



**University of Lagos**

**Professor Oluwatoyin T. Ogundipe, FAS**

**Vice-Chancellor's Report**

*to*

**University Senate**

**November 2019**

University of First Choice and Nation's Pride

Distinguished Senate members, today I am very pleased to provide a scorecard of some of the activities in the University since I resumed as Vice-Chancellor effective from November 12, 2017. Recall that at the first Senate meeting I outlined a six point agenda that formed my vision for the University.

U – Uncompromising academic standards and excellent research output;

N – Networking Globally, Strategizing Locally and Consolidating Nationally;

I – Improving University Finances by Innovative Fund-Raising Activities, Infrastructural Development and Entrepreneurship Orientation;

L – Leadership that is Transformational, Transparent and Transactional;

A – Accountability in Academic, Administration, Finance and all University policies; and

G – Greater than the Best.

In addition to the six-point agenda, I developed Key Performance Index (KPI) to measure value of work done vis-à-vis the key objective of moving the University of Lagos to a new height. The KPI were:

- a) Percentage increase in External Fund Generation
- b) Percentage increase in Internally Generated Revenue
- c) Research income per academic staff
- d) Impact of research on National Development
- e) Number of innovations and impactful journal publication
- f) Number of local and foreign Collaborations established
- g) Percentage decrease in overhead expenses
- h) Position in regional and international universities rankings
- i) Number and quality of Ph.D. produced per academic session
- j) Quality of graduates as assessed by employers of labour
- k) Quality of academic and non-academic staff
- l) Quality assurance in academic programmes and teaching
- m) Investment in infrastructure
- n) Improvement in teaching and learning environment

The ultimate agenda of the University under my watch is to become one of the global best. This is aimed at getting the University ranked as one of the best four in Africa and indeed the best in Nigeria by 2022. Earlier this year, uniRank placed University of Lagos as 1<sup>st</sup> in Nigeria and 12<sup>th</sup> in Africa, in September, the Times Higher Education (THE), one of the foremost University Ranking bodies, placed University of Lagos in 801 – 1000 group. This is the first time the University of Lagos is appearing on the ranking list of Times Higher Education. This is work in progress for us, we are optimistic that the next ranking will see us go further up as necessary mechanism are being put in place for this purpose.

### 1. Improved Research Excellence

What have we done in the last two years? We are leveraging on the excellence of all the great staff of the University by encouraging and assisting them to pay more attention to research and innovation.

The members of staff have attracted about N4b in research grants. These include:

	SPONSOR OF SUCCESSFUL GRANT(S)	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	PROJECT TITLE	TOTAL AMOUNT
1	University Of Washington	Prof Ezeaka	EHHB: Virtual Reality Technology and Mobile Data Collection to Improve Newborn Health Care Delivery.	\$131,146.00
2	New York University School of Medicine	Dr. Ayanlowo	Elevated SLE Cytokines Accelerate Leukocyte APOL1 Transcription in Excess (ESCALATE)	\$18,439.92
3	Northwestern University	Prof Akanmu	iCARE	\$6,627.00
4	Northwestern University	Prof. Osuntoki	ABEM	\$49,664.00
5	Dorcas Cancer Foundation	Dr. Esther Oluwole	Assessment of Psychological Distress of Patients of Children With Cancer	\$1,000.00
6	Northwestern University	Prof. Osuntoki	C-THAN	\$217,110.00



7	Harvard T.H Chan School of Public Health	Dr. Kehinde Okunade	HBNU Fellowship	\$40,582.00
8	CDC Foundation	Dr Rita Oladele	Costing of Cryptococcal Screening and Treatment for National Implementation	\$24,232.52.00
9	The Global Biodiversity Information Facility	Dr. Kehinde Kemabonta	Digitization of Species of Odonta (Damsel Flies) of Southern Nigeria	€19,410.00
10	Catholic Relief Services	Prof. Wellington A. Oyibo	Strengthening Malaria Case Management in Public Health Facilities: Malaria Diagnosis (Microscopy/Malaria RTD) on-the-job Supervision, Quality Assurance/Stability Testing and Monitoring Facilities in Six Global Fund Supported States in Nigeria	₦33,460,270.80
11	Royal Society of Chemistry	Dr.(Mrs) Omonike Shonekan	Isolation and Characterization of Bioactive Constituents with Alpha-Amylase inhibition and Anti-oxidant activities from Buchholzia	£4,000.00
12	Network of African Science Academics (NASAC)	Dr. Peter. Elias	Standardizing City-Level Data-Gathering Towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 11 in Africa	€89,946.00
13	Kaiser Foundation for Social Development	Dr. Iniobong John	Informal Economy and Sustainable Competitiveness of Artisans	₦2,130,000.00
14	International Foundation of Science	Dr. Ololade Olatunji	Fish scale Biopolymer Nanocomposite Microneedles for induction of hyperthermia in basal cell carcinoma	\$10,700.00
15	Brunel University, London	Dr. Victor Odumuyiwa	Blackout-Chasing: Tapping Per-Urban Energy Perspectives, Preference and Prospects	£9,261.15
16	Palladium International Development	Dr. Sobamowo M. Gbeminiyi	Propcom Maikarfi	₦821,700.00

17	Ministry of Mines and Steel Development	Prof. David Esezobor	Harnessing Nigerian Titanium Dioxide ores for industrial applications	₦6,500,000.00
18	Financial Derivatives Company LTD	Prof. Risikat O.S. Dauda	Generation of Inflation expectation report	₦1,000,000.00
19	Catholic Relief Services	Prof. Wellington A. Oyibo	Malaria Diagnosis Quality Assurance, Stability, Monitoring studies and on-the –job supervision of healthcare providers in Public health facilities in three states of Nigeria	₦17,861,046.5
20	University of Birmingham	Dr. Adesoji Ademuyiwa	NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Global Surgery	£104,442.48
21	University of Leeds	Dr. Okunade		\$37,159.00
22	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	Dr. Ogunyemi	Ideas Phase 2: Measurement for Better Maternal & Newborn Health	\$104,884.60
23	Gilead	Dr. Rita Oladele	Ascertaining the Burden of Histoplasmosis in Nigeria	\$73,549.08
24	Global Cancer Disparities Grant Programme	Dr. Lawal Abdulrazak	Management of cancer in Nigeria	\$5,000.00
25	Tephenet	Prof. F. Ogunsola	Basic and Intermediate IPC Training Programme	\$34,982.00
26	William Rice University/Nest360	Prof. Ezeaka	Newborn Essential Solutions and Technologies (NEST 360) Programme Nigeria	\$110,210.68
27	William Rice University/Nest360	Prof. Osuntoki	Scaling Up A Neonatal Intervention Bundle In Malawi, Kenya, Tanzania and Nigeria	\$380,258.21
28	Northwestern University	Prof. F. Ogunsola	Nigeria Northwestern HIV Associated Malignancies NN-HAM	\$250,152.00



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38	GCRF/UKRI	Dr. B. Oyalowo	Neighbourhood Level Research Capacity Building Workshop	£22,000.00
39	Lennox Boyd Grant Memorial Trust	Professor Ogundipe/Dr. G. Nodza	Phylogenetic studies of Nigerian orchids with emphasis on Orchid flora of GGNP	£10,000.00
40	British Ecological Funds	Professor Ogundipe/Dr. G. Nodza	Phylogenetics and floristic studies of Nigerian Orchidaceae; an implication for conservation.	£8,000.00
41	Royal Society of Chemistry	Prof O. Familoni	GCMS Capacity Training Workshop	£18,000.00

42	NIH	Prof O. Akinloye	Genomics and Bioinformatics Capacity Building	\$49,000.00
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In addition to these research grants attracted by our faculty members, the University itself through the Central Research Committee funded over thirty-three (33) research proposals from members of staff with over ₦84m.

Over 40 proposal from the University of Lagos were shortlisted to submit full papers to TETFund in the ongoing 2019 National Research Fund grant. No doubt we have witnessed a great renaissance in research culture in the University in the last two years. This is indeed a product of our commitment to create the much needed environment for academics to use their ingenuity and creative thinking in solving societal problems through research.

Let me mention that our Research and Innovation Office is currently being restructured to help academic staff harness their enormous research potentials. This will allow the Research Administrators focus on the administrative aspect of research grant management while the academic staff will concentrate on the research itself. This gives the researchers ample time to focus on the work to be done.

The University successfully had the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference and Fair held at the Jelili Adebisi Omotola Hall. The theme for the 2019 research fair was: *Automation and Artificial Intelligence: Opportunities for 21st Century Research and Development*. The theme was selected to help create awareness about the need for Artificial Intelligence as a veritable tool for national development.

## 2. Centres of Excellence

Within the last two years we have attracted five Centres of Excellence into the University;

- ARUA Centre of Excellence for Urbanisation and Habitable Cities – already managing a grant of six hundred thousand Pounds (£600,000.00)
- ARUA Centre of Excellence for Unemployment and Skills Development – already managing a grant of six hundred thousand Pounds (£600,000.00)
- ACE for Drug Research, Herbal Medicine Development and Regulatory Science (ACEDRHMDRS) – already managing a grant of six million Dollars (\$6,000,000.00)



- IADS African Centre of Excellence on Reconfiguring African studies – running eight hundred and forty Euros (€840,000.00) Bayreuth University, Germany grant
- We have also got conditional approval to host the Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards Enhancement. This Centre will be funded by the World Bank with the sum of eleven million dollars (\$11,000,000.00)

### **3. Research Equipment Attracted**

To further strengthen educational activities, University of Lagos has equally attracted equipment from various organizations such as;

- In 2019 we got \$200,000 laboratory equipment from Seeding Labs, USA to Centre for Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Management (CEBCEM),
- 110 laptops and 100 tablets donated by Nigeria Communication Commission (NCC) to CITS
- dental chairs donated by Flour Mills Nigeria limited and the Alumni Association to Faculty of Dental Sciences - a donation that saved the faculty of Dentistry from failing accreditation.
- In 2018 we got \$200,000 laboratory equipment from Seeding Labs, USA to Cell Biology and Genetics Department
- Real time PCR worth €22,000.00 from the German Ministry of Education for the Genomics Group.
- Equipment from TI International Delaware USA facilitated by Muyiwa Familoni (an Alumnus) total worth of \$60,000.00

### **4. Entrepreneurship and Innovation**

The entrepreneurship drive by the University Management is yielding positive results. This is because the Entrepreneurship and Skills Development Centre is breaking new barriers for the University. The Centre has attracted a total of ₦349.2 million Naira and \$855,277 in training and capacity building for Staff and Students of the University in the last two years including recent ones such as:

- Africa's largest technology event tagged "TechMoney & Innovation Summit Africa" hosted by UNILAG with the support of Unicorn Group (Unicorn), a pan-African investment company. UNILAG students won the event with a prize money and this provided an opportunity to present the business idea in South Africa and a training at the Silicon Valley, San Francisco, California.



- Faculty of Science had the maiden edition of the Professor Ogundipe Innovative Challenge (POIC) where over 400 ideas submitted across the nation were scaled down to eleven and three were eventually selected as winners of N1m each
- Lufthansa Airline sponsored the N70m 'The Design Thinking programme, Impact Week 2018' where our students had the opportunity to work together to solve different problems in the society. A total of 30 business prototypes were developed and 15 businesses have come out of this.
- Bidemi Bayode of the Department of Cell Biology and Genetics participated in a student exchange programme, 'Co-Create my City Lagos' and was selected as one of the two most valuable contributors. His winning included taking part in summer school program titled "Managing your Business Abroad", which took place in August 2019 in Utrecht University, Utrecht, Netherlands.
- We have also attracted a sum of N250m from the Bank of Industry for training and start-off loan for our student entrepreneurs.
- The ecosystem has led to many successful entrepreneurs visiting the University students to encourage them and provide support. Recently, Mr Jack Dorsey, Co-Founder Twitter Inc. visited the students to interact with them. This kind of opportunities push our students to strive for greatness.

## **5. Internationalization**

Our drive to become a truly global University through various activities with international institutions continued earnestly. The agencies, foreign embassies and international organisations as well as universities we have visited for the purpose of partnership and collaborations are now reaching out to work with us. Amongst them are:

- Carleton University, Canada, partnering on creation of 100 intercontinental of start-ups. Apart from the Nigeria-Canada Economic Summit which was a brainchild of this partnership. The University in November 2019 held the first Transnational Ventures Acceleration Program to train entrepreneurial skills to leverage on opportunities and connect with counterparts overseas. Professor Tony Bailetti, Director of Carleton's Technology Innovation Management (TIM) master's program Carleton University Canada, was our key facilitator.

- The University had its maiden edition of International Week where we hosted a number of foreign ambassadors, partners institutions and regulatory bodies. This was with the view to build stronger partnership and create opportunities for our staff and students.
- The French Embassy again awarded grant to six early career staff from the University to attend different programmes in France and will also be collaborating with research teams in France to develop innovative solutions to address climate change in Nigeria.
- MIT granted a four-month training on Robotics and Artificial Intelligence to a staff.
- The Nigeria-China Development Institute recently launched to further strengthen our ties with the Chinese government and its people.
- 10 students from The Gambia are currently enrolled to study Mass Communication.
- Our Confucius Institute was ranked as one of the best

#### **6. The University of Lagos Business School**

The University of Lagos Business School commenced operation with its first set of students running the Executive MBA course accredited by the NUC. The University's facilities were found to be adequate and of international standard. The Business School would also run short executive courses with highly experienced industry persons as part of the facilitators. We are collaborating with other Institutes to run the Executive MBA programme.

#### **7. Distance Learning Institute**

We have reduced the age barrier of applicants to allow more students apply into our programmes in DLI. New programmes have also been introduced under DLI.

#### **8. State of Infrastructure**

Since the last Congregation meeting, a lot has happened in terms of addressing our infrastructure in the University and some were commissioned during the last Convocation Ceremonies by the Vice President, Professor Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON such as

- The completed Olympic size swimming pool
- The completed TETFund sponsored Publishing House for the South-West Zone
- Extension of the University Medical Centre Building
- Completed Faculty of Engineering Lecture Theatre



Other completed projects include;

- The New Fire Service Station and
- Refurbishment of the DLI Auditorium to a world class Auditorium.

Furthermore, the Federal government has made intervention through

1. The Federal Ministry of Power, Works and Housing which assisted us in rehabilitating the Ransome Kuti road, Tayo Aderinoku Road and Oduduwa drive
2. The Ministry of Power, Works and Housing has helped lit up the entire Campus as part of the IPP project initiative.
3. The El-Kanemi Student Hostel is currently being furnished by the Nigerian Port Authority. One of the wings of the hostel was completed and it is now furnished and ready for habitation.

The Lagos State Government through the former Governor of Lagos State, Mr Akinwunmi Ambode approved the funding of the remodelling of the University gate which has commenced. When the project is completed it would give the University a new face.

Our Alumni and lovers of University of Lagos, have also risen to the clarion call of this Management:

- Alhaji Femi Okunnu is sponsoring the upgrade of the Faculty of Law Building. The Building will now have an additional floor with a remodelled exterior work.
- Sir Olu Okeowo donated a Physiotherapy Centre to the College of Medicine. The building is worth ₦750m.
- The Alumni Set of 1997 of the College of Medicine undertook a renovation worth ₦16m of the toilets and bathrooms in Block 4 and 8 of the Students' Hostel.
- ₦12m renovation of the Wing B (OPH) Female Hostel toilets, bathroom and kitchenettes by 1998 Alumni set in the College of Medicine.
- Renovation and furnishing of the Faculty of Dental Sciences' Library by Dr.Bolaji Ogundare (an Alumnus).
- Rehabilitation of the Medical Students Hostel Access Road by Chapel of the Healing Cross, CMUL

We want to sincerely thank all our donors for their kindness and philanthropic gesture which is helping in great measures to uplift the University of Lagos.

### **9. Staff Welfare**

On staff welfare, the staff home ownership remains a critical agenda in my vision for the staff of the University. For this reason we have had series of meetings with Family Homes, an initiative of the Federal Government, to provide homes for staff from Grade 9 and below. A number of our staff already signified interest in the scheme and work is in progress to ensure fast allocation. We are also working with Family Homes to provide more accommodation on campus to augment the shortage of accommodation for staff and students.

We hope staff will be able to fund this home ownership scheme from the UNILAG Microfinance Bank which would soon commence operations. The Microfinance Bank will provide small loans to staff at low interest rates. We are still engaging the Lagos State Government to help our staff acquire landed property for housing scheme in Lagos State. This will ensure they have a home to retire to in future.

Capacity building and enhancement of staff through conferences, workshops and seminars increased in the last two years. As more funds are available, we hope to increase these numbers in the coming years.

We have equally taken promotion, conversion and stagnation issues very important. These for us form a critical aspect in staff motivation.

### **10. Students Welfare**

The Welfare of our students have also taken a greater concern.

- We have ensured adequate power supply in spite of the epileptic power supply from national grid. Provision of water and other necessary social amenities.
- We have also decentralised the Counselling Unit into faculties and the religious houses to provide the necessary assistance for our students to perform well in their academics.
- We have also ensured their students halls of residence and environment are kept clean and hygienic.

### **11. Community Services**



As part of our community service, the University initiated a coding application skills acquisition program titled 'Young Coders Application Development (YCAD)'. The programme started in 2018 with 50 girls aged 13 – 16 from International School, University of Lagos. This year for the scratch class and ApplInventors class we had over 40 pupils from Queens College, Yaba; Amville School, Ilupeju; Rola International School Ikeja, Murtala Muhammed Airport School, Ikeja; Young Scholars Academy, Benin; Pentecostal College, Iba; Grace High School, Gbagada; Baptist Academy, Obanikoro; Maryland Comprehensive High School, Maryland and Anglican Comprehensive High School, Ipaja.

## **12. Other Achievements**

- **Convocation Ceremonies**

The 2017 and 2018 Convocation Ceremonies saw a significant improvement. The Convocation Lectures were delivered by the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Akinwunmi Amobode and Vice President, Professor Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON respectively. We also introduced hooding at various faculties to give students a better sense of identity in their various faculties.

- **University Television**

The University Television station, Unilag TV, the first Campus Television Station in Nigeria, commenced full transmission on StarTimes Channel 184. This will be another avenue to train our Mass Communication students and also improve the IGR of the University. We have therefore created the Unilag Media Centre under the leadership of Professor Muyiwa Falaiye to house the television and radio station.

- **Security and Peace on Campus**

The Security Unit is better equipped with more walkie-talkies, CCTV cameras and necessary gadget to boost their morale. The Campus is now safer and our security men are more alert and responsive. This has led to a more peaceful University Campus.

## **13. Awards by our Students and Staff**

- ❖ Our students won the 2018 Coca-Cola global management challenge in Nigeria and represented the country at the Global event in Dubai. They also won the 2019 Challenge and have been selected to represent the Country in Russia for the global competition
- ❖ National Champions at the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) 2018/2019

- ❖ 2019 National Mathematics Competition for University students
- ❖ Bagged the first price at the TechMoney Africa Summit 2019
- ❖ Our students competed and came forth in the International Robotics Competition held in Ethiopia

**Also a number of staff won various prizes and awards, some of them include:**

- ❖ Professor Olukemi Odukoya and Professor (Mrs.) Bolajoko Aina, both of Faculty of Pharmacy bagged the 2018 Association of Lady Pharmacists Merit Awards (AMA).
- ❖ Professor Matthew Ilori of the Department of Microbiology was admitted as a Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Science.
- ❖ Professor Wasiu Lanre Adeyemo of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery emerged co-winner of the 2018 Nigerian Academy of Science (NAS) gold medal prize for Life sciences
- ❖ Professor Adepeju Layiwola, of Department of Creative Arts, was elected President of the Art Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA). This makes Professor Layiwola, the first female President of African ancestry and the first who resides in an African nation.

For me and the rest of members of Management, this is a call to service and we are very keen to moving the University to the deserved position. Distinguished Senate members, I have enjoyed a great deal of outstanding support from Senate, and this has helped in achieving a lot. I therefore seek your continued support to making UNILAG truly world class by 2022.

Thank you.

God bless University of Lagos!

God bless Federal Republic of Nigeria!