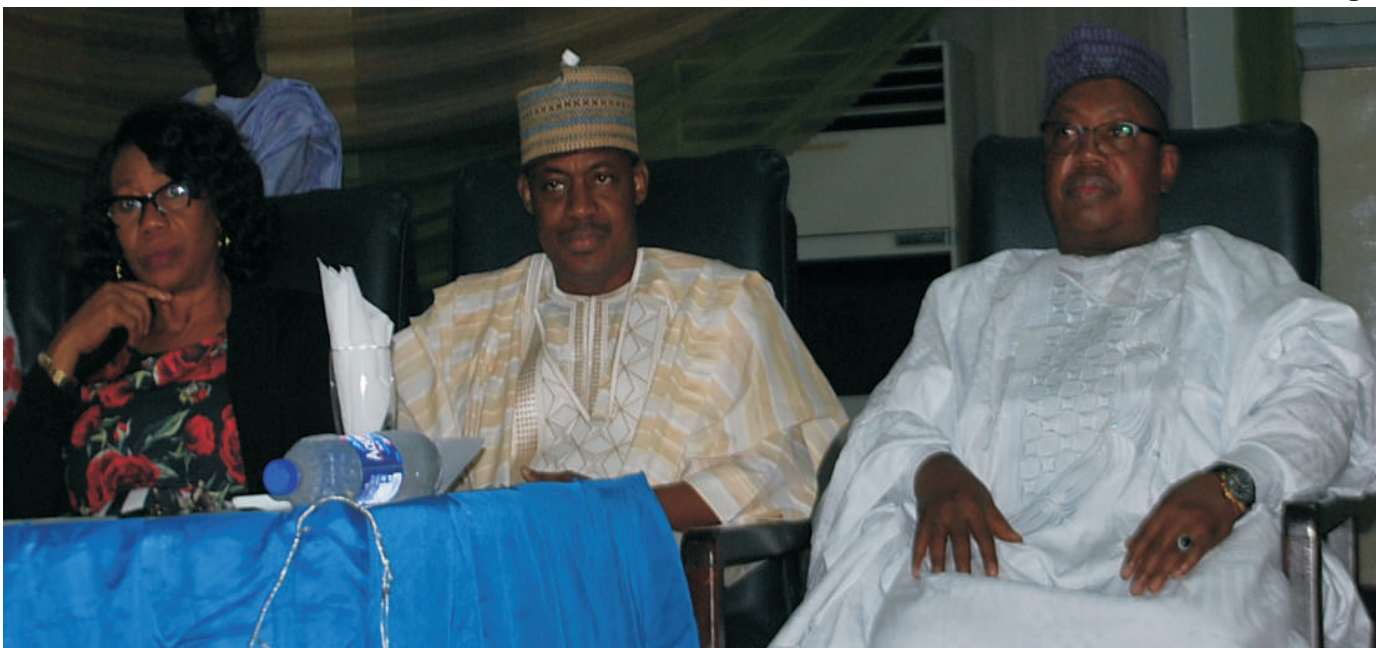
The Director of Lagos Office, Mal. Hamza Abdullahi extended the good wishes of staff of the office to Professor Okojie for always remembering them in every issue relating to welfare and training. He noted that the Executive Secretary would be greatly missed by the staff for their promotions, which had further motivated them to serve the Commission. He prayed for God's protection and guidance upon him and the family.

Other staff of the Commission including,

indiscipline in the system. He however submitted that with the level of private participation in the university education sub-sector, the future is bright for quality and stable education system in the country.

Chairman of the occasion and former Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education (FME), Dr.

MacJohn Nwaobiala, described his contact and work relations with Professor Okojie as very cordial. He said Professor Okojie was a frank and dutiful Officer, with an open door policy. While noting that his charisma and energy was unequalled, he added that the Professor Okojie would be remembered for his philanthropy and humanitarian gestures. He



Mrs. Usendia, Mr. Maiyaki and Mr. Kankiya



Mallam Yusuf Kankiya (Liaison Office, London); Mrs. Adebukola Olatunji (Department of Information and Public Relations) as well as Mr. Danladi Abimiku

(Department of Finance and Accounts), shared their experiences with Professor Okojie, describing him as a magnanimous father to all. They called on the

Management consider on how to improve on the welfare of the staff, in view of the prevailing economic challenges.



West African Students Union, presenting an award to Prof. Julius A. Okojie



Prof. Okojie receiving a bouquet of flowers from some children, on behalf of the NUC Creche Management



The Event in Pictures







British Council Lauds Prof. Okojie for Integrity in Service



British Council Director of Programmes,
Ms. Louisa Durkinham with Former Executive Secretary, NUC
Prof. Julius Okojie

Director of Protocol and Special Duties, Mr. Chris Maiyaki, said that the stay of Professor Okojie in the NUC was a rewarding one for the NUS. He cited some of the achievements recorded under his watch to include Active Citizenship programme, Going Global, Internationalisation of education and linkages between Nigerian universities and their British counterparts. He informed the BC that the active commitment of the out-going Executive Secretary led to the successes achieved in the mutual relationships over the years.

Similarly, representative of the Executive Secretary, Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) and its Head MSc Unit and Overseas Scholarship Scheme, Mr. Kelechi Idimogu, said Professor Okojie was a rare talent in the country. He stated that the words of the BC attested to the legacy of achievements and excellence of the out-going Executive Secretary in the education sector. PTDF on its part, he said, could corroborate this success story as it had a successful collaboration with NUC in the areas of the Presidential Special Scholarship Scheme for Innovation and Development (PRESSID) and Overseas Scholarship of Nigerian Academics in Specialised Fields.

In a vote of thanks, the BC Director of Higher Education, Mrs. Tomi Soyinka, remarked that the Council had expanded its level of activities in the past 10 years in the NUS due to the sterling qualities exhibited by Professor

The rain of recognitions continued to fall for Professor Julius A. Okojie, OON, as the British Council (BC), Nigeria, honoured him at a cock-tail party, on Friday, 29 July, 2016, for his outstanding stewardship, integrity and excellence in service during the last 10 years. In her welcome remarks, BC Director of Programmes, Ms. Louisa Durkinham said that the Council enjoyed a special friendship and wonderful cordial relationship with the NUC during the tenure of Professor Okojie and wished that he stayed longer. She expressed delight that he was leaving the NUC with a legacy of performance, as Chief Executive of the Commission.

Ms. Durkinham stated that the Council decided to celebrate the out-going Executive Secretary for a good working relationship and outstanding achievements in the Nigerian University System (NUS). She particularly noted

that he was a regular supporter of Going Global Education programme of the BC and stressed that the Council was pleased with the successes recorded in the NUC over the period and hoped that this would set a good platform for future relationships.

In his response, Professor Okojie acknowledged that Nigeria inherited many of its traditions, including that of the NUS, from Britain and had therefore had a long lasting and effective relationship with many of its organisations and agencies, including the BC. He described Development Partners, like the BC as good shoulders to lean on whenever there is a challenge in the country, adding that the Council was a dependable partner that had helped to develop the country's education system, especially at the tertiary level where the NUC had worked closely with it.

Earlier in a remarks, the NUC



L-R: Ms Durkinham, Prof. Okojie, Dr. Biodun Saliu, Chris Maiyaki and Mr Yusuf Kankiya at the Cocktail

Okojie in office. She observed that he had left a legacy of achievements and hoped that his successor would carry on with the vision.

Mrs. Soyinka promised that the Going Global programmes would be put on the limelight by August to enable Nigerians see the benefits. She noted that being a product of the system herself, she witnessed the tremendous contributions of Professor Okojie to the NUS and wished him and his family a more rewarding future.

At the ceremony were the Vice-Chancellor of Nigerian Turkish Nile University (NTNU), Professor Hussein Sert; representative of the Executive Secretary, Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) and Visiting Professor in the Learning, Research and Statistics Department, Umar T. Mohammed.

In the NUC team were the

Deputy Executive Secretary 1, and II, Professor Chiedu Mafiana and Mal. Ibrahim Dan'Íya respectively; Directors of Quality Assurance, Dr. Noel Saliu; Executive Secretary's Office

(DESO), Mrs. Constance Goddy-Nnadi and Inspection and Monitoring, Mrs. E.O Usendiah as well as the Deputy Director, Information Division, Mrs. Adebukola Olatunji.



Prof. Okojie, receiving a Souvenir from Ms Durkinham



L-R: Mrs E.O Usendih, Prof. Mafiana and Mr Kelechi Idimogu



L-R: Prof. Hussein Sert, Dr. Saliu and Prof. Mafiana



Prof. Mafiana, 5th left, Ms Durkinham and Prof. Okojie in a group photograph with some members of NUC Management, British Council officials and other guests



NUC Recognises University of Africa



Prof. Julius Okojie and Hon. Henry Seriake Dickson, Bayelsa State Governor

The National Universities Commission (NUC) has recognised the University of Africa, Toru - Orua, Bayelsa State, as the 43rd State University and 143rd University in Nigeria. Presenting the Certificate of Recognition to the Executive Governor of Bayelsa State, Hon. Henry Seriake Dickson, on Thursday, 28 July, 2016, the then Executive Secretary, NUC, Professor Julius A Okojie, OON, expressed satisfaction that few days to the end of his tenure, he was recognising yet another university. He observed that the establishment of a university was the biggest legacy any one could bequeath to society, recalling that the

former President of the United States of America, Thomas Jefferson, despite his many achievements, was best remembered for founding the University of Virginia.

The erstwhile Executive Secretary reiterated that the future of Nigerian universities rested with the private sector due to its culture and tradition of diligence and academic stability that was lacking in the public sector. He submitted that it was difficult for the Nigeria University System (NUS) to be under pressure to increase access and be expected to improve quality at the same time. He attributed the challenge of the dearth of academics to the Civil War and the long period of Military intervention that led to the flight of top

academics out of the system. Professor Okojie noted that the best academics in different parts of the world are Nigerians, adding that no fewer than 4, 000 Medical Doctors, practicing in the United States were Nigerians. He, therefore, appealed to Nigerians to have confidence in the NUS, maintaining that Nigerian graduates and academics were globally competitive as demonstrated by the scholars of the Presidential Special Scholarship for Innovation and Development (PRESSID), who continued to excel in top universities around the world, and the 10 Nigerian Universities that emerged as Africa Centres of Excellence out of the 22 Centres in West and Central



L-R: Gov. Dickson, Prof. Okojie, Prof. Mafiana and Mal. Dan-Iya

African sub regions, following a competitive selection process. He expressed confidence in the employability and prospects of Nigerian graduates, saying it was unpatriotic for Nigerians to term their graduates as unemployable.

While tasking the Governor to adhere, strictly, to the rules and regulations guiding the establishment of Universities as laid down by the Commission, Professor Okojie also stressed that universities had traditions that must be adhered to. He admonished the new institution to, as part of its expansion plan, consider the possibility of developing a university farm and to also explore the opportunity of building a refinery as an oil producing state.

Professor Okojie advised the new university to run programmes that are relevant to its immediate environment as universities had the responsibility of meeting local and national needs. He enjoined it to start small and stick to the take-off Faculties, to enable it grow gradually, noting that the first five years of any university could be very precarious.

He also admonished the Governor to ensure that the University's principal officers are men and women of integrity, who would nurture the institution as well as create an enabling environment for industries and universities to collaborate and thrive.

Receiving the Letter of Recognition, Governor Dickson explained that, even though the university was state-owned, it would be run as a Public Private Partnership (PPP) for effective and sustainable management. He stated, that in the face of a highly globalised and competitive economy, more youths and skills

were required to enable the country compete favourably. He wondered why Nigerians paid so much tuition to train their children and wards in Ghana, but would resist the same tuition at home.

Hon. Dickson promised that the state would use its influence to attract private investors and partners to support the new university, adding that on commencement, all the Faculties would be affiliated to relevant industries within and outside the country. While expressing optimism that the University would be one of the best in



L-R: Head, Media and Events to the Governor, Mr. Ono Akpe; Perm. Sec. State Protocol, Mr. Joseph Akedesuo; Chief Press Secretary, Mr. Daniel Iworiso-Markson and Special Adviser on Media Relations Mr. Francis Agbo



Prof. Okojie presenting an NgREN plaque to Gov. Dickson

Nigeria, West African Sub-region and Africa, the Governor thanked the Executive Secretary and the NUC Management for their roles in the development of the NUS. Documents submitted by the Governor included the University

Law, passed by the State House of Assembly, Academic Brief, and Physical Master Plan. In the Governor's entourage were the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Joseph Akedesuo; Special Adviser to the Governor on Media

Relations, Mr. Francis Agbo; Chief Press Secretary, Mr. Daniel Iworiso-Markson and the Head of Media and Events, Abuja, Mr. Onu Akpe. Some Management staff of the NUC also witnessed the ceremony.



Gov. Dickson with Prof. Okojie and some members of Management



COL President Tasks Varsities on ODL



L-R: Director Open and Distance Education, Dr Esther Adesina; Profs. Asha Singh Kanwar and Mafiana

President and CEO, Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Professor Asha Singh Kanwar, has called on Nigerian tertiary institutions to review their mandates and missions so as to offer more Open and Distance Learning (ODL) opportunities to the citizenry. In the First Public Lecture of the National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN) titled, 'Can Open and Distance Learning Reach the Unreached? Lessons from the Commonwealth', delivered on Wednesday, 27 July, 2016, at the Idris Abdulkadir Auditorium, National Universities Commission (NUC) Abuja, Professor Kanwar said, considering its huge demand for higher education and skills training, Nigeria should develop need-based courses in order to reach the unreached. The courses should be developed in such a way that local communities could, through them get employment and livelihoods, while local industry and service sector get trained human resources.

Professor Kanwar defined the unreached in education as those groups of people who, either have no access to education or have dropped out of the educational system without completing their desired goals, and therefore cannot fully participate in the economic and social development of their nations. They are unreached because of their location in remote regions without educational facilities or they may be too poor to afford education. She observed that the fifth decade of ODL led to the rise of open universities, during which period governments and policy makers sought to expand access to education, reduce costs and improve standards, as they realised that traditional brick and mortar solutions could not be enough. She stated that reaching the unreached demanded a targeted approach.

According to her; "it is important to have an institutional policy in place to identify and support the unreached groups. Policy guidelines are needed to cater for

groups who may require additional support in terms of reduced programmes fees; or for creating access centres using mobile vans, as in the case of nomadic groups."

The COL President remarked that the success of the Open University UK captured the imagination of policy makers around the world, but particularly in developing countries, where dedicated open universities were established. In 1988, she said, there were only 10 Open Universities in the Commonwealth, out of which four were in Canada and the UK. Nearly 30 years after, she noted, the number had tripled with the growth happening in developing countries.

Beyond these dedicated single mode universities, Professor Kanwar said, had been the rise of dual mode institutions. Citing a UNESCO report on South Africa, she explained that enrolments in the University of South Africa (UNISA) and Technikon SA, single mode universities, dropped



by 21% as people had other options for distance education in the campus universities. One of the advantages of the dual mode includes, ability to reach larger numbers, with access to academic talent. The institutions have the capacity to provide access to a wider curriculum and generate more resources, though with its challenges. Its challenges, she listed include the fact that the distance learning unit is not autonomous, and often underfunded, while staff do not have the training required to deal with distance learning and learner support materials.

For any institution embracing a dual mode, the Guest Lecturer said that the next step would be to focus on how the faculty (staff) could contribute to providing support to the distance learners. This, she said, would ensure that quality and standards are maintained for both campus and distance students. It would also guarantee investments in quality assurance process and practices, to avoid the likelihood of Open and Distance Learning being considered second rate. She observed that this policy applied to Open University, UK, which is assessed like any other university by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).

While acknowledging that many open universities had a social mission and more flexible delivery mode, Professor Kanwar, however said that, with the same measuring instruments such as fitness for purpose, quality of courses, effective learner support, among others, there was no need for separate QA regulations for ODL. She mentioned that the major steps would be to train staff in the

different aspects of effective distance learning delivery. These would involve capacity building in curriculum, effective learner support, assessment techniques and the adoption and adaptation of Open Education Resources (OER). The Guest Lecturer disclosed that in 2011/12, COL supported a programme for the training of teachers in nomadic communities in Nigeria, while an audio-vision programme was also designed to help the teachers implement a constructivist approach in their teaching and learning process. According to her, Open and Distance Learning must use technologies that are appropriate, affordable and available. On the integration of two-way interaction to create cooperative and collaborative learning environment, she observed that mobile technology had emerged as a solution to reach the unreached at low-costs. She explained that in the L3F programme of the COL, the mobile phone was used as a learning tool for training women to develop small businesses. A basic mobile phone was also used for the Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) for Gardeners offered by IIT Kanpur, with COL support. Professor Kanwar recalled that in September 2000, a national workshop on distance education held at the ECOWAS Secretariat, at which a plan was developed for a decade of distance education. One of the objectives was to reopen NOUN and to provide higher education to one million qualified candidates, with the other being to build the capacity of 20,000 distance educators in the country. She enquired about how successful the targets had been and the possibilities of meeting the 2030 Sustainable Development

Goals (SDG4), which deals with education and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all.

The Lecturer cited examples of how institutions had deployed ODL, OER and MOOCs to reach the unreached. She observed that skills development was a major priority for most governments, revealing that COL had used video and television to train thousands of young people in various trades. With this blended training which, she stressed, honey gatherers in remote forests of Uganda learnt from experts in Makerere University in their local language, using basic mobile phones. This later showed improvement in food security and the generation of assets among these communities. Its application in Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) India, also showed how quality distance education could reach the unreached such as jail inmates. Over 500 jail inmates at Tihar jail were able to access education and receive visits from IGNOU faculty and counselors, thrice a week.

Putting Nigeria in context, Professor Kanwar noted that open universities around the Commonwealth were known to have enhanced access to higher education. NOUN, which was first established in 1983 and revived again in 2002, with a present student population of 120,000, could not be an exception. This University, like other Open Universities in the world, she argued, provides huge cost advantages to both students and governments as cost of operation is much lower than conventional higher education institutions. In view of this, she said that, with the population of Nigeria gravitating



Former VC, NOUN, Prof. Vincent Tenebe with Emeritus Prof. Godwin Sogolo

programmes. She, therefore, made a strong case for Nigeria to consider offering distance education through a dual-mode system as a policy measure to improve the Gross Enrollment Ratio in higher education, with the large number of students seeking admission to its higher education system. She used the forum to thank the immediate past Vice-Chancellor of NOUN, Professor Vincent Ado Tenebe and his successor, Professor Abdalla Uba Adamu, for their outstanding achievements and contributions towards sustaining the linkages between COL and NOUN. At the lecture were Principal Officers of the

more towards the young (with 46 % alone between the ages of 15-35) and with high internet participation, other alternative approaches were clearly needed to absorb the higher demands for

education. She maintained that it was not enough that of the 143 federal, state and private universities in Nigeria, only eight offer distance education



Guests at the event



Other guests



SCOPU Bids Prof. Okojie Farewell

Members of the Standing Committee on Private Universities (SCOPU) of the National Universities Commission (NUC), on Tuesday, 26th July, 2016, bade farewell to the erstwhile Executive Secretary of the Commission, Professor Julius A. Okojie in his office.

The team, led by the Chairman, Professor Akaneren Essien thanked the Executive Secretary for the opportunity to have served as members of the committee. He stated that it had been an invaluable learning opportunity to have towed in his footsteps in ensuring that private provision of university education attained enviable heights in the country.



Prof. Okojie with the SCOPU Chairman, Prof. Akaneren Essien

Receiving the team, the Executive Secretary thanked them for were entrusted with was critical to national development. Citing the performance of private university students in the selection

examinations for the PRESSID scholarship, he reiterated that Private University education was the future of the Nigerian University System (NUS) for many reasons, chief among which was the private sector discipline with which they were run. He encouraged them to be proud of their good work so far, and not to relent in ensuring that the vision stayed alive.

Other members of SCOPU on the delegation include: Mrs. Hadiza Abdulrahman, Mrs. Laretta Achor, Mr. Ahmed Ingawa, Mr. John Abah, Mr. Muhammad Adam, Mr. Mustapha Rasheed, and Bar. P a s c h a l E r u a g a ,



Prof. Okojie with the Members of SCOPU



R-L Mr. Ahmed Ingawa, Mrs. Victoria Omorodion, Mrs. Anthonia Bawa, Ms. Rita Okonjo and Mrs. Adebukola Olatunji appreciating the former Executive Secretary of NUC

Introduction:

The Federal Executives Council at its meeting held on 28th July 2010 approved that Nigeria should adopt the provisions of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) for Private and Public Sectors respectively.

Consequently, the Federation Accounts Standards Allocation Committee (FAAC) at its meeting held on 13th June 2011 setup a Sub-Committee to provide a roadmap for the implementation of IPSAS in the three tiers of government in Nigeria.

The Roadmap to the adoption of IPSAS was phased as follows:

- Full Adoption of IPSAS Cash effective from 1st January, 2014.
- Adoption of IPSAS Accrual effective from 1st January 2016.

The National Universities Commission (NUC) has commenced the IPSAS implementation project that will enable a seamless adoption of the IPSAS accrual in the preparation and presentation of Financial Statements in line with the directives of Federation Accounts Allocation Committee (FAAC) Sub-Committee on implementation of IPSAS.

Implementation Approach:

NUC is partnering with Nexia Agbo Abel & Co, to adopt a phased implementation approach which shall focus on the following areas;

- Regulatory Compliance
- Technical Accounting & Reporting
- Knowledge & Resource Management
- Process, Technology & Infrastructure

- Results Based Management
- Easy Comparison
- Competitive Advantage

- Quality
- Consistency
- Comparability

IPSAS

- Transparency
- Accountability

Expected Benefits:

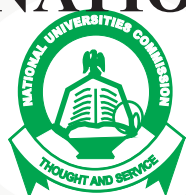
At the end of this implementation project, NUC's financial reporting is expected to be fully IPSAS accrual compliant in line with the directive. This will ensure greater level of transparency, accountability and consistency in financial reporting just like similar Public Sector Entities (PSE), high-quality financial statements based on globally acceptable standards and audit efficiency.

Implementation Committee

In line with the National Treasury Circular Ref. No. TRY/A5 & B5/2014 and OAGF/CAD/POL/C.0301/VOL. I/VOL.I of 23rd October 2014, the composition of the Commission's IPSAS Implementation Committee include:

Executive Secretary	Chairman
Director, Finance and Accounts	Vice-Chairman
Director, Management Support Services	Member
Head of Internal Audit	Member
Head of Information & Communication Technology	Member
Head of Treasury	Member
Head of Budget	Member
Head of IPSAS/Fixed assets	Member
Head of Procurement	Member
Head of Final Accounts	Member/Secretary

NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION



ADVERTORIAL

CONFIRMATION OF APPROVAL OF THE NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES e-LEARNING PROGRAMME

The general public is hereby informed that whereas the Commission maintains its stand that online degrees are not accepted in Nigeria at the moment, this does not include the approved Nigerian Universities e-Learning Programme run within the shores of Nigeria.

The Nigerian Universities e-Learning Programme is a legitimate and well thought out pilot e-learning initiative. It is a Public Private Partnership between the National Universities Commission (NUC), Park Associates E-Learning Group, and four federal universities. Its goal is to provide new opportunities for students to access university education in Nigeria.

The four Participating Universities are:

- i. University of Uyo;
- ii. National Open University of Nigeria;
- iii. Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto; and
- iv. University of Maiduguri.

Students enrolled in the Programme can select any of the following undergraduate degree programmes: Economics, Banking & Finance, Accounting, Business Administration and Marketing for which they have requisite qualifications. The Programme for now is only available for candidates who wish to obtain BSc Degree in Economics.

The Commission wishes to use this medium to allay all fears and doubts concerning the legitimacy or NUC endorsement of the Nigerian Universities e-Learning Programme. This is one of the avenues that the National Universities Commission is exploring to increase access to university education without compromising quality. Students in the Programme are therefore advised to continue to pursue their studies without fear and prospective applicants are encouraged to enrol. Concerned parents, guardians, students and the general public may contact the Commission for further clarification on the Programme under reference.

Signed

Ibrahim Usman Yakasai

Director Information and Public Relations

www.nuc.edu.ng



NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION



PRESS RELEASE

Medicine, Dentistry Programmes to Run for Seven, Not 11 Years

The new Benchmark Minimum Academic Standard (BMAS) for Medicine and Dentistry, which has since been made public by the National Universities Commission (NUC), provides for a seven-year training, leading to the award of MBBS/MDS and not the 11 years being erroneously circulated in the mass media.

Although the so called '11-year Medical Programme' stories have been credited to the Commission's Executive Secretary, Professor Julius A. Okojie's keynote address titled, 'Development of Medical Education in Nigeria: Prospects and Challenges', which was delivered at the Matriculation and Inauguration of the University of Medical Sciences, Ondo, on Saturday, March 12, 2016, nowhere in that lecture was 11 years mentioned or implied.

Prof. Okojie, who was represented by the Deputy Executive Secretary 1, Professor Chiedu Mafiana, had explained that the new curriculum provides for a seamless seven-year programme. With the new curriculum, a Medical student would be expected to graduate in Basic Medical Sciences, with options in Anatomy, Medical Biochemistry and Physiology in the first four years, before proceeding for the clinical training that would run for three years.

Prof. Okojie had further explained that the reviewed BMAS went through a long process, which included wide consultations with the academia, professional associations and regulatory body, following the conduct of a Market Needs Assessment. According to him, the consensus was that medical training should be post-graduate. The main goal is to ensure that the crop of graduates emerging from the programme are psychologically matured to practice, with a high level of competency.

The new BMAS for medical education still retains the fundamental learning objectives of the six-year programme: the national development goals for health, while retaining the international outlook to guarantee global competitiveness. While noting that the extant six-year programme shall continue to subsist for a period to be determined, Prof. Okojie observed that attempts had been made over the years to run Medical programme using course credit system and that the hallmark of the new document is that it clearly apportions credit weightings to all the courses and activities.

“In line with global practice and to ensure that knowledge and skills are effectively imparted”, Okojie said, “modern course delivery systems have been prescribed. Among core teaching facilities and modes of learning recommended are:

Clinical Skills Laboratory.

The use of the facility would represent a shift in the current mode of medical training to problem-based solving approach and the application of modern techniques which involves use of Mannikins and simulation materials. Clinical Skills Laboratory provides a learning platform in clinical, and information technology skills to certain level of competence before direct exposure to patients, which afford the learner and teacher advanced knowledge in a seemingly practical environment. The facility can also serve as a multi professional/inter professional interactive forum for communication skills development. The simulated patients also provide the learner a safe art of clerkship before direct contact with the real patient thus providing



a learning method that efficiently fills the gap between theoretical knowledge and clinical practice.

Classroom Equipment

Adoption of modern delivery method using ICT has become inevitable. Classrooms should be equipped with smart boards, document scanners and biometric scanners for lecture attendance.

E-learning materials and Research Information Platforms

E-learning materials accelerate understanding of courses taught and have become a veritable tool for learning. Research, generally, are meant to address social issues as well as deepening the knowledge and advancement in the field of studies. Information on the developments and applications in the field of study should be readily available.”

On the above, Prof. Okojie said, “The availability of Nigerian Research and Education Network (NgREN) has made access to teaching (such as Telemedicine) and research information readily accessible, and all Nigerian universities should key into it.”

Since the first erroneous publication of '11 years for Medical Programmes', NUC has sought to correct this misconception by widely circulating the Keynote Address and a Press Release on the matter. The Executive Secretary also took time to correct the misconception by speaking, extensively, on the matter at the recent recognition ceremony of the Edo University, Iyamho, held at the NUC Secretariat, Abuja.

**Signed:
Management**



Approved Open Universities and Distance Learning Centres in Nigeria

The National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), which has 72 study/resource centres nationwide, is currently the only approved open university in the Nigerian University System (NUS)

List of approved Distance Learning Centres in Nigeria

Eight universities in the Nigerian University System, currently have the approval of the National Universities Commission to operate distance learning centres as follows:

1. Distance Learning Centre, University of Ibadan.
2. Distance Learning Institute, University of Lagos.
3. Centre for Distance Learning and Continuing Education, University of Abuja.
4. Centre for Distance Learning, University of Maiduguri.
5. Centre for Distance Learning, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.
6. Centre for Distance Learning, Modibbo Adama University of Technology, Yola and
7. Ladoké Akintola University of Technology Open and Distance Learning Centre, Ogbomosho.
8. Distance Learning Centre, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

THE ASSOCIATION OF COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITIES' CONFERENCE OF UNIVERSITY LEADERS IN ACCRA, GHANA FROM 27TH- 29TH JULY, 2016 IN COLLABORATION WITH VICE-CHANCELLOR'S GHANA

The National Universities Commission is in receipt of a letter from the Deputy Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) on the Conference of University Leaders holding in Accra, Ghana from 27th - 29th July, 2016. The International Conference, which is being organised by the ACU in collaboration with Vice Chancellor's Ghana aimed at promoting collaborative opportunities in the region in which, member Universities are expected to demonstrate particular opportunities and achievements.

A keynote address will be delivered by the former U.N Secretary-General, His Excellency, Mr Kofi Annan. For details on the Conference, visit www.acu.uk/events/ghana-2016





NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION

IMPLEMENTING STEPS FOR NEW MEDICAL SCHOOLS, ACCREDITATION ISSUES AND THE NEW MINIMUM BENCHMARK (2015) FOR THE MBBS/BDS PROGRAMMES

PROGRAMMES

Following several Stakeholders' meetings in the last two years and as a prelude to the formal release of the New Minimum Academic Benchmark (2015), proprietors of Medical and Dental Schools in Nigeria (both current and prospective) are requested to note the following implementing steps including relevant adjustments relating to accreditation of Medical/Dental Schools.

1. From 1st September 2015, both current and prospective proprietors of Medical and Dental Schools should:
 - a. Write a letter to the Executive Secretary stating their intent and provide relevant information as available.
 - b. On receipt, (if NUC has no obvious reasons to disqualify the application), they would be sent a copy of the BMAS for MBBS/BDS and advised firmly to ensure that they are strictly complied with.
 - c. The setting up of medical schools is not an emergency exercise. To this end, prospective proprietors must own and have in place (prior to a request for a Resource Verification), a fully functional and well run tertiary type hospital. In the circumstance of the above not being in place, consideration for an affiliation with a tertiary government-owned institution may be given only when the said university owns a medical institution fully functional with a minimum of 150 beds and a rural health medical unit. (See Appendix 4 of the BMAS).
 - d. A Pre-clinical Accreditation would be expected to take place within two years of a positive Resource Verification. Students can only sit for the second MBBS professional examination (Anatomy, Physiology and Biochemistry) when they have a successful preclinical accreditation. The preclinical accreditation would, amongst others, concentrate largely on the Department of Anatomy, Biochemistry, Physiology, Pathology and Pharmacology and to a lesser extent, Community Health. All evaluated departments must have the minimum requirements in terms of academic staff, non academic staff and laboratory facilities. (See Appendix 3 of the BMAS)
 - e. The Commission has now approved a Clinical Accreditation expected to take place within twelve months of a successful preclinical accreditation. Subsequent to that, a reaccreditation exercise will take place every five years.
2. With respect to established medical schools, (and irrespective of their accreditation status), it should be noted that only institutions that (by the deadline of March 20th, 2016) have requested and obtained formal approval from the National Universities Commission for a re-evaluation based on the following considerations would be allowed to admit students into the MBBS/BDS programmes from the 2016/2017 academic year:
 - a. All Medical and Dental schools must have an approved, and appropriately utilized, Clinical Skills/Simulation centre.
 - b. Ensure strict adherence to the proper use of the course system for all approved programmes in Nigerian Universities. The implication of the above is that a particular programme (subject) is taught not only broken into cluster units of 1-4 but also have the components of university supervised examinations. For clarity, current end of posting examinations (practiced by some medical/dental schools) that neither have units allocated nor follow the standards of a University examination, do not conform to the Minimum Academic Standards as established by the National Universities Commission.
 - c. Universities are strongly urged to immediately review their current methods of teaching medical and dental students to include more tutorials, self study group teaching, use of IT in the delivery of courses and simulation/competency based evaluations that must be signed by a lecturer not below the status of a senior lecturer. It must be noted that the confirmation of a successful simulation/competency based evaluation should be a mandatory requirement before the students are eligible to sit for the various professional/sessional examinations
3. Proprietors are urged to note the Essential Component changes of the new curriculum expected to be in use from the 2016/2017 academic session. Details of these changes are available in the New Minimum Academic standards booklet and at the National Universities Commission website. (www.nuc.edu.ng) Major components include the following:



- (a) The approval of three alternative models viz;
- i. A seven year MBBS/BDS programme that encompass a mandatory seamless four-year acquisition of the B.Sc. (Basic Medical Science) with interest in either Anatomy/Physiology/Biochemistry. At the end of seven years, students would have acquired the Bachelor of Basic Medical Science, Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degrees. In case of the dental programmes, the students would have acquired a degree in Basic Dental Science and Bachelor of Dental Surgery.
 - ii. In order to allow for career change for interested non-medical health professionals, the Commission has also approved a four year programme leading to MBBS/BDS for interested and qualified graduates of Nursing, Pharmacology, Physiotherapy, Image Science, Paramedics, Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry and Pharmacology. It must be noted for such to be considered for admission they must have at the WAEC/NECO levels minimum credit scores in Mathematics, English, Physics, Chemistry and Biology at one sitting, prior to the admissions for their first degrees. They must also have a good CGPA.
 - iii. Admission into universities based on the current six year programme would be allowed to continue as suitable alternative based on the discretion of the University.
 - iv. It should be noted and emphasized that all the above degrees have the Bachelor appellation as they remain undergraduate programmes.
- (b) Specific periods of posting to the department of Family Medicine. The obvious implication here is that, the Universities should create the Department of Family Medicine following their due process.
- (c) Redesignation of the Department of Pharmacology to the Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics. The department is now expected to provide relevant basic clinical teaching and conduct relevant professional examination in Pharmacology. They will also be expected to provide relevant clinical teaching in Therapeutics. All Universities should set in motion the machinery to achieve the above.
4. In view of the above essential component changes of the new curriculum, the Commission will be organising a National training for Medical teachers in Nigerian Universities. Details of the training would be made available shortly.
5. Interested stakeholders are invited to send comments/suggestions on the above to: The Executive Secretary, NUC, okojie_julius@yahoo.com and copy to chiedu.mafiana@gmail.com

MANAGEMENT

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NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION

RE: MORATORIUM ON PART-TIME PROGRAMMES

The National Universities Commission, cognizant of the need to streamline the operations of Part Time and Sandwich programmes in Nigerian universities, had through a publication in the print media, including the Guardian and Sun Newspapers of Monday, 19th March, 2012, placed a moratorium on admission into parttime programmes in Nigerian universities. In the publication, the universities were requested to fully disclose all Part-Time and Sandwich programmes, with respect to enrolment and staffing profile, within four weeks of the publication, and to conduct in-house staff and student audit and forward same to the Commission. As a follow up to this, the Commission vide a letter dated 14 January, 2013, sent a reminder to the universities requesting those that were yet to provide information on their Part-Time and Sandwich programmes as well as affiliation arrangements to do so on or before 15 February, 2013.

2.0. Universities That Made Submission

Based on the submissions received, a total of forty (40) universities indicated that they would run Part-Time and Sandwich programmes as detailed below:

A. Federal Universities

1. Federal University of Technology, Owerri
2. University of Benin, Benin
3. University of Calabar, Calabar
4. University of Lagos
5. Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka
6. University of Port Harcourt, Port Harcourt
7. University of Uyo, Uyo
8. University of Abuja, Abuja
9. Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta
10. Michael Okpara University, Umudike
11. Moddibbo Adamawa University of Technology, Yola
12. University of Agriculture, Markurdi
13. Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto
14. University of Jos, Jos

B. State Universities

1. Ambrose Ali University, Ekpoma, Edo State
2. Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye, Ogun State
3. Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State
4. Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko, Ondo State
5. Imo State University, Owerri, Imo State
6. Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagan, Ogun State
7. Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt

8. Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu State
9. Ignatius Ajuru University of Education Education, Port Harcourt
10. Delta State University, Abraka, Delta State
11. Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso
12. Lagos State University, Ojo, Lagos State
13. Niger Delta University, Amasoma, Bayelsa State
14. Anambra State University, Uli, Anambra State
15. Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Eboyi State
16. Cross River State University of Technology, Calabar
17. Abia State University, Uturu, Abia State
18. Osun State University, Osun State
19. Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nasarawa State

C. Private Universities:

1. Crescent University, Abeokuta, Ogun State
2. Caleb University, Imota, Lagos State
3. Igbinedion University, Okada, Edo State
4. Lead City university, Ibadan, Oyo State
5. Achievers University, Owo, Ondo State
6. Benson Idahosa University, Benin – City, Edo State
7. Tansian University, Umunya, Anambra State
8. Wesley University of Science and Technology, Ondo, Ondo State

3.0. APPROVALS GRANTED TO UNIVERSITIES TO RUN PART-TIME/ SANDWICH PROGRAMMES.

Up to date, a total of thirty six (36) universities forwarded their completed documents, based on the approved format. Following the analysis of the submissions by the Department of Academic Standards and having satisfied the laid down guidelines for running Part – Time programme and Sandwich courses in Nigerian universities, all the thirty six (36) institutions were recommended to the Executive Secretary for approval. Consequent upon Executive Secretary's approval, letters were communicated to the universities accordingly. The universities are:

A. Federal Universities

1. University of Lagos
2. University of Port Harcourt
3. University of Calabar
4. University of Benin
5. University of Abuja
6. University of Uyo
7. University of Jos
8. Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile – Ife
9. Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka





10. Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta
11. Federal University of Technology, Owerri
12. Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto
13. Bayero University, Kano
- B. State Universities
1. Ekiti State University, Ado – Ekiti, Ekiti State
2. Cross River State University, Calabar, Cross River State
3. Imo State University, Owerri, Imo State
4. Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rivers State
5. Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye, Ogun State
6. Ambrose Ali University, Ekpoma, Edo State
7. Enugu State University of Science & Technology, Enugu State
8. Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagan, Ogun State
9. Rivers State University of Science & Technology, Port Harcourt
10. Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State
11. Benue State University, Makurdi, Benue State
12. Niger Delta University, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State
13. Lagos State University, Ojo, Lagos State
14. Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba – Akoko, Ondo State
15. Anambra State University, Uli, Anambra State
16. Osun State University, Osogbo, Osun State
17. Abia State University, Uturu, Abia State
18. Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nasarawa State.

C. Private Universities

1. Crescent University, Abeokuta, Ogun State
2. Caleb University, Imota, Lagos State
3. Igbinedion University, Okada, Edo State
4. Lead City university, Ibadan, Oyo State
5. Achievers University, Owo, Ondo State
6. Benson Idahosa University, Benin – City, Edo State
7. Wesley University of Science and Technology, Ondo, Ondo State
8. Fountain University, Osogbo

Dr. Gidado Kumo

Director, Academic Standards
For: Executive Secretary

GUIDELINES ON PART-TIME AND SANDWICH PROGRAMMES IN NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES

Below are guidelines for conducting Part-time and Sandwich programmes in Nigerian universities. All universities currently operating Part-time programmes are expected to comply with the guidelines on programme by programme basis.

Consequently, universities still interested in running Part-time programmes are advised to forward fresh applications to the NUC on programme by programme basis.

This is, however, subject to the readiness of the university to comply with the following extant guidelines on part-time programmes:

1. The admission and graduation requirements, Staffing, Library and physical facilities requirements must be in line with the Benchmark Minimum Academic Standards (BMAS) for the various full-time academic programmes;
2. For a programme to be eligible to run on part-time basis, the approved full-time equivalent must be available in the university, must have earned full accreditation and must be run within approved campuses;
3. The enrolment into part-time programmes must not exceed 20% of total students' population in the programme;
4. The minimum duration of the part-time programmes must be 150% of the approved duration of the Full-Time equivalent;
5. Approval shall not be granted for part-time programmes in Environmental Sciences, Engineering/Technology, Law, Medicine/Medical Sciences, Pharmacy /Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dentistry; and Veterinary Science;
6. All admissions into part-time programmes must be through the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB). Part-time programmes must be run within approved campuses of universities where the human and material resources for the teaching of the programmes are domiciled, i.e. on the main campus of the university;
7. Part-time programmes shall be subjected to the NUC accreditation assessment upon maturity of the programme;
8. For any programme to be eligible for part-time mode, it must have produced two (2) sets of graduates and satisfied the Resource Verification Requirements.
9. Commencement of a part-time programme MUST be subject to NUC's approval. Approval of commencement of all parttime programmes must be obtained.

The National Universities Commission shall not hesitate to apply appropriate sanctions on any university which violates any of the stipulated Guidelines on Part-Time and Sandwich Programmes.

Signed

Management



LIST OF APPROVED UNIVERSITIES IN NIGERIA

FEDERAL			STATE			PRIVATE		
S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.
1	University of Ibadan, Ibadan	1948	1	Rivers State University of Science & Technology, Port Harcourt	1979	1	Babcock University, Ilishan Remo	1999
2	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	1960	2	Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma	1980	2	Madonna University, Okija	1999
3	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife	1962	3	Abia State University, Uturu	1981	3	Igbinedion University, Okada	1999
4	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria	1962	4	Enugu State University of Science & Tech, Enugu	1982	4	Bowen University, Iwo	2001
5	University of Lagos, Lagos	1962	5	Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye	1982	5	Covenant University, Ota	2002
6	University of Benin, Benin City	1970	6	Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti. (formerly University of Ado-Ekiti)	1982	6	Pan-Atlantic University, Lagos	2002
7	Bayero University, Kano	1975	7	Lagos State University, Ojo, Lagos	1983	7	Benson Idahosa University, Benin City	2002
8	University of Calabar, Calabar	1975	8	Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomosho	1990	8	American University of Nigeria, Yola	2003
9	University of Ilorin, Ilorin	1975	9	Imo State University, Owerri	1992	9	Redeemers University, Ede, Osun State	2005
10	University of Jos, Jos	1975	10	Benue State University, Makurdi	1992	10	Ajayi Crowther University, Oyo	2005
11	University of Maiduguri, Maiduguri	1975	11	Delta State University, Abraka	1992	11	Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin	2005
12	Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto	1975	12	Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba - Akoko	1999	12	Caritas University, Amorji-Nke, Enugu	2005
13	University of Port-Harcourt, Port-Harcourt	1975	13	Kogi State University, Anyigba	1999	13	CETE P City University, Lagos	2005
14	Federal University of Technology, Owerri	1980	14	Niger-Delta University, Yenagoa	2000	14	Bingham University, Auta-Balefi, Karu, Nasarawa State	2005
15	Federal University of Technology, Akure	1981	15	Anambra State University, Uli	2000	15	Al-Qalam University, Katsina	2005
16	Modibbo Adama University of Technology, Yola	1981	16	Kano University of Science & Technology, Wudil	2000	16	Renaissance University, Enugu	2005
17	Federal University of Technology, Minna	1982	17	Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki	2000	17	Bells University of Tech, Ota, Ogun State	2005
18	Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna	1985	18	Nasarawa State University, Keffi	2002	18	Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo State	2005
19	University of Abuja, Abuja	1988	19	Adamawa State University, Mubi	2002	19	Crawford University, Igbesa, Ogun State	2005
20	Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi	1988	20	Gombe State University, Gombe	2004	20	Kwararafa University, Wukari (formerly Wukari Jubilee Uni.)	2005
21	University of Agriculture, Makurdi	1988	21	Kaduna State University, Kaduna	2004	21	Crescent University, Abeokuta	2005
22	Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta	1988	22	Cross River University of Technology, Calabar	2004	22	Novena University, Ogume, Delta State	2005
23	University of Uyo, Uyo	1991	23	Plateau State University, Bokkos	2005	23	University of Mkar, Mkar	2005
24	Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka	1992	24	Ondo State University of Technology, Okiti Pupa.	2008	24	Joseph Ayo Babalola University, Ikeji-Arakeji, Osun State	2006
25	Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike	1992	25	Ibrahim Babangida University, Lapai, Niger State	2005	25	Caleb University, Lagos	2007
26	National Open University of Nigeria, Lagos	2002	26	Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagun	2005	26	Fountain University, Osogbo	2007
27	Fed. Univ. of Petroleum Resources, Effurun	2007	27	Umaru Musa Yar'Adua University, Katsina	2006	27	Obong University, Obong Ntak	2007
28	Federal University, Lokoja, Kogi State	2011	28	Bukar Abba Ibrahim University, Damaturu, Yobe State	2006	28	Salem University, Lokoja	2007
29	Federal University, Lafia, Nasarawa State	2011	29	Kebbi State University of Science and Technology, Aliero	2006	29	Tansian University, Umunya, Anambra State	2007
30	Federal University, Kashere, Gombe State	2011	30	Osun State University, Osogbo	2006	30	Veritas University, Abuja	2007
31	Federal University, Wukari, Taraba State	2011	31	Taraba State University, Jalingo	2008	31	Wesley University of Science & Technology, Ondo	2007
32	Federal University, Dutsin-Ma, Katsina State	2011	32	Kwara State University, Ilorin	2009	32	Western Delta University, Oghara, Delta State	2007





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FEDERAL			STATE			PRIVATE		
S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.
33	Federal University, Dutse, Jigawa State	2011	33	Sokoto State University, Sokoto	2009	33	The Achievers University, Owo	2007
34	Federal University, Ndufu-Alike, Ebonyi State	2011	34	Akwa Ibom State University, Ikot Ikpaden	2010	34	African University of Science & Technology, Abuja	2007
35	Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State	2011	35	Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni	2010	35	Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State	2009
36	Federal University, Otuoke, Bayelsa	2011	36	Bauchi State University, Gadau	2011	36	Godfrey Okoye University, Ugwuomu-Nike, Enugu State	2009
37	The Nigeria Police Academy, Wudil, Kano State	2012	37	Northwest University, Kano	2012	37	Nigerian Turkish Nile, University, Abuja	2009
38	Federal University, Birnin-Kebbi, Kebbi	2013	38	The Technical University, Ibadan.	2012	38	Oduduwa University, Ipetumodu, Osun State	2009
39	Federal University, Gusau, Zamfara	2013	39	Sule Lamido University, Kafin Hausas	2013	39	Paul University, Awka, Anambra State	2009
40	Federal University, Gashua, Yobe	2013	40	Ondo State University of Medical Sciences	2015	40	Rhema University, Obeama-Asa, Rivers State	2009
			41	Edo University, Iyamho	2016	41	Wellspring University, Evbuobanosa, Edo State	2009
			42	Eastern Palm University, Ogboko	2016	42	Adeleke University, Ede, Osun State	2011
						43	Baze University, Abuja	2011
						44	Landmark University, Omu-Aran, Kwara State	2011
						45	Samuel Adegboyega University, Ogwa, Edo State	2011
						46	Elizade University, Ilara-Mokin, Ondo State	2012
						47	Evangel University, Akaeze, Ebonyi State	2012
						48	Gregory University, Uturu, Abia State	2012
						49	McPherson University, Seriki Sotayo, Ajebo, Ogun State	2012
						50	Southwestern University, Okun Owa, Ogun State	2012
						51	Augustine, University, Ilara, Lagos State	2015
						52	Chrisland University, Owode, Ogun State	2015
						53	Christopher University, Mowe, Ogun State	2015
						54	Hallmark University, Ijebu, Itele, Ogun State	2015
						55	Kings University, Ode Omu, Osun State	2015
						56	Michael and Cecilia Ibru Uni., Owhrode, Delta State	2015
						57	Mountain Top University, Ogun State	2015
						58	Ritman University, Ikot Ekpene, Akwa Ibom State	2015
						59	Summit University, Offa, Kwara State	2015
						60	Edwin Clark University, Kiagbodo, Delta State	2015
						61	Hezekiah University, Umudi, Imo State	2015





List of Universities with Approved Postgraduate Programmes

The National Universities Commission (NUC) has observed with great concern that some Nigerian universities are running unapproved postgraduate programmes, leading to the award of Masters and PhD degrees. The Commission has also observed that some Parastatals and Institutes are awarding these same Postgraduate degrees, either on their own or through unapproved affiliations with Nigerian and foreign Universities. Such practices are not only unethical, but also antithetical to time-tested quality assurance best practices. The qualifications/awards resulting therefrom are not recognized. The Commission hereby notifies the general public that only the following universities have approval to offer postgraduate programmes at the Masters' and Ph.D levels in Nigeria, as of 30th July, 2012:

Federal Universities :

1. Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi
2. Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria
3. Bayero University, Kano
4. Federal University of Technology, Akure
5. Federal University of Technology, Minna
6. Federal University of Technology, Owerri
7. Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike
8. Modibbo Adama University of Technology, Yola
9. National Open University of Nigeria, Lagos.
10. Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna
11. Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka
12. Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife
13. University of Abuja, Gwagwalada

State Universities :

1. Abia State University, Uturu
2. Adamawa State University, Mubi
3. Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko
4. Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma
5. Anambra State University, Uli
6. Benue State University, Makurdi
7. Cross River University of Technology, Calabar
8. Delta State University, Abraka
9. Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki
10. Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti
11. Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu
12. Imo State University, Owerri

Private Universities :

1. African University of Science and Technology, Abuja
2. American University of Nigeria, Yola
3. Babcock University, Ilishan-Remo
4. Benson Idahosa University, Benin City
5. Bowen University, Iwo
6. Covenant University, Ota
7. Igbinedion University, Okada
8. Pan-African University, Lekki
9. Redeemer's University, Mowe, Ogun State

14. University of Agriculture, Abeokuta
15. University of Agriculture, Makurdi
16. University of Benin, Benin City
17. University of Calabar, Calabar
18. University of Ibadan, Ibadan
19. University of Ilorin, Ilorin
20. University of Jos, Jos
21. University of Lagos, Akoka
22. University of Maiduguri, Maiduguri
23. University of Nigeria, Nsukka
24. University of Port Harcourt, Port Harcourt
25. University of Uyo, Uyo
26. Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto

13. Kogi State University, Anyigba
14. Ladoko Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso
15. Lagos State University, Ojo.
16. Nasarawa State University, Keffi
17. Niger-Delta University, Wilberforce Island
18. Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye
19. Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt
20. Umaru Musa Yar'Adua University, Katsina
21. Gombe State University, Gombe
22. Ibrahim Babangida University, Lapai
23. Kano State University of Science and Technology, Wudil
24. Kebbi State University of Science and Technology, Aliero

10. Caleb University, Lagos
11. Joseph Ayo Babalola University, Ikeji-Arakeji, Osun State
12. Nigerian Turkish Nile University, Abuja
13. Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State
14. Lead City University, Ibadan, (MSc. only)
15. University of Mkar, Mkar (MSc. only)
16. Madonna University Okija (MSc. only)
17. Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin (MSc. only)

Employers of labour, educational institutions and other stakeholders are to note that only certificates issued by these universities, for their approved programmes, are valid for employment, further studies and other purposes. When in doubt about the status of any programme or certificate, the National Universities Commission should be contacted through webmaster@nuc.edu.ng and the following telephone numbers: 08027455412, 07054407741, 08067787753, 07039254081 and 07082024412 (FAX). Further information can also be obtained from the Commission's website: www.nuc.edu.ng

Signed:
MANAGEMENT

Fourteen-Step Process for the Establishment of Private Universities in Nigeria

The National Universities Commission (NUC), wishes to announce to the general public, especially prospective promoters of private universities, the fourteen-step procedure for establishing private universities in Nigeria.

1. Application in writing stating the intent for the establishment of the university
2. Interview of prospective proprietors
3. Collection of application forms
4. Submission of application forms and relevant documents
5. Intensive review/analysis of documents by experts in

relevant NUC departments

6. Revision of documents by proprietors, based on report of SCOPU
7. Interactive meeting of SCOPU with the proposed university
8. First site assessment visit
9. Finalisation of document
10. Second (final) site assessment visit
11. Security screening of proprietors and Board of Trustees
12. Approval by NUC Management
13. Approval by NUC Board
14. Approval by FEC

Prof. Julius A. Okojie, oon,
Executive Secretary, NUC
Announcer



NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

List of Illegal Universities Closed Down by NUC

The National Universities Commission (NUC) wishes to announce to the general public, especially parents and prospective undergraduates, that the under-listed “Degree Mills” have not been licensed by the Federal Government and have, therefore, been closed down for violating the Education (National Minimum Standards etc.) Act CAP E3 Law of the Federation of Nigeria 2004. The “Universities” are:

- 1) University of Accountancy and Management Studies, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 2) Christians of Charity American University of Science & Technology, Nkpor, Anambra State or any of its other campuses
- 3) University of Industry, Yaba, Lagos or any of its other campuses
- 4) University of Applied Sciences & Management, Port Novo, Republic of Benin or any of its other campuses in Nigeria
- 5) Blacksmith University, Awka or any of its other campuses
- 6) Volta University College, Ho, Volta Region, Ghana or any of its other campuses in Nigeria
- 7) Royal University Izhia, P.O. Box 800, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State or any of its other campuses
- 8) Atlanta University, Anyigba, Kogi State or any of its other campuses
- 9) United Christian University, Macotis Campus, Imo State or any of its other campuses.
- 10) United Nigeria University College, Okija, Anambra State or any of its other campuses.
- 11) Samuel Ahmadu University, Makurdi, Benue State or any of its other campuses.
- 12) UNESCO University, Ndoni, Rivers State or any of its other campuses.
- 13) Saint Augustine’s University of Technology, Jos, Plateau State or any of its other campuses
- 14) The International University, Missouri, USA, Kano and Lagos Study Centres, or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 15) Collumbus University, UK operating anywhere in Nigeria
- 16) Tiu International University, UK operating anywhere in Nigeria
- 17) Pebbles University, UK operating anywhere in Nigeria`
- 18) London External Studies UK operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 19) Pilgrims University operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 20) Lobi Business School Makurdi, Benue State or any of its campuses in Nigeria.
- 21) West African Christian University operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 22) Bolta University College Aba or any of its campuses in Nigeria.
- 23) JBC Seminary Inc. (Wukari Jubilee University) Kaduna Illegal Campus
- 24) Westlan University, Esie, Kwara State or any of its campuses in Nigeria.
- 25) St. Andrews University College, Abuja or any of its campuses in Nigeria.
- 26) EC-Council University, USA, Ikeja Lagos Study Centre.
- 27) Atlas University, Ikot Udoso Uko, Uyo Akwa Ibom State or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 28) Concept College/Universities (London) Ilorin or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 29) Halifax Gateway University, Ikeja or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 30) Kingdom of Christ University, Abuja or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 31) Acada University, Akinlalu, Oyo State or any of its campuses in Nigeria.
- 32) Fifom University, Mbaise, Imo State or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 33) Houdegebe North American University campuses in Nigeria.
- 34) Atlantic Intercontinental University, Okija, Anambra State
- 35) Open International University, Akure
- 36) Middle Belt University (North Central University), Otukpo
- 37) Leadway University, Ughelli, Delta State
- 38) Metro University, Dutse/Bwari, Abuja
- 39) Southend University, Ngwuro Egeru (Afam) Ndoki, Rivers State
- 40) Olympic University, Nsukka, Enugu State
- 41) Federal College of Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Abuja.
- 42) Temple University, Abuja
- 43) Irish University Business School London, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 44) National University of Technology, Lafia, Nasarawa State.
- 45) University of Accountancy and Management Studies, Mowe, Lagos - Ibadan Expressway and its Annex at 41, Ikorodu Road, Lagos.
- 46) University of Education, Winneba Ghana, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 47) Cape Coast University, Ghana, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 48) African University Cooperative Development (AUCD), Cotonou, Benin Republic, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 49) Pacific Western University, Denver, Colorado, Owerri Study Centre.
- 50) Evangel University of America & Chudick Management Academic, Lagos
- 51) Enugu State University of Science and Technology (Gboko Campus) career Light Resources Centre, Jos
- 52) University of West Africa, Kwali-Abuja, FCT
- 53) Coastal University, Iba-Oku, Akwa-Ibom State
- 54) Kaduna Bussiness School, Kaduna
- 55) Royal University of Theology, Minna, Niger Delta
- 56) West African Union University in Collaboration with International Professional College of Administration, Science and Technology Nig., operating anywhere in Nigeria.

In addition to the closure, the following Degree Mills are currently undergoing further investigations and/or ongoing court actions. The purpose of these actions is to prosecute the proprietors and recover illegal fees and charges on subscribers.

- 1) National University of Nigeria, Keffi, Nasarawa State
- 2) North Central University, Otukpo, Benue State
- 3) Christ Alive Christian Seminary and University, Enugu
- 4) Richmond Open University, Arochukwu, Abia State.
- 5) West Coast University, Umuahia.
- 6) Saint Clements University, Iyin Ekiti, Ekiti State
- 7) Volta University College, Aba, Abia State.
- 8) Illegal Satellite Campuses of Ambrose Alli University.

For the avoidance of doubt, anybody who patronises or obtains any certificate from any of these illegal institutions does so at his or her own risk. Certificates obtained from these sources will not be recognised for the purposes of NYSC, employment, and further studies.

The relevant Law enforcement agencies have also been informed for their further necessary action.

** This list of illegal institutions is not exhaustive.*

Professor Julius A. Okojie, OON
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION
ANNOUNCER



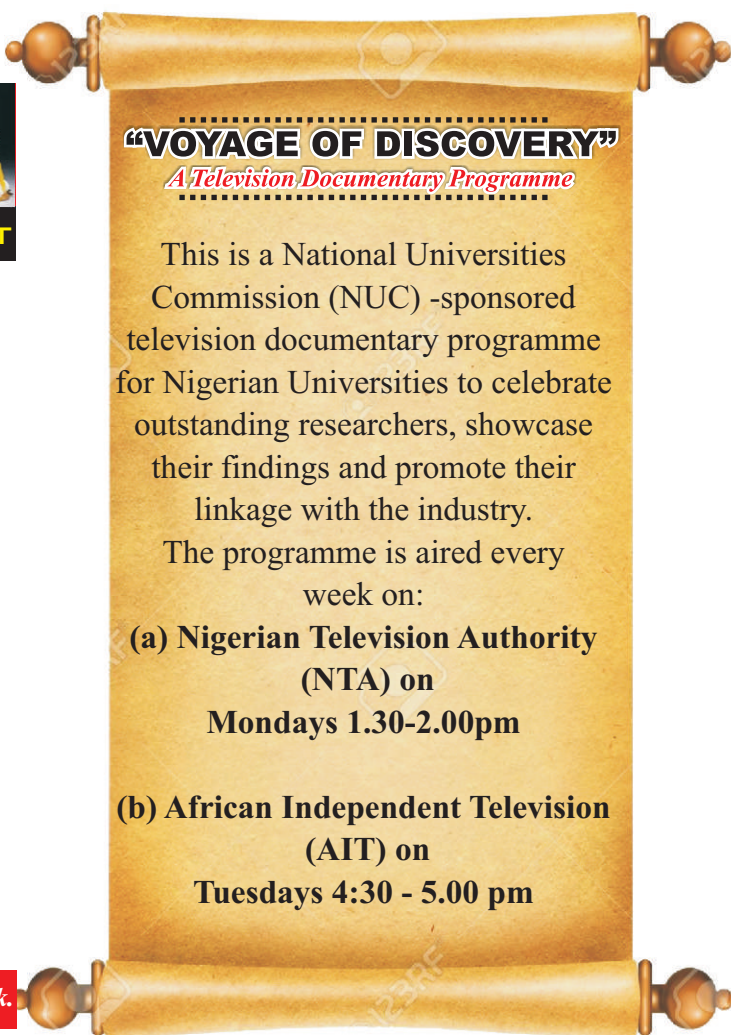


This Week's Birthdays



NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	DEPT
ABDULLAHI HAMZA	8/1/1962	DMSS
KEHINDE BLESSING ADEKUNLE	8/1/1984	DIM
JAMES CHILE NWAGWU	8/1/1982	DAS
SULEMAN ARI MAISULE	8/2/1979	DIM
BLESSING NGOZI CHUKWU	8/2/1962	DRI
HAPPINESS OZICHI MADU	8/2/1984	DQA
AUGUSTINE CHUKWUWINKE OGWEZI	8/3/1956	DESO
PROSPER ESUME	8/3/1979	DPP
DENNIS TUMBA	8/3/1980	DAS
HELLAMADA ILIYA	8/3/1982	DRI
OLUMUYIWA KOLADE AYENI	8/4/1975	LO
OLUWATIMEHIN AMBROSE ADETIMEHIN	8/5/1956	DESO
HABIBA DANIMOH JIMOH	8/5/1982	DICT
AIRUDULU LULU UDOKA	8/5/1978	DICT
ELESO JOEOGBHEMHE ELESO		
IMANA	8/6/1975	DFA
SARAH SULEIMAN	8/6/1975	DPP
NURUDEEN OLAJIDE LAMIDI	8/7/1985	DSSS

Wishing You Many happy returns! Best Wishes for the week.



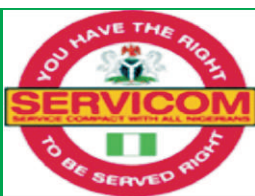
“VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY” *A Television Documentary Programme*

This is a National Universities Commission (NUC) -sponsored television documentary programme for Nigerian Universities to celebrate outstanding researchers, showcase their findings and promote their linkage with the industry.

The programme is aired every week on:

(a) Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) on
Mondays 1.30-2.00pm

(b) African Independent Television (AIT) on
Tuesdays 4:30 - 5.00 pm



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