



# Research is the Engine Room for Academic Excellence ...Says VC

By Lamara Garba



**T**he Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas has said research is the engine room for academic excellence, which translates to national development.

He spoke on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 when he declared open a one day training workshop on research organized by the College of Natural and Pharmaceutical Sciences, at Mahmoud Tukur Theatre, Old Campus.

The Vice Chancellor, who was represented by the Provost of the College of Natural and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Professor Tijjani Hassan Darma, noted that it is through research that we discover solutions to societal problems, which will lead to national growth and development.

The theme of the workshop, “Mastering Research Method: from Concept to Presentation,” aimed at preparing young academics and other postgraduate students on the principles of research.

According to him any institution of learning that is yearning for growth must take the issue of research

seriously, as it is the basis of our existence, pointing out that in academics one cannot excel without research.

Professor Abbas, while expressing the determination of the management to provide a conducive learning atmosphere for research and teaching, pointed out that the doors of the university are wide open for any collaboration with other organizations and institutions within and outside in order to bail the society out of its quagmire using research and innovation.

Earlier, the Provost of the College, who was represented by the Deputy Provost (Administration) Professor Sani Malami, explained that the workshop was primarily organized for the postgraduate students of the College with a view to sharpening their idea and understanding of research.

He noted that the workshop, which was the first of its series, will go a long way in preparing the students to be excellent researchers in their respective fields of endeavor, pointing out that such a workshop will be a continuous exercise.

Also speaking, the Chairman of the occasion, Professor Abdurahman A. Audu, commended the College for organizing what he termed as an important programme.

He said without research, an academic institution will be of no essence of existence, saying that no progress or development in any sector or society that could occur without research as its foundation and pillar.

Earlier, while making a presentation, Malam Nasir Mahmoud Yakasai, in his Keynote Paper titled "Postgraduate Studies in BUK: Challenges and Way Forward," identified many lapses students are facing right from the application to the registration process and the non adherence to guidelines in the conduct of their studies.

He charged students to always seek the counseling and guidance of their level coordinators with a view to avoiding unnecessary mistakes and poor presentations.

The Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee, Professor Bashir Zubair Chedi, explained that the workshop was conceptualized in order to give proper guide to the postgraduate students of the College.

Professor Chedi thanked the Vice Chancellor and management of the University for all the support rendered, which saw to the successful hosting of the programme.

Papers were presented on the concept of academic writing and effective presentation, research methodology, Literature Review and data analysis.

## Soil Values Partners CDA on Capacity Building, Soil Degradation Mapping

By Nura Garba

Soil Values, a Dutch government funded project is to partner with Centre for Dryland Agriculture in soil degradation and capacity building for postgraduate students, the Director of the Project Dr. Fofana Bidjokazo, has said.

He spoke on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 during a visit to CDA during which he engaged in a discussion with the Director, Professor Jibrin Mohammed Jibrin, and other senior management officials of the centre. The discussions focused on a collaborative effort on soil degradation mapping and capacity building for postgraduate scholars.

Dr. Bidjokazo toured the CDA's laboratory facilities and research farm. He expressed his admiration for the advanced infrastructure and emphasized that the collaboration would significantly enhance the capacity of postgraduate students.

Soil Values is a ten year project funded by the Dutch government that will be implemented in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Northern Nigeria. Its primary objective is to promote sustainable soil health within the farming systems of the Sahelian and Guinea Savanna regions.

The program employs Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) within participatory landscape management frameworks. This approach aims to create viable business models and incentivize adoption by farmers, market actors, and policymakers.

Implemented by the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC), Soil Values collaborates with key partners including SNV and Wageningen University and Research (WUR), as well as knowledge partners such as AGRA, the World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF), the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), ISRIC – World Soil Information, and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI). The program leverages existing national projects and policies, such as the World Bank's Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP).

Soil Values aims to enhance soil fertility and the productive capacity of 2 million hectares of farmland in the Sahel,

thereby improving resilience and well-being for 1.5 million farmers, with a particular focus on empowering women.

The Country Director of Soil Values, Ms Medinah Fagbemi, accompanied Dr. Bidjokazo to the CDA.



The visitors in a group photograph with the Director, CDA, Prof. Jibrin M. Jibrin inside the CDA's Soil Archive



The visitors taking a look at CDA's Soil Archive and the Director, CDA (left) smiles

# Town and Gown Relationship: BUK Hosts Neighboring Communities

By Ibrahim Ado Saleh

As part of efforts aimed at strengthening town and gown relationship, the Management of Bayero University, Kano hosted six traditional leaders of its neighboring communities. It was a yearly event for discussions and interactions on issues that foster a mutually beneficial relationship.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, who received the community leaders, expressed appreciation for supporting the University towards improving the security situation within the environment.

Represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academics, Professor Sani Muhammad Gumel, the Vice Chancellor urged the community leaders not to relent in that direction of their support to the University.

Speaking on behalf of the community leaders, the *Sarkin Kofar Dukawuya*, Malam Bello Maitama, said the communities would continue to work together with the management to ensure the safety of the university environment.

He reminded the management regarding employment opportunities for their wards and children. "This is our

general concern that the university should consider our children who have graduated for employment if the need arises," he added.

The meeting took place at the Senate Chambers.



Representatives of neighbouring communities and some members of Principal Officers shortly after the meeting at the Senate Chambers

# CGS Conducts Workshop on Learning and Gender Mainstreaming

By Fausat A. Opayomi

The Centre for Gender Studies is committed to promoting girl education, understanding gender and empowering both men and women, the Director of the center, Ambassador Dr. Safiya Ahmad Nuhu disclosed this during a two day workshop on Learning and Mainstreaming Gender and handing over tool kit to the center.

The training was organized by the center in collaboration



Mrs. Tolu Lope Fakoya, Gender and Social Inclusive Advisor, PERL handing-over the 2 tool kits to the Director, CGS, Amb Dr. Safiya Ahmad Nuhu

with Partnership to Engage, Reform and Learn (PERL) on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2024 at the Executive Hall, Tahir Guest Palace, Kano.

According to her, the training was meant to equip the center with skills to properly utilize and disseminate the learning from PERL to project so as to build human resources of

potential partners within the CGS network who can formulate and implement project policies and engagement that support the work done by PERL and further support the work done by CGS through the training that will enhance their knowledge and understanding of gender mainstreaming and equitable budgeting.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, thanked the organizers and described the training as apt and timely. Represented by the University Librarian, Dr. Kabiru Dahiru Abbas, the Vice Chancellor reiterated that BUK as one of the first Universities that established Center for Gender Studies because of the importance attached to the issue of gender, would always support the center and any collaboration that would enhance it in terms of service delivery. He added that the tool kits would be put to maximum use to further strengthen gender related issues.

Titilope Fakoya, Gender and Social Inclusive Advisor of PERL in her presentation on Faces of Gender, Gender Discrimination, Harmful Practices, , Understanding sex and gender said gender is dynamic and roles change from time to time and place to place.

She said men are taking up roles reserved for women such as air hostess which is now refer to as cabin crew to accommodate men into the profession, just as women are winning medals in profession previously seen as men's profession.

Basil Obasi, Public Financial Manager, PERL, in his presentation on Equitable BUDGETTING Guide, defined

budget as government fiscal plan produced on an annual basis with detailed forecast of potential sources of revenue and estimated expenditure designed to promote strategic resources allocation and efficient service delivery.

Lilian Okoli, Service Delivery Advisor, ARC-PERL, said providing basic services is to ensure provisions of all services adequate in sufficient quantity and quality to support the realization of human rights. She said governance in the delivery of all basic services provides

framework for the successful development of all basic services.

Other resource persons were Aisha Abubakar, BIJIMI Daniel Meindous, Habiba Isiaku Njidda among others.

During the official handing over of the toolkit, the Ag. Registrar, Hajia Amina Umar commended the center and PERL for their initiative. She said the tool kit would be put to use to improve the service delivery of the center.

## CDA Enhances Food Security in 22 Communities Through Seed Distribution and Training

By Nura Garba

To bolster agricultural productivity and ensure food security, the Centre for Dryland Agriculture (CDA) conducted a comprehensive training program and distributed improved seeds to farmers from 22 adopted communities on Friday, June 6, 2024.

Professor Jibrin Mohammed Jibrin, Director of the CDA, addressed the farmers and community leaders, emphasizing the Centre's commitment to empowering these communities. He highlighted that the initiative aims to train community representatives, fostering a trickle-down effect to benefit all community members.

"We urge you to share the knowledge gained here with others in your communities to maximize the impact of this training," Professor Jibrin stated. He further explained that the CDA planned to continuously engage with these communities, offering ongoing training on advanced farming techniques and collaborating to tackle agricultural challenges.

Following the training session, Professor Jibrin, accompanied by Professor Sanusi Gaya Mohammed, Deputy Director of Training, and Dr. Hakeem Ajiegbe, distributed foundation and certified seeds to the farmers. The foundation seeds include SAMSORG 45, SAMSORG 53, CHAKTI, SOSAT C88, and SUPER SOSAT. The certified seeds distributed were those of maize, rice, sorghum, and millet.

The intervention was met with considerable appreciation from the farmers. Adamu Mohammed from Yanoko Community expressed his gratitude, noting that previous seed distributions had significantly improved their yields. "Many farmers have inquired about the seeds provided by the CDA. We are extremely pleased with this new intervention and the training has shown us the importance of proper seed care," he remarked.

Hajiya Hauwa from Doka Community praised the CDA for its support and training on best farming practices, stating, "Only God can reward the Centre for its contributions to our farming communities."

Sulaiman Shehu from Ginsawa Community noted a positive shift in their agricultural approach following the training. "As a community representative, I am confident

that our farmers will greatly benefit from the techniques and methods taught regarding the use of foundation and certified seeds," he said, thanking the CDA for its continued support.

The CDA's initiatives are poised to significantly enhance agricultural practices and productivity within these communities, reinforcing the Centre's role in advancing food security and sustainable farming in the region.



Director CDA, Prof Jibrin M. Jibrin (2nd left) Deputy Director, Training of CDA, Prof Sanusi M. Gaya (left) and Dr Hakeem Ajiegbe (right) distributing improved seeds to representatives of 22 adopted communities



A group photograph of representatives of 22 adopted communities with the Management of CDA during the distribution of improved seeds

# BUK Honours 3 Staff

By Ibrahim Ado Saleh

The Management of Bayero University on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024 honored three staff for outstanding performance and commitment in carrying out their duties.

The staff were Malam Abdullahi Muhammad Tukur, from University Library, who recently died after a prevailing illness ; Hajiya Zam'a Muhammad Alhassan from the University library and Malam Zakari Shehu from MSD, who retired from the services but due to his dedication and commitment was retained as a contract staff.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, who was represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic, Professor Sani Muhammad Gumel, explained that the honour would serve as a motivating factor to other staff. He added that “it is an indicator that whatever you do there is an assessment mechanism.

The Vice Chancellor stressed that the three staff were recommended for award and honour by an accreditation team that came to accredit the University programmes in

2023. “This is what informed the University Management's decision to honour the three staff,” he said.

The DVC commended the effort of the staff honoured and explained that the commendation letters given to them were not just mere papers but would serve as important documents in their CVs.



Management of the University in a group photograph with honourees and other staff and insert photograph of late Malam Abdullahi

## Tennis Coach, Salim Appreciates VC for Renovating Staff, Students' Courts

By Nura Garba

The Chief Coach of Tennis, Salim Rabiuh Mohammed has showered praises on the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas for renovating the staff and students' Tennis courts at the Old Campus for the first time in eleven years.

Speaking shortly after the courts were renovated, Coach Salim Mohammed said it would provide a veritable avenue for staff and students to train in a conducive environment. He added that the renovation was apt and timely considering that the NUGA games are fast approaching and that the University would host the next staff games.

He further thanked the Director of Sports, Professor Rabiuh Mohammed and the Director Laboratory Management, Dr Ahmad Aki Yakasai for their support.



One of the renovated Tennis Courts

## LOAN SCHEME WITH GWCU CANADA, GIDAN MAKAMA

This is to inform members of the University Community who are involved in a loan scheme with GWCU Canada, Gidan Makama to forward any relevant documents in their possession to the Investigation Committee on the above named company. It should include a request for the following documents from the affected staff as follows:

1. Loan agreement with GWCU Canada, Gidan Makama
2. Total amount of the loan received by each staff member

3. Pay slips indicating proof of deductions from inception to date
4. Any communication or correspondence with GWCU Canada, Gidan Makama regarding the loan
5. Any other documents helpful to the committee not mentioned above.

All documents should be forwarded to the Secretary of the Committee, Rabia Kamal Shour at the Directorate of Establishment Matters, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed Senate Chambers with immediate effect.

# Mambayya House Hosts 8th Public Lecture to Celebrate Democracy Day

By Sabitu M. Jinjiri

The Centre for Democratic Studies, Mambayya House, in collaboration with the Society for Educational Development and Socio-Democratic Activities (SESDAC: Humanitarian Initiative), hosted the 8th Public Lecture to commemorate Nigeria's Democracy Day on June 12, 2024. The event took place at Sa'adu Zungur Hall and featured the theme: "Democracy and The Nigerian Citizens: Profit or Loss?" The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Ahmad Dukawa of Bayero University, Kano.

Dr. Dukawa provided a historical perspective on democracy, tracing its origins to Greece between 500 BC and 330 BC. He noted that while Igbo communities in Nigeria practiced a form of democracy, there are no written records to document their governance systems.

Addressing the current challenges in Nigerian democracy, Dr. Dukawa argued for reducing the extensive powers granted to the President and similar officeholders. He also suggested that certain rights, currently framed as optional in the constitution, should be made mandatory to hold the government accountable for their provision.

Discussant Alhaji Adamu Aliyu Kiyawa, known as Danmasanin Dutse, emphasized that democracy should

reflect the customs, beliefs, and religion of the country it serves. He advocated for a model of democracy tailored to Nigeria's unique cultural context.

Prof. Salisu Shehu, Vice Chancellor of Al-Istiqaamah University, highlighted the need for equitable distribution of the nation's wealth. He asserted that the current democratic system fails to ensure fair economic opportunities, resulting in widespread poverty and inequality. Prof. Shehu argued that fair distribution of resources could bridge the gap between the rich and the poor, providing all Nigerians with access to national wealth.

Alhaji Nasiru Sulen Garo, another discussant, urged Nigerian voters to persevere through hardships and prioritize electing the right leaders. He emphasized the importance of voter education to guide citizens in choosing suitable candidates.

The 2024 public lecture concluded with an engaging session of contributions, questions, and answers from the participants, marking the 8th annual gathering's success.



DVC R&D, Prof Abdullahi Sule Kano, University Librarian, Dr Kabiru Dahiru Abbas, Dr Said Ahmad Dukawa with other dignitaries and members of SESDAC

## Appreciation from Prof. Attahir Muhammad Dawood to all those who graced the Wedding Fatiha of His Son Abubakar Attahir

I would like to start by appreciating the honor and presence of respected personalities during the auspicious event.

The Vice-Chancellor of Bayero University, Kano Prof Sagir Abbas Adamu, former (Vice-Chancellor and Executive Secretary NUC) Prof Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, former Vice Chancellor Prof Yahuza Muhammad Bello, DVC Academic, former DVCs, Republic of Sudan Consul in Kano, Current and former Deans, HODs and members of Arabic, Mechatronics and Architecture Departments as well as the University Community at large.

Permit me to also appreciate and acknowledge Nurulyaqeen Charity Foundation, Makkah Eye Specialist Hospital West Africa Chapter, Amina Street Mosque Community BUK Old Campus, Sudanese Community Kano, Tilawa Group, Albir Group, Ahmad Sagir Family Group, Come Again Group, Jumu'a Group, family members, friends, well-wishers, and others too numerous to mention. All personalities who were able to attend by Allah's will and those who sent various congratulatory messages and prayers to me and my family on the occasion which took place on Saturday 18th May 2024.

May Allah reward you all abundantly, Ameen.

## INTERNAL/EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POSITION OF MANAGING DIRECTOR/CEO

Bayero University Microfinance Bank Limited was licensed by Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) in 2014 and has been in operation since September 2014. The Bank's RC Number is **1176704**.

The Bank is inviting applications from suitably qualified members of the public for the position of a Managing Director/CEO.

### **Description of the Position**

The appointment will be on tenure for a period of five (5) years which may be renewed at the instance of the Board of Directors of the Bank.

### **Qualification**

1. A minimum of first degree or its equivalent in any discipline (additional qualification or degree in any finance or business related discipline may be an advantage).
2. A minimum of Eight (8) years post-qualification experience out of which, at least Five (5) years must be in the financial service industry and at least, Three (3) years at the senior management level.
3. Evidence that the candidate possesses proven skills and competencies in practical microfinance banking and has undergone the Microfinance Certification Programme and obtained a Certificate in Microfinance Banking issued by the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria (CIBN).
4. Proven Integrity.
5. Applicant must be knowledgeable in IT.
6. Prospective applicants shall not be more than Fifty-five (55) years as at the time of assumption of duty.

### **Method of Application**

Interested applicants should forward Ten (10) copies of their Curriculum Vitae to the Office of the Company Secretary/Legal Adviser; Muhamad Adamu Jumba Ring Road, Bayero University Microfinance Bank Ltd. New Campus, Gwarzo Road, Kano.

**All applications must reach the undersigned within Six (6) weeks from the date of this publication.**

**Company Secretary/Legal Adviser  
For: Board of Directors**



## New Nigerian Anthem

*Nigeria, we hail thee,  
Our own dear native land,  
Though tribe and tongue may differ,  
in brotherhood we stand,  
Nigerians all, and proud to serve  
Our sovereign Motherland*

*Our flag shall be a symbol  
That truth and justice reign,  
In peace or battle honour'd,  
And this we count as gain,  
To hand on to our children  
a banner without stain.*

*O God of all creation,  
Grant this our one request,  
Help us to build a nation  
Where no man is oppressed,  
And so with peace and plenty  
Nigeria may be blessed.*

