



VC, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas (left) with ES, TETFund, Prof. Sulaiman Elias Bogoro, (centre) and Chairman of Board, TETFund, Alh. Kashim Ibrahim Imam

BUK Gets N1b Grant from TETFund for Centre of Excellence in Renewable Energy

By Bala G. Abdullahi

Bayero University's Centre for Renewable Energy Research, along with eleven other Research Centres, have won TETFund collective grant of 12 billion naira for elevation to TETFund Centres of Excellence in various fields. Each of the chosen Research Centres is to receive one billion naira.

This was disclosed by the Executive Secretary of the Fund, Professor Suleiman Elias Bogoro, at the inauguration of the maiden 12 TETFund Centres of Excellence at the TETFund Board Room in Abuja on Thursday, 26th November, 2020.

He also revealed that the new TETFund Centre of Excellence (2 in each geopolitical zone) would be funded for 5 years with a grant of one billion naira (N1 billion) each and would be at the heart of the mechanism for the attainment of "our national aspirations."

Explaining the rationale behind the establishment of Centres, Professor Bogoro said as far back as 2014 when he first assumed duty as the Fund's Executive Secretary, he presented a 5-year Strategic Plan, which according to him, proposed the establishment of a new

Department to drive Research and Development, along with Centres of Excellence in the nation's Tertiary Educational Institutions with the expectation that these centres of excellence would ultimately partner with Research Institutes/Centres, private tertiary institutions and the industry.

The TETFund Boss pointed out that there were three basic strategic aims for the establishment of the Centres of Excellence; firstly, he said the overarching goal was to support strategic and applications-oriented research and expertise with potential industrial applications. This, according to him, means supporting national and global competitive research and development in strategic and applied sciences with the aim of generating innovations; secondly, bringing together the complementary resources needed for technical development and industrial application.

This, he said, included concentrating multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary and translational research competence in order to further the development of products, processes and services, typically by focusing on problems that demand larger efforts which can be provided by smaller projects.

Another reason was to bridge the gap between researchers and users, and stimulating and strengthening triple-helix relationships. This is in order to enhance scientific research being patronized by industry, and in order to make the Tertiary Educational Institutions generally more responsive to industry needs.

The TETFund Executive Secretary drew the attention of the beneficiary institutions that each of them was expected to handle its own approved TETFund Centre of Excellence, with the objective to address a specific national development challenge through preparation of professionals, applied research and associated outreach activities to partners, especially community services. He said within that prism, institutions would have autonomy to implement their own institution-specific proposals.

Speaking on the operational guidelines, Professor Bogoro told benefiting institutions that more detailed establishment, operational and financial guidelines would be made available to them, adding that further documentation relating to the approved protocol and standard operating procedures was being developed and would be sent to them as the need arises.

He said whilst it was appropriate for each of the benefiting institutions to feel justifiably proud for being deemed worthy of selection from among dozens

of eligible candidate institutions, “I hasten to draw your attention to the huge burden of expectation that comes with your choice as the pioneer beneficiary institutions.”

“The eyes of your peers and indeed the country at large will be focused on you. As you embark on this huge task of driving the successful implementation of TETFund Centres of Excellence in your respective institutions, let me reassure you of our unflinching support towards the realization of the objectives of this laudable initiative. You can be rest assured that in TETFund, you will always have a responsive partner in development and progress,” he charged.

Bayero University is to focus on renewable energy, while Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto on Urology and Nephrology. The benefiting Institutions are; Bayero University, Kano and Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto (North West), University of Abuja and University of Jos (North Central), Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi and University of Maiduguri (North East). Others are: Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike and Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka (South-East), University of Benin and University of Uyo (South-South) and University of Ibadan as well as University of Lagos (South-West).

BUK to Partner with Polymer Institute in Waste Management

By Adamu Garba

Bayero University and the Polymer Institute of Nigeria are to collaborate in making waste management a source of economic resources and job opportunities to the community.

The collaboration will assist the University in removing wastes from its environment and using the wastes for more useful resources.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir A. Abbas, while receiving the National President of Polymer Institute of Nigeria (PIN), Professor Paul Mamza, during a courtesy call on Monday, 30th November, 2020, said BUK would work out strategies to see that unusable and unwanted materials such as plastic wastes are processed and made useful for commercial purposes.

According to him, the University places priority on clean and conducive environment so as to minimize waste products which may come as a result of numerous constructs the University embarked upon.

Speaking earlier, the National President of the Institute, Professor Paul Mamza, stated that the purpose of their visit was to show solidarity with the current leadership of the University and to re-establish common areas of partnership between the University and the Polymer Institute of Nigeria, which was established earlier through the former Vice Chancellor, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello.

He said the collaboration would help improve the cleanliness of the society and make wastes useful, stressing that the Institute had developed far-reaching collaborations with Nigerian Universities in areas of waste management.



VC, Prof. Sagir A. Abbas receiving a gift from the President PIN, Prof. Paul Mamza

“The Polymer Institute of Nigeria is reaching-out to the University for collaboration in areas of small and medium scale enterprises for local production of foams, paints, adhesives, pigments and fibre-reinforced polymer.” Professor Mamza declared.

foams, paints, adhesives, pigments and fibre-reinforced polymer.” Professor Mamza declared.

The President reiterated that the Institute developed an environment friendly method of disposal and utilization of these plastic wastes, which littered our environment.

Earlier, while introducing the visitors, the Provost of College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Professor Muhammad Sani Gumel said the University had a long history of cordial relationship with the Polymer

ASUU Town and Gown Meeting May Create Better Understanding of the Union ...VC BUK

By Lamara Garba

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, has described the town and gown meeting held by the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) as a good omen towards correcting the negative impression in the eyes of the public on the incessant strike by the union.

He spoke during the meeting which was held at the Convocation Arena, New Campus, pointing out that in addition to creating better understanding of the struggle, he also noted that such gathering would pave way towards finding an amicable way of resolving the impasse.

The Vice Chancellor, who was represented by the University Librarian, Dr. Musa A. Auyo, pointed out that since 1990's to date, ASUU had been grossly misunderstood by the generality of the public who he said, misconstrued the Union's struggle as something for personal aggrandisement.

“Far from what the members of the general public assume, the strike actions by ASUU is for the overall improvement of the University system through better investment in the education sector. It also aims at attracting academics from all parts of the world, as well as to curtail brain drain in our universities,” said Professor Abbas.

The Vice Chancellor explained that he was very much happy with such a policy of the union through which it brings together members of the public from different sectors to a round table discussion. This, he said, no doubt would go a long way in creating good understanding as to why the Union was on strike. “In addition to correcting the wrong impression on the Union's struggle, it will equally give room for intervention from larger society so as to resolve the impasse.”

Professor Abbas commended the foresight of the leadership of ASUU by introducing the town and gown interactive meeting. He prayed that the participants would be better informed and get a better understanding

Institute of Nigeria, saying BUK was the second university in Nigeria to be registered with the Institution as a corporate member.

Professor Gumel added that BUK hosted the 28th Annual Technical Conference of the Institute, which was the first National Conference by the Institute in Kano in 2018.

The visitors were warmly received by the Principal Officers of the University.

of the imbroglio between the Union and the government.

In his remarks, the immediate past chairman of the ASUU-BUK Branch, Professor Ibrahim Barde, advanced reasons as to why the Union was insisting on the adoption of UTAS and rejecting IPPIS. He also said the proposed



Cross section of the audience at the meeting

UTAS is free of charge and easy to maintain. It captures all the peculiarities.

“As you can all see, based on the practical application of IPPIS, apart from its inability to capture the peculiarities of the University system, it is also very expensive to maintain, because government has paid a huge amount of money to develop it. Equally, it has a yearly subscription fees. We consider the whole concept as nothing but fraud,” he declared.

According to Professor Barde, government is not sincere in this respect, otherwise, why should it insist on the application of something that will cost it a huge amount of money at the expense of using free and simple platform. He also questioned the rationale behind the forceful implementation of IPPIS in Universities while many of the MDA's are yet to enrol.

Appointments

Dr. Abdul Iguda Re-appointed as Deputy Dean (Academics) School of Postgraduate Studies

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, has approved the re-appointment of Dr. Abdul Iguda as the

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Deputy Dean (Academics), School of Postgraduate Studies, for a final Period of two years with effect from 1st December, 2020.

Dr. Abdussamad Muhammad Abdussamad Re-appointed as Deputy Director (Research and Genomics) Centre for Biotechnology Research

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, has approved the re-appointment of Dr. Abdussamad

Muhammad Abdussamad as the Deputy Director (Research and Genomics), Centre for Biotechnology Research for another period of two years with effect from 1st December, 2020.

Khalil Network Foundation Honours Professor Aliyu A. Dauda and Dr. Aliyu Abdullahi Jibia

Khalil Network Foundation on Saturday, 21st November, 2020, at Mahmoud Tukur Theatre Old Campus, organized a reception in honour of two erudite scholars, who retired happily and peacefully in the University System.

The Chairman of the Committee, Malam Ibrahim Khalil highlighted that it was not a one-day job for an academic to spend 40 years in services. With that, they must be unforgettable in the university and the nation at large, because they are good ambassadors. This recognition is a mark of confidence not only in their various faculties, but also in BUK. The university will remain grateful towards their successful administration.

Speaking at the occasion, Professor Ibrahim Mu'azzam

Mai Bushira, said Professor Aliyu A. Dauda was an Islamic Scholar but he was in Education Department because of his specialization. Likewise, Dr. Jibia, who had been from English Department, later on joined Political Science Department.

Responding, the Chief Imam of Bayero University Mosque Old Campus, said they were now (ALIYANIYS) and they were both born on first day of January. They have been friends for long.

Professor Aliyu A. Dauda and Dr. Aliyu Jibia applauded the Khalil Network Foundation and the Management of Bayero University for its tremendous support. They also appealed to both staff and students to be good ambassadors of Bayero University, Kano.

FCMB Salary Plus Loan Customers

This is to bring to the notice of all customers of First City Monument Bank (FCMB), who have collected salary Plus loan that the Bank has now changed its repayment date to 25th of every month.

In a letter from the bank, addressed to the Registrar, this change of repayment date affects customers whose loan repayment date is slated from 26th-31st of every month. It

says the change in date was informed by the desire to avoid the occurrence of withdrawal by customers who get salary before the due date and also to spare the customers from undue suffering as a result of double deductions in the subsequent months by the bank, which often leaves customers with little or no funds to cater for their families..

Guidelines for Accessing Loan Facility from Commercial Banks by Staff of the University

Following a submission by the Bursary Department and subsequent adoption of the proposal by the Principal Officers, members of staff are hereby notified of new guidelines in respect of accessing loan facility from commercial banks.

A letter signed by the University Bursar, Dr. Suleiman Mohammed Bello lists the new guidelines as follows:

1. That henceforth, the University will only write **LETTER OF INTRODUCTION** and **NOT LETTER OF UNDERTAKING** to any staff wishing to collect bank facility.
2. That any form submitted by a bank to be filled by employer would be subject to a report from the University Legal Unit in order to address any legal implication against the University.
3. That applicant's current payslips should be analysed
4. The Unions and other Associations within the university should be informed not to grant any further loans to a staff whose Net pay balance is less than 2/3 of his or her gross salary.
5. That the Bursary Department should have the liberty to reject any request for further salary deduction on any staff if there is no sufficient Net balance to accommodate it.
6. The applicant **MUST** produce two grantors from the university, who are capable to meet the obligation. Hence the university will **NOT** be liable for any default that may arise in the process of repayment.

Dr. Adeyemi, Tope Emmanuel Elected Secretary, NDA

The Nigerian Dental Association (NDA) has elected Dr. Adeyemi, Tope Emmanuel of Child Dental Health Department as its new National Secretary General.

A letter signed by Obagbeniro, Kolawole, President of the Association said he was elected during the 53rd Biennial General conference held from 20th to 21st November, 2020.i

