

Celebrating Excellence, Sustaining Greatness...



## **Reinventing Multidisciplinary Scholarship for Sustainable Global Education**

(Being the welcome address of Prof. Wahab Egbewole, SAN the Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin, on the occasion of the 1<sup>st</sup> CIE International Conference on Internationalisation and the 12<sup>th</sup> International Students' Day)

72 hours ago, University of Ilorin undergraduate, Kazeem Sanusi, a 400level Mathematics Student, set new Guinness World Book Record for the 'Longest Mathematics Lesson', spanning 31 hours, 42 minutes and 54 seconds,



Two days ago, we made history in this University through the successful inaugural public lecture hosted by the Institute of Translation Arts.



My joy is that the connection between setting global records in Mathematics tutorial and translation in the digital era are equally linked to the evincing positivism that can be found in global education, and its in corollary of international education. As a University, we are poised to globalise education.

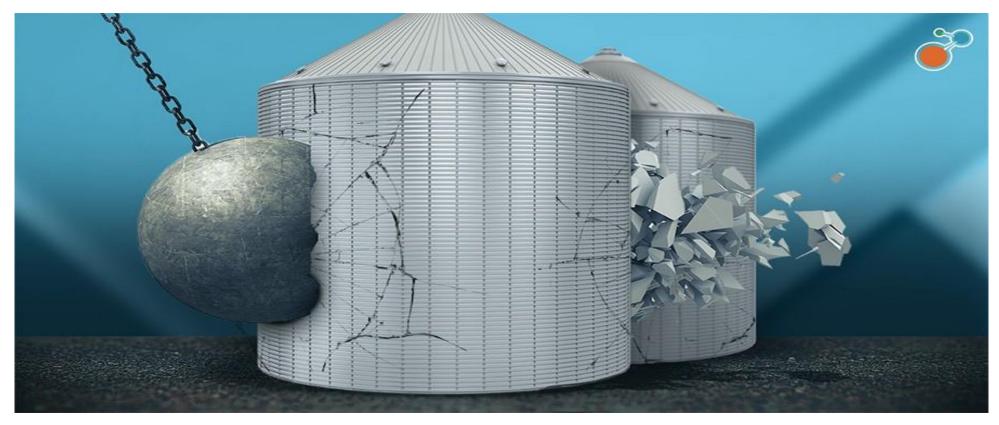


I, therefore, appreciate the Director of CIE, Prof. L. O. Ibrahim and his team for pulling this through. I also welcome everybody present here and those attending the 1<sup>st</sup> CIE International Conference on Internationalisation and 12<sup>th</sup> the International Students' Day virtually.

Let me specially welcome the Ambassador of Tunisia, the representative of the Embassy of the United States of America, the Secretary General of D8 countries, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Cape Coast who is also here in his capacity as the Chairman of the Association of West Africa Universities (AWAU), the President of Africalics and the facilitator from the University of Free State in South Africa.

I also wish to warmly welcome my colleague Vice-Chancellors from the KU8+.The theme of the conference; Globalising Education: Strategies, Challenges and Sustainability is apt and the time to intellectualise this cannot be better than now.

### The Silo is Temporal, Break it...



Global education is spaceless because it defies boundaries to accommodate challenges, problems and issues of common interests across nations and continents. Indeed, global education finds theoretical solace in the intellectual fanfare of internationalisation.

The difference between global education and international education lies in the decoding and understanding global cultures, histories, global issues, global citizenship and the tendencies within, while international education focuses on mapping specific domains, regions, intercultural understanding, development of universal humanity, fostering international orientation and ultimately, the promotion of dynamism in education.



Global education and international education are often used interchangeably, and they amplify the borderlessness of education and scholarship. Thus, the silo between global education and international education is temporal. Let us break it with all sense of honesty as we move forward.



### **Global Collaboration**

Global education is framed for the appreciation of global collaboration, multicultural communication, critical thinking and adaptability in the metaphor of "worlds within worlds". "life within life", "man within man" and "the universe within the multiverse".



### The Road should be Widened, be Part of its Reconstruction

The essence is for inclusive education and the current direction is the breaking down of barriers of "my father's farm as the biggest farm" to accommodate the 17 Sustainable Development Goals which include; zero hunger, quality education, decent work and economic growth, sustainable cities and communities, and partnerships for the goals.



Also, we should not forget Agenda 2063, which is the African Union's blueprint for developing Pan-Africanism and the African Renaissance.

#### THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



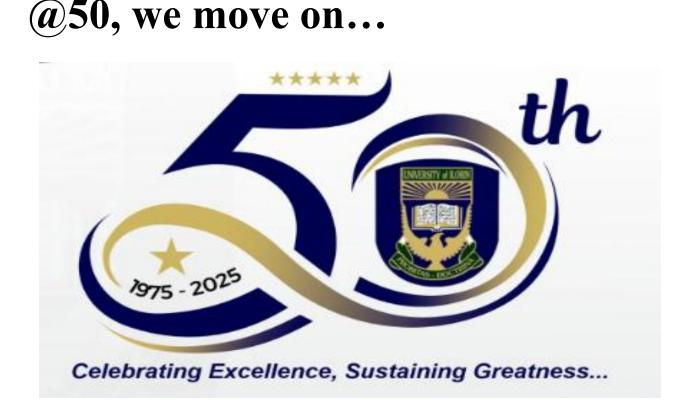


The Africa we Want

## Face this Real Direction...

Research efforts in global education should embrace a multidisciplinary approach. This is the hallmark of scholarship in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The multidisciplinary approach is about integrated, interconnected and interdependent models or methodologies that can bring scholars together across disciplines, and for the purpose of promoting original, incisive, developmental and sustainable research efforts. Global collaboration will break down traditional models while embracing community engagement with stakeholders.





Established in 1975, our University will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. As such, this conference is one of our major outings and I want delegates and participants to rethink global education in our ultimate search to solve its challenges and problems while developing sustainable strategies that engender global collaboration. We should all participate actively in this conference as we globalise education.

# Welcome to the University of Ilorin.



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