



NUC accredits all FUOYE courses

By Yinka Ademuyiwa

The results of various National Universities Commission (NUC) accreditation teams to the Federal University, Oye Ekiti (FUOYE) have been released with Nigeria's fastest growing university clearing all accreditation hurdles as all academic programmes inspected got different levels of accreditation but none was denied.

According to a letter written to the Vice Chancellor, Prof Kayode Soremekun from NUC dated March 19, 2020 with reference number NUC/ES/412/Vol. 12/153 and signed on behalf of the Executive Secretary by Director of Accreditation, Dr Maryam Sali, all programmes examined in five (5) faculties of Management Sciences, Arts, Education, Science and Social Sciences gained accreditation. None failed the highly important accreditation tests.

The implication of this is that the university can commence post graduate studies in all courses and programmes where it has full accreditation.

These are: Geology (in Faculty of Science); Mass Communication, Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution and Political Science (in Faculty of Social Science); Banking and Finance and Public Administration (in the Faculty of Management Sciences). The university is poised to start admitting post graduate students into Masters Classes in all of these academic programmes, in addition to courses already accredited and which Post Graduate School has given admission to students who

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FUOYE VC, Prof. Kayode Soremekun (left) exchanging the MoU document with the CMD of Federal Teaching Hospital, Ido-Ekiti, Prof. Kunle Ajayi (right) after signing the agreement on Monday June 15, 2020.

FUOYE signs MoU with Federal Teaching Hospital to mount medical school

By Yinka Ademuyiwa and Sesan Adeleke

In preparation for smooth take-off of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences of the Federal University Oye Ekiti (FUOYE) later in the year, the university management on Monday June 15, 2020, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Federal Teaching Hospital, Ido Ekiti to help collaborate to train students in the departments within the newly created

faculty.

“Today is a very important and historic day in the history of this university, The Vice Chancellor, Prof Kayode Soremekun began, noting that “we are here to formalise processes that will give birth to the university's medical school”

“We are in the process of recruiting relevant personnel for the Basic Medical School. We have the necessary approvals. We have the buildings. We are hoping that as we take this understanding forward, within 2-3years, a Medical School will be in place”, he further said thanking the university's Director of Academic Planning, Prof Olufunke Akintayo for working so hard to deliver this mandate.

The Vice Chancellor also thanked the visiting Chief Medical Director (CMD) of the Teaching Hospital, Prof Kunle Ajayi saying, “I

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FUOYE sets up COVID-19 Committee

By Sesan Adeleke

The Vice-Chancellor of Federal University Oye Ekiti (FUOYE), Prof Kayode Soremekun has approved the constitution of FUOYE COVID-19 Response Committee.

According to a memo dated Monday June 15, 2020, signed by the Acting Registrar, Mr. Mufutau Ibrahim, the Committee will be presided over by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration, Prof Abayomi Sunday Fasina.

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FUOYE signs MoU with Federal Teaching Hospital to mount medical school

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“I want to appreciate the enthusiasm of Prof Ajayi. I am happy we are taking concrete steps to actualise this vision”.

“Giving the kind of synergy our institutions are building today, we are good to go”, Prof Soremekun further noted adding that the National Universities Commission (NUC) is onboard and disclosing that soon the university will host NUC resource verification team.

Responding, Prof Ajayi who led two others; the Teaching Hospital Director of Administration, Mr B.O. Ogunrinde and Head of the Legal Unit, Barrister O.I. Ojo-Ajayi, congratulated the Vice Chancellor for his great achievements in his functions stressing that against all odds, he is scaling all the hurdles because he (the Vice

Chancellor) has made up his mind to succeed.

He expressed the readiness of his Hospital to support the training of medical students of the university revealing that his Hospital is already doing something similar with Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti (ABUAD).

The Medical Director assured the University of the preparedness of his team saying that Medical Consultants and Clinical Staff of the Teaching Hospital have been briefed and are ready. “The Council of the Hospital has also taking a supportive position on this”, he added.

Prof Ajayi at the occasion announced that the Federal Teaching Hospital Ido-Ekiti recently has been

allowed to admit and train 100 Nursing Students every year from the 50 they were previously training per year.

Present at the occasion were: Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, Prof Olusola Ojo; Prof Akintayo; Deputy Director Corporate Services, Mr Yinka Ademuyiwa; Head, University Legal Unit, Barrister Amaechi Eni.; Principal Assistant Registrar, Council Affairs, Mrs Blessing Eyiolorunpe; Principal Assistant Registrar, Vice Chancellor's Office Mr Raphael Oloruntele Olarewaju and the Chief Accountant Mr Vincent Chuka Eneh who represented the Bursar.

NUC accredits all FUOYE courses

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are currently running Masters, and doctoral studies.

Furthermore, two additional academic programmes in Faculty of Arts; History and International Studies and Linguistics have been fully accredited. Similarly, all courses in Faculty of Education have been accredited with six (6) gaining full accreditation and will be ready to admit students for masters degree programmes in the coming academic session. The courses are Business Education, Education Agricultural Science, Education Biology, Education Chemistry, Education English and Education Management.

The NUC Chieftain explained further that for the next five (5) years all these courses need no further assessments. “You are requested to please note the implication of the accreditation status earned by academic programmes of Nigerian universities”, Dr Sali said and added that all courses with full accreditation is valid for five (5) years.

Interim accreditation status, which courses like Accounting and Business Administration (in Faculty of Management Sciences); Education Mathematics and Library and Information Science (in Faculty of Education) and Criminology and

Security Studies (in Faculty of Social Sciences) got is valid for two (2) years after which the programmes shall be revisited.

Sali further disclosed that, “programmes that earn Interim Status twice shall revert to denied accreditation status which means immediate ban on admission into those programmes; certificates issued to students admitted to such programmes after the ban on admission will not be recognised but students who are currently enrolled on the programmes will not be affected.

She added that such students admitted to the programme with denied accreditation status after the ban, shall on graduation be denied call-up to the National Youths Service Corp (NYSC) Scheme. The good news is that none of FUOYE courses is denied accreditation.

This explains why the Vice Chancellor, Prof Kayode Soremekun is very serious about accreditation status of all FUOYE Courses. This also explain why members of the Accreditation Team in the university, led by the Vice Chancellor himself but ably supported by the two Deputy Vice Chancellors, Prof A.S. Fasina and Prof Olusola Ojo, all the Principal Officers, Deans and Directors, particularly

Director Academic Planning, Prof Olufunke Akintayo have been up and doing to ensure that internal quality control mechanism in the university are in place to meet the high standards of varying accreditation bodies particularly the NUC.

You may wish to recall that Council for Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) recently also gave full accreditation to all Engineering courses due for the exercise.

In his own letter also to the Vice Chancellor, dated March 19, 2020, The Registrar of COREN, Prof Joseph O. Odigure said, “ I write to convey the approval of the Council for Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) on the re-accreditation visitations to the undergraduate programmes of your institution from 23rd-27th February , 2020”.

He then listed four (4) Engineering courses of the university as having full accreditation status. They are; Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Mechatronics Engineering, and Metallurgical and Materials Engineering. Like in the case of NUC, this implies that for the next five (5) years these courses need no further scrutiny or assessment.



FUOYE celebrates Akande, new ICAN fellow



Mrs. Bolatito Akande

The Bursar of Federal University, Oye Ekiti (FUOYE) Mrs Bolatito Roseline Akande was on Thursday May 18, 2020 conferred with fellowship of the prestigious and African foremost accountancy Institute, Institute of Chartered Accountant of Nigeria (ICAN). See how FUOYE family reacts;

Bravo!

DVC Admin, Prof. Fasina

Bravo, here comes the latest ICAN fellow in town. Very resourceful, reliable and committed. We thank God for this elevation.

Outstanding professional

DVC Acad, Prof. Ojo

Our Dear Bursar, we thank God for the outstanding professional output and the well deserved recognition. I am happy for you ma. Congratulations and wishing you more blessings.

We don't expect less

DAP, Prof. Akintayo

Congratulations!!! We don't expect less, she's brilliant, dedicated and hardworking. Almighty God will continue to uphold her in Jesus name.

Congratulations ma

Ag. Registrar, Mr Ibrahim

Congratulations ma. May God continue to uplift you.

Nobody argues with result

Director, Distance Learning, Dr. Akinsorotan

Ohun tan sope kodun nijosi ree o, adupe Oluwa ti foyin si o. Congratulations madam. Nobody argues with result.

Greater success...

Head, Legal Unit, Barr. Eni

Congratulations!! May God crown you with greater success in your profession.

Great news

Dean Students' Affairs Dr. Malomo

Great news. CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations

Medical Director, Dr. Olawale

Congratulations

Confirmation of competence

Dean Mgt. Science, Prof. Oladele

Congratulations my sister. This elevation is no doubt well deserved. It is a confirmation of your professional competence and commitment to your chosen career.

You are an embodiment of good hindsight, insight and foresight. Once again, congratulations!

Sky is the beginning

Dean of Arts, Dr. Opoola

God, we glorify your name for another wonderful achievement in FUOYE family network.

Bursary Unit and the University's Engine room of finance. Congratulations to the Woman of Substance. A Capable, Qualified and Competent individual with the deserved frankness on sensitive matters. The sky is the beginning of your aspired successes in life.

Congratulations ma

Glory to God

Director JUPEB, Dr. Akinola

We give God the glory. Congratulations to our resourceful, amiable and hardworking Bursar, Mrs. Bolatito Akande on this well deserved achievement.

Waaaaooooo!

Director Top Up, Dr. Adekunle

This is a Breaking News because it is much louder than how I read it. Waaaaooooo, a Big Congratulations ma, may you be celebrated d more, and I pray that nothing will cut short your glory in d mighty name of Jesus Christ. Amen. Congratulations ma.

Continue to soar higher

Dean of Science, Prof. Lawal

Congratulations dear sister. Truly, this is well deserved. May the Lord continue to give you the grace to soar higher.

Greater heights

Dean Social Science, Prof. Omotola

Congratulations ma. Greater heights in all ramifications in Jesus name. Amen.

FUOYE sets up COVID-19 Committee

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The Committee will domesticate all national and international activities against the novel corona virus; coordinate university's activities aimed at curtailing the spread of the virus and mitigate its impact on campus.

Furthermore, the Committee will implement government approved COVID-19 protocols in the University; prepare the

university community for resumption; give regular and periodical report to the Vice Chancellor on its activities and consider such matters of strategic relevance to the safety of lives on campus as may be required.

Other Committee members, numbering twelve (12) are: Ag Dean Students Affairs, Dr. Dosu Malomo, Ag Director, University Health Centre, Dr

Musbau Olawale; Deputy Director Corporate Services, Mr Adeyinka Ademuyiwa; the Chief Security Officer, Mr Paul Ogidi and Representatives of the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, Registry and Bursar and Directorate of Physical Planning as well as Heads of Medical Unit, Environmental Unit, Maintenance Unit and Counselling Unit.



FUOYE celebrates

The Lord will grant you victory DVC Admin, Prof. Fasina

Sir, this is to wish you happy birthday and God's blessings.

You have been a man with compassionate heart, an erudite and resourceful scholar, a visionary and exemplary leader, a respected leader, focus and committed boss with a progressive mind and achiever with good track records to show celebrate you today my mentor and boss have learned the good deeds of leadership, good sense of judgment, patience, resilience and administration from you. You have motivated me to true service to humanity. You have brought out the best in me in all facets of life's say thank you sir

The Bible says in Psalm 90:12 "So teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom". I pray for more divine wisdom for you sir. May you continue to be like a tree planted by the river bearing fruit in season. Your leaves will never wither and in all you do, you will prosper. Specifically I pray Psalm 91 into your life as follows:

1. God's presence will always be with you all the days of your life (vs1-2)
 2. God's protection (vs3-4)
 3. God's peace (vs5-6)
 4. God's perspective (vs7-10)
 5. God's provision (vs11-13)
 6. God's power (vs14-16).
- The Lord will grant you victory over all your adversaries in Jesus name amen.

Wish you many happy returns of the day with long life and good health in Jesus name amen.

You are more of a father; friend than a Boss

DVC Acad, Prof. Ojo

My VC Sir, my heart goes to you this morning, the special day of your birth. To me and many of us you are more of a father, friend than a Boss, always providing a shoulder that can be leaned on. I relish your uncommon kindness, calmness and humility which are exceedingly great. It is my fervent prayer that God will continue to enrich you with sound health

and Joyous moments. Congratulations and Happy birthday to you sir.

I wish you all the best in everything Director Academic Planning, Prof. Akintayo

Happy birthday to our amiable Dad and Vice chancellor. I wish you all the best in everything—you deserve it. Have a happy birthday sir!

You shall live to joyfully celebrate 70, 80, 90.....

Dean, Mgt. Science, Prof. Oladele

Today, 21st of May, 2020 has presented the opportunity for me to join the league of other well wishers across the globe in praising the Almighty God for the gift of life as my boss and VC is a year older. It's written that "It's neither by your power nor by your might but by the Spirit of The Most High"

Therefore, when extraordinary grace abides all other protocols are broken. You are therefore poised for testimonies that will throw your enemies into confusion of a lifetime with the attainment of your new age.

I rejoice with you on this special day because you are the product of God's Grace. He has been watching closely over you as the apple of His eyes. Little or no wonder, you look healthier, wealthier, happier, stronger and merrier than your new age sir.

If you look around you and your achievements in the last four years of your Administration, you will see the glaring evidence and you will burst into songs of praise.

As we celebrate with you, we also pray to God to strengthen your hands so as to conquer and claim more territories as done by Caleb.

You shall live to joyfully celebrate 70, 80, 90in good health and God will use the new age to symbolically activate new things in your life.

Life is a journey, the journey is fun when lines fall on us in pleasant places, but the journey is at best when your creator is your companion as you are presently enjoying.

Happy birthday to you sir as you march forward towards your desired glorious destination.

Age gracefully Sir

You have been a veritable source of blessings

Dean, Social Science, Prof. Omotola

This is to wish you a happy and blessed birthday in all ramifications. As you have been a veritable source of blessings, uplifting and breakthrough to many of us in the last couple of years, may it please God to continue to multiply his grace, love, blessings, happiness and mercies upon you and your family. The same God will also grant you victory over all your adversaries and permanently put them to shame. Amen. Many happy returns sir

We've experienced your astute skills as an administrator and an erudite scholar

Dean of Arts, Dr. Opoola

On behalf of staff and students of Faculty of Art's, FUOYE, Let me congratulate our VC Prof Kayode Soremekun on the occasion of his Birthday today the 21st of May 2020.

Sir, we've experienced your astute skills as an Administrator and an erudite scholar of enviable leadership features. Your kindness and ever supportive approaches for the young and other colleagues working under you will remain indelible in our minds.

Sir, you've pulled down the wall between inadequate and adequate human and non human resources in FUOYE . God knows this and humans are seeing evidences of this assertion.

Your significant contributions in putting smiles on several people's faces will be adequately rewarded by the Almighty God.

In Sha Allah, you will live long with joy and sense of life fulfillment with your immediate and extended families.

You have too many non biological children that can never forget your impacts in their lives. I stand boldly as a member of that group of individuals.

Once again, congratulations Sir. May 200 years represent a year. Igba odun, odun kan .



the VC at 67.....



May today and all your days be amazing. Continue to enjoy sound health and abundance of God's grace. Have a marvelous birthday sir.

I wish you the very best

Director, Medical Services Dr. Olawale

Happy birthday to you Daddy. I wish you all the very best sir. Igba Odun odunkani in sound health. Happy birthday sir.

May you spend all your days in prosperity

Ag. Director, SIWES, Dr. Satimehin

Birthdays come once in a year and I realize how important and special today our amiable Vice-Chancellor is to you. It is therefore such a delight for me to join other well wishers to celebrate and rejoice with you. Happy birthday to you Sir. I wish you many happy return of this glorious day. I pray to God for you: may you spend all your days in prosperity and your years in splendour.

As your days are, so shall your strength be also, have an amazing and fun filled day of celebrations.

I have found in you an icon

Director, General Studies, Dr. Alli

This is wishing the Vice Chancellor, Fuoye, Professor Kayode Soremekun happy birthday and many happy returns of the day. Your astuteness, dexterity, commitment to excellence, disarming humility, foresight, forbearance are more strikingly demonstrated in the lofty heights you have, since

assumption of office put the University as first among equals.

In working closely with you, I have found in you an icon, deeply committed to a vision to transform the society, always eager to interrogate reality and stickler for academic excellence! As I was searching my mind for better words to describe you, I found a testimonial evidence in General Gowon to the inimitable Awo: " You bestir

the entire milieu like an octopus - a brilliant and charismatic leader, uniquely gifted scholar, a peerless debater, always resourceful in the management of men, with tremendous and rather unbelievable respect of the views of the less able members of his variegated lieutenants ". It is still morning on your creation day!

You have exhibited uncommon wisdom

Director, Pre-degree, Dr. Akindola

We at the Directorate of Pre-Degree in Itapa campus are thankful for you and sincerely pray that, as you celebrate your birthday Sir, you will be graced with many more years filled with sound health and joy. Sir, you have exhibited uncommon wisdom, remarkable vision and exemplary leadership. We wish you the fulfillment of all the wishes lurking in the corners of your heart, including longevity and prosperity. Happy birthday Sir.

The grace to witness...

Director JUPEB, Dr. Akinola

We give thanks to the Almighty for giving our Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kayode Soremekun the grace to witness another birthday. Congratulations sir

You have served our University with dignity and honour

Dean of Science, Prof. Lawal

Here's wishing Professor Kayode Soremekun, our amiable Vice Chancellor a happy birthday. Today is a perfect opportunity to show you how grateful we are, as a university to have an academic icon and a selfless leader like you as our VC. You have served our university with dignity and honour. You have been a great inspiration to many of us. You have used your elevation in life to bring joy and restore hope to many lives.

May the joy that you have spread in the past and still spreading come back to you on this day, and may you be blessed with never-ending bliss.

on your birthday. May God in his infinite mercy give you more grace to enjoy many more healthy and fulfilling years in this world.

You have turned FUOYE to the pride of a nation

DD Corporate Services, Ademuyiwa

Happy Birthday to you sir. Happy celebrations. You have impacted lives these past 67 years. You have turned FUOYE to the pride of a Nation in search for transformation. Here is to wish you the best life can provide and many more glorious years ahead.

Daddy you are a good listener

Ag. FUOYESU President, Comr Anifowose

Today, we celebrate with a visionary leader, the man of valor, a great Colossus of knowledge. Prof KAYODE SOREMEKUN, VICE CHANCELLOR FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OYE-EKITI

Daddy, you are a father to us all, a good listener, a great administrator, we appreciate all your innumerable achievements and transformations in FUOYE since your inception as our noble Vice Chancellor. Even in tough times you have steered skillfully the affairs of the fastest growing University in Nigeria without stress. Your leadership attributes encourages us all.

God sparing our lives, we would be singing some Aluta birthday melodies to you after the pandemic. Before then we say 3 Powerful Gbosa!!! to you and your well wishers.

GboSA! GboSA!! GBOSA!!!

We wish you lots of happiness in the New Year. CONGRATULATIONS SIR.

**DISMISSAL- Mr Adeola I. Oladeji (SS0204) Dept. of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering**

The University Governing Council at its meeting held on Friday, 14th February, 2020 considered the report of the Staff Disciplinary Committee on the allegation of withholding of JUPEB Students' Tuition Fees leveled against the above named staff and decided that his services are no longer required by the University.

Accordingly, the University Governing Council, in line with the extant University regulations, approved his dismissal from the service of the University with immediate effect.

He has been directed to handover the University properties in his possession to the Head, Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering immediately. His Staff Identity Card should be submitted to the Personnel Affairs Officer.

He is also advised to stay away from the premises of the University.

Thank you.

Signed

Mufutau A. IBRAHIM

Ag. Registrar

Nigeria-Diaspora Biomedical Research Virtual Summit July 1-3, 2020

In case you missed this Summit and could not participate in it, you can still reach out to Ms Ruth Agaba on agabaruth12@gmail.com

The Nigeria-Diaspora Biomedical Research Programme focuses on fostering collaboration between Nigeria Academic and Nigerians or Non-Nigerians in the Diaspora who are interested in elevating biomedical research in the Nigerian university system through collaborative research, training, exchange programmes, short courses, sabbaticals, adopt-a-lab programme etc. It is a joint collaborative effort of the National Universities Commission, (NUC), Prostate Cancer Transatlantic Consortium and AORTIC.

Elsevier Publishing Team Virtual Workshops

Elsevier Publishing Team organised two virtual workshops on June 1, 2020 and June 3, 2020 at noon Nigerian time.

Dedicated to Africans, the workshops, which are both free is themed "Guide to Publishing your Research; writing, reviewing, ethical issues, open access in journal publishing etc. It was presented by Mary-Ann Zimmerman, Senior Publisher at Elsevier.

The second workshop is for advanced and mid-career researchers on book publishing. It was presented by Stacy Masucci, a publisher of over 20 years experience.

Interested scholars can contact Elsevier Africa through +2010660033199 or k.shalan@elsevier.com for post workshop enquiries and details or visit www.rsif-paset.org

Ogungbe, a Corporate Services Directorate Staff weds heartthrob

Mr Nifesimi Ogungbe, an Information Officer II (Graphics) at the Directorate of Corporate Services, Vice-Chancellor's Office has tied the nuptial knots with his heartthrob, Miss Fisayo Victoria Olajide on Wednesday May 27, 2020 at Ado-Ekiti Marriage Registry.

FUOYE opts for virtual matriculation option, July 14th

Mindful of the corona virus pandemic, the Federal University Oye Ekiti (FUOYE) has opted for virtual matriculation slated to hold on Tuesday July 14, 2020.

According to the Deputy Vice Chancellor Administration, Prof Abayomi Sunday Fasina, the school chose the virtual matriculation option to underscore its readiness and determination to shift the paradigm and conduct many of its functions

using technology. Prof Fasina, who is also the Chairman Organising Committee of the 2019/ 2020 Matriculation Ceremony added that more than 41,000 Nigerian students applied for various undergraduate programmes in the university, out of which only about 7,500 have been offered admission and accepted same.

It will be recalled that the university earlier planned to matriculate these same set of students

on Friday march 20, 2020 but had to shelve it in response to the global pandemic.

An Orientation Programme had been done on Wednesday February 19, 2020 where FUOYE News reported that the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Soremekun, speaking through Prof Fasina promised the students the best in terms of educational facilities that will aid their learning experience in this university.



Birthday Eulogy: 67 Footprints of Soremekun an Academic cum media giant

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mentioned, where together with fellow Nigerian compatriots galvanized the nation using superior opinions, convincing analyses, pungent articles and incisive expositions to aggregate different perspectives and mobilize the nation for a better democratic agenda of self rule and the dumping of military governance.

Secondly, in the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) where the nations brightest and best brains led by the likes of Prof Attahiru Jega and Lai Olorode among others gave direction to Nigeria's academic policies, helping to deliver tuition free university education, establishment of Tertiary Education Fund (Tetfund) then called Education Tax Fund (ETF) etc.

The 2006 Consultant to Heinrich Boll Foundation in South Africa, who was also Visiting Professor on Peace and Development at the University of Jaime I, in Castellon, Spain has transformed the rain forest field he met when appointed FUOYE Vice-Chancellor in February 2016.

A member of several professional bodies including American Studies Association on Nigeria, Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), International Studies Association, Nigeria Society of International Affairs and the prestigious Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA), Prof Soremekun was also Consultant and Resource Person at the Governance Institute of CODESRIA, Dakar Senegal where he taught young African Scholars from universities across Africa. He was again, Consultant and Resource Person to the Swedish based International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA).

Furthermore, Prof Soremekun was the Recipient of Association of African Universities (AAU) Fellowship for a project on The Future of Higher Education in Nigeria, Consultant and Resource Person to the Commonwealth on the Media and the Ombudsman's Institution and Director and Member of Governing Board of Research Project on Governance and Democracy in Nigeria, a US funded collaborative project between Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU) and the University of Florida, Gainesville.

This Celebrant has authored several books and jointly authored about 28 others. He has also published more than 50 academic papers in reputable international journals prior to putting his hands on the plow to build FUOYE, Nigeria's newest agent for innovation and character building for national transformation.

The FUOYE Family, comprising members of the Governing Council, the University Senate, the Management team, and entire Staff and Students, in solidarity appreciates this Nigerian patriot and nationalist not only for his media and academic

brilliance exposed above but for his selfless service, his impact in the lives of many around us and his fatherly disposition despite his glowing accomplishment as the Vice Chancellor of the fastest growing university in Africa.

Council Members who finished their tenure recently went around 47 university projects earlier this year. Some of these were inherited as abandoned projects but now completed. Several others were delivered from initial conception, design, implementation, execution and commissioning stages.

Speaking to journalists at the end of the tour, Engr Sabo Inuwa and Alhaji Abdullahi Jibrin who were representative of the Federal Government challenged whoever is coming behind the Vice Chancellor to keep up the tempo.....otherwise Nigerians will be very unhappy with him.

The 47 Projects, as if to symbolise his 67th birthday include completion of abandoned Central Administrative Building and the University Library. Others are ultra modern Faculty of Pharmacy buildings, ultra modern Faculty of Agriculture building at Ikole Campus, well equipped mass communication studio facility for the training of mass communication students, ultra modern buildings for Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences and Faculty of Management Sciences, New building complexes for Faculty of Science, New Faculty of Arts complex and many more..

Characteristically, the Vice Chancellor does not see all these structures as his main achievement. According to him, "when you talk of achievement as it pertains to educational institutions, many people focus on structures and expansion alone, whereas such achievements ought to go beyond structures".

I think my major achievement so far is inculcating the whole idea of a university, the idea of a healthy contention, narrative and counter narratives.

Continuing, he said, "Vice Chancellors should not be seen as Chief Executive Officers (CEOs). He is by Divine providence primus inter pares (first among equals). We can liken a university to the Editorial Board of a newspaper. Despite the fact that each newspaper has Chairman of the Editorial Board, that does not make him the sole fountain of knowledge. The Board is a concentration of various individuals with ideas. At the end of the day, superior idea prevails. This is the deepening and activation of a university idea"

The 20 other projects left to complete 67 footprints of this discourse are intangible but even more impactful, sometimes touchable sometimes not but all the same essential for the

functioning of a standard university. For instance, academic programmes have expanded from 22 at the inception of Kayode Soremekun administration to over 90 academic programmes now and it is still growing.

Faculties were four when Soremekun started, now they are ten. A Post Graduate School is already in place and the culture of academic in a distinct community is emerging. Admission capacity has risen from 3,000 to about 20,000. This exponential growth not only put action to Federal Government goal of increasing job opportunities, it more importantly created a future for indigent students who yearn for quality university education.

This was emphasized when the Celebrant had to respond to why FUOYE is admitting students for Bachelor of Law programme giving the fact that a state university and another private university offer same in its domain. "We want to further deepen access to legal profession and remove any trace of exclusivity people may erroneously have about law profession in Nigeria". This is another example of his caring heart for the less privileged.

All FUOYE's programmes are accredited. Again the university has been connected to the National grid and FUOYE portal is now independent of any other institution. For a university that is about ten years old, which turbulent beginning, these are remarkable feats.

Soremekun represents excellence. Any graduate of Kings College Lagos who has enjoyed scholarships year in year out and scholars of Great Ife who get Fellowships upon Fellowships cannot but excel in higher callings. The foundation has already been laid for the superstructure.

This Celebrant is loved, admired and appreciated largely because he bears no grudges. "Keep close to your friends but be closer to your enemies", he once counseled this writer. A thoroughbred professional, a natural leader, this Vice Chancellor knows how to draw excellent people to himself and make them work seamlessly, endlessly, not minding obstacles to achieve stated goals.

I love leaders who don't breathe on you. I love bosses who having explained what needs to be done, allow you to express your creative ability. To me that is one great weapon of a leader in quest for excellence. That is Kayode Soremekun. As you mark 67 eventful years sir, I wish you many more glorious years ahead and blissful celebrations. Thank you sir, for all you had done, and are doing, and will still do for FUOYE family.



FOR THE RECORDS



Birthday Eulogy: 67 Footprints of Soremekun an Academic cum media giant

By Yinka Ademuyiwa

“Please be cautious wherever you go during this Christmas break because there is no staff or student of this university who does not have a ransom value”

Prof Kayode Soremekun admonishing the staff to be security conscious giving the spate of kidnapping in the country at that time.

This quote among several others depicts the caring, fatherly disposition and commitment of the Vice Chancellor, Federal University Oye Ekiti (FUOYE), Prof Soremekun who clocks 67 on Thursday May 21, 2020 to everything he commits his mind to do.

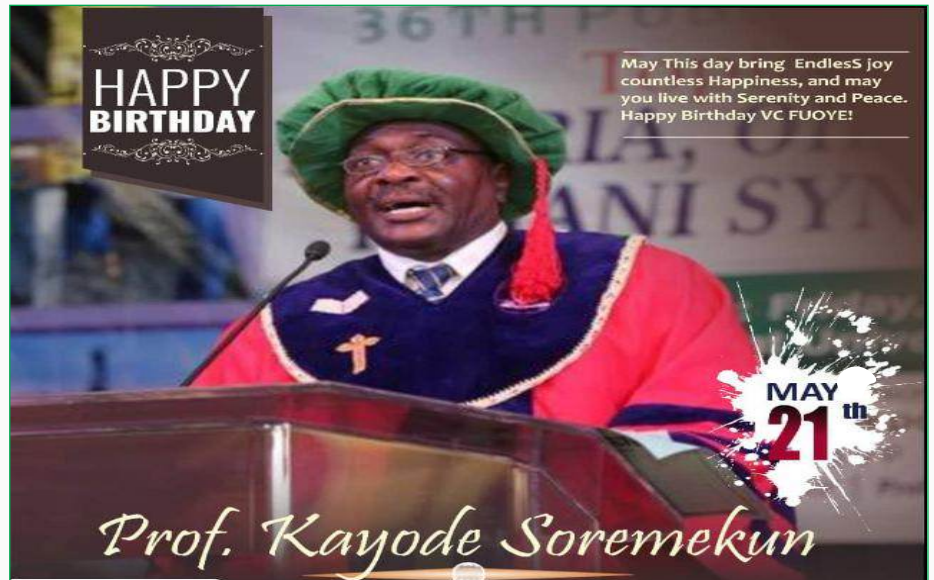
The man Olukayode is many things rolled into one. To some of us who have the privilege of working very closely with him, he is a leader, a boss, a perfectionist with incurable thirst for excellence driven by passion, energy and speed to achieve set goals and targets. He is a nationalist per excellence and a fighter for a just nation.

To some of my friends in the academic, one of whom was his student, Prof Soremekun is a father figure, a highly cerebral human species who years after graduation, mentor and impact lives.

Even to members of the Unions on campus, who often pick bones with him on several approaches to solving university problems or disagreements over prioritizing agenda, the Vice Chancellor has been responsive, supportive and kind.

How will you rather see yourself?, a journalist asked in 2018. “I am a public spirited intellectual who occupies the critical interface between journalism and academic”, he replied.

Born 67 years ago, in the cosmopolitan city of Lagos, this academic giant and media icon, who is married to Dr. Rebecca Soremekun,



another academia, fits into both academic and media professions like a key fits into its lock. One wonders how he manages to grow within both roles excelling therein.

He stepped out as Staff Writer on Political Affairs at the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN) and at *Times International* of the Daily Times of Nigeria before growing to become Member, Editorial Board of Daily Times of Nigeria, Editorial Training Instructor, Times Newspaper Training Centre, Visiting Board Member, *AM News*, *The Guardian*, *The Compass*, *ThisDay* and *The Sun*. He thus reached very enviable height as a media icon in the country.

Similarly, as an academic, Prof Soremekun is at the highest echelon becoming not just a professor, the highest the career offers, but also the 2nd substantive Vice Chancellor of FUOYE, working hard to proudly present us with arguably Africa's fastest growing public university.

With Trinity degrees from Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), then called University of Ife, in English/History for Bachelor and International Relations for Master and Doctoral degrees, our birthday

celebrant built quickly on the foundations laid at Kings College Lagos and with hardwork and uncommon erudition, became National Award Scholar. This set the tone for several awards and fellowships he will later bag as he journeyed through academic life.

His career in journalism and academic grew rapidly and in 1997, he became a Professor having bagged 1,2,.....5 Post Doctoral Fellowships including the Ford Foundation Fellowship, Netherlands Fellowship, Salzburg Fellowship, Senior Fulbright Research Fellowship and Resident Rockefeller Fellowship in Bellagio, Italy.

Prior to his becoming Vice Chancellor, Prof Soremekun had been Dean, Faculty of Administration at OAU and Dean, College of Development Studies at Covenant University, Ota.

The nationalism in him and his quest for a better equitable nation got foothold and expression on two fronts. First, in the mentally stimulating weekly debates at the Editorial Boards of national newspapers earlier mentioned, where together with fellow Nigerian compatriots galvanized the earlier

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