

UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, NIGERIA



REMARKS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR RAHAMON A. BELLO, *FAEng* AT THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION/COMMENDATION SERVICE IN HONOUR OF LATE PROFESSOR ADETAYO FAGBENRO-BEYIOKU ON FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2015

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Research), **Professor Babajide Alo, *FAS***,
The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Management Services), **Professor Duro Oni**,
The Registrar and Secretary to Council, **Dr. (Mrs.) Taiwo F. Ipaye**,
The Bursar, **Mr. Lateef Odekunle**,
The University Librarian, **Dr. (Mrs.) Olukemi A. Fadehan**,
The Provost, College of Medicine, **Professor Folasade T. Ogunsola**,
Other members of staff and students of the University,
Family and friends of Late Professor Adetayo Foluso Fagbenro-Beyioku
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,
Gentlemen of the Press,

It is my pleasure to be part of this Commendation Service in honour of former Deputy Provost, College of Medicine and former Member of UNILAG Governing Council, Professor Adetayo Foluso Fagbenro-Beyioku.

Permit me to start this address by commending and congratulating the staff and students of our College of Medicine for organizing today's event which will provide an opportunity for the College, and indeed the University, which has benefitted immensely from the intellectual wealth as well as the commitment to service of the late doyen, to honour her memory, and show her family and friends that they are not alone in their time of grief over this irredeemable loss of a titan.

Professor Fagbenro-Beyioku was, in every sense of the word, a titan in his time. Born on April 16, 1948, she attended Queens College, Yaba, Lagos between 1960 and 1964 for her school certificate. She proceeded to England where she attended Walthamstow Hall, Seven Oaks, Kent for her Advanced Level G.C.E. in Physics, Chemistry and Biology between 1965 and 1967.

The late academic obtained the Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology in 1971 from Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky and Master of Science Degree in Microbiology in 1975 from Roosevelt University, Chicago, Illinois. She returned to Nigeria and attended the University of Lagos where she obtained the Doctorate Degree in Medical Parasitology in 1988.

Professor Fagbenro-Beyioku joined the services of the University of Lagos as Research Fellow II in 1980. She rose steadily and was appointed Professor of the Department of Medical Microbiology and Parasitology, School of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Medicine, in 2003.

The University of Lagos, in particular and the medical profession, in general, are laced with the legacies of Professor Fagbenro-Beyioku which would continue to live in our hearts. These legacies include her deep seated nobility of spirit and the great books she wrote. These are in addition to the people he groomed to become great scholars, teachers and professionals.

Apart from her commitment to academics, she also played key roles in the life of the University. She was very active in the Academic Staff Union of Nigerian Universities (ASUU) and indeed served as the Second Vice Chairperson of the University of Lagos branch from 1993 to 2001.

Professor Fagbenro-Beyioku served diligently, amongst others as Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences of the College of Medicine, University of Lagos from 2005-2008 and as the Deputy Provost of the College from 2008 to 2012. She was a member of the Governing Council of the University between 2009 and 2013. She simply loved humanity and would doggedly fight for any course she believed in.

Although Professor Fagbenro-Beyioku will be sorely missed, I urge us all to celebrate and not mourn the late renowned Medical Parasitologist as her illuminating foray would continue to serve as a benchmark for any individual that desires to deliver value on a consistently high level. May the gentle soul of Professor Adetayo Foluso Fagbenro-Beyioku find rest in the Lord, amen!

Professor Rahamon A. Bello, *FAEng*
Vice-Chancellor, University of Lagos
Friday, July 31, 2015