



Minister Inaugurates Universities' Governing Council ... Says Education Sector Suffers more Brain Drain

By Lamara Garba



HE Nasiru Yusuf Gawuna, sitting 1st right during the inauguration of the Council members

The Minister of Education, Professor Mamman Tahir inaugurated the Governing Councils of federal tertiary institutions with a stern warning against undue interference in the day-to-day management of the institutions on Thursday, 4th July, 2024.

Speaking while inaugurating the council members at Idris Abdulkadir Auditorium at the National Universities Commission (NUC) Complex, the Minister said the councils were reconstituted to pave way for smooth running of the institutions.

Prof. Mamman explained that part of their role was to give direction and oversee financial management through prudence and accountability. He urged them to focus on promoting excellence and continuous improvement of the institutions.

“There is a clear line of operations between the Management and respective Governing Councils of the tertiary Institutions. Councils are not to interfere with the day-to-day management of human, financial, and material resources of the institutions,” he charged.

The Minister reminded the Council members that, much was expected from them, as they should find a way of getting more intervention for their respective institutions.

“Governing Councils should encourage responsible unionism in their respective institutions, he also advised.



The Minister of Education, Prof. Mamman Tahir making a speech at the inauguration of Council members of Federal Tertiary Institution

Professor Mamman equally advised them to fashion out strategies that would help in addressing the issues of cultism, drug abuse and sexual harassment, as well as bring ideas on the early detection and eradication of all forms of social vices, such as exam malpractice, theft, extortion and inducement, among others.

The Minister also urged the councils to explore diverse sources of revenue and to partner with investors in education, saying that the education sector suffered massive exodus than any other sector.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Minister of State for Education, Dr Yusuf Tanko Sununu, charged members to ensure compliance with the stipulated rules and functions of Councils with a view to ensuring institutional integrity and accountability.

“Compliance with these legal frameworks ensures that our institutions operate with integrity and accountability. It also helps to safeguard the autonomy of our academic institutions while promoting a culture of excellence and continuous improvement,” he said.

Also speaking, the Acting Executive Secretary of the National Universities Commission (NUC), Mr. Chris J. Maiyaki, while congratulating the inaugurated council members, said the doors of the commission were open and he would give them 100 percent support to improve the university system.

The NUC boss pledged the Commission's unwavering support to the Governing Councils for any initiative towards improving the university system.

Responding on behalf of the newly inaugurated council members, Chief Wole Olanipekun, who is the Pro-Chancellor of the University of Lagos, called for a harmonious relationship between management of institutions and the Councils.

He advised Council members to be cautious in relating with members of the universities while advising Vice Chancellors to give Councils the opportunity to improve the institutions, adding, “We are to build and not to pull down.”

While delivering his paper, titled "The Roles and Responsibilities of Governing Councils: Navigating Expectations and Limitations", the former Vice Chancellor of Bayero University, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello, said the new Council came at a very critical period when the institutions were facing serious

challenges.

According to him, the most critical challenges included low morale amongst the staff, which led to massive exodus. He said the herculean task was to find the means and ways to revitalize these institutions.

Professor Bello said the Act establishing Universities had clearly defined the roles and functions of the Governing Council and therefore, Vice Chancellors are the accounting officers, which translates that the Council has no hands in financial dealings nor will they interfere in daily affairs of managing the institutions.

Although he said the Council is responsible for the ratification of the appointment of Principal Officers, there are certain processes that are to be strictly handled by the management of the institutions and the Senate.



HE Nasiru Yusuf Gawuna (centre) with VC, BUK Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas (2nd right), Director Abuja Liaison, Ibrahim Usman Yakasai and Lamara Garba, Head of Public Affairs Directorate extreme left, while Alhaji Abdullahi Tahir (Alkinana) is at extreme right



HE Nasiru Yusuf Gawuna (right) with the Acting Vice Chancellor of University of Abuja, Prof. Ai'sha Maikudi with the VC, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas; DVC Academics, Prof. Sani Muhammad Gumel (behind) and Head of Public Affairs, Lamara Garba

Gawuna Vows to Make Positive Impact

By Lamara Garba



Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas (right) delivering letter of appointment to Chairman of the Governing Council, HE Nasiru Yusuf Gawuna (left)

The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council of Bayero University, Kano, Alhaji Nasiru Yusuf Gawuna, has promised to make a positive impact that will make the university great.

He spoke during an interactive session with the Vice Chancellor and management in Abuja, shortly after receiving his letter of appointment.

According to him, as the Chairman of Council, he will mobilize other members to ensure that they add value to the institution so as to prove cynics wrong.

"I welcome this appointment with utmost pleasure. It will afford us the opportunity to further utilize our network and influence to make the university great," he declared.

According to him, "God is wonderful. He knows our heart desires, hence, He gave me this appointment. My prayer always is to be a source of happiness to others. Alhamdulillah, my appointment as the chairman of the Governing Council of Bayero University is designed to fulfill my desires because anyone who invests in education certainly invests in the future of the society."

Alhaji Gawuna said he would quickly set the agenda on what to achieve. Already, he has started contacting corporate organisations, individuals and other government agencies to come in and support the university in cash and kind.

"Luckily, we are all from Kano and the University is also in Kano. Therefore, we shall do everything within human

capacity to make our presence well felt, positively."

Nasiru Gawuna also promised to work hand in hand with the management of the university to actualize the dreams of its founding fathers. He charged the Vice Chancellor to avail him with the detailed needs of the university in order to swing into action. "*Bi Izinillah*, we shall make every one proud of this appointment," he declared.

Earlier, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, while briefing the Council Chairman, said the major constraint was poor funding occasioned by the high cost of electricity.

Professor Abbas said although many institutions were heavily indebted, Bayero University was free from any debt. He gave a brief background of the university with a population of about 40,000 students running about 200 programmes and many research centres with 18 Faculties.

The Vice Chancellor also said the management had initiated a number of welfare programmes for staff and students and intended to do more, given financial strength.

Professor Abbas later presented some documents to serve as a guide to the Chairman, including the Acts establishing the University, which contains functions and roles of the Governing Council, the university's Annual Report, previous tenure reports of some Vice Chancellors and *University at a glance* pamphlet, among others.

ACEPHAP Partners AKTH, Council of *Ulama* to Create Awareness on Pre-marital Testing

By Bala G. Abdullahi

The Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) in collaboration with Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital (AKTH) and the Kano State Council of Ulama organized a one-day workshop on the importance of pre-marital testing.

The workshop, which took place on Saturday, 23rd June, 2024 at the School of Arabic Studies auditorium, Kano, was aimed at creating awareness amongst religious leaders most especially the Imams of Juma'at Mosques on the importance and advantages of Pre-marital testing taking into cognizance their status as those saddled with the task of consummating marriages.



Dr. Ammal Aisha Galadanci presenting her address

It will be recalled that the Kano State Government had introduced an edict, which makes it mandatory for couples wishing to get married to undergo pre-marital testing so as to control the spread of diseases, such as sickle cell anemia, HIV and Hepatitis.

Kicking off the event, the Chairman of Kano State Council of Ulama, Sheikh Ibrahim Khalil, applauded the government's initiative of promulgating the new law, which he said would go a long way in significantly curbing the spread of diseases among couples and their children.

While praising the organisers of the workshop, Sheikh Khalil emphasized that Islam focuses on healthy living. He expressed concern about those who neglect medical advice. However, he stressed that pre-marital testing should be based on consent, not coercion.

Presenting a paper titled "prevention is better than Cure," the Chief Imam of Umar Ibn Khattab Juma'at Mosque, Zoo road, Dr Yahaya Tanko, highlighted the position of Islam, which allows couples to undergo testing before marriage.

He said the whole idea behind the pre-marital testing was to prevent the spread of diseases with a view to ensuring the production of a healthy society. Dr. Tanko stated that Islam supports the prevention of disease before it occurs. He said

during the Covid-19 pandemic, medical doctors advised people to always wash their hands as a panacea against contacting the disease. He said Islam had since taught us to wash our hands through the performance of ablution before prayers.

Dr. Yahaya Tanko, who is also a lecturer at the Yusuf Maitama Sule University, Kano, explained that as part of the disease spread prevention strategy of Islam, couples were prohibited from having sex during menses. He also explained that during an outbreak of disease, Islam advised people who are within the area of the outbreak to remain where they are and prevented others from entering the affected community all in an effort to prevent the spread of the disease.

The University don, who quoted copiously from the Holy Qur'an and prophet's traditions (Hadiths) to buttress his point, said Islam attaches great importance to healthy living. He said only healthy persons could perform Islamic religious rites properly. He gave as an example the performance of the pilgrimage to Makkah and stated that only a healthy individual could successfully perform all Hajj rites.

Dr. Tanko advised the Chief Imams to ensure that couples seeking for marriage consummation always present certificates of testing before the wedding takes place.

Also speaking, Dr. Ammal Aisha Galadanci, who spoke on sickle anemia and its causes and effects on individuals, told the audience that sickle cell disease arises as a result of the defects in the red blood cells (hemoglobin). She explained that the hemoglobin which carries x cells appears like a sickle and got stuck by preventing normal blood circulation, this, she said, prevents the blood from conveying oxygen to other parts of the body, including the brain, hence the reason for the health complications.

She said the disease is hereditary and statistics had shown that about 300,000 people are affected by the disease worldwide in which half of the figures are from Nigeria and regrettably, bulk of the Nigerian victims are in the northern region, which are attributed to the inter marriage amongst same family members.

Dr. Galadanci stated that in order to address the spread and consequences associated with sickle cell disease, pre-marital testing became inevitable among prospective couples.

In her presentation, Dr. Umma Ibrahim, who spoke on the problems associated with sickle cell anemia, said the victim is always in short supply of blood in his system because of the weak nature of his red blood cells. The victim suffers from jaundice, acute chest syndrome, which is like pneumonia and stroke might set in.

She said that the disease affects the red blood cells and it is

also hereditary, saying that the only glaring solution is for couples to undergo tests before marriage. She advised the public to always listen to the advice of healthcare providers to guard against the spread of preventable ailments.

Also speaking, Dr. Ibrahim Musa gave several reasons why pre-marital testing is desirable and as a panacea for addressing the spread of the three most inherited diseases often contacted through association between couples – Hepatitis, Sickle cell anaemia and HIV. He said it was important to prevent one of the couples from infecting the other, saying that the surest way of producing healthy generation was through pre-marital testing among couples.

In his presentation, the ACEPHAP Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Professor Baba Maiyaki Musa, who spoke on the menace of Hepatitis and HIV AIDS spread among untested couples, stated that the two diseases have serious negative implications on the sustenance of a healthy society. He said only pre-marital testing would address their spread among couples.

Most of the Chief Imams across the 44 local governments who attended the workshop expressed their readiness to implement the government's edict as well as abide by the advice proffered by professional Doctors, who presented papers at the workshop.

BUK to Strengthen Security On-Campus, Promises Improved Welfare for Security Personnel - Says VC

By Fausat A. Opayomi

The Bayero University Management is committed to protecting the lives and property of members of its community through training, retraining and improved welfare of its security personnel.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas, gave this assurance when he received members of the University's Committee on audit of security personnel in his office during a courtesy call on Tuesday, 2nd July 2024 in his office.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Abbas thanked the team for its commitment and hard work towards the discharge of the assignment given to it. He said it was the second time the management was looking into the security situation in the University holistically, adding that the issue of security cannot be overemphasized. He acknowledged the fact that in recent times, the university had been experiencing security breaches in all the campuses and that the Management would do everything possible to improve the situation.

On staff welfare, the Vice Chancellor said the University was doing its best in that direction, saying that recently 30 million naira was spent on provision of kits to all the security personnel in the University, while another 30 million naira was set aside yearly to be paid as over time allowance.

The Vice Chancellor said if there was breach of security as a result of negligence in a particular beat, the entire personnel in that beat would be sanctioned to serve as deterrent to others.

He said security is a noble profession and the University through its policy implementation would start employing security personnel with secondary school qualification and requisite credits that can grow up to level 16 so as to improve the security architecture of the University.

Prof. Abbas gave assurance that the recommendation by the committee would be implemented and advised that the audit exercise should be extended to both drivers and cleaners in the University.

The Chairman, Prof. Tijjani Hassan Darma, who is the Provost of the College of Natural and Pharmaceutical Sciences, while presenting the committee's report, said the delay in the submission was as a result of the prolonged strike.

He said in the course of the physical interaction with the personnel, the team discovered personnel with mental issues and also some who absconded their duties based on the attendance register.

According to him, the committee observed a lot of variations in staff number and name and noticed age



BUK Management in a group photograph with Committee members

discrepancies when they changed from casual to regular staff which had caused changes in their records.

Prof. Darma said the team had recommended that the management should take decisions on the highlighted issues. He said the committee came across different batches of personnel, who requested to change to other cadres. He said 90% of the personnel, if given the opportunity, would change, which would be detrimental to the security system of the University. He suggested that casual security personnel should be regularized and their welfare be looked into.

BUK Expels 29 Students, Rusticates and Exonerates Three each for Exams Misconduct

The Senate at its 413 meeting held on 3rd July, 2024, expelled 29 students, rusticates 3 and warned 15 others for being found involved in examination misconduct.

According to a statement signed by the Ag. Director, Directorate of Examinations, Admissions and Records, Aminu Wada Kurawa the decision was in accordance with General Examinations and Academic Regulations (GEAR) and of General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies (GRGPS) respectively.

The expelled students are:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. AIS/18/ISL/00031 | Bashir Ahmad Auwal |
| 2. SPS/21/MLG/00022 | Maria Micheal Ene |
| 3. PSC/18/IND/00561 | Chioma Rejoice Micheal |
| 4. BMS/21/PYS/00783 | Jacob Oheji Obidikwu |
| 5. CST/20/IFT/00454 | Abubakar Sadiq Abubakar |
| 6. EES/19/URP/00260 | Joshua Madugu Ugbede |
| 7. EES/18/GEL/00112 | Faruk Ibrahim Aliyu |
| 8. ENG/19/MEC/00265 | Enabhurekhan Favour Thomas |
| 9. ENG/21/MCT/00444 | Mukhtar Adebayo |
| 10. ENG/17/MEC/00409 | Auwalu Abubakar |
| 11. ENG/17/MEC/00407 | Abdulzeez Abiodun Abdulwasiyu |
| 12. ENG/17/CHE/00264 | Comfort Joseph Abitu |
| 13. ENG/19/COM/00203 | Oche Emmanuel Abdulkarim |
| 14. ENG/17/CIV/00394 | Muhammad Aliyu Abubakar |
| 15. FMS/19/BUS/00342 | Susan Emmanuel |
| 16. SCE/17/BAE/00169 | Rukayya Idris Muhammad |
| 17. SCE/18/ARA/00046 | Kabiru Muhammad Jaen |
| 18. SCE/20/GEO/00109 | Ibrahim Khalil Hamisu |
| 19. SCE/20/BAE/00140 | Grace Ogar |
| 20. SCE/20/PAD/00022 | Sailuba Isah |
| 21. SCE/20/BHE/00073 | Hajara Nasiru Rabi |
| 22. SCE/19/ADE/00017 | Hauwa Jibrin Muhammad |
| 23. SCE/20/BHE/00374 | Asma'u Muhammad Jabbi |
| 24. SCE/19/BHE/00970 | Abubakar Jamilu Danjuma |
| 25. SCE/20/PAD/00058 | Laila Abdulrahman Adam |
| 26. SCE/18/BAE/00049 | Asiya Musa Dauda |
| 27. SCE/20/BHE/00024 | Maryam Maarufi Sabiu |
| 28. SCE/20/LIS/00027 | Ene Ameh |
| 29. DBS/20/MBA/00277 | Usman Lawan |

Those students rusticated for one or two semester are:

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. EDU/20/BAE/02087 | Saleh Aliyu Idris | (2 Semesters) |
| 2. EES/18/GEL/00110 | Khalil Ado Ibrahim | (1 Semester) |
| 3. EDU/19/SPE/00635 | Yusuf Badamasi | (1 Semester) |

The following were **Exonerated** since a case of examinations misconduct could not be established against them:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. ENG/21/CHE/00433 | Rahamah Onono Bello |
| 2. PSC/21/STA/00551 | Amari Apphia Abu |
| 3. PSC/20/MTH/00670 | Orkuma Winifred Doobee |

NOTICE OF 2024 PROMOTION EXERCISE

I write to notify you that the following Time-Table for the 2024 Promotion Exercise is approved for your compliance.

<i>S/N</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>ACTIVITY</i>
1.	<i>Monday 24th June - Friday 19th July, 2024</i>	Latest Date for Departmental, Faculty and College A&PCs Meetings.
2.	<i>Monday 22nd July - Friday 2nd August, 2024</i>	Latest Date for Colleges/Faculties to make Submissions to the Secretariat.
3.	<i>Monday 5th August – Friday 30th August, 2024</i>	Secretariat to Collate and prepare submissions for the Central A & PC.
4.	<i>Monday 9th September - Friday 13th September, 2024</i>	Central A&PC to Meet and Consider the cases.

Heads of Department should please note the following:

- (a) That staff to be recommended for promotions must have served for at least three/four years as the case may be in their positions by 30th September, 2024 and their appointments duly confirmed;
- (b) That cases of administrative staff in various Faculties/Departments should be routed through the Registry Departmental Appointments, Promotions, and General Purposes Committee;
- (c) That cases of Bursary Staff/Stores Officers in various Faculties/Departments should be routed through the Bursary Department;
- (d) That cases of Librarians and Library Officers in various Faculties/Departments should be routed through the University Librarian;
- (e) Cases of Academic Staff and Technologist must pass through the Departmental, Faculty and College A&PC and Minutes of Meeting of the College/Faculty Appointments and Promotions Committee should be attached to the recommendations;
- (f) Cases of all Faculties under the Colleges should be coordinated for submission by the Provosts
- (g) Academic Staff on approved Study Fellowship could be promoted up to the rank of Lecturer I or equivalent, provided that he/she would not be promoted twice in one study fellowship period;
- (h) All submissions should be strictly based on the extant guidelines for the appropriate cadres; Provost and Dean must ensure compliance as the case may be.
- (i) Colleges and Faculties are to forward a soft and **ONE (1)** hard copy of their submissions to the Deputy Registrar, Establishment Matters not later than **2nd August, 2024**.
- (j) Original documents for sighting during the meeting should not accompany the submission to the Secretariat.
- (k) **Provosts, Deans and HODs should ensure that all documents for presentation at the A&PC are properly TAGGED and ARRANGED according to the CV for ease of reference.**

Shehu Usman Galadima
Deputy Registrar, Establishment Matters.



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FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE

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ABOUT US

The Center stands as a testament to the University's commitment to scientific advancement and innovation. Envisioned as a premier hub for cutting-edge research and a spotlight for training in Africa & beyond, the center fosters interdisciplinary collaborations through its laboratories and range of services provided as summarized below:

OUR SERVICES

MOLECULAR LABORATORY

- ✓ Nucleic acid extraction,
- ✓ Protein purification
- ✓ PCR, qPCR, qRT-PCR,
- ✓ gene expression studies,
- ✓ gel electrophoresis,
- ✓ Comet assay for assessing DNA damage,
- ✓ Fluorescence microscopy
- ✓ Analyses of DNA variants among others.

INSTRUMENTATION LABORATORY

- ✓ Liquid chromatography Mass Spectrometry (LCMS)
- ✓ ELISA assays (hormonal assays, growth factors & other biomolecules)
- ✓ Extracts preparation and quantification from samples
- ✓ Provision of deionized and ultrapure water s

MICROBIOLOGY LAB

- ✓ Culturing & isolation of bacteria and fungi from samples,
- ✓ Microbial characterization
- ✓ Microscopy & microbial enumeration

CELL & TISSUE CULTURE LABORATORY

- ✓ Culturing of different cancer cell lines
- ✓ Cytotoxicity assays
- ✓ Cellular and molecular mechanisms of cancer cell death using various assays
- ✓ Cryopreservation of cell lines
- ✓ Therefore, the laboratory has a great potential for conducting cutting-edge research in drug discovery and innovations in cancer and other disease therapies.

BIOCHEMICAL LAB AND CODA NON-INVASIVE BLOOD PRESSURE SYSTEM UNIT

- ✓ Blood pressure and Heart rate (Rat & Mice)
- ✓ Blood volume and blood flow in experimental animals (specifically rats and mice)
- ✓ Other biochemical analyses

OTHER SERVICES

- ✓ Bioinformatics
- ✓ Extended Realities Unit (to commence soon)
- ✓ Use of Virtual Reality For teaching & research

CONTACT US

Don't hesitate to contact us via dir.cbr@buk.edu.ng
for inquiries, engagements & collaborations



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