

NUC, Other Implementing Agencies Interact With World Bank SPESSE Mission

The National Universities Commission (NUC), along with other Implementing

expected results and fiduciary issues that were germane to the Project.

He recalled that, in August, 2021 a similar meeting was held, where



L-R: National Coordinator, SPESSE Project and Managing Director, NgREN, Dr. Joshua Atah; DES (Admin.) Mr. Chris Maiyaki; Felipe Goya, World Bank's Procurement Manager for Africa; Chief Bayo Awosemusi; Procurement Specialist/World Bank's Team Lead, SPESSE Project

Agencies and the six benefitting Universities, under the Federal Government's Sustainable Procurement Environmental and Social Standards Enhancement (SPESSE) Project, last Thursday, interacted with the World Bank Mission to discuss implementation progress, long term plans,

In his remarks at the meeting, the Executive Secretary of NUC, Prof. Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, Mni, MFR, FNAL, said that the purpose was to discover the extent the Centres of Excellence had achieved the objectives set out in the project implementation framework.

issues critical to the success of the project were discussed and reviewed comprehensively. He expressed delight that several achievements had been made since then with trainings and several workshops taking place subsequently in October and November, 2021, respectively.

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Haruna Lawal Ajo (Chairman), Mrs. Offiong U. Edor (Editor), Ogonnaya Okoronkwo, Francis Azu, Udey Felix, Muhammad Bukhari Musa, Aja-Nwachukwu Samuel, Sadiq Abubakar

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He also highlighted that at the earlier Pre-project Performance Review Committee (PPRC) meeting, the benefitting institutions used the opportunity to access the achievements and challenges of the Centres.



Dr. Joshua Atah
National Coordinator, SPESSE Project
and Managing Director, NgREN

He regretted that some Centres, like the University of Benin, were just about getting their money since October last year when it was ready, attributing the delay to the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) as the World Bank had already released the money.

He stressed that the World Bank SPESSE mission was very significant as it signaled a movement gradually towards the mid-term. He stated that the ultimate question remained that if some of the lost ground would receive World Bank's consideration for grant for an extension?

Prof. Rasheed reminded all that NUC had concluded plans to conduct Resource Verification Exercise to the Six Universities in the SPESSE project, which would

happen as soon as the Universities Lecturer's strike is over.

He commended the Vice-Chancellors, Task Team Leaders (TTL), Centre Leaders and Chief Bayo Awosemusi for their tenacity and hard work so far, stating that the project midterm review was just around the corner. He, however, expressed optimism that the project teams would be able to review the progress, identify the common challenges, and allow for exchange of knowledge on how to fix these challenges to ensure the success of the SPESSE project in Nigeria.

The World Bank representative and Project TTL, Chief Awosemusi thanked the Vice-Chancellors for their support to the SPESSE project, pledging that the Bank would continue to support the Universities. He reiterated that for the University of Benin, funds would be released as the delay must have been from the CBN. He urged the Vice-Chancellors to share their experiences with each other and called on the Centre Leaders to put in extra effort as the project has a time limit.

He explained that additional finance could only come when the money that was given had been exhausted and when results for what it had been used for is seen.

While stressing that the World Bank appreciated the Centre Leaders' Commitment to the project, the TTL also thanked

the participating MDAs and the Universities. He stated that the focus and gains should be on the expected outcomes because the resources allocated were time-bound.

Giving an update on the work plan, NUC Coordinator, Special Projects, Dr. Joshua Atah said that the Commission was meant to provide technical assistance to the Centres and also support them to establish their Centres of Excellence.

He explained NUC's activities under the Project Preparations Advance (PPA) which centred on the sensitization of the general public, needs assessment, demand assessment, facilitated center-selection, curriculum development, engagement of consultants, training and preparatory workshop, training of trainers (ToT), learning management system modules, learning management system



Prof. Richard Anande Kimbir
Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture

devices, Wi-fi system, accounting software and connection to NgREN.

Dr. Atah mentioned the status of activities under the current project phase to include: implementation of the 2021 work plan and the spillover of some 2021 work plan

and verification, as well as ensuring that students of SPESSE graduate within (4) years.

the progress, longterm plans, expected results, challenges, achievements and their expectations from the World Bank.



Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Prof. Kabiru Bala

to 2022. According to him, required items would be proposed to the World Bank, while plans was underway to visit the centres of excellence by the Honourable Minister of Education, the Executive Secretary of NUC and his management, and finally the Independent Verification Agents (IVA) would be appointed to verify the projects.

He pointed out that the challenges that NUC faced right now were delay in the take-off of so many projects; disbursement, payment through the CBN, industrial action by the university-based unions and revised budget system in 2022, which had added the borrowed funds to MDA's capital allocation.

He said, the next step would be to: engage with all the stakeholders, including the CBN, with the hope of addressing all challenges, rapid implementation of all outstanding activities, performance monitoring

He enumerated the longterm plans to include; campaigning for change, sustainability drive at the centres of excellence and NUC, and e-contents, Verification courses modeled after a new course era.

In a summary presentation, Centre Leader of Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria, Prof. Mohammed Bello Yunusa, said that the issue of accommodation had been resolved, with only structured left to be renovated. He informed the meeting that the building that had been dedicated for the project has a conference room, classrooms, postgraduate study rooms and offices.

He said that programmes had been approved for Bsc procurement, environmental standard and social standards in addition to M.Sc programmes by the institution's Senate. He mentioned that the centre had fully enrolled online, short executive courses and advance courses which had been advertised, advocacy visit had



Youssef Saad, World Bank's Procurement Consultant on the SPESSE Project

The six Universities' Center Leaders also gave an update on

been made and letters distributed to stakeholders for patronage and sensitization. Trainings and

workshops were also organised for the Programme.

He said their challenges remained growing insecurity, power supply, and poor connectivity and funding and noted that the way forward would include reaching out to the public, rigorous advertisement, engaging curriculum expert and online training.

On behalf of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, (FUTO), Prof. Gloria Chukwudebe highlighted that approval had been

while remitta is now being used for payment and thanked the NUC for access to the loans.

She noted that the University's immediate plan was to tackle the renovation of buildings and preparation for resource verification. She called on NUC to help in the area of e-Library, fast tracking and intensifying efforts to advertise tracks CD and E courser and training of facilitators.

Prof. Chukwudebe said, the long-term plans included: online

and inflation arising on procurement. On the institution's expectations, she stated that they were preparing for resource verification and currently reviewing projects to make sure that all the projects succeed.

Other institutions whose Centre Leaders gave reports on their SPESSECE achievements, long-term plans, next steps, immediate plans, challenges and expectations from the World Bank were the University of Lagos (UNILAG); Federal University of Agriculture Makurdi (now Joseph



A cross section of participants at the ongoing SPESSE Implementing Support taking place at the NUC Secretariat

given by the Senate concerning the implementation plan on procurement, while executive short courses had started, several meetings held with relevant stakeholders, the curriculum already in place for the courses, while the Executive Track A courses had been launched Via advertisement, including postgraduates programmes.

She added that procurement as well as social standards workshops and trainings were done in February and March,

training which remained an issue for potential clients, expansion of PPRC facilities, preparing for accreditation, strengthening the Liaison office, developing good incentives for staff, providing support for conference and training research for funds support.

She enumerated some of the challenges as some MDAs refusal to let their staff attend trainings, inability to use ICT infrastructure, power supply

Srwuan Tarka University, (JOSTU), Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University (ATBU), Bauchi and University of Benin (UNIBEN).

In his presentation, Director General, Bureau on Public Procurement (BPP), Mamman Ahmadu, said that the bureau had been able to put in place the project implementation unit, procured some office equipment and training tools for the effective performance of the project in line

with the work and procurement plan.

Adding that the Bureau had also engaged some consultants for the development of the procurement qualification and certification policy which is now ready for the review by all stakeholders, established a communication link with the six centres of excellence, with particular reference to the conduct of Track A Executive Courses and the Certification Programme, while the Bureau would be visiting the six Centres for verifications on compliance with the Bureau standards.

its concerns on the project.

The SPESSE Project Coordinator, Ministry of Women Affairs, Mr. Ben Okwesa recounted that the Ministry was meant to conduct short online courses on social standards practices and also to certify graduands.

On this, he highlighted the progress made so far to include: organising a workshop on social standard to prepare and enhance the skills of officers of the Ministry on social standard scheme, preparation of stage by

items procured and the safety of the items, lateness on the project take-off, inadequate guidance from the bank, no procurement officer, low power supply and none approval of allowances to motivate workers.

According to Mr. Okwesa, some of the Ministry's proposed activities include: installation of internet facilities, construction and inauguration of a technical working group and engagement of a consultancy firm.

The Federal Ministries of Environment and Finance also



A cross section of more participants at the meeting

According to the DG, the Bureau had identified some challenges which hinged on timely release of funds for the implementation of the project, need for synergy between the Bureau and the Centres of Excellence for the delivery of the Track-A Executive Courses and lack of incentives for the project implementation units. He stressed that the Bureau would ensure full implementation of the work plan under the project and would not shy away from raising

stage implementation strategies and working with the Project Coordinator to develop contents. In addition, offices had been allocated for social standards projects, following strictly the World Bank procedures in equipment provision while procurement had been completed and sent to World Bank for refund.

He listed some of the challenges such as the need to install the

provided an update on their work plan, activities and challenges.

It would be recalled that the SPESSE was conceived based on the need to bridge the gap between insufficient supply of quality professionals in the procurement, environmental and social standard sectors and the lack of academic programmes and curriculum in these sectors in the Nigerian educational system.

Ottawa University, Nigeria High Commission

Delegation Visit NUC

A delegation from Ottawa University led by officials of the Nigeria High Commission in Canada, last Tuesday, conducted its maiden exploratory visit to the National Universities Commission

as an advisory agency in the cabinet office in 1962.

It, however, became a statutory body in 1974, since then evolution had taken place and

university educational system in Nigeria and also embarked on resource verification before any programme could be accepted. It also engaged experts on curriculum review and had



L-R: Head Partnership Development Africa, Ottawa University, Canada, Mr. Mustinrimana Serge; DES (Admin) Mr. Chris Maiyaki and DA, Dr. Biodun N. Saliu

(NUC) with the idea of establishing a win-win partnership with Nigerian universities, using the transnational education mode.

Receiving the Canadian delegation on behalf of the Executive Secretary of NUC, Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed Mni, MFR, FNAL, the Deputy Executive Secretary (DES), Mr. Christopher Maiyaki welcomed the delegation and informed them that NUC was established to set standard and ensure quality within the Nigerian University System. It was also NUC's mandate to ensure access and equity in the development of University education in Nigeria.

He further stated that NUC started

today Nigeria has a total of 218 Universities, adding that some states have more than one federal university, in addition to more than two state universities and several private universities. The most recent private universities added were 12 that just came on board.

According to him, the country was blessed with several specialized universities which include Universities of Agriculture, Technology, Education, Medical Universities and Health Sciences.

He explained that the Commission has the sole responsibility of overseeing

continued to update the curriculum.

He stated that the Commission, through its accreditation sub-committee undertakes the monitoring and supervision of universities in Nigeria, a strategy used to ensure a smooth running of academic programmes.

He mentioned other functions of the Commission to include formulation of policies and implementing them, making recommendation to government on the establishment of private Universities and also issuing licenses for the operations of private university.

The DES explained that the

University system had been undergoing some challenges such as students inability to gain admission into higher institution due to inadequate numbers of universities as only between 500-600 thousand students gained admission out of about 2 million students that sat for the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) examination yearly, including shortages in the number of academic staff, staff training and gender empowerment.

beneficial to both Nigeria and Canada.

The Director, Open Distance and E-learning (DODEL), Engr. Kayode Odedina gave a summary of some models of transnational Education as recognized by NUC.

He said to drive the process of mainstreaming Trans-National Education (TNE) and in line with the global Community, NUC had in 2011 established the Department of Open and

necessary to expand the scope of TNE provision by adding more models to the initial three comprising Twinning/ Articulation, Branch Campus and the Open and Distance Learning model.

Engr. Odedina explained that the purpose for adding more models was to further liberalising the provision of TNE. He went further to list the various models of TNE proposed for the Nigerian space to include: twinning/Articulation, branch



R-L: DEPU, Mrs. Constance Goddy-Nnadi; DODEL, Engr. Kayode Odedina; DS, Mr. Essien Bassey; DESO, Mr. John A. Mairafi and VC, BUK, Prof. Sagir A. Abbas

He further explained that NUC has been working hard to make sure that its universities were truly international and become part of the global system. He said that in order to elevate the Nigeria education status, NUC had set up an advisory committee led by the former NUC Executive Secretary, Professor Peter Okebukola to assist in the repositioning of the Nigerian University System (NUS).

The DES expressed the hope that the purpose of the visit would be

Distance Education now christened the ('Directorate of Open Distance and e-learning') with a Division called (Cross - Border Education, and now Tran-National Education) division, which is charged with the responsibility of handling Transnational Education issues.

This, he said, was informed by the need to put the necessary quality assurance framework guidelines in place. He stated that in line with the global trends, the Commission found it

campus, the open and distance Learning model, Joint/parallel degrees, independent Institutions, acquisition/merger and teaching institutions.

While elaborating on the models, Engr. Odedina said the twinning/ articulation model involved a foreign University (recognized and accredited by competent authorities in its home Country) and an approved Nigerian University collaborating to offer courses, enrich curricula content, pedagogy, and offer degrees with

Joint or dual Certification or have articulation arrangements, study on host and home Campuses.

He said that this model might be acceptable by the Nigerian government provided that under the articulation arrangement, upon successful completion of an approved course of study, students are awarded degrees of the Nigerian University.

He noted that the branch campus model was one in which a foreign University establish its campus

University System (NUS) which was the ICT-enabled support blended learning (IESBL) model, noting that it is the acceptable and practicable model in Nigeria for now.

Engr. Odedina said that the joint/parallel degrees model was an arrangement whereby providers in different countries collaborate to offer a programme for which students receive qualifications from the providers, or a joint award from the collaborating partners,

provider and it was therefore, independent.

He said that NUC would need to work together with the foreign providers on the design, delivery and quality assurance of the academic programmes. He noted that the procedure for establishment of Private Universities also applied and gave a brief summary of the other models of TNE.

In his speech, Head Partnership Development Africa, Ottawa



L-R: Ag. DPA, Mal. Haruna Lawal Ajo; Ag. DIM, Mrs. Lydia Imoroa; Ag. DRIIT, Mr. Faruk Lawan and Chief Personal Officer & Head, Special Duties, Ulonna Inyama

anywhere in Nigeria, following the NUC standing procedures for establishment of branch campus. He said programmes offered in the Nigerian Campus must be a replica of those offered in the parent institution in the home country and should meet the standards and quality assurance requirements currently applicable to Nigerian Universities.

He stressed that the Open Universities were however, expected to comply with the ODL model approved for the Nigerian

adding that the arrangements for programme provision and criteria for awarding the qualifications were customized for each collaborative initiative in accordance with National Regulations in each country.

As for the independent institution model, he said, the foreign provider establish a stand-alone University in Nigeria which offered programmes and that there was usually no “parent institution” in the country of the foreign

University, Canada, Mr. Mustinrimana Serge said, they saw Africa as a strategic partner most especially Nigeria as one of the countries in the West African region which they could strengthen their partnership with since they had been to the five regions of Africa namely; East, North, West, Central and Southern Africa. He said, the Ottawa University believed that partnership with Universities in Nigeria should be a win win partnership and they intend to build strong relationship with

Universities in Africa.

He explained further that the Ottawa University was founded in 1848 as bilingual public research University in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, that the main Campus was located on 425 hectares (105 acres) land in the heart of Ottawa's Downtown core.

He further disclosed that the school was co-educational with both English and French speaking students and enrolled over 35,000 undergraduates and over 6,000

Medicine, Science, Health Science, Law and Common Law.

He said that it was Canada's most sustainable Campus, where research was extremely important and the University has been ranked 8th in terms of total research funding in Canada and that gives the Institution the more reason to go into partnership with other universities. He stated that in the area of publication, the University is ranked 6th in

study.

Other areas of partnership included co-supervision of doctorate thesis, exchange of faculty members for teaching, visiting student research, development of joint research project and exchange of publications and academic materials.

He particularly made mention of the partnership they had with the Egyptian government, and the project is called Digital Egypt



Meeting session

post graduates students. He stated that the school had approximately 7,000 international students from 150 countries, accounting for 17 percent of the student population and with a network of more than 195,000 alumni.

Mr. Serge informed the NUC that the Institution has 550 programmes for undergraduates, Master and PHD, it is the 11th greenest Campus in the World with ten(10) faculties which are; Arts, Management, Social Sciences, Education, Engineering,

Canada, they have 208 research chair, 23 research centers, 5 National center of excellence.

He listed the areas of partnership with Institutions from other Countries to include; International Student exchange Programme, teacher mobility, tailor-made administrative training, mobility of administrative staff, 2+2 partnership, that is allowing students to spend two years in Nigeria and two years in Canada during their years of

Builders Initiatives (DEBI) although it took them six month to reach an agreement but it was a three-year agreement which focused on Artificial intelligence, Cyber security and Robotics and Data science. He said it was done in such a way that Egyptian students would be in Egypt while receiving lecturers in Canada.

Concurring to Engr. Odedina's summary of the seven models, Mr. Serge said that all the seven models were relevant but, they required different levels of

engagement, and believed that the twinning/articulation model was easy to implement while the teaching institution model was an option to explore.

In a vote of thanks, the Director, Establishment of Private Universities (DEPU), Mrs. Constance Goddy-Nnadi thanked the Canadian delegation for coming to NUC on the issues of partnership and collaboration, describing it as a two way thing.

Maple Canada College, Ebi Obaro, and Tandu Musa Ahmed, Head of Chancery Nigerian High Commission.

Present at the meeting from the NUC group were NUC Directors of Academic Planning (DAP), Dr. Noel Abiodun Saliu; Students (Dos), Mr. Sunday Essien, Human Resources (DHR), Mr. Boniface Odum, and Accreditation (DA) was

Mr. Ashafa Ladan; Public Affairs (DPA), Mal. Haruna Lawal Ajo. In attendance were the Deputy Director Internal Audit, Kenny Ogwu and Head of special Duties in Executive Secretary's office Ms. Ulonna Iyama.

Also at the meeting were the Vice Chancellors of the University of Port-Harcourt, Prof. Owunari Georgewill; Veritas University, Prof. Hyacinth Ichoku; University of Abuja, Prof



Mr. Maiyaki (1st left, front row), Vice-Chancellors and some members of NUC officials

She also thanked the Vice chancellors for their presence and thanked the Deputy Executive Secretary and everybody who made the meeting a success.

In the Canadian delegation were International Recruitment Manager, Collins Enwemasor; International Market Development Manager, Thierno Ba; President

represented by Ogechukwu Okafor.

Others were Acting Directors of Directorate of Research, Innovation and Information Technology, (DRIIT), Mr. Lawan Faruk; Inspection and Monitoring (DIM), Mrs. Lydia Imoroa; Skills Development and Entrepreneurship (DSDE),

Abdulasheed Na' Allah; Bayero University Kano, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas; University of Illorin, Prof. Abdulkareem Sulyman and Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics) University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Prof. Johnson Uranma, among other University Scholars.

Usmanu Danfodiyo University (UDUS) Wins N233 Million NCC Research Grant

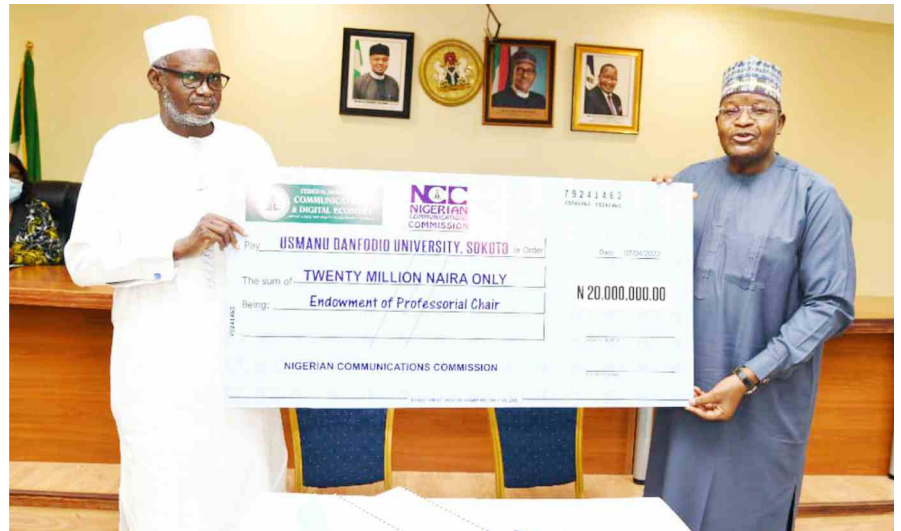
The Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) being consistent with its recognition of the academia as a central stakeholder in its commitment to linkages and local development sphere of the Nigeria's telecommunications sector, NCC has awarded fresh research grants and endowed professorial chairs in some Nigerian universities in the sum of N233 million.

From the total sum, N172.5 million was awarded to support 13 proposals found to have met the stipulated criteria in the advertised 2021 Request for Proposal (RfP) for Telecommunications-Based Research Innovations from Nigerian Tertiary Institutions (research grant) Programme. Additionally, three universities received the sum of N20 million each for endowments of Professorial Chair by the Commission.

Speaking at the award ceremony, which took place at the Commission's Head Office in Maitama, Abuja, on Thursday, April 7, 2022, the Executive Vice Chairman of the Commission, Prof. Umar Garba Danbatta, said the event demonstrated NCC's strong resolve in advancing the impact of digital technologies on the national economy, using indigenous products and solutions. While presenting award letters to the Lead Researchers of the beneficiaries of the 13 research grants, Prof. Danbatta said, under the Telecommunications-Based Research Innovations, tertiary

institutions submit detailed and well thought-out research proposal, on specific thematic areas provided by the Commission. The proposals are expected to result in the

Indeed, this is a clear testimony to the objectivity and painstaking approach to the evaluation process aimed at ensuring that the best quality is achieved and only researches that could produce



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Lawal Bilbis with the Executive Vice-Chairman, Prof. Umar Danbatta displaying the research grant plaque

development of commercially-viable prototypes as concrete harvests.

According to Prof. Danbatta, in 2021 RfP, the Commission received a total of 55 research proposal that focused on five emerging technology areas, namely: Fifth Generation (5G) deployment; Innovative Clean Energy; Advanced Method of Quality of Service (QoS)/Quality of Experience Management and Test Mechanism; Internet of Things (IoT); Low Power Wide Area Network (LPWAN) Technology; and Monitoring and Localising of Drones.

“After thorough evaluations, 13 proposals were found to have met the stipulated criteria.

prototypes with the potential of providing solutions to both local and global challenges were selected,” Prof. Danbatta said, as he congratulates the 13 successful research awardees.

The EVC also presented dummy cheques of N20 million each to the Vice Chancellors of three Nigerian universities, namely: University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State; Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto; and Federal University of Technology, Minna, Niger State, who are the beneficiaries of the NCC's Professorial Chair Endowments.

“The Commission has endowed Professorial Chairs in tertiary institutions across the country, as a mechanism in entrenching innovations in our tertiary

institutions, as well as having graduates that are “industry-ready”. The endowment of professorial chairs in universities is one of Commission's initiatives in supporting the academia to focus on research in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in order to enhance the advancements of emerging technologies,” Prof. Danbatta stated, to underscore the purpose for instituting professorial chairs in tertiary institutions.

Commission and each benefitting university just as the Commission recently included the signing of MoU as part of the implementation of the Telecommunications-Based Research Innovations.

The EVC stated that with the latest awards and endowments, the Commission has committed more than N660 million to Nigerian tertiary institutions for ICT-focused research innovations. This is in

optimism that the Management of the Commission would continue to allocate the requisite resources to research, development and innovations that are necessary for the industry to continue to contribute to the socio-economic development of the country.

The HRD said the initiatives which are policy-driven were instituted as a proof of the Commission's appreciation of the importance of working with stakeholders to engender



Group photograph of NCC and UDUS officials

The fresh endowment in the three universities brings to seven, the number of universities that the Commission has endowed professorial chairs. Earlier, the NCC had instituted professorial chairs in Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Imo State; Bayero University, Kano, Kano State; Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi State; and University of Ibadan, Oyo State.

Meanwhile, the EVC stated that while the implementation of the endowment is through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the

demonstration of commitment to driving the attainment of the goals of the Federal Government's agenda on digital economy, as captured in the National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy (NDEPS), 2020-2030.

Earlier in his remarks, NCC's Head of Research and Development (HRD), Mr. Kelechi Nwankwo, thanked the EVC for his vision to continually deepen collaboration between the Commission and the Academia. Mr. Nwankwo expressed

innovations and build indigenous technological capabilities that would strengthen the ICT ecosystem, not only in the provision of services but also in the development of the communications manufacturing and supply sector within the Nigerian economy. He said collaborations such as the one with the academia are in line with the NCC's Strategic Management Plan (SMP), 2020-2024, because strategic partnering has been identified as a critical pillar for the attainment of NCC's corporate objectives.

Mr. Nwankwo encouraged the beneficiaries of the research grants and the universities that benefited from the endowment of professorial chairs, to put the financial resources into proper use

that will produce research outputs that address societal problems and contribute to further growth of the telecoms sector.

Expressing appreciation on behalf of the beneficiaries, the Vice Chancellor, Usman Danfodio University, Prof. Lawal Bilbis, assured the Commission that the funds will be put to judicious use.



DISCLAIMER: Unapproved Regional Office of AAU in the United States of America

The attention of the Association of African Universities (AAU), Accra, Ghana, has been drawn to a purported incorporated Association of African Universities-NA, (AAU- NA), by three individuals who have no authorization from the Association of African Universities to represent its interest in the United States of America.

The Association of African Universities (AAU) wishes to inform the public that the only organization approved to represent her in the United States of America, is the North America Office of the Association of African Universities (NAMO)

All our stakeholders are directed to note that the so-called 'Association of African Universities-NA'(AAU-NA), has been illegally incorporated without due authorization and do not represent the interests of the Association of African Universities. "NAMO" is not equivalent with "AAU-NA".

The Association of African Universities has not given any authorization to the said "AAU-NA" to solicit for funds, organize activities in the name of AAU, or represent its interests in the United States of America. Whoever is involving in whatever activity under that name of AAU-NA is doing so illegally and with no knowledge of the Association of African Universities and without the permission, or authority of the Association of African Universities.

Necessary legal actions are being initiated to terminate the illegal incorporation of the 'AAU_NA'. In addition, the Directors and the Board Members of the AAU-NA do not represent the interests of the Association of African Universities and no approval has been given to them to act on behalf of the Association of African Universities.

The Association of African Universities will continue to be committed to its Regional Offices program through its North America Office (NAMO) in North America, the North Africa Office (NARO) and the East Africa Regional Office (EARO)

Yours in the service of higher education in Africa

Professor Olusola B. Oyewole
SECRETARY-GENERAL
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES (AAU)

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FME SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS

- Safe distancing procedures
- Develop and display at schools, simple context-specific reference protocols on day to day actions to be operated in each school.
- Conduct risk assessment with a view to understanding the gaps in the system that can increase the risk of transmission and make recommendations for addressing the gaps
- Safety and hygiene in all stages and phases of the school reopening process, which promotes behaviors that reduce spread, such as school commutes (to and from school traveling), safe distancing, frequent hand washing and the use of facemasks.
- Other guiding frameworks include sensitization and monitoring procedures.
- Ensure adequate Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities across the school premises
- Encouraging the use of open spaces for gathering and promoting outdoor activities.
- There should be regular temperature checks For all the visitors coming into the schools using infrared thermometers.
- Establish a staff/students committee for regular surveillance, monitoring, and enforcement of COVID-19 guidelines.



NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION

Approved Open University and Distance Learning Centres in Nigeria

The National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), which has 72 study/resource centres nationwide, is currently the only approved open university in the Nigerian University System (NUS).

List of approved Distance Learning Centres in Nigeria, Fourteen Universities in the Nigerian University System, currently have the approval of the National Universities Commission to operate distance learning centres as follows:

1. Distance Learning Centre, University of Ibadan.
2. University of Lagos, Distance Learning Institute.
3. University of Abuja, Centre for Distance Learning and Continuing Education.
4. University of Maiduguri, Centre for Distance Learning.
5. Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Centre for Distance Learning.
6. Modibbo Adama University of Technology, Yola, Centre for Distance Learning.
7. Ladoke Akintola University of Technology Open and Distance Learning Centre.
8. Distance learning Centre, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.
9. Lagos State University Open and Distance Learning and Research Institute.
10. Joseph Ayo Babalola University Centre for Distance Learning.
11. University of Nigeria, Nsukka Centre for Distance and e-Learning.
12. Federal University of Technology Minna, Centre for Open Distance and e-Learning.
13. Babcock University Ilisan-Remo, Centre for Open Distance and e-Learning.
14. University of Ilorin, Centre for Open and Distance Learning.

Fourteen-Step Process for the Establishment of Private Universities in Nigeria

The National Universities Commission (NUC), wishes to announce to the general public, especially prospective promoters of private universities, the fourteen-step procedure for establishing private universities in Nigeria.

1. Application in writing stating the intent for the establishment of the university
2. Interview of prospective proprietors
3. Collection of application forms
4. Submission of application forms and relevant documents
5. Intensive review/analysis of documents by experts in relevant NUC departments
6. Revision of documents by proprietors, based on report of the Directorate of Establishment of Private Universities (DEPU).

7. Interactive meeting of DEPU with the proposed university
8. First site assessment visit
9. Finalisation of document
10. Second (final) site assessment visit
11. Security screening of proprietors and Board of Trustees
12. Approval by NUC Management
13. Approval by NUC Board
14. Approval by FEC

Prof. Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, *nni, MFR, FNAL*
Executive Secretary, NUC
Announcer

FEDERAL UNIVERSITIES

S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.
1	University of Ibadan, Ibadan	1948	18	Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna	1985	35	Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State	2011
2	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	1960	19	University of Abuja, Abuja	1988	36	Federal University, Otuoke, Bayelsa	2011
3	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife	1962	20	Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi	1988	37	The Nigeria Police Academy, Wudil, Kano State	2012
4	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria	1962	21	Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University, Makurdi, Benue State	1988	38	Federal University, Birnin-Kebbi, Kebbi	2013
5	University of Lagos, Lagos	1962	22	Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta	1988	39	Federal University, Gusau, Zamfara	2013
6	University of Benin, Benin City	1970	23	University of Uyo, Uyo	1991	40	Federal University, Gashua, Yobe	2013
7	Bayero University, Kano	1975	24	Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka	1992	41	Nigeria Maritime University Okerenkoko, Delta State	2018
8	University of Calabar, Calabar	1975	25	Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike	1992	42	Air Force Institute of Technology, Kaduna	2018
9	University of Ilorin, Ilorin	1975	26	National Open University of Nigeria, Lagos	2002	43	Nigerian Army University, Biu	2018
10	University of Jos, Jos	1975	27	Fed. Univ. of Petroleum Resources, Effurun	2007	44	Federal University of Health Sciences, Otukpo, Benue State	2020
11	University of Maiduguri, Maiduguri	1975	28	Federal University, Lokoja, Kogi State	2011	45	Federal University of Agriculture, Zuru, Kebbi State	2020
12	Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto	1975	29	Federal University, Lafia, Nasarawa State	2011	46	Federal University of Technology, Babura, Jigawa State	2021
13	University of Port-Harcourt, Port-Harcourt	1975	30	Federal University, Kashere, Gombe State	2011	47	Federal University of Technology Ikot Abasi, Akwa Ibom State	2021
14	Federal University of Technology, Owerri	1980	31	Federal University, Wukari, Taraba State	2011	48	Federal University of Health Sciences, Azare, Bauchi State	2021
15	Federal University of Technology, Akure	1981	32	Federal University, Dutsin-Ma, Katsina State	2011	49	Federal University of Health Sciences, Ila Orangun, Osun State	2021
16	Modibbo Adama University of Technology, Yola	1981	33	Federal University, Dutse, Jigawa State	2011			
17	Federal University of Technology, Minna	1982	34	Alex Ekwueme University, Ndufu Alike, Ebonyi State	2011			

STATE UNIVERSITIES

S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.
1	Rivers State University of Science & Technology, Port Harcourt	1979	20	Gombe State University, Gombe	2004	39	Sule Lamido University, Kafin Hausa	2013
2	Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma	1980	21	Kaduna State University, Kaduna	2004	40	Ondo State University of Medical Sciences	2015
3	Abia State University, Uturu	1981	22	Cross River University of Technology, Calabar	2004	41	Edo University, Iyamho	2016
4	Enugu State University of Science & Tech, Enugu	1982	23	Plateau State University, Boko	2005	42	Kingsley Ozumba (K.O) Mbadiwe University, Imo State	2016
5	Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye	1982	24	Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology, Okitipupa, Ondo State	2008	43	University of Africa, Toru-Orua	2016
6	Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti. (formerly University of Ado-Ekiti)	1982	25	Ibrahim Babangida University, Lapai, Niger State	2005	44	Borno State University	2016
7	Lagos State University, Ojo, Lagos	1983	26	Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagun	2005	45	Moshood Abiola University of Science and Technology, Abeokuta	2017
8	Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso	1990	27	Umaru Musa Yar'Adua University, Katsina	2006	46	Gombe State University of Science and Technology, Kumo	2017
9	Imo State University, Owerri	1992	28	Yobe State University Damaturu, Yobe State	2006	47	Zamfara State University, Talata-Mafara	2018
10	Benue State University, Makurdi	1992	29	Kebbi State University of Science and Technology, Aliero	2006	48	Bayelsa Medical University Yenagoa, Bayelsa State	2019
11	Delta State University, Abraka	1992	30	Osun State University, Osogbo	2006	49	University of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Umuagwo, Imo State	2019
12	Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba - Akoko	1999	31	Taraba State University, Jalingo	2008	50	Bamidele Olumula University of Education Science and Technology, Ikere - Ekiti State	2020
13	Kogi State University, Anyigba	1999	32	Kwara State University, Ilorin	2009	51	Confluence University of Science and Technology Osara, Kogi State	2020
14	Niger-Delta University, Yenagoa	2000	33	Sokoto State University, Sokoto	2009	52	University of Delta, Agbor, Delta State	2021
15	Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Uli	2000	34	Akwa Ibom State University, Ikot Ikpaden	2010	53	University of Science and Technology, Ozoro, Delta State	2021
16	Kano University of Science & Technology, Wudil	2000	35	Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni	2010	54	Dennis Osadebay University, Asaba, Delta State	2021
17	Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki	2000	36	Bauchi State University, Gadau	2011	55	King David Umahi University of Medical Sciences, Uburu, Ebonyi State	2021
18	Nasarawa State University, Keffi	2002	37	Maitama Sule University, Kano	2012	56	Lagos University of Education, LASUED, Ijanikin, Lagos State	2022
19	Adamawa State University, Mubi	2002	38	Technical University, Ibadan.	2012	57	Lagos University of Science and Technology, Ikorodu, Lagos State	2022
						58	Shehu Shagari University of Education, Sokoto, Sokoto State	2022



LIST OF APPROVED UNIVERSITIES IN NIGERIA

PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.
1	Babcock University, Ilishan Remo	1999	35	Godfrey Okoye University, Ugwuomu-Nike, Enugu State	2009	70	Spiritan University, Nneochi, Abia State	2017
2	Madonna University, Okija	1999	36	Nile University of Nigeria, Abuja	2009	71	Precious Cornerstone University, Ibadan, Oyo State	2017
3	Igbinedion University, Okada	1999	37	Oduduwa University, Ipetumodu, Osun State	2009	72	PAMO University of Medical Sciences, Portharcourt, River State	2017
4	Bowen University, Iwo	2001	38	Paul University, Awka, Anambra State	2009	73	Atiba University, Oyo, Oyo State	2017
5	Covenant University, Ota	2002	39	Rhema University, Aba	2009	74	Eko University of Medical Sciences, Ijanikin, Lagos State	2017
6	Pan-Atlantic University, Lagos	2002	40	Wellspring University, Evbuobanosa, Edo State	2009	75	Skyline University, Nigeria Kano State	2018
7	Benson Idahosa University, Benin City	2002	41	Adeleke University, Ede, Osun State	2011	76	Greenfield University, Kasarami, Kaduna State	2019
8	American University of Nigeria, Yola	2003	42	Baze University, Abuja	2011	77	Dominion University, Ibadan Oyo State	2019
9	Redeemers University, Ede, Osun State	2005	43	Landmark University, Omu-Aran, Kwara State	2011	78	Trinity University, Laloko Ogun State	2019
10	Ajayi Crowther University, Oyo	2005	44	Samuel Adegboyega University, Ogwa, Edo State	2011	79	Westland University, Iwo Osun State	2019
11	Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin	2005	45	Elizade University, Ilara-Mokin, Ondo State	2012	80	Topfaith University, Mkpatak, Akwa Ibom State	2021
12	Caritas University, Amorji-Nke, Enugu	2005	46	Evangel University, Akaeze, Ebonyi State	2012	81	Thomas Adewumi University, Oke Irese, Kwara State	2021
13	Bingham University, Auta-Balefi, Karu, Nasarawa State	2005	47	Gregory University, Uturu, Abia State	2012	82	Maranatha University, Mgbidi, Imo State	2021
14	Al-Qalam University, Katsina	2005	48	McPherson University, Seriki Sotayo, Ajebo, Ogun State	2012	83	Ave-Maria University, Piyanko, Nasarawa State	2021
15	Renaissance University, Enugu	2005	49	Southwestern University, Okun Owa, Ogun State	2012	84	Al-Istqama University, Sumaila, Kano State	2021
16	Bells University of Tech, Ota, Ogun State	2005	50	Augustine, University, Ilara, Lagos State	2015	85	Mudiame University, Irrua, Edo State	2021
17	Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo State	2005	51	Chrisland University, Owode, Ogun State	2015	86	Havilla University, Nde-Ikom, Cross River State	2021
18	Crawford University, Igbesa, Ogun State	2005	52	Christopher University, Mowe, Ogun State	2015	87	Claretian University, Nekede, Imo State	2021
19	Kwararafa University, Wukari (formerly Wukari Jubilee Uni.)	2005	53	Hallmark University, Ijebu, Itele, Ogun State	2015	88	Karl Kumm University, Vom, Plateau State	2021
20	Crescent University, Abeokuta	2005	54	Kings University, Ode Omu, Osun State	2015	89	Nok University, Kachia, Kaduna State	2021
21	Novena University, Ogume, Delta State	2005	55	Michael and Cecilia Ibru Uni., Owthode, Delta State	2015	90	James Hope University, Lekki, Lagos State	2021
22	University of Mkar, Mkar, Benue State	2005	56	Mountain Top University, Ogun State	2015	91	Maryam Abacha American University Of Nigeria, Kano, Kano State	2021
23	Joseph Ayo Babalola University, Ikeji-Arakeji, Osun State	2006	57	Ritman University, Ikot Ekpene, Akwa Ibom State	2015	92	Capital City University, Kano, Kano State	2021
24	Caleb University, Lagos	2007	58	Summit University, Offa, Kwara State	2015	93	Ahman Pategi University, Patigi, Kwara State	2021
25	Fountain University, Osogbo	2007	59	Edwin Clark University, Kiagbodo, Delta State	2015	94	University Of Offa, Offa, Kwara State	2021
26	Obong University, Obong Ntak	2007	60	Hezekiah University, Umudi, Imo State	2015	95	Mewar International University Nigeria, Masaka, Nasarawa State	2021
27	Salem University, Lokoja	2007	61	Anchor University, Ayobo, Lagos State	2016	96	Edusoko University, Bida, Niger State	2021
28	Tansian University, Umunya, Anambra State	2007	62	Arthur Jarvis University, Akpabuyo, Cross River State	2016	97	Philomath University, Kuje, Abuja	2021
29	Veritas University, Abuja	2007	63	Clifford University, Owerri, Abia State	2016	98	Khadija University, Majia, Jigawa State	2021
30	Wesley University, Owo, Ondo State	2007	64	Coal City University, Enugu, Enugu State	2016	99	Anan University, Kwall, Plateau State	2021
31	Western Delta University, Oghara, Delta State	2007	65	Crown Hill University, Eiyenkorin, Kwara State	2016			
32	The Achievers University, Owo	2007	66	Dominican University, Ibadan, Oyo State	2016			
33	African University of Science & Technology, Abuja	2007	67	Koladaisi University, Ibadan, Oyo State	2016			
34	Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State	2009	68	Legacy University, Okija, Anambra State	2016			
			69	Admiralty University, Ibusa, Delta State	2017			



NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

List of Illegal Universities Closed Down by NUC

The National Universities Commission (NUC) wishes to announce to the general public, especially parents and prospective undergraduates, that the under-listed “Degree Mills” have not been licensed by the Federal Government and have, therefore, been closed down for violating the Education (National Minimum Standards etc.) Act CAP E3 Law of the Federation of Nigeria 2004. The “Universities” are:

- 1) University of Accountancy and Management Studies, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 2) Christians of Charity American University of Science & Technology, Nkpor, Anambra State or any of its other campuses
- 3) University of Industry, Yaba, Lagos or any of its other campuses
- 4) University of Applied Sciences & Management, Port Novo, Republic of Benin or any of its other campuses in Nigeria
- 5) Blacksmith University, Awka or any of its other campuses
- 6) Volta University College, Ho, Volta Region, Ghana or any of its other campuses in Nigeria
- 7) Royal University Izhia, P.O. Box 800, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State or any of its other campuses
- 8) Atlanta University, Anyigba, Kogi State or any of its other campuses
- 9) United Christian University, Macotis Campus, Imo State or any of its other campuses.
- 10) United Nigeria University College, Okija, Anambra State or any of its other campuses.
- 11) Samuel Ahmadu University, Makurdi, Benue State or any of its other campuses.
- 12) UNESCO University, Ndoni, Rivers State or any of its other campuses.
- 13) Saint Augustine’s University of Technology, Jos, Plateau State or any of its other campuses
- 14) The International University, Missouri, USA, Kano and Lagos Study Centres, or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 15) Collumbus University, UK operating anywhere in Nigeria
- 16) Tiu International University, UK operating anywhere in Nigeria
- 17) Pebbles University, UK operating anywhere in Nigeria
- 18) London External Studies UK operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 19) Pilgrims University operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 20) Lobi Business School Makurdi, Benue State or any of its campuses in Nigeria.
- 21) West African Christian University operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 22) Bolta University College Aba or any of its campuses in Nigeria.
- 23) JBC Seminary Inc. (Wukari Jubilee University) Kaduna Illegal Campus
- 24) Westlan University, Esie, Kwara State or any of its campuses in Nigeria.
- 25) St. Andrews University College, Abuja or any of its campuses in Nigeria.
- 26) EC-Council University, USA, Ikeja Lagos Study Centre.
- 27) Atlas University, Ikot Udo Uko, Uyo Akwa Ibom State or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 28) Concept College/Universities (London) Ilorin or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 29) Halifax Gateway University, Ikeja or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 30) Kingdom of Christ University, Abuja or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 31) Acada University, Akinlalu, Oyo State or any of its campuses in Nigeria.
- 32) Fifom University, Mbaize, Imo State or any of its campuses in Nigeria
- 33) Houdegbe North American University campuses in Nigeria.
- 34) Atlantic Intercontinental University, Okija, Anambra State
- 35) Open International University, Akure
- 36) Middle Belt University (North Central University), Otukpo
- 37) Leadway University, Ughelli, Delta State

- 38) Metro University, Dutse/Bwari, Abuja
- 39) Southend University, Ngwuro Egeru (Afam) Ndoki, Rivers State
- 40) Olympic University, Nsukka, Enugu State
- 41) Federal College of Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Abuja.
- 42) Temple University, Abuja
- 43) Irish University Business School London, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 44) National University of Technology, Lafia, Nasarawa State.
- 45) University of Accountancy and Management Studies, Mowe, Lagos - Ibadan Expressway and its Annex at 41, Ikorodu Road, Lagos.
- 46) University of Education, Winneba Ghana, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 47) Cape Coast University, Ghana, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 48) African University Cooperative Development (AUCD), Cotonou, Benin Republic, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 49) Pacific Western University, Denver, Colorado, Owerri Study Centre.
- 50) Evangel University of America & Chudick Management Academic, Lagos
- 51) Enugu State University of Science and Technology (Gboko Campus)
- 52) Career Light Resources Centre, Jos
- 53) University of West Africa, Kwali-Abuja, FCT
- 54) Coastal University, Iba-Oku, Akwa-Ibom State
- 55) Kaduna Business School, Kaduna
- 56) Royal University of Theology, Minna, Niger State
- 57) West African Union University, in Collaboration with International Professional College of Administration, Science and Technology Nigeria, operating anywhere in Nigeria.
- 58) Gospel Missionary Foundation (GMF), Theological University. 165 Iselo road, Cele bus stop, Egbe-Ikotun, Lagos.

In addition to the closure, the following Degree Mills are currently undergoing further investigations and/or ongoing court actions. The purpose of these actions is to prosecute the proprietors and recover illegal fees and charges on subscribers.

- 1) National University of Nigeria, Keffi, Nasarawa State
- 2) North Central University, Otukpo, Benue State
- 3) Christ Alive Christian Seminary and University, Enugu
- 4) Richmond Open University, Arochuku, Abia State.
- 5) West Coast University, Umuahia.
- 6) Saint Clements University, Iyin Ekiti, Ekiti State
- 7) Volta University College, Aba, Abia State.
- 8) Illegal Satellite Campuses of Ambrose Alli University.
- 9) L.I.F.E Leadership University, Benin City, Edo State.

For the avoidance of doubt, anybody who patronises or obtains any certificate from any of these illegal institutions does so at his or her own risk. Certificates obtained from these sources will not be recognised for the purposes of NYSC, employment, and further studies.

The relevant Law enforcement agencies have also been informed for their further necessary action.

** This list of illegal institutions is not exhaustive.*

Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, *nni*, MFR, FNAL
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION
ANNOUNCER

This Week's Birthdays



NAMES			DATE OF BIRTH
CHINYERE	DYMPNA	EKECHUKWU	18 APRIL
CHRISTOPHER	ONINYE	IYEOBOR	18 APRIL
KAYODE	SUNDAY	ODEDINA	19 APRIL
FRIDAY	IKECHUKWU	OKERE	19 APRIL
OLUWATOYIN	MISITURAT	OLUMODEJI	19 APRIL
SOLOMON		YOHANNA	20 APRIL
PATRICK	LAWRENCE	EWAH	20 APRIL
ESTHER	UZOAMAKA	OGBONNAYA-ORJI	21 APRIL
SHERIF-DEEN	KUNLE	ADEDEJI	21 APRIL
JUBRIL	ABU	MOMOH	21 APRIL
RAMATU		ACHIMUGU	21 APRIL
CONSTANCE	NKEMJIKA	GODDY-NNADI	22 APRIL
OGE	EUPHRASIA	OKAFOR	22 APRIL
SA'ID	ADAMU	SA'ID	22 APRIL
USMAN	KAITAFI	AHMED	22 APRIL
PAMELA	AZUKA	AZUBUIKE	24 APRIL
PETER	SEGUN	LEO	24 APRIL

Wishing You Many happy returns!

Best Wishes for the week



TAKE RESPONSIBILITY
DO YOUR BIT TO MOVE THE
COMMISSION TO GREATER HEIGHTS

*Dress Well and Earn
Respect.*

Courtesy: Directorate of Human Resources

SHUN CORRUPTION.
It Does not Pay

Courtesy: Anti-corruption and Transparency Division



**NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION
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