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Strike: VC, ASUU Chairman seek quick resolution of logjam

By Tajudeen Babamale

As the industrial action by university workers drag on, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Sulyman Age Abdulkareem, and the Chairman of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), UNILORIN Branch, Prof. Moyosore Ajao, have called for a quick resolution of the crisis so that students would return to their classes to continue their academic journey.

The duo spoke in separate chats with **UNILORIN BULLETIN** last Monday (May 2, 2022) after joining other Muslim faithful to observe the 1443AH Eid-el-Fitri prayer at the University of Ilorin Eid Praying Ground.

Prof. Abdulkareem, who said that his only wish for now is to see the resumption of academic activities on the university campuses, lamented that students have stayed back enough and the ongoing strike is not doing them any good. He then prayed that both the government and the unions would reach a reasonable agreement soon.

(Cont. on page 2)



■ Prof. Abdulkareem



■ Prof. Ajao

UNILORIN to partner KwaraTV in human capital development

By Olusegun Mokuolu

The University of Ilorin has expressed its readiness to partner the Kwara State Television Authority in the area of human capital development.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Sulyman Age Abdulkareem, made this known last Thursday (May 5, 2022) while receiving the Board members of the Television Station who paid him a courtesy visit in his office in continuation of their interaction with critical

stakeholders.

Prof. Abdulkareem expressed the hope that the relationship will go a long way in assisting the students of the institution gain practical field experience, which will in turn help them in their working life after graduation.

The Vice-Chancellor commended the Board and management of Kwara TV for the giant strides taken so far in reviving the station, urging them to work hard and attain greater height in line with international best practices.

(Cont. on back page)

Ademola-Popoola, US don win Carnegie collaborative fellowship

By Abubakar Imam

The Director of the Directorate of Computer Services and Information Technology (COMSIT), University of Ilorin, Prof. Dupe Ademola-Popoola, and Dr. Yetunde Folajimi, an Associate Professor of Computing and Data Science at the Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, USA, have won the Winter 2022 Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Programme (CADFP).



■ Prof. Ademola-Popoola



■ Dr. Folajimi

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Strike: VC, ASUU Chairman seek quick resolution of logjam

(Contd. from front page)

The Vice-Chancellor said, "My prayer is that Almighty Allah would make things easier for the government to make it possible for students to come back to school. We have stayed back long enough and we are doing nobody any good by doing so."

"So, my prayer is that we all work with government and agree on something reasonable and let our students come back".

On his part, the UNILORIN ASUU Chairman appealed to the Federal Government to do the needful to ensure that the universities are open and the students return to their classes because it is the only way the progress of any nation can be achieved.

Prof. Ajao also appealed to the government to look into the security challenges bedeviling the country, saying that

no investor would come into a country when there is no guarantee of the safety of lives and properties.

While many Nigerians are battling with unemployment and high level of poverty in the midst of abundant resources, Prof. Ajao said that the nation's economy needs to be turned around to make the country a better place for everyone.

Meanwhile, a former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin and Registrar of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), Prof. Ishaq Oloyede, OFR, has said that the admission board is ready to conduct hitch-free examinations that will stand the test of time for the teeming admission seekers in the country.

Prof. Oloyede, who also joined others for the Eid-el Fitri prayers at the

UNILORIN Eid Praying Ground, however, urged the citizens to continue to pray to Almighty Allah to guide Nigerian leaders on the right path.

Corroborating Prof. Oloyede's stance, the Taliba of Ebira land, Alhaji Usman Hamza, urged Nigerians to engage in serious prayers for our leaders so that they can make the best decisions that would be in the best interest of the people and country at large.

Alhaji Hamza also urged Nigerians to commit themselves to imbibing the lessons and practices observed during Ramadan, with a specific appeal to the rich people in the country to help the needy. He expressed the belief that the nation's security situation worsened because of the high rate of poverty in the land.

Ademola-Popoola, US don win Carnegie collaborative fellowship

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The collaborative fellowship involves funding for a project to be provided by CADFP.

The award letter sent to Prof. Ademola-Popoola from the CADFP Advisory Council, a copy of which was made available to **UNILORIN BULLETIN** last Monday (May 2, 2022), indicated that the Winter 2022 application cycle for the CADFP was very competitive".

Explaining the import of the fellowship, Prof. Ademola-Popoola told **UNILORIN BULLETIN** that the CADFP-funded Project, would involve Dr. Folajimi coming to the University of Ilorin for a period of 90 days for Collaborative research as well as Graduate student teaching/mentoring.

She said, "The All-discipline fellowship will also include Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning Capacity Building Workshops".

The Field of Study includes Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence and Robotics.

According to Prof. Ademola-Popoola, "the areas of expertise required are Artificial intelligence (AI), recommender systems, machine learning, natural language processing, and adaptive games".

She said, "The Fellow will collaborate with the University's Department of Computer Science and COMSIT to explore collaborative research opportunities in areas that integrate artificial intelligence and computer science, with the potential of joint publications in one or more of the following related journals and conferences: (1) JMLR (Journal of Machine Learning Research); (2) Advances in Artificial Intelligence Journal; (3) AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IAAI-22); (4)

AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence".

Prof. Ademola-Popoola explained that "the Fellow will teach two or three subjects in the following areas as a guest lecturer: (1) programming; (2) artificial intelligence (AI); and (3) machine learning (ML) / language processing (NLP), while our academics observe the Fellow's teaching practices.

"By meeting with 10-15 graduate students in computer science for thesis and dissertation advice, the fellow will give valuable feedback to assist them in developing their current research thesis/projects.

"Furthermore, the fellow will facilitate training workshops on research methodology and grant/proposal writing for students and faculty members", adding that "the fellow will provide professional development opportunities for our faculty and graduate students by organizing two community-based training workshops on machine learning and game development for social impact".

According to the Professor of Ophthalmology, "this will create an opportunity for our graduate students, faculty, and staff to learn from the fellow's global experience in facilitating related workshops on AI and games for social good".

Speaking on the Project Objectives, Prof. Ademola-Popoola said, "Our university has significant gaps in the teaching and practice of artificial intelligence, machine learning, game development, recommender systems, and natural language processing. This is because these specialties are still in their infancy in Nigeria, with very limited access

to researchers and processors working on these areas".

However, the proposed project, according to her, "will open new doors of opportunities to build the capacity of both students and Faculties through the Carnegie Fellowship and beyond. This is in line with our University's strategic vision 'to be an international centre of excellence in learning, research, probity and service to humanity'".

She explained further that "in line with our University's mission 'To provide a world-class environment for learning, research and community service', the project will provide an opportunity to learn from the Fellows, how to set up laboratories for artificial intelligence, machine learning, and the development of educational games. This will foster research in these rapidly growing field and bring our university to the forefront of knowledge and resource providers in these areas by providing our community with the necessary skills and knowledge".

On the project impact, the don said that it "will support the efforts of our university to promote innovation, scalable, commercial value, and problem-solving, ideas targeted at local problems with measurable outcomes to evaluate their impact".

Prof. Ademola-Popoola further explained that "by continuing to collaborate with the researcher and establishing a relationship with the fellow's university after the visit, we hope that this will be the beginning of a framework for a long-term relationship between our university and the fellow's university. This is also in line with the diversity and inclusion strategies of the requested fellow's institution to "internationalize the university".



Happy Birthday

S/N	Name	Department	Birthday
1	Adepoju Lydia Abiola	Food & Bioprocess Engineering	May 08
2	Babalola Oluksunkanmi Musbau	Surgery	May 08
3	Lawal Belawu Ayoka Malomo	Registry	May 08
4	Solitu Adijat Abebi	Health Services	May 08
5	Adebisi Samson Adebayo	Registry	May 08
6	Dopamu Olusegun Adesina	Registry	May 09
7	Saka Abdulkadir Bolakale	Portal Services	May 09
8	Abubakar Abdullahi Salih	English	May 09
9	Yakubu Sumonu	Security Division	May 09
10	Olaki Jerome Alaba	Agronomy	May 09
11	Adekeye Bolanle Folake	Ling. & Nig. Languages	May 09
12	Odebisi-Omokanye Mutiat Busayo	Microbiology	May 09
13	Kayode David Jimoh	Educational Management	May 09
14	Atanlogun Bankole Oluwaseun	Registry	May 09
15	Adeniyi-Rufai Funmi Felicia	Registry	May 09
16	Abubakar Melitus Mhelalolo	Biochemistry	May 09
17	Okolo Peter	Works: Works/Maintenance Office	May 09
18	Gidado Fausat Titilayo	Library	May 09
19	Yusuf Saheed Olayinka	Telecommunication Science	May 09
20	Abdullahi Ibrahim Bello	Finance	May 10
21	Taiwo Omotayo Adebayo	Mathematics	May 10
22	Barnabas Joseph Eche	Security Division	May 10
23	Aiyelabegan Abdullateef	Security Division	May 10
24	Ayoku Waheed	Library	May 10
25	Adejumo Margaret Iyabo	Health Services	May 10
26	Afolayan Afusat Titilayo	Health Services	May 10
27	Salami Musa Ayinde	Central Admin: Office	May 10
28	Kolawole Yinka	Registry	May 10
29	Aremu Nuha Salihu	Industrial Relations & Personnel Management	May 10
30	Salawu Jimoh Omuya	Registry	May 10
31	Yusuf Kamaldeen Olujide	Registry	May 11
32	Bello Mohammed Adebisi	Works: Works/Maintenance Office	May 11
33	Hadi Yakub	Registry	May 11
34	Gidado Hajarat Ahmed	Registry	May 11
35	Mustapha Sherif Ishola	Chemical Engineering	May 11
36	Bamidele Oluksunkanmi David	Medicinal & Pharm. Chemistry	May 12
37	Salawu Musa Oyewole	Biochemistry	May 12
38	Oyewopo Adeoye Oyetunji	Anatomy	May 12
39	Jimoh Usman Ayinla	Registry	May 12
40	Afolabi Bosede	Works: Parks & Gardens	May 12
41	Mohammed Salihu	Physics	May 12
42	Adebayo Fatimoh Asumi	Health Services	May 12
43	Lawal Raheem Adebayo	Arts Education	May 12
44	Abubakar-Kamar Aishat Tayo	Architecture	May 12
45	Durojaiye Musibau Tunde	Works: Works/Maintenance Office	May 12
46	Orosun Muiyiwa Michael	Physics	May 12
47	Ajenifuja Mistura Funmilola	Bursary	May 12
48	Omosidi Abdulkareem	Biomedical Engineering	May 12
49	Imam Sheikh Memunat	Registry	May 13
50	Abdulrahman Aishat Funmilayo	Health Services	May 13
51	Abisoye Farouk Olanrewaju	Registry	May 13
52	Alabi Folusho Grace	Works: Works/Maintenance Office	May 13
53	Suleiman Ahmed Aremu	Business Administration	May 13
54	Adam Abdulrahman Idoko	Microbiology	May 13
55	Kareem Amudat Bola	Bursary	May 13
56	Yunus Abdul -Baqy Abdullahi	Unilorin Staff School (Upper Basic School)	May 14
57	Lafenwa-Balogun Fatima Bukola	Web Support Services	May 14
58	Ejjeji Catherine Ngozi	Mathematics	May 14
59	Idowu Jerome Folorunsho	Registry	May 14
60	Onaolapo Ajibike Suliat	Registry	May 14
61	Akomolafe Samuel Friday	Registry	May 14
62	Aliyu Beatrice Motunrayo	Bursary	May 14
63	Ojuade Taofeek Afolabi	Bursary	May 14
64	Abubakar Yahaya	Security Division	May 14
65	Bello Mojeed Olalekan	Chemistry	May 14
66	Salaudeen Kehinde	Registry	May 14
67	Ologele Ibrahim	Health Promotion & Environmental Health Education	May 14

The University Board of Health encourages you to visit the University Health Services for medical check-up on your birthday. Thanks

Let's sustain the Ramadan spirit, Unilorin Chief Imam tells Nigerian Muslims

By Tajudeen Babamale

The Chief Imam of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Nasir Abdus-Salam, has encouraged Muslims in Nigeria to sustain the spirit of love and charity after the Holy Month of Ramadan as exhibited during the 30 days of fasting.

Prof. Abdus-Salam, who gave the admonition last Monday (May 2, 2022) in a chat with **UNILORIN BULLETIN** shortly after leading this year's Eid-el Fitri prayer at the University of Ilorin Eid praying ground, defined Ramadan as a coaching ground where people learn to internalize the spirit of unity, peace, and love for one another. He enjoined Muslims worldwide and in particular, the members of the University of Ilorin community, to be their brother's keeper to make the world a better place.

While calling on the leaders and the citizens in general to fear Allah in their dealings, the Chief Imam reminded Nigerians irrespective of their status in life that everyone will give an account of his/her stewardship before Allah on the day of judgment.

Also speaking, the Chairman of the UNILORIN Muslim Community, Prof. Ibrahim Katibi, admonished Muslims and non-Muslims to imbibe virtues such as sharing with the less privileged, solving problems in their community, and creating extra time to serve God. He also urged them to imbibe the spirit of periodic fasting after Ramadan.

Prof. Katibi also appealed to

members of the University community, both Muslims and non-Muslims, to sustain the harmonious relationship that exists in the institution in order to ensure that the University sustains its reputation as the most religious tolerant institution in Nigeria.

Meanwhile, the Director of UNILORIN Health Services, Dr. Rasheed Odunola, who identified fasting as a non-pharmaceutical method of treating some illnesses such as obesity, and diabetes, among others, encouraged Nigerians to observe fasting occasionally.

According to Dr. Odunola, "If people can fast between 12 to 16 hours daily, most illnesses will evade that person in terms of the weariness of the dead cells. It will not grow very well and abnormal cells will not even grow well. This abnormal cell has been identified to be the major cause of illness.

The Medical Director, who is also a Member of the University Governing Council, explained that intermittent fasting helps the human body to exhaust sugar stores and start running fats, adding that it boosts human memory and reduces tissue damage in surgery, and improves the result.

On her part, Dr. Rafiat Oyekunle of the Department of Information and Communication Science (ICS), Faculty of Communication and Information Sciences urged Muslim parents, especially mothers to learn to be patient with their husbands and children as demonstrated during the Ramadan.

Dr. Oyekunle, who explained that the



■ **Prof. Abdus-Salam**

30 days Ramadan period was a tutorial for Muslims, also enjoined every Muslim faithful to sustain all the virtues learned and practised during Ramadan after the season has gone.

Also speaking with the **UNILORIN BULLETIN**, a Lecturer at the Computer Science Department, University of Ilorin, Dr. Modinat Abolore Mabayoje, appealed to parents not to allow the society to teach their children bad ways of life.

She enjoined the parents to fulfill their parental responsibilities by always counseling their children on right and wrong as stated by religion and society.

Dr. Mabayoje, who hinged her point on the popular saying that charity begins at home, lamented that the spike in the rate of immorality being witnessed in the Nigerian society today emanated from the family setting and was compounded by the government.

UNILORIN to partner KwaraTV in human capital development

(Contd. from front page)

Prof. Abdulkareem further remarked that the relationship will give the institution the opportunity to periodically invite seasoned staff of the TV Station as resource persons to mentor its Mass Communication students.

Earlier in his remarks, the Chairman of the Kwara Television Authority Board, Alhaji Hameed Adio, extolled the virtues of

the University, which he recalled was established in 1975 and has through the years produced first class brains who have excelled in both character and learning and have continued making waves in their different callings across the globe.

Alhaji Adio pledged the station's readiness to accept the students of the University who are willing to undergo their mandatory industrial training in the station,

a position re-echoed by the General Manager, Mr. Michaels Olatunde.

The Board Chairman commended the management of the University for expanding the frontiers of the youth development programme beyond the realm of academics by focusing on the total all-round development of the students through active participation in Sports.

The former Nigerian Olympic captain recalled that UNILORIN has for five consecutive years hosted the National Youth Games, which featured youths drawn from the 36 States and the FCT who competed in different sporting events in an atmosphere that fostered friendship, understanding and national unity.

Alhaji Adio observed that this gesture perhaps accounted for one of the numerous reasons why the institution prides itself as the "Better by far University".

The Vice-Chancellor was joined in receiving the KwaraTV Board members by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Sylvia O. Malomo..



■ **Prof. Abdulkareem (3rd right), Prof. Malomo (2nd Left), Alhaji Adio (3rd left), and other members of the KwaraTV team during the visit**