It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to today’s Congregation meeting. Permit me to start this address by urging you to join me to formally welcome Professor Duro Oni, Dr. (Mrs.) Taiwo F. Ipaye, Dr. (Mrs.) Olukemi A. Fadehan and Professor Folasade T. Ogunsola who are attending today's meeting in their capacity as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Management Services), Registrar and Secretary to Council and University Librarian, respectively, for the first time.

I wish to register my deep appreciation to you all for the unalloyed and overwhelming support extended to my administration in the last one and a half years. The enduring mutual understanding has facilitated not only progress and development in our University but also the academic stability we enjoy in our micro-task environment.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, today’s meeting provides a unique opportunity for me to brief you on some of the appreciable gains we have made in enhancing teaching, learning and research in our dear University since our last meeting. Despite seemingly insurmountable challenges, we have been able to achieve the following milestones which
are geared towards creating an enabling environment for the sustenance of academic excellence at the University of Lagos:

2013 CONVOCATION CEREMONIES
This year’s Convocation Ceremonies witnessed the graduation of a total of nine thousand, seven hundred and twenty-nine (9,729) graduands. Comprising of 4,908 (50.4%) undergraduate and 4,821 (49.6%) postgraduate degrees and diplomas. These figures are an attestation of our commitment to vigorously maintaining the University's tradition of excellence and vision which, is “to be a top-class institution for the pursuit of excellence in knowledge through learning, research and community service.”

They also show our commitment to increase the postgraduate training element of our core business producing ....... at almost 50:50.

The convocation also witnessed some innovations in both content and effects. The usual traffic congestion characterizing our convocation were absent and all PhD holders received their degrees on stage. In fact all certificates of the graduands were ready before the ceremony.

PARTNERSHIPS
The University continues to pursue partnership arrangements that would immersely benefit the staff and students of the University. Just recently, the Director General of the National Power Training Institute, Engineer Reuben Okeke Signed an MOU with the University for the training of Engineering graduates at the postgraduate level. This is aimed at the development of human resources with the skills required for the development of Nigeria’s power sector.

On the international level, our University has continued to relate well with other top Universities worldwide. In the last few months, we have hosted several top-international Universities from across the world.

Our University and Harvard University have set in motion steps aimed at achieving a mutually beneficial partnership pact between the two tertiary institutions. The partnership
arrangement which will present research opportunities, student/staff exchange, fellowship to PHD training and other collaborative work at doctorate level, is expected to cover the following academic programmes: Social Sciences, Sciences, Arts and Business Administration