

# Builetin

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**SPECIAL** 

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# PROFESSOR SAGIR ADAMU ABBAS, FMAN: FOUR YEARS OF VIBRANT LEADERSHIP

**By Shariff Ahmed** 

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Bayero University, Kano was, again, Ranked as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Value University for International Students in Nigeria. BUK also Emerged Amongst the Top 1,000 in the World.

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#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, was four years in office yesterday. This is the penultimate year of his tenure. This report will dwell on the Vice Chancellor's modest achievements from August 2023 to August 2024; certainly, the most auspicious period of the last four years.

The last twelve months witnessed some far-reaching activities, ranging from project completion and commissioning, development of policies, excellence in academic progression, administrative inroads, commendable staff and student welfare, rejuvenation of centres of excellence, the position of Bayero University in the global ranking of universities, national and international donor agencies and individuals, successful completion of the 2022–2023 academic session, and the commencement of the 2023–2024 academic session, among other giant strides.

The Vice Chancellor's relentless drive to attract projects and funding for the university is worthy of mention. His indefatigable effort to persuade wealthy individuals, corporate bodies, and state governors to come to the aid of indigent students has been remarkable. His farsightedness in addressing issues bordering on the welfare of staff and students, security concern, and the provision of utilities in the face of economic challenges deserves the approbation of all.

There is no doubt that the 11<sup>th</sup> Vice Chancellor of this great university will be remembered for the masterclass in his leadership style to make Bayero University, Kano one of the best in the country. Taking the university to a top position in the global ranking of universities is a clear testimony to Professor Sagir Abbas' invaluable contribution to the development of Bayero University, Kano. This fourth-year report will spell out the various activities that thrived under his supervision.

#### 2.0 ACADEMIC MATTERS

#### 2.1 Timetable for Completion of 2022/2023 First Semester

The timetable for the completion of the first semester, as approved by the Senate, was released. The dates and activities were also spelt out in details, as captured below:

S/N	DATE	ACTIVITY
1.	Monday, 11 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup>	Central Committee on Examinations Misconduct and
	December, 2023	Leakage to consider reports from faculty committees
		(Two weeks after the last paper)
2.	Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> November to	Latest day for completion of marking and submission
	Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December, 2023	of raw marks by examiners (Three weeks after last
		paper)
3.	Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> November to	Departmental and Faculty Boards of Examiners to
	Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> January, 2024	consider results including projects (Six weeks after
		last paper)
4.	Monday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> to Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup>	SBC on 1 st Semester Examinations Results (Seven
	January, 2024	weeks after last paper — same a s what obtained
		previous sessions)
5.	Wednesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> February, 2024	Special Senate on 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Examinations Results

#### 2.2 Resumption of Second Semester 2022-2023 Lectures

Following the successful completion of the First Semester (2022/2023) examinations, the Second Semester lectures for the 2022/2023 academic session officially commenced on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 as approved by the Senate. It should be noted that the two-day industrial action embarked upon by the NLC/TUC did not affect the Academic Calendar of the University.

#### 2.3 Opening of Registration Portal for UTME and DE Screening

The university opened its online registration portal for **UTME** and **DE** Screening for the 2023/2024 admission exercise. The registration started on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 and closed on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2024.

Guidelines and procedure for registration were published in the Official Weekly Bulletin.

#### 2.4 Extension of Registration Period for PG Students

Following the inability of a good number of postgraduate students to register for the 2021/2022 academic session, the management of the university, after due consultation with stakeholders, decided to extend the period for payment of registration fees of both fresh and returning postgraduate students.

Fresh postgraduate students were given up to midnight of  $30^{th}$  December, 2023 to register. They were allowed to write the First Semester examinations. Their results, however, were be released and they were not be allowed to proceed to the Second Semester until they presented evidence of payment of their registration fees.

Similarly, returning postgraduate students who had completed their coursework were not allowed to conduct seminars, internal and external examinations until they presented evidence of payment of registration fees.

#### 2.5 Resumption of 2023/2024 Academic Session

Following the successful completion of the 2022/2023 academic session, the academic calendar for the 2023/2024 session was released. Lectures for the 2023/2024 academic session officially commenced on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 as approved by the Senate. The calendar for undergraduate programmes is as follows:

S/N	DATE	ACTIVITIES	
1.	Monday, 15 <sup>th</sup> July to Saturday, 5 <sup>th</sup> October, 2024	First Semester Lectures [13 Weeks]	
2.	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, 30 <sup>th</sup> August, 2024	Mid-Semester Break [1 Week]	
3.	Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> October to 9 <sup>th</sup> November, 2024	First Semester Examinations [4 Weeks]	
4.	Monday, 28 <sup>th</sup> October to Sunday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> November,	Semester Break [1 Week]	
	2024		
5.	Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup> November to Saturday, 15 <sup>th</sup>	Second Semester Lectures [13 Weeks]	
	February, 2025		
6.	Monday, 30 <sup>th</sup> December, 2024 to 3 <sup>rd</sup> January,	Mid-Semester Break [1 Week]	
	2025		
7.	Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> February to 15 <sup>th</sup> March, 2025	Second Semester Examinations [4 Weeks]	
8.	Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> May, 2025	End of Session	

It should also be noted that the Senate at its 412<sup>th</sup> meeting held on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 approved the commencement of the academic calendar with registration of fresh students commencing on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June and closing on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 while returning students' registration commenced on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024. The Management directed for the portal to remain open up to 19th August, 2024. The extension was due to 10 days of national demonstrations. Guidelines and procedure for registration were published in the *Official Weekly Bulletin*.

#### 2.6 Registration Fees Remain Unchanged

The Vice Chancellor reported to the Congregation during its 58<sup>th</sup> meeting held on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 that the students' registration fees for the 2023/2024 academic session remained unchanged. Management's decision not to increase the fees in spite of the increasing inflation in the country, he said, was due to the fact that any attempt to review the fees upward would spell doom to both parents and students.

"The management reviewed the charges for central registration fees upward during the last academic session because it had no option but to do so due to the prevailing economic circumstances. Though the economic crunch in the country today is worse than it was last year, the management has opted not to add any financial burden on struggling parents and their wards.

"The management, as we did last year, will reach out to wealthy and public-spirited individuals and corporate organizations to mobilize funds to support the university's students' scholarship scheme," Prof. Sagir Abbas said.

#### 2.7 Report of the 2023 National Universities Commission (NUC) Accreditation Exercise

The results of twenty-four programmes across seven faculties visited for accreditation by the NUC in October/November 2023 were released. Twenty-three (23) programmes were granted FULL accreditation status, while one (1) was granted INTERIM accreditation status. The report revealed that overall, the University scored 96% in the exercise.

The breakdown of the accredited programmes indicated that the B. Forestry and Wildlife Management and B. Food Science and Technology in the Faculty of Agriculture got full status with 93.6% and 84.0% respectively.

In the Faculty of Communication, BSc Information and Media Studies and B. A. Theatre and Performing Arts got 93.2% and 92.8% respectively. The B.Eng Telecommunication Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Petroleum Engineering scored 84.0%, 80.0% and 78.0% respectively.

Programmes in the Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences were graded as follows: BSc Geology (90.4%) Urban and Regional Planning (89.6%); Environmental Management (88.0%); Architecture (85.6%); Estate Management (85.6%) and Quantity Surveying (84.8%).

Also evaluated were the BSc Nutrition and Dietetics (87.2%) in the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences while programmes in the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences comprising Medical Laboratory Science; Bachelor of Nursing Sciences; Radiography and Optometry had 88.0%, 87.2%, 84.0% and 66.0% respectively. All obtained full status except the Doctor of Optometry which got an interim status.

The BA (Ed) History and BA (Ed) Hausa got 95.2% each, while the BA (Ed) English scored 94.4%; Education Islamic Studies (92.4%) and the Education Arabic and Health Education scored 91.4% and 80.0% respectively.

In line with the quality assurance drive by professional bodies in the practice of the various professional callings, between January and July 2024, a few professional bodies / associations accredited various programmes in the university. They include the Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria (28th January – 30th January 2024);

Resource Assessment Visit by the Veterinary Council of Nigeria (14th – 16th February, 2024); Council of Nigerian Mining Engineers and Geoscientists- COMEG (28th – 30th May, 2024); Radiographers Registration Board of Nigeria (9th – 12th June, 2024); The Town Planners Registration Council of Nigeria- TOPREC (3rd July – 5th July 2024) and The Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (9th – 12th July 2024).

Similarly, the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) visit the MBBS and BDS programmes last week. From the preliminary briefing by MDCN visit was successful. The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) and the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Registration Board of Nigeria (ODORBN) are due to accredit the Accounting and Optometry programmes in August 2024.

#### 2.8 NUC Accreditation for 2024

The Directorate of Academic Planning is preparing for the accreditation of forty-three (43) academic programmes across seventeen (17) faculties by the National Universities Commission (NUC) in October / November 2024.

As a key step towards a successful exercise and attaining full accreditation status for the programmes, mock accreditation exercise were scheduled to took from 22nd – 25th July 2024.

#### 2.9 Implementation of the Core Curriculum and Minimum Academic Standards (CCMAS)

The Vice Chancellor reported that in line with the directive of the NUC, the Directorate of Academic Planning has coordinated the effective take-off of the CCMAS with effect from the just commenced academic session (2023/2024) with the newly admitted students (100 Level). He noted that the CCMAS curriculum implementation, like any new human endeavour, came with challenges and hitches at the initial stage. Those issues, he said, were being identified and documented with the aim of addressing them as appropriate in liaison with the NUC upon recommendations of the university Senate.

#### 2.10 Capacity Building of Staff

With the creation of the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Unit in the Directorate of Academic planning, the Directorate rolled out several capacity-building trainings / workshops targeting both teaching and non-teaching staff.

The first training was held on *Data Management and Analysis Using the JMP Statistical Software* from 19th – 21st March, 2024 for academic staff, while a training for non-teaching staff on *Computer and Digital Tools for Office Productivity* from 29th – 30th April, 2024 was for administrative secretaries.

Furthermore, towards improving the efficiency of Examination Officers and Level Coordinators, the Directorate of Academic Planning held Sensitization Training later this month. These trainings and more targeting the various strata of the university workforce will be conducted towards improving the capacity and productivity of staff.



#### 2.11 DTLC ALLOCATIONS FROM 2023 TO 2024

The Vice Chancellor reported that the management of the university, between the months of April 2023 and January 2024 approved the payment of DTLC to designated units of the University in three (3) instalments. The details are as follows:

1. First 2023 allocation was paid in April 2023 to the tune of ₹28,555,301.53. Some deductions were made to the erring units for noncompliance with the guidelines.

- 2. Second 2023 allocation was paid in September 2023 to the tune of ₹26,788,462.81. Some deductions were made to the erring units for noncompliance with the guidelines.
- 3. Third 2023 allocation was paid in October 2023 to the tune of \\ 28,218,488.01. There were no deductions.
- 4. First 2024 allocation was paid in January 2024 to the tune of ₹25,334,071.55. Some deductions were made to the erring units for noncompliance with the guidelines.

The Vice Chancellor has released DTLC first trench for 2023/2024 session with 15% increase which amounted to N32,508,726.21. Management will not relent on its responsibility to settle any outstanding claims.

#### 2.12 Research Accomplishments: January—July 2024

#### 2.12.1 Directorate of Research, Innovation and Partnership (DRIP)

Achievements during the period under review:

- a) Engaged in the implementation of the following:
  - 1) Research Policy
  - 2) Intellectual Property Policy
  - 3) Authorship Policy
  - 4) Research Data Management Policy
  - 5) Research Ethics and Integrity Policy
  - 6) Effort Reporting and Compensation Policy
  - 7) Research Facilities and Administration Policy
  - 8) Professorial Research Chair Policy
  - 9) Journal Publishing Policy
  - 10) Policy on Research Centres and Institutes, and
  - 11) Research Grants Management Guidelines
- b) Organized the second edition of Research Exhibition in which 32 projects from Bayero University were showcased.
- c) Engaged the research centres on developing their research agendas.
- d) Submitted two patent applications to the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP) for onward transmission to the Nigerian Patent Office;
- e) Coordinated the membership registration of Bayero University with the West African Research and Innovation Management Association (WARIMA);
- f) Coordinated the application and assessment of Bayero University for the Good Financial Grants Practice (GFGP) certification at Silver Tier of the African Academy of Sciences (AAS). The assessment has been successful, and the certificate will be released to the University soon.
- g) Organised a training workshop for the research groups established by the Faculty of Life Sciences;
- h) Created a database of researchers with their thematic and priority research areas in Bayero University. Due to low response of the university research community, only 22% of the 1,721 academic staff have been captured. The first batch of respondents has been processed and will soon be uploaded on the University website. The exercise will continue until 100% coverage is achieved.

The Management is working to compile list of staff that have Q1 publications with a view to give them some financial assistance.

#### 2.12.2 Research Centres and Institutes

#### Centre for Infectious Diseases Research (CIDR)

Accomplishments in the period under review:

- a. In collaboration with Kano Centre for Disease Control (CDC), CIDR conducted a training on Management of Common Zoonotic Diseases for case managers of secondary health facilities in Kano (10th-11th June 2024).
- b. In collaboration with Kano CDC and Ministry of Agriculture, CIDR developed a protocol for management of Rabies for Heath care workers in Kano (July 2024).
- c. CIDR hosts north-western regional Lassa fever diagnostic laboratory with facilities for Tuberculosis diagnosis. Our visit to KNCV leadership (a Dutch program supporting Tuberculosis services) yielded commitment to support our laboratory with solar facilities.

#### The Centre for Islamic Civilization and Interfaith Dialogue (CICID)

The Centre recorded the following achievements:

- a) Successfully organized its Second International Conference and published its Book of Proceedings
- b) Published the maiden edition of Alhadharah Journal
- c) Organised consultative meetings with some stakeholders
- d) Successfully developed a research agenda
- e) The Centre has established a Stakeholders Committee
- f) Established MoUs with key partners such as Nasiha Foundation.

#### **Centre for Gender Studies (CGS)**

Key components of CGS in the period under review include:

- i) Development of research agenda
- ii) Training: Annual 2-day ESD induction training for students
- iii) The mentorship programme was expanded this year (2024) to include both women and men under the theme 'mentorship for inclusive development'. The re-designed mentorship programme was launched during the International Day of Multilateralism and diplomacy for peace which is usually celebrated by the UN on the 24th of April to celebrate the remarkable milestones reached through multilateralism and diplomacy for peace building and women's rights.

#### Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health Research and Training (COHERAT)

The Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health Research and Training was established in December 2023, with the mandate of conducting research and training towards policy formulation, promoting safety at work and the prevention and control of the diverse risks/hazards from all forms of occupations and the environment. During the period under review, the Centre accomplished the following:

- a) Organized and streamlined the Centre's activities to ensure alignment with its mandate.
- b) A comprehensive research agenda has been drawn up, focusing on cutting-edge research and training towards policy formulation, promoting workplace safety, and preventing and controlling diverse occupational and environmental hazards.
- c) Established robust research, training and outreach teams to drive the Centre's objectives.
- d) A thorough stakeholder analysis has been made to identify and engage key partners relevant to the Centre's mission.

#### Nigeria Centre for Reading Research and Development (NCRRD)

The centre has made remarkable progress in the following areas:

- a) Organized Conference and Pre-conference workshop on Early Grade Reading with support of ₹4,000,000 from UBEC
- b) Organized a one-week Bookworm Competition in English, Hausa and Arabic, under Vocation Programme for Primary and Secondary School students in Partnership with Yan'albarka Youngsters Forum
- c) The Centre is currently conducting proficiency programme for Arabic speaking students online and physical in collaborations with Mawalid and Mufatihul Khair Education and General Services
- d) The Centre has developed English Proficiency Programmes (EPP) for teaching non-English speaking people
- e) The centre has secured support of N4,221,800 from OSSAP-SDG ABUJA to train early grade teachers in Kano and neighbouring states.

#### Centre for Dryland Agriculture (CDA)

Some ongoing research activities at CDA include:

- a) Accelerated Variety Improvement for Cereals and Legumes in Africa (AVISA) Project.
- b) Scaling Climate and Nutrition Smart Crops through Market Systems in North Nigeria
- c) Development of New Cultivars of Sesame for Improved Food Security
- d) Trait Discovery and Breeding for Heat Tolerance in Tomato (Solanum lycopersicum L.) in the Semi-Arid
- e) Development of Thyme Propagation Methods
- f) Development of Sustainable Packaging Solutions for Extending the Keeping Quality of Composite Sorghum Flours (SUSPACK)
- g) Development of Agro-ecological based Natural Pesticides for Sustainable Management of Major Pests and Diseases of Crops in Dryland

h) Response of Wheat to Early Season Green Manure and NPK Fertilizer in Sudan Savannah Agro-ecological Zone of Nigeria

Researchers at CDA have developed a PCR-based method for early-stage sex identification in date palms. Previously, identifying the fruit-bearing female plants at the seedling stage was challenging. The new method will greatly facilitate the establishment of commercial date palm plantation in Nigeria.

#### Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP)

- 1. 1.IVON Trial: an open label, randomized controlled trial of intravenous versus oral iron for iron deficiency anaemia in pregnant Nigerian women (IVON).
- 2. EMOTIVE GRANT: A multi-country project involving; Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa and Nigeria).
- 3. 3. WANIDA: ACEPHAP partnered with three other ACEs to form a network called West African Network of Infectious Diseases African Centre for Excellence (WANIDA).

ACEPHAP's groundbreaking research in the E-MOTIVE Trial introduced a new clinical approach for detecting and treating postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) in vaginal deliveries. This method, which includes a calibrated blood-collection drape and a bundle of first-response treatments, significantly reduced the need for laparotomy compared to standard care. It is expected to become the global standard for PPH management.

#### **Ongoing Research Projects**

- a. COVID-19 Sequencing Project
- b. IVON-PP: Focused on preventing anaemia in women in the postpartum period. It is being executed in collaboration with Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria.
- c. STEPMag Trial: Collaborating with other institutions on this multicentre, multi-country (India, South Africa, Uganda, Egypt and Kenya).
- d. AFABEM RMNCH Quality study: Assessment of Facilitators and Barriers to Effective Governance and Implementation (AFABEM) of Quality of Care (QoC) of Reproductive Maternal New-born Care Health (RMNCH) Services in Kano, Sokoto, Borno and Yobe States, Nigeria.
- e. KASSEP VERBAL AUTOPSY PROJECT: The Kano State-Wide Sample Registration System to Prototype Impact in Reducing Maternal Deaths (Verbal Autopsy) project is aimed to establish and implement a Sample Registration System in Kano State.
- f. The Catalyse Impact
  - This is a project of the African Population Health Research Centre (APHRC) in Kenya funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- g. Feasibility of community-based distribution of Azithromycin and Misoprostol to Improve Maternal Outcome in Nigeria.

#### 2.13 Ranking of World Universities

During the period under review, Bayero University, Kano maintained its prestige as one of the top universities in the country. In the latest global ranking of world universities by the Times Higher Education (THE) of the United Kingdom, Bayero University emerged as the 5<sup>th</sup> best in the country.

In its 2024 World University Ranking (WUR) report released in September, the Times Higher Education ranked BUK as the overall best in Nigeria in terms of international outlook with 49 points. Other indicators considered for the ranking included research quality, research environment and industry as well as international outlook.

According to the report, the exercise was conducted based on its new World University Ranking (WUR) methodology, carefully calibrated performance indicators that measure an institution's performance across five areas: teaching, research environment, research quality, industry and international outlook.

The report noted that about 3,000 universities across the globe submitted data for assessment in which 1,904 universities across 108 countries and regions were ranked, while over 700 others got 'reporter' status of the assessment.

Covenant University was the best in Nigeria followed by the University of Ibadan; then the Federal University of Technology, Akure, University of Lagos and Bayero University, Kano were third, fourth and fifth respectively.

With this latest ranking, BUK remains the best university in the six geopolitical zones of the country except the Southwest region. In the global arena, BUK ranked in the group bracket of 1201-1500. According to the Vice Chancellor, "We will continue to encourage quality leadership, publication in reputable journals, quality research and teaching, productivity and standards."

#### 2.14 BUK Ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Value University for International Students

During the period under review, Bayero University, Kano was, again, ranked as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Value University for International Students in Nigeria. BUK also emerged amongst the top 1,000 in the world.

According to the 2023-2024 report released in November 2023, the South-Korea based universities database assessor, *Study Abroad Aide*, noted that over 8,000 tertiary institutions from about 70 countries were assessed. The ranking methodology for the best-value universities was based on two indicators: the academic quality of institutions, which accounts for 75% of the institution's evaluation and based on academic reputation as well as the difference between the university's tuition fees and the country's average tuition fees. This factor accounts for 25% of the evaluation and was included to gauge the institution's availability. The report further explains that BUK's effort to make education accessible should not be unnoticed, as this informed the assessment.

The report also noted that the ranking would not only bring further distinction to the university's name and boost reputation and credibility, but also help greatly in achieving the goal of assisting more aspiring international students worldwide.

#### 2.15 JAMB Policy Meeting

At the policy meeting of the JAMB, which was held in Abuja on 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, it was agreed that the minimum allowable point for admission for Nigerian Universities is 140. BUK's minimum for admission is now 160. The reason for the change from 180 was due to paucity of students. "If we stick to 180, the university will get 3,000 or less students for 2024/25 academic session. By changing from 180 to 160, the university will get over 8,000 applicants," the Vice Chancellor said.

#### 2.16 BUK Inducts First Set of Doctors of Pharmacy

BUK made history on Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 when it graduated the first set of Doctors of Pharmacy (Pharm D) in Nigeria. Indeed, BUK was the first university in the country to achieve this breakthrough. The historical ceremony witnessed **30** graduands from the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences taking the oath of allegiance of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN) at Mahmud Tukur Theatre, Old Campus.

Doctor of Pharmacy is a prestigious degree recognized by the National Universities Commission (NUC) and the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN). Accordingly, the new graduands are the first holders to be inducted by the PCN and, by extension, the first set of pharmacists to practise with the degree in Nigeria.

"Undeniably, this is a historic accomplishment by the university, and on behalf of the Senate, the Management and staff of the university, I heartily congratulate the university, especially the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, on this outstanding feat," the Vice Chancellor said.



#### 3.0 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

#### 3.1 Welfare Package

#### 3.1.1 Commencement of Bus Shuttle for Staff

The management, under the leadership of the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, initiated some farreaching welfare measures for staff and students as part of its effort to cushion the effect of subsidy removal. The quickly approved the daily bus shuttle from town to the university campuses. Each day buses depart BUK Zoo Road staff quarters and have stopovers at Dan Agundi Junction, Old Campus Gate and finally stop at the New Campus. The first bus departs at 8:00 a.m. while the second bus departs at 10:00 a.m. Similarly, at the close of work, the first bus leaves at 4:00 p.m. while the second bus leaves at 6:00 p.m. This arrangement, restricted to only members of staff of the university, according to the Vice Chancellor, will continue until further notice.

Similarly, other welfare measures, such as non-interest loans from the Microfinance Bank for members of staff to pay for the registration fees of their wards will also continue during this academic session. Our findings revealed that a good number of staff benefited from the loan during the last registration exercise. The management also made good its promise of purchasing bicycles and giving them out on loan to interested junior staff members. This, too, will continue, the Vice Chancellor has assured.

#### 3.1.2 Revolving Loan Scheme

As part of its effort to continue to cushion the effect of the current economic downturn in the country, the management is working out a plan to release some funds Bayero Cooperative Society in the university to serve as a revolving loan to their members. The terms and conditions will be worked out soon to enable staff members apply for the loan through the cooperative society. This, we believe, will go a long way towards assisting the university staff to cope with the increasingly rising cost of living in the country.

#### 3.2 Rejuvenation of Centres of Excellence

In an effort to rejuvenate and boost research in the university's centres for high impact, the management decided to inject N500,000 each to the six top performing centres as a take-off research grant as part of its deliberate move to revitalize the quality of the research output in the university.

It would be recalled that the management had set up a **Management Committee on the Performance of the University Centres of Research** headed by **the** DVC Research & Development, Professor Abdullahi Sule-Kano, with a view to repositioning all the research centres to align with the university's vision and mission. The six centres were identified following a discreet evaluation into their research activities, hence their recognition for exceptional contribution. The six grant winning centres were as follows:

- International Institute of Islamic Banking & Finance (IIIBF)
- Aminu Kano Centre for Democratic Studies (AKCDS) Mambayya
- · Centre for Renewable Energy Studies and Technology (CREST)
- Centre for Biotechnology Research (CBR)
- Centre for Infectious Disease Research (CIDR)
- Centre for Gender Studies

The Vice Chancellor urged other centres to come up with simple achievable research agenda and take their cue from the Centre for Dryland Agriculture (CDA) and Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP).

#### 3.3 2023 Promotion Exercise

The Appointments and Promotions Committee (A&PC) at its 192<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 approved the promotions of **38** senior academics to the rank of **Professor** and **51** others to the rank of **Associate Professor**. The promotions were for 2020/2021, 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 sessions. Similarly, 4 Principal Assistant Registrars in the Registry Department were promoted to the rank of Deputy Registrar. Their promotions took effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2023.

As the Vice Chancellor has stated consistently, no staff of the university – teaching and non-teaching – would be denied their promotions without any justification. Any member of staff who is qualified and has met all the essential requirements would be elevated with dispatch. Senior academic staff members who are looking forward to their promotions, according to the Vice Chancellor, should exercise patience as the management is anxiously awaiting some responses from the external assessors. "As soon as we receive their responses, we will not hesitate to do the needful," the Vice Chancellor said, adding that as soon as the 15<sup>th</sup> Governing Council of the university was reconstituted, he would not hesitate to make a submission to Council on the ratification of the promotions.

#### 3.3.1 2022/2023 Promotions for Academic Staff

In the 2022 promotion exercise, of the **50** cases to Professors submitted and all have been cleared. *Professors* 

50	Cases Submitted	
50	Cleared	
0	Balance	

Similarly, 56 cases of Associate Professors were submitted out of which 53 have been cleared and 3 outstanding cases are being expected.

Associate Professors

56	Cases Submitted
53	Cleared So far
3	Balance

#### 3.3.2 2023/2024 Promotions for Academic Staff

Out of the 63 cases submitted for promotion to Professors, 37 have so far been cleared, while the remaining 26 are being expected.

**Professors** 

63	Cases Submitted
37	Cleared So far
26	Balance

57 cases were submitted for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor out of which 32 have been cleared and the remaining 25 being awaited.

Associate Professors

57	Cases Submitted
32	Cleared So far
25	Balance

#### **3.3.3 2024/2025 Promotion Exercise**

All cleared cases of promotion will be present at the 15th Governing Council meeting for approvalz.

On June 24, 2024, the Management called for submission for 2024/2025 promotion exercise. The Management has set Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, September 2024 as date for Central A&PC meeting.

#### 3.4 Macarthur Foundation President Visits BUK

Former President of MacArthur Foundation, Dr Jonathan Fanton, who paid a courtesy call on the management of the university on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2023, commended the university for the judicious utilization of grants advanced by the Foundation to the university since 2000.



Former President of MacArthur Foundation, Dr. Jonathan Fanton exchanging views with VC, Prof. Sagir A. Abbas



Former President of MacArthur Foundation, Dr. Jonathan Fanton with Director CDA, Prof. Jibrin M. Jibrin

Dr Fanton said he was extremely overwhelmed by the progress recorded in the university, which was an indication that good investment has strengthen universities. He said that of all the investments rendered to Nigerian tertiary institutions, BUK's programmes were the best in terms of execution and success. He said Bayero University, Kano was very dear to him given the way and manner it had been handling investments from the MacArthur Foundation.

Shedding more light on how BUK was selected as a beneficiary of the foundation's intervention, Dr Fanton said initially the university was not among the selected institutions. However, after a visit to BUK, he was impressed with what he saw, hence a change of policy to consider the university.

The former President, who is now the President of the American Academy of Arts and Science in Boston in the United States, promised collaboration between his centre in Boston and Bayero University, Kano.

Dr Fanton came to see the facilities at the Faculty of Communication, Centre for Dryland Agriculture (CDA) and Centre for Information Technology (CIT) all of which got funding from the MacArthur Foundation.

#### 3.5 The 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony

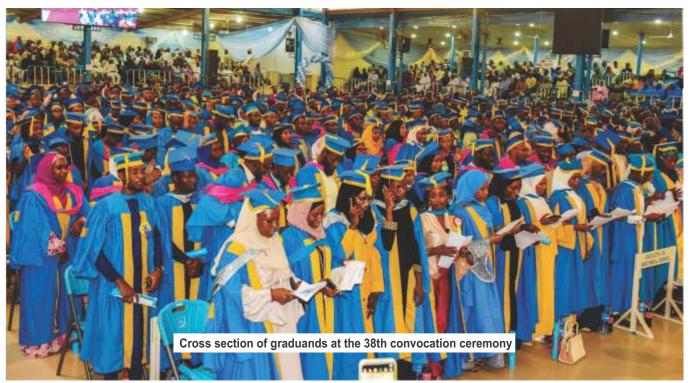
The 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation ceremony of the university, which began on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> February and ended on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2024, was a tremendous success. Bayero University, during the ceremony, graduated **11,284** qualified candidates from **18** faculties and the School of Continuing Education. The University also conferred a total of **5,432** higher degrees and postgraduate diplomas on qualified candidates. It is interesting to note that **180** first degree graduands graduated with **First Class Honours**.



VC, Prof. Sagir A. Abbas and Senator Barau I. Jibrin after the conferrement



VC, Prof. Sagir A. Abbas and Dr. Akinwumi Adesina one of the awardees



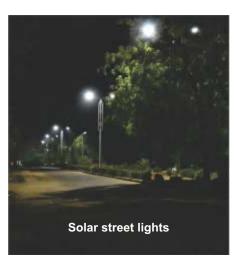
The 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation ceremony also witnessed the conferment of Honorary Degrees, as approved by the Senate, on two distinguished Nigerians: Deputy President of the Senate, Senator Barau I. Jibrin, **CON** and the President of the African Development Bank, Dr Akinwumi Adesina, **CON**.

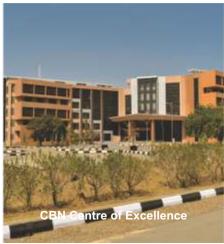
As it has been a tradition in the University, a Convocation Lecture was held on the eve of the closing day of the Convocation titled "The Role of the Private Sector in Building a Sustainable Knowledge Economy in Nigeria". The lecture was delivered by Alhaji Aliko Dangote.

#### 3.6 Supply of Solar Streetlights

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas, reported to the Congregation that as part of management's effort to brighten the surroundings of the university in addition to the 250 solar streetlights put in place earlier, the management provided additional 47 solar streetlights in the following areas:

- 1. ASUU Secretariat, Old Campus.
- 2. I&J Quarters, New Campus.
- 3. Centre of Excellence (CBN Buildings), New Campus.







#### 3.7 Fire Incident at Nana Hall

The Vice Chancellor reported an unfortunate incident of fire outbreak, which occurred at Nana Hall (female hall), Old Campus late January this year.

Investigation later revealed that the fire outbreak was caused by electrical fault. About ten (10) rooms were involved out of which four (4) were badly affected, which destroyed the valuables of twenty-two (22) students. Luckily, there was no human casualty.

He said the damaged rooms had been renovated, and the affected students had since returned to their rooms. To pacify the affected students with the psychological trauma they had found themselves, the management decided to give the 22 students some monetary assistance of \$250,000, \$100,000 and \$50,000 each, depending on the degree of their losses.

# 3.8 Fire Outbreak at University Library, Department of Information Literacy, Media, and Public Relations

#### **Incident Overview:**

On the midnight of Sunday, 19th May, 2024, an unfortunate fire outbreak ravaged the premises of the Department of Information Literacy, Media, and Public Relations Department. The cause of the fire was yet to be ascertained, as investigations were ongoing at the time of going to press. It is imperative to note that the primary electricity source was confirmed to be inactive during the incident, and the solar power system was operating efficiently. Nevertheless, despite these precautions, a substantial amount of crucial equipment and resources suffered damage due to the fire.

#### The Extent of Damage

The fire predominantly affected the multimedia room and the viewing centre within the department's premises. Below is a detailed breakdown of the items and equipment lost in each area:

#### Multimedia Room:

#### 1. Furniture:

· Computer Tables: 10

Chairs: 16Office Tables: 6Office Cabinets: 2

#### 2. Computing Equipment:

· Computer Desktops: 11 (Lenovo All-in-One PC 20-c011i, Dual Core, 4GB RAM, 1TB HDD, 20" LED)

Laptop Computers: 4

· Hard Disks: 2 (3TB External Hard Disks)

Flash Drives: 5
Scanner: 1 (HP)
Routers: 6
Airtel Router: 1
Mtn Modem 2
CD-ROM Writers: 2

#### 3. Audio-Visual Equipment:

· Public Address System: 1

· HUBs: 4 · Cameras: 6

· Television Sets: 3 (Panasonic, Samsung)

Radio: 1
Woofers: 2
Projectors: 2
Receivers: 4
TV Stands: 2
Speakers: 8

· Radio for Wireless Network 3

#### 4. Climate Control and Miscellaneous:

Refrigerator: 1Standing Fans: 6

· Air Conditioner (AC): 1 (Split A/C)

Ceiling Fans: 18Electric Board: 1Extension Wires: 6

Ladder: 1
Table Fan 1

#### **Viewing Centre:**

#### 1. Furniture:

Chairs: 12 (Four Sitters)

#### 2. Audio-Visual Equipment:

· TV Stand: 1

#### Other Affected Areas:

- 1. Collection Development:
- 2. Circulation
- 3. Committee Room
- 4. And other Offices

The fire outbreak at the Department of Information Literacy, Media, and Public Relations Department resulted in significant material loss, encompassing a wide array of essential equipment and resources vital for the department's academic and administrative functions. The management has since restored the destroyed area; the items damaged are being replaced.

#### 3.9 UPDATE ON SECURITY

Security, according to the Vice Chancellor, is one of the major concerns of the management of the university. The end of the year 2023 and a few months of the year 2024, the Vice Chancellor noted, posed serious challenges in terms of security. The university, he said, witnessed several security breaches ranging from pilferage, breaking and stealing in offices, residential quarters and the encroachment of Fulani herders into the University land, CDA farm and other individuals' farms within the New Campus.

The University Security Division, during the period under review, witnessed a number of milestone activities as follows:

- **a.** 170 additional guards drawn from outsourced existing agencies operating in the University, Nigeria Hunters and Forest Security Service, and local guards were engaged to guard newly taken over structures and improve some existing ones;
- b. Security Personnel Audit was conducted to ascertain the actual number of staff and their functionality;
- c. Capacity training for University security staff and some of other security agencies was conducted to enhance synergy and effectiveness;
- d. The provision of uniforms and accessories to all security personnel to enhance proficiency smartness;
- e. The overtime allowance of security staff suspended over a period of five (5) years has been restored to boost their morale:
- f. The Division has recorded some successes, including arrest and recovery of stolen solar panels. The gang has been identified, and they are standing trial with the University Legal Unit on watching brief on the case. Also, a gang of criminals who stole armoured cables of the University were arrested with the assistance of Anti-Daba Squad and the case is with the State CID. Other cases of theft, vandalism and motorcycle thieves were arrested with many of them being convicted while some are awaiting trial.
- g. Regrettably, some staff and students were also investigated for excesses bordering on criminalities and the Division is working with the relevant University bodies to address the cases appropriately;
- h. The Division is also having running battles with encroachers and land grabbers who are feasting on University land and we are working closely with the police and other relevant agencies in this regard;
- i. The recent inauguration of Bayero Investment Company and other subsidiaries under it, particularly the StarGuard Company which will deal with security, is expected to be a new milestone in the enhancement of security operations in the University.

On the issue of fire safety component, the Security Division achieved the following:

- 1. Delivery of a free truck by the Federal Fire Service
- 2. Provision of requisite fire fighting equipment by the university management

In addition, the Division intervened by extinguishing several bush fires and other fire outbreaks recorded in parts of the university campuses, the most recent being the one recorded at the Main Library, which was prevented from escalating.

The University management also organized fire safety awareness for both staff and students of the university. Technologists, laboratory attendants, matrons and other relevant staff were specifically trained by officials of the Federal Fire Service on fire prevention and control in order to minimize incidents of fire outbreaks.

#### 4.0 IMPROVED POWER SUPPLY

Early in March this year, the management released a circular announcing to the members of the university community that the two main campuses of the university (Old Campus and New Campus) had been migrated to a more reliable source of electricity after many years of determined efforts. Management also noted that some members of the university community were misusing the electricity in offices and residential areas. Some staff members were also fond of leaving their lights and other electrical appliances on after office hours, while others in the residential areas used the electricity for commercial purposes by installing cold rooms and grinding machines or leaving the lights of their residences on even during the daytime.

The management is still appealing to both staff and students to use the power supply wisely to help management minimize the huge bills of electricity consumption on the campuses. Similarly, the management is appealing to staff in the residential areas to desist from using electricity for any commercial purposes, including cold rooms, which are uneconomical and injurious to the meager resources of the university.

"The management has been working tirelessly to ensure that staff and students enjoy adequate power supply, which had been few and far between over the last few years. With this success story in the restoration of substantial power supply on our campuses, it is hoped that proper care will be taken by all and sundry to ensure that bills coming in can be settled by the management. If, on the other hand, we misuse this opportunity and bills go beyond the scope of the management, KEDCO will not hesitate to cut off the power supply, which will not augur well for us all," the Vice Chancellor said.

#### 4.1 Project Separating Electricity Supply at AKTH

The university is also carrying out a project of separating the electricity supply of the College of Health Sciences and the student hostel at Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital from the main supply of the hospital. This involves putting a 2.5 MA transformer and all its accessories at the cost of almost 30 million naira. This cost excludes the cost of the transformer, which at the moment is over 60 million naira. The work is at 70% completion, and in the next few weeks, the transformer will be energised, and light will be back in the College and the hostel at AKTH.

"Once again, the management is calling on both staff and students not to leave their appliances on while they go out. Appropriate measures will be taken by the management against occupants that do not comply with these directives," the Vice Chancellor warned.

The Management, according to the Vice Chancellor, strongly believes that the only way to serve residential areas better in terms of electricity is to install a metre in each household. This will allow members of staff to use the light the way they want to, and this will bring an end to restrictions in the distribution. Providing metres at residential areas was proposed by the Vice Chancellor and was approved by Congregation held on Saturday, 20th July, 2024.

#### 5.0 UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICE (UHS)

The University Health Services Division of the university operates four medical facilities. They are as follows:

- 1. New Campus Health Centre
- 2. Old Campus Health Centre
- 3. School of Continuing Education (SCE) Clinic
- 4. Zoo Road Clinic

According to the Vice Chancellor, Prof Sagir Adamu Abbas, despite the financial constraints, competing demands and inflation, the management was able to achieve the following from December 2023 to June 2024:

A)

- 1. Provision of Automated Chemistry Analyser
- 2. Provision of Automated Haematology Analyser
- 3. Provision of portable Ultrasound machine to complement the existing 2 stationary units
- 4. Provision of patient monitor
- 5. Provision of additional Oxygen Concentrators
- 6. Provision of Phototherapy machine
- B) Increased funds for drugs and medical consumables
- C) Provision of specialist consultants from the College of Health Sciences. This gesture has reduced drastically difficulties staff, students and staff dependants incur when they are referred to the teaching hospital for specialist consultations.

The health centres attended to **31,971** patients from January 2023 to December 2024. The University Management has concluded arrangements to equip Old Campus Health Centre this academic session.

#### 6.0 CONSTRUCTION OF EARTH DAM IN BUK NEW CAMPUS

Inn 2023 the Vice-Chancellor led the Management team to Federal Ministry of Water Resources and solicited for the construction of an earth dam in the New Campus to address water shortages. They discussed with the former Minister of the Ministry, who subsequently agreed and captured the dam's design in the 2023 budget. While, the construction of the dam, was later captured in the 2024 budget through the Hadejia and Jamare River Basin and Development Authority. The construction team are now prepared to mobilize to the site. Another achievement within the period under review is the Hadejia Jamare are moving to site to start Dam construction next week.

#### 7.0 PROJECTS COMMISSIONING

During the period under review, a number of giant projects were commissioned. They included the following:

- a. CBN Centre of Excellence: The multi-billion naira Centre of Excellence donated to the University by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) was commissioned by the Vice-President, Senator Kashim Shettima, GCON, on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2024. During the commissioning, the Vice President noted that Bayero University had excelled in academic and infrastructural development, which was why it earned a pride of place in the comity of tertiary institutions; hence the reason for the siting of the gigantic edifice in the university by the CBN. The Vice-President was represented by his Special Adviser on Economic Affairs, Dr Tope Fashua.
- b. The Deputy President of the Senate, Senator Barau I. Jibrin, commissioned the following projects on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2024:
  - a. School of Postgraduate Studies.
  - b. Centre for Information Technology.



VC, PROF. SAGIR ADAMU ABBAS



REPRESENTATIVE OF VICE PRESIDENT DR. TOPE FASHUA



**CBN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE** 



CENTRE FOR TEACHING & LEARNING



SCHOOL FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDIES



C.I.T



PROVOST OFFICE CN & PS



MICRO-TEACHING LAB



ACEPHAP STUDENTS HOSTEL

It should be noted that the two projects were provided through a budgetary allocation following an intervention by Senator Barau I. Jibrin, the Deputy President of the Senate.

- The Honourable Minister of Education, Professor Tahir Mamman, commissioned the following projects:
  - Centre for Teaching and Learning a)
  - b) Microteaching Laboratory at the Faculty of Education
  - Department of Veterinary Anatomy of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine c)
  - Centre for Reading Research and Development
- d. The Governor of Kano State, Engineer Abba Kabir Yusuf, also commissioned the following projects at the Old Campus on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2024:
  - The Provost's Office, College of Natural and Pharmaceutical Sciences a)
  - b) Dean's Office, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences
  - Dean's Office, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences c)

Similarly, all the projects commissioned by the Executive Governor Abba Kabir Yusuf were secured in the 2023 National Budget in addition to the ones mentioned earlier. These humble achievements were a result of the deliberate effort by the Management in ensuring that Bayero University continues in its drive to be among the best in the country in terms of academic excellence in teaching, learning and research.

The University Management secured Budgetary Provision in 2023 for road construction and rehabilitation. A total of 5.19Km road were rehabilitated and a total of 8.5Km of drainage were renovated.

#### 7.1 List of Ongoing Projects at Bayero University, Kano

S/N	Projects	
1.	Construction of plain walls with design and retaining walls along Watari River at the New Campus.	2023 Capital Appropriation Project.
2.	Construction and furnishing of Council Lounge at the New Campus.	2023 Capital Appropriation Project

## 8.0 INAUGURATION OF THE BOARD OF BAYERO UNIVERSITY INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, inaugurated the Board of Bayero University Investment Company Limited at the Senate Chamber on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2024.

The establishment of the Board is a significant step forward in the university's strategic drive to diversify its revenue streams and create a sustainable financial future. The concept for establishing these companies was meticulously developed over time with extensive study and strategic considerations. With the Board's inauguration, Bayero University is now ready to put these ideas into action and embark on a journey of success and sustainability.

The Boards of these subsidiary companies are made up of distinguished individuals with different experiences and expertise who have been carefully selected to guide the investment to success. The chairmen and board members were selected based on their proven track record of achievement and dedication to the university.

The newly established Bayero University Investment Company Limited serves as the umbrella organization for a diverse range of subsidiaries, each playing a crucial role in the overall investment strategy. The subsidiaries are as follows:

- 1. Bayero Microfinance Bank Ltd.
- 2. Bayero University Guest House and Catering Services
- 3. Bayero Ventures Limited
- 4. Bayero Properties Limited
- 5. Bayero Lab Master Limited.
- 6. Bayero Publishing Limited
- 7. Bayero Farm Limited
- 8. Bayero Star Guards Limited.
- 9. Bayero University Consultancy Services
- 10. Bayero Citadel Environmental and Sanitation Services Limited
- 11. Bayero Cooperative Society Limited

The inauguration of the Board of Bayero University Investment Company Limited marks a significant step forward in the university's quest for improved financial standing, innovation and excellence.

"With a dedicated leadership team, a strategic vision and a diverse portfolio of subsidiaries, we're confident in our ability to achieve long-term growth and success," the Vice Chancellor said.

#### 9.0 THE NIGERIAN EDUCATION LOAN FUND (NELFund)

The President and Commander-in-Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, launched the NELFund on Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at the Presidential Villa, Abuja. Bayero University was represented at the launch by the Vice Chancellor.

The Student Loan Act, 2024 established the NELFund as a body to receive, manage and invest 1% of the total fund generated by Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS).

Registered	Successful	<b>Institutional Fees</b>	Total	<b>Students Upkeep</b>
Students	Students		Disbursement	Allowance
9,836	8,530	№997,725,000	№698,406,800	<del>№</del> 299,318,200



President Bola Ahmed Tinubu presenting a cheque for the registration fess of NELFUND beneficiary students of BUK

#### 10.0 GRANTS

#### 10.1 Mambayya House

The Vice Chancellor reported that Mambayya House, had successfully secured a grant from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation worth \$589,927 to undertake a research project on "Understanding Influence and Behaviour in Northern Nigeria", as they relate to financial inclusion. The main objective of the study, he said, was to understand the relationship between influence and behaviour as they affect economic and financial decision making at both individual and group levels. The grant, the VC said, would cover a period of 18 months, starting from 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2024 and was expected to cover the 19 northern states of the federation.

#### 10.2 BUK Student Wins \$14,000 Grant

A PhD student of the Centre for Dryland Agriculture (CDA), Rehema Mrutu, recently won a global award for contributing to a sustainable future and will receive \$14,000 research grant. According to the Vice Chancellor, Rehema Mrutu is a Tanzanian national pursuing a PhD in Natural Resource Management and Climate Change at the Centre for Dryland Agriculture, with research placement at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in the United States.

The BUK student, the VC said, was competitively selected as the winning candidate at the Climate, Food and Farming Global Research Alliance Development Award announced at the COP28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirate. The award comes with a grant of USD 14,000 for a six-month research stay at the University of Connecticut, USA.

"I believe that success stories of this nature must be brought to the fore to serve as a morale booster not only for the victorious students and their departments, but also for other students of the University to emulate.

"On behalf of the management and the university community, I heartily congratulate Rehema Mrutu, as well as the CDA for flying the flag of Bayero University high and improving the visibility of the University," the Vice Chancellor said.

# 10.3 BUK to Benefit from TETFund Initiative to Establish Innovation Hub and Central Multipurpose Laboratory

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas reported that BUK was one of the six Nigerian universities selected to benefit from the TETFund initiative to establish innovation hubs across the six geopolitical zones of the federation.

Other universities selected were the University of Ilorin, the University of Maiduguri, the Federal University of Technology Owerri, the University of Port Harcourt, and the University of Lagos.

The initiative, the VC said, was intended to encourage entrepreneurship and creativity among university students by providing them with continuous access to resources that would help them improve their skills and knowledge.

"The primary goal of these innovation hubs is to foster a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation among students. By providing them with a platform to develop and nurture their ideas, these hubs will equip them with the necessary skills to create market-driven solutions. This, in turn, will contribute to the overall development of the country, as more graduates will be able to apply their knowledge and skills effectively in solving real-life problems," the VC explained.

Similarly, BUK was chosen, amongst other universities, to receive a **Central Multipurpose Laboratory**, supported by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund). The labs are estimated to cost about **N3 billion**. The labs would be established in four geopolitical zones of the country, and would serve as a multidisciplinary laboratory for Life Sciences, Medicine, Engineering, and Physics.

"The aim of this project is to support research and innovation activities, allowing researchers at BUK to reach the level of prototyping and patenting. This selection is a significant achievement for BUK and opens up opportunities for ground-breaking scientific advancements.

"The establishment of the Central Multipurpose Laboratory at BUK will act as a catalyst for research and innovation activities across various fields. With its multidisciplinary approach, the lab will provide researchers with a collaborative space to exchange ideas and expertise, breaking down traditional departmental barriers. This will foster interdisciplinary research, leading to innovative solutions to complex problems. The access to advanced facilities and cutting-edge equipment will enable researchers to conduct experiments, generate reliable data, and develop prototypes for further development or patenting," Prof. Sagir A. Abbas said.

The Vice Chancellor noted that the selection of Bayero University as a beneficiary of the innovation hub and central multipurpose laboratory project, no doubt, was a remarkable achievement for the institution. The development would significantly enhance research and innovation activities at BUK, establishing it as a leading research institution in the country. The laboratory's multidisciplinary approach, advanced facilities, and the opportunities it offers researchers, postgraduate students, and postdoctoral fellows make it an invaluable addition to BUK's academic landscape.

"This prestigious project, indeed, will, undoubtedly, have a positive and lasting impact on BUK's research output, industry collaborations, and overall academic reputation," Prof. Abbas said.

#### 10.4 Federal Ministry of Agriculture Donates Two Vet Clinics to BUK

During the period under review, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development donated a veterinary clinic and Primary Animal Health Service Centre to the University. Following a request by the VC, the two clinics, no doubt, will assist the faculty in the provision of an environment conducive to teaching and learning. The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine is the youngest in the university.

#### 10.5 Philanthropists' Support for Indigent Students

Following the recent review of Central Registration Fees of students by the management of the university for the 2022/2023 session, the Vice chancellor approached government officials, corporate bodies, wealthy individuals and philanthropists to come to the aid of indigent students of the university in paying the new registration fees under our indigent scholarship scheme. The Vice Chancellor's vision yielded positive results. First and foremost, the Kano State Government, under the leadership of Governor Kabir Abba Yusuf, agreed to pay the registration fees of about 6,000 indigenes of the state. The current Prof-Chancellor of BUK paid registration of 100 female science final year students. He paid N 11,827,000.00.

Similarly, the Vice Chancellor paid a visit to Alhaji Auwalu Abdullahi Rano, the CEO of AA Rano, in his office, and explained to him the circumstances that forced the university management to review the registration fees. Eventually paid for all students of BUK from Bunkure, Kibiya and Rano. He paid N12,136,161.00.

Over 500 students were able to pay their registration fees courtesy of corporate bodies and notable individuals, including the Senator representing Kano Central, Senator Rufa'I Sani Hanga, who paid for 200 students. Other members who supported hundreds of students include; Senator Barau I. Jibrin, Honourable Kabiru Abubakar Kabir, Honourable Alhassan Ado Doguwa and Honourable Kabir Alhassan Rirum.

#### 10.6 Senator Barau Jibrin Donates 500 Solar Streetlights

As part of management's untiring drive to reach out to the good friends of the university and other corporate individuals and organizations, the VC was able to reach out to some of the National Assembly members representing Kano State. Senator Barau Jibrin – representing Kano North Senatorial District – in Abuja. The visit yielded positive dividends.

Senator Barau Jibrin, the Deputy President of the Senate, magnanimously donated **500** solar streetlights to Bayero University, Kano. All the 500 solar streetlights have been mounted.







Solar street light at the New and Old Campuses

#### 10.7 \$10 Million Grant to Improve Patients with Sickle Cell

Bayero University has continued to make giant strides in terms of collaboration with international donors. Recently, the university won a grant of \$10 million – through the College of Health Sciences – for the improvement and care of patients with sickle cell anaemia.

The grant would assist tremendously in the research and improvement of sickle cell disease because Nigeria has the largest number of sickle cell disease in the world with about 50%, and over 50,000 out of the 150,000 cases worldwide living in Kano State.

The grant was made possible by Professor Michael Debaun from Vanderbilt University Medical Centre, a global health institute, who paid a courtesy call on the Vice Chancellor on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. The American scholar, Professor Michael Debaun, described Bayero University as the best place for the collaboration.

#### 10.8 BUK Students Emerge Winners at National Essay Contest

During the period under review, two BUK undergraduate students of the Faculty of Agriculture, Rahmat Atu Musa and Nana Hauwa Aliyu, won the 2024 National Essay Writing Competition organized by the Nigerian Society for Plant Protection (NSPP), the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas, has said.

The competition, according to the Vice Chancellor, took place from 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 during the Society's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, which was held at Rivers State University, Port Harcourt. Students from across Nigerian tertiary institutions participated in the competition. The topic of the essay was "The Role of Plant Health in Fostering Prosperous Livelihood and Economic Success in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century".

Rahmat Atu Musa and Nana Hauwa Aliyu, 400 Level students in the Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management, won the first and second positions respectively.

#### 11.0 CONCLUSION

"Distinguished members of Bayero University community, the university is moving ahead positively. This has been possible as a result of the collective efforts of the staff, students, friends and well-wishers of the university. I honestly appreciate all of you. Staff unions in the university have also demonstrated their obligation and love for the growth of the University. I thank you all for your understanding. Together we will march towards strengthening and repositioning Bayero University, Kano. The management will continue to safeguard the concerns and well-being of all members of the University community," Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas concluded.





**ROAD CONSTRUCTION NEW CAMPUS 2024** 





**ROAD CONSTRUCTION OLD CAMPUS 2024** 





**ROAD CONSTRUCTION NEW CAMPUS 2024** 





**DRAINAGES OLD CAMPUS 2024** 





**DRAINAGES NEW CAMPUS 2024** 





**DRAINAGES OLD CAMPUS 2024** 









NEWLY INSTALLED TRANSFORMERS AT THE OLD AND NEW CAMPUSES





**CONTROL PANELS** 





NEWLY CONSTRUCTED AND COMMISSIONED FACULTY OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES



**BUK C.I.T NEW CAMPUS**