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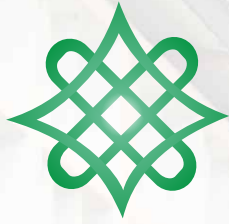
ABU SECURES ₦1B INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT FROM ABDUL SAMAD RABIU AFRICA INITIATIVE

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- ASR Africa Initiative, TETFund take over sites for hostels construction in ABU
- ABU agric complex capable of transforming Nigeria's economy - Vice-Chancellor



AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA



Vision

Ahmadu Bello University shall be a world-class university comparable to any other, engaged in imparting contemporary knowledge, using high quality facilities and multi-disciplinary approaches, to men and women of all races, as well as generating new ideas and intellectual practices relevant to the needs of its immediate community, Nigeria and the world at large

Mission

To advance the frontiers of learning and break new grounds, through teaching, research and the dissemination of knowledge of the highest quality; to establish and foster national and international integration, development and the promotion of African traditions and cultures; to produce high-level human power and enhance capacity-building through retraining, in order to meet the needs and challenges of the catchment area, Nigeria and the rest of the world

A *BU News* is a quarterly publication. But this very publication is a combination of two editions for this year's First and Second Quarters. A lot had happened after the University reopened on Monday, 25th January, 2021 for resumption of academic activities. The re-opening of the University followed suspension of ASUU strike and NUC directive based on clearance by the Presidential Taskforce on COVID-19 that universities could reopen under strict observance of COVID-19 protocols. The University was full of activities during the period under review with the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, and his lieutenants working round the clock for the betterment of the University. The Vice-Chancellor's effort towards repositioning the institution to compete favourably globally is yielding positive results. The Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Mr. Boss Mustapha, was at the University to commission various erosion control works at Phase II that included, among others, construction of 2.4km stone base asphaltic dual carriage road with drainage at both sides and 357km stone base asphaltic single carriage road with drainage at

both sides. Also, members of the Presidential Visitation Panel to ABU were in the University for six weeks to study and review the operations of the University. It was a cheering news for the University when it won JAMB's N75million prize as the "Most National Institution in 2019 Admission". The University equally made a headway in the area of linkages and collaborations. The Vice-Chancellor was in Kano along with some principal officers of the University for a meeting with His Excellency, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, OFR, on the proposal for the development of cancer management training programmes for various cancer specialists expected to work at the newly established Kano State Cancer Centre. The University also secured a N1billion infrastructure grant from Abdul Samad Rabi Africa Initiative. Specifically, the money is to be used for the construction of Danfodio students hotel and Department of Building at Phase II of the University. The patent certificates granted the University recently by the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment for the sole use of its inventions is another success story. Happy reading!

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ABU secures One Billion Naira infrastructure grant from Abdul Samad Rabiu Africa Initiative

Ahmadu Bello University has secured a grant of One Billion Naira (N1bn) from The Abdul Samad Rabiu Africa Initiative (ASR Africa Initiative) for infrastructure development.

Specifically, the money is to be used for the reconstruction of Danfodio students hostel and Department of Building at Site II of the University.

The provision of the grant for the University was announced in Zaria recently when Dr Aliyu Idi Hong, representative of the founder of the ASR Africa Initiative, Alhaji Abdul Samad Rabiu, visited the sites identified for the two projects.

Hong, a former Minister of State for Health and an ABU alumnus, said that his coming to ABU was essentially in response to the visit made by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Kabir Bala to the founder of the ASR Africa Initiative Alhaji Abdul Samad Rabiu in Abuja recently seeking support for some projects in the University.

The grant, according to him, was coming at a time when the ASR Africa Initiative and the 100 million dollars Annual Africa Fund for Social Development and Renewal were launched.

He explained that the initiative was expected to support various interventions in education, health and social development within Nigeria and across the rest of Africa.

Hong, also a Director in charge of Inter-Governmental Affairs at BUA Group, a business conglomerate owned by Alhaji Abdul Samad Rabiu, a Kano business mogul, said that they were happy for ABU to be the first port of call in the flag-off of this intervention.

He said that they were pleased to know that the areas needed for intervention in the University had already been identified.

The initiative, which was launched recently, seeks to support sustainable development initiatives in health, education and socio-economic sectors, with 50 million dollars set aside for Nigeria and another 50 million dollars



Proposed Department of Building, Faculty of Environmental Design, Ahmadu Bello University, to be constructed by ASR Africa Initiative

for the rest of Africa every year.

He said that as part of this programme, the ASR Africa Initiative was making the provision of a one billion Naira grant each for ABU as well as five other universities across the other geo-political zones in Nigeria namely University of Nigeria, Nsukka; University of Maiduguri; University of Ilorin; University of Ibadan, and University of Benin.

The three-member team from the ASR Africa Initiative led by Dr Aliyu Idi Hong had earlier been taken round

the sites at Danfodio students hostel and Site II by the Vice-Chancellor and other management members of the University. The team was later presented with the site plans for the two projects.

Receiving the team, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Kabir Bala, expressed the institution's deepest appreciation to the founder of the ASR Africa Initiative, Alhaji Abdul Samad Rabiu, for the grant, saying ABU would remain grateful to him for the gesture.



From right: Chief Campus Planner, Sani Abubakar; Director, Inter-Governmental Affairs, BUA, Dr. Idi Hong; and Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala at the site allocated to ASR Africa Initiative

ASR Africa Initiative, TETFund take over sites for hostels construction in ABU

Abdul Samad Rabiou Africa Initiative (ASR Africa Initiative), a foundation that granted Ahmadu Bello University one billion Naira for infrastructure development, has since taken over sites for the construction of a hostel at Danfodio Students Hall of Residence and an edifice at Site II of the University for the Department of Building.

Dr. Aliyu Idi Hong, representative of the founder of ASR Africa Initiative, Alhaji Abdul Samad Rabiou, had in March announced the provision of the grant to the University when he visited the institution.

Hong, a former Minister of State for Health and an ABU alumnus, is a Director in charge of Inter-Governmental Affairs at BUA Group, a business conglomerate owned by a Kano business mogul, Alhaji Abdul Samad Rabiou.

Equally, the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (Tetfund) has taken over the site for the construction of another hostel at Danfodio Hall of Residence following approval of the Ministerial Tenders Board.

Meanwhile, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, had later led Management staff of the University to inspect the project sites.

At Danfodio Hall of residence, the Vice-Chancellor and the Management staff inspected a block of dilapidated old hostel being demolished for reconstruction. They were taken round and briefed by the overseer of the University Physical Planning and Municipal Services, Prof. Abdullahi Abubakar.

They were also at Site II where they inspected some new buildings for the Faculty of Environmental Design.

The Vice-Chancellor and his entourage had earlier visited ICOSA Hall of Residence and interacted with some students who freely told



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, leading a Management team on a visit to ICOSA/Ramat Hostel

the Vice-Chancellor and other Management staff how the place could be improved.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration, Prof. S.Z. Abubakar; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. D.A. Ameh; Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies, Prof. S.A. Abdullahi; and Dean, Student Affairs Division, Prof. Muhammad Fatihu, accompanied the Vice-Chancellor to the sites.

Others were Director, Iya

Abubakar Institute of Information and Communication Technology (IAICT), Prof. J.B. Sahalu; Director, Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring, Prof. Yahaya Makarfi Ibrahim; Director, University Health Services, Prof. Muhammad S. Isah; Overseer, Physical Planning and Municipal Services, Prof. Abdullahi Abubakar; and Ag. Director, University Security Division, Malam Ashiru T. Zango.



The proposed construction of Student Hostel by ASR Africa Initiative at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria

Presidential Visitation Panel members arrive in ABU, addresses congregation

Members of the Presidential Visitation Panel to Ahmadu Bello University have arrived in the institution to begin their assignment.

The members, led by Prof Oladapo Abraham Afolabi CFR, were received on arrival in ABU, Zaria by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Kabiru Bala.

There was a group photograph shortly after the courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor by members of the Panel.

Prof Oladapo Abraham Afolabi, CFR is Chairman of Presidential Visitation Panel to Ahmadu Bello University. He, alongside six other members, arrived in the Institution and began the assignment by addressing the University Congregation.

The Chairman of the Presidential Visitation Panel to Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Oladapo A. Afolabi, CFR had later addressed members of the institution's Congregation.

Congregation is one of the statutory organs of the University. Its function is primarily to enable the staff, as a body to express their views on any matter whatsoever.

Addressing the Congregation at Mamman Kontagora Square, Main Campus, Samaru, Zaria, the Chairman of the Presidential Visitation Panel told staff of the Institution that the panel was not an investigation team.

Prof. Afolabi, who was a one time Head of Civil Service of the Federation, also said that their job was to look at how things were being done with a view to improving the system.

He urged them to participate actively in the exercise, saying that they should not leave the Management staff alone in the participation towards improving the system.

The Chairman thanked the Vice-Chancellor and other Management staff of the Institution for the opportunity given him and members of his panel to address the Congregation.



A group photograph with members of the Presidential Visitation Panel members on arrival at ABU



Chairman, Presidential Visitation Panel to ABU, Prof. Oladapo Abraham Afolabi, CFR addressing Congregation



A cross section of audience at the Congregation

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Presidential Visitation Panel members arrive in ABU, addresses congregation

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In his remarks at the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, who had earlier introduced members of panel to the University Congregation, said the visitation team was to among others examine the leadership quality of the University in terms of roles of Governing Council with the Vice-Chancellor, other principal officers as well as organs of the Institution.

The Hon. Minister of Education, Malam Adamu Adamu, had recently inaugurated the Presidential Visitation Panel to Nigerian Federal Universities after the directive of the Visitor, His Excellency, the President and Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR.

The Presidential Panel to Ahmadu Bello University is made up of seven members whose work is for the period 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.

The Visitation Panel to ABU is chaired by Prof. Oladapo A. Afolabi, CFR with Arc. Mufatau B. Bello, Alhaji Mohammed Musa Makarfi and Prof. Salisu Shehu as members.

Others are Prof. Joseph Ikechebelu, Mr. Martin Dibang Achua and Kunle S. Adedeji who will also serve as Secretary.

Meanwhile, members of the Presidential Visitation Panel to Ahmadu Bello University paid a courtesy visit to His Excellency Governor Malam Nasir Ahmad El-Rufa'i of Kaduna State.

The visitation panel members led by Arc Muftau B Bello were in company of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Kabir Bala, along with management staff of the University, who were warmly received by the State Commissioner of Education, Dr Shehu Usman Muhammad on behalf of the Governor.

The Hon Commissioner expressed gratitude to members of the panel for the visit, saying that the courtesy call was coming at a time when the state government was about to raise its visitation panels to all its higher institutions of learning across the state.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof



The Vice-Chancellor delivering his address when the panel members visited Kaduna State Commissioner of Education, Dr. Shehu Usman Mohammed



A group photograph with members of the panel at College of Animal Science, Mando, Kaduna



Members of the panel inspecting a fish pond at College of Animal Science, Mando, Kaduna

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Presidential Visitation Panel members arrive in ABU, addresses congregation

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Kabiru Bala, had earlier told the commissioner that members of the visitation panel expressed their desire to honour the governor by paying him a courtesy visit.

Equally in his remarks, Arc Muftau B Bello who stood in for the Chairman of the Panel, Prof Oladapo Abraham Afolabi CFR, said the panel was inaugurated on 13th April, 2021 by the Honourable Minister of Education, Malam Adamu Adamu.

The panel had earlier visited College of Agriculture and Animal Science, Mando and Center for Historical Research and Documentation, Arewa House all in Kaduna.

Equally, the panel members visited His Highness, the Emir of Zazzau, Alhaji Ahmad Nuhu Bamalli.

The Emir, who described the visit to his palace in Zaria by members of the Panel as "much appreciated", expressed the belief that the Panel would do justice to the work assigned them.

"We are really honoured by your coming here today. As you already know, ABU is one of the premier universities in Nigeria. So your presence here is much appreciated", Alhaji Bamalli said.

The Emir, who lamented that the situation in public universities was not as better as in the past, stressed the need for increase in funding such institutions for optimal results.

The royal father, however, expressed the hope that Ahmadu Bello University would stand to benefit immensely from the outcome of the exercise.

The Chairman of the Presidential Visitation Panel, Prof Oladapo Abraham Afolabi CFR, thanked the Emir for granting their request to receive him and other members of the Panel.

Prof Afolabi, who is a former Head of Service of the Federation, told the Emir that they were assigned by the Visitor to the University, His Excellency President Muhammadu Buhari, to appraise the way ABU had conducted itself in the last 10 years.

The Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Prof Kabiru Bala and his management staff were in company of members of the visitation panel to the palace.



The Presidential Visitation Panel members and the Vice-Chancellor at ABU Water Treatment Plant



Management of the School of Postgraduate Studies receiving the VC and the panel members



His Highness, the Emir of Zazzau, Ambassador Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli, flanked by the Vice-Chancellor and members of the Presidential Visitation Panel

Kano Govt accepts to work with ABU on cancer management



From right: The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, in a discussion with Kano State Governor, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje at Government House, Kano

Kano State Government has accepted the proposal by Ahmadu Bello University on the development of cancer management training programmes for the various cancer specialists expected to work at the newly established Kano State Cancer Centre.

The state-of-the-art centre, located at Muhammadu Buhari Specialist Hospital, Giginyu in Kano metropolis, is currently under construction. When completed, it will be the first of its kind in West Africa.

Also, it accepted another proposal by the Institution to coordinate international

partnerships to train the different oncology sub-specialists of the centre in the United States.

His Excellency, the Executive Governor of the State, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, approved the proposals when a management team from the University ably led by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, paid him a courtesy call in Kano recently.

Governor Ganduje, who warmly received the team at Africa House, described all the proposals put together by the University as a “basket of good things” for his state.

On the institution's request for the one million dollars for the initial launch of the Cancer Drug Access

Programme, the Governor explained that Kano Government was willing to spend any reasonable amount of money for the realization of the project.

The ABU cancer drug access and training programmes would be in conjunction with the African Access Initiative (AAI) and Bioventures for Global Health (BVGH).

The Governor was also delighted to receive an update from the University on collaboration between the State and the University for the establishment of 20 hectare pasture seed multiplication plot at Dudduru in Ajingi Local Government Area to

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Kano Govt accepts to work with ABU on cancer management

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enhance livestock productivity in the State.

The collaboration is through Kano State Agro Pastoral Development Project (KSADP) and National Animal Production Research Institute (NAPRI), Ahmadu Bello University.

The project also involves production of quality pasture seeds or vegetative materials suitable for improved livestock production.

In addition, it will lead to the development of Dudduru grazing reserve as part of the state RUGA project that will eventually address the current incessant farmers-herders clashes in the country.

Governor Ganduje, himself an alumnus of Ahmadu Bello University having graduated from the Institution in 1975, assured that Kano Government would do all it could for the success of the collaborations.

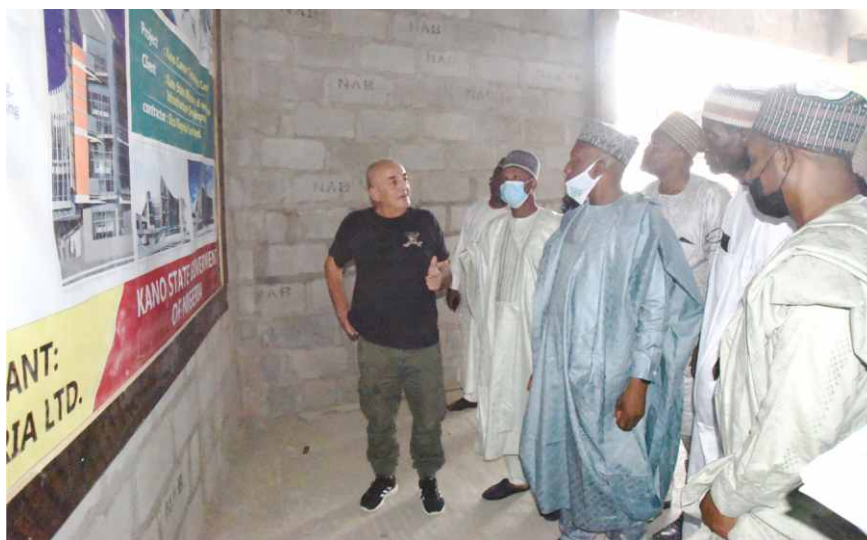
The Governor, who expressed gratitude for the visit, congratulated Prof. Kabiru Bala, on his appointment as the Vice-Chancellor of Ahmadu Bello University.

Earlier in his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, said that the courtesy visit was part of effort by the Institution to connect with all its alumni whom he described as its “greatest assets”.

The Vice-Chancellor appreciated the Governor for his administration's commitment towards addressing cancer challenges in Nigeria through the establishment of the cancer centre for the treatment of cancer cases.

Prof. Bala also acknowledged with gratitude the collaboration between the State and University for the establishment of 20 hectare seed multiplication plot for the state to enhance livestock productivity.

The Vice-Chancellor and his team members were later taken to the construction site for the Kano Cancer Centre by the Honourable Commissioner of Health for the state,



ABU Management team being taking round the project site at Kano Cancer Centre



A group photograph of ABU Management team with Kano State Governor, His Excellency, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, and some of his cabinet members

Dr. Aminu Ibrahim Tsanyawa, at the instance of His Excellency, Governor Abdullahi Umar Ganduje.

Members of the Vice-Chancellor's entourage on the courtesy visit to the Governor were the Bursar, Malam Yahaya Alhaji Hasan; Ag. Director, Iya Abubakar Institute of Information and Communication Technology (IAICT), Prof. Balarabe J. Sahalu; Director, University Health Services, Prof. Muhammad S. Isa; Director, Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring, Prof. Yahaya M. Ibrahim; and Director, Directorate of University Advancement, Prof. Ahmed D. Ibrahim.

Others were Overseer, Physical Planning and Municipal Services, Prof. Abdullahi Abubakar; Dean of Students, Prof. Muhammad Y. Fatihu; and Executive Director, National Animal Production Research Institute (NAPRI), Prof. Abdullahi K. Mohammed.

The rest were Prof. Sani Ibrahim of Department of Biochemistry; Deputy Director, Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR); Prof. Ado Yusuf; Director, Public Affairs Directorate, Malam Auwalu Umar, and Malam Faruk Muhammad, a cancer researcher with the University.

Gov. Lalong visits ABU, meets VC, Principal Officers

Plateau State Governor, Barrister Simon Bako Lalong, was at his Alma Mata, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria where he met with the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, and other Principal Officers of the University. He was in the Institution in his capacity as Chairman of Northern Governors' Forum for inputs on agriculture, security and education.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, receiving the Plateau State Governor, His Excellency, Bar. Simon Bako Lalong

Northern governors are now determined to restore peace and unity to the North, Plateau State Governor, Barrister Simon Bako Lalong, has said.

Lalong, who also doubles as Chairman of the Northern Governors' Forum, was speaking when he visited his Alma Mata, Ahmadu Bello University, where he met with Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala and other principal officers of the University.

Governor Lalong stressed that there should be peace and unity in the North irrespective of the religious differences and ethnic affiliations in order to bring progress and development to the region.

He said that northern leaders should emulate the late Premier of the region, Sir Ahmadu Bello, the

Sardauna of Sokoto who always defended the right of the North all his life.

The Chairman of the Northern Governors' Forum also explained that Sardauna's priority was agriculture and that the North's comparative advantage was still agriculture.

"Today is a very good moment for me to be in Ahmadu Bello University, my Alma Mata; I'm here representing the Northern Governors' Forum; we can't be talking on agriculture at our Forum without going to ABU for their input," he said.

The governor stressed that all hands must be on deck to ensure that Nigeria remained one given its diversity and that all acts that would lead to its disintegration should totally be condemned.

Governor Lalong described Ahmadu Bello University as the largest in Sub-Saharan Africa and commended the Vice-Chancellor and other key stakeholders for sustaining the Sardauna's legacy.

Earlier in his address of welcome, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, described the visit of the Governor and Chairman of the Northern Governors' Forum as "auspicious".

The Vice-Chancellor also told the governor that efforts were now being made to restore the prestige of the University and that all hands must be on deck to ensure its sustainability.

Prof. Bala said that agriculture still remained the strongest point of the University given the strength of its Agric Complex, a model which could not be found anywhere in the world.

The governor was in company of Kaduna State Commissioner for Business Innovation and Technology, Mr. Idris Nyaf, who represented Governor Malam Nasir Ahmed El-Rufa'i, and Secretary to Plateau State Government, Prof. Danladi Abokatu.

Members of the Plateau Community in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria led by Dr. Danjuma W. Dodu of Department of Building were also at hand to receive the visiting governor.

Governor Lalong and his entourage were later taken round the National Agricultural Extension Research and Liaison Services (NAERLS) and Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR) where he addressed the Management staff of such research institutes. They were also at Institute of Administration and Faculty of Law all in Kongo Campus where the governor met with his former law teachers and staff of the Faculty.

'Why ABU is reviewing own Curriculum'

Ahmadu Bello University is evaluating and reviewing its curricula as part of effort to strengthen all its academic programmes as well as improve student learning experiences, the Institution's Director of Academic Planning and Monitoring, Prof. Yahaya Makarfi Ibrahim, said in Zaria recently.

Prof. Makarfi spoke at a one-day Train-the-Trainer Workshop on Curriculum Development and Review put together by the Directorate in conjunction with School of Postgraduate Studies, Ahmadu Bello University.

The workshop, which drew participants from all the academic departments of the University and many other guests, was essentially to equip the participants with the requisite knowledge and skills to successfully conduct a comprehensive curriculum review of all the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Prof. Olubumni Abayomi Omotosho of University of Ilorin presented the lead paper, 'Curriculum Development and Review Process', which would ultimately guide discussions at the workshop.

In his introductory remarks, the Director, Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring, Prof. Yahaya Makarfi Ibrahim, said that the imperative for the curriculum review was to prepare students to compete favourably among their peers in the global landscape.

“Considering the dynamic nature of our world today, universities must continually examine the quality and relevance of the knowledge and skills they desire to impart to their students”, he said.

The National Universities Commission (NUC), according to him, provided the Benchmark Minimum Academic Standard (BMAS) as the minimum standard of knowledge to be delivered on all academic programmes.



Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Danladi A. Ameh



Director, Directorate of Academic Planning & Monitoring, Prof. Yahaya Ibrahim Makarfi

The imperative for the curriculum review was to prepare students to compete favourably among their peers in the global landscape... Considering the dynamic nature of our world today, universities must continually examine the quality and relevance of the knowledge and skills they desire to impart to their students



A cross section of participants at the Curriculum Review Workshop held at the SPGS Conference Hall

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'Why ABU is reviewing own Curriculum'

Continued from page 12



Prof. Raymond Bako



Prof. Aisha Zakari

**The NUC is undertaking a review of this BMAS. While the BMAS provides minimum acceptable standards, we must strive to surpass its provision by constantly evaluating our curricular in line with developments across the globe...
...it was on the strength of this that the Institution's Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring as well as School of Postgraduate Studies had come up with the curriculum review workshop**

“As I speak to you now, the NUC is undertaking a review of this BMAS. While the BMAS provides minimum acceptable standards, we must strive to surpass its provision by constantly evaluating our curricular in line with developments across the globe”, Prof. Makarfi also said.

He explained that it was on the strength of this that the Institution's Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring as well as School of Postgraduate Studies had come up with the curriculum review workshop.

This, he further stated, would help the University identify gaps and weaknesses in its programmes with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of its curricula and continually improving student learning experiences.

Prof. Makarfi also said that the Institution's focus was to vigorously pursue this as a formative component of the overall quality assurance strategy of the University.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, ably represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Danladi A. Ameh, expressed confidence that the experts invited would surely guide the University to achieve the desired objectives.

Prof. Bala, who declared the workshop open, also urged the participants to strictly focus on the local problems of the University with the guide by experts on the subject matter.

The newly elected Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration, Prof. Ahmed Doko Ibrahim and Deputy Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies, Prof. Olayinka Okunbanjo, were in attendance at the workshop.

There were three discussants at the occasion. They were Prof. Aisha Zakari, Department of Home Economics; Prof. Raymond Bako, Department of Educational Foundation and Curriculum; and Prof. Junaid Kabir, Department of Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine.



A cross section of participants during the Curriculum Review Workshop

ABU gets patent certificates for use of inventions

The Federal Government has granted Ahmadu Bello University patent certificates for the sole use of the proto-type medical equipment its team of engineers and scientists invented recently.

The medical equipment, 4-In-One Hand Sanitizing machine and Intensive Care Ventilator, were invented in 2020 as part of the Institution's contribution towards the global fight against COVID-19 pandemic.

The hand sanitizer machine, code-named ABUSANIT-20, consists of an exceptional electric circuit designed for the control unit fitted with LCD display to regulate the dispensing pattern of the liquid soap, water, drying air from the blower section, and finally chemical sanitizer to combat viral and bacterial contamination.

Whereas the ventilator, named ABUVENT-20, is driven by a BLDC motor and is power-driven by either AC or DC source. Its design is such that it does not only meet the World Health Organization (WHO) standard



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, test-running the hand sanitizer machine produced by ABU Engineers



but also adapt creatively to the power situation of the country.

The Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment issued the patent certificates in accordance with Patents and Designs Act; CAP 344 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990.

It said that the certificates granted the University were for the “sole use and advantage” of the two medical equipment invented.

The Ministry also explained that the Federal Government acceded to the Institution's request on account of Government's willingness to “encourage all inventions which may be for public good”.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, announced the receipt of the patent certificates at the University's 506th (Regular) meeting of the Senate recently at which the medical equipment were displayed.

Prof. Bala was of the belief that patent certificates would spur other engineers and scientists from the University to conduct a lot of research in different areas.



Engr. Inusa Zubair of the Equipment Maintenance & Development Centre (EMDC) briefing members of the University Senate on the machine

Boss Mustapha commissions erosion control works in ABU

● VC grateful to FG for various erosion control projects in ABU



Representative of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Dr. Habiba Lawal, presenting a handover certificate to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, at the commissioning ceremony of erosion control projects at Phase II

Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Mr. Boss Mustapha, has commissioned various flood and erosion control works at Phase II in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

The works include construction of 2.4km stone base asphaltic dual carriage road with drainage at both sides and 357m stone base asphaltic single carriage road with drainage at both sides.

Others are construction of 2.5m x 2m double box culvert, six 1m x 1m box culverts at various locations, trapezoidal drains at golf course and concrete walkway median kerbs.

The projects were carried out in 13 months; and they were executed by the Federal Government through the Ecological Fund Office.

Commissioning the projects on

Tuesday, 15th September, 2020, Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Mr. Boss Mustapha, urged the University to make good use of the project by maintaining it and ensuring its sustainability.

Mustapha, who was ably represented by the Permanent Secretary, Ecological Fund Office, Dr. Habiba M. Lawal, said that this was the second ecological intervention project in the University executed by the Muhammadu Buhari-led Federal Government, the first being the intervention project at the University Farm Dam completed and commissioned in 2017.

He said the project was one of the 22 ecological intervention projects approved by President Buhari for the second quarter, 2018 and the contract was awarded by the Federal

Executive Council on 8th November, 2018.

“The project was expected to check the erosion/flooding as well as provide improved access road to the Main Campus Phase II in order to enhance learning and working condition within the expanding institution”, he said.

Mustapha also observed that the University was grappling with huge infrastructural deficit and environmental threat that required an external support to complement the drive of sustaining its “prestigious fame and standard”.

He explained that Dangote Hostel built in the University by a renowned business man and philanthropist, Alhaji Aliko Dangote, lacked access road which the Ecological Fund Office had now provided.

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Boss Mustapha commissions erosion control works in ABU

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The Secretary to the Government of the Federation then expressed gratitude to Alhaji Aliko Dangote for his magnanimity, saying such kind gestures from other stakeholders would definitely relieve pressures on the lean resources of the government.

Meanwhile, the Vice-Chancellor of Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Kabir Bala, has expressed gratitude to the Federal Government for various floods and erosion control projects it executed in the University through the Ecological Fund Office.

Speaking at the commissioning of flood and erosion control works at Site II of the University in Samaru, Zaria, on Tuesday, 15th September, 2020, the Vice-Chancellor also expressed appreciation that the project had successfully come to fruition and had been completed with high degree of professionalism.

Prof. Bala, who thanked all those that contributed to the success of the occasion, said the University

would continue to solicit for such interventions in the future, as the institution being old and also expanding required a lot of upgrades and improvements in its infrastructure.

The Vice-Chancellor used the occasion to equally acknowledge with appreciation the several ecological control projects the University had immensely benefited in the past.

These included among many others dredging for the removal of about one million cubic meters of silt from Kubanni dam reservoir as well as flood and erosion control through reconstruction of collapsed embankment and spillway of the University farm dam.

“We wish to place on record our profound gratitude and appreciation to the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR; the Secretary to the Government of the Federation,

Barrister Boss Gida Mustapha, OFR; the Permanent Secretary, Ecological Funds Office, Dr. Habiba Lawal; all the Directors and staff of the Ecological Funds Office for making this project a priority and working tirelessly to its logical completion”, he said.

Earlier in her address, the Permanent Secretary, Ecological Funds Office, Dr. Habiba Lawal, said the flood and erosion control works were initiated through a request by the University authorities for an urgent intervention to address the alarming deterioration arising from erosion and flood menace as well as to improve the access road to the newly completed Dangote Hostel.

Dr. Lawal, whose address was delivered by the Director, Soil, Ecological Fund Office, Mr. Felix Okeke, said the event was intended to achieve the dual purpose of enabling the University community to take over the ownership of the project as well as ensure its care and sustainability.



Representative of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Dr. Habiba Lawal, cutting the tape to commission the erosion control projects

ABU wins JAMB's N75 million prize as 'Most National Institution in 2019 Admission'

Ahmadu Bello University has clinched the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board's (JAMB's) prize of N75 million as "The Most National Institution in 2019 Admission".

The University also emerged Second and Third as "The 2019 Institution of First Choice for Candidates to Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria" and "The Institution with the Highest Number of International Students in 2019 Admission" respectively.

The three awards were presented to the University by the Honourable Minister of Education, Malam Adamu Adamu, during the JAMB's 2nd National Tertiary Admissions Performance Merit Award (NATAP-M) ceremony held in Abuja.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof Kabir Bala, received the awards on behalf of ABU along with the Registrar of the institution, Malam Abdullahi Ahmed Kundila, and Admissions Officer, Malam Haruna Ali Mohammed.

There were a total of five categories of award which were presented to deserving tertiary institutions at the colourful ceremony that took place on physical and virtual platforms.

Apart from ABU which won the N75 million prize as the most national institution in 2019 admission, three others were equally presented with N75 million prize each.

The three others were University of Ilorin (as the 2019 institution of

first choice for Candidates to tertiary institutions in Nigeria and as the institution with the highest number of international students in 2019 admission) as well as Federal University, Wukari which was presented with the award as the 2019 most improved institution in gender balance.

Ogun State Institute of Technology, Igbese won the prize as the most compliant institution in keeping to the guidelines in 2019 admission.

It would be recalled that during the JAMB's 2018 National Tertiary Admissions Performance Merit (NATAP-M) Award, Ahmadu Bello University won a prize of N25 million as the institution with the highest number of international students.





His Highness, the Emir of Zazzau, Ambassador Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli, receiving a letter from ABU MIAD Alumni Forum as the Grand Patron of the forum from Prof. Ayo Rauf Dunmoye of ABU Department of Political Science and International Studies

ABU MIAD Alumni Forum honours Zazzau Emir

His Highness, the Emir of Zazzau, Ambassador Ahmad Nuhu Bamalli, has been inaugurated as the Grand Patron of Ahmadu Bello University Master in International Affairs and Diplomacy (MIAD) Alumni Forum.

The colourful event, which took place at ABU Assembly Hall on Saturday, was organized by the graduates of the MIAD programme run by Department of Political Science and International Studies, Ahmadu Bello University.

The Emir was honoured

alongside many other distinguished personalities, including former Head, Department of Political Science and International Studies, Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Ayo 'Rauf Dunmoye, believed to be the brain behind the development of the programme.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, was ably represented at the occasion by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Danladi A. Ameh. The Director, Directorate of University Advancement, Prof. Ahmed Doko

Ibrahim (newly elected Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration), also attended the event.

The two principal officers of the University warmly received the Emir and his entourage. The royal father was later ushered into the Senate Chamber of the University where he personally led the *Asr* congregational prayer before he finally moved to the Assembly Hall for the event.

The Emir, who was in the second set of students who participated in the programme and graduated in 2002, disclosed that he joined the professional postgraduate course 12 years after his graduation from the Faculty of Law, Ahmadu Bello University.

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ABU MIAD Alumni Forum honours Emir of Zazzau

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Bamalli also explained that he was encouraged by his father, Magajin Garin Zazzau, Alhaji Nuhu Bamalli (of blessed memory) and his friend, one Ahmed Modibo, to go for the programme.

He said that his contact with the diplomatic service was not by accident as his father was one of the pioneer staff of the Federal Ministry of External Affairs which he (the father) headed as its Minister in 1965, a year before the Emir's birth.

The Emir thanked the MIAD Alumni Forum under the chairmanship of Comrade Isa Nuhu for the honour and also expressed immense gratitude to the University for giving him the opportunity to study.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, represented by Prof. Danladi A. Ameh, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, had earlier told the Emir that the postgraduate programme had, in a very significant manner, become a model emulated by a number of universities, especially from the northern part of the country.

He also said that His Highness, the Emir of Birnin Gwari, Alhaji Zubairu Jibrin Maigwari II and His Highness, the Emir of Zamfaran Anka, Alhaji (Dr.) Attahiru Muhammad Ahmad, CON were among the prominent graduates of the programme.

Prof. Bala, who congratulated the Emir for the well-deserved honour, commended the Department of Political Science and International Studies, Ahmadu Bello University, for the foresight in this direction.

Other personalities that spoke at the occasion included the head of the Department, Dr. Rahanatu Lawal, who led some academic staff from the Department to witness the event as well as the Chairman of the ABU MIAD Alumni Forum, Comrade Isa Nuhu.



The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Danladi A. Ameh, speaking at the event



The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, presenting a compendium of records to Emir of Zazzau



The Emir of Zazzau, Amb. Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli (middle), in a group photograph after the event

ABU honours students conferred with NYSC Presidential Awards

The four students of Ahmadu Bello University who bagged the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Presidential Awards have been honoured by the Institution.

The students were among the 110 recipients of the NYSC Presidential Awards for 2020 by His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR.

Receiving the students in his office nearby, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, who presented a letter of congratulation to each of them, thanked the students for making the University proud.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala (centre), receiving the students in his office



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala (left), presenting a letter of congratulation to one of the recipients of the NYSC presidential merit award

Makarfi Ibrahim, congratulated the students.

The students are Yusuf Abubakar (Political Science), Ibrahim Usman (Electrical Engineering), Ishaku Gambo (Statistics), and Ayodele Olubusayo (Biology Education).

They bagged the presidential awards on account of their outstanding performance during their community service in their respective places of primary assignment.

The Vice-Chancellor presented to each of them a congratulatory note he personally signed on behalf of the University in appreciation of the feat achieved.

“We welcome you back home; and on behalf of the Management, staff and students of Ahmadu Bello University, we wish to thank you immensely for making us proud.

“You have stood out so conspicuously. For your own information, we announced the feat at the Senate meeting yesterday for all of us to celebrate,” he said.

The Dean, Student Affairs Division, Prof. Muhammad Yakasai Fatihu; Director, Directorate of University Advancement, Prof. Ahmed D. Ibrahim, and Director, Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring, Prof. Yahaya



The Vice-Chancellor (3rd from left), in a group photograph with the awardees

Dangote Refinery trainees undergo training on zeolite catalyst in ABU

Trainees from Dangote Refinery and Petrochemicals Company are currently undergoing training on petroleum refinery zeolite catalyst technology development at Department of Chemical Engineering in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

The training will eventually lead to the award of MSc and PhD in Chemical Engineering under the PTDF-Chair Laboratory at the University.

PTDF-Chair, Prof. Baba J. El-Yakubu, who made this known when he introduced the first batch of three trainees to the Management of Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria recently, said the training followed a special request to the Department by Dangote Refinery and Petrochemicals Company.

Specifically, he said, the request was to train six members of their zeolite research team on petroleum refinery zeolite catalyst technology development with respect to the Company's residue fluid catalytic cracking unit (rFCCU).

“This is an important development for both ABU and PTDF, as after the training the candidates will form a pioneering zeolite research team at the Company towards making Nigeria self-sufficient in the area of rFCCU catalyst production.

Receiving the trainees on behalf of the Management of the University, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, expressed delight to have the trainees for the programme and promised to create an enabling environment which would foster a long lasting

relationship between the University and the Company.

The Vice-Chancellor, therefore, encouraged other Departments to emulate the PTDF-Chair in creating opportunities for research and development in the University.

In their remarks, the Dean of School of Postgraduate Studies, Prof. Sani A. Abdullahi and his counterpart from Student Affairs Division, Prof. Muhammad Fatihu, pledged to do all they could to make the trainees' research study hitch free.

Speaking in the same vein, the Head, Department of Chemical Engineering, Dr. J. A. Muhammad, promised to do the needful in resuscitating other research teams to enable the Department and the University to attract research partnership and possibly funding.



The Vice-Chancellor (3rd from right) in a group photograph with the trainees and academic staff of the Department of Chemical Engineering

FUDMA seeks collaboration with ABU on agriculture, security

Federal University, Dutsinma (FUDMA) in Katsina State, is collaborating with Ahmadu Bello University on agriculture and security.

The institution's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Arma Ya'u Hamisu Bichi, who disclosed this when he visited his Ahmadu Bello counterpart, Prof. Kabir Bala in Zaria recently, said FUDMA as a new university stood to benefit immensely from the collaboration.

Represented by a six-member delegation led by the Director, Academic Planning and Quality Assurance, Prof. Aminu Dalha Kankiya at the visit, Prof. Bichi confessed that Federal University, Dutsinma considered ABU as its mother because a good number of its academic and non-teaching staff were from Ahmadu Bello University.

He said that the mother – daughter relationship between ABU and FUDMA would continue to exist and expressed hope that the ties would benefit both institutions in the long run.

The Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Kabir Bala, who received the delegation warmly in his office, assured that ABU would give the newly established Federal Government university all the necessary support to succeed.

Prof. Bala said it was understandable that FUDMA was collaborating with Ahmadu Bello University given its strength in the study of agriculture and size of its security outfit.

“I can clearly understand the wisdom of FUDMA in seeking collaboration with Ahmadu Bello University in these two areas: agriculture and security. And, we will be happy to see that your new university succeeds in its determination to lay a solid foundation”, he said.

The Vice-Chancellor, who also assured that the ABU agric complex and security division would be at hand to help FUDMA in the collaboration, said ABU had been



Six-member delegation from FUDMA being received by the Vice-Chancellor in his office

mandated by the National Universities Commission (NUC) to nurture Federal University, Dutsinma.

Members of the FUDMA delegation led by Director, Academic Planning and Quality Assurance, Prof. Aminu Dalha Kankiya, included Dean, Postgraduate School, Prof. Abdullahi Saulawa; Deputy Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. Sanusi Jari; Director, Security Division, Col. U.D. Abubakar (rt) and Deputy Registrar, Council Affairs, Malam Nasiru Abdul.

It is understandable that FUDMA was collaborating with Ahmadu Bello University given its strength in the study of agriculture and size of its security outfit



A group photograph of ABU Management and the FUDMA delegation during their visit

'ABU agric complex capable of transforming Nigeria's economy'



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala (middle), being taken round a demonstration farm during the Field Day by IAR

The huge agricultural complex of Ahmadu Bello University could aggressively transform Nigeria's economy by making the country a net exporter of agricultural products, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, has said.

Declaring open a field day at a newly established demonstration farm at the Faculty of Agriculture recently, the Vice-Chancellor said the complex had all it took to play such role if relevant researches were conducted for good harvest.

Apart from the fully fledged Faculty of Agriculture, according to him, the University also had such specialized institutes with national mandate as Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR), National Agricultural Extension Research and Liaison Services (NAERLS)

and National Animal Production Research Institute (NAPRI).

While disclosing that arrangements were being put in place to establish an all-embracing research and innovation centre to encourage research effort in the University, the Vice-Chancellor also said agriculture was one of ABU's strongest points as a citadel of learning.

He argued that if other developing nations could get high yield, what stopped Nigeria from achieving same feat given the availability of its fertile lands and resources.

The Vice-Chancellor also announced the intention of his administration to take over the University farms for commercial farming as a way of revenue generation for the University.

Prof. Bala, who commended the Faculty of Agriculture as well as the specialised agric institutes for organising the field day, said Nigerians must design a solution to their peculiar problems through research and innovation.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Prof. Muktar Mahmud, said the demonstration farm was established by the faculty in collaboration with East-West International, a vegetable research firm with headquarters in Thailand.

The Dean also said the collaboration saw the training of 136 extension workers from Kaduna and Kano, saying that the East-West International granted a 5,650 dollars scholarship to Nasiru Adda'u, an undergraduate student of the faculty.

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'ABU agric complex capable of transforming Nigeria's economy'

Continued from page 23

If other developing nations could get high yield, what stopped Nigeria from achieving same feat given the availability of its fertile lands and resources

Also speaking, East-West Seed Manager, Mr. David Godfree Alechenu, said the company had different sections that included food processing, business and knowledge transfer.

He said the objective of the partnership was to empower farmers and that so far the company had trained over 10,000 farmers in Kaduna State in addition to training the agro-dealers who happened to be the link between farmers and the company.

Those present at the occasion included the Executive Director, NAERLS, Prof. M.K. Othman; Executive Director, Division of Agricultural Colleges, Prof. Musa Abdullahi Mahadi; former Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Prof. O. Alabi; Deputy Director, NAERLS, Prof. Emmanuel Ikanu; Deputy Director, IAR, Prof. A.A. Yusuf; and Assistant Director, Extension, Training and Outreach, NAERLS, Prof. Y.A. Sani.

Others were Assistant Director, Research and Planning, NAERLS, Prof. C.K. Daudu; HOD, Crop Protection, Prof. O.O. Banwo; Prof. H. Mani of Department of Agronomy; representative of HOD, Agronomy, Prof. A.A. Muhid; Head, Extension, IAR, Dr. H. Shuaibu; Prof. Z. Abdulsalam of Department of Agric Economics and representative of HOD, Agric Extension, Dr. S. Umar.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, listens to an expert gives a brief on IAR Demonstration Farm



Some of the IAR seeds and publications on display



A group photograph after the event

MBBS alumni donate to ABU College of Medical Sciences

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, and members of the University Management team have visited the ABU College of Medical Sciences to receive MBBS Alumni donations to the College.

The Provost of the College, Prof. Randawa while receiving the Management team, stated that when the Faculty of Medicine was upgraded to the status of a College it came with a lot of challenges, responsibilities and financial obligations.

To meet up with the financial obligations, the College reached out to its alumni and he was glad to report that all the sets of alumni that were reached out to obliged and their donations started coming in.

Items donated include 100 pieces of 4-legged classroom chairs, two pieces of spectrophotometer, one piece of PH meter, two pieces of Epson overhead projector, two pieces of HP laptops, reagents, test tubes, electric balance and HP meter. Physical works were also carried out at the medical students hostel.

The donations to the College were worth a total of Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Four Thousand, Five Hundred Naira Only (N8,994,500.00).

The Director of Directorate of University Advancement (DUA), Prof. Ahmed D. Ibrahim applauded the efforts of the Provost for reaching out to the alumni and also thanked the alumni for obliging. He stated that beyond giving to the College the DUA was reaching out to alumni to give to the University as a whole.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, while expressing his appreciation to the alumni informed them about the ABU endowment fund which board will be inaugurated on 16th June, 2021. "This is in order to make ABU self-sustaining especially in the light of



From right: Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, presenting a letter of appreciation to representative of the College Alumni

dwindling funding from the Federal Government", he said.

He said that the College was really in need of such donations because of its expansion, with six new departments coming up without any existing structures. For the College to compete globally it would need about 200 billion Naira, he added.

He encouraged the Provost to utilize the willingness of the alumni to help the College grow to its expectation.

Items donated include 100 pieces of 4-legged classroom chairs, two pieces of spectrophotometer, one piece of PH meter, two pieces of Epson overhead projector, two pieces of HP laptops, reagents, test tubes, electric balance and HP meter



A group photograph with the Vice-Chancellor at the ABU College of Medical Sciences

How ABU will be rewarding academic excellence, by Vice-Chancellor

Ahmadu Bello University would soon begin to reward its academic staff for outstanding research findings and inventions, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, has disclosed.

Speaking at a meeting on the way forward for the institution's Horticultural Garden, the Vice-Chancellor said doing so would tremendously promote excellence in teaching and research in the University.

Any academic staff with outstanding research or remarkable invention, according to him, would be adequately rewarded by reading his citation at Senate of the University in addition to presentation of certificate of appreciation.

The Vice-Chancellor, who warned that the University would not in any way reward indolence, also said that ABU had all the potentials to achieve greatness.

Prof. Bala said that the University was in the process of developing a competency based curriculum to make all its products easily employable in the labour market after graduation or self-employed.

The Vice-Chancellor also stressed the need for a big plantation of commercial trees from ABU Site II to Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital, saying that the University should equally have at least 20 hectares for conservation of indigenous trees for research purposes.

The Vice-Chancellor had earlier been presented with a document on the state of the University's 8.11 hectare horticultural garden by Prof. M. Olu Akinola of Department of Agric Extension and Rural Development.

The document explicitly explained the structure of the garden, crops grown, observations, challenges and projections with a view to improving the place.

Dr. Ibrahim Madu Gadzama, Head, Department of Biology, who was also at the meeting, said ABU was endowed with lands for conservation of indigenous trees for teaching and research.



From right: Head of Department, Dr. Ibrahim Madu Gadzama; Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala and Prof. M. Olu Akinola of Department of Agricultural Extension & Rural Development

CBN Centre for Economics and Finance, Ahmadu Bello University gets Director

Dr. Mohammed Auwalu Haruna has been appointed Director, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Centre for Economics and Finance, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

The new Director is Head of Department, Banking and Finance, Ahmadu Bello University.

The appointment was approved by CBN Governor Godwin I. Emefiele in a letter dated September 28, 2020.

Dr. Haruna's "appointment is for an initial period of three years, inclusive of a probationary period of the first year after which, subject to your satisfactory performance, your appointment shall be confirmed."



● Dr. Mohammed Auwalu Haruna

The letter copied to the Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Kabir Bala, also said the duration was from 1st October, 2020 to 30th September, 2023.

It also said the appointment might, at the instance of the Bank, be renewed for an additional period of two years.

It would be recalled that President Muhammadu Buhari had in August last year unveiled the Centre built and domiciled at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria by the Central Bank of Nigeria.

The three first generation federal universities in the country across the six geo-political zones were selected under the first phase of the intervention programme.

They are Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, University of Ibadan and University of Nsukka.

The project, according to the apex bank, was conceived to produce a critical mass of skilled professionals that would be able to apply their knowledge toward supporting growth and continued innovation in the country's financial sector and the economy in general.

Accepting the offer of appointment, the Director, Dr. Mohammed Auwalu Haruna explained that Ahmadu Bello University was expected to lead the growth of the professional programmes to the level of those run by the Harvard University because the apex bank had great hope in ABU.

Communication Minister lauds ABU students for outstanding performance at Huawei ICT Global Competition

The Honourable Minister of Communication and Digital Economy, Dr. Isah Ali Ibrahim Pantami, has congratulated the Vice-Chancellor, staff and students of Ahmadu Bello University on the feat achieved by the six students of the institution who participated in the recently concluded 2019-2020 Huawei ICT Global Competition.

Of the six students that participated in the global competition, three earned first prize in Network Track and another three won the grand prize in Cloud/Artificial Intelligence Track.

The Minister, who spoke at the 2019-2020 Huawei Nigeria ICT Competition Award and 2021-2022 Launch Ceremony held in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria recently, said that the feat was yet another testimony of ABU capacity as a pace-setter nationally and globally.

“This exemplary achievement is no doubt a result of the joint efforts of all the structures, organs, and of the support from the internal stakeholders of this University community in one way or the other, and I wish to congratulate the University as a whole, today,” he said.

Dr. Pantami equally commended the management and staff of Huawei International Company for offering the platform which had seen Nigerian youths display extraordinary skills and resourcefulness in a dynamic sector as that of the ICT.

Represented by the Managing Director, Galaxy Backbone, Prof. M.B. Abubakar, the Minister urged Ahmadu Bello University to consider the feat achieved by the students as a baseline for future achievements that would “keep this great University soaring at enviable heights”.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala (left) in a chat with MD, Galaxy Backbone, Prof. M.B. Abubakar

The Minister also explained that by virtue of the feat achieved by the students, the University was showing leadership and hope in the vision of a digitalized Nigeria.

Goodwill messages from National Universities Commission (NUC), Nigeria Communication Commission (NCC), Digital Bridge Institute and NITDA were delivered at the award ceremony.

This exemplary achievement is no doubt a result of the joint efforts of all the structures, organs, and of the support from the internal stakeholders of this University community in one way or the other, and I wish to congratulate the University as a whole



A group picture with students during the event

ABU students get prizes for winning at Huawei ICT Competition

Six students of Ahmadu Bello University have been presented with different prizes for outstanding performance at the recently concluded 2019-2020 Huawei Nigeria ICT Competition.

The Competition, which was the fifth in the series, had a participation record of almost 15,000 students from over 2,000 colleges and universities in more than 82 countries and regions globally.

Of the six students from Ahmadu Bello University who participated in the ICT Competition, three earned first prize in Network Track globally. They are Hamza Adenoyi Atabor, Emmanuel Abba, and Hamza Beita.

The other three, namely; Mustapha Abdullahi Jimoh, Dahir Muhammad Dahir, and Abdullahi Khalifa Muhammad, bagged the grand prize in Cloud/AI Track at the global final.

In his keynote presentation at the 2019-2020 Huawei Nigeria ICT Competition Award and 2021-2022 Launch Ceremony held at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria recently, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, congratulated the students and their instructors on the feat achieved.

He said that the students attended several boot camp trainings both in ABU and Huawei office in Abuja and Lagos since November, 2019 to fully prepare for the global competition.

The Vice-Chancellor also attributed the success recorded to the commitment of the instructors as well as dedication and interest by the



Prof. Kabiru Bala



Mr. Star Shi

students.

Prof. Bala described the feat as “highly commendable”, saying the University would continue to support Huawei ICT Academy.

He assured the global ICT company that the ICT equipment it donated to the University in December last year would be used to train students to acquire hands-on skills to bridge the digital divide in intermediate and advanced technologies in routing and switching as well as security.

Also speaking, the Director, Service Delivery, Huawei Technologies Co. Nigeria Ltd, Melissa Chen, who was represented by Star Shi, said that they came to celebrate “the Nigerian students who have made Nigeria and their school proud” in the recently

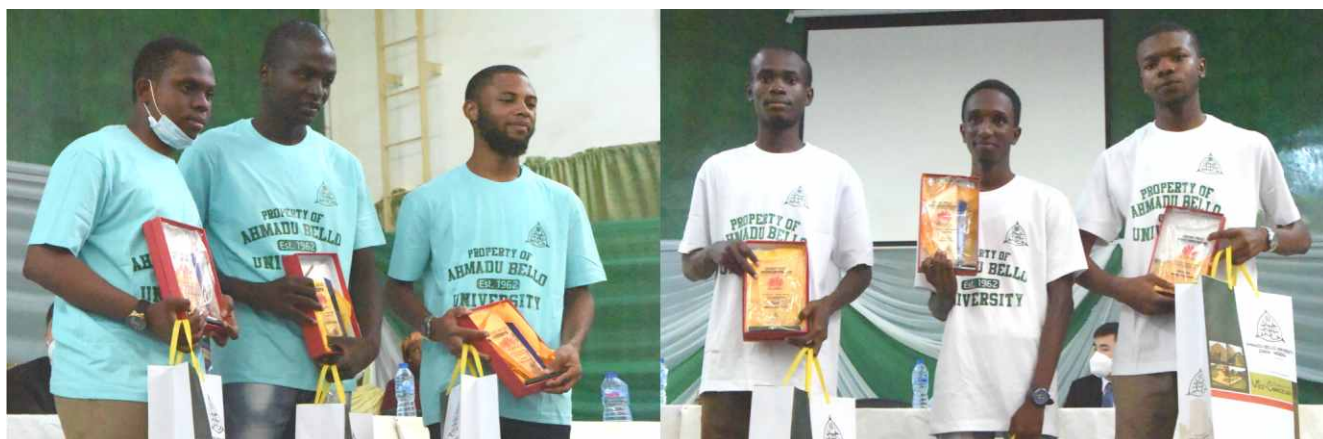
concluded global ICT Competition.

“We are here today to celebrate excellence, hard work, the future and glory that the Nigerian students have achieved,” she said.

She said that Huawei had been in operation in Nigeria for over 20 years; and in the last three years, the Huawei ICT Academy had invested resources in talent cultivation.

Other prizes presented at the occasion were ICT Academy Instructions Award in 2019-2020, and ICT Competition Students Award in 2019-2020 Regional Awards.

The event was rounded off with the Launch for Huawei ICT Competition 2021-2022 by Director, Service Delivery, Huawei Technologies, Melissa Chen.



The students displaying their prizes at a ceremony in ABU, Zaria to honour them

Huawei Commissions ICT equipment in ABU

Huawei, a global leader in ICT and telecommunication solution provider, has commissioned an ICT equipment in Ahmadu Bello University installed to train students to acquire hands-on skills to bridge the digital divide in intermediate and advanced technologies in routing, switching and security.

The equipment, donated by the telecommunication company, comprised three Huawei AR6280 routers, five Huawei S5720 switches as well as cables and other accessories for designing physical and logical topologies.

Commissioning the ICT facility at the University's NLG Engineering Laboratory, the Director of Enterprise Delivery and Service, Huawei Technologies Nigeria Ltd, Ms. Melissa Chen Yangfeng, traced the relationship between the University and the global ICT firm to 2018 when they signed a memorandum of understanding for a partnership on Huawei Authorized Information Network Academy (HAINA) programme and other Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, appreciated the gesture by the telecommunication giant since the MoU was signed in 2018, and expressed satisfaction with the outcomes so far recorded.

On Huawei Authorized Information Network Academy (HAINA) programme, the Vice-Chancellor disclosed that there were over 800 enrollments and 350 certified in different certificate tracks.

Prof. Bala explained that Fahad Danladi, one of the students from the institution, for example, had recently acquired the highest-level certification HCIE (Huawei Certified ICT Expert) and would serve the mandatory NYSC with Huawei.

He also said that the University had four instructors for the HCIE and HCIP Certification training with Engr. Bashir Sani and Dr.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala (left), and Director of Enterprise Delivery & Service, Huawei Technologies Nigeria Ltd, Ms. Melissa Chen Yangfeng during the commissioning ceremony

Bashir Sadiq regarded as some of the best in the country.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the successes recorded so far was due to the commitment of the instructors as well as dedication and interest by students, and that the institution would continue to support Huawei ICT Academy.

While assuring the Company that the donated equipment would be used judiciously, Prof. Bala was of the belief that creating and maintaining a strong ICT ecosystem could enhance discovery of ICT talents, skills acquisition, opportunities and promote ICT industry certifications.

Some of the personalities present at the commissioning ceremony included Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Danladi A. Ameh; Ag. Director, Iya Abubakar Institute of Information and Communication Technology (IAICT), Prof. Balarabe Junaidu Sahalu; Director, Directorate of University Advancement, Prof. Ahmed D. Ibrahim; Dean of Engineering, Prof. Abubakar Ismail and a host of others from Directorate of University Advancement, Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring as well as Faculty of Engineering.



A group photograph at the commissioning venue

'Universities must be self-sustaining to stand the test of time'

Public universities in Nigeria must look inward in order to be self-sustaining in view of the current economic challenges facing the country, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, has said.

The Vice-Chancellor made the remark when he received in audience members of Joint Chapels Council (JCC), an umbrella body of the Christian community in Ahmadu Bello University.

Prof. Bala explained that universities could stand the test of time when they became self-sustaining by aiming at excellence in both teaching and research.

“As universities we should all aim at excellence in teaching and research. If, for instance, you have good research works, you would be able to get sufficient money for the system”, he said.

He said universities must change their strategy in view of the reality on ground by cutting wastages, as there was “no free lunch for us now”.

The Vice-Chancellor challenged the academics and intellectuals to rise to the occasion by asking questions at congregations and



A cross section of guests at JCC meeting with the Vice-Chancellor

other relevant fora on how things were being done in the Ivory towers.

“We have failed as intellectuals because we always keep quiet, allowing the system to suffer. The earlier we change the better as posterity will not be kind to us when we keep mute. As intellectuals we must talk even if it is the last thing”, he said.

On students admission, the Vice-Chancellor explained that ABU would continue to adhere strictly to its well-known criteria for

admission given the complexity of the institution, saying the University was well respected for its admission policy which gave every part of the country the opportunity to study in the institution.

The Vice-Chancellor also announced his administration's intention to encourage staff of the University to take advantage of the mortgage institutions to own houses after retirement.

Prof. Bala said he was already in consultation with the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria and Family Homes with a view to intervening in the provision of houses for the University staff.

“This is the only way to reward our staff who put in 35 years to 40 years in the service of the University. We don't want to say 'go away' like that”, the Vice-Chancellor said.

Earlier in his remarks, the Chairman of the Joint Chapels Council, Prof. Charles Ezra Dikki, expressed gratitude to the Council for the audience granted them to discuss with him issues affecting the Christian community in Ahmadu Bello University.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala (4th from right), in a group photograph with JCC members

Vice-Chancellor receives members of Samaru community

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, has received executive members of Samaru Development Association in his office.

The Vice-Chancellor, who described Samaru as the closest neighbour to the University, said ABU would continue to help improve on the wellbeing of the community.

He said members of the community, for example, could take advantage of the research findings by the Institution's agric complex to improve on their farming techniques for higher yield.

The Vice-Chancellor also explained the University would continue to assist the community in the training for skills acquisition to empower people of the area, especially women.

On environment, the Vice-Chancellor advised the community to learn from ABU the practice of three planting to secure the area from pollution. "We want Samaru to look like ABU Area 'A' Staff Quarters", he said.

Prof. Bala also spoke on the vital role the casual labourers were playing in making ABU one of the neatest universities in Nigeria. He said it was a deliberate policy of ABU to employ casual workers from communities surrounding the University.

The chairman of the association, Malam Mohammed Shuaibu, had earlier told the Vice-Chancellor that the visit was part of effort to cement the existing cordial relationship between the University and the Samaru Community.

Executive members of the association were led to the Vice-Chancellor by Sarkin Samaru, Alhaji Dauda Abubakar. Other members were Wazirin Samaru, Alhaji Haruna Waziri; patron of the



A cross section of Samaru Development Association meeting with the the Vice-Chancellor

association, Alhaji Dogara Haruna; Secretary, Malam Shuaibu Abdullahi; and Councillor, Malam Aminu Yusuf. They also included Malam Idris Adale, Bashir Dahiru Magaji, Umar Salisu and Malam Yahaya Ibrahim.

The Vice-Chancellor was assisted by the Director, Directorate of University Advancement, Prof. Ahmed D. Ibrahim and Director, Public Affairs Directorate, Malam Auwalu Umar to receive them.

On environment, the Vice-Chancellor advised the community to learn from ABU the practice of three planting to secure the area from pollution. "We want Samaru to look like ABU Area 'A' Staff Quarters"



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala (4th from left), in a group photograph with members of Samaru Development Association during their visit to ABU

NAEC chair expresses satisfaction with ABU nuclear research reactor ...as CERT holds Board of Governors meeting

Chairman of the Nigerian Atomic Energy Commission (NAEC), Engr. Muktar S. Ali, has expressed satisfaction with the state of the Nigerian nuclear research reactor domiciled at Ahmadu Bello University Centre for Energy Research and Training.

Engr. Ali made the remark when he was taken round some of the research facilities at the Centre by the Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Kabir Bala, and Director, Centre for Energy Research and Training, Prof. Ibrahim Musa Umar, shortly after the Centre's Board of Governors meeting.

The Chairman was particularly impressed with the performance of the nuclear research reactor when it was test-run for him to see how it operates.

In 2018, the Centre successfully replaced its highly enriched uranium (HEU) core nuclear research reactor with low enriched uranium (LEU) fuel.

This was in response to the Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI) and Reduced Enrichment for Research and Test Reactors (RERTR) campaign for minimization, and to the extent possible elimination of the use of highly-enriched uranium core in civil nuclear applications.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala and ABU Management inspecting nuclear research reactor

Engr. Ali explained that NAEC, which funds and regulates all nuclear research activities of the Centre, would ensure that the research body achieved the objectives for which it was established.

The Board of Governors' meeting, presided over by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, was the first in six years.

Effort is being made by the University administration to turn the Centre around; hence the appointment of Prof. Ibrahim Musa Umar as the Director of the Centre to oversee the place. Prof. Umar, who is former Vice-Chancellor of Gombe State University, was a one time Director of the Centre.

Meanwhile, the Board of Governors for Ahmadu Bello University Centre for Energy Research and Training has held a meeting during which vital issues were discussed with a view to finding a way forward for the Centre.

The meeting, which took place at the Centre for Energy Research and Training (CERT), was presided over by Vice-Chancellor of Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Kabir Bala, who is the Chairman of the Board.

Chairman of the Nigerian Atomic Energy Commission (NAEC), Engr. Muktar S. Ali as well as representative of the Federal Ministry of Petroleum Resources, Mr. Luka Timothy Agyo and that of Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, Mr. Orseer Tsutsu attended the meeting.

Others who equally attended the meeting included the Registrar, Malam Abdullahi Ahmed Kundila; Bursar, who was represented by Deputy Bursar, Malam Gambo Muktar; University Radiation Officer, Prof. Daniel Adeyemo; Dean, Faculty of Physical Sciences, Prof. M.S. Sallau; and Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof. Abubakar Ismail.

They also included Dr. Yakubu Ibrahim Viva and Dr. Hamisu Abubakar all from the Centre for Energy Research and Training with Malam Abdu Adamu Kusfa who served as Secretary at the meeting.



Chairman, NAEC, Engr. Muktar S. Ali (left) being presented with souvenir by the Vice-Chancellor

Danhodi Empowerment Foundation donates ECG machine to ABU

Danhodi Empowerment Foundation, a non-profit and non-political organization committed to improving the quality of life for the disadvantaged Nigerians, has donated an electrocardiography machine to Ahmadu Bello University.

The medical equipment better known as ECG machine valued at N750,000 is to be used specifically for teaching purposes at the Department of Human Physiology, College of Medical Sciences, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

Presenting the machine to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, on behalf of founder of the foundation, Ghali Musa Danhodi, the Director, Directorate of University Advancement, Prof. Ahmed Doko Ibrahim, described the donor as a friend of the University.

Prof. Ibrahim said the foundation was committed to, among others, enhance the development of youth education as well as create opportunities for the youths in capacity building, economic development activities and exposures at all levels.

In his response, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, who later handed over the machine to the Provost, College of Medical

Sciences, Prof. Abdullahi Jibrin Randawa, for onward transmission to the Faculty of Human Physiology, thanked the donor for the gesture.

“Let me thank most sincerely the foundation for the gesture; I believe the donation of this important machine is handy; and I want to assure you that we will make the best use of it”, he said.

Prof. Bala disclosed that priority attention would be given to the College of Medical Sciences with a view to accomplishing the purpose for which it was established.

“The College is very big, and therefore, needs special attention; we need to have a clear vision for the College for its sustainability; we must look for all our alumni both in Nigeria and in the diaspora to help the College and the University as a whole”, Prof. Bala also said.

Those who witnessed the donation of the machine at the Vice-Chancellor's office included the Provost, College of Medical Sciences, Prof. Abdullahi Jibrin Randawa; Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Science, Prof. Aliyu Mohammed; Head, Department of Human Physiology, Dr. Maryam Dewu; and Head, Alumni Relations, Directorate of University Advancement, Malam Bashir Munir.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala (3rd from left), receiving the machine from Director, Directorate of University Advancement, Prof. Ahmed D. Ibrahim, on behalf of the Founder, Danhodi Foundation

Brief...

COVID-19: Walin Kazaure donates disinfection machine to ABU



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala (left) receiving the disinfection machine from Prof. Balarabe Magaji Jahun, Director, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, ABU, Zaria

Walin Kazaure Alhaji Babangida Husseini has donated a disinfection machine to Ahmadu Bello University.

The donor, an alumnus of the University, is a federal permanent secretary.

The machine was handed over to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, in Zaria recently by Prof. Balarabe Magaji Jahun, Director, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Ahmadu Bello University, on behalf of the donor.

Presenting the machine to the Vice-Chancellor, the donor said he owed the University a lot being an alumnus of the premier institution.

The Vice-Chancellor, in his remarks, thanked the donor for the gesture and assured that the machine would be used judiciously.

ABU Postgraduate Representatives Council visits Vice-Chancellor

Ahmadu Bello University Postgraduate Representatives Council (PRC) has visited the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala and congratulated him on his well-deserved appointment.

Secretary of the Council, Comrade Kabir Usman, who led a four-member delegation to the Vice-Chancellor, said Prof. Bala's emergence as the Vice-Chancellor was “yet another opportunity” for him to have his “footprints on the sands of time”.

The Council, which prayed that God would continue to give him “wisdom, knowledge, strength and understanding” to rise up to the challenges ahead, presented a congratulatory card to the Vice-Chancellor.

Members of the four-member delegation from the Postgraduate Representatives Council are part-time lecturers from Departments of Physics and Chemistry of the University.

In his response, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, thanked the Council for the gesture and pledged to do his best in steering the affairs of the University.

Defence Hqts to collaborate with ABU on made in Nigeria warfare equipment, others

A military team from Defence Headquarters led by Major-General Victor Offiong was recently on an evaluation visit to Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria for possible collaboration on made in Nigeria warfare equipment, international security, defence technology transfer and other defence related research efforts.

Speaking when the team paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, the leader of the delegation, Major-General Victor Offiong, said the decision by the Defence Headquarters to collaborate with the University and other relevant research and development establishments was vital for exchange of ideas towards tackling the country's security challenges.

Major-General Offiong also explained that the visit was essentially to streamline and harmonise the various research and developments with a view to saving cost, energy and avoid duplication.

He said that modern warfare was not all about strength and that visiting the University at this point in time would give the Nigerian military an edge in its fight against insurgency, banditry and kidnapping.

General Offiong, who was in company of Commodore AR Akinwale and Lt. Col. BGA Mohammed all from the Defence Headquarters, thanked the Vice-Chancellor and his management team for the warm reception accorded them.

In his response, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Danladi A. Ameh, thanked the



Major-General Victor Offiong speaking when he led a team from Defence Hqts, Abuja for collaboration with ABU

Modern warfare was not all about strength and that visiting the University at this point in time would give the Nigerian military an edge in its fight against insurgency, banditry and kidnapping

military team for the visit and assured that the University would be willing to collaborate with the Nigerian Military on any area that would enhance their performance.

Shortly after the courtesy visit, the team members were taken round Faculties of Physical Sciences, Engineering and Social Sciences where they freely interacted with various subject experts for the collaboration.



A group photograph after the visit

ABU Faculty of Environmental Design holds maiden conference tagged 'EDCON 2021'



A group photograph at EDCON 2021

Faculty of Environmental Design, Ahmadu Bello University, has organized a maiden conference tagged 'The Environment: Sustainable Development and Emerging Possibilities'.

The three-day conference, was declared open by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Danladi A. Ameh.

The Vice-Chancellor, Bingham University, Karu, Nassarawa State, Prof. W.B. Qurix, delivered a keynote address at the occasion in a

paper, entitled 'Transforming Our Environment Through Sustainable Planning and Design'.

In his address of welcome, the Dean, Faculty of Environmental Design, Prof. Umar A.A. Sullayman, listed the numerous benefits of attending conferences that include, among others, exchange of opinions about the latest happenings in the academia.

Prof. Sullayman further said that networking with fellow researchers and building professional relationships as well as staying abreast of the latest trends, developments and discussions in

various academic fields were also part of conference gains.

The Dean expressed the hope that the Faculty conference would henceforth be an annual or biannual event where topical issues would be exhaustively discussed.

Over the years, according to him, the Faculty produced seasoned academics, statesmen, technocrats, industrialists, prolific creators and private practitioners who have carved a niche for themselves in their chosen careers within Nigeria and beyond.

The conference was chaired by the Minister of State for FCT, Dr.

Continued on page 36

Continued from page 35

ABU Faculty of Environmental Design holds maiden conference tagged 'EDCON 2021'

Ramatu Tijjani Aliyu, who was ably represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration, Prof. Ahmed Doko Ibrahim. Prof. Doko is the Vice Chairman, Environmental Design Alumni Association (EDAA), Ahmadu Bello University.

She spoke on the significance of the conference and homecoming, saying that the essence was to provide ways of sustaining the environment and to establish cordial interaction between the academic and government for the overall development of the nation as a whole.

The Minister also said that the homecoming would be an engagement for the alumni in paying back to their alma mata positively.

There was a joint exhibition shortly after the conference at Kashim Ibrahim Library.

There was also a dinner later in the day where the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration, Prof. Ahmed Doko Ibrahim, gave a pep talk on the importance of alumni. At the dinner, the Minister of State for FCT, Dr. Ramatu Tijjani Aliyu, donated one million Naira (N1,000,000) to the conference local organizing committee and five hundred thousand Naira (N500,000) to Department of Urban and Regional Planning, where he graduated from.



Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration, Prof. Ahmed Doko Ibrahim



Dean, Faculty of Environmental Design, Prof. U.A.A. Sullayman



Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Danladi A. Ameh



HOD, Industrial Design, Samaila Usman Dakyes



Drama performance by Students of Theatre & Performing Arts

Over the years, the Faculty produced seasoned academics, statesmen, technocrats, industrialists, prolific creators and private practitioners who have carved a niche for themselves in their chosen careers within Nigeria and beyond



A cross section of participants during the EDCON 2021

NIOB visits ABU, felicitates with Prof. Bala over appointment as VC

Executive members of the Nigerian Institute of Building (NIOB) led by its President, Bldr. Kunle Awobodu, have visited Ahmadu Bello University to congratulate Prof. Kabir Bala on his appointment as Vice-Chancellor of the institution.

The NIOB president described Prof. Bala as one of them having been a strong member of the Institute, and expressed excitement that a builder was appointed the Vice-Chancellor of the largest University south of the Sahara.

The Institute's executive members urged the Vice-Chancellor to promote the building profession by leaving a great legacy at Ahmadu Bello University.

“NIOB has gone to great lengths to identify and honour professional builders in the country in order to promote the noble profession and take their rightful place at the helm



Executive members of NIOB during a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala

of affairs in the industry,” he said.

In his response, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, stressed the need for publications by senior builders in the country so as to give a form of direction to young

and aspiring builders.

The Vice-Chancellor, a professional and proud builder, also urged the Institute to encourage its members to always identify with the profession.

TETFund research team visits ABU

TETFund Research and Development Sub-Committee on Pharmaceuticals has arrived in Ahmadu Bello University to interact with the Institution in order to work out modalities for the establishment

of National Research Foundation.

The team leader, Prof. Lawal Alhassan Buchi, ably represented by Prof. Yusuf Sa'idu, told the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, that they were in ABU because of the

pivotal role the University was playing in training and research in pharmaceutical sciences.

“The Committee is at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria to interact with the University on the quest by the Executive Secretary, TETFund to set a research agenda for Mr. President and work out modalities for the establishment of National Research Foundation for the country,” he said.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Danladi A. Ameh, who received members of the Committee on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, expressed appreciation for the visit, saying the University would support the committee to accomplish its mission in line with Mr. President's research agenda for the country.

The Committee members were later taken to the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences where they were expected to interact with experts on pharmaceuticals.



Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Danladi A. Ameh receiving the TETFUND research team

ABU Veterinary Teaching Hospital set for World Class operations

Plans have been concluded by Ahmadu Bello University to upgrade its Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Faculty of Veterinary Medicine to a world class standard.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Kabir Bala, disclosed this while inspecting some renovation works at the hospital being handled by DAI Contractors under the Fleming Fund Country Grant.

Professor Bala was at the site alongside Proper Contractors Nigeria Limited, the sub-contractors, to match words with action. He was holding the main plan of the project asking questions where necessary. Where there was an observation, he sought for more explanations and gave his own advice too, to ensure efficiency and prudence in resource utilization.

Those present during the visit included the Contractor, Mika'ilu



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, going through a document during a visit to Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

Al'hassan, Architectural Engr. Arc. Abdullahi Sada and the Director, Physical Planning and Municipal Services, Ahmadu Bello University, Engr. M.A. Sambo.

Others were the Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Professor

J.K.P. Kwaga; Director, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Professor Balarabe M. Jahun; Deputy Dean, Professor Mohammed Bisallah; HOD Microbiology, Dr. Jibrin Adamu and the Faculty Officer, Mallam S.I. Yahuza.

ARCN visits ABU Agric Complex

A team from Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN), led by Prof. B.Y. Abubakar has paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Professor Kabir Bala.

The committee was in Zaria to visit the Agric Complex of the University, comprising the Institute of Agricultural Research (IAR), National Agricultural Extension Research and Liaison Services (NAERLS), Division of Agricultural Colleges (DAC) and National Animal Production Research Institute (NAPRI).

The import of ARCN's visit was to among other things advocate for centralization of research administration in the Nigerian universities. Because, according to Prof. B.Y. Abubakar, "the governance structures as it is now,



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala (left), receiving the leader of ARCN team, Prof. B.Y. Abubakar

was designed to fail. Hence, the need to restructure and ensure follow-up, monitoring and implementation of projects."

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, lamented that, "universities are not doing enough to improve agriculture."

According to him, "there is nowhere agricultural complex is found comparable to that of ABU Zaria."

"Agriculture has the potential to turn around the fortune of this

country; and, ABU Zaria can contribute a lot here," he noted.

However, Professor Bala further observed that, though the chain of "Government-Academia-Industry" is most preferable, but "the challenges are that, academics conduct the research while someone will not allow for the use of the research findings."

"We need to define our research directions in this country. Are we researching for industrialization or just keeping the research findings at the shelves," he said.

ABU's NAERLS Suites yields N63m profit annually



A cross section of board members of NAERLS Suites and Conference Centre during a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor

NAERLS Suites and Conference Centre is yielding an average net operating profit of N63 million annually.

The hospitality company is owned by Ahmadu Bello University and four other shareholders, all agriculture-based institutes belonging to the University.

The other shareholders are National Agricultural Extension and Research Liaison Services (NAERLS), Institute for Agricultural Research (AIR), National Animal Production and Research Institute (NAPRI) and Division of Agricultural Colleges (DAC).

Chairman, Board of NAERLS Suites and Conference Centre, Prof. M.K. Othman, disclosed this when he led members of the Board on a courtesy visit to Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Prof. Kabir Bala.

The Board Chairman, who said the visit was primarily to brief him on the state of the hotel, described the company as one of the successful investments in the University.

“We are glad to state that the hotel yields an average net operating profit of N63 million annually. The total claimable share dividends from 2013

to 2017 was N205,169,333.96”, he said.

He said the hotel became operational since 2012 and had a total of 54 rooms of different categories, with kitchen, restaurant, conference hall, administrative offices, stores and other essential facilities.

The Chairman also said that as a result of high patronage, the facilities were always overstretched, a development that prompted the shareholders to consider it expedient to expand the place.

The expansion project, according

to him, had reached 25 percent completion which gulped about N180 million and required an additional N1.1 billion for total completion.

Prof. Othman explained that no kobo was borrowed or collected from within or outside for the expansion as the financing of the project was made through capitalization of the yearly dividends.

He then urged for the Vice-Chancellor's intervention to help complete the project by persuading some of the identified units and centres of the University as well as in-house unions to buy shares of the hotel.

Receiving the Board members, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, expressed satisfaction with the progress so far recorded in the hospitality business.

Prof. Bala also pledged to look into the Board's prayers with a view to mobilizing the needed financial resources to complete the second phase of the project.

The Chairman was in company of some members of the Board that included the Executive Director, Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR), Prof. Muhammad Ishiyaku; Executive Director, National Animal Production and Research Institute (NAPRI), Prof. Abdullahi U. Mohammed and Director, Division of Agricultural Colleges (DAC), Prof. Musa Abdullahi Mahadi.

Others on the entourage were the Board's Secretary, Barrister Samaila Abdullahi Barau; Managing Director, Bliss Hospitality Services, Mr. Badaki Aliyu; and the Board's Assistant Secretary, Aisha Jummai Mohammed.



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala (3rd from right), and some ABU Management staff in a group photograph with board members of NAERLS Suites and Conference Centre

Depot Nigerian Army's new commandant visits ABU

Nigerian public universities still remained the best as far as tertiary education in the country is concerned, newly posted Commandant of Depot Nigerian Army, Major-General Kabir Muktar, said in Zaria recently.

Major-General Muktar, who made the remark when he paid a working visit to Ahmadu Bello University, said ABU should be proud for the delivery of quality education.

The Commandant, who called on the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, upon his arrival at the University, said graduates of Ahmadu Bello University and other first generation universities in the country were respected all over the world.

Reliving his experience as a student of the then famous School of Basic Studies (SBS), Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria before he later left for Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna, Major-General Muktar also said the public universities should be given all the support to continue to compete favourably with their counterparts across the globe.

The Commandant, who described Ahmadu Bello University as a critical stakeholder in the Nigerian military, explained that he would not forget ABU for his one-year stay as a student of School of Basic Studies.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Kabir Bala, described as “cordial” the ties between the University and the Depot, saying many top Nigerian military personnel were ABU students.

The Vice-Chancellor said the relationship between ABU and the Nigerian military dated back to the military regime of General Murtala Ramat Mohammed whose administration used the services of its renowned academics.

He said General Murtala's



From right: Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Danladi A. Ameh, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala and Commandant of Depot Nigerian Army, Major General Kabir Muktar during a courtesy visit to ABU

famous speech, “Africa Has Come of Age”, delivered during an OAU Summit in Addis Ababa, was written in ABU by Dr. Patrick Wilmot of Department of Sociology.

Prof. Bala, who expressed appreciation to the Commandant for the visit, said ABU would give opportunity to serving and retired Military Generals to be delivering lectures for professional classes as it was the practice in developed nations.

The relationship between ABU and the Nigerian military dated back to the military regime of General Murtala Ramat Mohammed whose administration used the services of its renowned academics



ABU Management in a group photograph with the Commandant of Depot Nigerian Army and his entourage

ABU Governing Council organises sendforth for outgoing member

Ahmadu Bello University Governing Council has organised a sendforth for its outgoing member, Mrs. Olusola Dada.

Mrs. Dada, a representative of the Federal Ministry of Education on the Council, is a federal director. She was leaving the Council on account of her redeployment to Office of Secretary to the Government of the Federation.

Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Malam Adamu Fika,



Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Malam Adamu Fika presiding over ABU Council meeting



Representative of Federal Ministry of Education, Mrs. Olusola Dada (left) being presented with souvenir by Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Malam Adamu Fika

outgoing member as a humble, hardworking and straight forward person. They also said the Council would miss her wise counsel during deliberations.

In her response, the outgoing member, Mrs. Olusola Dada, expressed gratitude to the Council for honoring her, saying that her doors would remain open to the University in her new place of posting.

Mrs. Dada was presented with a plaque and a souvenir by the chairman in appreciation of her meritorious service to the University.

GCON (Wazirin Fika) said the Council had enjoyed working with her due to her “good character”.

Malam Adamu Fika was particularly elated by complimentary comments on the outgoing member by the Council members, saying the sendforth had really “united” the University Government Council.

All members of the Council present at the occasion spoke and they variously described the



A group photograph of ABU Governing Council during the sendforth of Mrs. Olusola Dada

Sokoto govt to partner ABU on irrigation, other farming techniques



Sokoto State Governor, Aminu Waziri Tambuwal (left), while receiving Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Balaat Government House, Sokoto

Sokoto State Government would collaborate with Ahmadu Bello University in order to go into massive irrigation farming all over the state next dry season, Governor Aminu Waziri Tambuwal has said.

The governor explained that the decision was informed largely by the need to mitigate the COVID-19 effects and regain losses suffered by farmers this farming season following devastating floods that hit several rice and sugarcane farms in different parts of the state.

Governor Tambuwal, who received in audience the Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Prof Kabir Bala and his entourage in Sokoto recently, noted that this would be part of his government's strategies to help boost farmers morale in the state.

“We must prepare to go into massive irrigation farming immediately next dry season to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 and losses suffered by our teeming farmers as a result of the devastating floods that ravaged many parts of the state”, he said.

The governor described the Vice-Chancellor's visit as timely, saying the proposal by the

University on the need for Sokoto government to take advantage of its various farming techniques and other agricultural services offered by the institution's agric complex was well thought out.

The state government, according to him, was now determined to engage the services of the University to train more of its extension workers and fresh graduates wishing to venture into farming.

Governor Tambuwal also said his government would prefer the University to handle the job given

the key role ABU had played towards the development of agriculture in Nigeria, particularly in northern Nigeria.

The governor, who also described agriculture as a strategic business in northern Nigeria, said over 85 percent of the state population were farmers.

While congratulating Prof Kabir Bala on his well-deserved appointment as Vice-Chancellor, Tambuwal said universities as citadel of learning should remain the think-tank for government at all levels.

“We really know the role universities play in developed nations; so we need to adjust ourselves here and move closer to our universities for collaboration for the overall benefit of our society”, he said.

Earlier in his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor said they came to Sokoto to see him as a major stakeholder in the affairs of the University and to inform him of the effort being made to improve its lot.

The Vice-Chancellor, who thanked Governor Tambuwal for the audience granted him and his entourage, equally expressed appreciation to the state government for building and donating a student hostel to the University.



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, speaking during his visit to Governor Aminu Waziri Tambuwal

Sports Minister receives Vice-Chancellor

● Says FG will assist ABU for sports development

The Federal Government will extend all the needed support to Ahmadu Bello University for sports development in the premier institution, Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports Development, Mr. Sunday Dare, disclosed in Abuja.

Speaking when he received the institution's management team led by its Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, on a courtesy visit to him, the Minister said that he would arrange a visit to the University to assess the state of its sporting facilities.

The Minister, who described the visit to the ministry by the Vice-Chancellor and his management team as "historic", also said that ABU sports facilities should be upgraded given the huge population of students on the Campus.

Mr. Dare, who is an alumnus of the University, said that ABU could compete favourably with its counterparts in Europe and America.

He also described ABU as a great institution with a large population of influential alumni spread all over the country and beyond, saying that a good number of members of the Federal Executive Council were the products of the University.

The Minister expressed gratitude



The Hon. Minister of Youth & Sports, Mr. Sunday Dare (left) in a chat with the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala when the latter visited the former in Abuja

to the Vice-Chancellor and his team for the visit to connect with him as an alumnus of the great Institution.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabiru Bala, had earlier told the Minister that the decision of the Institution to connect with its alumni remained a top priority towards enhancing its excellence in teaching and research.

Prof. Bala was of the opinion that sports development was one of the major steps towards addressing youth restiveness and that ABU would work hard towards achieving that goal.

Sports development is one of the major steps towards addressing youth restiveness. ABU would work hard towards achieving that goal

The Vice-Chancellor, who expressed appreciation to the Minister for the warm reception accorded him and members of his team, also told the Minister that ABU Football Workers' Club had registered for participation in the country's football league.

The Vice-Chancellor was in company of the Registrar, Malam A. A. Kundila; Director, Directorate of University Advancement, Prof. Ahmed D. Ibrahim; Director, Sports, Dr. Ali Isa Danlami; former Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Prof. Kayode Omojuwa; and Special Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor, Malam Auwal Muhammad Yusuf.



A group photograph shortly after the visit to the Minister by the Vice-Chancellor

IAR donates N500,000 to ABU Workers Football Club

Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR) has donated the sum of N500,000 to Ahmadu Bello University in aid for ABU Workers Football Club.

The donation was contained in a letter presented to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, by the Institute's Executive Director, Prof. Muhammad F. Ishiyaku in Zaria.

Prof. Ishiyaku explained that the gesture was in response to the Vice-Chancellor's letter soliciting for financial support on behalf of the football club.

While commending the Vice-Chancellor for his effort and foresight in resuscitating the once famous football club, the Executive Director said the money donated was for the



The Executive Director, Institute of Agricultural Research (IAR), Prof. Muhammad F. Ishiyaku (left), presenting a letter conveying the donation to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala

club to acquire one score board.

Receiving the donation right in front of the Senate Building, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, expressed gratitude to the Institute for the gesture, saying the monetary contribution would go a long way in resuscitating the club.

The Vice-Chancellor said that a number of sports bodies across the

federation had signified their intentions to help the University restore its glory in sports.

He said that the Nigerian Football Federation (NFF) and Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN) were already in contact with the University towards resuscitating sporting activities in the premier institution.

North's Confederation of African Athletics Development Centre to be domiciled in ABU

The additional African athletics centre in Nigeria would be domiciled at Ahmadu Bello University, President of the Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN), Engr. Shehu Ibrahim Gusau, announced in Zaria recently.

When established, the Centre, which is to be officially called 'Confederation of African Athletics Development Centre', will be expected to extend the frontiers of sports development within the West African Sub-Region.

At present, the only Confederation of African Athletics Centre in Nigeria was domiciled at the University of Port Harcourt in Rivers State.

Explaining the rationale for an additional African Sports Centre when AFN executive members paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, the President of the Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN), Engr. Shehu Ibrahim Gusau, said another sports development body was needed considering the

population and huge talents in the country.

Engr. Gusau also said that the AFN had already begun discussion with the Confederation of African Athletics (CAA) for the establishment of the Centre in the Northern part of the country which would be sited in ABU, Zaria.

Ahmadu Bello University, according to him, had paid its dues in sporting activities in Nigeria, which made the institution to win the Federation's heart.

He recalled that the institution participated in NUGA 24 times and finished among the top three of these games, in addition to producing several outstanding track and field athletes including two Olympians – Mary Tobiri and Francisca Idoko.

The AFN President also said that over 25 basketballers from the University featured in the National Team at one time or another and produced an NBA player in person of Ejike Ugboaja.

Engr. Gusau explained that the

University was considered by AFN as an ideal location for citing of the additional African Athletics Development Centre, hosting of the Region II Athletics Championship as well as hosting of the Confederation of African Athletics Grand Prix, given its rich sporting background.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kabir Bala, thanked the AFN executive members for the support. He said the University used to be excellent in sports in the past but today it was gradually declining.

The Vice-Chancellor, who however expressed happiness for AFN's intervention with a clear vision to help ABU, accepted to support the establishment of the CAA regional centre and hosting of the two championships.

The Director of Sports, Ahmadu Bello University, Dr. M.D.U. Audu, led the AFN executive members to the Office of the Vice-Chancellor along with other key staff of the University Sports and Recreational Directorate.



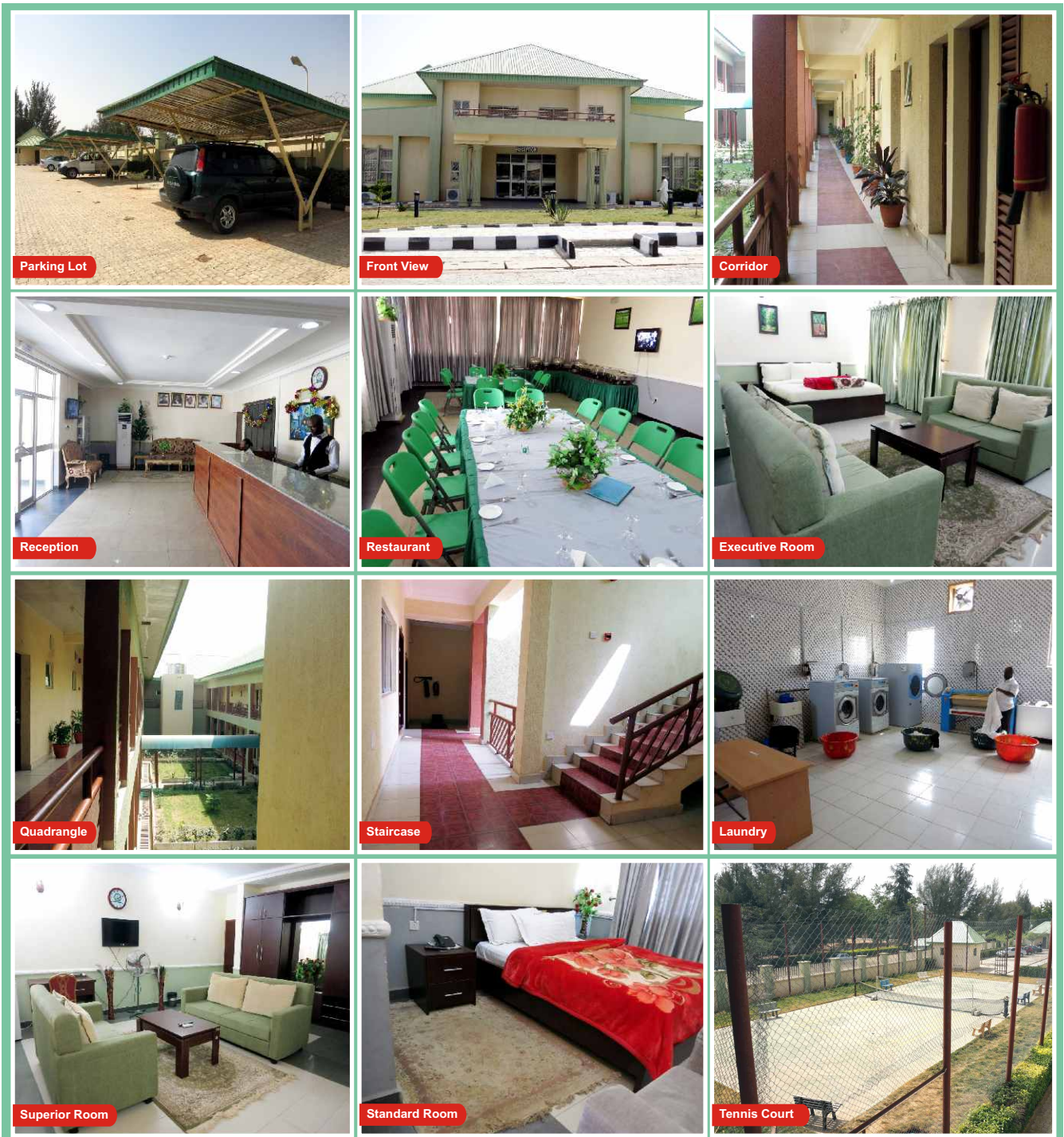
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STOP THE SPREAD OF CORONA PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS



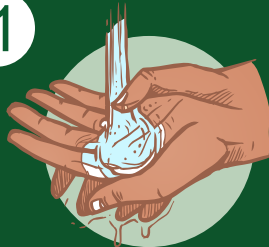
- After handling animals or animal waste
- As soon as you return home from outside

WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY AND THOROUGHLY WITH SOAP AND RUNNING WATER

- After sneezing, coughing or blowing your nose
- When caring for the sick
- Before, during and after you prepare food
- Before and after eating
- After using the toilet
- After touching surfaces or objects (like doors including door handles, tables etc)

STEPS ON HOW TO WASH YOUR HANDS

1



Wet hands with running water

2



Apply enough soap to cover wet hands

3



Scrub the palm and back of hands

4



Scrub between fingers, thumb and under nails. Wash your entire hands for at least 20 seconds

5



Rinse thoroughly under running water

6



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