SSANU, NASU HOLD JOINT CONGRESS

The Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SSANU) and the Non-Academic Staff Union (NASU), fuoye chapter, held their first joint congress since the suspension of their protracted strike in February. This congress was uniquely-held outside the usual university auditorium as students were using the hall for examination.

Addressing the congress, the FUOYE chapter chairman of SSANU, Mutiu Ademola, informed union members of development sequel to the suspension of the strike. He said though the management had fulfilled most of the agreements reached, the issues of promotion and pay slips were still unattended to.

The union leader hinted that they had written several letters to the management without response, but said the management upon getting the hint for the congress had communicated them urging them to exercise a little patience as everything was being done to finalise the process of the promotion exercise.

He decried the long silence of the management which he said was not a healthy communication attitude given the tenuous situation.

Also speaking, the chairman of NASU, Dada Adebayo, corroborated the position of the first speaker, alleging that the headquarter of the Non-Academic Staff Union did not help matters during their period of struggle, an attitude he pledged to challenge when he attends the National Congress to hold in Minna, Niger State very soon.

He informed the congress of the official query that the management had served the executives of the two unions. This did not go down well with the congress.

Members of the congress as against previous gatherings demonstrated disenchantment with the way things were done in the two unions. The open show of dissatisfaction ended the congress in a stalemate, a veritable index of a frayed hem.

Apart from the fact that the congress was held outside its usual venue, the turnout was poor, the lowest since the joint action of the two unions.

While the union leaders were giving their remarks, a correspondence came from the management through the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Prof. R. A. Ajayi, instructing the unions to henceforth seek management's permission before making use of the institution's facilities, a decision the union leaders did not find convenient.

Consequent to the general disenchantment at this information, the state chairman of NASU who was at the meeting appealed to the congress to cooperate with their officials to enhance their welfare.

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UPDATE ON NON TEACHING STAFF PROMOTION!

True to its words, the management has reached its peak on the procedures for the promotion of the eligible non-teaching staff of the institution. This is evidenced by the Appraisal, and Promotion Committee's (APC) approval of the lists for both senior and junior staff on the 5th and 6th April respectively.

A member of the committee who spoke on the basis of anonymity said the list for the senior staff was only awaiting ratification by the Governing Council, after which promotion letters would be issued to all benefiting staff. He added that those due for confirmation were also considered.

I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN MY MEN – FUOYE CSO

The Chief Security Officer, Mr Akinsola Fatoye, has said officers and men under his unit were fit to face any security challenge within and outside the campus. He said all of them were carefully recruited and all that was needed was constant training to acquaint them with modern security techniques which he noted was attainable with the high premium Professor Kayode Soremekun-led administration places on security matters.

Mr Fatoye was speaking ahead of the preparation for the maiden convocation of the institution. He however hinted that the unit was understaffed but would do all within its powers to secure lives and property during the ceremony.

The security chief attributed the successes recorded by the unit to the hardworking spirit of his officers and men as well as collaboration with other security outfits such as the Police, Nigerian Civil Defence and Security Corp, Federal Road Safety Corps etc. He was confident that with the collaboration of these outfits, the campus would remain a safe haven for all law-abiding staff and students, not only during the convocation exercise but always.

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Fatoye who spoke in his office also hinted that his office was open to all members of the community for complaints and clarification as the case might be. He equally applauded the conduct of both staff and students especially with the unprecedented increase in student population adding that such good conduct should continue to be the watch word. The chief security officer said he would ensure that FUOYE remains a no-go area for criminals of any kind.

FUOYE MULTIPURPOSE COOPERATIVE SOCIETY TO HOLD AGM

For the first time since coming on board in April 2015, the Sesan Adeleke-led management of the FUOYE Multipurpose Cooperative Society plans to hold its Annual General Meeting. The event has been slated to hold sometime in June 2017 at the university auditorium.

According to Mr Adeleke, members will be given an arrear of twoyears dividend, while an electoral committee would be constituted for preparation for the election of new officials as the tenure of the current executive was fast running out.

Mr Adeleke informed the congress that his leadership had constituted an audit committee to review the report of external auditors who edited the financial transaction of the previous leadership, assuring that no effort was going to be spurned to unravel the financial misappropriation of the former administration.

FUOYE DEBUTS IN 2017 PRE-NUGA GAMES AMONG TOP CONTENDERS

Federal University Oye-Ekiti debuted as one of the institutions categorized in Zone 'B' that participated in the just concluded 2017 pre-NUGA games.

The five-day event attracted participation from eight universities (Obafemi AwolowoUniversity Ile-Ife, Federal University of Technology Akure, Adekunle Ajasin University Akungba, Kwara State University, Malete. Others are University of Ilorin, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State University, & Osun State University) who were billed to jostle for slots at the forthcoming 2017 NUGA games.

The contestants competed in the various categories of sports such as athletics, badminton, basketball, chess, volleyball, handball, judo, taekwondo, squash, table tennis, lawn tennis, swimming and football.

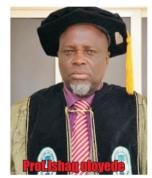
Earlier on, the representative of the vice chancellor of the Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Dr. Malomo, urged the participants to go into the competition with the spirit of sportsmanship, adding that they were highly blessed in the sense that their names would be recorded in the annals of history as first set of athletes to represent the institution in the 2017 university games. He equally assured them that the university had put in place a strong technical sports committee that would assist them in whatever way it could, noting that participants would receive daily allowances to boost their morale. The sports enthusiast enjoined them to appear decently and as such, portray positive character worthy of emulation.

It would be reckoned that a total number of seventy-four participants represented the institution for the various categories of games at the pre-NUGA games while a total number of eight participants qualified for the NUGA events slated to take place later this month. The qualified athletes would jostle for laurels in chess, scrabble, high jump and 400m hurdle race.

On the general perception of performance by participants, assistant coach of the university, Mr. Ogundele Johnson expressed satisfaction for the maximum co-operation and team work exhibited by the athletes during the exercise. He equally applauded the management for the unflinching support they extended to the participants and the entire coaching crew. He however, enjoined the management to provide more standard sporting facilities for training for better performance in future competitions.

Earlier on, the vice chancellor of the host university (Kwara State University), Prof. Abdul Rasheed Na'Allah, promised that he and his management team would ensure that all participating institutions would experience a hitch-free competition, adding that the university was fully prepared to host the competition as a number of facilities in the institution had been upgraded to meet the standards of the game.

Other members of the FUOYE pre-NUGA sports committee included Mr. Obajaja C.K, Mr. Akinwale Dada T, Mr. Akinwekomi R.A.



JAMB POSTPONES UTME 2017

Candidates, parents and other stakeholders sighed with relief as the Joint Admissions and Matriculations Board (JAMB), some weeks ago, rescinded its earlier decision to ban candidates on awaiting results from writing the Universal Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME). If the ban had held, SSIII students would have been precluded from writing the examination since their

SSCE certificates would not have been out before JAMB exams.

But JAMB has soft-pedalled on the decision but warns that the affected students must have their SSCE results ready before August or run the risk of being not confirmed for admission into any tertiary institution.

The JAMB spokesman, Dr. Fabian Benjamin, who made this revelation, also said that the examination board had modified its timetable for the 2017 UTME. The examination, which hitherto took place in the first quarter of the year, has been slated for the second quarter, beginning on Saturday, May 6, 2017. JAMB has also introduced **UTME** mock examination which is optional and aims at introducing candidates to the use of computers for the main examination which is computer-based.

However, information reaching this desk just before press time reveals that **JAMB** has extended registration by two weeks from April 19 to May 5. The examination body has also suspended indefinitely the conduct of its mock examination scheduled to have held on Saturday April 8 in some select centres across the nation. **JAMB** Registrar, Prof. Ishaq Oloyede, told reporters in Abuja that the postponement of the mock exam was due to failure from its technical partners.

These later modifications have consequently affected the date scheduled for the main examination, as it has been shifted from Saturday April 6 to April 13; one week gap.

Still on the same subject, it is expected that if the government enforces the bill passed into law on October 13, 2016, **UTME** results will be valid for three consecutive years before the candidate forfeits it. This policy will cancel the annual validity of **UTME** results which has been the practice since the board began to oversee matriculation examinations. The bill is meant to help successful candidates who face financial constraints to retain their validity of admission for 3 years . No fewer than 1.7 million candidates are expected to write **UTME** this year