

UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, NIGERIA



SPEECH BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR RAHAMON A. BELLO, *FAEng* ON THE OCCASION OF THE AWARD CEREMONY FOR ELUMELU LEGACY PRIZE WINNERS (2013/2014 SESSION) ON THURSDAY, 4TH JUNE 2015

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic & Research, Professor Babajide Alo
Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Management Services, Professor Duro Oni
Registrar, Dr. (Mrs.) Taiwo F. Ipaye
The Bursar, Mr. Lateef Odekunle
The University Librarian, Dr. (Mrs.) Olukemi Fadehan
Provost, College of Medicine, Professor (Mrs.) Folasade Ogunsola
All Deans and Directors, here present
All Heads of Departments here present
The Chief Executive Officer, The Tony Elumelu Foundation - Professor Reid E. Whitlock
Head, Corporate Communications, Anietie Isong
Marketing and Communications Manager, Felicia Okoye
Leadership Development Analyst of The Tony Elumelu Foundation, Mrs. Arume Tsekiri
Members of the Tony Elumelu Foundation
Members of Heirs Holdings Limited
Members of the University Community
Members of the Press
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Council, Management, Senate, Staff and Students of the University of Lagos, **The University of First Choice and The Nation's Pride**, I warmly welcome you all to the third edition of the award ceremony for the Elumelu Legacy Prize Winners (2013/2014 Session).

I would like to specially welcome **Professor Reid Whitlock**, CEO of The Tony Elumelu Foundation, senior members of the Tony Elumelu Foundation and Heirs Holdings Limited. I also wish to express my profound appreciation to Mr. Tony Elumelu *CON*, the Founder of the Tony Elumelu Foundation and a **Distinguished Alumnus** of the University of Lagos for instituting the Elumelu Legacy Prize aimed at promoting academic excellence in the University of Lagos.

During the first edition of this Award Ceremony, prizes valued at N1.5million were awarded to four (4) graduating students, two at the undergraduate level and two at the

postgraduate level. However, between then and now, an additional prize has been added through the generosity of the Foundation, to recognise and reward the Best Overall Graduating Student in the undergraduate category bringing the total prizes awarded to a value of N1.75million for five (5) graduating students, three at the undergraduate level and two at the postgraduate level.

I will like to congratulate the Prize Awardees for exhibiting the spirit of excellence and hard work that made you proud recipients of the Tony Elumelu Legacy Prizes for 2013/2014 session. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours and urge you to continue to be **good ambassadors** of this great institution in whatever position you may find yourself.

May I seize this opportunity to sincerely appreciate The Tony Elumelu Foundation, for supporting and partnering with the University to further the cause of excellence in teaching and research through the Award of these prizes, and look forward to new and greater opportunities to consolidate on the partnership between the Foundation and the University.

The Management is determined to move the University forward and conducive environment is being created to enhance teaching, learning and research, in spite of the dwindling funds from the Government. We hereby solicit and urge for needed support and collaboration with public spirited individuals and organisations to emulate The Tony Elumelu Foundation by contributing to the endowment drive of the University of Lagos.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, we enjoin you to take a decision today to partner with us so that the University of Lagos can achieve its ultimate goal of being the best University in Africa and one of the top ranking Universities in the world.

Once again, I thank you all for finding time in spite of your busy schedules to attend this award ceremony.

God bless you all.

Professor Rahamon A. Bello, *FAEng*
Vice-Chancellor, University of Lagos
Thursday, June 4, 2015.