



Unilorin unveils plan for Science and Tech Park

By Tajudeen Babamale

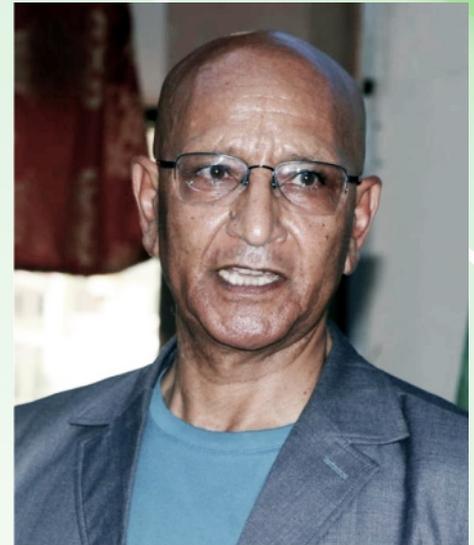
The University of Ilorin is advancing plans to establish a Science and Technology Park that aims to promote innovative ideas, attract global talents, and foster stronger collaborations among the academia, industry, and government.

This strategic initiative was announced last Tuesday (April 22, 2025) during a high-level meeting at the University Auditorium chaired by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN.

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■ Prof. Egbewole



■ Prof. Kitaw

Opay, UNILORIN sign N60m MoU to support indigent students

By Tajudeen Babamale

In a move aimed at promoting access to education by underprivileged students, a fintech and mobile money service provider, Opay, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of Ilorin to provide scholarship support of N60 million for intelligent but indigent

students over a period of 10 years.

The MoU, which is for the company to sponsor 20 students annually, with each beneficiary receiving N300,000 to support their educational pursuits, was signed penultimate Wednesday (April 16, 2025) at a meeting held at the Vice Chancellor's Committee Room.

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■ Prof. Egbewole (left) and Opay's Public Affairs Officer, Mr Zhang(right), during the MoU signing

Olawumi tasks Nigerians on regular, voluntary blood donation

By Abubakar Imam

Former Head of the Department of Haematology, University of Ilorin, Prof. Hannah Oluwayemisi Olawumi, has encouraged Nigerians to cultivate the habit of regular blood donation in order to save lives as she described those who donate blood voluntarily as heroes.

Prof. Olawumi gave this advice last Thursday (April 24, 2025) while delivering the 279th Inaugural Lecture of the University, entitled "Heroes without Capes: The Life-Saving Power of Blood Sacrifice", at the institution's Auditorium.

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■ Prof. Olawumi

2001 Medical alumni commend UNILORIN on academic standards

By *Tajudeen Babamale*

The Global President of the 2001 set of the University of Ilorin Medical graduates, Prof. Abidemi Omonisi, has commended the University's successive administrations on upholding academic and professional standards that continue to produce globally competitive medical graduates.

Prof. Omonisi, who gave the commendation during a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor last Tuesday (April 22, 2025), noted that members of the 2001 graduating class from the College of Health Sciences are making waves in leading medical institutions in the United States, the United Kingdom, and other parts of the world.

Prof. Omonisi, who is also the President of the Nigerian Cancer Society, announced that several members of the 2001 class, many of whom are now established professionals in medicine and academia, are ready to support the University through various interventions.

He said, "Some of us in academia, both in Nigeria and outside the country, are willing to partner with the University to be part of the Faculty on a pro bono basis. Some classmates in the UK and US are eager to come and contribute their quota to teaching the medical students of the University. There are many of our classmates who are very experienced in grantsmanship. They are willing to collaborate with the University and Faculty members. Three former students who are now top oncologists in the United States of America are coming to strengthen the field of oncology in the College."

The alumni leader also unveiled plans for a robust staff and student exchange programme aimed at exposing students to international best practices. He explained that "for the exchange programme for staff and students, we believe that instead of final-year students taking some elective courses, it would be beneficial for them to use that period for international exposure. I belong to many international organisations and I am part of the contract staff at Mayo Clinic in the United States. I also sit on two boards at Mayo. What we have done in this group is to create a platform for medical students to engage internationally. Luckily, one of the 500-level students of the University of Ilorin College of Health Sciences has been selected to join us in South Africa, where students from various countries will converge. We believe that kind of exposure will greatly benefit the medical students. We also want to extend the opportunity to



the University staff as well".

Speaking as the President of the Nigerian Cancer Society, Prof. Omonisi reiterated the need for increased attention to cancer prevention and early detection. He noted that while most university health centres offer general screening services, cancer screening is often not prioritised.

He, however, advocated the integration of cancer screening into regular healthcare services provided by the university, noting the importance of early detection, particularly in the case of cervical cancer, which typically gives a warning period of up to ten years.

The Anatomic Pathologist with special interest in Cancer Epidemiology and Molecular Pathology lamented the preventable loss of lives to cancer, especially among academics. He, thereby, called on the authority of the University of Ilorin to blaze the trail in this initiative as they have always been doing.

He used the meeting to announce that the National Executive Council of the Nigerian Cancer Society has approved the appointment of the Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Prof. Biodun Sulyman Alabi, as a member of its Board of Trustees, acknowledging the College's growing influence in national health policy advocacy.

In his response, the Vice Chancellor, expressed strong support for the alumni's initiatives and reaffirmed the Administration's commitment to formalising and facilitating such collaborations.

While praising the alumni's dedication, the Vice Chancellor underscored the value of international exposure for students, noting that real-world experience significantly shapes the lives and careers of young professionals.

Prof. Egbewole also commended

members of the 2001 class for their consistent engagement with the University and encouraged them to make a significant impact during their 25th anniversary celebrations, which will coincide with the University's 50th anniversary. He noted that the University's alumni remain its greatest asset and called on other alumni sets to emulate the example of the 2001 Medical class.

Referencing the remarkable progress recorded in the Faculty of Law through alumni intervention, the Vice Chancellor expressed optimism that similar outcomes could be achieved across other Faculties, including Engineering and Agriculture, with the support of dedicated alumni.

Touching on the issue of cancer, the Vice Chancellor called on medical experts, especially members of the Nigerian Cancer Society, to intensify efforts towards finding more permanent solutions to the disease.

While acknowledging that modern medicine has made significant strides in early detection and management, Prof. Egbewole expressed concern over the physical and emotional toll that treatments such as chemotherapy can take on patients. He urged the medical community to look beyond treatment toward more sustainable solutions that would significantly reduce cancer mortality rates.

Also at the meeting were the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Technology and Innovation), Prof. Muhtar Adeiza Etudaiye; the Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Prof. Biodun Sulyman Alabi; and the Dean, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, Prof. Lukman Olajide Abdur-rahman, among



Unilorin unveils plan for Science and Tech Park

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The meeting, which was attended by the Principal Officers, the Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Deans, and Directors, deliberated on the modalities for the establishment of the Park.

In his address, the Vice Chancellor said that the most sought-after University in Nigeria needs a Science and Technology Park to encourage innovative ideas, attract talents from across the globe and foster strong partnership among the University, industries and government.

Prof. Egbewole, who disclosed that efforts are underway to provide essential infrastructure at the proposed site, including electricity supply and road construction, said that the University's Department of Architecture is expected to contribute to the planning and design phase of the Park.

He further said that the anticipated Science and Technology Park is envisioned as a potential revenue-generating venture, especially within the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and ECOWAS trade provisions, which may offer significant advantages to such an initiative.

In a presentation, entitled "Establishment of a Science and Technology Park in Ilorin, Nigeria: Fostering Innovation and Economic

Growth", a distinguished scholar from the School of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at the Addis Ababa Institute of Technology, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, Prof. Daniel Kitaw, outlined an ambitious vision to transform the University of Ilorin into a hub of technological innovation and economic development.

Prof. Kitaw, who is currently a visiting scholar at the University of Ilorin, described the proposed Science, Technology, and Innovation Park (STIP) as a transformative initiative aimed at converting academic research into commercially viable products and services.

While speaking on a proposed strategic model based on global best practices, Prof. Kitaw, who is also the President of AfricaLics Scientific Board, proposed a hybrid model tailored to Nigeria's socio-economic context.

He said that the Park would integrate elements of South Korea's reverse engineering and SME-focused industrial growth, Egypt's startup incubation and talent development strategies, Japan's sustainability-centered development frameworks, China's supply chain integration and infrastructure, and Turkey's model of university-industry collaboration. He added that these models will not only benefit the University of Ilorin but will also help Nigeria leverage its human and material resources for long-term, sustainable development.

According to Prof. Kitaw, "The

proposed STIP will encompass Techno-Parks, Science Parks, and Incubation Parks, each serving as a foundation for fostering creativity, competitiveness, and technological advancement. These facilities will nurture startups, promote innovation-based companies through spin-offs and incubators, and offer high-quality space and services needed for cutting-edge research and development".

He said that the target sectors of the Park include manufacturing, agriculture, and Information and Communications Technology (ICT), areas deemed critical to Nigeria's economic diversification and industrial growth.

Prof. Kitaw expressed confidence that the establishment of the STIP, if successful, would elevate the University of Ilorin to the status of a fully entrepreneurial university, one that promotes a culture of innovation, encourages student and staff entrepreneurship, and provides an enabling environment for business incubation and commercialisation of research.

To bring the vision to life, Prof. Kitaw identified several potential funding avenues which include Government Funding, Private Sector Investments, International Grants and Partnerships, and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP).

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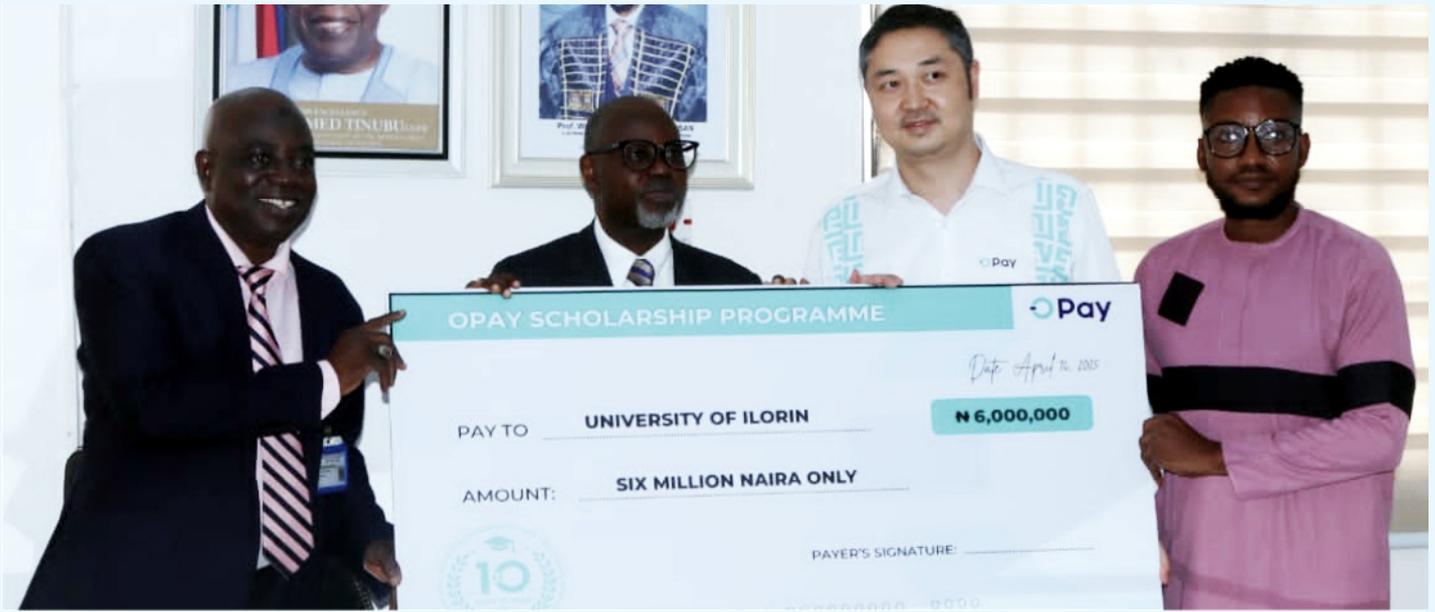
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Vice Chancellor

Host:
Prof. Alafara Abdullahi BABA
FCSN, FMSN, MTMS (USA)
DEAN, FACULTY OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Guest Lecturer:
Dr. Matthew Olumide ADEPOJU
Director General/Chief Executive,
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Opay, UNILORIN sign N60m MoU to support indigent students

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Speaking during the meeting, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, expressed appreciation to Opay for selecting the University of Ilorin as a key partner in its corporate social responsibility initiative, describing it as a strategic intervention that aligns with the University's core values and mission to provide access to quality education.

Prof. Egbewole assured Opay of the institution's commitment to nurturing and sustaining the partnership, saying that UNILORIN, as the most sought-after University in Nigeria, remains open to productive collaborations. He explained that the University plans to deepen the relationship further by involving Opay in some of its major initiatives, especially, the forthcoming 50th anniversary celebration.

The Vice Chancellor also used the meeting to introduce the U-Inspire project, an initiative that offers students an additional certificate by connecting them directly with industries to gain practical exposure. He said that Opay's involvement in this scheme would enrich students' understanding of current technologies and business practices in the fintech sector.

Prof. Egbewole also shared plans to develop an Innovation Hub on a five-hectare land identified for the project on the campus. He explained that the hub is envisioned to include a science laboratory and technology park that will provide companies with the opportunity to establish a presence on campus. He added that the setup would enable students to gain firsthand industry experience, thereby bridging the gap between academic knowledge and

practical application.

While addressing concerns about transparency in the selection of scholarship beneficiaries, the Vice Chancellor explained that the University has a well-established system that has been in operation for over two decades. He said, "In this University, for more than 20 years, we have created a column for scholars, that is, students who are the best in their various Departments. We have the best scholar in each Faculty, we have the best scholar in each department and of course the best student in each programme. With this, selecting the beneficiary is going to be a lot easier".

On the broader role of private organisations in supporting education, Prof. Egbewole commended Opay for its efforts in easing the financial burden on students. He highlighted the importance of such support, noting that it can significantly reduce the struggles many students face, including food insecurity and data costs, among others. He described the N300, 000 yearly scholarship per student as a meaningful contribution that should be applauded and encouraged.

Prof. Egbewole further observed that Opay's philanthropic gesture aligns perfectly with the University's vision of becoming an international centre of excellence through active collaboration with the industry.

The Vice Chancellor added that the new partnership with Opay brings the number of industry collaborators with the University to 20, as the institution continues to expand its engagement with corporate bodies in order to create more opportunities for its students.

Earlier in his remarks, the Chief Public Affairs Officer of Opay, Mr Justin Zhang, said that the company, which is a trusted financial technology institution with a widely used mobile application, serves a predominantly youthful customer base. He noted that this demographic focus has inspired the company to direct its corporate social

responsibility (CSR) efforts towards supporting young Nigerians in tertiary institutions across the country.

Mr Zhang stated that Opay is particularly interested in empowering smart, ambitious, and passionate students who may lack the financial resources to complete their education. According to him, the scholarship programme was launched last year as part of the company's broader mission to bridge the gap between talent and opportunity.

He pointed out that Opay is entering into a formal agreement with the University to sponsor 20 students annually, with each beneficiary receiving N300, 000 to support their educational pursuits. He said that the initiative was designed to create a consistent support system that will alleviate financial burdens and allow students to focus on their academic and personal development.

Mr Zhang explained that Opay's decision to commit to a decade-long partnership with the University of Ilorin underscores the company's confidence in the institution's values and operational integrity. He also hinted at the possibility of upward reviews of the scholarship amount in the future, taking into account prevailing economic realities. He noted that this is to ensure that students continue to receive meaningful support that addresses their core academic and living expenses.

The Vice Chancellor was joined at the MoU signing ceremony by the Registrar, Mr Mansur Adeleke Alfa and the Ag. Director of Legal Unit, Mrs Faridah Fumilayo Sheriff. They were joined by the CSR Project Manager of Opay, Mr Ito Udo.

Olawumi tasks Nigerians on regular, voluntary blood donation

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The renowned medical scholar explained that blood donation is not only essential for the survival of those who are suffering from life-threatening illnesses and the injured but also has positive effects on the health of the donors.

The Inaugural Lecturer said in every two minutes someone around the world needs blood, which makes him or her to depend on the kindness of strangers for survival, hence, the description of such voluntary donors as heroes.

Prof. Olawumi, who described blood as an essential ingredient for medical treatments, explained that it is often unfortunately in short supply, especially for some categories of patients.

She added that transfusion of blood and blood products help in saving millions of lives each year, enhance life expectancy and improve the quality of life for patients facing life-threatening conditions.

Prof. Olawumi, who is an expert in blood transfusion, said that it is unfortunate that Nigeria has not been able to meet its minimum blood requirements as stated by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

She noted that Nigeria only boasts of about 1.2 million units of donated blood annually against two million units it requires for efficient health care delivery.

Prof. Olawumi noted that 5 per cent of the total blood donated in Nigeria comes from voluntary donors while the rest is sourced from commercial and family replacement donors.

Against the backdrop of unfounded fear being peddled in some quarters, Prof. Olawumi explained that donation of blood by healthy individuals have no negative effects whatsoever on them.

She said that even in the process of blood donation some illnesses hitherto unknown to the carriers are often discovered by experts who will then encourage such individuals to seek help.

In order to encourage the act of voluntary blood donation, the Inaugural Lecturer charged national health authorities to facilitate the establishment of well-coordinated blood programmes backed by appropriate legislations.

She added that sufficient funds should also be provided for more intensive



■ **Prof. Olawumi (left) presenting the Lecture notes to the Vice Chancellor (right) last Thursday**

advocacy that would be targeted at the encouragement of voluntary blood donation among the populace.

Prof. Olawumi said that more intense advocacy specifically aimed at youths, promotion of peer education and motivation, and the broadening of the educational curriculum should be embarked upon to instill a sense of civic responsibility at a young age so as to catalyse increase in voluntary blood donation among youths in Nigeria.

Drawing from her over three decades of experience, Prof. Olawumi pointed out that specific and focused capacity-building initiatives should also be introduced to foster a paradigm shift in the attitude of hospital staff, particularly those in the blood bank, towards their work.

She noted that the attitude of some of the staff in blood banks often discourage people from donating, saying that those who will donate needed to be encouraged and stimulated to do so.

Relying on statistics that show poor level of desire for blood donation among women, the Inaugural Lecturer said female-targeted donor education and awareness programmes should also be implemented in Nigeria to enhance women's participation in blood donation.

She also suggested that the National Orientation Agency (NOA)

should engage in donor education and advocacy to alleviate fears and dispel myths about blood donation among Nigerian men and women of all ages.

Prof. Olawumi also said that donor selection criteria should be periodically reviewed to ensure that there is no discrimination of any kind, including gender, race, nationality, or religion, and to prevent the unnecessary deferral of suitable donors.

She equally encouraged the sustenance of more efforts that would be focused on encouraging interested individuals to become regular voluntary donors, thereby improving and sustaining the blood supply in our blood banks.

The Inaugural Lecturer, who noted that but for the insistence of her father she would have pursued a different professional calling other than Medicine, encouraged parents to always give their children close monitoring.

She said that children, particularly those who are in primary and secondary schools, require greater counseling for them to have an enviable future.

The Inaugural Lecture, which was presided over by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, was well attended by relations, friends, students and colleagues of Prof. Olawumi from far and near.

We are proud to associate with KAM Holdings – Egbewole

By Tajudeen Babamale

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has described KAM Holdings Limited as a beacon of industrial excellence in Nigeria, stating that the University Council and Management are proud to be associated with the country's largest wholly indigenous metal and steel production company.

Prof. Egbewole stated this last Wednesday (April 23, 2025), when he led members of the University Management on a visit to the company's headquarters in Ilorin. The University's management team and a visiting scholar from Ethiopia University, Prof. Daniel Kitaw, were at the KAM Holdings head office to explore avenues for deeper academia-industry synergy.

While speaking on the importance of the visit, the Vice Chancellor said that the visiting scholar requested to familiarise himself with industrial operations in the state as part of an ongoing efforts to foster innovation-driven collaboration.

"I brought Prof. Kitaw here to witness firsthand the scale and sophistication of operations at KAM Holdings", Prof. Egbewole said, adding that "the idea is for him to take this story back to his country and to contribute to our shared vision of establishing technology parks. Our hope is to someday have KAM Holdings replicate its operations on our campus, thereby giving our students and researchers real-time access to industrial processes."

Prof. Egbewole expressed appreciation to the management of KAM Holdings Ltd for their warm reception and continued support of the University's developmental initiatives, noting the need to further institutionalise partnerships that would benefit students, staff, and the broader economy.

While stating that KAM Holdings has become a household name not only in Kwara State but also across North Central Nigeria and the entire country, the Vice Chancellor further proposed an expansion of the current partnership between the two institutions. He said, "Beyond the existing SIWES programme and employing graduates of the University, we are keen on co-developing a curriculum that will allow our students to gain hands-on training right here at KAM Holdings. This would ensure they graduate not only with theoretical knowledge but with practical experience that aligns with industry standards."

In his own remarks, Kitaw, who



■ **The Executive Director Corporate Services, KAM Holdings, Mr Awojobi (right), briefing the UNILORIN visitors**

is a Professor of Industrial Engineering (IE) at Addis Ababa Institute of Technology (AAiT), Addis Ababa University (AAU), Ethiopia, said that the visit to Kam Holdings Limited was driven by a keen interest in exploring the industrial capacities available in Ilorin and assessing how they could contribute meaningfully to the realisation of UNILORIN's proposed Innovation Hub.

Prof. Kitaw, who is also the President of AfricaLics, noted that Nigeria and indeed the entire African continent, are currently navigating a period of intense global competition, which demands a higher level of innovation and stronger collaboration between academia, industry, and government.

According to him, the innovation project being championed by UNILORIN is not intended to serve only the University community or the city of Ilorin, but is envisioned as a pan-African initiative that will drive technological advancement and economic transformation across the continent. He added that the proposed Innovation Hub will be the first of its kind in Africa, with the potential to position Nigeria as a hub for industrial-academic synergy and innovation leadership.

While welcoming the UNILORIN team to KAM Holdings headquarters, the Executive Director, Corporate Services of the Company, Mr Kola Awojobi, reiterated the company's commitment to working closely with the University of Ilorin and described the institution as a vital stakeholder in the company's growth.

Mr Awojobi noted that it has long been the policy of KAM Holdings to identify and recruit bright graduates from the University into its workforce, a model inspired by best practices from Italy, where the Company maintains strategic

international relationships. He affirmed that the University has consistently produced highly competent graduates who have contributed significantly to the company's success.

The Executive Director assured the visiting team that KAM Holdings would continue to serve as a willing partner in progress, particularly in initiatives that promote education, research, and industrial advancement. He also expressed optimism that the proposed Innovation Hub would open new frontiers for both institutions and the broader society.

On the entourage of the Vice Chancellor were the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Management Services), Prof. Adegboyega Adisa Fawole; the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Technology and Innovation), Prof. Muhtar Adeiza Etudaiye; the Registrar, Mr Mansur Adeleke Alfanla; the University Bursar, Mr Abiodun Lawal; the University Librarian, Prof. Kamaldeen Tunde Omopupa; the Deputy Director, Blue and Regenerative Economy, Dr Suleiman Abimbola Yahaya, and a staff of the Centre for International Education, Mr Lukman Ajibade.

The KAM Holdings team that received the University of Ilorin contingent include the Executive Director, Legal Matters, Mr Olumide Abdulkareem; the GRP Head, Internal Audit, Mr Adebayo Idowu; the General Manager, Treasury, Mr Steven Odeyemi; the General Manager, Corporate Services, Mr Abdulfattah Adeyemi; the General Manager, Tax Matters, Mr Bisi Ibuoye; the DGM, Foreign Procurement, Mrs Abosede Owoye; and the DEP Plant Head, Mr Hari Kundu.

Encomiums, as CoPD honours ex-DVC, Provost, Deans

By Tajudeen Babamale

The Committee of Provost and Deans (CoPD) of the University of Ilorin has held a warm and reflective get-together luncheon to celebrate former members, including the immediate past Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Provost, and Deans, in recognition and appreciation of their invaluable contributions to the institution's continued growth and stability.

The event, which was held at the Auditorium Basement of the University last Wednesday (April 23, 2025), was attended by top academic and administrative officials.

In his remarks at the



get-together, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, congratulated the Committee of Provosts and Deans for organising the event and for recognising the importance of celebrating their former members. He described the gesture as thoughtful and commendable because it reinforced the University's culture of appreciation and continuity.

Prof. Egbewole appreciated all former University leaders for the services rendered, stating that their efforts have been instrumental to sustaining the University's glowing record of success.

Specifically, the Vice Chancellor applauded the immediate past Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olubunmi Abayomi Omotesho, who he praised for his exceptional commitment to his Administration. He said that he placed significant demands on Prof. Omotesho in pursuit of his strategic vision for the University, and commended him for delivering with unwavering dedication and without hesitation.

While acknowledging that although their tenures may have formally ended, he said their vibrancy, experience, and influence remain central to the University's evolving journey, adding that, their roles in shaping the institution's legacy are far from over, as many continue to actively contribute in various other capacities.

In his welcome address, the Chairman, Committee of Provost and Deans (CoPD), Prof. Biodun Sulyman Alabi, extended warm appreciation to former

University leaders, noting that the gathering was a rare opportunity to appreciate colleagues who have made outstanding contributions to the progress of the institution over the years. According to him, the event was not just a social affair but a symbolic expression of collective gratitude towards the former Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Provost, and Deans for their dedication, service, and sacrifices.

While reflecting on his own journey as CoPD Chairman, Prof. Alabi said that he has held the position for two years and four months, during which he has enjoyed a highly cordial and productive relationship with members of the committee. He acknowledged the unity, mutual respect, and shared purpose that have defined their engagements, describing them as essential elements in maintaining a strong academic leadership structure within the University.

Prof. Alabi, who is also the Provost of the College of Health Sciences, took a moment to specially recognise the immediate past Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Omotesho, who he described as a seasoned academic, administrator and a veteran who truly understood the responsibilities of his office and executed them with excellence and integrity.

The CoPD Chairman also appreciated the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Egbewole, for his unwavering support and consistent engagement with the

CoPD. He added that the Vice Chancellor's inclusive and consultative approach has played a crucial role in maintaining peace, fostering collaboration, and driving academic excellence within the University.

On her part, the Chairperson of Welfare Sub-Committee, Prof. Oluyemisi Fawole, acknowledged the immense personal sacrifices made by the honourees during their respective tenures. She noted that their selfless commitment, tireless efforts, and visionary leadership were instrumental to steering the University through various phases of development and transformation.

According to her, these individuals played key roles in shaping policies, managing crises, mentoring future leaders, and building a legacy of stability and progress within the institution.

Speaking on behalf of all honourees, the immediate past Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Omotesho, applauded the Committee of Provosts and Deans (CoPD) for finding them worthy of honour. He described the gesture as deeply humbling and uplifting, adding that it is a privilege to be celebrated alongside distinguished colleagues who have served the University of Ilorin with passion and dedication.

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UNILORIN relaxes penalty for late collection of certificate

By Temitope Omoniyi

The Management of the University of Ilorin has announced a relaxation of the penalty for late collection of certificates.

In a memo dated April 24, 2025, and addressed to all graduates of the University, the Registrar, Mr Mansur Alfanla, declared that the management has decided to suspend the weekly penalty increment of ₦3,000 for a period of six weeks, effective from April 22 to June 2, 2025.

He noted that this followed the review of the “avalanche of appeals from well-meaning individuals, parents, friends as well as some alumni of the University, requesting a review of the weekly penalty of Three Thousand Naira (₦3,000.00) only imposed on graduates who failed to collect their certificates following the deadline of 17th January, 2025.”

Mr Alfanla added that as a responsible institution, the University Management “at its meeting held on



■ **Mr Alfanla**

Tuesday, 22nd April, 2025, deliberated extensively on the appeals and noted that a sum of Thirty-Nine Thousand Naira (₦39,000.00) only was due as additional charge as at Tuesday, 22nd April, 2025.”

He, however, warned that the penalty will be re-activated after a grace of six weeks, which will end on Monday, June

2, 2025.

The University's decision aims to provide relief to graduates who have been unable to collect their certificates due to various reasons.

It will be recalled that the Registrar had in a memo on December 18, 2024, advised all graduates of the University who are yet to collect their certificates to do so on or before Friday, January 17, 2025, failing which a fine of ₦3,000 per week would be imposed on unclaimed certificates after the deadline.

Also in January this year, in a bid to adopt international best practices, the University of Ilorin introduced a courier service for the collection of unclaimed certificates.

The Registrar, stated that this move allows prospective collectors to receive their certificates through courier delivery, a departure from the University's previous policy of not allowing third-party collection.

Encomiums, as CoPD honours ex-DVC, Provost, Deans

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Prof. Omotesho, who has been a member of the Committee as Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Dean of Student Affairs, and Chairperson of the CoPD, noted that his involvement in the very significant committee had given him a unique perspective on the inner workings of the University and helped shape his leadership philosophy.

While acknowledging the Vice Chancellor for granting him the opportunity to serve as Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Omotesho expressed appreciation for the trust and confidence reposed in him during a critical period of institutional development. He also thanked his colleagues across the University system, noting that their cooperation and solidarity made his time in office smooth and impactful.

Prof. Omotesho also used the event to apologise for the many urgent calls and last-minute requests that often come with leadership responsibilities, especially during intense moments of administrative duties. He acknowledged the sacrifices made by

fellow Deans and committee members and thanked them for their understanding and responsiveness, which, he said, enabled the administration to achieve meaningful outcomes.

While describing the role of a Dean as one of the most sensitive and demanding within the university structure, the former Deputy Vice Chancellor noted that the pressures associated with the position are often underestimated, and many officeholders look forward to stepping down once their term ends. Despite these challenges, he observed that the CoPD remains one of the most strategic and influential committees within the University, given its direct involvement with student affairs and academic leadership.

He, however, urged current members of the CoPD to continue supporting the Provost, the committee, and the university system as a whole. He reminded them that their collective role is central to the success of the institution, as the University's primary focus is the students and the CoPD provides the leadership that shapes their academic experience.

The major highlight of the get-together was the presentation of gifts to the

immediate past Deputy Vice Chancellor, the immediate past Provost, Prof. Olanrewaju Timothy Adedoyin, and 17 exited Deans.

The exited Deans are Prof. Moji Taibat Bakare-Odunola, Postgraduate School; Prof. Olabisi Fatimo Adekola, Agriculture; Prof. Oluwole Busayo Akinola, Basic Medical Sciences; Prof. Moshood Abiola Raji, Veterinary Medicine; Prof. Ibraheem Adeola Katibi, Clinical Sciences; Prof. Mudathir Olalere Yusuf, Education; Prof. Kayode John Oyewumi, Physical Sciences; and Prof. Umar Gunu, Management Sciences.

Others are Prof. Hakeem Olanakami Ijaiya, Law; Prof. Ifatokun Paul Ifabiyi, Social Sciences; Prof. Olumuyiwa Ajani Lasode, Engineering and Technology; Prof. Abdullahi Salih Abubakar, Arts; Prof. Oba Toyin Mustapha, Life Science, Prof. Musa Toyin Yakubu, Students' Affairs; Prof. Patricia Folakemi Omojasola, Life Sciences; Dr Nurudeen Akinsola Bello, Environmental Sciences and Dr Sa'ad Toyin Abdullahi, Pharmaceutical Sciences.



VC lauds New Media Team on 2025 National Spokesperson's Award

By Tajudeen Babamale

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has commended the institution's New Media Team for its outstanding performance at the 2025 edition of the National Spokesperson's Award, organised by the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation.

At the second edition of the award ceremony held in Abuja, the University emerged as the Best in Corporate Share of Voice (Social Media). In addition, the University's Social Media Manager, Mr Lukman Temitope Omoniyi, also emerged as a finalist in the Outstanding Spokesperson (Education Sector) category.

The Vice Chancellor, who received the team last Tuesday (April 22, 2025) at the University Council Chamber, at a brief ceremony witnessed by Principal Officers, Provost and Deans, expressed satisfaction with its performance, describing the recognition as a confirmation of the University's growing visibility and impact in the digital communication space.

Prof. Egbewole, noted that the

dual nominations, with one resulting in a win, clearly reflect a high level of national acknowledgment of the team's efforts, He, however, said there is still room for improvement as he encouraged the team to sustain its current momentum and strive to win both categories in future editions.

The Vice Chancellor further praised the team's ability to achieve such a milestone within a relatively short time frame of the constitution of the team, attributing the success to hard work, dedication, and effective teamwork.

While reaffirming the University Management's support for initiatives that would enhance its public relations and communication strategies, the Vice Chancellor charged the team to remain focused, work collaboratively, and continue to serve as a strong arm of the University's Corporate Affairs Unit.

Prof. Egbewole told the Team to "keep up the good work as individuals, as a team, as a unit of the Directorate of Corporate Affairs, and as a key part of the University's public image. Let us continue to cooperate with one another and improve on our efforts for the betterment of our great institution."

Speaking earlier, the Head of the New Media Team, Mr Segun Alabi, expressed deep appreciation to the Vice Chancellor, for his unwavering support towards the growth and success of the University's digital communication initiatives.

Mr Alabi, who is also the Protocol Officer to the Vice Chancellor, acknowledged the instrumental role played by the University leadership since the establishment of the New Media Unit under the Directorate of Corporate Affairs. He noted that the Vice Chancellor's consistent encouragement and responsiveness to the team's needs have significantly contributed to the team's growing achievements and national recognition.

The New Media Team Lead reiterated the team's commitment to sustaining its performance and building on its achievements. He assured the University management that the Team would continue to explore innovative strategies and content-driven communication to further enhance the University of Ilorin's public image and digital footprint.

Present at the presentation were the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Technology and Innovation), Prof. Muhtar Adeiza Etudaiye; the Registrar, Mr Mansur Adeleke Alfanla; the Provost, College of Health Sciences, Prof. Biodun Sulyman Alabi; the Director of Corporate Affairs, Mr Kunle Akogun; Deans of Faculties, the Assistant Coordinator of the New Media Team, Dr Fatai Jimoh and the Team's Photographer, Mr Solomon Adeniji.



Egbewole promises continued collaboration with BATNF ...As 6 young agripreneurs bag N9m grants

By Adewole Muizdeen

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab O lasupo Egbewole, SAN, has promised continued collaboration with the British American Tobacco Nigeria Foundation (BATNF).

Prof. Egbewole made this promise penultimate Monday (April 14, 2025) while declaring open the Final Pitching for Cohort 2 Graduate Agripreneur Programme organised by the BATNF in collaboration with the University of Ilorin.

At the end of the exercise, the General Manager of BATNF, Mr Oludare Odusanya, announced the award of a total grant of ₦9,000,000 to six young agricultural entrepreneurs,

The beneficiaries are: Iliyas Elijah, Uthman Oladipo, Cynthia Olorunmaiye, Abdullahi Hanif Ayomide, Aliu Abdulbaasit Olamilekan, and John Olumide Adeyemi.

The Vice Chancellor, who emphasised the significance of collaboration for mutual progress and development, said that this position aligns with BATNF's vision for sustainable development as he explained that the partnership could yield significant benefits for Nigeria.

Prof. Egbewole congratulated the lucky students and charged them to

utilise the funds judiciously.

While noting that only six of the ten finalists would receive grants, the Vice Chancellor urged the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture to explore ways to support those who wouldn't secure funding.

In his remarks, the General Manager of the British American Tobacco Nigeria Foundation (BATNF), Mr Oludare Odusanya, affirmed that the work of the Foundation centered around improving the lives of Nigerians, particularly in rural areas, through sustainable agriculture, youth empowerment, and community development initiatives.

He, therefore, advised the participants not to be nervous or pressured, noting that his team was there to support the selected individuals through every possible means.

Also speaking, the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Prof. Oluyemisi Bolajoko Fawole, commended the British American Tobacco Nigeria Foundation's commitment to empowering young agripreneurs. She expressed honour in partnering with them to shape Nigeria's agricultural future.

Prof. Fawole acknowledged the foundation laid by the University's partnership with the British American Tobacco Nigeria Foundation (BATNF) last year, noting that the University is thrilled to see this initiative scale up.

Prof. Fawole affirmed that the

collaboration underscores the commitment of the two partners to nurturing the next generation of agricultural leaders and driving progress in Nigeria's agricultural sector.

The Dean pointed out that seeing her students and young agricultural entrepreneurs receive necessary support that would enable them to thrive, gives her so much joy. She said that the grant would undoubtedly boost their innovative ventures, driving growth and development in Nigeria's agricultural sector.

Prof. Fawole expressed profound gratitude to the university management, led by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Wahab O lasupo Egbewole, SAN, for fostering a dynamic environment that catalyses diverse development initiatives.

This sentiment, according to her, underscores the University's commitment to innovation and progress under Prof. Egbewole's leadership.

The event that was coordinated by Prof. Foluke Sola-Ojo, was witnessed by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Management Services), Prof. Adegboyega Adisa Fawole; the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Technology and Innovation), Prof. Mukhtar Etudaiye; the Registrar, Mr Mansur Adeleke Alfanla; and the Bursar, Mr Abiodun Lawal.



Agric students host maiden 'Ipate Oja' fair

By Isaac Lewu

The Nigerian Association of Agricultural Students (NAAS), University of Ilorin Chapter, has held the maiden edition of a market exhibition, tagged "Ipate Oja" (Display of Market.)

The event, held last Tuesday (April 22, 2025) at the premises of the Faculty of Agriculture, brought together student vendors from across different Faculties who showcased and sold a wide variety of goods ranging from accessories and clothing to snacks and local delicacies.

The initiative was made open to both students and non-students alike,

with the aim of promoting inclusivity and economic collaboration.

The Vice President of the Faculty Students' Association, Miss Bello Musana, a 400 level student of Home Economics and Food Science, told *UNILORIN Bulletin* that the programme was inspired by the need to create internal opportunities for student business owners.

Musana, popularly known as Modesty, said, "Pate Oja was borne out of a desire to do more for our students. As the Faculty's Vice President, I believe it was time for us to support our entrepreneurs too. This fair allows them to showcase their businesses, expand their customer base, and grow in confidence."

She expressed gratitude to the

University Management for the support received so far and appealed for greater involvement in future editions.

The initiative was a collective effort by the NAAS Executive Council. The President of the Association, Sherif Mayowa, a 500 level student of Agricultural Economics, played a pivotal role in the planning and execution of the event.

Also speaking with *UNILORIN Bulletin*, the Association's Staff Adviser, Prof. Fatima Olabisi Adekola of the Department of Agronomy, noted that the event has not only made a strong statement but it has also set a promising precedent for student-led entrepreneurship on campus.

'Let's embrace AI integration as a strategic necessity'

By Abubakar Abdulquadri

The Acting Head of the Department of Information Technology, University of Ilorin, Dr M.O. Oloyede, has urged students and staff to embrace AI integration as a strategic necessity to help the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Egbewole, SAN, achieve his Vision 1:10:500 and gain global recognition.

Dr Oloyede gave this advice last Tuesday (April 22, 2025) in a chat with *UNILORIN Bulletin* in his office.

He noted that the University Management has introduced a visionary initiative, and Artificial Intelligence (AI)



■ Dr. O. Oloyede

can play a critical role in helping the University achieve its vision to be the first

university in Nigeria, rank among the top 10 universities in Africa and among the top 500 in the world.

Dr Oloyede said, "Achieving this goal demands innovation, efficiency, and global competitiveness, all of which AI can support", adding that "in academics, AI can drive smart teaching and learning by personalising the educational experience, enhancing student outcomes, and accelerating research through intelligent data analysis and simulation tools. With AI-powered platforms, lecturers can deliver content more efficiently and interactively, while students benefit from tailored academic support and real-time feedback."

9 UNILORIN students, others win N5m TEC-ASBE empowerment grants

By Mustafa Abubakar

Not fewer than nine students of the University of Ilorin have won the 2024 Technical and Entrepreneurship Centre (TEC)-African Support Bureau for Entrepreneurship (ASBE) University of Ilorin Students Empowerment Prize (USEP).

The students, who competed in various skills alongside students from other ASBE affiliated institutions, won various grants to improve their skills and enhance their production. Skills such as spoken words, music, innovation idea, search engine optimisation, website design, voice artistry, and plantain chips production,

among others were showcased by the students.

In a chat with **UNILORIN Bulletin**, the International Coordinator of the University of Ilorin TEC-ASBE, Prof. Foluke E. Sola-Ojo, said that a total sum of N5,000,000 was shared to winners under USEP according to the prize categories won by students of the University and four other ASBE affiliated institutions.

Prof. Sola-Ojo appreciated the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, and his management team for their support for the programme. She also thanked Meristem Securities Limited as well as individual donors that supported the programme. She promised that TEC-ASBE team will continue to support the students through coaching and mentoring for better opportunities in the future.

In separate interviews on their experiences and what they used the first tranche of the grant for, the student beneficiaries appreciated the University management and TEC-ASBE initiator; especially the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, for the opportunity given to them and promised not to disappoint.

Miss Olowa Dorcas, a 300 level student of Agriculture and a plantain chip producer, who came first in the Scale up competition and won a sum of N1



million, said that she never knew she could make it, as the process of selection was rigorous and very demanding.

"I started with firewood to fry plantain, and now I am a proud owner of gas cooker and its accessories. I thank God and UNILORIN TEC-ASBE organisers for taking me out of the low class to higher one. It will help me to get more customers and supply timely. I will also have opportunity to train more plantain chips producers, and the grant will also assist me to use the proceeds to support my mummy", she said.

Also, in her remarks, Miss Mercy Adebayo, a 300-level student of the Department of Microbiology, who took the 2nd runner-up position in the Talent Hunt category and also won N100,000, said, "This grant has really helped me. My involvement in the competition has changed my mind set. My hope is that with the grant, I shall gain more and see myself at a bigger place in the future", she added.

Two Musical Artists students, Folorunsho Moyosoreoluwa Arinola, a 400 level student of Science Education, and Oloto Abdulhafeed Eniola, a 300 level student, of Science Education who jointly won the sum of N500,000 in the Talent Hunt category, disclosed that since their stage performances during the competitions, they have received several invitation for stage performances in other events within the University and outside."

Ariseloye Micheal Oreofe, a 300

level student of the Faculty of Agriculture, who won the sum of N250,000 as the 1st runner up of Talent Hunt category, said that TEC/ASBE has really given him the courage and hope to continue. He expressed the belief that it is just the beginning of his success story as a musical artist.

Pelumi Barnabas, a 300 level student of the Department of Criminology and Security Studies, won the sum of N750,000 for his innovative ideas on Campus Securities; Abdurahman, a 300 level student of Pharmacy, won N500,000 for his search engine optimisation and website design; while Akorede Yaseerah, a 300 level student of Veterinary Medicine won the sum of N100,000 as consolation prize for her voice artistry.

The winners encouraged other students to keep trying their God's given talents and not to lose hope in their dreams. They said, "For us TEC-ASBE has really tried to bring us out and put us on National radar, and we shall continue from here to go places with the UNILORIN TEC-ASBE as the bridge and supporter of our success stories."

Among those that witnessed the event were the Director of the TEC, Prof. Usman Adebimpe Raheem, represented by Mr Tolulope Afuye and the Centre's Secretary, Mr Abdulkareem Idris Olawoyin.



Akogun encourages Agric Extension students to explore journalism opportunities

By Isaac Lewu

The Director of Corporate Affairs, University of Ilorin, Mr Kunle Akogun, has urged students of the Department of Agricultural Extension to take advantage of the vast opportunities available in Agricultural Journalism.

Speaking during an excursion by 500-level Agricultural Extension students to the Directorate last Wednesday (April 23, 2025), Mr Akogun described the Department as one with large latitude of opportunities, emphasising the nation's reliance on agricultural self-sustenance and the role of effective communication in achieving it.

The Director also advised students with interest in journalism to pursue additional qualifications bordering on professional certification, to facilitate their seamless integration and growth in the profession. "Passion is good, but knowledge and certification help you go farther in the field," he said.

Akogun further revealed that the Directorate is currently in the process of repositioning *UNILORIN FM* with plans to foster stronger collaborations with various

Departments and Faculties across the University. He added that the station is working towards a model where each Department will have its own dedicated programme on the radio. This will not only enhance communication within the University but also give students a platform to showcase their knowledge and engage the wider public in their fields of study.

Also speaking during the visit, the Station Manager of *UNILORIN FM 89.3*, Mr Idris Akintola Ibrahim (Alooma), described the visiting students as among the lucky ones in the University who have a clear career path that intersects with multiple industries.

He highlighted the flexibility of the journalism profession, noting that many successful journalists were not formally trained in the field, but are currently making waves due to their interest and ability to tell compelling stories.

Mr Ibrahim, who, has won numerous awards for his work, emphasised the importance of relevance in education, adding that any certificate that doesn't solve real-world problems is not worth it.

He encouraged students to see Agricultural journalism as a field full of potentials, pointing out that students from the Agricultural Extension Department

could become Agric programme producers, presenters, or even online journalists.

The lecturer in-charge of Agricultural Journalism, Prof. Oluwasegun Adekunle, who led the students to the Directorate of Corporate Affairs, said that the excursion was aimed at giving the students practical insights into media practice.

Prof. Adekunle expressed satisfaction with the experience, stating that such practical engagements are vital for exposing students to the realities of the profession.

He reaffirmed the need for agricultural extension students to embrace the media as a powerful tool for rural development and agricultural transformation.

The students were later conducted round the *UNILORIN FM* studio, where they observed live broadcast sessions and interacted with media professionals.

Also in attendance were the Head of the Marketing Unit, Mrs Mary Kolawole and the Head of Programmes *UNILORIN FM 89.3*, Mr Temitope Adewuyi.

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4 UNILORIN students shine at World Varsity Games

By **Mustafa Abubakar**

Four students of the University of Ilorin, Mustapha Ruqoyat Kemi; Aina Precious; Abdullahi Abdulazeez; and Ilaboya Alaba, have made the University proud again by winning 4 Gold, 3 Silver, and Bronze medals, respectively in the just concluded World University Games trials, held at the University of Jos.

During the competition that was held between April 6 and April 11, 2025, Mustapha Ruqoyat Kemi, won Gold Medals in Discus Women and Shot Put Women; Aina Precious, won a gold medal in 100m Men and Bronze in 200m Men; Abdullahi Abdulazeez, won a gold medal in 110m Hurdles men; and Ilaboya Alaba, won silver medals in Javelin

Men, Discus Men and Shot Put Men.

A statement signed by the Director of Sports, University of Ilorin, Prof. T. O. Ibraheem, a copy of which was made available to **UNILORIN Bulletin** disclosed that the UNILORIN contingent comprised of five athletes (3 male and 2 female), two coaches, and a sports administrator. Four athletes participated in athletics; two in the track events (100 meters and 110 meters Hurdles). The other two featured in field events, Short put, Discuss, and Javelin", while the only athlete that featured in Badminton lady single, will be joining others in the final selection for the World University Games later in the year.

Prof. Ibraheem appreciated the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, and the University Management for giving them the opportunity to participate in the trials. He added that the event will afford the University's athletes the opportunity to participate in the World University games in Germany later in the year.

Pointing out that the competition is one of the toughest that UNILORIN ever attended, the Sports Director said, "We have dominated since 2023, and retaining this in 2025 is a deal courtesy of our casual coach, Paul Okporuanefe. We promise to make the University of Ilorin proud at the world level coming up in Germany later this year".

UNILORIN hosts Scout leadership training programme

The year 2025 Wood Badge Programme, a common standard leadership training programme in Scout Associations worldwide, was recently held at the University School, University of Ilorin Main Campus.

Organised by the Scout Association of Nigeria in conjunction with the Kwara State Scout Council, the programme held between April 4 and 11, 2025.

The century-old Wood Badge programme focuses on strengthening leadership skills with emphasis on practical application and team building. It is designed to train matured Scout members to learn how to effectively carry out their scouting roles in their various Scout units such as the Cub Scouts, Scouts etc. The programme imparted the required skills of leadership unto the participants to deliver the quality scouting skills such as Community service, First Aid, Camp craft, Pioneering, Campfire and others in their various Scout units.

The programme had 34 participants



■ **A group of the participants with the HOD Materials & Metallurgical Engineering after the community service in the department**

and 12 facilitators who are Scout Members and they include some UNILORIN staff and students.

Among the Unilorites that attended the programme were the immediate past Dean, Student Affairs, who is also the Kwara State Headquarters Commissioner, International Affairs, Prof. M. T. Yakub; Prof. Y. L. Shuaib-Babata, National Headquarters and Kwara State Headquarters Commissioner in charge of

Programme, who is a former Head of the Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering; and Dr S. A. Bello, National Training Commissioner.

The campfire that usually marks the end of such Scout programme was witnessed by the Ag. Dean, Student Affairs, University of Ilorin, Dr Alex Akanmu; as well as representatives of Unilorin Student Union Executives led by the President, Mr Victor O. Agezeh.

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Alfanla commends Senator Mustapha's philanthropic gestures to UNILORIN

By Temitope Omoniyi

The Registrar of the University of Ilorin, Mr Mansur Alfanla, has commended the Senator representing Kwara Central at the National Assembly, Senator Saliu Mustapha, on his consistent philanthropic gestures towards the University.

Mr Alfanla gave the commendation in his office last Thursday (April 22, 2025) when the Senator redeemed his pledge of ₦1,000,000 to the Nigerian Association of Social Work Students (NASoWS), University of Ilorin Chapter, following its successful hosting of the 11th National Convention and Annual General Meeting between April 9th and 11th 2025.

The Senator, represented by Mr Alabi Abdulkareem, expressed his love for the University and assured it of his continued support.

The Registrar, who thanked Senator Mustapha on behalf of the University Management, expressed the



institution's deep appreciation for the Senator's kindness.

The transfer of the funds to the Association's account was witnessed by several notable individuals, including the Acting Dean of Student Affairs, Dr Alex Akanmu; the Ag Head of the Department of Social Work, Dr. Sunday Abonyi; a Lecturer in the Department of Social Work, Mrs Titilayo Arinde-Simeon; the President of the Student Union, Comrade Victor Agezeh; NASoWS Unilorin Chapter President, Comr.

Gbemi Patrick Abraham; the 11th NASoWS National Convention and AGM Organiser, Adewale Daniel Fashola; the Financial Secretary of the LOC, Mariam Abodunrin; and Banire O. Saleem (LOC Sponsorship Lead II)

The University had previously appreciated Senator Mustapha's fulfillment of a ₦3,000,000 pledge to the Faculty of Physical Sciences in June 2024, as acknowledged in a letter dated 27 December, 2024.

Omopupa tasks students on proper Library usage

By Abubakar Imam

The University Librarian, University of Ilorin, Prof. Kamaldeen Tunde Omopupa, has charged students and staff of the University to always make effective use of the Library facilities to raise their intellectual wherewithal and general exposure to knowledge.

Prof. Omopupa gave this advice last Wednesday (April 25, 2025) while speaking with **UNILORIN Bulletin** in his office.

The University Librarian said that the institution's Main Library and other branch libraries are there to assist students to get proper exposure to their various fields of studies.

He advised students not to wait for examinations before getting themselves prepared ahead as he said that knowledge assimilation is a gradual process.

He noted that available evidence shows that students who use the library effectively often perform far better than those who don't.

Prof. Omopupa, who is a former Head of the Department of Library and Information Sciences, said that any student that doesn't utilise the library would have limited knowledge,



■ **Prof. Omopupa**

saying that the knowledge they acquire from the lecture rooms would be further enhanced when they consult relevant books, journals and other physical and electronic information sources that are readily available in the library.

He noted that the more they visit and use the university libraries the greater their knowledge and the more confident they become to give account of themselves anywhere they may find themselves.

The University Librarian assured the students and other library users of the

readiness of the Library staff to assist them in locating information resources they desired.

He added that the staff of the UNILORIN Library are individuals who are well trained and motivated to discharge their duties with finesse.

Speaking on the available facilities, Prof. Omopupa said that the University Main Library is stocked with relevant books and journals on each of the courses being run by the University. He added that in addition to books and journals and databases, the University Library also has in its stock periodicals that connect the learners to great and accomplished minds in their respective fields.

Prof. Omopupa, who is the eighth head of the Library services of the nation's most sought-after University, added that the Library is also stocked with newspapers and magazines for students and other library users to be kept abreast of unveiling developments in all areas of human endeavour.

He, however, appealed to students and other library users to always ensure careful use of the library materials in the interest of others, saying that they should always remember that if others had mutilated or tampered negatively with those materials they wouldn't be there for them to consult.



UNILORIN WEEKLY FINANCIAL DIGEST

FUND SOURCES AND UTILIZATION REPORT FROM 17TH TO 24TH APRIL 2025

RECEIPTS:	AMOUNT
Academic Transcript	25,500.00
Sundry & Other Fees Student Charges	617,960.00
Sundry Other Incomes	4,551,081.00
Convocation Souvenir	106,000.00
Staff I.D Cards	3,000.00
Income from Verification /Screening	190,000.00
Clinic Registration (Staff)	5,000.00
Capitation NHIS	37,700.00
Disciplinary Fines	10,000.00
Interest on University Housing Loan	88,690.79
Treatment of Non University Patients	1,450.00
Refund	250,000.00
Rent on University Property	46,000.00
Refund (Non Salary)	100,000.00
Refund	1,300,000.00
Insurance Claims/Others	1,622,531.00
Undergraduate School Charges	21,796.00
Undergraduate Transcript Payment	513,000.00
Undergraduate Convocation Charges	240,100.00
Postgraduate School Charges	15,736,540.00
Postgraduate School Transcript Payment	140,000.00
Postgraduate School Application Form	3,675,000.00
Postgraduate Acceptance Payment	800,000.00
Institute of Education School Charges	204,193.40
Institute of Education Application Form	223,200.00
JUPEB School Charges	431,000.00
JUPEB Clearance Charges	201,400.00
Total Receipt for the Period	₦31,141,142.19
PAYMENTS	
PAYMENT TO CONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS:	
Ibadan Electricity Distr. Coy Electricity bill for main Campus, mini campus, COHS etc for march 2025	155,828,925.57
Jafcon Glory Ent. Maintenance of Road	1,328,270.00
Sanrauf Nig Ltd Renovation of Faculty of Basic Medical and Clinical Science	7,324,376.11
OTHER PAYMENTS:	
Various Various i.e DTA, IMPREST, REFUND e.t.c	12,137,781.84
Purchase Advance Various	2,118,500.00
Unilorin Petrol Station Supply of Fuel	6,262,350.00
Unilorin Press Printing Jobs	180,900.00
Total TSA Charges Various	34,077.50
Total payment for the period	₦185,215,181.02

Signed
Abiodun Lawal (FCNA)
Bursar



S/N	NAME	DEPARTMENT	BIRTHDAY
1	KOMOLAFE SEMIU KAYODE	WORKS: MECHANICAL	27-Apr
2	YAHYA WAHEED BABATUNDE	STATISTICS	27-Apr
3	BELLO MUFUTAU OPEYEMI	ECONOMICS	27-Apr
4	OLADIJI ADENIKE TEMIDAYO	BIOCHEMISTRY	27-Apr
5	GARUBA LATEEF AYEDUN	EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY	27-Apr
6	ABDUL FAZLLAH AJOKI	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	27-Apr
7	SA'ADU GANIYU ELEJA	WORKS UNIT	27-Apr
8	EWEAMA CHIOMA CORLET	LINGUISTICS & NIGERIAN LANGUAGES	27-Apr
9	ABDULRASAQ LUKMAN	WORKS: WORKS/MAINT. OFFICE	28-Apr
10	YUSUF MUIBAT OLUSHEYI	HEALTH SERVICES	28-Apr
11	SULEIMAN MARIAM KEHINDE	MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY & PARASITOLOGY	28-Apr
12	ADEWOLE KAYODE SAKARIYAH	COMPUTER SCIENCE	28-Apr
13	AJEIGBE MARIAM MOHAMMED	REGISTRY	28-Apr
14	RAIMI SEKINAT OLABIMPE	REGISTRY	28-Apr
15	OYENIYI MICHAEL OLUWASEGUN	BURSARY	29-Apr
16	IBITOYE MORUFU OLUSOLA	BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING	29-Apr
17	ABDULLAHI KADIR AYINDE	ENGLISH	29-Apr
18	MUSTAPHA MULIKAT LADI	COUNSELLOR EDUCATION	29-Apr
19	OLUKOTUN JANET FEBISOLA	LIBRARY	29-Apr
20	FATOYE RAPHEAL OLAYEMI	BURSARY	30-Apr
21	AZEEZ OYEBISI MISTURA	VETERINARY PHYSIOLOGY & BIOCHEMISTRY	30-Apr
22	AJIBOLA BUSAYO OMOLADE	COUNSELLOR EDUCATION	30-Apr
23	SOBANDE SAMUEL KOLAWOLE	SECURITY DIVISION	01-May
24	ATIKU OLUWATOYIN ALABI	REGISTRY	01-May
25	OKEOWO PRECIOUS MODUPE	DIRECTORATE OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS	01-May
26	ADEOTI TOYIN TEMITOPE	REGISTRY	01-May
27	OLAJIDE TAIWO OLAYINKA	INTERNAL AUDIT UNIT	01-May
28	ONIDARE SAMUEL OLUSAYO	TELECOMMUNICATION SCIENCE	01-May
29	ISMAILA SAFURAT BARIKISU	REGISTRY	01-May
30	MUSA MAHMUD DANJUMA	ARABIC	01-May
31	ADEBANJO GANIYU DEBO	PHYSICS	01-May
32	ABDULRAHAMAN IDRIS ABDULRAHMAN	WORKS: WORKS/MAINT. OFFICE	01-May
33	ADEDEJI KUBURAT KIKELOMO	REGISTRY	01-May
34	LAWAL MUJIDAT TEMIDAYO	CROP PROTECTION	02-May
35	DOSUMU JAMES GBOLAGADE	CENTRAL WORKSHOP:ENGINEERING	02-May
36	OLAJOYE IYIADE OLATUNDE	SURGERY	02-May
37	BELLO SHAKIRAT IYABO	CLINICAL PHARMACY & PHARMACY PRACTICE	02-May
38	FADAIRO OLAKUNLE KAMARU	WORKS: MECHANICAL	02-May
39	OYEWOLE TAJUDEEN AKANBI	WORKS: WORKS/MAINT. OFFICE	02-May
40	TIJANI ABDULGANIYU ADEBAYO	EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT	02-May
41	DAIBU ABDULRAZQA ADELONUN	PRIVATE & PROPERTY LAW	02-May
42	YAKUB SHUAIB	REGISTRY	02-May
43	YINUSA SIKIRU AJAYI	BIOCHEMISTRY	02-May
44	YUSUF KUBURAT ADIJA	REGISTRY	03-May
45	BALOGUN ISSA AGBOOLA	REGISTRY	03-May
46	ADENIYI FATIMOH ADEJUMOKE	REGISTRY	03-May
47	SOETAN ADERONKE KOFO	EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY	03-May
48	BANKOLE OGECHI IJEOMA	CENTRE FOR OPEN & DISTANCE LEARNING	03-May
49	AHMED BABATUNDE BUSARI OLA	REGISTRY	03-May
50	AKINTUNDE NATHANIEL AKINTOMIWA	HEALTH SERVICES	03-May
51	SALIU OLUWASEYI DAMILARE	INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY	03-May
52	OGBEDENGBE AHMAD	CENTRAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES	03-May
53	OLA-ALANI ENIOLA KEJI	ADULT & PRIMARY EDUCATION	03-May
54	GAMBARI KIFAYAT OLUFADI	ENGLISH	03-May

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

- The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has congratulated members of the University Christian Community and the entire Christendom on the occasion of this year's Easter festival. ("Unilorin VC greets Christians at Easter", <https://decency.home.blog>; "Easter: Egbewole Felicitates UNILORIN Christians", <https://thereflection.com.ng>; "Easter: Egbewole greets Unilorin Christians", <https://dailynewscraft.ng>; "Easter: Egbewole Felicitates UNILORIN Christian Community", <https://newstelegraphng.com>)
- The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has congratulated the Emir of Ilorin and Chairman of the Kwara State Council of Chiefs, Alhaji (Dr) Ibrahim Sulu-Gambari, CFR, on the occasion of his 85th birthday, ("Unilorin VC celebrates Emir of Ilorin at 85", <https://dailylinks.ng>; "Egbewole greets Emir of Ilorin on 85th birthday", <https://solarem.wordpress.com>; "UNILORIN VC greets Emir of Ilorin on 85th birthday", <https://thereflection.com.ng>; "Unilorin VC celebrates Emir of Ilorin at 85", <https://dailylinks.ng>; "UNILORIN VC, Wahab Olasupo Egbewole greets Emir Sulu-Gambari on 85th birthday", <https://royalnews.com.ng>)
- The British American Tobacco Nigeria Foundation has partnered with the University of Ilorin to award N9m to six graduates under the 2025 Graduates Agripreneur Programme grants. ("BAT Foundation, Unilorin support Agripreneur with grants", <https://punchng.com>)
- While delivering his 278th Inaugural Lecture of the University of Ilorin, entitled "Judicialising Politics Without Politicizing The Judex", Prof. Abdulfatai Sambo of the Department of Public Law, has maintained that judiciary must be impartial and explore the intricacies of its role in resolving political disputes in Nigeria. ("Judiciary Must Maintain Impartiality -Professor Sambo", <https://gatmash.com>; "LAW PROFESSOR CALLS FOR THE OVERHAUL OF NIGERIA'S JUDICIARY, CONSTITUTION",

- <https://newtelegraph.ng.com>)
- In a newspaper interview, the National President of the University of Ilorin Alumni Association, Prof. AbdulRazak Kilani, has revealed his plans for the institution as well as the association, reiterating that alumni associations are all about reciprocating for transforming lives through quality education not for personal gains. ("Alumni Association is about reciprocating Varsities for transforming lives through quality education -Kilani", <https://guardian.ng>; "Alumni Association is About Reciprocating Varsities For Transforming Lives Through Quality Education", *The Guardian*, Saturday, April 19-20 Sunday, 2025)
- The University of Ilorin has placed an advertisement on candidates' admission into its Post-Graduate Programme for the 2025/2026 academic session. ("UNILORIN CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION INTO POST-GRADUATE PROGRAMMES IN THE 2025/2026 ACADEMIC SESSION (GENERAL ADVERT)", *Thisday*, Monday, April 21, 2025, p.23)
- In a bold step to empower Nigeria's future leaders, of the nation's leading financial institutions, Opay, has extended its N1.2 billion scholarship initiative to students of the University of Ilorin.
- ("UNILORIN students: latest beneficiaries of Opay's #1.2b 10 year Scholarship Initiative ", *The Nation*, Wednesday, April 23, 2025, p.22; "Opay Expands N1.2bn Scholarship Initiative to Unilorin", <https://leadership.ng>)
- A former Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, who is the Registrar of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, has announced that the 2025 Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME), would begin on April 24, while that for blind candidates and others with special needs are scheduled to hold on April 28, and 29, 2025, in 11 centres. ("2,030,627 candidates to write UTME from today", *The Nation*, Thursday, April 24, 2025, p.16)

Ex-Rep member commends UNILORIN on transparency in NELFUND implementation

By Idris Alooma

A former member of the House of Representatives, Hon. Bosun George Oladele, has commended the Management of the University of Ilorin, led by Prof Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, on its transparency in implementing the Nigerian Education Loan Fund (NELFUND).

Hon. Oladele gave the commendation last Tuesday (April 22, 2025) while speaking on a UNILORIN FM radio's popular Yoruba programme, "Oro to n lo," anchored by the Station Manager, Mr. Idris Alooma.

He praised the University for publicly announcing that NELFUND payments have been made to the University's account.

Hon. Oladele, who represented Irepo, Oorelope and Olorunsogo Federal Constituency of Oyo State, emphasised



■ Hon. Oladele

that this level of transparency is commendable, especially compared to other tertiary institutions in Nigeria that still charge students fees without clear disclosure.

He noted that NELFUND is a significant relief for both parents and students, helping to curb crimes, cyber bullying, and improve the quality of education.

According to the former lawmaker, quality education is key to reducing crime rates and building a better Nigeria.

Hon. Oladele, who is also a former Commissioner for Information in Oyo State, also commended the Supreme Court's judgment extending the Freedom of Information Act to all state governments to promote openness and transparency in governance.

He commended President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's decision to remove fuel subsidies, citing the positive impact on governance and the economy. He emphasised the importance of unity and teamwork in moving the nation forward.

**■ Engr. Olugbode****■ Mr. Folayan****■ Prof. Ahmed**

FG selects Unilorin for Green Money Scheme

(Contd. from back page)

Prof. Egbewole said, “This existing foundation aligns perfectly with the objectives of the Green Money project and provides a strong platform for its successful implementation. At present, the University has a Memorandum of Understanding with the British American Tobacco Nigeria Foundation, through which our alumni are being supported with agricultural tools and funding to launch their own agribusinesses. Additionally, we have a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) with Oriental Energy Farms, which plans to develop 4,000 hectares of land for maize and soybean cultivation, with value-added processing. These initiatives not only contribute to hunger reduction but also serve as practical training opportunities for our students.

The Vice Chancellor revealed that UNILORIN had previously secured a ₦600 million loan from the Central Bank of Nigeria to establish a poultry farm in demonstration of the University's proactive approach. He said that the initiative has already yielded significant results, with the University now producing over 3,000 eggs daily.

He, however, sought the consideration of the Federal Government to convert the loan from the CBN into a grant for the University, saying, this would further strengthen the University's agricultural capacity and consolidate its alignment with the objectives of the Green Money Scheme.

The Project Coordinator, Mr Charles Olufemi Folayan, said that President Tinubu is deeply concerned about the growing threat of hunger in Nigeria and is fully committed to tackling it head-on through strategic partnerships and innovation-driven policies.

He explained that the scheme was initiated under the guidance of the Office of the Special Assistant to the

President on Agriculture and it has received presidential approval and the backing of several relevant government ministries, departments, and agencies, which include the Federal Ministry of Education, the Federal Ministry of Youth Development, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, the Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy, and the Federal Ministry of Livestock Development.

In recognising the University of Ilorin as a strategic partner, the Project Coordinator, said his team observed the University's strong academic reputation, availability of infrastructure, committed leadership, and an existing agricultural base as major factors in its selection. He added that the institution's long-standing contributions to agricultural education and food production align with the objectives of the Green Money initiative.

Mr. Folayan noted that one of the major concerns addressed by this new scheme is the disconnect between agricultural studies and career uptake by graduates. According to him, “Many students who study agriculture do not pursue careers in the field, resulting in a gap between academic knowledge and national agricultural development needs.”

The Project Coordinator explained that the scheme aims to reverse this trend by making agriculture a viable and attractive path for young people. It will do so by equipping them with mechanised farming tools, providing agricultural inputs, offering practical training, and facilitating zero-interest loans to support agribusiness startups.

While calling on stakeholders across sectors to support its implementation and success, Mr Folayan added that President Tinubu has declared a state of emergency on food security, which signals the urgency and importance of projects like the Green Money Scheme.

Meanwhile, the Project Consultant, Prof. Musa Isiyaku Ahmed, said with over 60,000 students, vast expanse of

arable land, and a proactive administration already investing in agriculture, the University of Ilorin is an ideal pilot location.

While pointing to the University's existing agricultural value chain initiatives as evidence of readiness and alignment, the Consultant noted that funding allocated for the project would be most impactful in institutions and would be easy to trace as a result of existing strong governance structures where accountability is ensured.

Prof. Ahmed, who is a former Vice Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture, Zuru, also said that the University's Technical and Entrepreneurship Centre (TEC) was highlighted as a critical component in the implementation of the scheme, because it offers a platform for practical training, innovation, and student involvement. He added that the project will adopt a model that prioritises academically stable students, to ensure that participation does not compromise their primary academic responsibilities.

The Project Consultant, who has previously served as the Director of the Computer Services and Information Technology (COMSIT) Unit, University of Ilorin, presented a questionnaire to the Vice Chancellor, saying that it is to better understand the University's specific needs and areas for alignment. He added that the responses would guide further evaluation and inform the team's final report to the Presidency.

The Vice Chancellor was joined to receive the team by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Technology and Innovation), Prof. Muhtar Adeiza Etudaiye; the Registrar, Mr Mansur Adeleke Alfañla; the University Bursar, Mr Abiodun Lawal; the University Librarian, Prof. Kamaldeen Tunde Omopupa; the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Prof. Oluyemisi Fawole; the Ag Head of the Department of Agronomy, Dr Kehinde Olayemi Affinnih; and the Director of UNILORIN GGMAX Farm, Prof. Suleiman Olawoye Salami.



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FG selects Unilorin for Green Money Scheme

By Tajudeen Babamale

The Federal Government has selected the University of Ilorin as one of the pilot institutions for 'The Green Money Project', a Presidential Initiative commissioned to tackle youth unemployment and food insecurity by empowering young Nigerians in agriculture and ensure national food security.

The Special Assistant to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu on Agriculture, Mr Abiodun Yinusa, disclosed this last Thursday (April 24, 2025) when he visited the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, in his office.

Represented by Engr Hakeem Olugbode, the Special Assistant described the Green Money initiative as a transformative movement to reposition agriculture as a viable and attractive sector for young Nigerians.

He explained that the Green Money scheme is more than a federal initiative, it is a national movement to restore dignity to farming, to empower our youths and secure the food system for generations to come.

The Presidential Special Assistant stressed that the university system, particularly institutions like the University of Ilorin with strong academic reputations, will play a pivotal role in this movement. According to him, "the University of Ilorin has a reputation as a beacon of academic excellence and national relevance. Your legacy in research, discipline, and societal impact makes this institution a natural partner for the Green Money project. We want you to stand with us as a strategic partner in this movement."

Engr Olugbode explained that the initiative aims to attract, train, and support young individuals by equipping them with modern agricultural skills, including mechanisation, smart

farming, and digital agricultural technologies. He said that the goal is to not only reduce youth unemployment but also create a new generation of agripreneurs who will drive innovation and growth in Nigeria's agricultural sector.

He noted that the programme will be implemented across all six geopolitical zones of the country, with each participating institution receiving adequate support in terms of training, equipment, and technical resources. He added that partnerships will also be forged with key government ministries, agencies, and departments, alongside collaborations with non-governmental organisations, donor agencies, and development partners.

Welcoming the team to UNILORIN, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Egbewole, pledged the University's full support for the Green Money Agriculture Scheme, describing it as a timely initiative that aligns with the University's vision for food security and youth empowerment.

While noting the institution's readiness to provide the necessary infrastructure, including access to land, to support the successful implementation of the scheme, Prof. Egbewole assured that the University would actively mobilise and sensitise students on the importance and benefits of the project.

He noted that the Faculty of Agriculture at the University already engages students in practical farming activities where the farm produce cultivated by students is regularly sold to members of the University community. With additional support from the Green Money initiative, the Vice Chancellor expressed confidence that these efforts would be significantly enhanced.

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