



FUOYE NEWS

Bulletin JUNE 2015

VOL 6 No. 3

VICE CHANCELLOR VISITS CHANCELLOR

His Royal Majesty, the Attah of Igala, Dr. Idakwo Michael Ameh Oboni, who was recently appointed Chancellor of the Federal University Oye-Ekiti, on Friday June 12, 2015, received the vice chancellor, Professor Isaac U. Asuzu in his palace.

In his opening remarks, the vice chancellor informed his host that the team which included the Registrar, D. A. Adeyemo and Obadiah Dyiltu had specifically come to present his appointment letter to him personally and to also use opportunity of the presentation to familiarize with the Chancellor. He further explained the make-up of the Governing Council to his Highness and extended the highest regard of the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Engr. Bawa Magaji to the Chancellor.

Receiving his guests in company of his royal chiefs and aides, the visibly impressed host revealed his pleasure at the visit, admiring the prospect of people of diverse background coming together to consolidate and build the nascent institution. He further emphasized that the entire members in council should be seen as one family.. "I will put in my knowledge, resources and experience in ensuring that the young university grows", the Chancellor promised.

Speaking on the general profile of the institution, the vice chancellor reiterated the fact that FUOYE is amongst the 12 newly-established universities in 2011 and it is the only one that has a full-fledged faculty of Engineering. He then presented copies of previous editions of the university's official news magazine, the Innovate! to the Chancellor. He disclosed that the university would be graduating its first batch of students this year and possibly hold the maiden Convocation before the end of the year. He also spoke on the forthcoming accreditation exercise by NUC. While recognizing the patronage of TETFUND who he disclosed has sponsored buildings and structures in the university, the vice chancellor enumerated some of the challenges facing the university, prominent among which is funding. 'But we need buildings too', he added.

Responding, the Chancellor promised that they will maximize TETFUND and other funding options such that it would be obvious to all that creative minds were at work at FUOYE, stating that his target was to see the university move from its 16th position among all universities in Nigeria to 4th in a very short while. He expressed the council's readiness to assist in the key areas that would foster the development of the university.

FOI COMMITTEE SWINGS INTO ACTION

The freedom of information committee of the Federal University Oye Ekiti has intensified efforts towards the actualisation of its responsibility. To that effect, it has made the following medium of communication available to the university community through which suggestions, enquiries or contributions would be made. Email: freedom.information@fuoye.edu.ng Plans are also underway to make suggestion boxes available around the university community. The committee calls on members of the university community to maximise this medium.

FUOYE'S NEW BURSAR REPORTS FOR WORK

Thursday June 11, 2015 marked the beginning of a new era in the Bursary Department of Federal University Oye-Ekiti as the first substantive Bursar of the institution assumed duty. He is Barrister Badmus Bashir Oyeniyi. Until his appointment, Badmus Oyeniyi was a Deputy Bursar at University of Ilorin.

Speaking during a hand-over ceremony at the University's Mini Campus, Oye-Ekiti, the outgoing acting bursar of the university since its inception in 2011, Mr Obadiah Dyiltu, thanked God for His mercies during his acting tenure and appreciated his subordinates for their commendable support that facilitated his work and successes recorded.

He enjoined Bursary staff to also give the new head the same encouraging support as he received, saying that the transition reflected the common dictum that 'the only constant thing in life is change' and expressed implicit hope that his successor would build upon his achievements in the department in particular and the university at large.

Mr. Dyiltu, however, acceded that since the only room that is always open is room for improvement, he trusted that the new Bursar would significantly improve upon his accomplishments. He noted that owing to Mr. Badmus' impressive experience in accounting and financial management, there was no doubt that he would excel in this new challenge. He then advised his successor to inure himself to rumours and speculations that are oftentimes directed towards the bursary department.

Responding, Mr. Badmus thanked his predecessor and promised to do all in his power to justify his appointment. He said that Mr Dyiltu was able to excel because of his team of willing and progressive-minded workforce and promised to conduct in-house training for those that would work under him. Mr Badmus said he would be publishing a monthly bulletin called **Financial Digest** from the stable of the Bursary Department to keep the university community abreast of relevant financial matters. This, according to him, would curb unfounded speculations and keep the environment calm. He finally pledged his commitment to his work, praying for God's help.

VC interacts with FUOYE Union leaders.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Isaac Asuzu, has held an interactive session with leaders of major unions in the university. The main subject of the meeting, according to the VC, was tax and how to enlist the union leaders in resolving the tax liability on the university at present. To lay a foundation for the discussions, he took time to explain some basic facts about tax and presumptions that surrounded charging of tax payable by staff on the gross

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emolument and not on the so-called basic salary, as many would prefer. It was revealed that basic salary used to be separated from allowances paid staff before now. Then tax deduction used to be based on basic salary which was very distinct from allowances. Along the line and deriving from government responses to various agitations by various unions, government harmonized/collapsed all payments into what is today known and referred to as consolidated salary structure.

Added to the foregoing, the tax law expressly provided that tax deductions must be based on the consolidated salary which is the gross emolument. He went further to inform his audience about the university tax liability which the Ekiti state government initially put at N265m and later scaled down to N160m by the Executive Governor of the State, Mr. Ayodele Fayose. The union leaders were also informed of the efforts management had made to reduce this tax liability, (which is purely a staff responsibility to offset), by making initial payment of N60m.

It was also disclosed that management contracted the services of a tax consultant to actually determine the institution's actual outstanding tax liability to the state government. The consultants have further been directed to liaise with government tax consultants in order to reconcile the outstanding default figure. The meeting with union leaders would reconvene at the instance of the vice chancellor on getting feedback from the tax consultants.

The VC therefore said the union leaders, whom he had earlier described as leaders of the workforce, were invited to know the facts, adding, "It is unions that can negotiate with government and bring the tax rate to the barest minimum on how it will favour staff. There is need for you to find out how other universities are doing it".

The Registrar, D. A. Adeyemo, observed that any university where there appears to be no tax problems, it can only be because the unions in such a university have negotiated with their host government. He was not oblivious, however, of the implications of negotiated or waived tax liabilities. The new Bursar, Bashir Oyeniye Badmus, canvassed a formal correspondence that would capture the key ingredients of such possible waivers, for record purposes. Charges, existing and current, should also be included as items in the negotiations with government.

The unions were therefore advised to sensitize their members of these developments and possible implications if the efforts being proposed at negotiating with government fell through bearing in mind that at present staff are only being charged 50% of their expected tax deductions. The unions applauded management initiative especially with regard to the initial lump payment of N60m on staff behalf and appreciated the invitation to sit and reason together for the good of the institution. They were unanimous in admitting the inevitability of tax issue, promising to reach out to their respective executive or even

Congress to come up with a common front on the most acceptable approach to resolving the matter.

Present at the meeting held at the vice chancellor's conference room on Wednesday June 10, 2015 were Chairman and Financial Secretary of Academic Staff Union of Universities, ASUU, Dr. Dosu Malomo and Dr. Abiodun Lawal; Chairman and Secretary of Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities, SSANU, Olayiwola Ayodele and Ademola Adekunle; Chairman and Secretary Non-Academic Staff Union, NASU, Adebayo Dada and Ganiyu Afolabi, respectively.

FUOYE RETAINS SERVICES OF FRCN.

The management of Federal University Oye-Ekiti has retained the services of Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, Progress. FM Ado-Ekiti in its bid to give wider publicity to the giant strides in the university. This followed the acceptance of a proposal on retainership earlier sent to the university from the radio station. The highlights of the understanding will ensure that Radio Nigeria Progress FM will assign a reporter that will be monitoring and reporting activities of the university and that major activities of the university will enjoy prominence in the bulletins of Progress FM. However, the agreement does not include personal paid advertisements (PPA) or jingles as well as live broadcasts. Even though the agreement did not extend to Network News in Abuja, issues of national or international importance emanating from the university would be sent to the Network and "South-West Today", on non-contractual basis.

In his remark, General Manager of Progress FM, Pastor Kayode Akinsola said the working relationship with FUOYE was cordial even without a formalized understanding as the media outfit had already been giving news stories from the university air-time but admitted that the retainership will serve as an added impetus to go the extra mile in projecting major activities, events and engagements of the university to the outside audience.

Presenting the letter of appointment to the GM, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Isaac Asuzu challenged the organization to continue to project whatever the university is doing to their listening audience which is the basic essence of the retainership. He reassured that the university would continue to embrace such mutually beneficial relationships in its bid to advance the fortunes of the young institution.

The brief ceremony which held in the office of the vice chancellor had in attendance the Public Relations Officer of the university, Ukaegbu Chris as well as Femi Ogunlimoro Head of Marketing Department and other officers from the radio station.

ANUPA Monthly Meeting/Workshop

This is to inform all members of ANUPA, FUOYE Chapter of their Monthly Meeting/Training Workshop scheduled as follows:

Date: Friday June 19, 2015

Topic: *Developing Effective Communication and Interpersonal Skills*

Speaker: Mr. D. A. Adeyemo (Registrar FUOYE)

Time: 2pm

Venue: Main Auditorium, Oye-Ekiti