



Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas (left) presenting a congratulatory letter to the Deputy Senate President, Senator Barau I. Jibrin

## BUK is our Pride ...Says Deputy Senate President, Barau Jibrin

By Lamara Garba

The Deputy Senate President, Senator Barau I. Jibrin has reaffirmed his unwavering commitment in supporting Bayero University to become one of the great citadels of learning in the country

“Supporting Bayero University, Kano to prosper to the highest position, is a matter of duty for me and not a choice,” Senator Barau declared.

He spoke on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2023 when the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas led management of the university to pay a courtesy call in his office in Abuja. He noted that he could do his best to ensure that BUK not only excelled in Nigeria, but as well became a household name in global cycle.

Senator Barau Jibrin, who represents Kano North Senatorial District, said as a matter of fact, every Northerner and by extension Nigerian, must be proud of Bayero University because of its standing in the comity of universities in the country and world at large.

According to him, as a Senator representing the good people of Kano, he owed the constituents a duty to do all he could with a view to making BUK realize its potentiality of greatness.

“Mr. Vice Chancellor Sir, I want to assure you that, in view of the high regards I have for this our great university, you need not to come here, instead, a simple telephone call suffices, however, now that you are here along with your team, it serves as a reminder to what is in our mind. I want to assure you that, I am going to do what is already in my mind of supporting the institution beyond what anyone can expect,” he declared.

Senator Barau noted that he has done it before and now that he has more opportunity, he would redouble his efforts in making the university benefit from a number of projects for improved learning and teaching.

The Deputy Senate President disclosed that he would build two specialized hospitals fully equipped with modern facilities in Kabo and Bagwai Local Government. In addition, he will construct student hostels in those places with which medical students of Bayero University would be using for their rural posting clinical programmes.

“Please be assured that I am always here for Bayero University, nothing is too much for you, as we are very much proud of this great institution,” he concluded.

Earlier, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, told the Deputy Senate President that the management was in his office to congratulate him over the electoral victory as well as his election as the Deputy Senate President.

He said Senator Barau Jibrin had been supportive to Bayero University as he was instrumental to the execution of many projects and interventions for over the years. He expressed gratitude for all that he has been doing to the university and urged him not to relent in this direction especially now that universities and education in general are facing many challenges.

Professor Abbas revealed that the University penultimate weeks was handed over a magnificent building undertaken by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and

needs to be energised in which he requested the intervention of the Deputy Senate President as usual.

He also requested for the provision of multi-purpose state of the art laboratory at the University's College of Health Sciences and the construction of a rural medical students hostel in any of the rural local government as the one currently in operation has been in urban LGA, which defeated the purpose of rural medical students clinical programme.

The Vice Chancellor was accompanied by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Research and Development, Professor Abdullahi Sule-Kano, University Librarian, Dr Kabir Dahiru Abbas, Director Abuja Liaison Office, Malam Ibrahim Usman Yakasai and Deputy Registrar, Public Affairs, Lamara Garba.

## BUK's Greatness is our Gain ...Senator Rufa'i Hanga

By Lamara Garba

No amount of intervention and support giving to Bayero University, Kano will be too much, as the progress of the institution is certainly our gain, Deputy Senate Minority Whip, Senator Rufa'i Sani Hanga, has said.

Speaking in his office on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2023 when he received the Vice Chancellor of Bayero University and other management on a courtesy visit, explained that education is the best legacy that any society yearning for development could give priority attention.

Senator Hanga, who is representing Kano Central District, was disturbed with the deteriorating situation in the country's education sector, especially at university level, saying any person with conscious mind must do something to remedy the situation.

“For me, I have a special concern for Bayero University, for obvious reason. It was a premier University in our state and my constituency in particular; two, its position in the national and global ranking makes us very much proud to be associated with and most importantly, education is the bedrock of every development without which a society would be doomed,” he argued.

According to him, as a father and leader, he would make sure that he impacts positively in the development of Bayero University, which he said has a special attachment to its existence and prosperity.

Senator Hanga, while expressing gratitude for the visit, assured the Vice Chancellor that he would do his best to see that the university benefitted with a lot of projects and other developmental interventions from the National Assembly.

Mr. Vice Chancellor, be assured that we shall do our best as lawmakers and see that your requests and submissions for intervention scale all the hurdles of budgetary allocation as well as ensure that cash backing follows it, so that meaningful projects and programmes could be executed in our University, BUK,” he affirmed.

Earlier, while briefing the Senator, the Vice Chancellor,

Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas said the visit was made principally to congratulate the senator over his emergence as one of the Principal officers at the Red Chamber, which he said is the manifestation of confidence in him by fellow senators.

During the visit, the Vice Chancellor told him about the progress made by the university in terms of infrastructural development, academic excellence as well as national and global ranking in the comity of universities. He said BUK is now first in the entire northern region and number five at national level.



Senator Rufa'i Sani Hanga sitting in a group photograph with VC, Prof. S. A. Abbas standing (3rd left) and other Management during visit to Senator's office

The Vice Chancellor commended the humanitarian support to over 200 indigent students of the University as well as other developmental projects initiated by Senator Hanga in BUK.

He revealed that educational institutions especially universities need special interventions in terms of electricity, teaching facilities and other projects as the money given by the government could not adequately cater for their needs, hence the desire for every stakeholder to participate in the funding of education.

# BUK Wins Maiden Edition of Nigerian Higher Education 2023 Smart Board Competition

By Bala G. Abdullahi

Bayero University, Kano has emerged winners of the Nigerian Higher Education Foundation Faculty (NHEF) 2023 Smart Board Competition. The competition took place in Lagos from 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.

The Six NHEF-partner institutions that participated in the competition were Bayero University, Kano, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, University of Ibadan, University of Lagos, University of Nigeria, Nsukka and University of Port Harcourt.

The competition involved developing a Power Point Presentation in not more than five slides and presenting same using the Smart Board.

At the end of the highly competitive exercise and based on the assessment of all the presentations, Bayero University's presentation was adjudged to be the best in terms of content, quality and innovation. It was therefore, declared the winner of the NHEF 2023 Smart Board competition and carted home a digital Smart Board as prize winner.

The Nigeria Higher Education Foundation (NHEF) was founded by the MacArthur Foundation in 2004, but it is now being funded by the Kuramo Capital Management and a consortium of 21 partners. The NHEF organized a pioneer programme tagged “**Faculty Programme**” which was intended to engage 10 members of staff, including the Liaison Officer (Advancement Officer), from each of the partner universities in Nigeria. The objectives of the five-day intensive training were to:

- Strengthen staff capacity in the areas of grant writing, advancement programs, critical thinking in the classroom, and use of technology and artificial intelligence in the classroom;
- Facilitate collaboration, networking, and idea-sharing among faculty members from the various universities, thus sparking same with other universities outside the circle.

The programme was made up of two components; a) workshop, where interactive sessions were made, and b) a competition to win a digital Smart Board.

The papers presented at the workshop could be categorized into the following sub-themes:

- Enhanced IT skills required for integration of technology in teaching and learning,
- Paradigm shift to learner-centered teaching methods, professionalism and ethics.
- Strategies for effective grantsmanship,
- Advancement and alumni relations,
- Awareness creation on transnational crimes.

Competition which was the second aspect of the programme, involved developing a Power Point

Presentation in not more than five slides and presenting same using the Smart Board. The assessment of all the presentations, showed that Team BUK's presentation was adjudged to be the best in terms of content, quality, and innovation. Bayero University was, therefore, declared the winner of the competition.

The lessons learned from the programme include:

- The contemporary higher education ecosystem is characterized by vulnerability, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity. The need for paradigm shifts by lecturers, students, and university leadership in areas such as student engagement, collaboration and lifelong learning for professional development. In particular, the following are fundamental to meeting the requirements for building future-ready



Team BUK receiving a Smart Board Equipment

university teachers:

- Learning and adopting new teaching technologies,
  - Developing skills for the future,
  - Learning Artificial Intelligence (AI) based tools for teaching and learning.
- The need to strengthen collaboration between Faculty members across disciplines and institutions, especially in research and knowledge creation crucial. In addition, upholding high degree of research and professional ethics is key to responsible personal and institutional development.
  - Developing effective strategies for managing Advancement Office and Alumni Relations is key to sustainable growth of universities.
  - The success of Bayero University Team in the competition may be attributed to the spirit of teamwork, expertise and commitment to moving BUK forward.

# Skyline University to Sign MoU with BUK

By Aisha Isma'il

Professor Sagir Abbas on Monday 30th October, 2023 received the Vice Chancellor of Skyline University, Professor Ajith Kumar V. in company of Director, Marketing, Abubakar Sadiq Ismael.

Professor Kumar in his address, stated that the essence of



A group photograph of BUK Management and that of Skyline University

the visit was to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Bayero University where staff and students can learn from the best practices of Bayero University as a long standing institution with loads of experiences to share. He said Skyline university looks up to BUK as a mentor, especially with the recent approval for commencement of Post

graduate programs.

Prof. Kumar said, Skyline University is ready to graduate its first set of students, therefore, seeking guidance from BUK on the local graduation requirements and protocols is sacrosanct. He congratulated the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Abbas on the recent global ranking of BUK by Times Higher Education United Kingdom, which is a major achievement, saying Skyline hopes to attain such greatness but it's only possible by associating with the best through maintaining the existing cordial relationship.

Professor Sagir Abbas commended the efforts of Skyline University for its resilience, perseverance and dedication from inception to date, also for maintaining the initial standard adopted and set by Skyline university, making it one of the leading private Universities. The VC welcomed the idea of signing an MoU with enthusiasm, a promising to expedite the process.

Speaking further on the graduation requirements Prof. Abbas promised guidance in accordance with the NUC stipulated guidelines. He said the graduation should be a memorable occasion for both the students, staff and parents to interact and celebrate. This can only be achieved through careful preparation and consultation.

Prof. Abbas also said BUK is ready to collaborate with Skyline University to give training to its staff in higher degrees at a low cost compared to international sponsorship which is more costly.

The Director of Marketing, Abubakar Sadiq Ismael gave a vote of thanks. He said Skyline University has enjoyed mentoring from Bayero University right from the onset and has shaped the university to its present state.

## BUK Pacesetter in Media Studies, Says Prof. Idachaba

By Salisu Inusa Isma'il

Bayero University Kano has been described as a pacesetter in the field of Information and Media Studies. This disclosure was made by Professor Armstrong Idachaba, when he led the National Universities Commission (NUC) Accreditation Team to the office of the Vice Chancellor for an exit briefing, which marked the high point of the verification exercise for the programmes offered by the Department of Information and Media Studies.

Prof. Idachaba said that he was amazed with the state of the art facilities put in place, which according to him were above the minimum standard required, pointing out that it superseded what some commercial stations are using for their broadcast programmes.

He added that he was seemingly marveled with the topnotch studio facilities, library with large collections and crop of engineers. He said the Department was endowed with erudite scholars who were committed in producing quality students.

He then commended the University Management, particularly the Vice Chancellor for his visionary posture and civilized culture of scholarship.



VC, Prof. Sagir Abbas (right) in a handshake with Prof. Idachaba (left)

Responding, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas said that the University Management committed a lot of resources in the training of journalists especially now that forensic journalism is gradually taking the centre stage, noting that journalists as fourth estate of the realm,

can bring positive development and provide solutions to the modern day challenges if they truly do their work professionally.

While describing the Department as vibrant and promising, Prof. Abbas reiterated his unwavering commitment to continue to give special consideration to the fastest growing Department of Information and Media Studies.

He then appreciated the team for its feedback as the University was with all ears to take corrections and recommendations where necessary.

Contributing, the Dean, Faculty of Communications,

Professor Umar Faruk Jibril, urged the University to invest massively in the emerging area of Artificial Intelligence (AI), emphasizing that it has the potentials of taking the University to an enviable height.

Those present during the exit meeting included the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Management Services, Professor Mahmoud Umar Sani, University Librarian, Dr. Kabir Dahiru Abbas and Director Academic Planning, Professor Yusuf Garba. Others were the Dean, Faculty of Education, Dr. Ali Idris, Head, Information and Media Studies, Dr. Nura Ibrahim, Deputy Registrar Public Affairs, Lamara Garba, Abubakar Yakasai and staff of the protocol unit.

## Faculty of Communication Organizes Workshop on Artificial Intelligence

By Lamara Garba

As part of efforts to acquaint staff and lecturers on the modern research techniques for enhanced teaching and research, the Faculty of Communication has organised a one-day workshop on Artificial Intelligence.

Speaking at the opening ceremony on Thursday, 12th October, 2023 the Dean of the Faculty, Professor Umar Faruk Jibril described Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a trending phenomenon that every scholar in the communication field must get knowledge on.

According to him, the workshop was aimed at introducing the participants to the concepts and applications of generative AI.

Prof Jibril explained that AI can create realistic multimedia content such as text, images, audio and video.

Earlier, the workshop facilitator, Professor Isa Ali Musa, a research scholar at Digital Forensic Research Lab (DFRLab), who has extensive experience in using generative AI for digital media analysis and verification, explained the benefit of AI in the communication world.

The workshop was attended by lecturers and postgraduate students from various departments of the faculty, such as Mass Communication, Information and Media Studies, Theatre and Performing Arts. The workshop was divided into two sessions: theoretical and practical sessions.

In the theoretical session, Isa explained the basic principles and techniques of generative AI, such as neural networks, deep learning, natural language processing, computer vision, and generative adversarial networks.

Participants were taught some of the tools and platforms that can be used to generate and manipulate different types of content using generative AI.

He said generative AI can be used for various purposes, such as creative writing, graphic design, music composition, video editing and data augmentation.

Accordingly, he said through the use of laptops or smartphones people can manipulate AI to promote many things.

Participants expressed appreciation and interest in learning more about generative AI and its applications. They also suggested some possible areas of research and collaboration that can be explored using generative AI in the field of communication.

The workshop was chaired by Professor Abdallah Uba Adamu, who is a renowned scholar and expert in digital media and culture. He commended Musa for his excellent presentation and facilitation skills. He also thanked the Dean of the Faculty of Communication, Professor Umar Faruk Jibril, for organizing the workshop and providing the opportunity for the faculty members and students to learn



Cross section of participants at the workshop

about this emerging and exciting field of AI.

In his remarks, the Head of Information and Media Studies, Dr Nura Ibrahim discussed the current trends and challenges of generative AI, such as ethical issues, social implications and technical limitations.

In his closing remarks, the Dean of the Faculty, Professor Umar Farouk Jibril said generative AI is becoming more prevalent and influential in the digital age and hoped that the workshop would inspire the participants to pursue further learning and research on generative AI and its applications in communication.

## Department of Special Education Conducts Orientation for New Students

By Salisu Inusa Isma'il

In a deliberate effort to familiarize the newly admitted students with their new environment and to mark the beginning of their official academic journey into the University, the Department of Special Education on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 organized an orientation exercise at the Rukayyatu Ahmad Rufa'i Theatre.

Speaking at the event, the Head of the Department, Professor Kyauta Ibrahim, said that the orientation was put together in order to acquaint the incoming students with the rules and regulations governing their studentship in the department in particular and the University as a whole.

While expressing gratitude to the entire student body under the auspices of Special Education Students Association of Nigeria (SPESAN) and its president for making the department a great one, Prof. Ibrahim admonished them to face their studies seriously.

In their separate remarks, Prof. Ali Tijjani, Dr. Kamil Ibrahim, Dr. Umar Abdullahi Taura,, Dr. Abubakar Isah Ibrahim, Dr. Auwal Inuwa Bello and other senior academics shared their perspectives with a strong warning on the danger of engaging in an examination misconduct, saying that the University would not condone such act as perpetrators would face the wrath of the law. Other range of issues such as computation of CGPA, time management, examination guidelines, benefits of special education and host of other things were discussed.

On his part, the President of SPESAN, Comrade Oyeniyi

Kudus Olanrewaju, emphasized the significance of interpersonal relationship between the staff and the students, as it has a positive impact on achieving academic excellence. He also on behalf of the students extended their gratitude to the department and the Dean of the Faculty of Education for their massive support.

Those in attendance included Dr. Hauwa Sani Ahmed, who represented the Dean, Dr. Ali Idris, Prof. Gaji Fatima Dantata, Dr. Garba Bala Nata'ala, Dr. Faruk Sani Gaya, Dr.



A cross section of the participants

Aisha Muhammad, Dr. Hassan Garba Wangara, Mal. Nasiru Yakubu Rishi among many others.

Highlight of the event was the distribution of appointment letters to both staff and students into various committees by the HOD for the smooth administration of the Department.

## BUK Staff Hails VC's Palliative Measures

By Nura Garba



Malam Hassan Hussaini, Chairman staff Palliative Bus



A group photograph of the staff

Many Bayero University staff have commended the palliative measures introduced by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas to cushion the effect of the deepening economic challenges faced as a result of the removal of fuel subsidy by the Federal Government.

The staff of the University that are cut across different directorates, faculties, departments and units expressed their unreserved appreciation to the Vice Chancellor and the management staff for prompt intervention that addressed some perennial problems facing the staff.

Some of the staff came to the Bulletin Office and wrote officially that their appreciation should be made known in view of the palliatives which have made significant impacts.

According to the letter signed by Malam Hassan Hussaini, on behalf of the beneficiary staff on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, said: “This letter is officially written on behalf of the beneficiaries of staff bus palliative initiated by the current Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas. We wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the Vice Chancellor and the University Management for this kind gesture that will positively impact of the lives of staff.

“It reduces the current financial stress biting the university staff. The effort has immensely contributed effectively and efficiently in the service delivery of the staff. Vice Chancellor Sir, we encourage you in your magnanimity to increase and expand your palliative. Once again, we thank you most sincerely,” the letter said.

Recall that during the 56<sup>th</sup> Congregation Meeting, the Vice Chancellor promised to introduce palliative measures to staff both senior and junior to cushion the effect of removal of fuel subsidy some of which are provision of bicycles to 100 junior staff and provision of buses that will be transporting staff to the University campuses from designated points.

## NUC Accreditation Team Visit: Department of Information and Media Studies to Commence AI Program

*By Ibrahim Ado Saleh*

On the early hours of Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the Management of Bayero University Kano warmly received NUC accreditation team at the Vice Chancellor’s office.

Part of the obligation of the NUC is to apply quality assurances mechanism in terms of infrastructural development, especially in the curriculum of the Nigerian Universities.

In his welcome address, the Director Academic Planning, Professor Yusuf Garba, welcomed members of the NUC accreditation team to Kano and Bayero University. He assured them that their visit was regarded with high esteem as it is essential to have periodic checks on the academic activities of the University.

The team lead, Professor Armstrong Idachaba, expressed his delight to the management of the University for receiving them in such time. He explained the purpose of the visit was to accredit the program of BSc Information and Media Studies.

He explained that he had a good relationship with the Faculty of Communication for some time; therefore, he was well acquainted with the staff and programs. He commended BUK as the University that has taken practical step in modern futuristic, highly valuable and ground breaking curriculum in the Department of Information and Media Studies.

He lamented that they were aware of how heavily the University management had invested in realization of the Department of Information and Media Studies, which gave birth to efficient studios.

Also in his annotations from the Department of Information and Media Studies, Professor Abdallah Uba Adamu, explained the importance of accreditation which was considered as necessary evil, “because some people don't like it, perhaps it is the medium that will explore your strengths and weaknesses which will guide you in charting



A group photograph of NUC Team, VC and Management as well as Management of Faculty of Communication

a course properly,” he said.

He added that the Department of Information and Media Studies is the most critical and dynamic, because it deals with current issues. “Compulsory AI course will be introduced in the department by God's Grace,” he said.

In his remark the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, welcomed the NUC team on behalf of the Management and staff of the University and promised that the University is more than ready to correct the findings.

# BUK Tops Kano City Basketball League

By Nura Garba

Bayero University's Basketball team is topping its group in the ongoing Kano City Basketball League Season 2 after two matches.

The BUK team won all its two previous matches against Panthers 89-46 and Tudunwada 107-53 by scoring 196 goals and conceding only 99 to clinch the top-spot with 4 points, followed closely by Iska Academy with the same point but conceded 145 goals.

Other teams in the BUK's group are Rumfa College (3<sup>rd</sup>), Paki Warriors (4<sup>th</sup>), Flat Warriors (5<sup>th</sup>), Panthers Academy

(6<sup>th</sup>) and Tudunwada Warriors (8<sup>th</sup>).

BUK will trade tackles with Rumfa College on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2023) in its third match at Sani Abacha Indoor Stadium by 12pm.

BUK's previous matches were graced by the Director of Sports, Professor Rabi'u Muhammad, Chairman, Sports Consultative Committee, Professor Musa Garba, Dean School of Postgraduate Studies, Professor Mustapha Ahmad Isa and former Director of Sports, BUK, Malam Tijjani Ahmad Sa'id.



Director of Sports, Prof. Rabi'u Mohd, Chairman, Sports Consultative Committee, Prof. Musa Garba, Malam Tijjani Ahmad, Coach Sunusi Badway and BUK players

## NOTICE OF ANTIRABIES VACCINATION EXERCISE

The Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Bayero University, Kano invites the University community to the maiden Antirabies vaccination exercise for dogs and cats. Rabies being a public health concern is a threat to the health of dogs, cats and their owners as well as the entire community.

The Antirabies vaccination exercise is scheduled to hold as follows:

**Date:** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.

**Time:** 10 am to 2 pm daily.

**Location:** Security Offices of the New Campus, Old Campus, AKTH, Zoo Road Quarters and SCE.

## DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE: PHD SEMINAR

**PhD Candidate:** Ahmad Abba Datti (SPS/17/PCS/00002)

**Thesis Title:** Student centric multi-objective optimization models and constructive heuristics for scheduling problems

**Chairman:** Prof Muhammad Yahuza Bello

**Examiner 1:** Associate Professor Ibrahim Alhaji Lawal

**Examiner 2:** Associate Professor Kabir Umar

**Date:** Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

**Time:** 11 am To 1 pm

**Venue:** Computer Science Board Room, Faculty of Computing

## COLLEGE FOUNDATION DAY

### Extension of the Closing Date for Abstract Submission

In view of the postponement of the above program to the first week of January 2024, College of Health Sciences wishes to notify members of the university community that the closing date for the abstract submission has been shifted to 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 by 12:00 noon.

Prospective authors/presenters can submit their relevant abstracts as an email attachment to:

[bukcollegeoralfoundation2023@gmail.com](mailto:bukcollegeoralfoundation2023@gmail.com).

Looking forward to your submissions.

Published & Printed by the Registrar's Office (Directorate of Public Affairs), PMB 3011, Bayero University, Kano. Telephone 081860107570, Email: bukbulletin@buk.edu.ng; bukbulletin@gmail.com

DESIGN: Murtala Ibrahim PRODUCTION EDITOR: Ibrahim Ado Saleh

MANAGING EDITOR: Lamara Garba EDITOR: Bala G. Abdullahi

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