

# HISTORY OF BENUE STATE UNIVERSITY

Benue State University was established by the Benue State Government with the enactment of the Benue State University Edict No. 1 of 1991.

The University took off in the 1992/93 academic year with four faculties, namely, Arts, Education, Science and Social Sciences. Two Faculties, Law and Management Sciences came on stream in the 1993/94 academic year with Faculty of Environmental Sciences in the 2014/2015 academic session.

The post graduate school took off in the 1998/1999 academic year while the College of Health Sciences was established in the 2003/2004 academic session. The College has graduated three sets of Medical Doctors since 2015 and more will be graduated in subsequent years as the University Management and State Government are committed to ensuring that Medical Students graduate within record time.

The University took off Nineteen years ago during the tenure of Late Rev. Fr. Moses Orshio Adasu as Executive Governor of Benue State. Adasu, therefore became the first Visitor of the University.

Adasu's successors to the office of Governor who also became Visitors of the University include:

S/NO	NAME OF GOVERNOR	TENURE DURATION
1	Group Capt. Joshua Obademi	1993 – 1996
2	Brig. Gen. Aminu Isah Contagora	1996 – 1998
3	Brig. Gen. Dominic Oneya	1998 – 1999
4	(Dr) George Akume	1999 – 2007
5	(Dr) Gabriel T. Suswam	2007 – 2015
6	(Dr) Samuel Ortom	2015 – Till date

The seventh and current Visitor of the University, since May 2015, is Dr. Samuel Ortom, the incumbent Executive Governor of Benue State.

The University has also had four Chancellors so far; the Pioneer Chancellor was (Dr.) Theophilus Yakubu Danjuma (GCON) (1994-2004) while the second was Prof. Jubril Aminu (2004 – 2009). Alhaji (Dr.) Umaru Mutallab (CON), served in that capacity from (2010-2015). While the incumbent Chancellor, HRH Alhaji (Dr.) Hassan Lawal Gummi, *OFR* was installed in January, 2015.

The University has also had four Pro-Chancellors and Chairmen of Governing Council since inception, with Chief Amb. (Dr.) Edwin Ogbu of blessed memory as Pioneer Chairman of Council in 1992. His successors include, Prof Ochapa Onazi (1992 – 2005). Dr. Aako Ugbabe (2005 - 2008). Prof. Ode Ojowu (OON) (2008-2016) and the incumbent, Prof. Zacharys Agber Gundu (2016 to date).

The University has had five Vice-Chancellors from inception, with Prof Emeritus Charles Gbilekaa Vajime as Pioneer Vice-Chancellor, (1992-2000). Prof. David I. Ker (*OON*) became the second Vice-Chancellor from 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2000 to 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2005 while the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Chancellor, Prof Akase P. Sorkaa assumed duty on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2005 to 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2010. Prof. Charity A.

Angya took over on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2010 as the fourth and first female Vice Chancellor, her tenure ended November 2, 2015 following which the incumbent Vice Chancellor, Prof. Msugh Moses Kembe assumed office as the fifth Vice-Chancellor on November 3, 2015 to date.

## **CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**

### **THE VISITOR:**

His Excellency, Dr Samuel Ortom – The Executive Governor of Benue State

### **CHANCELLOR:**

HRH Justice (DR) Lawal Hassan Gummi (Rtd), *OFR*, Sarkin Mafara Gummi

### **GOVERNING COUNCIL:**

Professor Zacharys Agber Gundu – Pro Chancellor/Chairman Governing Council.

### **Ex-Officio members**

1. Prof. Moses Msugh Kembe - Vice - Chancellor
2. DVC (Administration)
3. Prof. Edward Agbo Omudu - DVC (Academic)
4. Prof. Linus Chia Saalu - Provost (CHS)

### **Government Appointees**

5. Dr. Cletus Tyokyaa
6. Mrs. Sarah Mkeryi Amahson
7. Dr. Matthias Oyigege
8. Chief Sebastine Tar Hon, SAN
9. Prof. Johnson Ogada Onah
10. Mrs. Kukase Garba

### **Representative of Ministry of Finance**

11. Mr. Matthew D. Uyina

### **Representative of Ministry of Education**

12. Mrs. Elizabeth Enoche Ede

**Representative of Ministry of Health**

13. Dr. Jonathan Uke Kwaghtsulesega

**Representatives of Senate**

14. Prof. Akaa Imbwaseh

15. Prof. Beatrice Onyi Ker

16. Prof. Joseph Orsaar

17. Dr. Augustine Ojabo

**Representative of Alumni**

18. Mr. Lawrence Terungwa Vihimga

**Representative of the Congregation**

19. Dr. Mrs. Scholastica Banka

**Registrar / Secretary to Council**

20. Dr. Mrs. Mfaga Modom MNIM

**In attendance**

21. Mr Orinya Agbo Onazi - Bursar

22. Dr. Umbur Demekaa – Ag. University Librarian

23. Mr. Fostina Nyiwo – Deputy Registrar (Office of the Registrar)

24. Barr. Kaseamo Andrew Adejir - Office of the Registrar

25. Mr. Benjamin Buter - Office of the Registrar

26. Mr. Lawrence Semaka - Office of the Registrar

## **THE UNIVERSITY SENATE**

The formulation of Academic policies including the organization and control of all academic activities of the University is the responsibility of the University Senate. The Senate is advised on academic matters by the Faculty Boards and consists of the Vice-Chancellor as Chairman, Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Deans and Directors, all Professors, Heads of Department, the Librarian and two elected representatives from each Faculty. The Registrar is the Secretary of the Senate. The University Bursar is usually in attendance.

Senate Performs the following other functions among others:

1. The establishment, organization and control of Faculties and other Departments responsible for different branches of learning.
2. The organization and control of programmes of study at the University and the examinations held based on these programmes.
3. The award of degrees and such other qualifications as may be prescribed in connection with examination held.
4. Making recommendations to the Council with respect to the award of any person, any honorary degree or the title of professor emeritus.
5. The selection of persons for admission as students of the University.
6. The supervision of the welfare of students at the University and the regulation of their conduct.
7. The grant of fellowship, scholarship, prizes and similar awards in so far as they within the control of the University.
8. The determination of what description of dress shall be academic dress for the purpose of the University and the regulation of their use.

The work of the Senate is carried out through an intricate network of committee's including Academic Planning, Research and Publications Committee, Curriculum Sub – Committee, Admissions Committee etc.

## **GROWTH AND EXPANSION/ACHIEVEMENTS**

From a modest beginning with four faculties, the University currently has nine faculties namely; Arts, Education, Environmental Sciences, Law, Management Sciences, Sciences and Social Sciences. The others are Clinical Sciences and Basic and Allied Medical Sciences. The last two are housed in the University's College of Health Sciences.

## **CURRENT COMPOSITION OF MANAGEMENT**

The Management of Benue State University, Makurdi consists of seven Principal Officers: the Vice Chancellor, Prof Msugh Moses Kembe, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration), and the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics), Prof. Edward Agbo Omudu. Others include, the Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Prof. Linus Chia Saalu, the Registrar and Secretary to Council, Dr. Mrs. Mfaga Modom, the Bursar, Mr. Agbo Orinya Onazi, ACA and the Ag. University Librarian, Dr. Umbur Demekaa.

## **CHRISTIAN CENTRES**

1. Good Shephard's Catholic Chaplaincy
2. The Goodnews Chapel

## **GROWTH AND EXPANSION/ACHIEVEMENTS**

The quality of expansion of the University, both in terms of students and staff population as well as infrastructure earned the University major recognition and acknowledgement; in the 1997/98 Academic session, one of the graduates emerged the overall best student in the Bar examination of the Nigeria Law School.

Since its inception, BSU has established itself in the annals of Nigeria's educational history as a highly respected centre of academic excellence, having won major academic laurels in different fields over the years including a World Bank Centre of Excellence which was won through competitive bidding of Research proposals submitted by fifty Universities.

The University was adjudged as the best state owned University in the 2003/2004 academic year by the National Universities Commission (NUC) during which period the then Vice-Chancellor, Prof. David Ker was also acclaimed the best performing Vice-Chancellor of State-owned Universities also by the NUC. BSU also won, in 2006, the best Governing Council of State-owned Universities by the NUC.

A 2007 graduate of Law of the University who passed out with a 1st class degree also passed out with a 1st class in the Bar examination of the Nigerian Law School, he being among the only two who performed the academic feat that year in the entire Country (Nigeria).

In August 2010, a 200-level Law undergraduate of the University Mr. Victor Ochogwu, participated in World Annual International Human Rights Summit debate organized in Geneva, Switzerland by the United Nations and was adjudged the United Nations best spokesman.

A Ph. D thesis in History by Patrick Ukase was adjudged by the NUC as the best in the Faculties of Arts of all Nigerian Universities by the NUC in the year 2009.

Dr. Daniel Momngu Tiough, Lecturer, Department Vocational and Technical Education, won the Professor Fafunwa outstanding Ph.D Thesis Award in Nigeria 2015.

In March 2011, students of the University participated in an intellectual quiz competition, Rock and Rule organized by Glo Nigeria. The North Central zonal stage of the competition took place at IBB Square Makurdi Benue State. Participants from the University took first, second and third position respectively in both male and female categories.

In July 2011, selected students of the University came first in the Student in Free Enterprise (SIFE) competition and were tipped to represent Nigeria in Malaysia in October of the same year.

Again Victor Ochogwu, a 300 level Law student in July 2011 participated in the African preliminary stage of the YOUTH FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DEBATE which held in Ghana. He emerged second best participant and was nominated as one of the four African delegates for the 2011 Human Rights Summit at the UN later in the same year.

## **LEARNING AND RESEARCH FACILITIES**

The University has also put in place the following facilities to improve learning and research:

**(a) Media Centre:** Fully furnished Media Centre and Department of Mass Communication with state of the art Radio, TV, Photographic, PR/Advert studio equipment have been put in place.

**(b) ICT/Library Facilities:** The University has expanded its IT facilities and library requirements, built many office blocks, lecture rooms – which helped in securing NUC full accreditation of programmes.

**(c) ICT Directorate:** The University has put in place a Directorate of ICT to improve internet accessibility, online and web presence, digitalization of major University operations, e-Conferencing and e-Learning. It has put in place a fully functional wireless internet network with the Base Station at the Directorate of ICT Building and four digital Centres located in the Department of Maths/Computer Science, School of Postgraduate Studies, College of Health Science and the Eastern Campus.

**(d) Internet Library Project:** The University has installed digital access and infrastructure with a network of computers, a server, VSAT equipment and high speed internet connectivity, which enhances easy access/subscription to electronic resources, e-journals and e-books. The facility is situated in the Postgraduate School of the University, obtained in partnership with Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) who trained BSU Library staff on networking.

## **ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES**

As earlier stated, the University has nine faculties including a College of Health Sciences under which it runs diverse degree programmes. It also has a Postgraduate School as well as a centre for Continuing Education, CCE, which offers Sub-degree programmes. It also offers intensive one-year preliminary Science and French programmes. The undergraduate programmes include:

### **FACULTY OF ARTS**

B.A. English

B.A. French

B.A. Linguistics

B.A. History

B.A. Religion & Cultural Studies

B.A. Philosophy

B.A. Theatre Arts

### **FACULTY OF EDUCATION**

B.Ed. Pre-Primary/Primary Education

B.Sc.(Ed) Biology

B.Sc. (Ed) Chemistry

B.Sc. (Ed) Physics

B.Sc. (Ed) Mathematics

B.Sc. (Ed) Human Kinetic & Health Education

B.Ed. Guidance and Counseling

B.Ed. Pre-Primary and Primary Education (Mathematics)

B.Ed. Pre-Primary and Primary Education (Science)

B.Ed. Pre-Primary and Primary Education (Social Studies)

B.Ed. Pre-Primary and Primary Education (English)



B.Ed. Educational Management

B.Ed. Integrated Science

B.Sc. Ed. Business Education

B.Sc. Ed. Home Economics

B.Sc. Ed. Computer Science

B.Sc. Library and Information Science

B.A. (Ed) English

B.Sc. Ed. Technology Education

#### **FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

B.Sc. Geography

B. URP Urban & Regional Planning

#### **COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

B.Sc. Anatomy

B.Sc. Physiology

(MBBS) Medicine & Surgery

#### **FACULTY OF LAW**

LL.B. Law

#### **FACULTY MANAGEMENT SCIENCES**

B.SC. Accounting

B.SC. Business Management

## **FACULTY OF SCIENCE**

B.Sc. Plant Science and Biotechnology

B.Sc. Zoology

B.Sc. Industrial Chemistry

B.Sc. Environmental Management & Toxicology

B.SC. Biology

B. SC. Chemistry

B.SC. Physics

B.SC. Mathematics

B.SC. Statistics

B.SC. Computer Science

## **FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

B.SC. Economics

B.SC Mass Communication

B.SC Political Science

B.SC. Psychology

B.SC. Sociology

## **REMEDIAL PROGRAMMES**

Pre-Remedial Science

Pre-Vocational and Technical Education

Pre-French Programme

## **POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES**

1. **1. FACULTY OF ARTS**
2. **a. Department of Languages and Linguistics**

M.A. Linguistics

M.A. French

Ph.D. French

1. **b.Department of English**

M.A. Literature in English

Ph.D. Literature in English

1. **c.Department of History**

M.A. History

Ph.D History

1. **d.Department of Theatre Arts**

M.A. Theatre Arts

Ph.D. Theatre arts

1. **e.Department of Religion and Philosophy M.A.**

Religious Studies (African Christian Studies) Ph.D.

Religious Studies

**2.EDUCATION**

1. **a.Department of Curriculum and Teaching**

M.Ed Curriculum and Instruction

M.Ed Language Education

M.Ed Mathematics Education

M.Ed Science Education

M.Ed Social Studies Education

Ph.D. Curriculum and Instruction

Ph.D. Language Education

Ph.D. Mathematic Education

Ph.D. Science Education

Ph.D. Social Science Education

1. **b. Department of Educational Foundations**

M.Ed. Management

M.Ed. Guidance and Counseling Ph.D.

Guidance and Counseling Postgraduate

Diploma in Education (PGDE) M.Sc (Ed)

Health Education

M.Sc (Ed) Sports Management

M.Sc (Ed) Exercise and Sports Science

1. **3. FACULTY OF LAW**

LL.M

Ph.D. Laws

1. **4. FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES**

a. **Department of Accounting**

M.Sc. Accounting and Finance

Ph.D. Accounting and Finance

b. **Department of Business Management**

Postgraduate Diploma in Management (PGDM)

1. **5.FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

2. **a.Department of Economics**

M.Sc Economics

Ph.D. Economics

1. **b.Department of Political Science**

Masters in Public Administration (MPA)

M.Sc Public Administration

M.Sc International Relations and Strategic Studies

M.A. International Relations and Strategic Studies

M.Sc Political Science

Ph.D. Political Science

1. **c.Department of Psychology**

M.Sc Clinical Psychology

M.Sc Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Masters of Health Management (MHM)

Ph.D. Psychology

1. **d.Department of Mass Communication**

Postgraduate Diploma in Mass Communication

M.Sc Mass Communication

Ph.D Mass Communication

1. **e.Department of Sociology**

M.Sc Sociology

Ph.D. Sociology

M.Sc Gender Studies

**f. Department of Geography**

M.Sc Geography

M.Sc Development Studies

Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) Ph.D.

in Urban and Regional Planning

Ph.D Geography

**1. 6. FACULTY OF SCIENCE**

**2. a. Department of Biology**

M.Sc Pure and Applied Parasitology

M.Sc Pure and Applied Entomology

M.Sc Hydrobiology and Fisheries

M.Sc Plant Pathology

M.Sc Cytogenetic and Plant Breeding

M.Sc Systematic and Taxonomy Ph.D.

Pure and Applied Parasitology Ph.D.

Pure and Applied Entomology Ph.D.

Hydrobiology and Fisheries Ph.D.

Plant Pathology

Ph.D. Cytogenetic and Plant Breeding

Ph.D. Systematic and Taxonomy

**1. b. Department of Chemistry**

M.Sc Inorganic Chemistry

M.Sc Analytical Chemistry

**c. Department of Physics**

M.Sc Radiation and Medical Physics

M.Sc Theoretical Physics

Ph.D. Physics (Radiation and Medical Physics) Ph.D.

Physics (Theoretical Physics)