

NUC, UoL Organise Fifth Hybrid Symposium on ODL Policy and Practice

The Fifth series of the Joint National Universities Commission (NUC) and University of London (UoL) Hybrid Symposium on Policy and Practice in Open Distance and e-Learning ended recently which focused on the opportunities presented by large-scale, high-quality Open and Distance Learning (ODL) support to education for Nigeria's growing population. The event was a hybrid, hosted simultaneously in London and Abuja where a single venue was achieved via videoconferencing.

In his welcome remarks at the opening workshop in London, the Executive Secretary, NUC, Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, mni, MFR, FNAL, who was represented by the Deputy Executive Secretary (DES) Academics, Dr. Noel Biodun Saliu, appreciated the Open, Distance and e-learning stakeholders and in particular the Vice-Chancellors of participating Universities in Nigeria for their

sustained commitment to capacity development of their staff towards up-scaling the

He noted with pride the partnership between the NUC and the University of London, which



Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, mni, MFR, FNAL
Executive Secretary, NUC

quality of delivery of degree programmes via the Open, distance, and e-learning mode.

had brought about the facilitation of four capacity-building workshops in Abuja and London with this edition being the fifth in

in this edition



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the series.

This, he said was besides the efforts being made to integrate interested Nigerian universities into the UoL propelled transnational education framework, expected to lead to the establishment of teaching centers and parallel degree agreements in Nigerian universities.

Professor Rasheed described the theme of the symposium, “Why ODL is Still Important in the Future Development of Nigeria Higher Education,” as apt, considering the outbreak of COVID-19 in the year 2020, which exposed, unpleasantly, the unpreparedness of educational systems of many countries including the Nigerian University System (NUS) in programme delivery through ICT-enabled teaching and learning at a distance.



Engr. Kayode Odedina
NUC Director, Open, Distance and e-Learning (DODeL)

According to him, this realization and the attendant adverse effect of the pandemic on teaching, learning, and the general well-being of staff and students in the NUS informed the decision of the Commission to adopt the theme

“Distance Learning and COVID-19”, for the last symposium held on 22nd November 2021.



Dr. Noel Biodun Saliu
Deputy Executive Secretary (DES) Academics

He recounted that the theme at that time was also very timely and enriching, noting that the prospect of Open Distance and e-learning in Nigeria was very bright looking at the recent developments in ODL in the NUS.

He explained that the number of Distance Learning Institutions in the NUS has increased from seven in 2013 to 18 by 2022 and that enrolment figures in the Open and Distance Education (ODE) space in the NUS has also increased from 132,434 in 2014 to 634,642 in 2021 with NOUN enrolling 584,949 and dual-mode Universities enrolling about 52,675.

This, was an indication that there has been a general improvement in terms of awareness of the benefits of ODL and in the standard of practice for all facets of ODL in the NUS.

He, however, expressed the need for all to be conscious of the Nigerian context and the circumstances of the average Nigerian when it comes to the principle of appropriate technology given the fact that technology was available in a wide range from the low-end to the high-end.

The Executive Secretary said that the overarching objective was to promote and encourage the gradual but, steady integration of Information Communication Technology (ICT) into teaching and learning in the NUS. It would sustain the tempo of building the capacities of academic staff in the nation's ODL institutions to be sufficiently digitally savvy to upscale its practice in Nigeria.

He explained that the past was the traditional face-to-face mode of delivery, while the present included the blended mode which was already being adopted by many conventional universities



Dr. Linda Amrane-Cooper
Director, Centre for Online and Distance Education,
University of London

globally, but the future, considering the revolution in ICT being the open, distance and e-learning.

He expressed satisfaction with the level of awareness and the very best brains in the ODL space put

higher education. The recent developments, and future plans for ODL in Nigerian Higher

persons which included the Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, Professor



L-R: Engr. Odedina; Deputy Vice-Chancellor Obafemi Owolowo University, Ile-Ife, Professor (Mrs.) Olubola Babalola; Acting Director Inspection and Monitoring, NUC, Mrs. Lydia Imorua and Director Distance Learning Centre, Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye, Professor Adeboyega Afolabi

together for the symposium, stressing that drawing from their wealth of knowledge and experience, the time and resources expended in the FORUM were

Education, including ODL Centre approvals, issues in quality assurance for ODL including assessment innovations, measuring the

Wendy, as well as Drs. Linda, Kate and Akan, the Executive Secretary urged them to take advantage of the opportunity to bring themselves to speed with the



Participants of the single venue videoconferencing at Abuja

richly rewarding.

The NUC Scribe pointed out some emerging critical areas in the field including the future of global

unmeasurable, engaging with learning gain, and technologies for ODL in Nigeria.

While appreciating the resource

skills and competencies required for the development and delivery of open-distance e-learning and transnational education programmes in Nigerian higher

education institutions.

In power-point presentation at the technical session in London entitled “NUC Policy and Regulations on Open and Distance Learning Centres,” the Executive Secretary NUC, Professor

ICT Infrastructure, Library, Funding and Autonomy of Centre.

Professor Rasheed further highlighted that beside the regulatory frameworks put in place by the Commission to

Kayode Odedina, who gave a brief history of University education in Nigeria pointed out that the aftermath of the COVID-19 Pandemic brought about a shift in the delivery of education the world over.



Staff of the Open Distance and e-Learning Directorate at the videoconference in Abuja

Rasheed gave a detailed run down of the Nine-step Procedures for the Establishment of an ODL in Nigeria.

He also specified the Guidelines developed by the Commission for Open and Distance Learning in Nigerian Universities which covered the areas of entry requirements, the Nature of ODL Programmes, Delivery mode, Governance and Administration, Logistics and Utility Services, Pedagogy and Learning Resources, Open Educational Resources (OER) Policy. Others included Course Material Development and Acquisition Policy, Course Delivery Modalities, Learners Support, Staffing, Staff Development Policy, Evaluation and Assessment, Physical Facilities,

ensure take-off by DLCs on a solid footing as well as for smooth, efficient and effective operation of the Centres. Other measures were entrenched to ensure that the quality the DLCs attain upon commencement be sustained and improved upon.

These, according to him, included the Re-Validation visit, to be performed once every five years and Post-Validation Visit to the Distance Learning Centres, a quality assurance activity usually carried out after one academic year of operation.

In another presentation titled “The Recent Developments and Future Plans for ODL in Nigerian Higher Education,” the NUC Director, Open, Distance and e-Learning (DODeL), Engr.

He stated that the pandemic suddenly dawned it on everybody that technology-induced learning had come to stay.

He said some hitherto looked down technologies such as Zoom and many other collaborative software (e.g. Zoom Class, Google Classroom, Microsoft teams, WizIQ, Cisco WebEx etc.) came to limelight.

Engr. Odedina emphasised that one of the novelty of technology was that Assessments can be made more credible than the pen-on-paper examination. He expressed delight that many Nigerian Universities were becoming interested in dual mode delivery and willing to integrate e-learning into their academic activities.

He explained that NUC looks at expanding access through ODeL in three perspectives viz: Open and Distance Learning Mode; Transnational Education (TNE) and e-Learning.

He said, NUC had been able to license and would continue to regulate the activities of 17 Distance Learning Centres of Nigerian Universities.

Meanwhile, a Zoom Meeting set up by the University of London was used as the virtual platform for the participants at the Abuja end and both ends were able to view

participants, comprising of four Vice-Chancellors, two Deputy Vice-Chancellors and nine Directors of Distance Learning Centres from the London end.

The objectives of the symposium among others, include to:

- Promote a clear understanding of the rudiments, operational modalities, and quality imperatives required for the delivery of Open and Distance Learning Degree Programmes;
- Facilitate and strengthen the development of institutional and professional capacity in the

and the University of London.

Major highlights of the events included presentations on: "Exploring the Future of Global Higher Education," by a resource person from the Centre for Online and Distance Education, University of London, Professor Stephen Brown; as well as on "Measuring The Unmeasurable? Engaging with Learning Gain", by the Director of the Careers Group, Dr. Kate Daubney.

There were also ODL Centre Showcase by the Directors of the Distance Learning Institute of



Aerial View of other participants at the Conference

and communicate with each other during presentations and interactive sessions.

A total of 66 participants attended, cutting across 23 Nigerian universities and 11 staff of the Directorate of Open Distance and e-Learning. NUC participated in the hybrid event from Abuja end at the Idris Abdulkadir Auditorium, NUC, Abuja. Others included 35

Nigerian University System, for sustainable Open, Distance and e-Learning mode and optimization of Transnational Educational opportunities in Nigerian Universities; and

- Provide new insight into NUC's regulatory guidelines from UoL's practical experience and to promote sustainable partnerships and collaborations between universities in Nigeria

University of Lagos, Professor Uchenna Udeani and the Centre for Distance Learning & Continuing Education (CDL & CEO), University of Abuja, Professor Ayuba Bello.

Others were panel discussions bordering on Issues in Quality Assurance for ODL," with the Chair as Pro Vice-Chancellor, University of London, Professor

Mary Stiasny, OBE. Discussants of the topic included Deputy Director, Transnational Education, NUC, Mrs. Funke Sule; Director, ABU Distance Learning Centre, Professor Sule, Ibrahim Mohammed and that of Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, Professor Emmanuel A. Ayodeji.

The other discussion centred on “Technologies for ODL in Nigeria,” moderated by Africa Regional Business Adviser, University of London, Dr. Akanimo Odon; and the panelists were Deputy Director, ODL, NUC, Mrs. Hadiza Ramallan; Director, Distance Learning Centre, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH), Ogbomoso, Nigeria, Professor Tayo Arulogun; Director, Distance Learning Centre, Afe Babalola

University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria, Professor Tolu Ogunnusi and the CEO AppsFlyer, Nigeria and

West Africa, Mr. Michael Zaitsev.



Engr. Odedina, Dr. Amrane-Cooper and NUC Acting Director, Finance and Account, Mrs. Hauwa Amos (front row) with other University of London Faculty Members and participants at the Hybrid Symposium in London

Librarians Demand Protection in new CCMAS

A coalition of Librarians comprising the Library Registration Council of Nigeria (LRCN), Nigerian Library Association (NLA) and the Association of University Libraries of Nigerian Universities (AULNU), last Wednesday visited the National Universities Commission (NUC). They made a succinct demand that the core tenets and values of Library and Information Science (LIS) profession be preserved by not allowing the programme to be domiciled in the Education Faculty of Nigerian Universities as

proposed in the new Core Curriculum Minimum Academic Standards (CCMAS) documents developed by experts under the supervision of the Commission.

While presenting their case to the Executive Secretary, NUC, Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, mni, MFR, FNAL, who was represented by the Deputy Executive Secretary (DES), Academics, Dr. Noel Saliu, the team leader and President of NLA, Professor Dominic Omokaro expressed delight that its members were

invited as part of the nation's curriculum re-engineering.

He, however, noted that in the course of the assignment LIS was treated unfairly by those in the Education Review Committee by forcing the infusion of the programme into its domain.

He reiterated that LIS as a profession should be guarded and supported for its survival. He noted that LIS as practiced the world over, was mostly either domiciled in the Social Science or in the Information and

Communication Technology (ICT) and Computing Discipline.

He stated that professionalism must be encouraged in all spheres in Nigeria and LIS as a profession should not be an exception. He noted that LIS has always been a backbone in the quest for the nation's development and should

field. The exercise if allowed, could hardly give students adequate hands-on experience or enhance library practice.

He added that such attempt to force the LIS into the education field would portend a bad omen for its practitioners as no one would earn any reputation or

programmes in LIS in the Nigerian University System (NUS) was not practicable, viable and should be reversed.

The President noted that the future of students whom the programme was being designed for in the CCMAS would be jeopardised and made unemployable, stating that he was sure that would not be the intent of the NUC.

He appealed that all the education courses which were planted into the LIS Programme be expunged forthwith to enable students focus on the core purpose of the programme as practiced the world over.

He reiterated that the society and the environment dictate what and how the curriculum should be designed, arguing that LIS was tilting more towards Computing and ICT and must be the fulcrum of any future plans.

Earlier in his remarks, the Registrar/CEO, LRCN, FNLA, Professor Jaafaru Abdulahi Wase said that LRCN being the regulatory organ of the Librarian profession and empowered to do so by Decree No. 12 of 1995, to amongst others, determine the minimum requirements for the study and practice of Library and Information Science in Nigeria as well as determine what knowledge and skills was required for practice by Librarians and reviewing those standards from time to time.

He further appealed to the NUC to



The ES Representative and Deputy Executive Secretary (DES), Academics, Dr. Noel Saliu receiving a souvenir from the team leader and President of Nigerian Library Association (NLA), Professor Dominic Omokaro after the visit of the Librarians to the Commission

be treated with that recognition.

He informed the Executive Secretary that LIS students had never belonged to core education and should not be awarded Bachelor of Education Degree. He explained that students of LIS only borrow courses in the education discipline to gain wider knowledge and this should not be misconstrued or used as a ploy to drag them into the core education family.

Professor Omokaro further stated that even the proposal for teaching practice scheme for the LIS came as a surprise and strange to the

recognition by parading B. Ed in Library Science.

According to him, the inclusion in the world over has no place and should not hold sway. Rather, LIS, had been nursing the idea of creating a distinct discipline for itself.

He cited the examples of countries where LIS had nothing to do with the education discipline to include; University of the British Columbia; University of North Carolina and Makerere University, among others. He, therefore, said that the infusion of education

see reasons with the position of all Librarians in Nigeria to uphold the tenets of the profession, stating that doing so would protect LIS from the impending calamity those in the education discipline wanted to impose on its profession.

In the same vein, the CEO, National Library, Professor Chinwe V. Anunobi, said she was

stressed that anything short of it was to shut down the profession and take it into oblivion.

A member of the team, who double as to both the LRCN and NLA, Professor Innocent I. Ekoja, noted that himself and the Registrar of LRCN, were the only ones incorporated as part of the Curriculum Review team.

and

- Reversal of B.Ed Library Science as a No-No as it Negates LRCN Regulations.

Responding on behalf of the Executive Secretary, Dr Noel Saliu, who apologised for the ES inability to receive them in person said, the Commission was moving in line with current trends where



The meeting of the NUC team with the librarians in session

conversant with the deficiencies librarians were exposed to which she alluded to more of ICT-related than carrying courses in the education faculty.

According to her, having traversed the academic level and as the National Librarian, she was very much aware of the functioning of LIS and that there was no where it was domiciled or practiced under the education discipline.

The Chair of AULNU, Professor Jibril A. Alhassan said, librarians would be comfortable to move as earlier discussed with the Executive Secretary to either Social Science or the ICT. He

He lamented how they were schemed out during the voting process which had core members of the education family in the majority when the issue was brought up during the discussion meeting for the CCMAS.

He said the position of librarians would rather be that NUC allow them to unbundle LIS to enable the profession develop its own faculty.

The team articulated its demand to include:

- Removal of the infused education courses in LIS;
- Cancellation of the teaching practice in the scheme;

Universities would be allowed the universities to own the curriculum.

He noted that it was on this basis that NUC introduced the CCMAS by providing 70 % and allowing the universities to come up with the balance of 30% even though the initial proposal was for 60 to 40 which most Vice-Chancellors said was impromptu.

The DES Academics drew the attention of NLA and LIS members to recognise that there was no perfect document anywhere in the world, arguing that the CCMAS was neither perfect and would continue to

evolve.

He explained that having listened to them carefully and curiously too, that the domiciliation of LIS

about the entry requirements in its proposal in their pursuit to move the LIS programme to Computing or ICT being a purely science-based

O. Omekwu.

At the meeting were the NUC Directors of: Human Resource (DHR), Mr. Boniface Odum;



L-R: Dr. Saliu; Director, Executive Secretary's Office (DESO), Mr. John Mairafi Ahmadu; Acting Director, Public Affairs (DPA), Alh. Lawal Haruna Ajo and Deputy Director Curriculum Development, in the Directorate of Academic Planning (DAP), Dr. Mrs Esther Mmekwa.

was not a challenge but, something that could be resolved collectively.

He promised to brief the Executive Secretary appropriately on the meeting outcome noting that it would be handled by all the parties at the roundtable. He also stated that the Librarians should think

programme(s).

At the end of the deliberations, Dr. Saliu assured them that NUC would communicate to them in due course.

Also in the team was a member of the NLA, Professor Charles

Executive Secretary's Office (DESO), Mr. John Mairafi Ahmadu; Acting Director, Public Affairs (DPA), Alh. Lawal Haruna Ajo and Deputy Director Curriculum Development, in the Directorate of Academic Planning (DAP), Dr. Mrs Esther Mmekwa.



Dr. Saliu and Prof. Omokaro (5th and 6th left) with other visiting librarians and some members of NUC Management



EduCase Finland Hands NUC Concept Note on Collaboration with Nigerian Varsities

An EDUCase team comprising an amalgamation of several universities from Finland, led by the Chairperson, Start North, Dr. Jari Handelberg, last Thursday, visited the Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC), Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, MFR, FNAL, to present a concept note for collaboration with Nigerian Universities in the areas of entrepreneurship, research and technology deployment in the learning environment, among others.

Briefing the Executive Secretary, who was represented by the Deputy Executive Secretary (DES) Academics, Dr. Noel Biodun Saliu, the Chairperson disclosed that Educase platform was a pilot initiative of the Finnish Ministry for Education and Culture's Global Programme 2021-2024, with a network of 11 universities and 15 universities of applied sciences.

She said EduCase represents the majority of higher education institutions (HEIs) in Finland, with the entire network coordinated by Aalto University. She told the Executive Secretary that a

Nigerian who was also a Visiting Scholar, Professor Olatundun Janet Adelegan belonged to the Faculty of the Aalto University.

According to her, such case studies offered a tangible modality of cooperation to address intersecting sustainable development challenges, with



The Deputy Executive Secretary (DES) Academics, Dr. Noel Biodun Saliu receiving a souvenir from the Chairperson, Start North, EduCase Finland, Dr. Jari Handelberg

She stated that the platform facilitates joint learning activities and aims to scale up collaboration with partner countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

Dr. Handelberg explained that the network promotes practical case collaborations for education, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship skills development between Finnish and partner country HEIs.

stakeholders representing various cultures, institutions, and areas of expertise.

Some of the main objectives which EDUCase Platform promotes in the area of Multicultural and multidisciplinary academic cooperation included:

- education and knowledge relevant to the challenges of sustainable development as applied to regional contexts of the countries in Sub-Saharan

Africa and South Asia

- methods of student-centered education and peer work (e.g., problem-based

cooperation between universities and innovation actors; Strengthening responsible innovation and entrepreneurship

Global South networks focusing on Africa; EDUCase Network, FAPI, GINTL Africa, and SAFINET. These thematic networks aimed to



The Interactive Meeting between the EduCase team with NUC and a Representative of the Nigerian Universities ongoing

teaching, entrepreneurship training, innovation, co-mentoring, and co-creation) in Finland and partner countries

- reciprocal and responsible academic and entrepreneurial practices and concepts of global responsibility
- working life and entrepreneurship skills, cross-sectoral critical thinking, and sustainability skills for students.

She highlighted some of the ideas as novel Academic activities that connect to innovation ecosystems for sustainable development which Finish universities embark upon to include: Enhancing practical

competencies at ecosystem levels as well as Contributing to increased academic engagement between Finland and partner countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia .

The main objective of the event was to share information on Africa-focused funding mechanisms and current opportunities from a variety of sources. The target groups for this event are faculty and staff of Finnish Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).

The organizers of the webinar were the four MEC-supported

facilitate joint research, education, and innovation collaboration between Finnish HEIs and African partners. The networks seek mutual and long-term partnerships that foster sustainable impact.

She revealed that another major university in the EduCase network included Lut University, which is a Finnish public research university established in 1969. The University's Lappeenranta campus situated on the shore of Lake Saimaa – the 4th largest lake in Europe, while its second campus in the Finnish city of Lahti. The university also has

research units in the Finnish cities of Mikkeli and Kouvola, as well as a regional office in Brussels, Belgium.

reside in the larger Lappeenranta campus area, and the Lahti campus hosts around 1,000 students. The university also hosts 1,090

of being strategically located to benefit from the technology.

She stated that the EduCase team desire to establish



The meeting of the NUC team with the EduCase delegation from Finland in session

She informed the Executive Secretary that LUT University being a University of Technology, specialized its academics and research in the fields of engineering and technology. The university also has a school of business and a department of social sciences and had developed specialisation in renewable technology, clean water and energy, combating climate change and finding sustainable engineering solutions.

There are 1,237 staff members and 7,110 undergraduate and graduate students in the university. Over 5,000 students

students attending Open University and 816 students in continuing education and incidentally has one of its Nigerian student in the team, Mr. Chukwuma Igboanua, who has been a Research Fellow in the Institution.

Dr. Hadelberg added that opportunities abound for Nigerian students as those who study via the technology-modulated process of those universities had no issue with losing their cultural identity as over 40 million jobs could be created through the remote process she also stressed that the students had the advantage

collaboration with Nigerian Universities to make contribution in addressing the increasing demand for quality higher education in Nigeria and Africa at large. The NUC acknowledged elsewhere the importance of first-time global mobility of people and educational services from one country to the other.

She added that, this would foster collaborations between Nigeria and Finland and Finnish universities and their counterparts in Nigeria, stressing that a lot of benefits were derivable by the collaborations under the

EduCase initiative.

The Chairperson of the Start North assured the NUC that the team was willing to undertake joint collaborative research and provide venture capitals to Nigerian students as these capitals would afford them opportunities to have access to various beneficial programmes while on study in Finland Universities.

She further said that, EduCase was already in the process of signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with some existing universities that had shown interest for partnership in higher education which will be presented to NUC for ratification.

Responding, the Executive Secretary stated that it was not surprising that Nigerians decided to study in most parts of the world including Finland, noting that the stringent admission policy as well as the restricted quota was responsible for the increasing number of Nigerians pursuing education elsewhere.

He informed the delegation that NUC will review the EduCase proposal at the management level since the document was just being received.

Harping on the request for NUC's endorsement of the proposal, Dr. Saliu informed them that the universities might not swallow the

contents hook, line and sinker, but look into the nitty gritty of areas that would interest them on individual basis as the case might be.

Both parties however agreed that as soon as the Executive Secretary returns, a technical team would be raised to further explore the possibilities as expressed in the concept note.

At the meeting were the NUC Directors of: Human Resource (DHR), Mr. Boniface Odum; Executive Secretary's Office (DESO), Mr. John Mairafi Ahmadu; Ag. Director, Public Affairs, Alh. Haruna Lawal Ajo and Deputy Director Curriculum Development, in the Directorate of Academic Planning (DAP), Dr. Mrs Esther Mmeka.



Drs. Saliu and Handelberg (6th and 7th right) in a group photograph with the visiting EduCase delegation and some members of the NUC Management



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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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, Seventeen Universities in the NUS, 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.
15. Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti - Open and Distance Learning Centre.
16. Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye, Open and Distance Learning Centre.
17. Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Porthacourt, Institute of Distance Education..

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, *mni, MFR, FNAL*
Executive Secretary, NUC
Announcer



LIST OF APPROVED UNIVERSITIES IN NIGERIA

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, Bui	2018
10	University of Jos, Jos	1975	27	Fed. Univ. of Petroleum Resources, Effurun	2007	44	Federal University of Health Sciences, Otuoke, 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	50	King David Umahi University of Medical Sciences, Uburu, Ebonyi State	2022
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	21	Kaduna State University, Kaduna	2004	41	Edo University, Iyamho	2016
2	Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma	1980	22	Cross River University of Technology, Calabar	2004	42	Kingsley Ozumba (K.O) Mbadiwe University, Imo State	2016
3	Abia State University, Uturu	1981	23	Plateau State University, Boko	2005	43	University of Africa, Toru-Orua	2016
4	Enugu State University of Science & Tech, Enugu	1982	24	Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology, Okitipupa, Ondo State	2008	44	Borno State University	2016
5	Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye	1982	25	Ibrahim Babangida University, Lapai, Niger State	2005	45	Moshood Abiola University of Science and Technology, Abeokuta	2017
6	Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti. (formerly University of Ado-Ekiti)	1982	26	Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagun	2005	46	Gombe State University of Science and Technology, Kumo	2017
7	Lagos State University, Ojo, Lagos	1983	27	Umaru Musa Yar'Adua University, Katsina	2006	47	Zamfara State University, Talata-Mafara	2018
8	Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso	1990	28	Yobe State University Damaturu, Yobe State	2006	48	Bayelsa Medical University Yenagoa, Bayelsa State	2019
9	Imo State University, Owerri	1992	29	Kebbi State University of Science and Technology, Alkaleri	2006	49	University of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Umuagwo, Imo State	2019
10	Benue State University, Makurdi	1992	30	Osun State University, Osogbo	2006	50	Bamidele Olumula University of Education Science and Technology, Ikere - Ekiti State	2020
11	Delta State University, Abraka	1992	31	Taraba State University, Jalingo	2008	51	Confluence University of Science and Technology Osara, Kogi State	2020
12	Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba - Akoko	1999	32	Kwara State University, Ilorin	2009	52	University of Delta, Agbor, Delta State	2021
13	Kogi State University, Anyigba	1999	33	Sokoto State University, Sokoto	2009	53	University of Science and Technology, Ozo, Delta State	2021
14	Niger-Delta University, Yenagoa	2000	34	Akwa Ibom State University, Ikot Ikpaden	2010	54	Dennis Osadebay University, Asaba, Delta State	2021
15	Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Uli	2000	35	Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni	2010	55	Lagos University of Education, LASUED, Oto/Ijanikin, Lagos State	2022
16	Aliko Dangote University of Science & Technology, Wudil	2000	36	Bauchi State University, Gadau	2011	56	Lagos University of Science and Technology, Ikorodu, Lagos State	2022
17	Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki	2000	37	Maitama Sule University, Kano	2012	57	Shehu Shagari University of Education, Sokoto, Sokoto State	2022
18	Nasarawa State University, Keffi	2002	38	Technical University, Ibadan	2012	58	Enugu State University of Medical and Applied Sciences, Igbo-Eno, Enugu State	2022
19	Adamawa State University, Mubi	2002	39	Sule Lamido University, Kafin Hausa	2013	59	University of Ilesha, Osun State	2022
20	Gombe State University, Gombe	2004	40	Ondo State University of Medical Sciences	2015	60	Emmanuel Alayande University of Education, Oyo, Oyo State	2022
						61	Sa'adatu Rimi University of Education, Kumbotso, Kano, Kano State	2023



PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.	S/N	INSTITUTIONS	Year Est.
1	Babcock University, Ilishan-Remo, Ogun State	1999	38	Paul University, Awka, Anambra State	2009	76	Greenfield University, Kasarami-Kaduna, Kaduna State	2019
2	Madonna University, Okija, Anambra State	1999	39	Rhema University, Obeama-Asa, Rivers State	2009	77	Dominion University, Ibadan, Oyo State	2019
3	Igbinedion University, Okada, Edo State	1999	40	Wellspring University, Evbuobanosa, Edo State	2009	78	Trinity University, Laloko, Ogun State	2019
4	Bowen University, Iwo, Ogun State	2001	41	Adeleke University, Ede, Osun State	2011	79	Westland University, Iwo, Osun State	2019
5	Benson Idahosa University, Benin City, Edo State	2002	42	Baze University, FCT Abuja	2011	80	Topfaith University, Mkpatak, Akwa-Ibom State	2021
6	Covenant University, Otta, Ogun State	2002	43	Landmark University Omu-Aran., Kwara State	2011	81	Thomas Adewumi University, Oko-Irese, Kwara State	2021
7	Pan-Atlantic University, Lekki-Express Way, Lagos State	2002	44	Glorious Vision University (formerly Samuel Adegboyea University), Ogwa, Edo State	2011	82	Maranatha University, Lekki, Lagos State	2021
8	American University of Nigeria, Yola, Adamawa State	2003	45	Mepheron University, Seriki Sotayo, Ajebo, State	2012	83	Ave-Maria University, Piyanko, Nasarawa State	2021
9	Ajayi Crowther University, Ibadan, Oyo State	2005	46	Elizade University, Ilara-Mokin, Ondo State	2012	84	AL-Istiqama University, Sumaila, Kano State	2021
10	Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin, Kwara State	2005	47	Southwestern University Oku Owa, Ogun State	2012	85	Mudiame University, Irrua, Edo State	2021
11	Al-Qalam University, Katsina, Katsina State	2005	48	Evangel University, Akaeze, Ebonyi State	2012	86	Havilla University, Nde-Ikom, Cross River State	2021
12	Bells University of Technology, Otta, Ogun State	2005	49	Gregory University, Uturu, Abia State	2012	87	Claretian University of Nigeria, Nekede, Imo State	2021
13	Bingham University, New-Karu, Nasarawa State	2005	50	Augustine University, Ilara, Lagos State	2015	88	Karl-Kumm University, Vom, Plateau State	2021
14	Caritas University, Enugu, Enugu State	2005	51	Chrisland University, Owode, Ogun State	2015	89	Nok University, Kachia, Kaduna State	2021
15	Crawford University, Igbesa, Ogun State	2005	52	Christopher University, Mowe, Ogun State	2015	90	James Hope University, Lekki, Lagos State	2021
16	Crescent University, Abeokuta, Ogun State	2005	53	Hallmark University, Ijebu-Itele, Ogun State	2015	91	Maryam Abacha American University of Nigeria, Kano, Kano State	2021
17	Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo State	2005	54	Kings University Ode-Omu, Osun State	2015	92	Capital City University, Kano, Kano State	2021
18	Kwararafa University, Wukari, Taraba State	2005	55	Michael & Cecilia Ibru University, Owhode, Delta State	2015	93	Ahman Pategi University, Patigi, Kwara State	2021
19	Redeemer's University, Mowe, Ogun State	2005	56	Mountain Top University, Makogi/Oba, Ogun State	2015	94	University of Offa, Offa, Kwara State	2021
20	Renaissance University, Enugu, Enugu State	2005	57	Ritman University, Ikot Ekpene, Akwalbom State	2015	95	Mewar University, Masaka, Nasarawa State	2021
21	University of Mkar, Mkar, Benue State	2005	58	Summit University, Offa, Kwara State	2015	96	Edusoko University, Bida, Niger State	2021
22	Novena University, Ogume, Delta State	2005	59	Edwin Clerk University, Kiagbodo, Delta State	2015	97	Philomath University, Kuje, Abuja	2021
23	Joseph Ayo Babalola University, Ikeji-Arakeji, Osun State	2006	60	Hezekiah University, Umudi, Imo State	2015	98	Khadija University, Majia, Jigawa State	2021
24	Veritas University, Abuja, FCT 2006	2006	61	Anchor University Ayobo, Lagos State	2015	99	ANAN University, Kwall, Plateau State	2021
25	Achievers University, Owo, Ondo State	2007	62	Arthur Jarvis University Akpabuyo, Cross River State	2016	100	Pen Resource University, Gombe, Gombe State	2022
26	African University of Science & Technology, Abuja, FCT	2007	63	Clifford University, Owerinta, Abia State	2016	101	Al-Ansar University, Maiduguri, Borno State	2022
27	Caleb University, Imota, Lagos State	2007	64	Coal City University Enugu, Enugu State	2016	102	Margaret Lawrence University, Galilee, Delta State	2022
28	Fountain University, Oshogbo, Osun State	2007	65	Crown-Hill University Eiyenkorin, Kwara State	2016	103	Khalifa Isiyaku Rabi University, Gadon Kaya City Gate Kano, Kano State	2022
29	Obong University. Obong Ntak, Akwa Ibom State	2007	66	Dominican University, Ibadan, Oyo State	2016	104	Sports University, Idumuje, Ugboko, Delta State	2022
30	Tansian University, Umunya, Anambra State	2007	67	Kola Daisi University, Ibadan, Oyo State	2016	105	Baba-Ahmed University, Kano, Kano State, Kano, Kano State	2022
31	Wesley University of Science & Technology, Ondo State	2007	68	Legacy University, Okija, Anambra State	2016	106	Saisa University Of Medical Sciences And Technology, Sokoto, Sokoto State	2022
32	Western Delta University, Oghara, Delta State	2007	69	Admiralty University, Ibusa, Delta State	2017	107	Nigerian British University, Asa, Abia State	2022
33	Salem University, Lokoja, Kogi State	2007	70	Spiritan University, Nneochi, Abia State	2017	108	Peter University, Achina-Onneh, Anambra Stat	2022
34	Afe Babalola University Ado-Ekiti - Ekiti State	2007	71	Precious Cornerstone, Ibadan, Oyo State	2017	109	Newgate University, Minna, Niger State	2022
35	Godfrey Okoye University, Ugwuomu-Nike, Enugu State	2007	72	PAMO University of Medical Sciences, Port-Harcourt, Rivers State	2017	110	European University of Nigeria, Duboyi, Abuja, FCT	2022
36	Nigerian-Turkish Nile University, FCT Abuja	2009	73	Atiba University, Oyo, Oyo State	2017	111	Northwest University, Sokoto, Sokoto State	2022
37	Oduduwa University, Ipetumodu - Osun State	2009	74	Eko University of Medical Sciences, Ijanikin, Lagos	2017			
			75	Skyline University, Nigeria, Kano, Kano State	2018			



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 Udoso 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, Mbaise, 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, Arochukwu, 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, mni, MFR, FNAL
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION
ANNOUNCER

This Week's Birthdays



NAMES			DATE OF BIRTH
PAMELA	AZUKA	AZUBUIKE	24 April
PETER	SEGUN	LEO	24 April
ADAMU		ISAH	25 April
KALTUME	GIWA-AMU	UMMA	26 April
OLUCHI	LOVETH	AHUCHAOGU	26 April
EUCHARIA	CHINYEAKA	OCHU	26 April
CATHERINE	AMAUCHE	OKOLI	27 April
OLUFUNKE	ADEBOLA	AKANDE	27 April
ENO	NDAEYO	UDOFI	27 April
EMMANUEL	AMAOBICHUKWU	EKUMAIBE	27 April
MOHAMMED		AYUBA	29 April
PATIENCE	AMIETE	BEREDUGO	29 April
OLANREWaju	OLUKOREDE	BAMUGBOYE	29 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 Unit



**NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION
AJA NWACHUKWU HOUSE
No 26, Aguiyi Ironsi street,
Maitama District, P.M.B 237, Garki G.P.O,
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