



# BSU CEFTEF COMPLEX





# **BSUnews**

**Scientia Liberatio Populorum**

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## **BSU 22ND - 24TH COMBINED CONVOCAATION CEREMONIES**



- Governor Alia Inaugurates Governing Council
- Chairman of Council on Visit to Faculty of Law, Awards Scholarship to Students.
- New Registrar and Provost appointed
- BSU-CEFTR @10: Driving Agricultural Innovation and Food Security
- UNHCR Partners BSU

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**Revd Fr Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia**  
Executive Governor of Benue State

### Honourable Chancellor

**HRH Dr. Najib Hussaini Adamu, CON**  
Emir of Kazaure

**Pro-Chancellor/Chairman of Council**  
**Sir Paul Chukwuma**

### Vice-Chancellor

**Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, fsonta, fnipr, ksm**

### Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration)

**Professor Mike Odugbo Odey**

### Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

**Professor Simon Terver Ubwa**

### Provost, College of Health Sciences

**Professor Andrea Ornguze**

### Registrar

**Barnabas Terfa Hemba, MAUA**

### Bursar

**Dr. Amos Egwurube Otse**

### University Librarian

**Professor Innocent Isa Ekoja**

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## Vision

To be the University of First Choice in Nigeria and Africa and among the top 200 in the world.

## Mission

To be a Centre of Excellence in creating knowledge and developing a complete person who is capable of not only responding to the cultural, social, political and economic needs of the environment but also setting the agenda for change.

## University Anthem

Hail Great Benue State University  
First of its kind, North of the Niger  
Hail Great BSU, seated in the Benue trough  
Citadel of Academic excellence  
Lone pearl in the heart of the savannah  
Where knowledge sails beneath the smiling  
gaze of the African sun

Scientia Liberatio Populorum  
We liberate through radiant knowledge  
Born in response to a genuine need  
To bridge the gap of illiteracy  
To foster unity in diversity  
Diligence, commitment our watch words  
We develop manpower and preserve socio-cultural heritage

So let's arise  
And light up wisdom's path  
God on our side, we'll stand like a giant  
Let's all arise  
And take our place  
In the haven of cultured men and women  
Let's all arise  
And leave behind  
Traditions for generations to come  
So now arise, Great BSU  
Arise and light up wisdom's path.

# FROM THE EDITORIAL DESK

## Embracing New Horizons at Benue State University

I am pleased to bring you highlights of some of the significant developments within our institution. Firstly, congratulations to three distinguished individuals on their recent appointments to important offices at Benue State University. The new Chancellor, His Royal Highness, Dr. Najib Hussaini Adamu, CON, the Emir of Kazaure. The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Sir Paul Chukwuma and the new Registrar Barnabas Terfa Hemba, a proven university administrator. Their leadership and expertise will undoubtedly contribute to the University's ongoing mission of excellence in education and research.

Furthermore, we are excited to report on the remarkable infrastructural growth taking place across the university. These developments not only enhance our campus but also create a more conducive environment for learning, research, and personal growth. At Benue State University, we have always taken pride in our commitment to innovation. Our establishment of the Centre for Technology Innovative Complex and the forthcoming Unipod hub exemplify our dedication to equipping students with the skills essential for success in an ever-changing global landscape. This new phase presents an unprecedented opportunity to delve into emerging trends in education, technology, and research.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all who participated in the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th combined convocation ceremonies during which First Degrees, Postgraduate Diplomas, Higher Degrees and Honorary Doctorate Degrees were conferred on deserving persons. A total of 18,677 degrees were conferred on 16,120 first degree graduates, with 44 achieving first-class honors, 551 Ph.D. recipients, 1,825 with Master's degrees, and 181 postgraduate diplomas. Additionally, six distinguished Nigerians were honored with Honorary Doctorate Degrees. The event, a very memorable one for the university was a huge success as the University celebrated the hard work and achievements of its graduates.

Join us in embracing these new horizons as we look forward to a promising future for Benue State University.

Best regards,

**Dr. Bibiana Ayabam**, mnipr  
Editor





# **SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY, REV. FR. DR. HYACINTH IORMEM ALIA, THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF BENUE STATE, AT THE 22<sup>ND</sup>, 23<sup>RD</sup> AND 24<sup>TH</sup> COMBINED CONVOCATION CEREMONIES OF THE BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY, MAKURDI**

## **PROTOCOL**

**I**t is with utmost delight and a profound sense of responsibility that I stand to address you today as the Visitor to our prestigious Benue State University, Makurdi, on the occasion of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> combined convocation ceremonies.

This gathering is not only a celebration of academic excellence but also a reminder of the resilience, determination and progress that this great institution has demonstrated over the years.

Convocation ceremonies hold a special place in the life of a university. They are moments of reflection on past achievements, celebration of present accomplishments and a time to chart a course for the future.

Today, we celebrate the graduands of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> convocation years, who have persevered through academic rigours to attain this feat.

For over three decades, Benue State University has been a beacon of hope and a hub of academic excellence, producing graduates who have excelled in various fields and contributed significantly to the development of society.

In this light, I wish to commend the Management, staff and students of the University for their unwavering commitment to academic excellence, research and community service.

Your efforts have no doubt continued to place BSU among the leading universities in Nigeria. I urge you to sustain this momentum, even as we collectively tackle the



**Gov. Alia**

challenges facing higher education in the country.

While we celebrate today, we must also reflect on the challenges confronting the Nigerian education system, particularly our universities. Issues ranging from inadequate funding, deficits in infrastructure, brain drain and the need to develop curricula in line with the demands of the 21st-century economy, are pressing concerns. As a government, we are aware of these and are constantly in liaison with the University Management and other relevant stakeholders towards addressing the aforementioned areas of concern.

I wish to reaffirm my administration's commitment to the development of education in Benue State. We will continue to support Benue State University in its quest for excellence by prioritizing funding, improving infrastructure and fostering partnerships with national and international organisations.

Together, we will create an environment that encourages research, innovation, and entrepreneurship among our students.

To bring education closer to the people and cater for the growing demand for higher education at the grassroots, we are establishing a Benue State University campus at Adikpo in Kwande Local Government Area. This strategic expansion will enhance access to education and strengthen the University's role in developing human capital base across the state.

We also intend to establish a satellite campus of BSU in the Benue South Senatorial District. This would bring education closer to the people of the area. I enjoin the Vice Chancellor and his Management team to work closely with us towards actualizing this goal.

Similarly, in line with our vision to broaden the educational opportunities available to our people, I am delighted to



announce the establishment of the University of Agriculture, Science and Technology at Ihugh in Vandeikya Local Government Area. This new institution will focus on harnessing the vast agricultural potentials of our state, promoting technological innovation, and contributing to national food security.

These initiatives are a clear demonstration of our commitment to providing transformative education and fostering socio-economic growth for the benefit of present and future generations.

Your Excellencies, the Chancellor, Pro Chancellor and Chairman of the BSU Governing Council, distinguished guests, graduands and students, I remember correctly that about two decades ago, this University was rated second best performing University among state owned universities in Nigeria. I am looking forward to seeing when BSU will break another record that would launch the institution on a global pedestal.

To our esteemed graduands, the future lies ahead of you, filled with endless possibilities and challenges. As you leave this University, I urge you to be excellent ambassadors of Benue State and the University, as well as role models in your various spheres of influence.

Use your education as a tool for positive change. Uphold the values of integrity, hard work and service, and strive to contribute to the growth and development of our dear state and country at large.

Remember, success is not measured solely by personal achievements but by the impact you make on the lives of others. Be proactive in seeking opportunities, resilient in the face of adversity and innovative in your pursuits. Nigeria and, indeed, the world need your talents, knowledge, creativity,

and leadership.

To the Management, staff and students of the University, I commend your hard work and dedication to excellence. Let us continue to work together to uphold the vision and mission of this great citadel of learning.

I wish to pay glowing tributes to all those that have contributed to making BSU a great institution today. Notable among them is Late Rev. Fr Moses Orshio Adasu who midwived the creation of Benue State University.

It is in recognition of Late Governor Adasu's vision that we have sent an executive bill to the Benue State House of Assembly, proposing the renaming of BSU after the Clergyman. This move is being conceived in good conscience to give honour to one who deserves it.

I equally extend the respect of our administration to past state governments, Pro-Chancellors, Vice Chancellors, and all men and women of goodwill who have contributed immensely to the development of this University.

Let me take this opportunity to specifically congratulate the Vice Chancellor Prof. Tor Joe Iorapuu and his entire Management team for marking the Centre for Food Technology and Research (CEFTER) at ten. We shall sustain partnership with World Bank and other sponsors for sustenance of the programme.

My administration intends to leverage CEFTER in handling post-harvest wastages in the state. Therefore, it is our determination to ensure that our moribund indigenous companies including the Wannune Fruit Juice factory and Taraku Mills Limited, that are concerned with preservation and storage of agricultural products, are repositioned to achieve their set

goals. Through this, we will be able to create more job opportunities for our teeming youth across the state.

My government has placed premium value on agriculture. It is on this note that I encourage all our graduands and including those already working, to get to the farms. Apart from enhancing per capita income, this trend would reduce the pressure on the quest for white collar jobs, jobs that are hardly available.

For those of you pursuing your studies, I urge you to remain committed to the course of acquiring knowledge in the hope to proffer practical solutions to society's challenges.

Before I take my seat, let me specially congratulate the newly appointed Chancellor of our dear University, HRH Alhaji Dr Najib Hussaini Adamu, CON – the Emir of Kazaure. Your latest appointment was never a coincidence; it was a carefully thought-out decision that was largely informed by your antecedents in the pursuit of excellence, and tenacity in leadership positions. I am highly optimistic that BSU would soon feel the impact of these uncommon qualities of yours.

Finally, I wish to specially congratulate all the award recipients at this occasion, as well as the forty-four first-class graduands, and in fact all persons conferred with both academic and honorary degrees today. Your names have been etched in the annals of history, as far as BSU and indeed excellence are concerned.

As we mark the last phase of these convocation ceremonies, I enjoin us all to remember that education is not merely a means to an end, but a tool for transformation of self, society, and the entire world.

Thank you and may God bless you all.



**CONVOCATION ADDRESS BY THE CHANCELLOR, BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY,  
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, DR. NAJIB HUSSAINI ADAMU, CON,  
THE EMIR OF KAZAURE AT THE 22<sup>ND</sup>-24<sup>TH</sup> COMBINED CONVOCATION CEREMONY  
ON SATURDAY, 7TH DECEMBER 2024 AT THE NEW CONVOCATION SQUARE,  
BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY, MAKURDI**

**Y**our Excellency, the Executive Governor of Benue State and Visitor to the University, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia,  
Your Excellencies, Visiting Governors,  
Your Excellency, the Deputy Governor of Benue State, Barr. Dr. Samuel Ode, mni,  
The Honourable Speaker, Benue State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon.

Executive Councils,  
My Lords, Spiritual and Temporal,  
The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Benue State University, Sir Paul Chukwuma,  
The Vice-Chancellor, Benue State University, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu and Former Vice-Chancellors of the University,  
Royal Fathers,  
Special Advisers and other top

Tertiary Institutions,  
Heads of Ministries, Departments and Agencies,  
Members of the Governing Council, Senate and Principal Officers of Benue State University,  
Chairman of ALGON and Other Local Government Council Chairmen,  
Distinguished Graduands,  
Staff and Students of Benue State



**HRH, Dr. Adamu**

Hyacinth Aondona Dajoh  
Members of the National and State House of Assembly,  
The Chief Judge of Benue State, Justice Maurice Ikpambese,  
The President, Customary Court of Appeal, Benue State, Justice Cosmos Idye,  
Honorary Graduands,  
Members of the Federal and State

Government Functionaries,  
The Executive Secretary, Tertiary Education Fund, Arch. Sonny S.T. Echono,  
The Acting Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission, Mr. Chris Jibreel Maiyaki,  
Visiting Chancellors, Pro-Chancellors and Heads of other

University,  
Parents, Guardians and Friends of the University,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Gentlemen of the Press,  
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen  
I bring you warm, fraternal greetings from the people of Jigawa State and in particular, the



Kazaure Emirate.

It is with immense gratitude and humility that I stand before you today as the 6th Chancellor of Benue State University on this auspicious occasion of its 22nd, 23rd, and 24th Combined Convocation Ceremony. I wish to thank the Visitor to the University and the Executive Governor of Benue State, His Excellency, Reverend Father Hyacinth Iormem Alia and the entire University community for the trust reposed in me to serve in this esteemed capacity.

Today is a day of celebration, a day that marks the culmination of years of hard work, sacrifice, and determination by our graduands. It is also a time to reflect on the journey of this great institution and chart a course for its continued growth and excellence.

To our graduands, you have proven your resilience, discipline, and capacity to succeed in a world of endless possibilities and challenges. The degrees, diplomas, and certificates you will receive today are not just pieces of paper; they are symbols of your dedication and readiness to contribute meaningfully to society.

Benue State University, since its inception, has been a beacon of academic excellence in Nigeria and beyond. It has trained leaders, innovators, and visionaries in various fields. Today, you join this league of distinguished alumni, and we charge you to carry the torch of this institution high in all your endeavours.

I must acknowledge the visionary leadership of the Pro-Chancellor and Governing Council, Sir Paul Chukwuma, the commitment of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu and Management team, and the tireless efforts of our academic and non-teaching staff as well as students. Your collective contributions ensure that this University remains a hub of learning, research, and community service.



**The Chancellor, Visitor, VC and Chairman of Council**

As your Chancellor, I pledge my unwavering support to ensure the realisation of the university's mission to be a centre of excellence, innovation, and impact. Together, we will navigate the challenges of the 21st century, leveraging on partnerships, technology and innovation to keep Benue State University at the forefront of global academia.

To our esteemed stakeholders, including Government, Alumni, and friends of the University, I appeal to you to continue your support for this institution. Let us work together to improve infrastructure, enhance academic programmes, and expand opportunities for our students and staff.

As I conclude, I congratulate the graduands and their families on

this milestone achievement. The journey ahead is filled with opportunities, but it will also demand hard work, integrity, and perseverance. Go forth and make us proud.

In a special way, I also congratulate the personalities who are being honoured with Doctorate Degrees (*Honoris Causa*) at this event. I urge you to form a bond and identify critical projects in the University that you may choose to execute individually or collectively.

To the University community, let us remain united in our shared vision for excellence. The future of Benue State University is bright, and together, we shall achieve greatness.

Thank you all, and may God bless Benue State University, Benue State and the Federal Republic of Nigeria.



**CONVOCATION ADDRESS BY THE PRO-CHANCELLOR, BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY,  
SIR PAUL CHUKWUMA AT THE 22<sup>ND</sup>-24<sup>TH</sup> COMBINED CONVOCATION CEREMONY  
ON SATURDAY, 7TH DECEMBER, 2024 AT THE NEW CONVOCATION SQUARE,  
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**Y**our Excellency, the Executive Governor of Benue State and Visitor to the University, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, Your Excellencies, Visiting Governors, Your Excellency, the Deputy Governor of Benue State, Barr. Dr. Samuel Ode, mni, The Honourable Speaker, Benue State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Hyacinth Aondona Dajoh Members of the National and State House of Assembly, The Chief Judge of Benue State, Justice Maurice Ikpambese, The President, Customary Court of Appeal, Benue State, Justice Cosmos Idye, Honorary Graduands, Members of the Federal and State Executive Councils, My Lords, Spiritual and Temporal, The Honourable Chancellor, Benue State University, Dr. Najib Hussaini Adamu, the Emir of Kazaure, The Vice-Chancellor, Benue State University, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, and Former Vice-Chancellors of the University, Royal Fathers, Special Advisers and other top Government Functionaries, The Executive Secretary, Tertiary Education Fund, Arch. Sonny S.T. Echono, The Acting Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission, Mr. Chris Jibreel Maiyaki, Visiting Chancellors, Pro-Chancellors and Heads of other Tertiary Institutions, Heads of Ministries, Departments and Agencies, Members of the Governing Council, Senate and Principal Officers of Benue State University, Chairman of ALGON and Other Local Government Council

Chairmen, Distinguished Graduands, Staff and Students of Benue State University, Parents, Guardians and Friends of the University, Distinguished Guests, Gentlemen of the Press, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my honour to welcome you all to the combined 22nd, 23rd, and 24th Convocation Ceremonies of Benue State University.

six distinguished Nigerians, two who are of blessed memory. These achievements are a testament to the dedication and hard work of our students, the exceptional mentorship of our academic and non-teaching staff, and the unwavering support of families and friends.

Again, today we celebrate not only the academic achievements of our graduands but also the strides our university has made in academic excellence, infrastructure development, research, staff and student



**Sir Chukwuma**

It is with great honour and a profound sense of responsibility that I address Convocation for the first time as Pro-Chancellor of Benue State University. Today marks not only a celebration of academic achievements but also a reaffirmation of our shared commitment to fostering excellence and innovation in higher education.

Also today, we honour 17,925 graduands who have distinguished themselves in various disciplines, spanning undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, and honorary degrees to

welfare, and institutional accountability. As we reflect on these milestones, we also acknowledge our challenges and renew our commitment to overcoming them.

**Achievements in Academic Growth**

Benue State University has continued to consolidate its reputation as a centre of academic excellence. Over the years, we have expanded our academic programmes to meet the evolving needs of society. Some new faculties and programmes have been introduced, including those in the



fields of architecture, pharmaceutical sciences and health sciences, reflecting the University's responsiveness to global and national demands.

Our commitment to quality education is evident in the accreditation of all BSU academic programmes by the National Universities Commission (NUC) and other relevant professional bodies. The University has also strengthened its postgraduate school, producing graduates whose research contributions address pressing societal challenges. Furthermore, partnerships with international institutions have facilitated academic exchange programmes and access to

A key highlight of the University's progress is the significant investment in infrastructural development through the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund). Through prudent management and strategic planning, the University has seen the construction and renovation of lecture halls, laboratories, staff quarters and student hostels.

The establishment of the BSU ICT Centre stands as a testament to our commitment to integrating technology into learning and research. This Centre will be equipped with state-of-the-art facility to enhance e-learning and online research activities. Additionally, the ongoing

salaries and allowances, promotions, and support for staff pursuing higher qualifications.

For our students, the University has enhanced the quality of their learning environment. Measures include improvements in hostel facilities, provision of scholarships for outstanding students as well as indigent students, and expansion of counseling and career services. These efforts are geared towards fostering holistic development and ensuring our students graduate as well-rounded individuals.

### **Research and Development**

Research remains a cornerstone of our University's mission. Over the past few years, BSU has witnessed increased funding for research activities, resulting in groundbreaking studies across various disciplines. Through the establishment of research clusters and centres of excellence, we are addressing critical issues in agriculture, health, education, and technology.

We will be providing enabling environment for our researchers to secure grants from national and international bodies, to further enhance the University's profile as a hub for innovation. Notable projects shall include advancements in sustainable agriculture, disease control, artificial intelligence and renewable energy solutions. These contributions will have direct impact on the socio-economic development of our State and nation.

### **Accountability and Governance**

Accountability is the bedrock of our administration. The University's financial systems will be strengthened to ensure transparency and efficiency. Quarterly financial reports are published, and the University community is regularly updated on the management of funds. These measures shall continue to have enhanced trust and confidence among stakeholders. We have also fostered inclusive governance by encouraging



**Governor Alia and Chairman of Council exchanging pleasantries**

cutting-edge knowledge for our staff and students. Notable among the partnerships are Benue State University with the University of Greenwich; University of Hildesheim in Germany; Zeppelin University in Germany; Walter Sisulu University, South Africa; and University of Groningen, Netherlands. Staff have benefited from these partnerships especially those in Theatre Arts, Economics, Biology, Chemistry and History.

### **Infrastructural Development**

development at the Benue State University Teaching Hospital will strengthen the University's capacity to train healthcare professionals while serving the community.

### **Welfare of Staff and Students**

The welfare of our staff and students remains a top priority. For staff, we have prioritized capacity building through regular training programmes, workshops, and conferences. We have also worked towards improving conditions of service, including prompt payment of



active participation from staff and students in decision-making processes. This approach has fostered a sense of ownership and unity within the University community.

#### **Benue State University Alumni Association**

Today, I direct my words especially to a vital segment of our university family our esteemed alumni.

Dear alumni, you are the lifeblood of BSU. Your achievements in various fields are a testament to the quality of education and the enduring values instilled by this institution. Your continued connection to BSU holds immense potential to shape the University's future.

Around the world, Universities thrive on the active participation and support of their alumni. Through your contributions-financial, intellectual, and moral you can transform BSU into a beacon of excellence and innovation. But to achieve this, unity among alumni is paramount.

I am aware that, as in any large family, differences and misunderstandings exist among our alumni. While differences are natural, we cannot allow them to stand in the way of our collective progress. Let us rise above divisions and focus on what unites us the success and advancement of Benue State University.

BSU needs you now more than ever. I invite you to contribute in the following ways:

- 1. Endowments and Scholarships:** Support the next generation of students by funding scholarships and grants.
- 2. Infrastructure Development:** Partner with us in building and upgrading facilities to enhance the learning environment.
- 3. Mentorship and Career Support:** Share your expertise and experiences to prepare our students for successful careers.

- 4. Advocacy:** Be ambassadors of BSU, enhancing its reputation nationally and globally.

As we celebrate today's graduates, I am reminded that they, too, will join the alumni network tomorrow. What kind of legacy do we want to leave for them? Let us be remembered as a generation of alumni that rose above differences to build a stronger, united BSU.

I call on each of you to take the first step toward reconciliation and active participation. Together, we can achieve greatness for this University and the generations it will serve.

Thank you for your commitment, your contributions, and your love for Benue State University. Let us unite, not just in words but in deeds, to make BSU a shining star in the academic firmament.

#### **Appreciation**

My appreciation goes to the Visitor to the University for his passion and total commitment to the Benue State University project. Permit me to applaud his giant strides in the sustenance of quality education to the great people of Benue.

experienced by the University. I want to thank Management of the University for their steadfastness and renewed commitment to accountability and financial transparency in the running of the University.

#### **Conclusion**

As we celebrate the successes of our graduands today, let us also celebrate the collective efforts that have brought Benue State University to this point. Permit me also to once again congratulate His Royal Highness, Dr. Najib Hussaini Adamu, the Emir of Kazaure, CON on his appointment and installation as the 6th Chancellor of this great University. To our graduands, I encourage you to be proud ambassadors of BSU and contribute meaningfully to society.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Visitor to the University, the Executive Governor of Benue State, for his unwavering support. I also thank the University Management, staff, students, and all stakeholders for their dedication and commitment. Together, we



**Deputy Governor, Ode and Chairman of Council**

It is no gain saying that the Governing Council under my leadership has enjoyed tremendous cooperation from the Visitor paving the way for the rapid changes that are being

shall continue to build a University that not only meets the expectations of its community but also sets benchmarks for excellence.

Thank you, and God bless Benue State University!

**CONVOCATION ADDRESS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY,  
PROFESSOR TOR JOE IORAPUU, KSM, fsona, fnipr, AT THE 22<sup>ND</sup>-24<sup>TH</sup> COMBINED  
CONVOCATION CEREMONY ON SATURDAY, 7TH DECEMBER, 2024  
AT THE NEW CONVOCATION SQUARE, BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY, MAKURDI**

**Y**our Excellency, the Executive Governor of Benue State and Visitor to the University, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia,  
Your Excellencies, Visiting Governors,  
Your Excellency, the Deputy Governor of Benue State, Barr.

Royal Fathers,  
Special Advisers and other top Government Functionaries,  
The Executive Secretary, Tertiary Education Fund, Arch. Sonny S.T. Echono,  
The Acting Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission, Mr. Chris Jibreel

Distinguished Guests,  
Gentlemen of the Press,  
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

*"Laboratories and libraries, halls and porch and arch and learned lectures-all shall be of no avail if the wise heart and the seeing eye are absent."*

*Anthony de Mello, S.J.*

I am delighted to welcome the Governor of Benue State and Visitor to the University, His Excellency, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, our Chancellor Alhaji Dr. Najib Hussaini Adamu and his entourage, our distinguished guests, our graduating students and Honorees to our 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation Ceremony.

This Convocation, to me is unique in many ways. Primarily, the Benue State University was established 32 years ago by a visionary Catholic Priest, Rev. Fr. Moses Orshio Adasu (late), to bring University education closer to the doorsteps of teeming Benue State indigenes, and other Nigerians. Since then, each Visitor attempted to bring their unique intervention to the greater growth of the University. For the purposes of history, it is important to avail ourselves with the efforts of the past Visitors.

His Excellency Senator George Akume now Secretary to the Government of the Federation, ensured that the College of Health Sciences was properly constructed, began construction of the Benue State University Teaching Hospital (BSUTH) in addition to regular subvention to the University. His Excellency, Senator Gabriel Suswam, PhD, constructed the Faculty of Law and the Suswam Female Hostel, completed construction of the BSUTH leading to eventual commissioning of the hospital in



**Prof. Iorapuu**

Dr. Samuel Ode, mni,  
The Honourable Speaker, Benue State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Hyacinth Aondona Dajoh  
Members of the National and State House of Assembly,  
The Chief Judge of Benue State, Justice Maurice Ikpambese,  
The President, Customary Court of Appeal, Benue State, Justice Cosmos Idye,  
Honorary Graduands,  
Members of the Federal and State Executive Councils,  
My Lords, Spiritual and Temporal,  
The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Benue State University, Sir Paul Chukwuma,  
Former Vice-Chancellors of Benue State University,

Maiyaki,  
The Honourable Chancellor, His Royal Highness, Dr. Najib Hussaini Adamu, the Emir of Kazaure  
Visiting Chancellors, Pro-Chancellors and Heads of other Tertiary Institutions,  
Heads of Ministries, Departments and Agencies,  
Members of the Governing Council, Senate and Principal Officers of Benue State University,  
Chairman of ALGON and Other Local Government Council Chairmen,  
Distinguished Graduands, Staff and Students of Benue State University,  
Parents, Guardians and Friends of the University,



2012, in addition to regular funding of the University.

His Excellency, Samuel Ioraeny Ortom inherited a seven-month-old strike over Earned Academic Allowance/Earned Allowance (EAA/EA) and other sundry issues. He took a radical decision to implement the EAA/EA by integrating it into the monthly salaries of staff, a feat not even the Federal Government has achieved with Federal Universities. He cleared outstanding salaries and ensured that Benue State University was placed on first line charge; cleared the outstanding financial challenge that delayed the graduation and induction of the medical students of the College of Health Sciences for twelve years.

Secondly, the present Visitor to the University by divine providence is also a Catholic Priest of 35 years, well known for his love for the masses and outright alignment of his policies to serve humanity. I am therefore, utterly convinced that the Benue State University, under his watch as the Visitor, will expand to its full potentials.

Your Excellency Sir, I am acutely aware of your blueprint as it concerns BSU. You desire that the University expands. That is why you encouraged us to visit Mbahar-Nanev in Adikpo for the possibility of moving the Faculty of Technology and Industrial Studies to Adikpo as part of your expansion model. You also desire that you fund accreditation and most importantly research. You indeed desire that BSU answers its name as the 'University of First Choice.' Above all, you desire that staff show commitment, a sense of ownership and those called Professors truly qualify and profess the name.

Your Excellency Sir, before I proceed, let me inform this distinguished gathering what Benue State Government

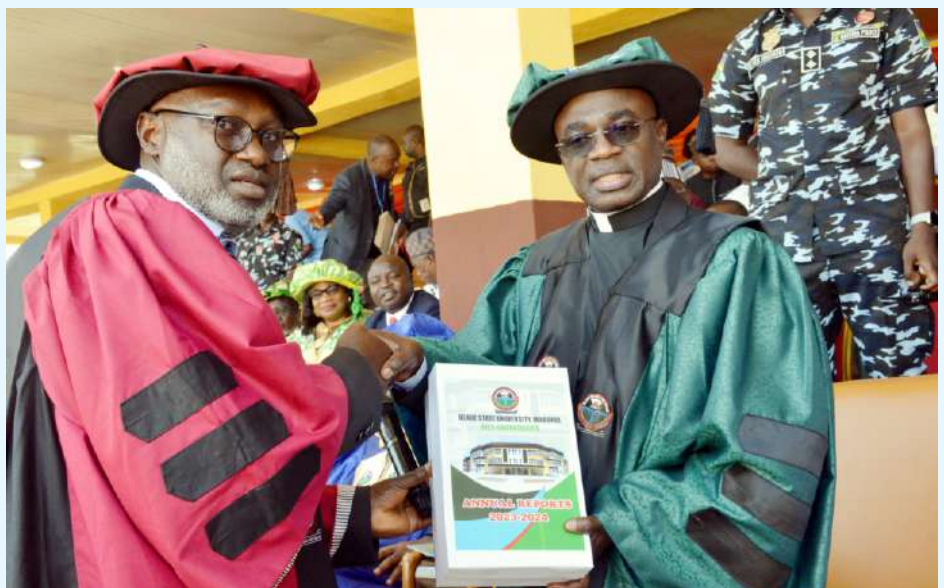
through the Governing Council of the University is about to do regarding staff welfare. The Council, with the permission of His Excellency, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, by next week will clear all outstanding arrears of the EAA/EA of the staff of the University. All the Unions can testify to this effort. Your Excellency, I must personally thank you. By this action, you and the Governing Council have empowered me to also make legitimate demands of commitment and productivity from our staff. But I also know that even today, you will not pass us by.

Thirdly, I am deeply elated to welcome Sir Paul Chukwuma, Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the 7<sup>th</sup> Governing Council and

Excellency, 'if water must be heated, it needs a vessel as an intermediary between the fire and itself.'

On this note, I would like to formally welcome the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Sir Paul Chukwuma and the Visitor, His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Benue State, -Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia to their first and most significant event in the history of our University.

May I use this moment as well, to welcome our graduates, our distinguished guests, family members, and friends of the University, that have honoured us with their physical presence or virtually at our 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation Ceremony.



**Presentation of Annual Report to the Visitor**

members of the Council for the new energy perspective they have brought in the governance of the University directed to inspire productivity, research and innovation.

And fourthly, this it would appear, is the last Convocation of my tenure as the Vice-Chancellor of this great University. The last four years have been quite a journey. You will neither know nor understand nor appreciate the grace of God until you have found God. Your

We have worked hard and pushed ourselves for this Convocation to be a success. A Convocation event provides us the opportunity not only to celebrate our achievements or graduate our students who have pushed themselves through tough learning conditions, but an opportunity to thank those who have supported and helped us as we grow as an institution.

Let me, therefore, use the moment to thank the Government of Benue State, led

by Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia for helping to stabilize the University through regular and timely payment of salaries. The Government had established the University to provide higher education to the increasing population of Benue citizens and beyond. Thirty-two years after, the University has not just produced degree holders, but citizens with skills, acquired knowledge that are serving the society in different spheres of life. It was Abraham Lincoln who said, "The best way to predict your future is to create it." Rev. Fr. Moses Orshio Adasu, the Pioneer Visitor to BSU, recognized that Benue State had a future and so, created one by starting the first State-owned University in the Middlebelt and North of Nigeria. Adasu also fulfilled Zig Ziglar's statement that "You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great." BSU is on the threshold of greatness.

The University has continued to receive tremendous support from diverse groups and individuals. The National Universities Commission (NUC) is a critical stakeholder. The Commission has not failed in its obligations to monitor and ensure quality, conduct necessary resource verification, accredit and approve programmes for the University. With the support of NUC, BSU has added new programmes and created four new faculties. The quality of direction and support BSU has enjoyed cannot be taken for granted.

The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) is another major collaborator and stakeholder in the sustenance of higher education in Nigeria. It is an agency of the Federal Government. But most importantly, it is the product of the long struggles of the Academic Staff Union of Nigerian Universities (ASUU). More than half of the structures on our University are of

TETFund. In the last eighteen months, TETFund has expended four billion, two hundred and forty million, two hundred and ninety-nine thousand, four hundred and twenty-seven Naira, thirty Kobo (4,240,299,427.30) only on infrastructure, procurement and maintenance of existing TETFund facilities.

Meanwhile, three hundred and six million, two hundred and three thousand, three hundred and forty-nine Naira, fifteen Kobo (306,203,349.15) only was expended on staff training, conference attendance, funding of research and publications in the last eighteen months. We acknowledge and appreciate the contributions of TETFund over the years and particularly now, under the leadership of the Arc. Sonny Togo Echono, the Executive Secretary. In the last one year alone, over six projects of TETFund have been completed, some commissioned, some are ongoing.

We cannot forget the contributions of the secretariat of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors of the Nigerian Universities (CVCNU), Abuja. This body coordinates and facilitates knowledge upgrade, sharing and connecting with others and training. The immediate past Secretary General of CVCNU, Professor Yakubu Ochefu, a staff of BSU was an asset for BSU. BSU is again lucky to have Professor Andrew Haruna, a Pro-Chancellor and former Vice-Chancellor of Federal University Gasua, himself, a friend of the University. He is another great asset for BSU.

We must acknowledge the contributions of the Benue State Assembly led by His Excellency the Hon. Speaker, Rt. Hon. Aondona Dajoh. The interventions to de-escalate union-based crises on campus in the last one year cannot go unnoticed.

There are numerous individuals

who have funded scholarships and donated books to our University. Some of these will be honoured at this Convocation. The University appreciates all these individuals within and in the diaspora, who have continued to encourage our students and the University with their support.

Today is another significant opportunity to present the accomplishments of the University to the world. You will recall that our last Convocation was tagged "BSU at 30: Boundless Years of Academic Growth," we had humbly clocked 30 years as a University. So, thirty years after, 'what next' is the fundamental question. With the humble beginning in 1992/93 academic session, and a population of 308 students and 149 academic staff, four faculties, we have grown into 14 faculties. At this Combined Convocation event, the University will be conferring a total of 17,925 degrees and diplomas on graduands in the following categories:

- Bachelor's Degrees- 15,101
- Postgraduate Diplomas- 72
- Master's Degrees - 2,196
- PhD Degrees - 556

It is important to note that out of 15,101 graduands with Bachelors' degrees, 44 of them earned First Class. Prizes will be awarded to deserving students.

Honorary Doctorate Degrees of the University will be conferred on the following distinguished Nigerians, two of whom are posthumous:

1. Professor Toyin Falola (*Doctor of Letters, D.Litt*), *Honoris Causa*
2. Engr. Sylvanus Ghasarah (*Doctor of Science, D.SC*), *Honoris Causa*
3. His Excellency, Sen. Dr. Gabriel Torwua Suswam, *FCLArb, CON* (*Doctor of Laws, D.LL*), *Honoris Causa*
4. Chief, Barr. Paul Edeh (*Doctor of Laws, D.LL*), *Honoris Causa*
5. Wanteregh Paul Iyorpuu



U n o n g o O F R ,  
(Posthumous: *Doctor of Letters, D.Litt*), *Honoris Causa*

6. Lt. Colonel Joseph Akaahan (Former Chief of Army Staff- May 1967 to May 1968) Posthumous (*Doctor of Law, D.LL*), *Honoris Causa*

It is important I clarify quickly why we have these numbers as against the position of Association of Vice-Chancellors at what is popularly referred to as

Sanger Mossiker in the Humanities at the University of Texas at Austin, USA. Professor Falola spoke about “**Power, Politics and Policies.**”

Considering that I have commenced my last year as the Vice-Chancellor, it is a moment to critically look back and evaluate the academic and administrative experiences of this journey so far.

#### **Academic Matters**

One of my major achievements for BSU is the establishment of

of students for Pharmaceutical Sciences have commenced the programme.

I am quite impressed with the quality and the outcome of accreditation since my appointment as the Vice-Chancellor. BSU had accreditation for 30 programmes since the last Convocation. The outcome is 99.9% success. 29 programmes got full accreditation, and one programme got interim.

Our staff have continued to improve in research and innovation. At the Faculty of Technology and Industrial Studies, staff have constructed hybrid maize thresher, motorized and manually operated groundnut sheller, and a Bambara nut sheller. Through TETFund, many teaching staff competed for the National Research Fund (NRF) and the Management is hopeful of a greater number of beneficiaries better the previous year. Meanwhile, over twenty teaching staff competed and got funding through TETFund for the Institutional Based Research (IBR) grant. We must admit that TETFund has remained the major source of funding for research and development in the University.

Other sources of research include the World Bank through the Center for Food Technology and Research (CEFTR), Greenwich University in the United Kingdom and DAAD-Germany (Academic Exchange), and international agencies like UNDP. In addition to issues of post-harvest losses, there is ongoing TETFund research on “the entomological assessment and impact of the termite infestation on schools, residential buildings, on economic trees,” and “Preservation of Colonial Buildings and Layouts in Digital Form as Instructional Materials.” Other ongoing research are in the areas of entrepreneurship and innovation



**VC and Dr. Ikyaan**

“**Keffi Declaration.**” Following the guidelines on the award of Honorary Degrees and Academic Tradition in Nigerian Universities, we are not unmindful that people would ask or raise issues with the number of awardees as against the guideline requirement that the number should not exceed three per convocation. For the purposes of clarity, this is a combined convocation. That is why we have a huge number of students graduating as stated above. This simple response should serve as additional clarification.

Yes, we witnessed the Convocation Lecture delivered by one of Nigeria's most prolific and finest scholars of history, Professor Toyin Falola. He is the Chair of Jacob and Frances

additional faculties. Since the last Convocation, I mentioned to us that NUC had scheduled resource verification for the Faculties of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Architecture and Communication and Media Studies. In addition, BSU applied to NUC for the splitting of the Faculty of Technology and Industrial Studies from the Faculty of Education. NUC favourably granted BSU the permission to establish these faculties after a successful exercise. So, we have four additional faculties to the existing ten. The additional faculties are: Pharmaceutical Sciences, Architecture, Technology and Industrial Studies, and Communication and Media Studies. I am also delighted to state that the first set

in the food industry.

The Centre for Food Technology and Research (CEFTER) remains one of the most active arms of the University in terms of research and collaboration. Through CEFTER the visibility of the University has increased in terms of collaboration with local and international communities. At the local level, CEFTER has contacts and community-based groups with farmers in the 23 Local Government Areas. CEFTER has facilitated over 10 startup businesses in partnership with UNDP. Through CEFTER, BSU has established a strong relationship with many Universities in Zagreb (Croatia), the United Kingdom, United States, Germany, the Netherlands and India.

Even more important for our guests, the citizens of Benue State and Nigerians at large, what to know is that, at CEFTER-BSU over 100 postgraduate students from the Central and West African Regions are being trained. The benefiting countries so far are Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger, the Sudan, South Sudan, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, the Gambia and Liberia, in the areas of food chemistry. This is a grant BSU was selected among 7 institutions out of 74 applicants.

The most significant highlight for BSU is the Centre for Food Technology and Innovation Complex (CEFTIC). This complex is among the many outputs from the World Bank Ace-Impact project. It is a place with the permission of His Excellency, I would encourage everyone to visit and appreciate the contributions of the World Bank to BSU and the State.

There is also the Food Technology Laboratory, second to none in the Northern part of Nigeria. Colleagues who have visited the laboratory for accreditation have openly commended it and the quality of equipment installed therein.

CEFTER-BSU is also competed

for the Seedings Lab grant and won and have received a variety of equipment worth five hundred million (N500,000,000.00) Naira only. The equipment collection is for advanced scientific research for both PhD and Postdoctoral studies. Among these is the Leica M844F40 surgical microscope worth seventy million (N70,000,000.00) Naira only to be donated to the Benue State University Teaching Hospital (BSUTH).

#### **Examination Results**

BSU has over the years had issues of delayed students results, no availability or long processes of issuance of transcripts. On behalf of the Senate and Management of the University, I am glad to state that this embarrassment has been minimized substantially. We have not met our goal yet, but we will surely get there in no distant time at all. Management is putting in place strategies to eliminate perceived obstacles that cause any form of delays. Our undergraduate students see their results now and postgraduate students are graduating timely. This action has caused huge increase in the number of students seeking to make BSU a University of first choice. It may interest the public to know that BSU has received over 24, 000 applications from JAMB of potential students who have made BSU a University of first choice.

#### **Our students**

I am very proud of our students. I personally appreciate their resilience, perseverance, quality and ability to embrace change as they pursue their passions and purpose as a community. The Management of the University appreciates them greatly because, the students recognize that the changes we make in terms of restructuring of the academic calendar is always in their own interest.

Our students have continued to excel at national competitions. Let me on behalf of the Council,

Management and Senate of the University, acknowledge these students that have brought additional recognition and honour to the University through their competitive activities. These are

- 1). Mkorona Paul Ahon, and Ameh Innocent Saint of the Faculty of Law recently emerged as winner and runner up in the Eytayo Dada National Lawson Essay Competition.
- 2) Miss Musa Ene Augusta, a student of the Department of Accounting emerged as the winner of the Chief Medical Director's Undergraduate Essay Competition, organized by the CMD of the Benue State University Teaching Hospital.
- 3) Aondoakaa Ngutor Joseph and Edu Isaac of 400 level Faculty of Law emerged as second runner up at the Leap Africa Youth Leadership Development Programme Debate Competition.
- 4) Agbo Joy Enuwa, another 400-level student of Law emerged the second runner up at the National Arbitration Debate Competition.
- 5) Gabriel Shima Aondofa, 400 level emerged the National President, Law Students Association of Nigeria.
- 6) Michael Obekpa, 400 level student of the Department of History, emerged Deputy Senate President of the National Association of University Students (NAUS).

Management is very particular about our students. In addition to learning, their participation in the governance of the University is very key. Management has consciously ensured that our students are involved and engaged in all major events at the University including the ongoing Convocation exercise.



## **2023/2024 Student Union Elections**

When this Management introduced the electronic voting system during the Student Union Elections in 2021, little did we know that the approach will provide such opportunities for greater justice to prevail and students from minority groups to benefit. Through this process the:

I. Miss Agatha Soohemba Aker, a graduate from the Faculty of Law emerged as the first female student to ever emerge as Student Union President in BSU.

The last Student Union elections produced for the first time an Idoma student, Oyi Samuel Alechenu from the Faculty of Law as the President. As a result of this approach, we have eliminated violence-induced elections to the barest minimum.

We will continue to pursue this approach, encourage as well as create more democratic spaces for our students to express themselves with every sense of civic responsibility, participation, and due process.

ii. At the last Convocation I made a categorical state that “we are working very hard to review some important policies relating to students Examination Misconduct in particular.” Management and Senate have taken a very bold decision that students who are apprehended for examination misconduct, will serve stipulated punishment on campus while still attending lectures. Let me be clear about this. There are certain offences that would earn the student suspension or expulsion if found guilty. To this end, Senate of the University took a brave step and granted amnesty to 103 students who were found guilty of the University Examination regulations and were to be suspended or

expelled accordingly. Massive awareness is being created to ensure that students are duly informed of this development.

## **Graduation of Medical Students**

Since the last Convocation, barely 17 months after, the University inducted two sets of Medical Doctors totaling 99. On 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023, the 9<sup>th</sup> induction of 41 students took place. Another set of 58 was inducted on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024. It is important to add the good news relating to the admission quota for MBBS in BSU. Before last year's convocation in February, it was 75. The Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN), after successful accreditation increased the admission quota by 75 raising the total number to 150. Similarly, the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria has increased the admission quota of the Nursing programme from 50 to 100, after successful professional accreditation.

## **Policy on Quality Assurance and Instruments**

For any University to produce graduates who can compete favourably in a market-driven and skilled economy, the processes leading to their production (input-process-out) must be quality assured. The Core Curriculum Minimum Academic Standard (CCMAS) is being fully implemented in our University.

## **Administrative Developments:**

### **1. Appointment of new Chancellor of Benue State University**

His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Benue State and Visitor to Benue State University, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, in exercise of the power vested on him by Section 9(1) of the Benue State University Law 2020, has appointed a new Chancellor, His Royal Highness, Alhaji, Dr. Najib Hussaini Adamu, CON, the 10<sup>th</sup> Emir of Kazaure,

Kazaure Emirate to replace King (Barr) Disrael Gbobo Bob-Manuel II, Owukori IX, Amanyanabo of Abonnema. The appointment is for a single tenure of five (5) years. We wish to use this medium to also congratulate His Royal Highness on this appointment.

### **2. Constitution of the 7<sup>th</sup> Governing Council**

You will recall that the Visitor to Benue State University, the Executive Governor of Benue State University, His Excellency, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, dissolved the 6<sup>th</sup> Governing Council of the University. The Visitor on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024 appointed the 7<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Chaired by Sir Paul Chukwuma.

### **3. Appointment of the Registrar**

A new Registrar has been appointed for the University. He is Barnabas Terfa Hemba. Until his appointment, he was the Deputy Registrar, Senior Staff Establishment at Benue State University.

### **4. Management of Industrial Relations**

Gradually, we are recognizing that we can flourish better as a community and the sense of belonging grows and deepens. At the same time, we are upgrading our operational strategies in managing organisations. By this we mean growing above the purpose of self but for the purpose of the University. Asking ourselves critical questions, whether we are leading or lagging in our University? Do we have a clearly defined ambition and what does success look like for our University? To this end, Management has continued to encourage teamwork, create a continuous employee listening system, engage with Unions on Campus to brief them on progress and

challenges of the University. But with the zeal and measures already taken by the Council of the University, we are hopeful that industrial disharmony on campus will be history.

### Infrastructural Development

We have completed the underlisted projects:

- i. Six TETFund projects commissioned in May 2023
- ii. Completion of the Centre for Food Technology and Innovation Complex (CEFTIC), awaiting commissioning
- iii. TETFund Disaster Recovery /Rehabilitation University Water Works
- iv. TETFund Renovation/ Rehabilitation of the BSU Central Library

### On-Going Projects

The following projects are ongoing:

- Faculty of Management Sciences
- TETFund 144 bed-space Hostel
- U N D P - U n i v e r s i t y Innovation Pod (UNIPOD)

### Challenges

Every attempt to run any healthy organisation will attract challenges. Identifying and dealing such crucial drivers of a healthy organization are key.

- The disruption of academic calendar earlier in the year has affected the efforts to stabilize the system.
- The volatile market uncertainties leading to the high cost of diesel and other running costs especially with

I conclude this speech by appreciating the Executive Governor of Benue State and Visitor to the University, His Excellency, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia for keeping faith with the University. Particularly, the University has been the training ground for His Excellency's pet project "Benue Tech Skills" where 10000 Benue Youth are trained to acquire computer skills. We are equally aware of his desires for BSU. He is full of expectations, and we have a duty to show leadership and ensure transparency in the discharge of our duties. We must collectively own the University and by extension, the State.

On this note, I would like to invite you to be part of the remaining activities of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation Ceremonies of the University, even as I welcome the new Chancellor, HRH, Alhaji Najib Hussaini Adamu, the Emir of Kazaure. We must not forget our Royal Fathers here present.

May I humbly thank my colleagues, the visiting Vice-Chancellors or their representatives and other colleagues from sister institutions who have joined us in this celebration. Our friends and by extension, friends of the State and the University, we thank you for the solidarity and the honour.

Let me specially congratulate the recipients of our honorary doctorate degrees. It is my hope that you will join the league of alumni of the University in lifting her to higher heights.

I must not forget the Governing Council, the Management, the Senate, Congregation, Staff and Students of the University. Particularly, I humbly appreciate the Convocation team that made this event possible. You are simply great minds and BSU is blessed.

Thank you all for your attention and God Bless you.



BSU Good Shepherd Catholic Chaplaincy Choir

- v. Construction of Perimeter Fence
- vi. Procurement and installation of furnishing for the 576-bed student hostel
- vii. Procurement, installation, testing and commissioning of solar lamps
- viii. Procurement and supply of assorted books and journals
- ix. Procurement, installation, testing and commissioning of library equipment

- increase of energy tariff
- Continuing agitations of staff over welfare issues
- Finding alternative sources of income for the University
- Accessing grants in a competitive environment
- Making technology and digital capabilities a reality
- Aligning employees around the vision, strategy, and values of the University
- Weak Alumni structure

### Conclusion



# EXPERIENCING RADICAL CHANGE WITH RESILIENCE AND PURPOSE

By  
Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu KSM, fsonta, fnipr

## PROTOCOL:

Council and the Principal Officers of the University, Senate Members, Deans, Directors, Heads of Department/Unit Coordinators here present, Leaders and members of Unions on Campus, Gentlemen of the Press,

yearly event must return.” This is an important and cheering news I desire to break before I proceed. On this note, I would like to formally welcome the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Sir Paul Chukwuma and the Visitor, His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Benue State, Rev. Fr. Dr.

graduate our students that have pushed themselves through tough learning conditions, but an opportunity to thank those that have supported and helped us as we grow as an institution. Let me, therefore, use the moment to thank the Government of Benue State, led by Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia for helping to stabilize the University through regular and timely payment of salaries. The Government had established the university to provide higher education to the increasing population of Benue citizens and beyond. Thirty-two years after, the university has not just produced degree holders, but citizens with skills, acquired knowledge that are serving the society in different spheres of life. The University is acutely aware of the Governor's blueprint that focuses on the expansion and funding of BSU. It was Abraham

Lincoln that said, “The best way to predict your future is to create it.” Rev. Fr. Moses

Orshio Adasu, the Pioneer Visitor to BSU, recognized that Benue State had a future and so, created one by starting the first State University in the Middlebelt and North of Nigeria. Adasu also fulfilled Zig Ziglar's statement that “You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great.” BSU is on the threshold of greatness.

The university has continued to receive tremendous support from diverse groups and individuals. The National Universities Commission (NUC) is a critical stakeholder. The Commission has not failed in its obligations to



Prof. Iorapuu

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen.

I am delighted to welcome you to the ritual of every convocation event; the Pre-Convocation Press Briefing of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Combined Ceremonies of the Benue State University. Let me state categorically here and now, that, this will be the last combined convocation we will be having in Benue State University (BSU), especially during the administration of the current Visitor to the University, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia. The Visitor has given the charge and directed that, “going forward, the tradition of Convocation as a

Hyacinth Iormem Alia to their first and most significant event in the history of the university.

May I use this moment as well, to welcome our graduates, our distinguished guests, family members, and friends of the University, that will honor us with their physical presence or virtually at our 22<sup>nd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation Ceremony.

Gentlemen of the Press, we have made it again! We have worked hard and pushed ourselves for this convocation to be a success. A Convocation event provides us the opportunity not only to celebrate our achievements or



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confirm.

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individuals within and in diaspora, that have continued to encourage our students and the University with their support. This recognition does not exclude the Media. The Media has been quite supportive and aggressively so. Whereas some of you have knocked us with less objectivity and bias, many of you have remained professional and focused on ensuring the public is well informed and educated about the activities of the university.

Today is another significant opportunity to present the



**Drs. Ayabam and Keghku**

Chancellor of Federal University Gasua, himself, a staff of the University of Jos, where I was privileged to be his dean. He is another great asset for BSU.

We must acknowledge the contributions of the Benue State Assembly led by His Excellency the Hon. Speaker, Rt. Hon. Aondona Dajoh. The interventions to de-escalate union-based crises on campus in the last one year cannot go unnoticed.

There are numerous individuals that have funded scholarships and donated books to our university. Some of these will be honored at this convocation. The University appreciates all these

accomplishments of the university to the world. It is important to mention that this maybe the last Pre-Convocation Press briefing that I will be having with you as the 6<sup>th</sup> Vice-Chancellor of the Benue State University.

You will recall that I took over from my predecessor, Professor Moses Msugh Kembe on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020. I have commenced my last year in office, and I am glad that the grace God Almighty has brought me thus far. Now, you understand why this convocation is strategic and important to me. Therefore, my briefing will focus mainly on the activities of the



22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation. However, I will use this moment to equally speak about our achievements in BSU. You will recall that our last Convocation was tagged “BSU at 30: Boundless Years of Academic Growth,” we had humbly clocked 30 years as a university. So, thirty years after, 'what next' is the fundamental question. With the humble beginning in 1992/93 academic session, and a population of 308 students and 149 academic staff, four faculties, we have grown into 14 faculties.

At this Combined Convocation event, the University will be conferring a total of 17925 degrees and diplomas on graduands in the following categories:

- Bachelor's Degrees - 15101
- Postgraduate Diplomas - 72
- Master's Degrees - 2196
- PhD Degrees - 556

It is important to note that out of 17925 graduands with Bachelors' degrees, 44 of them earned First

humus:

Professor Toyin Falola (*Doctor of Letters, D.Litt*), *Honoris Causa*

Engr. Sylvanus Ghasarah (*Doctor of Science, D.SC*) *Honoris Causa*

Chief, Barr. Paul Edeh (*Doctor of Law*)

His Excellency, Sen. Dr. Gabriel Torwua Suswam, *FCLArb, CON* (*Doctor of Laws, D. LL*), *Honoris Causa*

Wanteregh Paul Iyorpuu Unongo *OFR*, (*Posthumous: Doctor of Letters, D.Litt*), *Honoris Causa*

Lt. Colonel Joseph Akaahan (Former Chief of Army Staff-May 1967 to May 1968) *Posthumous (Doctor of Law, D.LL)* *Honoris Causa*

It is important I clarify quickly why we have these numbers as against the position of Association of Vice Chancellors at what is popularly referred to as “Keffi Declaration.” Following the guidelines on the award of Honorary Degrees and Academic Tradition in Nigerian Universities, we are not

of clarity, this is a combined convocation. That is why we have a huge number of students graduating as stated above. This simple response should serve as additional clarification.

Technically, the activities of the combined convocation have commenced. The students flagged off their departmental football competition today amongst other sports. Short Media briefings on radio have been going on. The university will continue with the Vice Chancellor's Free Health Care for all staff and community members. However, the Press briefing on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December, will officially announce the full commencement of the Convocation programmes.

The two most significant moments for us, are the Commissioning of the Food Lab and the Centre for Food Technology and Innovation Centre (CEFTIC) at 11: 00 am, before the Convocation Lecture at Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024, at 2:00 PM. The Convocation Lecture is to be delivered by one of Nigeria's most prolific and finest scholars of history, Professor Toyin Falola. He is the Chair of Jacob and Frances Sanger Mossiker in the Humanities, at the University of Texas at Austin, USA. Professor Falola has proposed to speak about “Power, Politics and Policies.”

At the last convocation, the Management of the University considered and approved the recognition of pioneer staff and students that have distinguished themselves at the Convocation Lecture. This approach will be sustained even at this year's Convocation Lecture. The Convocation, which is the main event, will follow the next day Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 10:00 am at the BSU



BSU Management Team

Class. Prizes will be awarded to deserving students.

Honorary Doctorate Degrees of the University will be conferred on the following distinguished Nigerians, two of whom are post-

unmindful that people would ask or raise issues with the number of awardees as against the guideline requirement that the number should not exceed three per convocation. For the purposes



Convocation Square.

Considering that I have commenced my last year as the Vice Chancellor, it is a moment to critically look back and evaluate the academic and administrative experiences of this journey so far.

#### **ACADEMIC MATTERS**

One of my major achievements for BSU is the establishment of additional faculties. Since the last convocation, I mentioned to us that NUC had scheduled resource verification for the Faculties of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Architecture and Media and Communication Studies. In addition, BSU applied to NUC for the splitting of the Faculty of Technology and Industrial Studies from the Faculty of Education. NUC favorably granted the BSU the permission to establish these faculties after a successful exercise. So, we have four additional faculties to the existing ten. The additional faculties are: Pharmaceutical Sciences, Architecture, Technology and Industrial Studies, and Communication and Media studies. I am also delighted to state that the first set of students for Pharmaceutical Sciences have commenced the programme.

I am quite impressed with the quality and the outcome of accreditation since my appointment as the Vice Chancellor. BSU had accreditation for 30 programmes since the last convocation. The outcome is 99.9% success. 29 programmes got full accreditation, and one programme got interim. Within the same period also, some realignment of departments took place. For instance, in the department of Political Science, Senate reconsidered and approved the movement of the Public Administration to Faculty

of Management Science in line with NUC stipulations.

To stabilize our academic calendar, the Senate of the University approved the merging of two academic sessions, 2021/2022 and 2022/2023. Unfortunately, this attempt is already affected due the strike action of staff during the year. But because the Management of the university is poised to be effective, we continually adapt new priorities and practices to stay ahead of new realities. So, the Management is determined to ensure that the academic calendar is restored in 2025.



The Registrar, Hembra; Academic Officer, Zwawua and the Bursar, Dr. Egwurube

Our staff have continued to improve in research and innovation. At the Faculty of Technology and Industrial Studies, staff have constructed hybrid maize thresher, motorized and manually operated groundnut sheller, and a Bambara nut sheller. Through TETFund, many Teaching staff competed for the National Research Fund (NRF) and the Management is hopeful of a greater number of beneficiaries better the previous year. Meanwhile, over twenty Teaching staff competed and got funding through TETFund for

the Institutional Based Research (IBR) grant. We must admit that TETFund has remained the major source of funding for research and development in the University.

Other sources of research include the World Bank through the Center for Food Technology and Research (CEFTER), Greenwich University in the United Kingdom and DAAD-Germany (Academic Exchange), and international agencies like UNDP. In addition to issues of post-harvest losses, there is ongoing TETFund research on the entomological assessment

and impact of the termite infestation on schools, residential buildings, on economic trees etc. Other ongoing research are in the areas of entrepreneurship and innovation in the food industry. Dr. Raymond Tyohemba is responsible for the DAAD-Germany Academic Exchange. So, the Centre for Food Technology and Research (CEFTER) remains one of the most active arms of the university in terms of research and collaboration. Through CEFTER the visibility of the University has increased in terms



of collaboration with local and international community. At the local level, CEFTER has contacts and community-based groups with farmers in 23 local government areas. Through CEFTER, BSU has established a strong relationship with many Universities in Zagreb (Croatia), the United Kingdom, United States, Germany, the Netherlands, and India.

Even more important for the Press, the Citizens of Benue State and Nigerians at large to know is that, at CEFTER-BSU over 100 postgraduate students from the Central and West African Region are being trained. The benefiting countries so far are Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger, Sudan, South Sudan, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, the Gambia and Liberia, in the areas of food chemistry. This is a grant BSU was selected among 7 institutions out of 74 applicants.

The most significant highlight for BSU is the Centre for Food Technology and Innovation Complex (CEFTIC). This complex is among the many outputs from the World Bank Ace-Impact project. It is a place the Press would like to visit and appreciate the contributions of the World Bank to BSU and the State.

There is also the Food Technology Laboratory, second to none in the Northern part of Nigeria. Colleagues that have visited the Lab for accreditation have openly commended it and the quality of equipment installed in the Lab. Perhaps a few of you would visit to physically appraise for yourselves

how BSU has grown.

CEFTER-BSU is also competed for the Seedings Lab grant and won and have received variety equipment worth Five hundred million (#500,000,000.00) naira only. The equipment are for advanced scientific research for both PhD and Postdoctoral studies. Among these is the Leica M844F40 surgical microscope worth Seventy Million (#70,000,000.00) naira only to be donated to the Benue State University Teaching Hospital (BSUTH). This equipment is a high-end device for ophthalmic eye procedures, either for anterior or posterior segment of the eye.

### Examination Results

Journalist have confronted me many times on the issue of

all programmes was beginning to diminish. On behalf of the Senate and Management of the University, I am glad to state that this embarrassment has been minimized substantially. We have not met our goal, but we will surely get there in no distant time at all. Management is putting place strategies to eliminate perceived obstacles that cause any form of delays. For instance, by introducing CBT GST and EPS examinations, no lecturer will use GST or EPS as a reason to delay the timely submission of results. Our undergraduate students can see their results now and postgraduate students are graduating timely. This action has caused huge increase in the number of students seeking to make BSU a university of first

choice. It may interest the Press and the public to know that BSU has received over 24,000 applications from JAMB of potential students that have made BSU a university of first choice.

### Our Students

I am very proud of our students. I personally appreciate their resilience, perseverance,

quality and ability to embrace change as they pursue their passions and purpose as a community. The Management of the University appreciates them greatly because, the students recognize that the changes we make both in terms of restructuring of the academic calendar is always in their own interests.

Our students have continued to excel at national competitions. Let me on behalf of the Council,



Prof. Iorapuu receiving Goodwill Message from the VC, JOSTUM, Prof. Itodo

delayed students results, no availability or long processes of issuance of transcripts. It is true that "some of you" (the professional and non-professionals), have taken to the social media to scandalize the University about these matters. Of course, when I took over, there were series of petitions, complaints over delayed results of undergraduates and what others described as the unending postgraduate programmes. To this end, students' population in



Management and Senate of the University, I would like to acknowledge these students that have brought additional recognition to the University through their competitive activities. These are

1). Mkorna Paul Ahon, and Ameh Innocent Saint, of the Faculty of Law recently emerged as winner and runner up in the Eyitayo Dada National Lawson Essay Competition.

2) Miss Musa Ene Augusta, a student of the Department of Accounting emerged as the Winner of the Chief Medical Director's Undergraduate Essay Competition, organized by the CMD of the Benue State University Teaching Hospital.

3) Aondoakaa Ngutor Joseph and Edu Isaac of 400 level Faculty of Law, emerged second runner up at the Leap Africa Youth Leadership Development Programme Debate Competition.

4) Agbo Joy Enuwa, another 400-level student of Law, emerged second runner up at the National Arbitration Debate Competition.

5) Gabriel Shima Aondofa, 400-level emerged the National President Law Students Association of Nigeria.

6) Michael Obekpa 400- level student of the Department of History, emerged Deputy Senate President of the National Association of University Students (NAUS).

Management is very particular about our students. In addition to learning, their participation in the governance of the university is very key. Management has consciously ensured that our students are involved and engaged in all major events at the University including the ongoing convocation exercise.

2023/2024 Student Union Elections

When this Management

introduced the electronic voting system during the Students Union Elections in 2021, little did we know that the approach will provide such opportunities for justice to prevail and students from minority groups to benefit. This process has provided opportunities for the first female student to ever emerge as SU President in BSU.

Miss Agatha Soohemba Aker a graduate from the Faculty of Law. The last SU Elections produced for the first time an Idoma Student, Oyi Samuel Alechenu from the Faculty of Law as the President. As a result of this approach, we have eliminated violence induced elections to the barest minimum.

We will continue to pursue this approach, encourage as well as create more democratic spaces for our students to express themselves with every sense of civic responsibility, participation, and due process.

At the last convocation press briefing, some of you will recall I made a categorical state that "we are working very hard to review some important policies relating to students Examination Misconduct in particular."

Management and Senate have taken a very bold decision that students who are apprehended for examination misconduct, will serve stipulated punishment on campus while still attending lectures. Let me be clear about this. There are certain offences that would earn the student suspension or expulsion if found guilty. To this end, Senate of the University took a bold step and granted amnesty to 103 students that were found guilty of the University Examination regulations and were to be suspended or expelled accordingly. Massive awareness is being created to ensure that students are duly informed of this development.

**Graduation of Medical Students**  
Since the last convocation, barely 17 months after, the University inducted two sets of Medical Doctors totaling 99. On 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023, the 9<sup>th</sup> induction of 41 students took place. Another set of 58 was inducted on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024. It is important to add that the good news relating to the admission quota for MBBS in BSU. Before last year's convocation in February, it was 75. The Nigerian Medical and Dental Council (NMDC), after successful accreditation increased the admission quota by 75 raising the total number to 150. Similarly, the Nursing Council of Nigeria has increased the admission quota of the Nursing Department from 50 to 100, after successful professional accreditation.

**Policy on Quality Assurance and Instruments**

For any University to produce graduates who can compete favorably in a market-driven and skilled economy, the processes leading to their production (input-process-out) must be quality assured. The Core Curriculum Minimum Academic Standard (CCMAS) is fully implemented.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

1. Appointment of new Chancellor of Benue State University  
His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Benue State and Visitor to Benue State University, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, in exercise of the power vested on him by Section 9(1) of the Benue State University Law 2020, has appointed a new Chancellor, His Royal Highness, Alhaji, Dr. Najib Hussaini Adamu, CON, The 10<sup>th</sup> Emir of Kazaure, Kazaure Emirate to replace King (Barr) Disrael Gbobo



Bob-Manuel II, Owukori IX, Amanyano of Abonnema. The appointment is for a single tenure of five (5) years. We wish to use this medium to also congratulate His Royal Highness on this appointment.

## 2. Constitution of the 7<sup>th</sup> Governing Council

You will recall that the Visitor to Benue State University, the Executive Governor of Benue State University, His Excellency, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, dissolved the 6<sup>th</sup> Governing Council of the University. The Visitor on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024 appointed the 7<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Chaired by Sir Paul Chukwuma.

## 3. Appointment of the Registrar

A new Registrar has been appointed for the University. He is Barnabas Terfa Hemba. Until his appointment, he was the Deputy Registrar, Senior Staff Establishment at Benue State University.

## 3. Management of Industrial Relations

Gradually, we are recognizing that we can flourish better as a community and the sense of belonging grows and deepens. At the same time, we are upgrading our operational strategies in managing organizations. By this we mean growing above the purpose of self but for the purpose of the university. Asking ourselves critical questions, whether we are leading or lagging in our university? Do we have a clearly defined ambition and what does success look like for our university? To this end, Management has continued to encourage teamwork, create a continuous employee listening system, engage

with Unions on Campus to brief them on progress and challenges of the University. These measures are aimed at forestalling industrial disharmony on campus.

## INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Completed Projects under the Procurement

- I. Six TETFund projects commissioned in May 2023.
- ii. Completion of the Centre for Food Technology and Innovation Complex (CEFTIC), awaiting commissioning.
- iii. TETFund Disaster Recovery /Rehabilitation University Water Works
- iv. TETFund Renovation/ Rehabilitation of the BSU Central Library
- v. Construction of Perimeter Fence
- vi. Procurement and installation of furnishing for the 576-bed student hostel
- vii. Procurement, installation, testing and commissioning of solar lamps
- viii. Procurement and supply of assorted books and journals
- ix. Procurement, installation, testing and commissioning of library equipment

## On-Going Projects.

- Faculty of Management Sciences
- TETFund 144 bedspace Hostel
- UNDP - University Innovation Pod (UNIPOD)

## CHALLENGES

Every attempt to run any healthy organization will attract challenges. Identifying and dealing such crucial drivers of a healthy organization are key.

- The disruption of academic calendar earlier in the year has affected the efforts to stabilize the system.
- The volatile market

uncertainties leading to the high cost of diesel and other running costs especially with increase of energy tariff

- Continuing agitations of staff over welfare issues
- Finding alternative sources of income for the University
- Accessing grants in a competitive environment taking technology and digital capabilities a reality
- Aligning employees around the vision, strategy, and values of the University

## Conclusion

Gentlemen of the Press, let me conclude this press briefing by appreciating the Executive Governor of Benue State and Visitor to the University, His Excellency, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia for keeping faith with the University. Particularly, the University has been the training ground for His Excellency's pet project "Benue Tech Skills" where 10000 Benue Youth are trained to acquire computer skills. We are equally aware of his desires for BSU. He is full of expectations, and we have a duty to show leadership and ensure transparency in the discharge of our duties. We must collectively own the University and by extension, the state.

On this note, I would like to invite you to be part of the remaining activities of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation Ceremonies of the University, even as I welcome the new Chancellor, HRH, Alhaji Najib Hussaini Adamu, the Emir of Kazaure.

I thank you for your audience and may God bless you all, the Benue State University and Benue State University.

*Being Pre-Convocation Press Briefing of the Vice-Chancellor of Benue State University, Makurdi delivered on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024.*



# BSU 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation Ceremonies held from 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> December, 2024

By Dr. Mrs. Bibiana Ayabam

**B**enue State University (BSU) held its 22nd-24th Combined Convocation Ceremonies from December 5th to 7th, 2024. The four-day event commenced on Thursday, December 5th, with the Vice-Chancellor's opening of a free health outreach for staff and students at the Directorate of Health Services.

This was followed by a pre-convocation press briefing held at the Senate Chambers of the university where Principal Officers, Deans, Heads of Department, Coordinators and the various invited Media Organisations were in attendance.

The evening featured an interesting novelty football match between the male and female staff of the university which took place at the Eastern Wing football pitch. At the end the female team emerged winner of the match amidst laughter and jubilation.

Friday, December 6th, day two of the convocation kicked off with an energetic football match between female students of the Western and Eastern Wings at the Football Pitch, Eastern Wing.

This was closely followed by the much-publicized convocation lecture which was succinctly delivered by a distinguished historian and scholar, Professor Toyin Falola, Chair of Jacob and Frances Sanger Mossiker in the Humanities at the University of Texas at Austin, USA. The lecture, titled "Power, Politics and Policies," which provided profound insights into governance and policy, addressing both global and African political landscapes was held at Auditorium 1, College of Health Sciences BSU. Vice-Chancellors of other universities, Awardees, Senate members, invited guests, staff and students were in attendance.

The convocation plays which was extremely captivating was presented by students from the

Department of theater arts, at the Arts Theatre Complex, Eastern Wing, while the Vice-Chancellor's Dinner was hosted for visiting vice-chancellors and guests at the Vice-Chancellor's Lodge, evening of same day.

On Saturday, December 7th, day three of the convocation began with a ceremony where His Excellency, Revd Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, Visitor and Executive Governor of Benue State, commissioned a world class science laboratory at the Centre for Food Technology and Research (CEFTER) Complex. The governor proceeded to Km 8, Gboko Road, Makurdi where he commissioned the Centre for Food Technology and Innovation Complex (CEFTIC) & Food Laboratory.

The highlight of day three was the installation of the newly appointed Chancellor, His Royal Highness, Dr. Najib Hussaini Adamu, CON, Emir of Kazaure, Jigawa State, at the New Convocation Square. This was followed by Conferment of First Degrees, Postgraduate Diplomas, Higher Degrees and Honorary Doctorate Degrees, and Award of Prizes. A total of 18,677 degrees were conferred on deserving graduands amongst

which 16,120 were first degree graduates, with 44 achieving first-class honors, 551 Ph.D. recipients, 1,825 Master's degrees, and 181 postgraduate diplomas.

Additionally, six distinguished Nigerians were conferred with honorary degrees: Professor Toyin Falola, Senator Gabriel Torwua Suswam, Chief Engineer Sylvanus Ghasarah, Chief Paul Samuel Edeh, Wantaregh Paul Iorpuu Unongo (Posthumous) and Lt. Col Joseph Akaahan (Posthumous).

The convocation ceremony which turned out to be very colourful was attended by the Governor and Visitor to the University His Excellency, Revd Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia and his Deputy, His Excellency, Sam Ode, Royal fathers, The Executive Secretary of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Arc Sonny Echono, Vice Chancellors, Chief Executives of different tertiary institutions, parents, family members and other invited guests.

The Combined Convocation Ceremonies came to a close on Sunday, December 8th, 2024 with a Special Thanksgiving Service at the Good News Chapel which was attended by a good number of staff of the university and some of the graduands.



Governor Alia, Suswam and Ode during Convocation



# GOVERNOR ALIA INAUGURATES BSU GOVERNING COUNCIL

The Executive Governor of Benue State and Visitor to Benue State University, State University, Makurdi. The Governing Council is made up of Sir Paul Chukwuma, as the

**Dr. Mrs. Bibiana Ayabam**

Ayandeadoo Hur-Yagba as members.

In his address at the ceremony, the Governor congratulated members of the Council stating they had been carefully selected and called upon to serve the State on account of their track record of hard work and dedication. He informed them of their duties and stressed how much he looked forward to positive results from them. He also charged them to be dedicated and committed in the discharge of their duties.

Responding on behalf of the Governing Council members of the seven tertiary institutions that were inaugurated, the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council of Benue State University, Sir Paul Chukwuma expressed appreciation to the Governor for finding them worthy of the great assignment. He also promised to bridge the gap between the University and industries for technological knowledge and advancement.

In attendance were, the Deputy Governor of Benue State, Barr. Sam Ode, mni; top government functionaries; Commissioners; Advisers; also present were the newly inaugurated Chairmen

and members of the other Boards of tertiary institutions in the State.

The Chairman and members proceeded to the University after



Council members during inauguration at the Banquet Hall, Government House, Makurdi



VC and Chairman of Council

Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 at the Old Banquet Hall, Government House, Makurdi, inaugurated the new members of the Governing Council, Benue

Chairman with Professor Shagbaor Francis Wagh, Barr. Simon Orkuma, Dr. Diana Agbenu Ochoga, Mr. Michael Terwase Gongul, Dr. Michael Achadu and Professor



the ceremony for a closed-door meeting with Management of the University.

### **Members of the 7<sup>th</sup> Governing Council**

**Sir Paul Chukwuma**  
Pro-Chancellor /Chairman of Council

**Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu**  
Vice-Chancellor

**Professor Mike Odugbo Odey**  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor  
(Administration)

**Professor Simon Terver Ubwa**  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor  
(Academic)

**Professor Andrea Ornguze**  
Provost, College of Health Sciences

**Professor Shagbaor Francis Wagh**  
External Member

**Professor Ayangeadoo Hur-Yagba**  
External Member

**Barr. Simon Orkuma**  
External Member

**Diana Agbenu Ochoga (Mrs)**  
PhD, LKSJ  
External Member

**Dr. Michael Achadu**  
External Member

**Mr. Michael Terwase Gongul**  
External Member

**Mr. Nick Joko**  
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education and Knowledge Management

**Dr. Ruth Wombu**  
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance

**Dr. Beatrice N. Tsavmbu**  
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health and Human Services

**Professor Toryina Ayati Varvar**  
Representative of Senate



**Members of Council**



**Council members during convocation**

**Professor Innocent Agbo Adikwu**  
Representative of Senate

**Professor Godwin Oche Obochi**  
Representative of Senate

**Professor Terhemem Abachi**  
Representative of Senate

**Professor Gowon Ama Doki**  
Representative of Congregation (Academic)

**Pham. Peter Manyam**  
Representative of Congregation (Non-Teaching)

**Mr. Barnabas Hemba**  
Registrar/Secretary to Council

**In Attendance**  
**Dr. Amos Ekwurube Otse**  
Bursar

**Professor Innocent Isa Ekoja**  
University Librarian

**Faustina Dooshima Nyiwo**  
Deputy Registrar, Council & Management Affairs

**Barr. Kaseamo Andrew Adejir**  
Principal Assistant Registrar (Legal) Office of the Registrar

**Benjamin Tersur Buter**  
Senior Assistant Registrar, Office of the Registrar

**Elvis Ekpo Enyi**  
Assistant Registrar, Office of the Registrar.



# Governor Alia Authorizes Management to Relocate Faculty of Technology to Mbahar

In a significant development for Benue State University (BSU), the Executive Governor of Benue State, His Excellency, Revd Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia in his capacity as the Visitor to the university, has directed the Management of the University to relocate the Faculty of

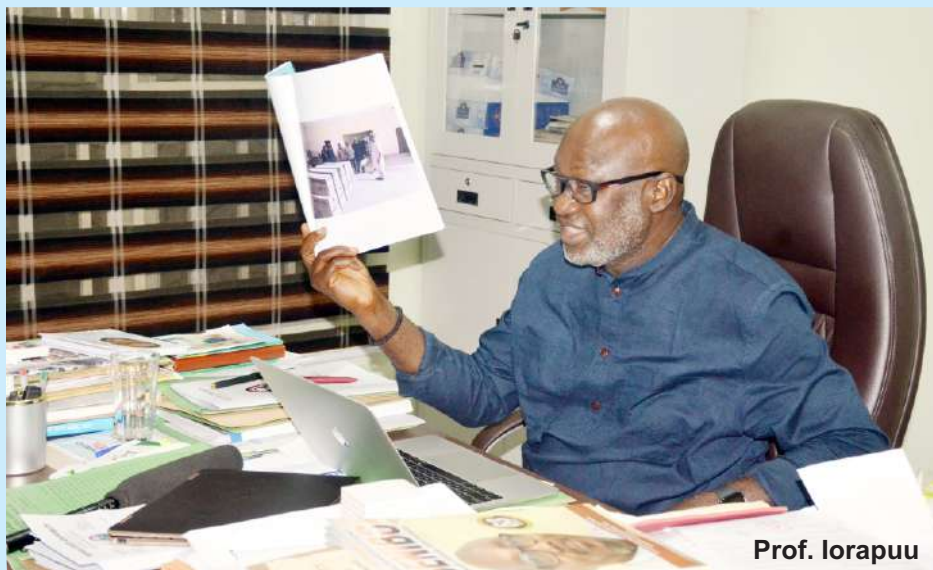
the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Simon Terver Ubwa, following their inspection of the abandoned facilities at the former site of the proposed Federal Polytechnic, Adikpo. The Vice-Chancellor and his team were warmly received

Dr. Bibiana Ayabam/Jude Atakpugh

university's growth, marks an expansion of BSU's academic and infrastructural footprint. The site, which spans 190 hectares, has been well-preserved by the local community, earning the Vice-Chancellor's commendation for their vigilance in protecting the facilities from vandalism over the years.

Speaking on the development with journalists, the Vice-Chancellor highlighted the institution's readiness to comply with the Governor's directive, stating that the Senate and Council would convene shortly to initiate the necessary processes. He emphasized the importance of this expansion for fostering academic excellence and advancing BSU's mission of delivering impactful education to Benue State and beyond.

The relocation of the faculty is expected to bring economic and social benefits to the Kwande community, further cementing the university's role as a catalyst for regional development.



Prof. Iorapuu

Technology and Industrial Studies to Mbahar in Kwande Local Government Area.

The directive comes on the heels of a report submitted by

during their visit by the Ter Kwande, traditional rulers and community opinion leaders.

The relocation, expected to significantly enhance the

## BSU Registrar Sets Agenda on Ethics and Welfare with Registry Staff

Jude Atakpugh

The Registrar, Benue State University, Mr. Barnabas Terfa Hemba on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 held his first meeting with the Registry staff of the University at the College of Health Sciences Auditorium. In his address to the staff, he stressed the importance of registry staff to the University administration and charged staff to sustain the spirit of hard work and commitment to duty. His address focused on punctuality, work ethics, discipline, staff welfare and the upcoming combined convocation ceremonies, scheduled from 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> December,

2024.

Mr. Hemba underscored the need for all staff to adhere strictly to professional standards, stressing that a disciplined and ethical workforce is essential for maintaining the University's reputation and operational efficiency. He also reassured staff of his commitment to improving welfare conditions and fostering a positive work environment where every staff member feels valued and supported.

He provided updates on the University's forthcoming convocation, which will feature a series of events to celebrate

academic achievements and recognize distinguished alumni. He encouraged staff to work collaboratively to ensure the success of this significant occasion, highlighting its importance in strengthening the institution's image.

In his closing remarks, the Registrar expressed his dedication to promoting a culture of excellence within the Registry and called on all members to actively contribute to Benue State University's Vision. Staff in attendance expressed appreciation for the Registrar's commitment to their welfare and the operational standards he advocated.



# Chairman of Council on Visit to Faculty of Law, Awards Scholarship to Eight Law Students

Jude Atakpugh



The Chairman of Council with Law Students during lectures

**T**he Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Benue State University, Sir Paul Chukwuma on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 during an inspection tour, visited the Faculty of Law, where he was warmly received

by the Dean, Professor David Ikoni, and other faculty staff.

Sir Chukwuma was impressed by the Faculty Library's vast collection of legal texts and the studious atmosphere. He also commended the University for

setting up a standard Moot Court to enhance students' legal practice.

The Chairman's visit culminated in a meeting with students in 200 and 400 levels, where he shared words of wisdom and encouragement.

He was particularly struck by the students' confidence, eloquence, and grasp of complex legal concepts.

As a testament to the University's commitment to academic excellence, Sir Chukwuma awarded scholarships to eight deserving students - six from 200 level and two from 400 level. The aim of his kind gesture is to motivate the students to strive for greater academic heights.



Dean of Law in warm handshake with the Chairman of Council



# HEMBA RECEIVES LETTER OF APPOINTMENT



The vice chancellor presenting letter of appointment to the Registrar

The Vice-Chancellor, Benue State University, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024 presented the letter of appointment to the newly appointed Registrar of the University, Mr. Barnabas Terfa Hemba.

promised to do his best to justify the confidence reposed in him. Stating with the support and cooperation of staff success would be attained.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Mike Odugbo Odey, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic),



Professor Iorapuu and the Registrar during working hours

During the presentation, the Vice-Chancellor urged him to bring his wealth of experience to bear on the administrative system of the University to enhance effective service delivery.

Responding, the Registrar

Professor Simon Terver Ubwa and Dr. Bibiana Ayabam were present during the presentation. Barnabas Terfa Hemba, a native of Mbagbam, Ute in Vandeikya Local Government was born on January 4, 1970, in Adikpo,

## Dr. Bibiana Ayabam

Kwande Local Government Area of Benue State, has had a distinguished academic and professional journey. He completed his primary education at Holy Ghost Primary School, Makurdi (1976-1981). He proceeded to St. Andrew's Secondary School, Adikpo (1982-1986), where he earned his GCE "O" Level certificate. His pursuit of higher education took him to the Federal School of Arts and Science, Ogoja (1988-1989) and Federal University of Technology, Owerri (1989-1995) where he graduated with a Bachelor of Agricultural Technology degree.

Hemba began his professional career as a National Youth Service Corps member with the Ministry of Agriculture in Umuahia, Abia State in 1996 after which he took up a part-time teaching position at the College of Agriculture, Gboko, from 1998 to 2000. In 2001, he joined Benue State University as an administrative staff, where he established himself in various roles.

During his tenure in the Academic Unit (2001-2005), he served as Secretary to several important committees, including the Examinations Regulations and Irregularities Committee, the Committee to Investigate Leakage of GST Examination, and the Issuance of Statement of Results/Certificates, as well as the Senate Committee on Affiliation. His responsibilities also included attending Senate meetings, acting as the Registration Officer for undergraduate and sandwich students, and serving as the Secretary for the BSU Strategic Plan Committee from 2005 to 2010.

From 2005 to 2007, Mr. Hemba was assigned to the Registrar's



Office, where he participated in Council Meetings, Finance and General-Purpose Committee meetings, Tenders Board meetings, and the Senior Staff

sealing certificates, as well as writing legal briefs for the Registrar.

In 2009, Mr. Hemba was

Secretary of the Centre for Research Management, and Special Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor from (2010 to 2015).

Subsequently, he assumed roles in the university library as Deputy Registrar – Administration (2017-2018) and also served as Secretary for the General Studies Unit (2018-2019); Secretary, the Postgraduate School (2019-2020); Secretary, Maintenance Services Unit (2021-2023) and Establishment Secretary, Establishment Division (2023) before being appointed Registrar.

Hemba is currently the Chairman of the Association of Nigerian University Professional Administrators (ANUPA), Benue State University, Makurdi Chapter. His past leadership roles include Chairman of Club 76 High-Level, Makurdi (2000-2006), President of the Mbagbam Community Development Association Worldwide (2018-2022) and Branch Chairman of the Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SSANU), BSU Branch (2009-2010).

As Registrar, Mr. Hemba is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the university and serves as Secretary to the University's Council, Senate, Congregation, and Convocation. He has actively contributed to community service and has participated in numerous workshops and conferences at both national and local levels.

He is married and the union is blessed with children. In his spare time, he enjoys reading, traveling and listening to music.



Registrar and VC during Convocation

Disciplinary Committee. He played a crucial role in the Implementation Committee for establishing the College of Health Sciences, investigated BSU Consultancy Services, and was responsible for signing and

appointed Secretary to the Maintenance Services Unit and later served as Faculty Officer for the College of Health Sciences. He has held several pivotal positions, such as Secretary of the Accreditation Committee,



Prof. Odey and Ubwa congratulate Mr. Hemba on his appointment as the Registrar



# New Provost Appointed for College of Health Sciences

By Jude Atakpugh

**T**he Governing Council of Benue State University has approved the appointment of Professor Andrea Avershima Ornguze as the first female Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Benue State University. Her appointment was announced by the Chairman, Governing Council on Monday, 16th December, 2024.

As a scholar, she has held Several Academic and administrative positions in the College and the University including Head, Clinical Services, Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi. Until her appointment, she was the acting Head, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, College of Health Sciences.

Professor Andrea Avershima Ornguze is married to Professor Emmanuel Daniel Ornguze. She had her elementary education at St. John's Primary School, Gboko and her West African School Certificate at the Queen of the Rosary Secondary School, Gboko. She attended the School of Basic Studies, Zaria and later Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria where she won **the Nigerian National Merit Award as the overall best student in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences for the 1976/1977 session.** She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Drama with a Second Class Honours in the Upper Division in 1978.

Having served the National Youth Service Corps between 1978 and 1979 in Imo State, Professor Ornguze joined the Benue State Ministry of Education in 1979. She taught English Language and Literature at Government College, Makurdi during which time she taught a former Governor of Benue State, Rt. Honourable Gabriel Torwua Suswam, as well several other future Lawyers, Surgeons, Veterinary Doctors and Pharmacists.

In 1981, Professor Ornguze went to England to obtain the London Board General Certificate of Education at the Ordinary level in the Science subjects. She was admitted to read Medicine at the University of Ibadan from where she graduated in 1989 with the Bachelor of Medicine and the Bachelor of Surgery (M.B.B.S.). She served the mandatory Housemanship at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Idi Araba in 1990.

Thereafter, she returned to join the Benue State Government serving two successive administrations meritoriously as the Government House Physician.

Still feeling unfulfilled, Dr. Ornguze returned to her alma mater, the University College Hospital, Ibadan where in October, 2000 she became **the first female Obstetrician and Gynaecologist that institution had produced in its 43 years of existence!** At the same time, she won **the merit award as the overall best candidate in the October, 2000 postgraduate fellowship examination of the West African College of Surgeons.** She holds a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) in Management, a Certificate in Public Personnel Administration (CPPA) and a Certificate in Public Accounts, Auditing and Taxation (CPAAT).

Her membership of learned associations include Fellow of the International College of Surgeons (FICS), Fellow of the West African College of Surgeons (FWACS), Fellow of the Medical College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (FMCOG), Member of the Society of Gynaecology and Obstetrics of Nigeria (SOGON), member of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA), member of the Medical and Dental Consultants Association of Nigeria (MDCAN) and member, Medical Women's Association of



Prof. Ornguze

Nigeria (MWAN), Benue State Branch. She is also an examiner at both the West African College of Surgeons and the National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria.

She successfully completed two tenures as Head of Clinical Services at the Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi, two tenures as pioneer Acting Director of the University Health Services, Benue State University Makurdi and is presently a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the College of Health Sciences and Chief Honorary Consultant to the Benue State University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria. **In fact, she is the first female Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Benue State and now the first female Provost College of Health Sciences, Benue State University, Makurdi!**

She has published many book chapters and articles in peer reviewed journals. Also, she has attended numerous conferences in and outside Nigeria in line with her appointment and area of specialization. Her interests include: Maternal and Child Health, Medical Education, Theatre, Reading, Classical Music, Travelling, and golf.



# BSU-CEFTER @10: Driving Agricultural Innovation and Food Security with New faculty of Agriculture

The Benue State University, Centre for Food Technology and Research (CEFTER) recently marked its 10th anniversary from 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> November, 2024, commemorating a decade of research and innovation aimed at tackling food security and reducing post-harvest losses in Nigeria and beyond.



L-R Dr. Ikyaan, VC NOUN, Profs. Olufemi, Iorapuu and Ikyo

At the event, Professor Ode Ojowu, former Chief Economic Adviser to ex-President Olusegun Obasanjo, called on the Federal Government to deepen its partnership with the World Bank-funded center to strengthen food security and support local production across the country.

Highlighting the economic challenges posed by high food prices and inflation, Professor Ojowu noted that CEFTER plays a vital role in addressing these issues by fostering local entrepreneurship and post-harvest management solutions. “The

anxieties in the country today largely revolve around the high cost of food, impacting millions of

families. With CEFTER's role in food technology and post-harvest research, I urge the Federal and

Dr. Bibiana Ayabam/Jude Atakpugh sufficiency,” he stated, urging further governmental support when the World Bank's sponsorship concludes in 2025.

At the milestone celebration, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joe Iorapuu, announced the university's plan to establish a Faculty of Agriculture, a move he believes will boost agricultural development and climate-smart initiatives in Nigeria and West Africa. “Our new Faculty of Agriculture would aim at advancing agricultural production, addressing climate challenges and promoting technical growth in the sector,” he said. He also commended the Governor of Benue State for his support, which has fast-tracked plans to launch the faculty soon.

Reflecting on BSU's 32 years of educational impact, Professor Iorapuu noted that CEFTER has



Participants

State Governments to partner with this center to secure food

positioned itself as a leader in postgraduate education, especially





Cross-Section of Dignitaries



CEFTER International Students



Dr. Doki, Prof. Abachi, Dr. Adejo and Dr. Oklo winners of the X-Y-Z Research Development Grant Award, 2024

in the area of food technology, with students from West and Central African countries actively participating in its programs. “With 30 international students and a growing reputation, CEFTER's first decade truly represents a milestone in advancing education excellence across Africa.”

The event's chairman, former BSU Vice-Chancellor Professor Akase Sorkaa, shared how the center has achieved its goal of curbing post-harvest losses in the sub-region. “CEFTER's high-quality education and practical training prepare students for real-world challenges in food technology, making it an essential force in regional food security,” he stated. CEFTER Director and Project Leader, Professor Barnabas Ikyo, reported that over the past decade, the center has enrolled 718 students and graduated 182, with strong emphasis on serving local communities. “From food hygiene education in Benue communities to assisting Cameroonian refugees and IDP camps, our work has been grounded in dedication and collaboration,” he explained, adding that CEFTER's support has extended to 11 startups and numerous food processing initiatives.

The Och'Idoma, HRM Chief John Elaigwu Odogbo, represented by Chief Chris Ijale, applauded BSU-CEFTER's contributions to food security and self-reliance initiatives in Nigeria, describing the institution as a “pride of Benue State and Nigeria at large.” Professor Charity Ashimem Angya, OON, chairperson of the Central Planning Committee, welcomed guests to the celebration, which concluded with an awards dinner night honoring the achievements of CEFTER's first decade.



## New Executive Secretary for National Universities Commission

**A** former Visiting Professor in the National Universities Commission (NUC), Abdullahi Yusuf Ribadu has been appointed the substantive 9<sup>th</sup> Executive Secretary of the Commission, with effect from Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2024. According to a statement which

Jigawa State.

Meanwhile, his wealth of experience in academic leadership is expected to drive reforms in the nation's university system.

The new Executive Secretary is to take over from the current Acting Executive Secretary, Mr. Chris J. Maiyaki, who had been on Acting

Chancellor of Sule Lamido University, Kafin Hausa, Jigawa State, Nigeria (from 2013 to 2018). Professor Abdullahi had his primary and secondary education in Song and Mubi, respectively, in Adamawa State. He went to Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Kaduna State, where he studied Veterinary Medicine.

In 1984, he performed the compulsory National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) programme in Ilorin, Kwara State. He studied for his master's degree in Veterinary reproduction (Theriogenology) between 1986 and 1988 at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

In 1990, he was awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship to study in the University of Liverpool, where he had his PhD in 1994. He was also awarded a Japanese Society for the Promotion of

Science (JSPS) Fellowship for a Postdoctoral Study at Rakuno Gakuen University, Ebetsu, Hokkaido, Japan from 1997 to 1999. He worked as a lecturer in the University of Maiduguri from 1985 to 2004 until he became the Vice-Chancellor of Federal University of Technology, Yola on that same year 2004.

Among Professor Abdullahi's recognised scholarship include a Commonwealth Scholarship for a PhD degree at the University of Liverpool and also a Japanese post-doctorate fellowship that was sponsored by the Japan Society for the promotion of science. He was the first Nigerian to benefit from that programme.

*Culled from NUC weekly Bulletin Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2024*



VC receiving Goodwill Message from the NUC Secretary

read in part issued by the President's Special Adviser on Information and Strategy, Mr. Bayo Onanuga: "President Tinubu appointed Professor Abdullahi Yusuf Ribadu, an erstwhile Visiting Professor at the NUC and an expert in veterinary reproduction, as the Organisation's Executive Secretary."

The President also highlighted his confidence in Prof. Ribadu's ability to bring transformative changes to the NUC. "With his proven track record, Prof. Ribadu will provide the leadership needed to fulfill Nigerians' expectations for quality and innovative higher education," the President stated. Professor Ribadu, who was once a Visiting Professor at the NUC, has served as Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Yola and the Sule Lamido University,

appointment since 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2023, following the voluntary resignation from office of the then 8<sup>th</sup> substantive Executive Secretary, Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, mni, MFR, FNAL, on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, 2023. It would be recalled that Professor Rasheed, a former Vice Chancellor of Bayero University Kano (BUK), who was reappointed for another five-year term of office in 2021 by former President Muhammadu Buhari, resigned his appointment in 2023, to continue his teaching job at the University.

The new Executive Secretary born on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1960 is a Nigerian academic and professor of Veterinary Reproduction. He was the Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Yola, Nigeria (from 2004 to 2009). He also served as the pioneer Vice-



# Ministry of Education Holds Strategic Retreat for Benue Tertiary Institution Governing Councils

The Ministry of Education and Knowledge Management in Benue State has directed state-owned tertiary institutions to obtain regulatory agency approval before forming any affiliations. This mandate was issued by the Honourable Commissioner, Dr. Frederick Ikyaan, on Tuesday, August 16, 2024, while inaugurating a one-day

highlighted the need for renewed focus on value addition to education, emphasizing the responsible, accountable public service championed by Governor Hyacinth Alia's administration. Dr. Ikyaan called on Governing Councils to play an active role in supporting these reforms. The retreat, themed “*Setting the Agenda for Harmonious and*

**Jude Atakpugh**

Professor Tor Iorapuu, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) Professor Mike Odugbo expressed gratitude to the governor for establishing the councils and praised the ministry's initiative in organizing the retreat. He assured attendees that insights gained would help shape the administration of tertiary education across the state.

In a keynote presentation, retired Director of the Ministry of Education, Mr. Godwin Awai, discussed the “*Role of Governing Councils in Funding and Enhancing the Productivity of Tertiary Education Institutions in Benue State.*” He advocated for strategic planning, rule-setting for smooth council operations, and recruitment based strictly on merit.

Another speaker, Dr. Andrew Amee, a retired Permanent Secretary, presented on “*Blending Public Service Rules and Accountability in Operations.*” He called for institutional autonomy for the councils, urging them to restore the institutions' former glory through adherence to due process and innovative revenue-generation strategies.

In response to the presentations, Professor Okpe Okpe, Chairman of the Governing Council at Akawe Torkula Polytechnic, Makurdi, requested the release of white papers from the Visitation Panels to guide council actions. Additional remarks were made by Professor Member Gernyi, Chairman of the Governing Council at the College of Education in Oju; Mrs. Victoria Pilla of Akperan Orshi Polytechnic; and Dr. Maurice Tyokerver, Provost of the College of Education in Katsina Ala, who all advocated for improved funding and council representation.

The retreat concluded with a commitment from participants to apply the insights gained in enhancing the administration, funding, and accountability of Benue State's tertiary institutions.



Commissioner for Education and Knowledge Management, Dr. Ikyaan and Prof. Iorapuu

retreat for Governing Council chairpersons, council members, and institutional heads of state-owned tertiary institutions. The retreat was held at the Senate Chambers of Benue State University, Makurdi, and was organized by the ministry.

Dr. Ikyaan explained that this directive is crucial to curtailing political patronage and the culture of entitlement that have previously stifled institutional progress. He

Efficient Administration in Our Tertiary Institutions,” was designed to foster collaboration and align efforts to improve the administration of tertiary education. Dr. Ikyaan emphasized that these efforts were critical for closing educational gaps and preparing for a brighter future in Benue State's educational landscape.

Representing the Vice-Chancellor of Benue State University,



Gov. Alia and his Deputy Sam Ode with Chairpersons of Tertiary institutions in Benue State during their inauguration at the Government House



# BSU Reaffirms Commitment to Academic Excellence with NUC Reaccreditation Exercise



**NUC Accreditation Team, B.A Theatre Arts**

**B**enue State University (BSU) has embarked on a pivotal reaccreditation exercise, presenting ten academic programmes to the National Universities Commission (NUC) for evaluation between November 17 and December 17, 2024. This process underscores the institution's unwavering dedication to maintaining its status as a premier centre for academic excellence and delivering transformative education.

The programmes undergoing review span diverse disciplines and include:

B.Sc. Environmental Management and Toxicology,  
B.Sc. Biology,  
M.Sc. Accounting and Finance,  
B.Sc. Microbiology,  
B.A. Theatre Arts,  
B.A. English,  
B.A. Religious Studies,  
B.Sc. (Ed) Physical and Health Education,  
B.Sc. (Ed) Technology Education,  
B. Urban and Regional Planning and  
B.Sc. (Ed) Physical and Health Education

Having consistently achieved full accreditation with commendable scores over the last five years, these programmes exemplify the University's academic rigor and commitment to quality. At the time of reporting, these

ten programmes had been successfully presented to NUC panels. The accreditation panels, composed of renowned academics and seasoned professionals, are rigorously assessing each programme based on curriculum relevance, faculty qualifications, infrastructure adequacy, and student outcomes. The NUC teams have assured the University of an impartial and transparent assessment process. During wrap-up sessions, they commended the University for its exceptional academic environment, modern library facilities equipped with extensive physical and digital resources, innovative curricular offerings,



**NUC Accreditation Team, Vocational and Technical Education**

and the competence of its faculty, staff, and students. Vice-Chancellor of Benue State

**Dr. Bibiana Ayabam/Jude Atakpugh**

University, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, expressed confidence in the reaccreditation process, emphasizing its importance for institutional advancement. "The reaccreditation exercise is not merely a quality assurance mechanism; it is also an opportunity for introspection and growth. We deeply value the NUC's commitment to ensuring academic standards that align with global best practices and prepare our graduates to meet the challenges of national and international development," he said.

Professor Iorapuu also lauded the professionalism and constructive feedback provided by the visiting accreditation teams, noting that their insights would bolster the University's resolve to innovate and sustain academic excellence.

As the reaccreditation process nears completion, Benue State University remains resolute in its mission to nurture visionary leaders and solution-oriented graduates capable of driving societal transformation. The anticipated outcomes of this exercise are expected to further solidify BSU's reputation as a

leading institution in Nigeria's higher education landscape.



# Benue State University Hosts Inaugural Lectures: A Showcase of Scholarly Innovation and Leadership by Four Distinguished Professors in 2024

By Jude Atatkpugh/Dr. Bibiana Ayabam/ Augustina Ngowase Baaka

The Harvest of Inaugural Lecture Series at Benue State University marks a significant milestone in the academic journey of the institution, celebrating the intellectual contributions of its esteemed faculty. This event, steeped in tradition, serves as a platform for professors to showcase their research, share their insights and inspire both students and colleagues alike. Each lecture represents not just a personal achievement for the presenters but also a collective advancement in knowledge that contributes to the university's mission to produce informed leaders and critical thinkers for society at large.

Inaugural lectures, often regarded as the pinnacle of academic accomplishment, allow professors to reflect on their scholarly pathways and illuminate the significance of their work in broader societal contexts.

At Benue State University, this series not only honours the intellectual rigor of its faculty but also reinforces the critical role of higher education in fostering innovative thinking and addressing pressing global issues. Through the lens of diverse disciplines, the inaugural lectures explored themes that resonate with contemporary challenges, thereby echoing the university's commitment to relevance and excellence.

In light of the above, in 2024, the university witnessed presentations from four distinguished professors, showcasing the vibrant tapestry of scholarship that characterizes Benue State University. Each inaugural lecture is an invitation to delve into complex ideas and stimulate discourse that transcends disciplinary

boundaries. It is a celebration of knowledge, a beacon of inspiration for the university community and a rekindling of our shared commitment to inquiry, learning and progress.

## Professor Tarhule Advocates Enhanced Funding for Non-Custodial Laws in Nigeria

The Dean of the Postgraduate School at the Benue State University (BSU), Professor Vearumun Vitalis Tarhule, has urged the Nigerian government to allocate adequate funding to the judiciary to facilitate the full

must be allowed to fulfil its responsibility to appropriate enough funds for it," he stated.

The Dean of Postgraduate School explored various challenges surrounding the newly introduced non-custodial sanctions in Nigeria. He identified statutory deficiencies in the enactment of laws, external factors such as underfunding, a lack of sentencing guidelines and the non-implementation of sentencing hearings as key issues contributing to the inadequate enforcement of non-custodial



Prof. Iorapuu awarding a plaque to Prof. Tarhule

implementation of non-custodial laws in the country. He made this recommendation while delivering the 16<sup>th</sup> Inaugural lecture on the theme, "The Dilemma of Implementing Non-Custodial Sanctions in Nigeria," which coincided with his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

Professor Tarhule emphasized that insufficient funding remains a significant barrier to effective implementation of non-custodial laws, affecting traditional services including the police and judiciary. "The National Assembly that passed the law

laws. He highlighted a troubling scenario where individuals who should not be incarcerated often find themselves in custody, illustrating the complexities surrounding these laws.

The professor pointed out that the judiciary's reluctance to adopt sentencing hearings further complicates the situation. He argued that this reluctance prevents the effective administration of non-custodial laws, which could otherwise assist judges in their decision-making processes. Moreover, he critiqued the inconsistent



application of sentencing guidelines, lamenting that although some states have adopted them, judges frequently fail to implement them.

To address these issues, Professor Tarhule proposed that the Supreme Court of Nigeria should amend its provisions to clearly define various sentencing options, including suspended and custodial sentences. He drew comparisons with the UK system, noting that while the UK's Criminal Justice Act dedicates 23 sections to suspended sentences, Nigeria currently has only one section, which inadequately covers the subject.

"The suspended sentence must be tied to specific conditions similar to those in the United Kingdom," he stressed, advocating for the establishment of essential organisations to eliminate obstacles hindering the implementation of non-custodial laws.

Professor Tarhule highlighted the importance of harmonising the objectives of non-custodial services with the Nigerian Correctional Service, suggesting that the lack of properly constituted bodies significantly undermines the effectiveness of non-custodial measures. He pointed out contradictions between the Supreme Court's provisions and the Correctional Service Act, particularly concerning the appointment and promotion of probation officers, which further complicates enforcement.

To enhance clarity and functionality within the system, he recommended that all contradictions between the Supreme Court and the Correctional Service Act be resolved through legislative amendments. He called for explicit terms regarding parole, particularly for life sentences, to provide transparency in the legal framework.

"The Nigerian correctional institutions, including the police

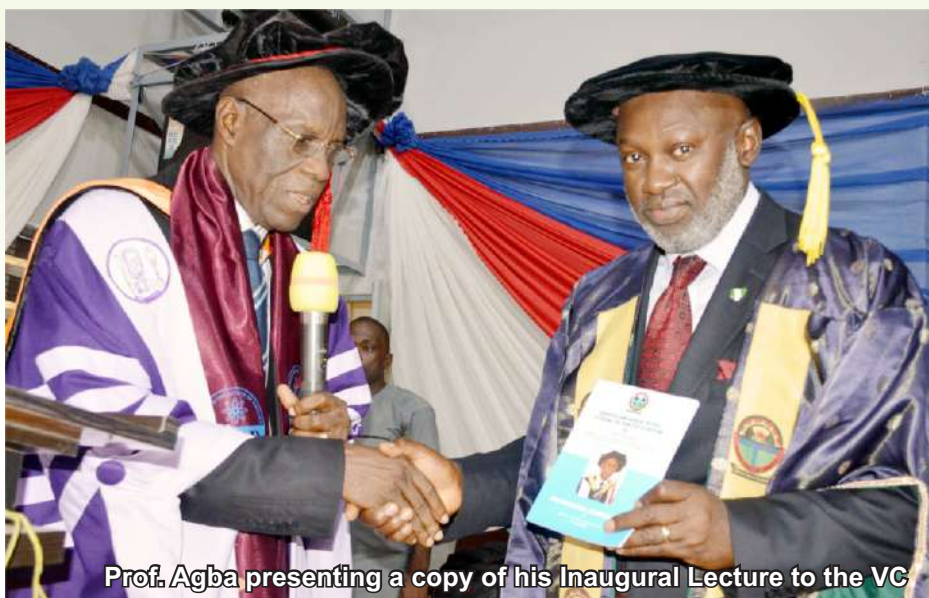
and correctional services, must be adequately funded and equipped to fulfil their responsibilities in criminal administration," he asserted. He also urged the judiciary to adopt and implement sentencing hearings for all convicted defendants, as this would aid judges in making informed decisions.

In his remarks, Vice-Chancellor of BSU, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, encouraged Nigerians to read the constitution to better understand their rights. He also recommended that the public access Professor Tarhule's book on his inaugural lecture, noting its potential to impact communities, particular.

lecture.

### **Professor Agba Illuminates Medical Advancements in 17th Inaugural Lecture at BSU: "Biophysics and Medical Physics-Extending the Frontiers of Medicine"**

In a thought-provoking and engaging inaugural lecture, Professor Emmanuel Hemen Agba from the Department of Physics, Benue State University captivated an audience of students, faculty and esteemed guests with his address titled "Biophysics and Medical Physics: Extending the Frontiers of Medicine." This marked the 17th inaugural lecture in the university's history, further



Prof. Agba presenting a copy of his Inaugural Lecture to the VC

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Simon Terver Ubwa highlighted the importance of inaugural lectures in educating the university community about research outputs, community engagement and mentorship. He praised Professor Tarhule for his significant contributions, describing him as a unifier and mobiliser within his community.

The event featured a cake-cutting for Professor Tarhule's 60th birthday, alongside the presentation of a plaque of honour by the Vice-Chancellor in recognition of his successful delivery of the 16th inaugural

underscoring the institution's commitment to advancing scientific knowledge and innovation.

The event commenced with a warm welcome from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, who lauded Professor Agba's extensive contributions to the fields of biophysics and medical physics. "Professor Agba has not only demonstrated exceptional academic prowess but has also shown a remarkable dedication to fostering research that has the potential to impact the health sector significantly," he remarked.

Professor Agba began his lecture



by outlining the critical roles that biophysics and medical physics play in modern medicine. He emphasised the importance of understanding the physical principles underlying biological processes, stating, "Biophysics serves as a bridge between biology and physics, allowing us to explore complex biological systems through the lens of physical science." His insights highlighted how this interdisciplinary approach is crucial for developing innovative medical technologies and therapeutic techniques.

One of the key themes of the lecture was the application of physics principles to medical imaging technologies, such as MRI and CT scans. Professor Agba illustrated how advancements in these technologies have revolutionised diagnostics, enabling healthcare professionals to detect diseases with greater accuracy and efficiency. "Medical physics is at the forefront of enhancing patient care," he noted, "by ensuring that diagnostic tools are both effective and safe for patients."

The lecture also touched on emerging trends in biophysics research, including the use of nanotechnology in drug delivery systems and the potential of biosensors in disease detection. Professor Agba passionately conveyed his belief that continued research and collaboration in these areas could lead to breakthroughs that significantly improve health outcomes.

### **Professor Eriba Believes Persuasive Communication to Boost Science Enrolment**

Benue State University, hosted its 18th Inaugural Lecture, delivered by Professor Joel Eriba, an esteemed Professor of Chemistry Education, who addressed the long-standing issue of declining enrolment in science courses across Nigeria's higher education institutions. Known for his engaging and insightful

approach, Professor Eriba presented a wealth of research findings, historical data and examples that highlighted the persistent gap in science enrolment, particularly since the introduction of the national policy advocating a 60:40 enrolment ratio in favour of science disciplines.

Citing data from the university's early years, Professor Eriba noted that at its inception in 1992, Benue State University had zero enrolment in the sciences, while the arts and social sciences recorded a substantial intake of 380 students. He attributed the ongoing downward trend in science enrolment to students' negative attitudes towards the subject, emphasizing that a student's internal rejection of science often manifests in disengagement.

In proposing a solution, Professor Eriba recommended the Persuasive Communication Model (PCM) as an effective tool to positively shift students' attitudes towards science. He explained that the model, widely used by other researchers, has

science enrolments. His findings were supported by empirical research conducted with 1,840 junior secondary school students across 44 schools in Benue State, showing that PCM interventions significantly improved students' attitudes towards science.

Professor Eriba advised science teachers to exhibit positive attitudes towards both the subject and their students, fostering a more welcoming environment that could inspire students to consider science as a viable academic and career path. His lucid and anecdotal delivery, drawn from over four decades of teaching experience, brought science to life in a manner that made complex ideas accessible and relevant to a wide audience.

Opening his lecture with reflections on his challenging journey into education, Professor Eriba shared personal stories of resilience, recounting how he began primary school at the age of 10 due to financial hardships. He expressed profound gratitude to God and paid tribute to family members, mentors, teachers and other supporters who helped him



demonstrated substantial success in transforming negative perceptions. He further underscored that understanding an individual's belief system is crucial in predicting attitudes and guiding actions, asserting that the PCM could play a pivotal role in reversing the trend of declining

overcome these early obstacles.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, initially represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Simon Ubwa, praised Professor Eriba's choice of topic, noting its



significance for future science enrolments and the impact of attitude on life choices. He affirmed the potential of the Persuasive Communication Model in addressing enrolment challenges in higher education. Professor Iorapuu, who later joined the event alongside the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology (EBKUST) in Sierra Leone, Revd. Professor Edwin Julius Jeblar Momoh, encouraged other professors to follow suit by delivering their inaugural lectures, underscoring its importance for the university's global standing.

The event culminated in the joint presentation of a commemorative plaque to Professor Eriba by Professors Iorapuu and Momoh. The ceremony featured a procession of university Senate members, led by the Registrar, and concluded with a recess led by the Vice-Chancellor, following academic tradition.

Guests enjoyed a cultural presentation by the University's Cultural Troupe, and a reception hosted by Professor Eriba's family. The Provost's wife, Mrs. Christy Eriba, added a personal touch with a song of thanksgiving, celebrating the lecturer's accomplishments and the family's gratitude to God. The gathering included family, friends, former students, and representatives from the Federal College of Education, Odugbo, where Professor Eriba currently serves as Provost. The lecture marked a memorable milestone, resonating with attendees and enriching Benue State University's tradition of academic excellence.

### **Professor Utulu Explores Core Social Dynamics in BSU 19th Inaugural Lecture**

Benue State University, Makurdi, witnessed an intellectually stimulating occasion on October 3, 2024, as Professor Ruth Utulu delivered the institution's 19th

inaugural lecture. The lecture, titled "Social-Analytical Variables and the Variables: The Equation for Social Studies," attracted an engaged audience, including members of the university senate, faculty, students, and Professor Utulu's family.

Presiding over the event was the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, who welcomed attendees and highlighted the importance of the inaugural lecture series as a platform for intellectual discourse and the advancement of knowledge within the university community. In his remarks, Professor Iorapuu commended Professor Utulu's contributions to the field of social studies, describing her work as groundbreaking and a testament to the university's commitment to fostering research that addresses

can address key challenges in Nigeria and beyond. Her lecture underscored how an analytical approach to social variables could bring about a more inclusive and equitable society.

The thought-provoking lecture struck a chord with students and colleagues alike, many of whom expressed admiration for Professor Utulu's ability to translate intricate social theories into relatable insights. "Her work brings social studies closer to real-life applications, enabling us to understand the core of social dynamics and their implications for our communities," remarked one faculty member.

At the conclusion of the lecture, Professor Simon Terver Ubwa, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), gave the vote of thanks, applauding Professor Utulu's dedication to both her



**VC presents a plaque to Prof. Utulu**

critical societal issues.

Professor Utulu, known for her expertise in social analysis, delved into the complex interplay of social-analytical variables that shape societal structures and behavior. She emphasized the importance of understanding these variables as a foundation for effective social studies, proposing that by dissecting the equation of social interactions, scholars and practitioners alike

academic career and the development of social studies as a discipline. Professor Ubwa also acknowledged the support of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Iorapuu, in fostering a rich academic culture within the university.

Highlights were the rendition of social studies anthem, cultural dance and presentation of plaque by the Vice-Chancellor to Professor Utulu.



# Professor Ekoja Advocates Archival Documentation in Organizations

By Dr. Bibiana Ayabam/Jude Atakpugh



Prof. Ekoja

**A** Professor of Library and Information Science and the University Librarian, Benue State University, Professor Innocent Isa Ekoja has advocated the need for proper record keeping in organizations to enhance effective administration. “It is only when records are properly kept in Public and private sectors, that they can be easily retrieved when the need arises”.

According to him, records are organic documents used for current transactions in organizations and are pre-archival collections, therefore, all records are potential archival materials. Though in reality, not all of them make it to the archives, except those of enduring value.

Professor Ekoja disclosed this at Window on America, Main Library, while delivering the 6<sup>th</sup> Library Seminar Series with the theme: “Records and Archives Management in Organizations” on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.

He emphasized that, archiving is very important in organizations because their transactions involve the generation of information materials, some of which have enduring value and so must be archived for future consultation. He added that, records

management is very important in organizations because by the nature of their transactions, they create, maintain and use records (pre-archival collections), and when these records are no longer useful, they are disposed of. Stressing that, records and archival management are important in organizations because they are geared towards the provision of access to the information contained in the contents of the items they keep.

Benefits of archival documentation include: indispensable working tools for government officials, invaluable tools for development in the private sectors for their business transactions, settlement of disputes, scholarly study and

consciousness and identity, effective Public Administration and enhanced demographic data.

He concluded that, archives are invaluable in several ways which can lead to decision making as well as day-to-day administration of organizations. Therefore, archives are vehicles of evidence for past achievements for which present and future efforts seek improvements.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) Professor Mike Odugbo Odey, Chairman of the session commended the University Librarian for resuscitating the Library Seminar Series and called on other Departments and Faculties to emulate.

He described the topic as apt and timely with a promise that Management would explore the likelihood of extending it to the entire University.

Former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Edward Agbo Omudu commended the library for organizing the Seminar on Records keeping and expressed optimism that it would be extended to the entire University.

The Law Librarian/Chairman, Seminar Committee, Gabriel Okplogidi appreciated the library and other staff of the University who attended. Announcing that subsequently, seminars would be



Cross-section of guests and participants

academic research. Other benefits are: source of national

held every last Tuesday of the month.



# BSU Educational Support for Refugees receives commendation from UNHCR

By Jude Atakpugh



UNHCR Delegation, University management and Students

The UNHCR Representative to Nigeria, Mr. Arjun Jain accompanied by the sub-regional office head in Ogoja, Mrs. Irene Omondi, paid a courtesy visit on the Vice Chancellor of Benue State University.

The visit was to appreciate Benue State University for partnering with UNHCR to provide educational support for Refugees. The Vice-Chancellor, Benue State University, Prof. Tor Joe Iorapuu signed an MoU with UNHCR some time last year (2023) to make the University a destination for

Refugees seeking higher education training.

The country Representative was taken through the courses in Benue State University, detailing various areas that Refugees could receive training. He was particularly excited at the resourcefulness of the University in the area of Vocation and Technical Education and urged for long term impact urging the Refugees to show interest in them.

On her part, Mrs. Irene Omondi, UNHCR sub-office head in Ogoja requested the University to expand

the spaces for more Refugees across the World for higher education training. She also requested that other Refugees who gained admission by disguising as indigenes should be allowed to change their status and be considered as Refugees with their real citizenship.

The Director, Centre for Advancement and Linkages, Benue State University, Dr. Elijah Terdoo Ikpanor assured them of the Vice-Chancellor's commitment to the implementation of the MoU. He stated the willingness of the Vice-Chancellor to provide a conducive atmosphere for the refugees to enhance teaching and learning as requested by the UNHCR.

The Dean of Students Affairs, Dr. Nelson Alyebo noted that other Refugees were also studying various courses in the University before the commencement of the MoU but were registered as indigenes. He promised to profile and forward them for documentation.

## ...Partners BSU

Benue State University and United Nations High Commission for Refugees are discussing the possibility of collaborating with Faculties, Centres and Departments in the University to support the intervention activities of the commission in the State.

The UNHCR team under the leadership of Dr. Irene Babu and Mr. Okpaje Sally Ineji commended Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Iorapuu and University Management for the educational support that the University has given to the Cameroonian

Refugees who are to study in the University under a tuition free-arrangement.

They also requested the University through the Faculty of Law, Centre for Gender Studies as well as Centre for Peace & Development Studies to actively collaborate with them to end statelessness as solution seekers, as the campaign is launched in 2024.

They also called on the Faculty of Law to assist the University in the domestication of the Kampala Convention resolution for the protection and assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in

Benue State. Their partners, the Foundation for Justice Development and Peace team also invited the relevant Centres in the University to collaborate with them in planning the 2024 International Women's Day.

Other areas of collaboration discussed were: establishment of the Centre for Refugees and Humanitarian Studies which would serve as a hub for research and training of participants in administering support to the Refugees and Displaced Persons



# BSU: Students Affairs Gets New Dean

By Jude Atakpugh



New and Outgoing Dean with Staff of Students Affairs Division



2024 matriculation



Beneficiaries of Oga Okwoche Scholarship and the Management

The Vice-Chancellor, Benue State University, Makurdi, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, fsonta, fnipr, ksm has approved the appointment of Dr. Nelson Orkaan Alyebo as Acting Dean of Students. He succeeds Professor Emmanuel Otor Eriba whose second tenure ended March 4, 2024. The appointment is for a duration of two years.

Dr. Alyebo, a Lecturer in the Department of English, Faculty of Arts, Benue State University, until his appointment was the Deputy Dean of Students Affairs.

In a brief hand over today at the Dean's Office, the outgoing Dean, Professor Eriba appreciated the Vice-Chancellor for granting him the opportunity to serve the University in that capacity and appealed to the staff to extend same cooperation they accorded him to his successor. On behalf of Staff of the Division, the Students Affairs Officer, Augustina Tolufashe Funmilayo commended the commitment and dedication of the outgoing Dean in ensuring that issues affecting students and staff were treated accordingly. She assured the new Dean of their maximum support to enable him succeed.

Dr. Alyebo expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for finding him worthy of the appointment and thanked the outgoing Dean for his tutelage while he served under him as Deputy. He promised to consolidate on his achievements to take the Division to greater heights.



# BSU Hosts Tiv International Conference

By Dr. Bibiana Ayabam/Jude Atakpugh

The Benue State University in conjunction with the Tiv Language Studies and Development Association held an Inaugural International Conference at the Faculty of

languages within the State. He urged the Benue State government to recruit language teachers to ensure effective delivery of teaching and learning in Tiv language.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Benue State University, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, represented by the Head, Department of English, Professor Philip Bagu, affirmed

the university's commitment to the inclusion of Tiv and other indigenous languages in its curriculum. He expressed hope that these languages would soon be studied at the degree level, noting that the Departments of Languages and Linguistics as well as English had already begun offering elective courses in Tiv language.

Dr. Vanessa Adzer, Head, Department of



Social Sciences Auditorium with the theme: "Tiv Language, History and culture in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" from 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> November, 2024.

In his speech, the Tor, Orchivirigh Professor James Ortese Iorzua Ayatse, called for the incorporation of the Tiv language into children's cartoons as a means of nurturing an early appreciation for their indigenous language. The paramount ruler of Tiv nation highlighted that children's natural affinity for cartoons and other social media applications could serve as a vital tool for engaging them with Tiv language from a formative age.

The Tor Tiv encouraged Benue State House of Assembly to pass legislation supporting the teaching of Tiv and other prominent indigenous

Professor Ayatse reassured the Tiv Language Studies and Development Association, as well as Benue State University of his unwavering support in their desired to introduce a degree programme in Tiv Language to promote Tiv language and uphold its cultural significance to the world.

On his part the keynote speaker, Professor Zacharys Anger Gundu, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mkar, Mkar, urged linguists to adopt practical and realistic approaches in their studies to enhance the development of Tiv language. Professor Gundu underscored the importance of funding, collaboration and publication in these efforts and called on the state government to establish a Tiv Language Museum to house archival materials.

Languages and Linguistics, Benue State University, commended the theme of the conference as timely, emphasizing the role it would play in advancing Tiv language. She expressed gratitude to the Executive Governor of Benue State, His Excellency, Revd. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia and the Tor Tiv for their support for dedication to Tiv cultural advancement.

The President, Tiv Language Studies and Development Association, Reverend Father Tagesa Akpagher, affirmed the association's commitment to ensuring the sustainability of the conference and advocated for partnerships with relevant organizations to further the development of Tiv language.



# SUBEB Explores Partnership with BSU to Strengthen Basic Education in Benue State

By Jude Atakpugh

The Benue State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) is set to collaborate with Benue State University (BSU) to improve the quality of basic education in the state. Dr. Grace Adagba, SUBEB's Executive Chairman, shared this vision during a courtesy visit to BSU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu.

Expressing gratitude to the university for its role in her professional journey, Dr. Adagba highlighted the Board's eagerness to work with BSU to enhance educational standards and outcomes for Benue's foundational education sector.

In response, Professor Iorapuu congratulated Dr. Adagba on her appointment and welcomed SUBEB's collaborative efforts. He affirmed the university's commitment to develop effective strategies that support quality education at the basic level, emphasizing that such partnerships are essential for sustainable educational growth in the state.



Chairman, SUBEB, Dr. Adagba and the VC



Participants at faculty of management science conference



Former Vice-Chancellors, Profs. Angya (BSU), Agba (Unimkar), and Kembe (BSU)



SUBEB delegation and BSU management



# BSU RECEIVES RESOURCE MATERIALS

**Jude Atakpugh**

**T**he Vice-Chancellor, Benue State University, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, fsonta, fnipr, ksm on Monday, January 8, 2024, took delivery of twenty (20) Computers from MacArthur Foundation, three thousand (3,000) books from Professor Toyin Falola as well as another book donation from Ambassador of the State of Qatar to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr. Ali bin Gbanem Al-Hajri.

Professor Iorapuu acknowledged the immense contributions of MacArthur Foundation in funding research and humanitarian activities. Stating that as a beneficiary of the Foundation for twelve years, he aligned with the vision and mission of the foundation and expressed the readiness of the University to collaborate with the Foundation. He commended the Vice-Chancellor, Federal University, Kashere, Professor Umaru Alhaji Pate for facilitating the release of the computers and assured sustained working relationship.

Following the donation from Professor Falola, the Vice-Chancellor relayed that “these books would be put in the University Central Library and NOT the Departmental Library for easy access to students and lecturers”. Dr. Al-Hajri in a letter read by the Vice-Chancellor stated inter alia that “the donation of some translated books into Nigerian major languages: Hausa, Yoruba and Igbo to the University was aimed at establishing a bridge and cultural exchange between the State of Qatar and the Federal Republic of Nigeria, considering Nigeria's rich cultural heritage in human communication”.

Professor Pate represented by Dr. Abdullahi Musa Yola presented the computers to the Vice-Chancellor while Professor Falola's books were presented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Mike Odugbo Odey.

Principal Officers; Director, Advancement and Linkages; Head, Department of Mass Communication and Dr. Tyotom Keggku were present during the presentation.



Prof. Odey, Iorapuu, Dr. Ikpanor, Prof. Fr. Torwel, Dr. Yola, and Dr. Keggku



Dr. Ikpanor, Prof. Fr. Torwel, Prof. Ekoja, Dr. Yola, Prof. Iorapuu, Odey and Ubwa



Laptops



# BSU Vice-Chancellor Receives UNDP Team for Inspection of Unipod Innovation Hub

**Jude Atakpugh**



Management and Unipod delegation

driving academic growth and aligning BSU with global innovation trends. He expressed gratitude for the collaboration with UNDP, stating that the Unipod Hub will serve as a “beacon of learning and experimentation, preparing students and staff to solve real-world challenges.” He added that BSU is committed to integrating the hub's facilities into the university's curriculum to foster hands-on learning and practical application.

The UNDP team praised the University's commitment to the project, noting that the Unipod Hub at BSU has the potential to become a central point for collaborative

In a significant development for educational innovation, the Vice-Chancellor of Benue State University (BSU), Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, on Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 received the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Unipod Team to the university. The visit, led by Tumunhamye Nathan, Head of Exploration at UNDP and Ango Istifanus Emmanuel, Procurement Officer, focused on assessing the progress of the Unipod Innovation Hub, an ambitious project designed to enhance research, technological development and innovation at the University.

During the inspection, Mr. Nathan highlighted the hub's unique structure, explaining that it houses seven specialized spaces tailored for interdisciplinary learning and research.

The BSU Unipod Innovation Hub would house a **Computer Numerical Control (CNC) lab** for precision engineering, a **Renewable Energy lab** aimed at fostering sustainable energy solutions and a **Food Processing**



Mr. Nathan and VC

**lab** for agricultural innovation. Additionally, the facility would house a **Creative lab** to inspire artistic exploration, a **Textiles lab** supporting studies in material science and fashion and an **IT and Prototype lab** focused on software development and model testing.

Speaking at the event, Professor Iorapuu emphasized the importance of such facilities in

research, entrepreneurship and technological development in the region.

The inspection concluded with a guided tour of sections of the Hub, where on-going work and future plans for the facility were reviewed in detail. The visit marked a key milestone in the project, which aims to be a model for innovation in Nigerian universities and beyond.



# BSU Signs MoU with Africa Plus Partners for New 1600-Bed Space Student Hostel

Jude Atakpugh/ Dr. Bibiana Ayabam

The Vice-Chancellor, Benue State University, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu has commended Tertiary Education Trust Fund (Tetfund) for taking a significant step towards addressing student accommodation challenges in the University. He applauded

our students, enhancing learning”. He expressed optimism that the project will be completed before the end of his tenure.

The planned hostel is part of the university's on-going efforts to provide adequate facilities that meet the demands of its growing

comfortable residence for students. He emphasized that the project will meet international standards, to ensure the facilities are both durable and sustainable.

He disclosed the project would be funded by Tertiary Education Trust fund (Tetfund) based on Public Private Partnership, stating that as a pilot scheme, the project had been awarded to twelve tertiary institutions across the six geopolitical zones. These include: six (6) Universities, three (3) Polytechnics and three (3) Colleges of Education. He informed, work had since commenced in three tertiary institutions: Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria; Akwa-Ibom College of Education, Warri and Federal College of Education, Zuba.

The MoU was necessitated to pave way for immediate planning and implementation, with project timelines and milestones to be set



Prof. Iorapuu and Lawore

Tetfund for providing One Billion Naira for execution of the project.

Professor Iorapuu on Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 while signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Africa Plus Partners an Abuja-based firm, disclosed the agreement which focuses on the construction of a 1600-bed space hostel is aimed towards enhancing quality of life for students on campus and is expected to create a conducive learning environment.

The signing ceremony was held at the Vice-Chancellor's Conference Room with Africa Plus Partners represented by its Director, Dipo Lawore and the Project Manager, Toluwanimi Omolayo.

Professor Iorapuu highlighted the importance of the project, noting that increasing accommodation capacity aligns with the institution's commitment to student welfare and academic excellence. “This collaboration marks a new chapter for our university as we strive to create an environment conducive enough to accommodate



Then Ag. Registrar, Ahola; Prof. Iorapuu, Oyi and Lawore

student population. By alleviating the existing accommodation shortage, the project also seeks to reduce off-campus commuting, thereby ensuring that more students can reside on campus and fully engage in university life.

Mr. Lawore expressed enthusiasm about the partnership with Benue State University, stating that Africa Plus Partners is committed to delivering a modern, safe and

accordingly.

In attendance were: the then Acting Registrar, Ahola Orgeh; Bursar, Dr. Amos Otse Egwurube; University Librarian, Professor Innocent Isa Ekoja; Coordinator, Physical Planning, QS Joseph Unum; Coordinator, Procurement, James Adzer, Lucy Mbapuun Aese, Esq and Students Union President, Oyi Samuel Alechenu.



# Deputy Registrars and ANUPA Officials Pay Solidarity Visit to Registrar

Jude Atakpugh/ Augustina Ngowase Baaka



Fr. Terna, Hemba, Fr. Orhungur and Saawuan

In a demonstration of support and goodwill, Deputy Registrars and officials of the Association of Nigerian Universities Professional Administrators (ANUPA), Benue State University today paid a courtesy visit to the newly appointed Registrar of the University, Mr. Barnabas Hemba. The visit was marked by speeches that emphasized the importance of unity, professionalism and collaboration among the university's administrative team. Mr. Aondover Zwawua, who spoke on behalf of the Deputy Registrars, expressed admiration

for Mr. Hemba's experience and dedication, noting that his appointment reflects the university's confidence in his leadership abilities. "We are proud to stand behind you as you assume this pivotal role. Your professional journey and integrity are sources of inspiration and we are confident that under your guidance, the administration will reach new heights".

Speaking on behalf of ANUPA, Mrs. Nguamo Adi extended warm congratulations to Mr. Hemba on his appointment, affirming the association's commitment to support him in

the pursuit of the university's goals. She emphasized that ANUPA officials are ready to work with him in addressing the challenges of modern university administration. "Your leadership brings a new chapter of optimism and progress for our university. As representatives of ANUPA, we are here not only to show our solidarity but also to pledge our unwavering support to foster a productive and cohesive working environment".

In his response, Mr. Barnabas Hemba expressed his heartfelt appreciation for the show of support from both the Deputy Registrars and ANUPA officials. He acknowledged the significance of collaborative leadership and assured all present of his dedication to fostering a responsive and accountable administrative system. Your visit today reinforces the spirit of teamwork that I believe is essential for us to achieve our objectives. I am committed to maintaining transparent and inclusive governance as we work together to uphold the values and standards of Benue State University.



Dr. Banka, Ubagu, Asema, Nyiwo, Hemba, Zwawua, Vembera, Tolufashe, Echor and Adi



# Accounting Student Wins CMD Essay Competition, Awarded Automatic Employment

**Dr. Bibiana Ayabam**



Dr. Hwande presenting award to Miss. Musa

**M**rs. Musa Ene Augusta, an accounting undergraduate at Benue State University, emerged winner of the first-ever Chief Medical Director's Undergraduate Essay Competition, organized by the Benue State University Teaching Hospital (BSUTH). Her achievement comes with a cash prize of Two Hundred

and Fifty Thousand Naira (N250,000) and an automatic employment offer at the BSUTH upon her graduation. The Essay competition initiated by Dr. Stephen Terungwa Hwande, Chief Medical Director of BSUTH, in commemoration of his one-year anniversary in office was aimed towards boosting cancer awareness among

university students. The essay topic: "The Impact of Culture and Belief Systems on Cancer Awareness and Treatment: Challenges and Opportunities in Nigeria" attracted over four thousand entries, reflecting a strong interest and engagement from students across Benue State.

In his remarks at the awards ceremony, Dr. Hwande expressed gratitude to Governor Alia for his commitment to enhancing education and healthcare services in the state. He highlighted the importance of developing a robust healthcare infrastructure, including the construction of an ultra-modern cancer center to address Nigeria's growing cancer challenges.

The finalists were celebrated for their impressive work, with Dr. Hwande and other officials recognizing their dedication and skill. Miss Edesiri Precious was named the first runner-up, receiving a prize of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira (N150,000), while Mr. George Eric took third place with a prize of One Hundred Thousand Naira (N100,000). The remaining seven participants each received consolation prizes of Fifty Thousand Naira (N50,000).

This event underscores BSUTH's dedication to enhancing educational opportunities and addressing health issues in Nigeria, affirming the institution's commitment to developing informed professionals ready to lead in various fields.



Dr. Hwande with beneficiaries of the Essay Competition



# Your Election is Service to Humanity VC advises SU Officials

Dr. Bibiana Ayabam

**T**he Vice-Chancellor, Benue State University, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, fsona, fnipr, ksm has charged officials of Students Union in the University to take their election as a call to service and not for personal gains.

Professor Iorapuu disclosed this on 2nd October, 2024 when he granted audience to the newly elected Student Union Officials of the University for the 2023/2024 Academic Session led by the Dean, Students Affairs, Dr. Nelson Alyebo.

He explained the purpose of their stay at the University was to acquire knowledge required to enable them understand themselves and impact the society positively. Therefore, it was important for them to understand this and develop personal values and skills that would guide their future engagements.

The Vice-Chancellor assured them of Management's determination to create a conducive environment to enhance teaching, learning and research. Adding that, It was in light of the above that, Water Works has been expanded to provide enough water on campus, and also the construction of more hostels. He also stated that plans were underway to renovate lecture halls and the installation of Public Address Systems as well. Management he mentioned was exploring opportunities for shuttle buses as well as construction of walk ways to facilitate the movement of students from Eastern to Western Wing.

He admonished students to shun vices that negate academic activities and concentrate on their studies to attain academic excellence.

In his opening remarks, Dr.



SU EXCO with Management

Alyebo thanked the Vice-Chancellor for introducing the e-voting system for Student Union elections and commended him for the support and encouragement during the election which was peaceful, credible and transparent.

The Dean acknowledged the Vice-Chancellor's prompt response on matters concerning students and urged him not to relent. He appreciated the Senate of the University for granting pardon to one hundred and three (103) students with cases of examination misconduct as a feat worth commending.

Earlier, the Student Union President, Oyi Samuel Alechenu assured the University Management of a peaceful environment for academic stability. Stressing that the Union would collaborate with Management in ensuring that issues affecting students are duly addressed.

The new EXCO were elected through electronic voting on Tuesday, 27th August, 2024 and inaugurated on Thursday, 5th September, 2024. Electronic voting was introduced in 2021 by the Vice-Chancellor as a measure to curb crisis and malpractices

that usually characterize manual voting. Through this process only registered students would have access to vote their preferred candidate(s) using their devices across the globe without interference.

Within three years of existence, the process has produced the first female Student Union President, Miss Agatha Soohemba Aker, Faculty of Law while Nelson Iyorkyaa, the immediate past President from the College of Health Sciences, Benue State University was also elected through e-voting in 2023.

The Students Union Officials include: President, Oyi Samuel Alechenu; Vice-President, Agundo Evelyn Msendoo; Secretary-General, Avuve Amos Aondoaver; Assistant Secretary General, Tse Queen Susan; Treasurer, Maga Ann Mimidoo and Director of Finance, Ormye Meshach.

Others are Director of Welfare, Iornengen Terungwa Thaddeus; Director of Sales, Orazaga Solomon Fater; Director of Socials, Mbam Aondonenge Nathaniel; Director of Sports, Igoche James Adewa and Director of Public Relations, Tar Iorpine George.



# BSU Library Hosts Seminar on Motivation and Job Performance of Library Staff

Jude Atakpugh/Augustina Ngowase Baaka

**B**enue State University's commitment to professional development took center stage on October 29, 2024, as Dr. Umbur Demekaa, Deputy University Librarian, presented an insightful paper on motivation practices and job performance of library staff within university libraries. The

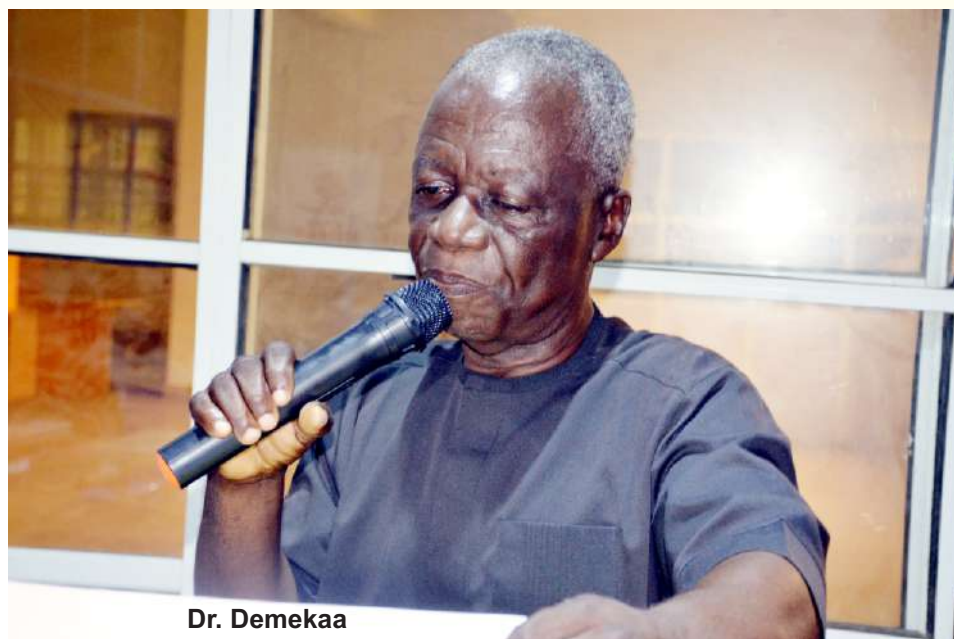
Dr. Demekaa's presentation delved into various motivational practices and their impact on job performance, including rewards, recognition and career development opportunities. He provided practical recommendations for creating a positive workplace culture that encourages library staff to excel

and faculty” Dr. Demekaa explained.

The seminar, held at the Window on America within the University Library, was chaired by Mr. Ahola Orgeh, the then Acting Registrar, who was represented by Dr. Scholastica Banka. In her opening remarks, Dr. Banka emphasized the critical role of motivation in achieving high performance, highlighting that the university's library staff are essential to the success of the academic community. “Our library staff play an indispensable role in supporting the university's academic mission. Therefore, fostering an environment that promotes their motivation and job satisfaction is imperative for overall institutional growth,” she stated.

A keynote address was delivered by the University Librarian, Prof. Innocent Isah Ekoja who underscored the significance of regular professional seminars in strengthening the capabilities of the library team. He praised Dr. Demekaa for his valuable contribution and encouraged staff to reflect on the practices discussed during the presentation. “Today's seminar not only highlights a crucial aspect of library administration but also demonstrates our ongoing commitment to excellence through professional development. We are grateful for Dr. Demekaa's contribution, which will help us identify new ways to support and inspire our library staff”

Barrister Gabriel Okplogidi, who served as the seminar series chairman, commended the initiative for promoting continuous learning within the library system, further noting that understanding the link between motivation and job performance is pivotal for optimizing library operations and enhancing user satisfaction.



Dr. Demekaa



Guests and Library Staff during the Seminar series

presentation, part of the monthly seminar series organized by the University Library, addressed essential strategies for enhancing productivity and job satisfaction among library personnel.

in their roles. “When library staff feel valued and motivated, their job performance improves significantly, which in turn enhances the library's service quality and impact on students



# Benue SEMA Advocates for a Disaster Management Programme in BSU

Jude Atakpugh



The VC and SEMA Boss Dr. James Iorpuu

The Vice-Chancellor, Benue State University, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu on Thursday 19th September, 2024 granted audience to the Executive Secretary, Benue State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), Sir James Aondoakaa Iorpuu.

Professor Iorapuu in his remarks, appreciated and expressed satisfaction with the performance of the Executive Secretary since assumption of office and urged him to sustain a selfless spirit as humanitarian service is a huge sacrifice.

He stated the willingness of the University to collaborate with the Agency to provide succor to the Internally Displaced Persons in the area of education especially the youth for their future development.

The Executive Secretary of SEMA, Sir James Aondoakaa Iorpuu explained that the visit was to interface with the University Management to intimate them on the operations of their activities and seek partnership for the education of the Internally Displaced Persons.

Sir Iorpuu also noted the need for the University to introduce a Degree Programme in Disaster Management to train manpower that would handle climate change and prompt response during adverse situations in Benue State.

He stated the need for the University to organize symposiums for its partners who handle humanitarian activities in the State as well as regular training of its staff for effective service delivery.



The 2024 Toyin Falola Conference hosted by BSU



Prof. Falola and participants at the bank of River Benue



# BSHOA Committee on SDGs Interacts with University Management

Jude Atakpugh/Augustina Ngowase Baaka

The Benue State House of Assembly Committee on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Thursday 19th September, 2024 visited Benue State University as part of their activities for oversight functions. Members of the Committee were led by its Chairman, Hon. Peter Terwase Uche.

Addressing the University Management, Hon. Uche explained that their visit was to familiarize and interact with the Management regarding how funds gotten from donor agencies, individuals and partners are applied for the development of infrastructural, research and academic activities within the University, the Committee also was concerned about challenges faced.

Hon. Uche applauded the Management for judicious use of resources and sued for sustenance. He promised sustained collaboration with the University to ensure that the Vision and Mission of the University are achieved for academic excellence.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu thanked the Chairman and members of the Benue State House of Assembly for ensuring academic stability in the University.

Professor Iorapuu appreciated Tetfund intervention in the University, regarding the funding of infrastructural development, staff training/development, sponsorship of academic and non-teaching staff to conferences/workshops and research.

The Vice-Chancellor further disclosed that, World Bank has contributed immensely in funding the Centre for Food Technology and Research (CEFTR BSU) which is an African Centre of Excellence. The Centre has performed excellently since establishment for the past ten (10) years which has gained the University international visibility and recognition. He equally appreciated individuals, corporate bodies and organizations who have contributed in one way or the other for the development and growth of the University.



Hon.Uche and the VC



Committee members and university management



The Management with the Benue State House of Assembly Committee on Higher Education



# BSU Matriculates Over 6,500 Students, Promises Quality Education and Global Preparedness

Dr. Bibiana Ayabam/Augustina Ngowase Baaka



Matriculation Procession



L-R Dr. Egwurube, Prof. Ekoja, and Hemba

**B**enue State University (BSU) held its 31st matriculation ceremony at the New Convocation Square, welcoming a new cohort of 6,502 students into its academic programs. In a milestone ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, KSM, encouraged students to embrace their roles as global citizens and future social workers, highlighting the significance of the matriculation ceremony as the official start of their journey

in a higher institution of learning. In his address, Professor Iorapuu underscored the importance of values such as integrity, hard work, and commitment to excellence, which form the foundation of the university's ethos. "Matriculation is not just a formal rite of passage; it is a profound affirmation of your readiness to embark on the journey of higher learning," he said, urging students to engage fully in both their academic and extracurricular pursuits at BSU.

The matriculation ceremony was particularly noteworthy, as it marked the inaugural enrollment of students into BSU's newly established Faculties of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Technology and Industrial Studies. Professor Iorapuu announced that these additions bring the total number of faculties to 14, with the Faculty of Architecture set to admit its first students in the upcoming academic session.

The Vice-Chancellor advised students on navigating university life responsibly, emphasizing the importance of selecting positive social groups, maintaining academic discipline, and actively contributing to campus life. "You are here for a purpose. Define this purpose from the onset," he stressed, reminding students of the critical need to prioritize their studies amidst the freedoms of university life.

Professor Iorapuu also called on students to respect campus regulations, such as the dress code, regular lecture attendance, and proper registration processes. He issued a stern warning against examination misconduct, joining criminal gangs, and demarketing/deprecating the university on social media.

The ceremony brought together staff, parents, guardians, and invited guests, who witnessed the university's continuous growth in infrastructure and academic offerings. Professor Iorapuu highlighted BSU's partnership with the Benue State government, which included support from the UNDP Universities' Innovation Pod (UNIPOD) and a new 1,600-bed hostel funded by TETFUND to address accommodation needs.

Professor Iorapuu congratulated the students and expressed gratitude to the attendees for their support. "On behalf of the Council, Management, staff, and students at the University, I wish you a successful academic journey and extend my best wishes for your future,"



# Economics Department Celebrates Professor Ajegi's 70th Birthday and Retirement

By Jude Atakpugh

**B**enue State University, Makurdi, was alive with celebration on October 31, 2024, as the academic community gathered to honor Professor Simeon Oko Ajegi, a pioneering scholar and cherished mentor. Organized by the Department of Economics in collaboration with

celebration continued with the presentation of awards to Professor Ajegi by the Department of Economics, as well as the unveiling of his portrait by officials of the Nigerian Economics Students Association (NESA), BSU Chapter, followed by the

(State Accountant General), Mrs. Jaycintha Wombo (State Coordinator of NG-Cares), Dr. Vincent Iorja Gisaor (Secretary of BSIEC), and Dr. Tom Ogijo Zakari (former House of Representatives member for Bassa/Dekina Federal Constituency, Kogi State).

Dr. N.O. Doki, the Head of the Department of Economics, praised Professor Ajegi's exceptional leadership, commitment, and contributions to the growth of the Economics Department and Benue State University at large.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, represented by Professor Ortserga, Dean of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences, joined other dignitaries, including Professor Steve Ugbah, Dr. Jonah Ogbaji, Hon. Barr. Patricia Kupchi, Professor Moses Ogbaji, and Professor G.A. Doki, in commending Professor Ajegi's career and praying for his continued success in the years ahead.

The celebration concluded at the Benue State University Senior Staff Club with the cutting of Professor Ajegi's birthday cake, refreshments, and further



Prof. Ajegi cuts anniversary cake

university management, friends, students, and family, the event marked Professor Ajegi's 70th birthday and his retirement as a tenured professor, capping off decades of dedicated service since he joined the institution at its inception in 1992.

The occasion featured a guest lecture by Dr. Jerome Andohol, Director General of the Benue State Budget and Planning Commission, titled *"Economic Diversification Beyond Oil in Nigeria: Challenges and Opportunities."* Represented by the Permanent Secretary of the Commission, Mr. Moses Tor Levah, Dr. Andohol emphasized the need for Nigeria to diversify its economy to protect against external economic shocks.

A major highlight of the day was the public presentation and launch of a festschrift in Professor Ajegi's honor, titled *"Policy and Development Issues in Nigeria: A Festschrift in Honour of Professor Simeon Oko Ajegi."* The

ceremonial cutting of the retirement cake.

Notable alumni from the Department of Economics who have excelled in various fields were also recognized, including Dr. Moses Kpughur Tule (former



Cross-section of guests during the celebration

Director of Monetary Policy at the CBN), Dr. Patrick Ogiji (Deputy Director of Public Policy at the CBN), Mrs. Theresa Nyitse

merriment shared with his family, friends, colleagues, and former students.



# Pre-Convocation Spotlight Celebrating Achievements and Milestones at Benue State University's Historic Combined Convocation 2024

**B**enue State University (BSU), established 33 years ago under the Benue State University Law, No. 1 of 1991, owes its founding to the visionary leadership of Rev. Fr. Moses Orshio Adasu. Guided by his commitment to advancing education in Benue State. The university commenced its academic activities during the 1992/93 Academic session with just four faculties. From its inception, the vision for BSU was to become Nigeria's and Africa's first choice for quality education and to ultimately rank among the top 200 universities globally.

Over the years, the university has grown into an institution of academic excellence, fulfilling its mandate by consistently providing high-quality education and making significant contributions to research, innovation, and community development. This growth reflects the enduring legacy of Rev. Fr. Adasu's commitment to advancing education in Benue state.

The university has seen several notable Vice Chancellors at its helm, each contributing to its growth. Prof. Charles Gbilekaa Vajime, the pioneer Vice Chancellor, laid the foundation for the university's development. He was succeeded by Prof. David Ker, followed by Prof. Akase Paul Sorkaa, Prof. Charity Ashimem Angya, Prof. Msugh Moses

Kembe, and, currently, the visionary leadership of Prof. Tor Joe Iorapuu, who continues to guide the university toward achieving greater heights.

As part of its continuing legacy, Benue State University (BSU) is set to make history with its Combined Convocation for the 2019/2020, 2020/2021, and 2022/2023 academic sessions. The celebration will be a grand showcase of academic achievements, featuring the conferment of First Degrees, Postgraduate Diplomas, Higher Degrees, Honorary Degrees, and



Dr. Keghku and VC

awards of prizes for outstanding students. This convocation not only marks the apex of a journey for many students but also highlights the university's continued growth, excellence in education, and its transformative impact on the academic community.

The activities for Benue State University's Combined Convocation will commence on Thursday, 5th December 2024, with a series of impactful programmes. The day will kick off at 9:00 AM with the Vice

## Dr. Tyotom Keghku

Chancellor's opening of the Free Health Outreach for staff, students and members of the university community at the BSU Clinic, reaffirming the university's commitment to the well-being of its community. This will be followed at 10:00 AM by the Vice Chancellor's Pre-Convocation Press Briefing at the Senate Chamber, where key highlights of the university's progress and future plans will be shared with the public. Later in the day, at 5:00 PM, the atmosphere will become lively and engaging with a novelty

football match between the male and female management staff at the football pitch on the eastern wing of the university, promoting unity and camaraderie among staff members.

Day two, Friday, 6th December 2024, will continue with a packed schedule of activities. At 9:00 AM, there will be a football match

between the female students and the two wings of staff at the football pitch, eastern wing, adding an energetic spirit to the day. This will be followed by the commissioning of the CEPTEP Food Technology and Innovation Complex and Food Lab at KM8, Gboko Road, Makurdi, at 11:00 AM, showcasing the university's commitment to cutting-edge research and development in food security. At 2:00 PM, the highly anticipated Convocation Lecture will be delivered by Professor Toyin Falola, Chair of



the Jacob and Frances Sanger Mossiker in the Humanities at the University of Texas at Austin, USA. His lecture, titled "Power, Politics, and Policies," will provide profound insights into governance and policy, addressing both global and African political landscapes. At 5:00 PM, the artistic side of the university will shine through with a convocation play at the Art Theatre Complex, setting a creative tone for the celebrations. The day will conclude with the Vice Chancellor's Dinner at 7:00 PM at the VCs Lodge, bringing together faculty, staff, and students for a night of reflection and celebration.

The grand finale will take place on Day Three, Saturday, 7th December 2024, with the Convocation Ceremony at 10:00 AM, where the achievements of the graduands will be celebrated in a historic procession and formal event, marking the climax of this remarkable Convocation

Iorapuu, Vice Chancellor of Benue State University (BSU), marks a period of remarkable transformation and growth. His tenure has brought significant advancements in infrastructure, academic offerings, and campus development, all of which highlight the university's commitment to excellence. On 11th May 2023, several TETFund-sponsored projects were commissioned, including the Academic Office Block, the Block of Offices at the College of Health Sciences, the Faculty of Education Complex, the Research, Development, and Innovation Centre, the Health and Counselling Development Centre, and the Faculty of Science Complex. These achievements are complemented by the completion of the TETFund-sponsored water works, the renovation and rehabilitation of the BSU Central Library, and the construction and furnishing of a 144-bed capacity



**BSU Water Works**

celebration. On Day Four, Sunday, 8th December 2024, the event will be marked with a special Thanksgiving Mass at 8:00 AM at Goodnews Chapel, BSU, as the university gives thanks for the success of the convocation and the continued progress of its community.

The 2nd convocation under the leadership of Professor Tor Joe

is advancing steadily, with the structure currently at the roofing stage.

The university has also undertaken the construction of a Central Store through internally generated revenue and user charges, which is now at the lintel stage. To enhance campus security and aesthetics, the first

phase of the perimeter fence at the riverbank has been completed, reflecting a focus on providing a secure and welcoming learning environment. Further renovations are almost complete at the former Faculty of Education Complex, demonstrating a continued commitment to upgrading academic facilities.

Partnerships with global organizations have also played a significant role in the university's progress. A \$1 million remodeling and furnishing of the Centre for Entrepreneurship Studies, supported by the UNDP Innovation Fund, is one such landmark achievement. Similarly, the World Bank-funded construction of two semi-detached three-prototype factories for CEFTER at KM 8, Gboko Road, along with the associated external works, has been successfully completed, reinforcing BSU's reputation as a hub for innovative research and development.

Under Professor Iorapuu's leadership, the university's academic scope has expanded significantly, with the establishment of the Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of Communication and Media Studies, and Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences. These additions broaden BSU's academic offerings, strengthening its position as a center of excellence in diverse fields. Meanwhile, the campus has undergone a visual transformation with major improvements to its gates, fencing, and internal roads, further enhancing its appeal and functionality.

The achievements under Professor Iorapuu's administration demonstrate a clear vision for growth and innovation, positioning Benue State University as a leading institution in Nigeria committed



to providing world-class education and research opportunities

The Faculty of Law at Benue State University stands tall, not just for its magnificent architectural design but for its remarkable legacy of producing some of the finest legal minds in the country. Renowned for its unwavering commitment to excellence in legal education, the faculty has become a symbol of academic distinction and a source of pride for the university. Its graduates have gone on to excel in various legal capacities, contributing significantly to the advancement of justice and governance in Nigeria and beyond.

BSU's dedication to research and innovation is further exemplified by its renowned Centre for Food Technology and Research, a World Bank African

Centre of Excellence. This center has consistently led groundbreaking research aimed at tackling global food security challenges. By fostering innovation and sustainable solutions, the center has placed the university at the forefront of addressing critical global issues, positioning BSU as a hub of impactful research and development.

Beyond these accomplishments, BSU's various faculties, including Arts, Social Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Management Sciences, Education, Clinical Sciences, and Sciences, have continuously delivered exceptional graduates to the global labour market.

These faculties have nurtured individuals who excel in their fields, making notable contributions to global development and driving positive change in diverse industries. Graduates of Benue State University are celebrated for their academic excellence, resilience, and ability to thrive in competitive environments, embodying the university's vision to be a first choice in Nigeria, Africa, and among the top 200 in the world. Together, these achievements accentuate BSU's role as a beacon of educational and societal transformation

In addition to its numerous

success.

Another noteworthy partner in the university's journey is the Association of Local Governments of Nigeria (ALGON), whose donation of lecture halls has further bolstered BSU's academic infrastructure. These contributions reflect the collaborative spirit that has driven the university's rise to prominence. As new faculties emerge and infrastructure improves, BSU continues to evolve as a hub of innovation and excellence, reinforcing its mission to produce graduates who are equipped to excel and lead in an ever-changing global landscape.

Under the transformative leadership of Prof. Tor Joe Iorapuu, Benue State University has entered a new era of academic excellence and operational efficiency. Examination results are now released promptly, and the once-tedious process of issuing transcripts is being streamlined to meet the needs of graduates. Prof. Iorapuu's visionary approach, coupled with his deep understanding of the university's core values, has reshaped

public perception of BSU. With a renewed focus on progress and collaboration, BSU continues to prepare its students to be the changemakers and leaders of tomorrow, ensuring that the university's legacy of excellence endures for generations to come.

This success is not just the result of his leadership but also a testament to the collaboration between the academic and non-teaching staff, who have come to understand and align with the Vice Chancellor's vision. Their collective efforts are central to the university's ongoing growth and improvement.

Furthermore, the support from the Governor of Benue State, His



**Female Football Team**

accomplishments, Benue State University has enjoyed remarkable support from key organisations, with TETFund leading the charge in transforming the institution. TETFund has played a pivotal role in advancing the university's infrastructural development, promoting ground breaking research, and supporting vital training programmes. From state-of-the-art buildings to enhanced learning facilities, the contributions of TETFund have significantly elevated the university's capacity to deliver world-class education. History will undoubtedly remember TETFund's impact on BSU as a cornerstone of its growth and



Excellency Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, has been instrumental in ensuring that the university meets international standards. His commitment to education is further reinforced by the appointment of a distinguished first-class Pro-Chancellor, Sir Paul Chukwuma. With his visionary leadership and strong foresight, Sir Chukwuma's appointment marks a new chapter of growth for the university, paving the way for even greater achievements in the future.

In a further demonstration of the Governor's dedication to academic advancement, he has expressed a strong desire to ensure the welfare of all staff of the university as a means to enhance academic excellence. This commitment to staff well-being directly supports the university's mission of research, knowledge transfer, and educational distinction. By prioritizing the welfare of both staff and students, Governor Alia reinforces his vision of encouraging an environment where excellence thrives, propelling Benue State University to even greater heights.

The Governor's recent participation at the induction ceremony of doctors into the medical profession at the Benue State University College of Health Sciences and his financial commitment to medical students further demonstrate his dedication to the enhancement of the university. His steadfast support for future healthcare professionals is a clear indication of his belief in the transformative power of education. Moreover, his unannounced visit to the university brings attention to his genuine interest in the growth and development of the institution. This visit not only brought great promise but also reaffirmed that Governor Alia truly has the progress of Benue

State University at heart, making a significant impact on the university's continued success.

### Conclusion

The era of combined convocation ceremonies at Benue State University has come to a close, ushering in a new chapter of progress and distinction. This milestone is a testament to the commitment and visionary leadership of the Vice-



Water works plant house

Chancellor, Prof. Tor Joe Iorapuu, whose dedication has set a firm foundation for the institution's aspirations of excellence and innovation in academia.

The university continues to shine brightly in the academic landscape, evidenced by remarkable achievements of individual academics. Notably, Prof. Rev. Fr. Vitalis Torwel, the pioneer Dean of the Faculty of Communication and Media Studies, secured the prestigious National Research Fund Grant under the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for the 2020 intervention round. Similarly, Dr. Ungwanen Ahile demonstrated exceptional commitment to research by winning the Royal Society of Chemistry Sustainable Laboratories Grant for the 2023 application round. These accolades are a testament to the

university's culture of academic rigour and innovation.

Adding to the university's milestones, the American Space was officially inaugurated on 2nd August 2023, marking a bold step toward fostering global collaborations and enhancing learning resources for students and staff. This facility promises to be a hub of innovation and cultural exchange, further

positioning Benue State University as a leader in academic excellence.

As we celebrate this convocation, we extend heartfelt congratulations to the graduates

, who represent the fruits of our collective labour and the bright future of society. To the stakeholders, members of the university community, staff, and students, your steadfast dedication and contributions have been pivotal to these successes. This moment is as much about your commitment as it is about the achievements we commemorate today.

Let us continue to strive together for greater heights, building on this momentum to ensure that Benue State University remains a beacon of excellence and a source of pride for all. Congratulations to everyone who has made this journey remarkable and to those who will carry this legacy forward. The future is bright, and it begins here.



# Shared Moments at Benue State University's 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation Ceremonies.



Convocation procession

**B**enue State University has indeed come a long way and is currently the main surviving state industry, as most of the others have become comatose or in limbo until recently when the Benue State Governor Rev Fr Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia started the reinvigoration of Public Enterprises through the Benue State Investment and Property Company. BSU has despite all odds done a lot to actualize its mandate over the past 32 years, and has thus grown in leaps and bounds courtesy of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) Former Education Tax fund (ETF), Petroleum Training Development Fund (PTDF), Association of Local Governments of Nigeria (ALGON), Benue State Chapter, World Bank, United Nations Development Programme and the Benue State Government.

Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, the incumbent Vice-Chancellor is no doubt a visionary, result-oriented academic and administrator with uncommon passion for development and impact wherever he finds himself. He has set goals

carefully crafted for his five-year tenure. His approach for the urgent infrastructure gaps of the University is to upgrade, renovate, expand and provide critical facilities to enhance learning, teaching and research commensurate with new global models. One word that is always on the lips of this helmsman is partnership. He has set in motion linkages that will greatly multiply the opportunities for local and international research and training. From all indications, Benue State University has grown in virtually all dimensions such as staff and students' strength in their thousands, infrastructure including facilities and equipment, capacity building, ensuring academic quality, effective

By Dr Tyotom Keghku, fnipr  
Chairman, Publicity Sub-Committee

communication with relevant stakeholders (internal and external publics).

At the mega Convocation which His Excellency, Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia, Executive Governor of Benue State and Visitor of the University had earlier installed His Royal Highness, Alhaji Dr. Najib Hussaini Adamu, CON, Emir of Kazaure as the Chancellor, he showered encomiums on the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Sir Paul Chukwuma, the Vice-Chancellor, Management, Staff and students for their resilience and steadfastness. The Governor also congratulated the six Honorary Doctorate Awardees in the persons of Senator Dr. Gabriel Torwua Suswam, CON, Chief Dr. Paul Samuel Edeh, Engr. Sylvanus Ghasarah, OFR, and Professor Toyin Falola. The two Post Humous awardees were Wantaregh Paul Iorpuu Unongu and Lt. Col Joseph Akaahan, a former Chief of Army Staff of the Nigerian Army.

Chief Dr. Paul Samuel Edeh Esq, on behalf of himself and the other awardees pledged to provide for Benue State University a 60 KVA Solar Facility along with Senator Gabriel Torwua Suswam. He also promised to construct and



Convocation Thanksgiving Service at the Goodnews Chapel



furnish a structure worth N70 Million for the University. Engr. Ghasarah also made a pledge of N40 Million for the infrastructural development of

development of the Faculty of Law, BSU are hereby highlighted as follows: Establishment of the Capt. Samuel Ankwa Endowment

refurbishing of the virtual library of the Faculty of Law; and Full Scholarship to Sandra Idoko, the best graduating law student of 2022/2023 academic session (to cover her training in the Nigerian Law School), in addition to the endowment fund he instituted in the faculty.

The combined convocation conferred a total of 17, 952 degrees, and diplomas on graduands. It is worthy to note that from this number, 556 graduated with PhDs. The ceremony which had 44 of graduands whom were in the 1<sup>st</sup> Class category attracted dignitaries from all over the country. These included the Ag. Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC) Mr. Chris Maiyaki, Executive Secretary, Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETfund) Arc Sunny Echono, Executive Secretary, Committee of Vice-Chancellors of Nigerian Universities Prof. Andrew Haruna, Visiting Vice-Chancellors, Minister of Water Resources and Sanitation Prof Joseph Utsev, Members of the State Executive and Legislative Councils, Emir of Lafia, His Royal Highness, Justice Sidi Bage, JSC; Rtd, representative of the Tor Tiv and other traditional rulers, and Heads of Tertiary Institutions within and outside the state, political stakeholders and members of the organised private sector.

The convocation lecture which was delivered by Professor Toyin Falola of the University of Austin at Texas, USA was on the title, "Power, Politics, and Policies". He called for a need to address structural and cultural deficits within Nigeria's political system. He advocated that various new courses in Nigerian Universities must explore ideas around power structures, political dynamics and policy challenges in Nigeria. He charged Benue State University to lead the way in establishing such programmes.



VC presents art work to the Visitor

Benue State University.

We are proud and happy to note that since the establishment of Benue State University over 32 years ago, Chief Dr. Paul Samuel Edeh is the first Alumnus of the University to be conferred with this distinguished award. Dr Edeh is noted to have affected the Faculty of Law BSU, Makurdi more than any other student, dead or alive that has passed through the Faculty. The contributions of Dr. Edeh to the

Fund for the best graduating Law student to the tune of One Million for Five (5) years from 2019/2020 academic session; Donation of the Nigerian Weekly Law Reports to the Faculty of Law Library, from January 2016 to date, the monetary value of which is in millions of Naira; Donation of two sets (of 10 Volumes each) of Supreme Court of Nigeria Digest of the Supreme Court Cases 1956 – 1981; Donation of 2 million naira for the



The Registrar and VC with first Class Graduands Miss Ijoko and Mpase



# NAMES OF GRADUANDS WITH FIRST CLASS

SNO	NAME	PROGRAMME	DEPARTMENT	SESSION
1	Terkuma Simon Agber	B.Sc (Ed) Physical and Health Education	Human Kinetic and Health Education	2019/2020
2	Reuben Oibe Obu	B.Sc (Ed) Integrated Science	Science and Mathematics Education	2019/2020
3	Gabriel Sesugh Ikyernum	B.Sc (Ed) Integrated Science	Science and Mathematics Education	2019/2020
4	Mary Ndu	B.Sc (Ed) Integrated Science	Science and Mathematics Education	2019/2020
5	Tordue Winifred Ngumimi	B.Sc (Hons) Geography	Geography	2019/2020
6	Ojih Ebenezer	B.Sc (Hons) Accounting	Accounting	2019/2020
7	Kaior Nathaniel Fanen	B.Sc (Hons) Accounting	Accounting	2019/2020
8	Gaga Shiaondo Simon	B.Sc (Hons) Accounting	Accounting	2019/2020
9	Wuese Jennifer Achir	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2019/2020
9	Oishoma Daniel Ojila	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2019/2020
10	Daniel Matthew	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2019/2020
11	Aondona Doose Delight	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2019/2020
12	Aondofa Chia	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2019/2020
13	Felicia HembadoonDavid	B.Sc (Hons) Chemistry	Chemistry	2019/2020
14	Jennifer Hilejime	B.Sc (Hons) Economics	Economics	2019/2020
15	Damilola Phebean Owasanoye	B.Sc (Hons) Economics	Economics	2019/2020
16	Dennis Aondover Ungwa	B.Sc (Hons) Economics	Economics	2019/2020
17	Benedict Ushahemba Ater	LL.B	Law	2020/2021
18	Sandra Mngusonum Abuul	B.Sc (Hons) Accounting	Accounting	2020/2021
19	Emmanuel Christopher Akpan	B.Sc (Hons) Accounting	Accounting	2020/2021
20	Ruth Iyoba Sunday	B.Sc (Hons) Accounting	Accounting	2020/2021
21	Richard Dogo Igba	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2020/2021
22	Thankgod Obi	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2020/2021
23	Susan Onyemowo Okoh	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2020/2021
24	Isaiah Edache Okwori	B.Sc (Hons) Microbiology	Biological Sciences	2020/2021
25	Precious Sewuese Mue	B.Sc (Hons) Microbiology	Biological Sciences	2020/2021
26	Agwaza Samson Tsav	B.Sc (Hons) Computer Science	Mathematics and Computer Science	2020/2021
27	Saamoiyol Marvin Manasseh	B.Sc (Hons) Mathematics	Mathematics and Computer Science	2020/2021
28	Mpase Gbaden	B.Sc (Hons) Economics	Economics	2020/2021
29	Nenge Iorun	B.Sc (Hons) Economics	Economics	2020/2021
30	Joshua Ochola Odili	B.Sc Sociology	Sociology	2020/2021
31	Elijah Aduma Philip	B.Sc (Ed) Physical and Health Education	Human Kinetic and Health Education	2022/2023
32	Salome Victory Ebunife	B.Sc (Hons) Computer Science	Mathematics and Computer Science	2022/2023
33	Favour Salome Ijoko	B.Sc (Hons) Accounting	Accounting	2022/2023
34	Blessing Iveren Or Igbanu	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2022/2023
35	Faith Ikpe	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2022/2023
36	Janet Eni Ameh	B.Sc (Hons) Business Management	Business Management	2022/2023
37	Lydia Udu Edwin	B. Sc. Environmental Management and Toxicology	Chemistry	2022/2023
38	Hannah Obo Ogbo	B. Sc. Environmental Management and Toxicology	Chemistry	2022/2023
39	Samuel Adakole Elaigwu	B.Sc (Hons) Computer Science	Mathematics and Computer Science	2022/2023
39	Michael Mfena Kaase	B.Sc (Hons) Computer Science	Mathematics and Computer Science	2022/2023
40	Mercy Nguevese Avakaa	B.Sc (Hons) Economics	Economics	2022/2023
41	Selumun Gift Korzerzer	B.Sc (Hons) Psychology	Psychology	2022/2023
42	Aondoungwa Silas Aondoaver	B. Sc. Chemistry	Chemistry	2019/2020
43	Jacob Oloche Akpode	B. Sc.(Hons) Chemistry	Chemistry	2019/2020
44	Favour Omenka Ogbu	B. Sc.(Hons) Chemistry	Chemistry	2022/2023



# Commissioning of CEFTER Laboratory and CEFTIC Hub by the Visitor and Executive Governor of Benue State, HE Revd Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2024

By Jude Atakpugh



Chairman of Council welcomes the Visitor to CEFTER



The Centre Leader welcomes the Governor



The Governor Commissions the CEFTIC Hub



The Governor Commissions the CEFTER Laboratory





# 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation Ceremonies

Jude Atakpugh



VC, Governor, Chancellor and Suswam



Governor Alia Congratulates VC on a successful convocation



Governor Alia, Suswam and Ode



VC, Suswam and Chancellor during the conferment of Doctor of Laws (LL. D) Honoris Causa



VC, Chancellor and a member of Late Lt.Col. Akahan's family during the conferment of Doctor of Laws (LL. D)



Chancellor and VC with a member of Late Unongo's family during the conferment of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) Honoris Causa posthumous on Late Wantaregh Paul Iorpuu Unongo, OFR



Barr. Paul Edeh



Engr. Ghasarah, OFR



# 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation Ceremonies

Jude Atakpugh



Prof. Falola, Fr. Alia, Ode and VC during the conferment of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) Honoris Causa



Bishop Anagbe,cmf offering the Opening Prayer



VC, Engr. Ghasarah, OFR and Chancellor during the conferment of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) Honoris Causa



Prof. Falola receiving Inaugural Lecture plaque from the VC



VC, Barr. Edeh, Chancellor and Edeh's wife during the conferment of Doctor of Laws (LL. D) Honoris Causa



Prof. Ubwa receiving Distinguished Service Merit Award from Prof. Sorkaa



Prof. Iorapuu, Falola and Chancellor



Prof. Ikoy receiving award from Prof. Kembe



# 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> Combined Convocation Ceremonies

Jude Atakpugh



Prof. Sorkaa presenting award to Prof. Tony Ijohor, SAN



Prof. Kembe delivered Award to Aondo, SAN



Prof. Sorkaa presenting award to Ejembi Eko



Mr. Zwawua receives BSU Meritorious service award from the VC Karl Kumm University Jos, Prof. Audu Gambo



Dr. Echor receives meritorious service award



Mr. Hough receiving meritorious service award



Barr Aondo SAN responding on behalf of the awardees



Rev'd Fr. Dr. Iorapuu



# The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, ksm, fsonta, fnipr official Engagements and other University Events

Jude Atakpugh



The Vice-Chancellor and Principal Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology, Sierra Leone, Prof. Momoh presenting a souvenir to the Governor



Gov. Alia (R) receives the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Iorapuu and Principal Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology, Sierra Leone, Prof. Momoh at Government House



Prof. Iorapuu receives the Vice-Chancellor and Principal Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology, Sierra Leone, Prof. Momoh at the University



The Executive Secretary Tefund, Arc. Echono in a handshake with the Benue State SSG



The Vice-Chancellor and the National Chairman of ASUU



L-R Plateau State SSG, VC and Benue State, SSG



Prof. Ochugudu, Hemba, State Director, DSS and Prof. Iorapuu



Dr. Egwurube, Profs. Ubwa, Iorapuu, Ayatse (wife of the Tor Tiv) Odey and Mr. Orgeh during HRM's visit to the Vice-Chancellor



**The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, ksm, fsona, fnipr**  
**official Engagements and other University Events** **Jude Atakpugh**



A Former Registrar, Dr. Utile (L) with the newly appointed Registrar, Mr. Hemba



Prof. Momoh and the University Management



Management and FRSC, Benue State



NUC Accreditation Team, Mass communication



QROGA members during Thanksgiving at the Good Shepherd Chaplaincy, Benue State University



Father Gerald Terna Ayua during Registrar's office dedication



Prof. Idoko, Orgeh, Dr. Egwurube, VC, Prof. Omudu and Dr. Ochoga along Otukpo Igumale Road to attend the burial of the former Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Prof. Ochapa Onazi



2024 Tiv Day Celebration



# **The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu, ksm, fsona, fnipr official Engagements and other University Events**

**Jude Atakpugh**



**Prof. Iorapuu (L) and Prof. Momoh**



**Participants at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Regular meeting of the Committee of Provosts and Deans of Postgraduate Colleges and Schools (CPDPGCS) in Nigerian Universities hosted by the University**



**NUC Architecture Resource Verification Team**



**NUC Resource Verification Team for the Faculty of Communication and Media Studies**



**SUBEB Delegation and University Management**



**Profs. Ikyo, Ojowu, Sorkaa, Iorapuu, Olufemi and Akper during the celebration of CEFTER @10**



**Mr. Nongo, Profs. Egbe, Nyitse and Tarhule during the 12<sup>th</sup> Postgraduate School Lecture Series**



**The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tor Joe Iorapuu's family Thanksgiving at the Good Shepherd Catholic Chaplaincy**