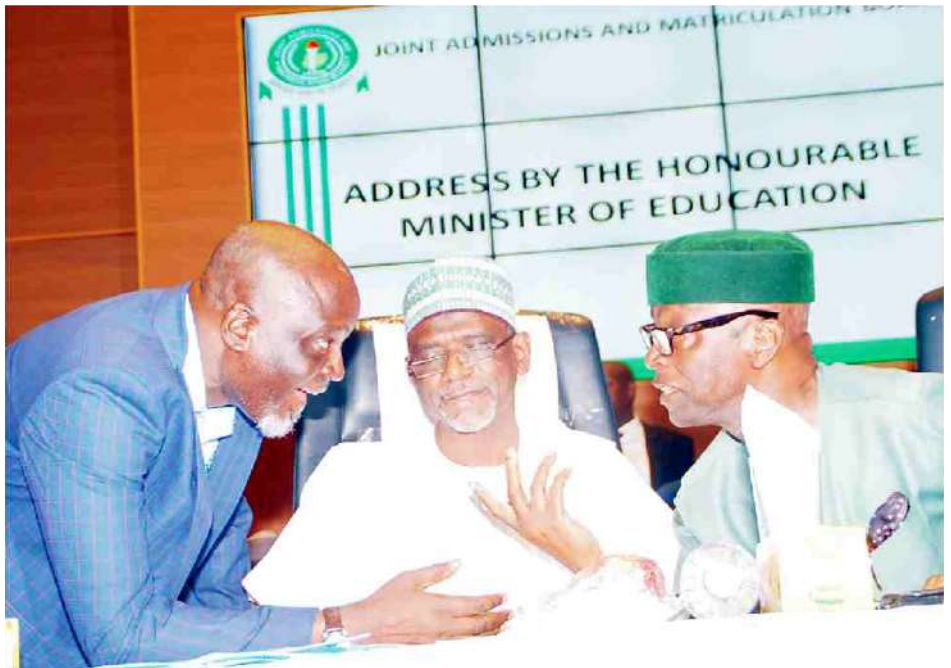


Adamu Adamu Reverses Self on Post-UTME

The Honourable Minister of Education (HME), Malam Adamu Adamu reverses self on Post-Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations (Post-UTME). The HME said this at the policy meeting on 2017/2018 Admissions Exercise Into Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria held at the National Judicial Institute, Abuja last Tuesday.

Mal. Adamu Adamu declared that 'the Senate and Academic Board of each institution is hereby allowed to exercise its autonomy to determine the parameters for the process and selection of candidates in addition to the results of the UTME.'

The Honourable Minister of Education, however, warned higher institutions to refrain from conducting another admission test similar to JAMB's UTME. Malam Adamu directed that an aptitude test be used and the fee to be charged must not exceed two



Honorable Minister of Education, Malam Adamu Adamu (Center), Honorable Minister of State for Education, Prof. Antony Anwuka (Right) and Prof. Ishaq Oloyede Discussing at the JAMB 2017 Policy Meeting with Stakeholders.

thousand naira (N2,000) only.

The Honourable Minister, Malam Adamu Adamu then commended the Registrar for the innovations in the conduct of the UTME and for the prudent manner he had

managed the resources of the Board. He expressed satisfaction with the performance of the Board. The Minister, who recalled the reaction that trailed the ban on post UTME last year. A rarity for a

in this edition



OER Policy Underway

Pg. 4



NUC Honours Dr. Gurin

Pg. 8



Emotions Flow as Colleagues Honour Mal. Ndanusa

Pg. 10



R-L Malam Adamu, Prof. Anwuka, Chairman Senate Committee on Tertiary Education and Tetfund, Senator Jibrin Barau; Executive Secretary, Tetfund, Dr. Abdullahi Baffa, Executive Secretary, NBTE, Dr. Mas'ud Kazaure and Executive Secretary, NUC, Prof. Abubakar Rasheed at the JAMB 2017 Policy Meeting

Nigerian public officer, the Honourable Minister apologized for that poor decision. He said that government was working hard at expanding access to university education through the establishment of more universities and the increase of carrying capacity as well. He gave the assurance that with the efforts and measures being put in place by government, a good number of applicants would be admitted in the current admission process.

The HME commended JAMB leadership for contributing the sum of Five billion, one hundred and seventy million, five hundred and eighty thousand two hundred and ninety seven naira eighty kobo (N5177,580, 297.08) to the federation account. "this unprecedented development is the result of accountability, transparency, honesty and patriotism in the reinvented Board and the integrity of the new Registrar, Professor Ishaq Oloyede.

You have made all of us proud" he concluded.

Speaking at the policy meeting on admission to tertiary institutions in Nigeria attended by members of the policy Committee including Vice-Chancellors of Universities, Rectors of Polytechnics and Provosts of Colleges of Education last Tuesday, the Registrar of the Board, Professor Ishaq Oloyede said that the need to set a realistic

cut off mark was borne out of the fact that over the years about 40% of applicants who scored 200 and above in JAMB did not possess the five O level credits required for admission. This, he said indirectly affected the qualified candidates who scored less than 200 but possessed the basic admission requirement. He said that the individual university Senate and academic Boards were allowed to set their individual cut off marks.

He observed that all over the world there is the demand for a dynamic and flexible educational policy that allows qualified student gain admission without hitches adding that the Board had taken steps to ensure that only qualified students who possessed the required five credits were offered admission. He said that a situation where students awaiting WAEC and NECO results were offered admissions that were not utilised would no longer be encouraged.

It was on this note that the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), has in consultation with stakeholders set a minimum of



NUC Directors of Corporate Communication, Ibrahim Yakasai (Left); Quality Assurance, Dr. Noel Salu (Second Left) and Academic Planning, Dr. Gidado Bello Kumo (second right) at the JAMB Meeting





120 as the national cut off marks for universities 100 for Polytechnics and colleges of Education as well as 110 for Innovative Enterprise Institutions.

The Registrar said that the era of irregular admission was over as the Board would no longer condone any request for regularisation of students who were admitted illegally. He advised the institutions to disclose all irregularities to enable the JAMB resolve them once and for all. He disclosed that the process of admission has now been automated with the introduction of the Central Admission Processing System (CAPS). He explained that the system would ease the challenges associated with Admission.

He said that admissions into public degree awarding institutions for the 2017 UTME examination will end on December 15, 2017 while for private universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of Education and

Innovation Enterprise Institutions would end January 31, 2018.

Also, decisions on first choice candidates by universities will end on October 15, and second choice candidates will end on December 15. This, he explained, was to enable the Private Universities, Polytechnics, COEs and Innovation Enterprise institutions be able to shop for the available students.

Professor Oloyede encouraged universities, especially public universities to make conscious efforts to reflect the universality of their name and the federal character principle by admitting students from all states of the federation as well as international students. He said a situation where over 50% of students in a public university came from a particular state and geopolitical zone was unhealthy for the nation.

The JAMB Registrar appealed to all stakeholders to assist the Board to serve the public better adding that

the Board was only a clearing house that ensured that only qualified students were admitted into tertiary institutions. He called on all heads of tertiary institution not to be sentimental in the admission of students. He also called on relevant authorities and stakeholders to make education a priority in order to ensure national development.

In his good will message, Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC), Professor Abubakar Rasheed, Mni, MFR, commended the Registrar for the giant stride and innovations in the resolve for the development of higher education in Nigeria. He commended the Vice Chancellors, Rectors and Provosts as well as stakeholders for their commitment in coordinating the affairs of their various institutions, thereby adding value to the system. At the Meeting were the Honourable Minister of State for Education, Professor Anthony Anwuka; Heads of Agencies, Directors of JAMB and NUC



Some Vice-Chancellors and Heads of Tertiary Institutions at the Meeting





OER Policy Underway

As a precursor to OER Paris Declaration with over 70 countries in attendance including Nigeria, a call for states to realize the enormous benefit of Open Education Resources was underscored.

In 2012, the Commonwealth of Learning and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) with financial support from William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, organized the first world Open Educational Resources (OER) congress at the UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France.

At the meeting, the congress came up with a ten-point recommendations: foster awareness and use of OER; Facilitate enabling environment for use of information and communication Technology (ICT); Reinforce development of strategies and policies on OER; Promote understanding and use of open licensing frameworks; Support capacity building for the sustainable development of quality learning materials; Foster strategic alliances for OER; Encourage development and adaptation of OER in a variety of languages and cultural contexts; Encourage research on OER; Facilitate finding, retrieving and sharing of OER; and Encourage the open licensing of educational materials produced with public



Prof. Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, *mni*, MFR
Executive Secretary, NUC

funds.

Thereafter, six consultative discussions were held in different parts of the globe including the last meeting in the republic of Mauritius, from 1 – 3 March, 2017. Heads of governments, representatives and citizens were challenged to take concrete actions on the said recommendations.

The Mauritius congress reiterated the importance of “ regional consultation on OER for the development of a supportive policy environment to enable governments and institutional Policy Makers shape not only the direction of educational systems but accelerate the creation of more open educational resources (OERs)”

Responding to this call, the

Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission, Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, *mni*, MFR, convened and chaired the inaugural meeting of the National Steering Committee whose members were:

Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed- E. S., NUC - Convener/Chairman

H. E. Amb. Maryam Katagum – Nig, Perm. Delgation, UNESCO – Advisor

Professor Peter Okebukola – Former E. S., NUC – Advisor

Professor (Emirutus) Olugbemi Jegede – Former VC, NOUN – Advisor

Dr Jane-Frances Agbu, ICDE Chair in OER/Dean, Fac. of Health Sci. – COL Appointed Consultant

Professor Bappa-Aliyu Muhammad, E. S. NCCE – Member





Prof. Abubakar Rasheed (4th Left) addressing members of the Committee on Open Education Resources Policy for Higher Education in Nigeria. Members of the Committee include (L-R) Profs. Olu Jegede, Peter Okebukola, Nigerian Amb. to UNESCO, Amb. Maryam Katagum; VC NOUN, Prof. Adamu; DRI & ICT, Dr. Ramon-Yusuf; DODE, Dr. Adesina, NAL President Prof. Olu Obafemi and CVC Secretary General, Prof. Faborode

Professor Michael O. Faborode,
Sec. General, CVC, - Member

Professor Abdallah Uba Adamu,
VC, NOUN – Member

Professor Olu Obafemi, Chairman,
NAL – Member

Engr. Usman J. Danjuma
(Rep. E. S., NBTE –
Member

Dr Suleyman B. Ramon-
Yusuf Director, RI&IT,
NUC – Member

Dr Olamide Esther Adesina
Director, ODE –
Member

Mr Christopher J
M a i y a k i
Director, ESO – Member/Secretary.

Speaking during the inaugural meeting of the National Steering Committee of Open Educational Resources (NSC-OER) last Monday, the convener and chairman of the committee, Professor

Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, *mni*, MFR, emphasized the need to have OER policy for higher education institutions in Nigeria.

The scribe said that the current government should have a clear policy on the issue in line with current government policy of transparency and honesty, adding that the gesture would position the country from commitment to action in OER inclusiveness and equitable quality education. The convener advocated for immediate creation of National Steering Committee with core mandate of adopting and adapting OER in respective African countries. He was optimistic that with Ambassador Maryam Y. Katagum and Professor Peter Okebukola on the team, a clear and robust Open Education (OER) policy would evolve.

Professor Rasheed thanked the Ambassador for her prompt response in flying to the venue from France and her quick response in looking at the draft document forwarded to her, noting that her experience and participation would enrich the document cognizance of her position and role in UNESCO.

He positioned that Open Education Resource are digital assets for learning, teaching and research which must be handled with utmost care adding that any nation that needed to be on the global trend must be able to launch itself and one of such means has been the Open Education Resource (OER) platform especially in its higher education mode.

The Chairman concluded by underlining the need to include those directly responsible for





L-R: Profs. Obafemi, Faborode; Director Tertiary Education, FME, Haj. Fatima Jiddun and Executive Secretary, NCCE, Prof. Bappa Aliyu Muhammadu

higher education in the Ministry of Education so as to have a wholistic approach to the issue, hoping that the OER policy would soon be concluded and forwarded to Honourable Minister for Education for his signature.

The Advisor and former Executive Secretary, NUC, Professor Peter Okebukola commended Professor Rasheed for his forthright in polling resources in his determined resolve to move the NUC to greater height recalling that most of the program projects embarked on by Professor Rasheed when he was Vice Chancellor, Bayero University, Kano (BUK) were completed with high level of probity. Bayero University, Kano was one of the leading Information Communication Technology (ICT) and Open Education Resources (OER) domain in the country when the current Vice Chancellor, National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), Professor Abdullah Uba Adamu was part of

the Bayero University's team, he stated.

He reiterated his support and prayed for God's continued guidance for Professor Rasheed to pilot the affairs of the Commission emphasizing that the draft document on OER policy would soon be concluded because there were pockets of work across the institutions to be tapped from including OER platforms scattered

within institutions and organizations.

Professor Olugbemiro Jegede, an Advisor and former Vice Chancellor, NOUN took the meeting down the memory lane by providing the efforts done in the area of OER from 2008 which led to signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at Orea African Conference in 2009, adding that in one of the Senate meeting in



Prof. Adamu, Dr. Ramon-Yusuf and DODE, Dr. Adesina at the Meeting





2010, a detailed discussion was held on the need to map up an OER policy. He said the current effort would consolidate the struggle put up by the various stakeholders. Professor Jegede concluded that Nigeria is on the right course and the NUC Scribe and Honourable Minister for Education deserved commendation for the development.

The Nigerian Permanent Delegate, UNESCO, Ambassador Maryam Katagum congratulated Professor Rasheed for his courage and speed with which he responded to clarion call to have the policy in place and get prepared for the 2nd World Congress on OER Conference in Republic of Slovenia. She told the Scribe that NUC can make use of the UNESCO platform to come up with OER policy reiterating Nigeria was signatory to UNESCO and other similar Conventions and Affirmative Action but many at times failed to ratify those in their domain.

While agreeing with Professor Okebukola and Jegede, she emphasized that the identified gap need to be filled with concrete steps such as this laudable action. The Ambassador recalled that Nigeria signed Addis Ababa convention which reemphasized the Arusha Convention but Nigeria did not ratify its commitment and now the global conference is coming up, Nigeria's preparation was good so that huge success could be



ICDE Chair in OER, Dr. Jane-Frances Agbu and DESO, Mr. Chris Maiyaki

recorded.





NUC Honours Dr. Gurin



Dr. Rukayyat Gurin cutting the retirement commemorative cake flanked by Deputy Executive Secretary, NUC, Mal. Ibrahim Dan'Iya (2nd right) and other members of the NUC Management during her retirement ceremony

The Management of the National Universities Commission (NUC), last Tuesday, honoured one of its retired Director, Student Support Services, Dr. Rukayyat Abdulkarim Gurin, for her dedication and meritorious service to the Nigerian University System (NUS) in particular and the nation at large, all through the 20 years of her career and services to the Commission.

Dr. Gurin retired from the service of the Commission on the 16th of July, 2017, after attaining the mandatory years of service.

Speaking at the send-forth party organised in her honour, Deputy Executive Secretary, NUC, Mal. Ibrahim Dan'Iya, who spoke on behalf of the Executive Secretary, Professor Abubakar Adamu

Rasheed, mni, MFR, said that members of the Management was rather receiving and welcoming one of its own to the Commission, having bowed out of service with a good name and reputation. He noted that the celebrant gave her best and was involved in series of activities for the Commission which she handled excellently well. He stressed that the Executive Secretary missed the ceremony only due to other exigencies of duties and would have wished the event was organised in another convenient day.

The Deputy Executive Secretary noted that Dr. Gurin had good stories attached to her distinguished career, adding that she had spent greater part of her days in the Commission going by the calculation of the number of hours she gave to NUC daily. He urged the retiree to see

herself as a member of the NUC family, even at retirement.

Members of the Management, who spoke about the strength of Dr. Gurin in her distinguished career at individual basis, unanimously described her as one who represented the Commission in many assignments, including top-level Committees, where she excelled as an Ambassador of the NUC. Dr. Gurin was also recognised as a woman of candour and humility that should be emulated and wished her well in her future endeavours.

They also congratulated her for retiring in good health and without blemish, while expressing the hope that the good things the retiree learnt in the Commission would continue to inspire her in other





future engagements.

In her citation read by the Director, Management Support Services, Barr. U.V Onuoha revealed the outstanding educationist was born on 27 December, 1959 in Adamawa State. Her life was one of outstanding public service, with strong character of integrity and focus, a symbol of the single-minded pursuit of excellence in her chosen field of Curriculum and Instruction and an exceptional educational administrator.

Dr. Gurin attended Government Girls Secondary School, Yola where she obtained her West African Examinations Council Certificate in 1976, after which she proceeded to School of Basic Studies in Maidugiri in 1976 to 1978. She started her career early with her School Certificate as a Tax Clerical Officer in the Ministry of Finance, Maiduguri between July 1976 and October, 1976.

Because of her quest and passion for education, she proceeded to the University of Maiduguri where she obtained a Bachelor of Education Degree in Curriculum in 1981 and capped it with an M.ED and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Curriculum and Instruction in 1985 and 1994 respectively from the same University.

After her first degree, she went for the mandatory National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) where she was attached to Ramat Library, University of Maiduguri in August 1981 to July 1982. Thereafter, she joined the University of Maiduguri



Dr. Mrs. Rukkayat Abdulkareem Gurin, *mni*
Retired Director, Student Support Services,

Staff School as a class Mistress in August 1982 and rose to the level of Assistant Headmistress between 1986 and 1987. She later moved to University of Maiduguri as an Assistant Lecturer from 1987, where she rose to the rank of Lecturer II in 1988.

Dr. Gurin joined the service of the NUC on 2nd of January, 1998 as an Assistant Chief Research Officer on transfer of service from the University of Maiduguri. She rose through the ranks to the position of Deputy Director on 1st January, 2007. Following the reform and restructuring in the Commission, Dr. Gurin was deployed to the Department of Student Support Services as Head of Career Centre and Monitoring Division.

Her good blend of academic and administrative experience also earned her promotion to the position of Director in the same Department on 19th July, 2016, a position she occupied till her retirement on the 16th of July, 2017,

after attaining the mandatory years of service.

In the course of her service to the NUC, Dr. Gurin represented the Commission in various Committees, Boards and University Councils. She also attended many professional courses both locally and internationally. She is a member of the prestigious National Institute (mni).

She is a member of several Professional bodies, prominent among them include: Nigerian Association of University Women (NAUW); University of Maiduguri Alumni-Association (UMAA); Women in Nigeria (WIN), Federation of Nigeria Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FONWAN); Curriculum Organisation of Nigeria (CON) and the National Association of Women Academics (NAWACS).

Her zeal for the promotion of women issues was apparently evident as a member of the Governing Council, National Council of Women Societies (NCWS).

The event was graced by members of the Management and some staff of the Commission that had worked closely with her throughout her career.

She was accompanied by two of her children, a male and a female.





Emotions Flow as Colleagues Honour Mal. Ndanusa

It was an event laden with emotions as staff of the Department of Research, Innovations and Communication Technology (DRICT) last Thursday, honoured their retiring colleague, Mal. Yabaji Ndanusa for his hard work and comradeship all through the 29 years of his service to the Commission. The event was hosted by the Director of DRICT, Dr. Suleiman Ramon-Yusuf.

Mal. Ndanusa recently retired from the services of the Commission having reached the mandatory working years in Civil Service.

The Deputy Executive Secretary, NUC, Mal. Ibrahim Dan'Iya, who was the Chairman of the occasion, described the retiree as someone who should hold his head high for retiring not only in good health, but without blemish. He recalled that despite the challenges he went through in the course of his distinguishing career, he did not allow them to overwhelm him.

The Deputy Executive Secretary stated that Mal. Ndanusa was leaving the Commission at its most challenging times when his services was required to weather the storms with now 153 universities to supervise as opposed to 30 when he joined the NUC 29 years ago. He noted that there was nothing anyone could do about it as that was the civil service rule and congratulated him for all his good deeds throughout his stay in NUC. He reminded the retiree to know that the Commission remained part of



Mal. Mohammed Yabaji Ndanusa
Retired Deputy Director (DRIIT)

his family, even in retirement.

Emotions flowed from all directions as some members of the NUC Management and his friends and other colleagues, who spoke about Mal. Ndanusa said he was one man that lived a simple and honest life in NUC. He was described as someone who was patient in whatever life gives; appreciates friendship and that always beams with smiles even in most difficult circumstances.

Mal. Ndanusa was also recognised as a man that was content, who speaks loudly about his feelings on issues without pretence a virtue described by the Director, Management Support Services, Barr. U Victor Onuoha as lacking in the present day Nigeria. Mal. Ndanusa was also unanimously described as someone who represented the Commission excellently in many assignments,

including top-level Committees and a humble man to the core that should be emulated.

The entire staff also congratulated him for retiring in good health and expressed the hope that the good things the retiree learnt in the Commission would continue to inspire him in other future endeavours.

In his response, the celebrant, Mal. Ndanusa expressed his gratitude to his former colleagues for the overwhelming show of solidarity to him even at retirement. He noted that the words would definitely spur him to do his best to live up to the training and experience he gained from the Commission. He charged the staff to be diligent in their assignment so that on the day of reckoning they would also be remembered for their good deeds not only by man, but God.





Photo Gallery



Heads of Parastatals at the 2017/2018 JAMB Policy Meeting;
(L-R) ES, Tetfund, Dr. Abdullahi Baffa; ES, NBTE, Dr. Mas'ud Kazaure
and ES, NUC, Prof. Rasheed



L-R Chairman, NCCE Board, Rev. Father Benjamin; VC, BUK,
Prof. Bello and ES, NECO, Prof. Charles



(L-R) JAMB Registrar/Chief Executive Prof. Is-haq Oloyede; Dr. Kazare;
Prof. Rasheed; VC, BUK, Prof. Bello; VC, Sule Lamido University,
Prof. Ribadu at the JAMB Meeting



Some Vice Chancellors, Registrars and Provosts



Senator Barau (4th Right), DTE, Mrs. Jiddun (1st right) with
Some Vice Chancellors at the OER meeting



Prof. Rasheed addressing the inaugural meeting of the National
Steering Committee on Open Educational Resources (NSC-OER)





Photo Gallery



The celebrant in a photograph with members of the NUC Management, friends and other colleagues



Director, Management Support Services, NUC, Bar. Victor Onuoha reading the citation of Dr. Gurin during the ceremony



Dr. Gurin with her children and friends



NUC Management and staff celebrating the successful retirement of Dr. Gurin



Representative of the Executive Secretary, Prof. Abubakar Rasheed and Deputy Executive Secretary (Admin.) Malam Ibrahim Dan'Iya making his speech during the send-forth of Mal. Ndanusa, while other members of the NUC Management watch on



Group Photograph of DES (Admin), (4th Front row) with the Celebrant, (3rd Front row), Management and the Departmental Staff