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Ku8+ 3rd anniversary: Egbewole seeks sustained collaboration



■ Prof. Egbewole

By Tajudeen Babamale

The Chairman of the Consortium of Universities in Kwara State (Ku8+) and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has admonished both old and new members of the Consortium to sustain their commitment to collaboration in order to achieve collective growth.

Prof. Egbewole made the call last Saturday (January 24, 2026) during the 3rd anniversary celebration of the organisation, held at the Council Chamber of the University of Ilorin.

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Desk officers central to our internationalisation drive – VC

By Tajudeen Babamale

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has stated that desk officers managing the University's Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with institutions across the globe are central to the successful

implementation of the internationalisation agenda of the University.

Prof. Egbewole made this known last Friday (January 23, 2026) during an interactive session with desk officers overseeing various local and international collaborations, held at the Auditorium Basement of the University.

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■ Prof. Egbewole

Egbewole commends Clinical Sciences on mentorship, teamwork, resilience



By Tajudeen Babamale

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has, again, commended the Faculty of Clinical Sciences (FCS) on its strong culture of mentorship, teamwork and resilience, particularly in the face of evolving healthcare challenges.

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Desk officers central to our internationalisation drive – VC

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The Vice Chancellor explained that desk officers occupy a strategic position in translating signed MoUs into tangible academic, research, and capacity-building outcomes, stressing that their effectiveness directly determines the value the University derives from its international engagements.

According to him, desk officers are not merely custodians of agreements but active drivers of collaboration outcomes, whose roles include coordination, monitoring, reporting, and ensuring that partnerships remain productive and aligned with institutional objectives.

The Vice Chancellor stated that the interactive meeting was convened to provide a platform for desk officers to engage directly with the University management, identify operational challenges, and propose practical solutions. He assured participants that the management was committed to addressing all constraints in order to strengthen the effectiveness of international collaborations.

As part of measures to enhance accountability and performance monitoring, Prof. Egbewole directed that desk officers must submit quarterly progress reports to the Centre for International Education (CIE), saying that, regular reporting would enable the University to track partnership activities, assess outcomes, and take timely corrective actions where necessary.

The Vice-Chancellor, however, reaffirmed the commitment of the University management to strengthening international partnerships

and supporting desk officers in the discharge of their duties, adding that effective coordination and sustained engagement by desk officers would significantly enhance the global standing of the University.

In his remarks, the Director of the Centre for International Education (CIE), Prof. Lateef Onireti Ibraheem, acknowledged the significant support the University management has continued to provide towards the growth and advancement of the Centre, particularly in strengthening international collaborations and partnerships.

Prof. Ibraheem further appealed to the University management to act more swiftly on recommendations and proposals emanating from the Centre, noting that timely decisions and approvals are crucial to sustaining confidence and trust among the international partners of the University.

The CIE Director, who said that the internationalisation agenda of the University is a collective responsibility, said that all stakeholders must work in synergy to achieve set goals. According to him, sustained cooperation, prompt administrative actions, and shared commitment across all relevant units are essential for positioning the University of Ilorin as a competitive and credible institution in the global academic space.

In his presentation, the Project Manager for the University Rankings, Prof. Sulyman Folorunsho Ambali, noted that the strategic Vision 1:10:500 of the University is achievable, provided that international collaborations are properly structured, effectively managed, and aligned with institutional guidelines.

He recommended that all activities related to any Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) should be driven by the Department that initiated the collaboration. According to him, this approach would ensure that the most relevant and competent personnel are attached to each project, thereby promoting efficiency, relevance, and impact in the execution of collaborative activities.

The Project Manager also explained the importance of effective and proper coordination in managing international partnerships, warning against practices that undermine institutional integrity. He listed common violations observed in the management of collaborations to include the signing of MoUs without appropriate authority, bypassing approved institutional procedures, violations of the Treasury Single Account (TSA) policy, and other related infractions.

Prof. Ambali stressed that before any discussion on new partnerships commences, Departments intending to initiate collaborations must submit a detailed concept note to the Centre for International Education (CIE), saying that “this process is essential for proper evaluation, alignment with institutional priorities, and informed decision-making.”

He reminded participants that the University motto, *Probitas Doctrina*, must remain central to all international engagements. He explained that in the context of global partnerships, probity translates to integrity of character in collaborations, ethical conduct in research, responsible stewardship of resources, and deliberate protection of the institutional reputation.

Egbewole commends Clinical Sciences on mentorship, teamwork, resilience

(Contd. from front page)

Prof. Egbewole gave the commendation last Wednesday (January 21, 2026) while delivering his address at the Faculty Appreciation Programme for the year 2025, held at the Conference Room of UITH Senior Consultants' Building.

Represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Technology and Innovation), Prof. Muhtar Adeiza Etudaiye, the Vice-Chancellor noted that despite challenges such as persistent systemic pressures in the health sector and the impact of workforce migration (japa syndrome), the Faculty has continued to demonstrate excellence in medical education, healthcare delivery and community service.

Prof. Egbewole described the Faculty as a cornerstone of the University's academic and professional reputation, noting that it has consistently produced competent and professional medical doctors serving Nigeria and humanity at large. He said some of the most visible impacts of the University outside the campus have come from the College of Health Sciences, particularly the Faculty of Clinical Sciences.

He described the occasion as a celebration of dedication, sacrifice and excellence, adding that the appreciation programme was not only an acknowledgment of past efforts but also an encouragement to sustain the high standards for which the University will continue to be respected.

Earlier in his address, the Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Prof. Sulyman Biodun Alabi, represented by the Dean of the Faculty of Basic Clinical Sciences, Prof. Hannah Oluwayemisi Olawumi, commended the academic and non-teaching staff of the Faculty of Clinical Sciences for their dedication and unwavering commitment to the growth of both the Faculty and the College.

Prof. Alabi expressed appreciation for the collective efforts of staff in advancing academic standards and supporting the mandate of the College in



medical and health sciences education. He urged all members of staff to remain steadfast and even more dedicated in the year 2026, noting that sustained commitment was essential to consolidating the gains already recorded.

The Provost also extended special appreciation to the adjunct lecturers of the College for their invaluable contributions to the training and mentorship of medical students. He acknowledged their commitment and sacrifice, describing their role as critical to the successful delivery of clinical education and the production of competent healthcare professionals.

In his welcome address, the Dean of the Faculty of Clinical Sciences, Prof. Kolawole Wasiu Wahab, reaffirmed the commitment of the Faculty to continuous growth and alignment with the strategic vision of the University.

The Dean noted that since his assumption of office, foundations have been laid for the achievement of the ARISE framework, which targets "Academic excellence, innovative Research, Integrated clinical training, sustainable community engagement, and enhanced staff and students' welfare. He assured stakeholders that the Faculty would continue to be guided by this framework in contributing its quota

to the sustained growth of the University, while also soliciting the continued support of all stakeholders at every stage of the journey already commenced.

Prof. Wasiu also noted that the occasion provided an important opportunity to use the present achievements of the Faculty to inspire the future of medical and nursing education, particularly by strengthening mentorship for students. According to him, academic staff must remain committed to mentoring medical and nursing students as the next generation of healthcare professionals and leaders.

While acknowledging the hard work, sacrifices and passion that propelled the achievements of the Faculty in the past year, the Dean urged members of staff to also reflect critically on the challenges encountered during the period. He said such challenges should be strategically transformed into opportunities for improvement and innovation.

Prof. Wasiu called on staff of the Faculty to renew their commitment to making greater impact in teaching, research and community service, with a clear focus on contributing to the Vice Chancellor's Vision 1:10:500. He encouraged all members of the Faculty to strive consciously towards becoming better versions of themselves in the discharge of their responsibilities.

The Dean also used the meeting to appreciate those he described as the "unsung heroes" of the Faculty, particularly the consultants and nurse preceptors, who, he said, have contributed immensely to the successful training of MBBS and B.Sc. Nursing Science students.

He noted that their dedication and professionalism have played a critical role in sustaining the standards of excellence of the Faculty in clinical training.



CILS designed to nurture scholarship-Sanusi

By Abubakar Imam

The Director, Centre for Ilorin Studies (CILS), University of Ilorin, Prof. Issa Olarongbe Sanusi, has said that one of the key reasons behind the establishment of the Centre was to nurture aspiring scholars, particularly on issues that have to do with the history and cultural heritage of the people of the Ilorin Emirate and their neighbours.

Prof. Sanusi, who is the fifth Director of the Centre, stated this last Friday (January 23, 2026) while addressing students of the Department of History and International Studies, Kwara State University, Malete, who were at the CILS for a three week internship programme.

The programme ran between Monday, January 5 and Friday, January 23, 2026.

The four visiting KWASU students are Issa Azezat Oluwadamilola, Ajibola Funke Opeyemi, Abdulkareem Kareemah and Afolabi Safurat Yetunde.

The Director, who commended the KWASU students for their readiness to learn, said that the Centre is always prepared to serve as a mentorship platform for students to enable them gain deeper



■ Prof. Sanusi

insights into Ilorin histography, indigenous knowledge system and contemporary historical research.

He explained that such exposure would continue to enhance the students' writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills.

Prof. Sanusi added that the opportunity would also prepare participants to become not only graduates but also innovators, researchers and cultural ambassadors.

The Director said that the

programme was an opportunity of promoting collaborative relationship between the CILS and KWASU and most especially between the University of Ilorin and KWASU.

Prof. Sanusi added that it would also promote institutional synergy in fostering academic excellence, supporting community-based research and producing well-rounded graduates who are equipped with both theoretical and practical skills.

On the programme, the Director said that it provided opportunities for close interaction between the students and senior scholars, researchers, and administrative staff of the Centre, saying that the visiting students were guided in the use of historical records, manuscripts, and oral traditions to document Ilorin's rich cultural heritage.

Prof. Sanusi used the opportunity to encourage students of other universities within and outside Kwara State to take advantage of the availability of quality materials at the Centre to learn more.

While he said that the Centre would continue to acquire more resources, Prof. Sanusi encouraged friends of the University to donate relevant materials to it in order to improve its stocks.

UMLC pays working visits to Faculties

By Bashirat Omotosho

Officials of the University of Ilorin Muslim Ladies Circle (UMLC) have paid a series of courtesy visits to selected Faculties of the University as part of their efforts to strengthen engagement, promote moral, academic, and spiritual development among female staff.

The visits, which took place last Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th, January, 2026, saw



members of the Association meet with Faculty staff, where they formally introduced the objectives and activities of the Muslim Ladies Circle.

The UMLC officials, led by the Coordinator, Prof Nafisat Adedokun Shittu, explained that the initiative was aimed at fostering cordial relationships with Faculty staff while seeking guidance and support for programmes targeted at empowering Muslim female staff academically and morally.

Speaking during the visits, Prof Shittu noted that UMLC is committed to promoting values such as discipline, modesty, leadership, and academic excellence among its members.

She emphasised that collaboration with Faculties would help the Association align its activities with the academic vision of the University and ensure that staff members balance religious commitment with scholarly pursuits.

The Faculties visited include Faculty of Communication and Information Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, and Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, among others.

In their responses, each of the Faculty representatives commended the UMLC for the initiative, describing the visits as timely and laudable.

They encouraged the Association to continue its advocacy for positive values and urged members to remain focused on their duties while contributing meaningfully to the University community.

Members of the UMLC delegation include Mrs Ajidagba Saka Amudalat of Estate Management, Mrs Lubabat Abdulhakeem from Library and Information Science, Mrs Musa Bilkis Bolajoko from Corporate Affairs, Mrs Ghaniyah Aderinoye from Mass communication, and Mrs Fehintola Majeed from Pharmaceutical Sciences, among others.



Ku8+ 3rd anniversary: Egbewole seeks sustained collaboration

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Among those that attended the occasion were vice chancellors of the Kwara State University (KWASU), Malete, Prof. Shaykh-Luqman Alade Jimoh; Summit University, Offa, Prof. Abiodun Musa Aibinu; Ojaja University, Eyenkorin, Prof. Jeleel Ojuade (who joined virtually); Thomas Adewumi University, Oko, Prof. Francisca Onaolapo Oladipo; Muhammad Kamaluddeen University, Ilorin, Prof. Rasheed Gbenga Jimoh; Kwara State University of Education, Ilorin, Prof. Medinat Folorunso Salman; University of Offa, Prof. Kazeem Alagbe Gbolagade; Abdulrasaq Abubakar Toyin University, Ganmo, Prof. Abdulrauf Ambali; and Jimoh Babalola University, Ilorin, Prof. Muftau Adeniyi Ijaiya. Also in attendance was Prof. Mahfouz Adedimeji, former Vice Chancellor of Ahman Patigi University, Pategi, as well as Principal Officers of all KU8+ member universities.

Reflecting on the formation of the Consortium, Prof. Egbewole said KU8+ was conceived as a pioneering initiative in Nigeria to foster cooperation among universities, noting that the initiative has enjoyed national recognition, which has attracted collaboration from key stakeholders in the nation's education sector.

According to him, the Consortium, which began with eight universities, has expanded into KU8+ with 13 member institutions, driven by the belief that collaboration, experience-sharing and mutual support are essential to institutional development.

Prof. Egbewole recalled that KU8+ has successfully organised three conferences since its inception, with the maiden edition held at the University of Ilorin in August 2023, the second at Al-Hikmah University in 2024 and the third at Kwara State University (KWASU) in 2025. He disclosed that plans are underway for the fourth conference to hold in August 2026 at Summit University, Offa, with expectations of a significant impact.

While highlighting the achievements of the Consortium, the Chairman said the KU8+ established an independent research team, distinct from directors of research in member universities to avoid conflicts of interest, adding that the team has produced ten concept notes aligned with the National Research Fund (NRF) scheme, with expectations that the full proposals will receive approval, while member institutions also benefitted from several Institution-Based Research (IBR) grants in 2025.

The UNILORIN Vice Chancellor, who is also the Vice-President (West Africa) of the Association of African Universities (AAU), however, described the 2026–2027 period as critical for the future of KU8+, particularly in managing leadership transitions within member institutions. He observed the importance of continuity, noting that past vice-chancellors remain integral to the sustainability of the Consortium even after leaving office.

In her address titled “Three Years of TEAM: Celebrating the KU8+ Journey of Excellence, Collaboration, and Transformation,” the Secretary-General of the Consortium, Prof. Francisca Oladipo, said that within three years the consortium had moved from concept to reality.

She recalled the founding of the initiative, saying, “We called it The Ilorin Declaration on the KU8. But distinguished colleagues, it was more than a declaration. It was an act of faith, a commitment to something larger than ourselves. It was a recognition that in a world where we can go to the moon but struggle to help our neighbors, we needed to do something different. And so we did”.

Prof. Oladipo, who is also the Vice-Chancellor of Thomas Adewumi University, Oko, explained the operational philosophy shared by the Chairman of the Consortium, Prof. Egbewole, at its first meeting, which is Together Everyone Achieves More (TEAM), noting that, this

vision inspired the eight founding universities, despite their different histories, proprietors, and challenges, to believe they could collaborate and achieve more.

While noting the achievements of KU8+, the Secretary-General stated that the Consortium has been recognised by the National Universities Commission (NUC) as the first initiative of its kind in Nigeria and one worthy of emulation by other universities nationwide. She added that the Consortium has continued to draw attention to Kwara State through its programmes, attracting high-profile attendees such as the Sultan, the Honourable Minister of Justice, executive secretaries of federal agencies, traditional rulers, heads of security agencies, and representatives from the United States Embassy.

On research and innovation, Prof. Oladipo revealed that member institutions have collaborated on joint grant proposals, with 11 KU8+ concept notes already accepted and currently being developed into full proposals for submission to the TETFund National Research Fund (NRF).

She stated that the “plus” in KU8+ is not just a symbol, but represents openness to growth, commitment to inclusivity, and a forward-looking vision. “Today, in the spirit of inclusivity, we welcome and recognise four more members: Kwara State University of Education, Ilorin; University of Offa, Offa; Abdulrasaq Abubakar Toyin University, Ganmo; and Jimoh Babalola University, Ilorin. We are expanding. We are becoming!” she said.

The Secretary-General of the KU8+ acknowledged ongoing challenges, including coordination across nine institutions with different academic calendars, the need to strengthen resource-sharing mechanisms, the inefficiency of communication systems, and joint programmes that exist more in vision than in practice. She, however, stressed that facing these challenges together makes them solvable.

Jimoh tasks new Kamaldeen varsity students on pursuit of excellence

By Bashirat Omotosho

The Vice-Chancellor of Muhammad Kamaldeen University (MKU), Ogidi, Ilorin, Prof. Abdulrasheed Gbenga Jimoh, who is also the Director of the Computer Services and Information Technology (COMSIT), University of Ilorin, has charged newly admitted students of the University to embrace discipline, academic excellence, and integrity as hallmarks of their studentship.

Prof. Jimoh gave the charge last Friday (January 23, 2026) during the 3rd Matriculation Ceremony of the institution.

The Vice Chancellor congratulated the matriculating students on securing admission into the University, describing their admission as the beginning of a demanding but rewarding academic journey.

He urged the students to take their studies seriously and to conduct themselves in line with the rules and regulations of the institution.

Prof. Jimoh highlighted notable achievements recorded by the University so far, including steady expansion of academic programmes, improvement of learning and teaching facilities, compliance with accreditation requirements, and the recruitment of qualified academic personnel.

According to him, these milestones are deliberate efforts to ensure that students are trained in an



environment that promotes scholarship, innovation, and character development.

Prof. Jimoh, drawing from the University of Ilorin's tradition of excellence, noted that MKU shares similar core values of discipline, diligence, and integrity.

He charged the 206 new students to be worthy ambassadors of the University, stressing that the Management remains committed to producing graduates who are not only academically sound but also morally upright and socially responsible.

In his address, the Pro-Chancellor of the university, Prof. Shuaib Oba Abdulraheem, described the ceremony as a landmark event that reflects the steady growth and stability of the young private university.

He noted that the successful organisation of a third matriculation within a short period of establishing the university underscored the confidence reposed in the

institution by parents, guardians, and relevant regulatory bodies.

Prof. Abdulraheem further commended the Management of the University for its unwavering commitment to quality assurance, sound governance, and moral discipline.

The Pro-Chancellor assured stakeholders that the Governing Council would continue to provide purposeful leadership and policy support aimed at sustaining high academic standards and positioning MKU as a reference point for private university education in Nigeria.

Present at the event was the Khalifatul-adabiyun worldwide, Sheik Abdulkadir Adisa Al-Adaby, the Chairman, Board of Trustees and National President, Ansarul-Islam Society of Nigeria, Alhaji Olayiwola Afolabi, the Registrar, Engr Musa Mustapha Kamaldeen Al-Adaby, staff and students of the university among others.

Akanmu warns Unilorites against examination malpractice

By Bashir Dawodu

The Ag. Dean of Students Affairs, University of Ilorin, Dr Alex Akanmu, has warned students of the institution against engaging in any form of examination malpractice, stressing that offenders risk expulsion from the University.

Dr Akanmu gave the warning last Wednesday (January 21, 2026) while speaking at a two-day sensitisation programme organised by the Faculty of Arts Students Association (FASA), University of Ilorin chapter, held at the Arts Lecture Theatre.

The Dean, who is also the Chairman of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), University of Ilorin chapter, charged students to maintain discipline before and during examinations to avoid falling victim to examination malpractice.



■ Dr Akanmu

According to him, the University operates strict rules and regulations guiding students' conduct, which are different from those obtainable at the secondary school level.

"No excuse, no matter how convincing your story may be; once you are caught, you are gone," he warned.

Dr Akanmu advised fresh students to master their matriculation numbers, describing them as unique identification numbers. He also urged them to ensure that all their courses are duly registered for.

He further cautioned students against drug use and abuse, unguided friendships and indecent dressing, while urging them to study the students' handbook to better understand the University's regulations.

The Dean reminded the students to always remember their primary assignment of knowledge acquisition and encouraged them to be good ambassadors of their respective families and the University.

He commended the organisers of the sensitisation programme, describing the event as a timely avenue to remind students of their responsibilities within the University community.



Use AI ethically, Mustapha urges students

By **Mustfa Abubakar**
and **Abubakar Abdulquadri**

The Director of General Studies (GNS), University of Ilorin, Prof. Lambe Kayode Mustapha, has charged students to be ethical in the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), saying that it should be used to enhance creativity and innovation in their chosen careers.

Prof. Mustapha gave the charge last Sunday (January 18, 2026) while delivering a lecture, titled "The Intelligent Application of Artificial Intelligence", organised by Prof. Saudat Salah Abdulbaqi Media Outreach Programme to mark the 59th birthday of the Dean of the Faculty of Communication and Information Sciences at the Secretariat of the Kwara State Branch of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations, Ilorin.

The Director of GNS explained the philosophical foundation of Artificial Intelligence, stressing that human beings, by nature, want peace or strive now and then to ensure that the way of doing things is made easier. He said that tendency informed the development of technology, including Artificial Intelligence (AI).

He highlighted that AI is a big deal to the generation of today's students, stating that with the aid of Android devices, students can get their assignments done easily. He observed that opportunity is now resonating with the present generation.

Prof. Mustapha stated that AI is a field of Computer Science that focuses on creating machines capable of performing tasks that normally require human intelligence. He stressed that AI can be used by students to perform several tasks, including learning, reasoning, understanding language, perception, and decision-making, and adapting to new situations.

He added that AI can assist students in personalising learning,

offering them personalised tutoring, and getting the desired information they want without necessarily being in the classroom. He noted that the benefits of Artificial Intelligence were not restricted to students in an academic environment alone but cover all aspects of life and depend on individual choice and how it is being used.

Also speaking at the event, the Commissioner for Tertiary Education in Kwara State, Mrs Sa'adat Modibbo Kawu, noted that for youths, Artificial Intelligence presents unprecedented opportunities to bridge gaps in education, enhance creativity, and compete favourably on the global stage. She noted that from personalised learning platforms to intelligent research tools, AI can democratise access to quality education, empower innovation, and equip young people with the digital skills required for the jobs of today and tomorrow.

Mrs Kawu advised that as we embrace Artificial Intelligence, we must do so with purpose and responsibility. She urged Nigerians that AI should not replace human intelligence but complement it, enabling the youth to think better, create more, and solve real societal challenges.

In her remarks, the Sub-Dean of the Faculty of Communication and Information Sciences (CIS), Dr Priscilla Ayooluwa Jacob, described the Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Abdulbaqi, as a mother, a hardworking and intelligent good leader who has foresight, noting that one unique thing about her is that she always likes to bring out the good in anybody she interacts with.

Speaking earlier, the Ag. Head of the Department of Mass Communication, Dr Patrick Udende, appreciated the convener for bringing together students and professionals from various fields to learn about the advantages and disadvantages of Artificial Intelligence, (AI).

He commended Prof. Abdulbaqi for her outstanding contributions as he described her as a dedicated academic who

is leaving no stone unturned and truly deserves the best.

Dr Udende further charged the participants to make good use of every opportunity to learn at any gathering they find themselves, stressing that competition is not only about winning but about the knowledge and experience gained in the process.

In his goodwill message, the Ag. Head of the Department of Library and Information Science, Dr Musediq Tunji Bashorun, described Prof. Abdulbaqi as a good colleague in the Faculty, who has made a positive impact on many lives.

On his part, Dr Rasak Adisa of the Department of Mass Communication, said his relationship with Prof. Abdulbaqi started in 1989 at Bayero University Kano and cannot be denied up to the time he joined them in the Faculty at the University of Ilorin. He described her as a good pillar who always offers good advice to people in the Faculty and competes with other staff like a man.

In her remarks, Prof. Abdulbaqi, expressed her deep appreciation to the organisers of the programme and also to those who have made some contributions to make her birthday a successful celebration.

Prof. Abdulbaqi specifically extended her appreciation to the Sub-Dean of the Faculty, who, despite her tight schedule, particularly on Sunday, found time to celebrate her, saying that she is looking forward to a time when she would be celebrating with everyone of them.

At the end of the Quiz and Spelling Bee Competition, which was also featured at the event, a student of the Department of Mass Communication, Joseph Daniel Omotayo came first and was awarded a cash prize of ₦10,000 while Oni Michael Ololade, also of the Department came second with a cash prize of ₦7,500.

Alaro emerges IFSN's BoT Chairman

By Abubakar Imam

The Director of the Quality Assurance Unit, University of Ilorin, Prof. AbdulRazzaq AbdulMajeed Alaro, mni, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Islamic Finance Scholars Forum (IFSF).

The appointment of Prof. Alaro, who is also a former Head of the Department of Islamic Law, was one of the key decisions recently taken by the Forum.

Other members of the Board are the Vice Chancellor of the Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Prof. Saadatu H. Liman; the Secretary-General of the Istanbul-based Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Arbitration Centre, Dr Umar Oseni; and the founder/Chairperson of Lotus Bank, Mrs



■ Prof. Alaro

Hajara Adeola.

While Prof. Luqman Zakariya of

the University of Abuja became the President, Dr Abdullahi Lamido of Bayero University, Kano emerged as the Vice President.

Speaking with *UNILORIN Bulletin* on the development, Prof. Alaro said that he regarded his emergence as the Chairman of the BoT of the Forum as a great and uncommon privilege.

The cleric-don said that he would use the position to work with others towards promoting the understanding and practise of Islamic finance in Nigeria and beyond.

Prof. Alaro, who thanked the authorities of the University of Ilorin for the privilege he is given to relate and interact with his professional colleagues across the world, promised to keep the flag of the University flying.

Egbewole mourns late Ilorin Chief Imam

...His death, a great loss - CILS Director

By Abubakar Imam

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has described the death of the Chief Imam of Ilorin, Shaykh (Dr) Muhammad Bashir Saliu, OON, as a great loss not only to the University's host community but also to humanity at large.

The Chief Imam died last Monday (January 19, 2026) after a brief illness at the age of 75 while his remains were buried last Tuesday (January 20, 2026) at his Arabic Institute in Egbejila area of Ilorin after a Janazah prayer held at the Emir's Palace, Ilorin, led by the Imam Imale of Ilorin, Shaykh Abdullahi AbdulHameed.

Prof. Egbewole, in a statement issued by the University's Director of Corporate Affairs, Mr Kunle Akogun, said that the management, staff and students of the University received the news of the death of the prominent cleric with great shock.

Describing the late Chief Imam as a great friend of the University, the Vice Chancellor noted that the University has benefited immensely from the messages of peace, which hallmarked his weekly Friday sermons.

Prof. Egbewole commiserated with the Emir of Ilorin, Dr Ibrahim Sulu-



■ Late Dr Saliu

Gambari, CFR and the people of Ilorin Emirate on the death of this outstanding and longstanding spiritual leader.

The Vice Chancellor, who is also the Chairman of the Consortium of Kwara Universities (KU8+), also sympathised with the Governor of Kwara State, Mallam AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq, CON, on the death of a remarkable son of the State.

Prof. Egbewole specifically condoled with members of the immediate family, friends, and colleagues of the late Chief Imam across the nation and beyond, urging them to take solace in the fact that the cleric lived a good life worthy of emulation.

The Vice Chancellor, who said that the late cleric would be sorely missed, prayed to Allah to forgive his shortcomings and reward his good deeds with Aljanat Firdaus.

Also, in his own tribute, the Director, Centre for Ilorin Studies (CILS), University of Ilorin, Prof. Issa Olarongbe Sanusi, said that the demise of the Chief Imam is a great loss to the entire Muslim Ummah, and the Ilorin Emirate in particular.

Prof. Sanusi, in a statement, described the late cleric as a unique scholar who was graciously endowed with special qualities.

In addition to his long period of spiritual services to humanity, Prof. Sanusi said that the late Shaykh Saliu exhibited very uncommon and exemplary character, adding that the late Chief Imam was blessed with sound knowledge, native intelligence, humility, perseverance, good temperament, piety, and kindness.

The Director, who teaches at the Department of Linguistics and Nigerian Languages, said that the Chief Imam's amiable and accommodating posture endeared him to many people, including people of other religions.

Prof. Sanusi prayed Allah to forgive the late Chief Imam's shortcomings and grant him Al-janna Firdaus.



Mass Comm. Dept holds annual cleaning exercise, urges others to emulate

By **Mustafa Abubakar**
and **Abubakar Abdulquadri**

The Department of Mass Communication, Faculty of Communication and Information Sciences (CIS), University of Ilorin, has held its 2026 Annual Cleaning Exercise, with a call on other Departments, Faculties and members of the University community to emulate its culture of environmental sanitation to foster institutional pride.

The exercise, which took place last Tuesday, (January 20, 2026) at the Faculty premises, attracted 300-level students of the Department, who actively participated in the sanitation of offices, classrooms and the surrounding environment.

Addressing the participants, the Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Saudat Sallah Abdulbaqi, disclosed that the Faculty recently received commendation at a management meeting where the environmental conditions of the various Faculties were reviewed, with CIS emerging top in cleanliness and orderliness, largely due to the

consistency of the annual cleaning exercise initiated by the Department.

She noted that the programme has become a defining tradition of the Faculty, projecting it as a model of discipline, responsibility and collective ownership.

Prof. Abdulbaqi added that the Communication and Information Sciences Students Association (CISSA) had expressed readiness to deepen its involvement by ensuring that all Departments in the Faculty participate actively in future.

"For the fact that you are doing it well, the Faculty is appreciated and encouraged to sustain the tradition. This is a culture others should emulate," she said.

Prof. Abdulbaqi emphasised that education goes beyond academic performance to include character building and positive contribution to society.

She thanked Almighty Allah for sparing the lives of participants and described cleanliness as an act of worship that attracts divine reward.

Quoting a verse of the Holy Qur'an, "Indeed, Allah loves those who constantly repent and purify themselves,"

and a Hadith of the Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W), which states that "Cleanliness is half of faith," she urged students to demonstrate their fear of Allah by keeping their environment clean at all times.

She added that the Faculty remains a pride to the University of Ilorin and charged students to defend its image by countering negative narratives, both online and offline.

The Ag. Head of the Department of Mass Communication, Dr Patrick Udende, urged students to practise what they preach as communicators by internalising the values of cleanliness, discipline and responsibility.

He encouraged them to extend the habit beyond the Faculty to their homes, hostels and future workplaces, while also serving as role models to incoming students.

The Coordinator of the exercise and Director of General Studies, Prof. Lambe Kayode Mustapha, described the programme as a long-standing tradition that has entered its second decade.

He said it reflects the Department's commitment to the principle that "cleanliness is next to godliness" and serves as a platform for instilling civic and environmental consciousness.

Prof. Mustapha, a former Head of the Department of Mass Communication, explained that students of International Communication must view the exercise within the context of cultural diplomacy and the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly environmental sustainability, which projects Nigeria's image to the global community.

(Contd. on page 11)





Egbewole reaffirms support for visually impaired students

By Bashirat Omotosho

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has reaffirmed the University's commitment to inclusive education with the revival of the Senate Research Grant, a development that has positively impacted 11 visually impaired students of the institution.

The intervention, which focused on improving the academic independence of visually impaired students, was implemented through a nine-week training programme that equipped participants with skills in the use of raised-line paper and the TextVision application for reading and writing.

The project, titled "Empowering Visually Impaired Students at the University of Ilorin: Evaluating the Impact of Reader App and Raised Line Paper on Academic Independence," was held at the Social Studies Education Seminar Room last Tuesday, (January 20, 2026) led by the Deputy Director of Training at the Centre

for Research, Development and In-House Training (CREDIT), Dr Muhinat Bolanle Bello.

Other members of the research team include Prof. Nafisat Adedokun-Shittu from Educational Technology; Prof. Lasiele Alabi Yahaya and Dr Mulikat Mustapha from Educational Guidance and Counselling; Dr Nimota Abdullahi from Educational Management; Dr Hafusat Ameen from Epidemiology and Community Health; Dr Halimah AbdulRaheem from Medical Biochemistry; Dr Mariam Alwajud-Adewusi and Dr Lasbat O. Akinshemoyin from Social Sciences Education, serving as the Chief Facilitator.

Speaking on the project, Dr Bello explained that the beneficiaries had previously faced serious challenges in accessing learning materials and producing written academic work, a situation that affected their academic performance and placed them at risk of dropping out.

According to her, the training exposed the students to practical tools that enhanced their ability to read their own handwriting and write independently, thereby improving their confidence and

academic competence.

The programme came to an end on January 20, 2026, with the presentation of certificates to participating students and facilitators.

The renowned academic noted that preliminary assessments indicate significant improvement in the participants' academic skills and self-reliance.

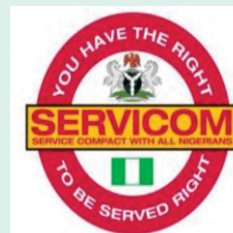
Dr Bello commended the Vice Chancellor for reviving the Senate Research Grant, noting that the initiative provided the opportunity to implement research-driven solutions with direct benefits to students and the wider University community.

She added that the success of the programme underscored the importance of sustained institutional support for research and innovation aimed at addressing the needs.

Present at the event were the Director of the Counseling Unit, Dr Mulkat Ladi Mustapha, and the Director, Centre for Supportive Services, Prof Hassanat Taiwo Ambali, among others.

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UNILORIN GLOCALISE seeks renewed collaboration with Omo Ibile Igbomina

By Mustafa Abubakar

The GLOCALISE Gown, Town and Crown (GTC) Initiative of the University of Ilorin, under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), has paid a working visit to the leadership of Omo Ibile Igbomina to explore areas of renewed collaboration and partnership.

The delegation, led by Prof. Nafisat A. Adedokun-Shittu of the Department of Educational Technology, University of Ilorin, explained that the visit was to congratulate the newly inaugurated President of Omo Ibile Igbomina, Sir Bisi Fakayode, and his executive team, as well as to formally solicit the organisation's continued support for the second phase of the UNESCO-GLOCALISE GTC project.

Prof. Adedokun-Shittu recalled the productive collaboration recorded during the first phase of the project, noting that the leadership of Omo Ibile Igbomina played a crucial role in mobilising both human and material resources for the project, which significantly contributed to its success.

She added that the impressive outcome of the initial phase had facilitated the speedy approval and take-off of the next phase, hence the need to strengthen and renew the existing partnership.

In his response, Sir Fakayode, who welcomed the delegation, described the visit as timely and symbolic, being one of the first official engagements since the inauguration of his administration.

He expressed appreciation for the confidence reposed in Omo Ibile Igbomina and reaffirmed the organisation's readiness to sustain and deepen collaboration with

the University of Ilorin GLOCALISE Gown, Town and Crown initiative for the socio-cultural and developmental advancement of Igbomina land and its people.

He assured the team of the unreserved support of Omo Ibile Igbomina in all programmes and activities that align with community development, cultural preservation, and sustainable partnerships between the University, host communities, and traditional institutions.

Present during the visit were members of the UNESCO-GLOCALISE GTC delegation: Mr Taiye Odedeji, UNESCO Desk Officer; Pastor Kayode Alabi, Mrs Bukola M. Akinola, Mrs Aminat I. Babatunde, and Mr Taiye Afolayan, as well as the Assistant Secretary of Omo Ibile Igbomina, Mr Joel O. Afolayan.

Mass Comm. Dept holds annual cleaning exercise, urges others to emulate

(Contd. from page 9)

Also speaking, Dr Rasak Adisa stressed the importance of reputation management, noting that visitors' first impressions are shaped by what they see in the environment.

According to him, clean offices, classrooms and conveniences speak volumes about the values and standards of an institution.

Earlier, the Captain of the Class, Joshua Oluwatomisin Akindele, who welcomed his 300-level

colleagues to the 2025/2026 edition of the exercise, commended the level of organisation and urged students to see the programme as a collective responsibility.

On his part, Mr Abdulganiy Adewusi congratulated staff and students for their commitment, describing the exercise as a demonstration of unity and institutional pride.

In her remarks, Mrs Ghaniyah Aderinoye charged the students to remain humble and dedicated, while praying for a successful and rewarding

exercise.

Also speaking, Mr Tajudeen Yusuf cautioned participants not to take the programme lightly, urging them to sustain the culture of cleanliness beyond the Faculty environment.

Similarly, Mr Kehinde Idris advised students to carry out the task with passion and discipline, reminding them that they are ambassadors of the University of Ilorin.

UNILORIN, Imperial College, London, sponsor outstanding Ph.D. student

By Mubarak Oladosu

A postgraduate student at the University of Ilorin, Damilare Taiwo Isaiah, has been offered a full scholarship to pursue his three year full-time Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) programme at the Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Ilorin, in partnership with the Imperial College, London under the xSTAR Project Nigeria, which is sponsored by WellcomeTrust.

The offer was conveyed to the candidate after the decision of the selection committee, at the end of a highly competitive and rigorous selection process, through a letter dated January 15, 2026, and signed by the Principal Investigator on the xSTAR Project Nigeria, Prof. Olatunji Mathew Kolawole.

According to the letter, the student was selected following the assessment of his academic credentials, research aptitude, technical knowledge, and the fact that he exhibited a potential to make meaningful contributions to arbovirus surveillance research in Nigeria and across Africa.

The letter reads in part, "Your exceptional performance throughout the interview stages, particularly your grasp of serological cross-reactivity, epidemiological inference, and modelling potential, as well as your articulate research vision, distinguished you as the most suitable candidate for this position."

The programme, which is entitled "Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Microbiology – Arbovirus and Other Pathogens Serosurveillance and Modelling" will be supervised by Prof. Olatunji Mathew Kolawole of the Department of Microbiology, University of Ilorin, and co-supervised by Prof. Ilaria

Dorigatti of the Imperial College in London.

In the course of the programme, Mr Isaiah would be exposed to Laboratory training in multiplex serological assays and to Computational and statistical modelling training.

In addition, the University of Ilorin, which is the host institution, is expected to cover expenses of the Ph.D. candidate to the tune of N19 million in total, over a period of about three years.

The breakdown of the expenses to be borne by the University of Ilorin shows that tuition and mandatory academic fees of the candidate is to the tune of 1.5 million naira which the University will disburse in installments of N500,000 per annum for three years. This amount covers registration and departmental charges, and also examination and thesis submission fees.

The University of Ilorin will also pay a monthly stipend totalling N6.3 million at N175,000 per month for 36 months. This amount caters for the candidate's feeding, daily expenses, local transport, utilities, and internet access.

The University of Ilorin will also bear accommodation expenses of the student which is N1.5 million at N500,000 per annum for three years.

On its part, the Imperial College will shoulder the return flights of the student's international travel costs to the United Kingdom for training, visa processing fees and travel documentation



■ Mr. Isaiah (middle) flanked by the Principal Investigator, Prof. Kolawole and the H.O.D of Microbiology, Prof. Sule

and accommodation during UK training periods, international training programme costs and international travel to Senegal and France for laboratory training.

Mr Isaiah holds an M.Sc. in Microbiology, specialising in Microbial Genetics and Biotechnology, from Covenant University, where he was a fully funded scholar of the Covenant Applied Informatics and Communication Africa Centre of Excellence (CApIC-ACE), a World Bank-supported programme. He also holds a B.Tech in Pure and Applied Biology (Microbiology) from Ladoke Akintola University of Technology.

He previously worked as a Research Assistant at CApIC-ACE and has received competitive conference grants, including the IASpharma Travel Grant and the University of Ibadan Biomedical Research Conference Grant. Damilare has authored two peer-reviewed international journal articles, and contributed four book chapters.

Amoloye-Adebayo seeks men's support for gender equity

By Muizdeen Adewole

The Head of the Department of Islamic Law, University of Ilorin, Prof. Azizat Omotoyosi Amoloye-Adebayo, has emphasised the pivotal role men should play in supporting feminism and achieving gender equity.

Speaking on a UNILORIN FM Programme, "Gender Lens", anchored by Oluwadamilola Afelumo, last Wednesday, (January 21, 2026), Prof. Amoloye-Adebayo stressed that male involvement is crucial in raising self-aware and confident children.

"Men are needed for structure," she said, highlighting the significance of male participation in fostering a balanced



■ Prof. Amoloye-Adebayo

society.

She argued that feminism, though often perceived as a western concept, is a

universal value that seeks to recognise and protect women's rights.

Prof. Amoloye-Adebayo drew a distinction between gender equality and equity, advocating for the latter as it acknowledges the different roles and needs of genders. "Equality is a fact of creation, but equity is about recognising the different roles and needs of genders," she explained.

The don further highlighted the imperative of collaboration between men and women to achieve gender equity, with men playing a crucial role in providing structure and support. Prof. Amoloye-Adebayo called for the recognition of the inherent equality of all humans and the importance of equitable roles in society.



UNILORIN POGSASS, KBA hold research capacity-building workshop on ethical use of AI

By **Mustafa Abubakar**

The Postgraduate Students' Association (POGSASS), University of Ilorin, in collaboration with KBA Consults, has organised a three-day Research Capacity-Building Workshop aimed at enhancing the research competencies of postgraduate students and early-career researchers.

The workshop, which held last Tuesday and Wednesday (January 20 and 21, 2026), took place across selected venues on the University campus and attracted participants from various Faculties, alongside members of the POGSASS executive council.

Speaking at the event, a research consultant from the KBA Consults, Mr Akano Mustapha, said the training was designed to equip participants with contemporary research skills and deepen their understanding of the responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in academic work.

He explained that AI tools could significantly improve literature search, data analysis and academic writing when properly applied, but cautioned that misuse could undermine originality and academic integrity.

He, therefore, urged

participants to see AI as a supportive research assistant rather than a replacement for critical thinking.

Earlier in his address, the Convener of the programme, Mr Abdulkhaliq Bolarin Abdulsalam, explained that the workshop focused on core research skills, academic writing, proper referencing, and the ethical application of AI tools in scholarly works.

He said participants were trained on the responsible use of platforms such as ChatGPT, SciSpace, ChatPDF and Microsoft Copilot, with strong emphasis on avoiding plagiarism and upholding the principles of academic integrity.

In his remarks, the President of POGSASS, Hakeen Abiodun Kuranga, commended the organisers and facilitators for their commitment to building the research capacity of postgraduate students, describing the workshop as timely and relevant in an era of rapid technological advancement in the academia.

He added that the Association would continue to support initiatives that promote quality research and global best practices among its members.

The facilitators also took participants through practical demonstrations on how AI-powered platforms could be deployed for literature review, summarisation of

scholarly articles, citation management and research organisation.

They explained that, when properly guided, these tools could help researchers save time, refine arguments and improve clarity of expression, while still ensuring that ideas remain original and well-attributed to credible sources.

They further stressed the importance of critical digital literacy, urging participants to always verify AI-generated outputs, cross-check information with peer-reviewed sources and adhere strictly to institutional and international ethical standards.

According to them, sound knowledge of AI would not only enhance research productivity but also prepare postgraduate students for the evolving global academic environment where technology and scholarship increasingly intersect.

Speaking with *UNILORIN Bulletin*, one of the participants, Mrs Grace David Makanjuola, said the workshop improved her awareness of ethical research practices, enhanced her academic writing skills and deepened her understanding of how to integrate AI tools responsibly into scholarly works, thereby underscoring the overall success of the programme.



Explore your potential through photojournalism, Raheem tells students

By Bashirat Omotosho

The Director of the Technical and Entrepreneurship Centre (TEC), Prof. Usman Adebimpe Raheem, has urged students of the University to harness their creative abilities and transform photography skills into viable entrepreneurial ventures through photojournalism.

Prof. Raheem made the call last Thursday (January 22, 2026) during the GSE 301 course held at the CIS Lecture Theatre, themed “Turning Photography Skills into Entrepreneurial Opportunities: A Step-by-Step Approach.”

The Director emphasised that photojournalism remains a powerful tool for storytelling, documentation, and income generation in today's digital-driven economy.

He noted that beyond aesthetics, photography has become an essential medium for communication, advocacy, and business, particularly with the rise of online media platforms and content creation.

Prof. Raheem further encouraged students to explore their unique potentials by acquiring practical skills, developing a professional mindset, and leveraging entrepreneurship education to become self-reliant.

According to him, the GSE 301 course was designed to expose students to real-world opportunities that can translate academic learning into sustainable careers. He assured students that the Centre is always open to students for learning and support, adding that the best three pictures will be displayed at the Centre.

Delivering the keynote lecture, the Guest Speaker, Mr Sanni Abdullah, a seasoned photojournalist, gave an in-depth exposition on how photography can be effectively turned into an entrepreneurial venture. He explained the fundamentals of photojournalism, stressing the importance of visual accuracy, ethical reporting, and storytelling through images.

Mr Abdullah also discussed practical steps involved in building a successful photography career, including mastering camera techniques, understanding lighting and composition, and developing a strong portfolio.

He highlighted the relevance of digital tools and social media platforms in marketing photographic works and attracting clients in a competitive market.

The renowned photojournalist advised students to remain consistent, disciplined, and innovative in their craft.

He urged them to seek mentorship, continuously update their skills, and embrace creativity as a means of solving societal problems while generating income,

noting that photography, when properly harnessed, can open doors to diverse professional opportunities.

In his goodwill message, the General Manager of UNILORIN 89.3 FM, Mr Idris Aloma, encouraged the students to engage in constant practice and hands-on learning to sharpen their photography skills.

He stressed that originality and dedication are critical to standing out in the media and creative industries, urging students to be confident in expressing their unique perspectives through images.

Similarly, the Chairman of the National Association of Academic Technologists, Mr. Femi Awolola, advised students to strive for uniqueness and excellence in their chosen fields. He noted that creativity thrives with regular practice and innovation, encouraging participants to develop their individual styles and use photography as a tool for personal growth and professional relevance.

Present at the event were Mr Ahmed Abidoye from the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Mr Adewusi Abdulganiyu from TEC and Mr Tajudeen Yusuf of the Department of Mass Communication and students of the GSE 301 course, among others.

Renewal of Appointment

NAME	FACULTY / DEPARTMENT	APPOINTMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Prof. Patricia F. Omojasola	Life Sciences/ Microbiology	Director, Center for Gender Studies	1 ST August, 2025

INEC pledges continuous collaborations with UNILORIN

By Muizdeen Adewole

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has pledged its continuous collaborations with the University of Ilorin.

This reassurance was made by the Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) of INEC in Kwara State, Dr Hale Gabriel Longpet, while featuring on *UNILORIN FM's* "Table Talk" anchored by the Station Manager, Mr Idris Alooma, last Thursday, (January 22, 2026).

Dr Longpet emphasised the strong and enduring relationship between INEC and Nigerian universities, noting that the Commission has traditionally relied on universities as a key source of adhoc staff and returning officers.

He recalled his encounter with the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, during the 2023 general elections in Kogi State, where he served as the Resident Electoral Commissioner before his transfer to Kwara State. "The current Vice Chancellor was the INEC Returning



■ Dr Longpet

Officer for Kogi State during that election," he said, highlighting the long-standing partnership between INEC and Nigerian universities.

Dr Longpet noted that the Commission has launched the second phase of its continuous voter registration exercise, aiming to update the voter register to ensure that eligible citizens can participate in future elections. He further mentioned that the exercise allows new voters to register, while also enabling existing voters to update their information,

transfer voting locations, or correct errors on their registration cards.

According to the REC, the exercise is crucial in addressing issues with the current register, including inaccurate information and missing names. "Many people have given different reasons for not participating in previous elections," he said.

He reiterated INEC's commitment to conducting free, fair, and credible elections in Nigeria, noting that the Commission's mandates go beyond conducting elections, saying that it encompasses critical tasks such as registering political parties and monitoring their activities, delimiting constituencies and polling units, and educating voters on the electoral process.

He noted that INEC is also responsible for registering voters, maintaining the voters' register, and ensuring compliance with electoral laws by all stakeholders, including political parties, candidates, and voters.

"As Nigeria gears up for the next round of elections, INEC is leaving no stone unturned in its preparations to guarantee a credible and transparent electoral process," he stated.

Alabi empowers Unilorites ready to establish fast food outlet on campus

By Idris Alooma

A renowned philanthropist and Chairman, The Promise Fast Food, Dr Tajudeen Oluwatoyin Alabi, has announced plans to establish a fast food outlet at the University of Ilorin that would provide students with nutritious and affordable meals. This initiative, according to Dr Alabi, is part of his broader mission to empower youth and uplift his community through education and opportunity.

Dr Alabi unveiled this commitment last Thursday (January 22, 2026) when he visited *UNILORIN 89.3 FM* after watching a drama performance staged by students of the Department of English and Literary Studies

He added that he has also awarded scholarships to deserving students, including Miss Precious Olamide Afolabi and Sunday Esther Obonganwa, who were given ₦100,000 in addition to full scholarship to enable them to face their studies squarely.

The philanthropist emphasised the importance of the arts in shaping values, culture, and societal



■ Dr Alabi

consciousness, stating that creative expressions like drama and literature play a critical role in nurturing creativity, empathy, and critical thinking among young Nigerians.

He also shared his personal journey of giving back as he enjoined others to take responsibility for their communities.

Dr Alabi's company is a major

hospitality brand in Nigeria's South-South region, and he plans to expand it to Kwara State and University of Ilorin in particular to create opportunities for students and locals alike.

He praised the visionary leadership of the Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole SAN.

In a bold move, Dr Alabi unveiled plans for Nigeria's first tuition-free university to be established in Igbaja Kwara State focusing on Sports, Vocational Studies, and Entertainment, aimed at equipping graduates with practical skills to thrive in competitive environments. This initiative addresses the nation's pressing challenges of youth unemployment and skills gaps.

Dr Alabi's holistic approach to development, combining education, culture, and entrepreneurship, offers a compelling blueprint for leaders and citizens to follow, proving that transformation begins when vision meets action at every level of society. His efforts demonstrate a profound understanding that sustainable progress is multi-dimensional, requiring passion, purpose, and partnership.



UNILORIN Deputy Registrars hold maiden annual party

By Temitope Omoniyi

The University of Ilorin Registry buzzed with cheer and camaraderie as Deputy Registrars gathered for their first annual get-together.

Held at the scenic UNILORIN Lakeside Resort last Wednesday (January 21, 2026), the event



■ Prof. Egbewole



Mr Alfania

was a joyous reflection of 2025 marked by achievements, collaboration, and professional growth.

Speaking at the event, the Registrar, Mr Mansur Alfania, commended the team's efforts, particularly their contributions to the 40th convocation ceremonies and the University's 50th-anniversary celebrations.

Mr Alfania also commended the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Egbewole, SAN, for his pivotal role in actualising the career progression of non-teaching staff to CONTISS 15, a milestone that significantly boosts staff morale.

He further praised the huge contributions of the Deputy Registrars who continue to support the growth of the institution.

While thanking the Vice Chancellor for his unwavering support for staff training, the Registrar expressed optimism that the Registry would continue to benefit from professional development opportunities both within and outside the country to help achieve the vision of the University.

In his address, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Egbewole, SAN, acknowledged the crucial role Deputy Registrars play in the

University administration.

He applauded the Registry's prowess and the inclusive environment promoted by the Registrar.

Prof. Egbewole urged the staff to continue embracing automation in their records and assured them that management would maintain a conducive work environment.

A key highlight of the event was the presentation of awards to select Registry staff, recognising their exceptional productivity and professional conduct throughout 2025.



UNILORIN FASA holds two-day sensitisation programme

By Bashir Dawodu

The Faculty of Arts Students Association (FASA), University of Ilorin Chapter, has organised a two-day sensitisation programme aimed at enlightening students of the faculty on the rules, regulations, and ethical standards guiding their studentship.

The programme was held last Wednesday (January 21, 2026), and Thursday (January 22, 2026) held at the Arts Lecture Theatre (ALT).

Speaking at the event, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Prof. Ibrahim Abdulganiyu Jawondo, urged students to familiarise themselves with the University's rules and regulations, stressing that freedom cannot exist without laws to guide it.

The Dean, who was represented by one of his predecessors, Prof. Abdullahi S. Abubakar, noted that adherence to rules and regulations promote harmony, while their absence could

lead to chaos and disorder.

He explained that rules and regulations apply not only to students but also to lecturers, adding that ignorance is not an excuse.

"Rules and regulations provide an opportunity to learn what to do, what not to do, and how to do what ought to be done," he said.

Prof. Jawondo commended the organisers of the programme and charged students to be good ambassadors of the Faculty and the University wherever they find themselves.

Also speaking, the Head of the Department of Performing and Film Arts, Dr Saadiyat Olapeju Shuaib, cautioned students against engaging in violent acts and urged them to be disciplined and maintain healthy social interactions.

She warned that involvement in fights and examination malpractice could attract severe sanctions, including expulsion.

In his address, the Faculty Chairman of the Quality Assurance Committee, Prof. A. S. AbdusSalam,

explained that quality assurance covers all aspects of the University system to ensure smooth and effective operations.

He noted that part of the responsibilities of the Committee is to ensure that lectures are delivered in a qualitative manner.

Similarly, a Lecturer at the Department of Performing and Film Arts, Dr T. S. Arinde, advised students to maintain a clean environment, describing cleanliness as "next to godliness."

He discouraged littering and urged students to work hard and engage in activities that would leave a lasting positive impact.

In her remarks, the Faculty Officer, Mrs Elizabeth Nnaji, reminded students, particularly freshers, of the need to promptly register their course forms.

Highlights of the event included a mental health session, aimed at promoting emotional well-being among undergraduates.



UNILORIN mentees celebrate Bamigbola's retirement

*By Mustafa Abubakar
and Bashirat Omotosho*

The academic mentees of Prof. Olabode Mathias Bamigbola of the Department of Mathematics, University of Ilorin, have celebrated his retirement with special honour, marking his exit from active service after over three decades of academic contributions.

The ceremony, which took place last Wednesday (January 21, 2026) at the Faculty Board Room, featured a special lecture delivered by a mentee, Prof. Idowu A. Osinuga of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.

Prof. Osinuga described Prof. Bamigbola as an exceptional scholar, mentor and role model whose impact on the academic and professional lives of his students and colleagues remains indelible.

He noted that the celebrant's dedication to teaching, research and human capacity development had produced generations of scholars within and outside Nigeria.

Prof. Bamigbola, who joined the services of the University of Ilorin in 1986 as an Assistant Lecturer and rose to the rank of Professor of Mathematics in 1999, has served in several leadership capacities, including Head of Department and Acting Dean of the Faculty of Sciences.

He has supervised over 100 undergraduate projects, 35 master's dissertations and 19 doctoral theses. He has published more than 100 scholarly works in reputable journals and conference proceedings.

Also speaking, the Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Olabisi Adeleye Adekeye, commended the honouree for his outstanding service to the Faculty and the University at large.

He described Prof. Bamigbola as a seasoned administrator and bridge-builder who, as former Head of Department and Acting Dean, contributed immensely to academic planning, curriculum development and staff development.

He added that Prof. Bamigbola's calm disposition, depth of knowledge and

commitment to fairness had earned him respect across faculties, stressing that the University is proud to be associated with such a distinguished scholar.

Also, the Head of the Department of Mathematics, Prof. Amos Idowu, described Prof. Bamigbola as "the conscience of the Department," whose commitment to excellence, discipline and academic integrity had helped to entrench a strong culture of research and mentorship.

He stated that Prof. Bamigbola's doors were always open to students and colleagues alike, and that his insistence on thoroughness and precision had raised the standard of teaching and supervision in the Department.

According to him, "Prof. Bamigbola is not just a teacher of Mathematics; he is a builder of men and women of character. His legacy will continue to guide our academic practices for many years to come."

In their goodwill messages, Prof. Babatunde Lateef Adeleke; Prof. Timothy Oloyede Opoola; Prof. Alafara Abdulahi Baba; Prof. Kamilu Rauf; Prof. Olubunmi A. Fadipe-Joseph; Dr Olanrewaju Thomas Olotu; and Miss Mercy E. Akindoyin, said that Prof. Bamigbola is one of the finest products of the University of Ilorin, whose academic journey from student to professor stands as an inspiration to younger scholars.

They assured the honouree that they would continue to draw from his wealth of experience even in retirement.

Earlier, Prof. Yidiat O. Aderinto, said the celebration was conceived to appreciate a man who had invested selflessly in people and institutions.

(Contd. on page 19)



UNILORIN mentees celebrate Bamigbola's retirement

(Contd. from page 18)

She noted that many of the academic successes recorded by members of the organising committee and other mentees were traceable to Prof. Bamigbola's guidance, encouragement and personal sacrifices, particularly in facilitating access to conferences, research grants and international collaborations.

In their collective tribute, other mentees, Dr Tajudeen Aliu, Dr Adebisi Adebayo Ibrahim, Dr Titilope F. Aminu, Mr James Akinsuyi Akingbade, Miss Mercy E. Akindoyin, Mrs Toyibat B.

Yusuf, and Mrs Fatima AbdulMalik, described Prof. Bamigbola as a dedicated teacher, inspiring mentor and compassionate leader who consistently supported their academic growth, facilitated research opportunities and encouraged international exposure.

They thanked him for his passion, guidance, mentoring and commitment to excellence, and wished him a fulfilling and peaceful retirement.

Responding, Prof. Bamigbola expressed profound gratitude to God for good health and a fulfilling career, and thanked the University management, colleagues, students and mentees for the

honour accorded him.

He described the occasion as deeply emotional, noting that his greatest achievement was not the titles he had earned but the lives he had touched through teaching and mentorship.

"I am fulfilled seeing my students become professors, researchers and leaders in their own right. This celebration reminds me that the true reward of an academic life is found in the success of those you have trained," he said.

Present at the well-attended event were other mentees, physically and virtually, colleagues, friends, families and loved ones.

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IS THE INVISIBLE HAND THAT
SHAPES DESTINIES.
IT'S THE GENTLE COMPASS
THAT GUIDES STEPS
WHEN THE PATH
SEEMS UNCERTAIN.**



UNIVERSITY OF ILORIN, MENTORSHIP CENTRE.



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PRESENTS

STAFF DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP (SERIES 1)

THEME:

RE-IMAGINING LEADERSHIP AND WORKPLACE HARMONY
FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Date: Wednesday February 11th, 2026

Venue: University Auditorium

Time: 10:00am



Chief Host

PROF. WAHAB OLASUPO EGBEWOLE, SAN
LLB (Hons) (Ifé), B.L. (Lagos); LL.M (Ifé); Ph.D (Ilorin); FCArb; Fagap
VICE CHANCELLOR



Host

DR. ADEOLA AMINAT ODEBO
Ag. Director, Centre for Management
and Leadership Horix



Guest of Honor

AMB. PROF. OLUFOLAKE ABDULRAZAD
The First Lady Of Kwara State



Lecturer 1

PROF. SULAIMAN ABUBAKAR
Former Minister of National Planning & ESU, National Institute
for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS)



Lecturer 2

HON. BOLA OLUKOJU
Commissioner for Communication, Kwara State.



Lecturer 3

ENGR. JANI IBRAHIM, FNSE
President, Nigeria Association of Chambers of Commerce,
Industry Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA)



UNILORIN WEEKLY FINANCIAL DIGEST

FUND SOURCES AND UTILIZATION REPORT FROM 15TH TO 22ND JANUARY 2026

RECEIPTS:	AMOUNT
Academic Transcript	45,500.00
Sundry & Other Fees Student Charges	735,509.00
Sundry Other Incomes	649,200.00
Income from Verification /Screening	710,000.00
Staff I.D Cards	8,000.00
Student I.D Card	3,000.00
Insurance Claims/Others	373,185.84
Administrative Charges Income	3,000.00
Clinic Registration (Staff)	241,000.00
Contractor's Registration fees	11,000.00
Convocation Souvenir	26,500.00
Capitation NHIS	3,134,900.00
Others	20,000.00
Refund (Non Salary)	167,782.35
Refund of Unspent Staff Personnal Advance	6,500,000.00
Refund (Salary)	132,474.82
Boarded Property	226,500.00
Rent on University Property	112,000.00
Utility Income	816,500.00
Late Registration Surcharges	3,000.00
University of Ilorin -1000115 Fees	6,000.00
Hire of University Property	2,000.00
CODL-Undergraduate Charges	101,680.00
Undergraduate Transcript Payment	1,094,400.00
Undergraduate School Charges	319,502.00
Undergraduate Hostel Accommodation	251,267.00
Undergraduate Convocation Charges	40,400.00
Postgraduate School Charges	9,525,129.00
Postgraduate School Transcript Payment	275,000.00
Postgraduate Application Form	1,108,800.00
Postgraduate School Acceptance Payment	40,200.00
Remedial Application Form	76,000.00
Remedial Acceptance Payment	76,000.00
Remedial School Charges	354,600.00
Ilorin Business School Charges	168,300.00
Ilorin Business School Application Form	100,800.00
Ilorin Business School Acceptance Payment	739,200.00
Institute of Education Hostel Accommodation	121,200.00
Institute of Education School Charges	105,540.40
Institute of Education Acceptance Payment	15,200.00
Institute of Education Application Form	30,400.00
JUPEB Acceptance Payment	75,600.00
JUPEB Application Form	50,400.00
JUPEB School Charges	2,094,800.00
Total Receipt for the Period	N30,691,470.41
PAYMENTS	
PAYMENT TO CONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS:	
Sternrock Global Biz Ventures Internet Connection/Bandwidth	2,848,750.00
Mu-Lak Global Optimum Ltd Repainting and Redecoration of University Kerbs and other works for 2025 Convocation	3,549,843.50
JKK Onware Ltd Supply of Labtops for Exams at CBT	20,000,000.00
Yusuf O. Ali and co Legal fee	2,639,500.00
Hambib Venture Ltd Renovation of the dept of Mathematics	419,630.03
Messrs Idreday Global Service Repair of Toyota Hilux Vehicle	6,808,357.70
Luke Gbenle Jolayemi Nigeria Ltd Supply of 2500A ABB Breaker University Central Power Station.	10,271,625.00
Sinclair Hospitality Services Ltd Hotel Expenses	1,048,850.00
Aram Engineering Nigeria Limited Water Improvement in Various Locations	8,929,227.94
Charlotte Projects Concept Limited Construction & Furnishing of Block of Classroom (LOT 2) (CBNTETFUND)	8,801,606.91
Geewald Venture Renovation of frontal Walkways (CBNTETFUND)	606,717.96
GLO Business Solution Internet Connection	28,055,741.88
Sammorf Agro Consult Ltd Renovation of Social Sciences Education Building	101,085.28
Ribodek Integrated Service Ltd Construction of Reinforcement Concrete bed at new Car Park Phase 1	69,557,680.81
Bilmalzeen Integrated Services Lt Construction of Shed/Walkway at new Car Park for Marcopollo & other Buses	44,564,651.58
ZK Istijabah Events Management & Decorations Provision of Tent, decoration of Tents, VIP Chairs etc	1,435,000.00
OTHER PAYMENTS:	
Various Various i.e DTA, IMPREST, REFUND e.t.c	44,596,555.79
Purchase Advance Various	553,000.00
Unilorin Petrol Stations Supply of Fuel	6,347,300.00
Unilorin Researchers Lodges Hotel Expenses	1,254,804.00
Vigilante Group of Nigeria Salary for December 2025	2,886,000.00
Unilorin Guest House Catering Services	4,736,977.00
Unilorin Holding Ltd Hospitality	1,513,512.00
Innovet AMR Research Grant	43,696,583.63
Student Unions Disbursement of 2025/2026 undergraduate Student Charges Collection	92,811,500.00
Nigerian Journal of Technological Development Support toward FETICON 2025 Conference	800,000.00
Total TSA Charges Various	95,997.00
Total payment for the period	N408,930,498.01

Signed
Abiodun Lawal FCNA
Bursar



S/N	NAME	DEPARTMENT	BIRTHDAY
1	ADU DORCAS DUPE	REGISTRY	25-Jan
2	JOSEPH ISAIAH EDOGBO	REGISTRY	25-Jan
3	OLAOYE VICTORIA IYABO	REGISTRY	25-Jan
4	ISSA YAKUBU	SECURITY DIVISION	25-Jan
5	IBRAHIM FATIMAT FOLAWIYO	DIRECTORATE OF GENERAL SERVICES/REGISTRY	25-Jan
6	ONI ISRAEL OLA-OLUWA	REGISTRY	25-Jan
7	BAJOMO EUNICE TAYO	REGISTRY	25-Jan
8	OYEKUNLE TIMOTHY LANRE	MATHEMATICS	25-Jan
9	ISSA ABDULHAKHEEM	CENTRE FOR OPEN & DISTANCE LEARNING	25-Jan
10	ONI MARION OLABISI	UNILORIN STAFF SCHOOL (UPPER BASIC SCHOOL)	26-Jan
11	ABIODUN OLUFUNMILOLA ADUNNI	HOME ECONOMICS & FOOD SCIENCE	26-Jan
12	ADEKUNLE OLUWASEGUN ADETOKUNBO	AGRIC. EXTENSION & RURAL DEVELOPMENT	26-Jan
13	AGBOJULOGUN MURITALA SHEHU	SECURITY DIVISION	26-Jan
14	OGUNJUMILUA MOSUNMOLA ABEKE	REGISTRY	26-Jan
15	ABDURRAHEEM ABDULHAFIZ OLANREWaju	REGISTRY	26-Jan
16	SULEIMAN MULIKAT ARINOLA	SECURITY DIVISION	26-Jan
17	ADEYINKA-AJIBOYE OLABAMIBO VICTORIA	AGRIC. & BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING	26-Jan
18	BABAMALE SURAJ MOHAMMED	REGISTRY	26-Jan
19	YAYI TIMOTHY OPEYEMI	SOCIAL SCIENCE EDUCATION	26-Jan
20	OLARINOYE JOHN KOLA	MEDICINE	27-Jan
21	OJULARI LEKAN SHERIFF	PHYSIOLOGY	27-Jan
22	OTONEKWU FLORENCE ONYEISI	LIBRARY	27-Jan
23	ABDULBAKI OBA	BURSARY	27-Jan
24	ISA SALAMAT BOLANLE	ADULT & PRIMARY EDUCATION	27-Jan
25	JIBRIL UMAR NDA	NURSING SCIENCE	27-Jan
26	BELEWU KAFAYAT YEMISI	AGRIC. ECONOMICS & FARM MANAGEMENT	27-Jan
27	ADEBISI ADEBAYO	SECURITY DIVISION	27-Jan
28	ATIKU MONSURAT ALATEMEJI	REGISTRY	27-Jan
29	JIMOH-ABDULGHAFFAAR HIDAAYAN OLUWAMAYOWA	PHYSIOLOGY	27-Jan
30	AYINLA SULYMAN	SECURITY DIVISION	28-Jan
31	ISYAKU IBRAHIM BICHI	SECURITY DIVISION	28-Jan
32	OGUNLELA OLAYIDE OLAJUMOKE	HEALTH SERVICES	28-Jan
33	ARIYO OLUFEMI ADEWUMI	REGISTRY	28-Jan
34	JIMBA ABDULHAMEED ISHOLA	REGISTRY	28-Jan
35	SALMAN TAWAKALITU KEMI	REGISTRY	29-Jan
36	AMUDA ABIOLA YAHAYA	WORKS: ELECTRICAL/TELECOM	29-Jan
37	ISSA ABDULKADIR	SECURITY DIVISION	29-Jan
38	ABDULRAHMAN ABDULFATAH IDRIS	REGISTRY	30-Jan
39	SAKA LUQMAN	POLITICAL SCIENCE	30-Jan
40	ISHOLA BEATRICE OLUWAFUNMILAYO	REGISTRY	30-Jan
41	ASAJU MUSA	WORKS: WORKS/MAINT. OFFICE	30-Jan
42	EGBEWOLE MUIBAT ADEOLA	REGISTRY	30-Jan
43	OLUMO ADAMA BOLANLE	BURSARY	30-Jan
44	OKORO TAWAKALITU ADERONKE	REGISTRY	30-Jan
45	USMAN-HAMZA FATIMA ENEHEZEI	COMPUTER SCIENCE	30-Jan
46	AHMED IMAM ABDUR-RASHEED	JURISPRUDENCE & INTERNATIONAL LAW	30-Jan
47	ZUBAIR MARILI FUNMILAYO	INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY	31-Jan
48	UTHMAN LATEEFAT ARINOLA	ARABIC	31-Jan
49	SA'AD MUHAMMED JUNAID	REGISTRY	31-Jan
50	ABDULKARIM UMMA ABDULKADIR	REGISTRY	31-Jan
51	AWOPETU OLUWAFUNMILAYO ELIZABETH	REGISTRY	31-Jan
52	ADEOGUN JAMIU AYOOLA	BURSARY	31-Jan



FACES AT THE KU8+ 3RD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION LAST SATURDAY



Open Ph.D. Thesis Defence

S/NO	NAME	FACULTY/DEPARTMENT	TITLE	DATE & TIME	VENUE
1.	OLATUNJI Kazeem Toyosi	Life Sciences/Microbiology	In vitro Antimycobacterial Potential, Acute Toxicity and in-silico Analysis of Bioactive Compounds from Selected Medicinal Plants	Wednesday 21 st January, 2026.	Faculty of Life Sciences Committee Room

New Appointment

NAME	FACULTY / DEPARTMENT	APPOINTMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Prof. O. Adeyemi	Arts/Linguistics and Nigerian Languages	Chairman, Environmental Committee	20 th January, 2026
Prof A. Tella	Communication and Information Sciences/Library and Information Sciences	Chairman, Computer Based Test (CBT)	20 th January, 2026



Prioritise financial intelligence, Badmos urges UNILORIN students

By Abubakar Abdulquadri

The Proprietor of IQRA Group of Schools and Member of the Nigerian Economic Society (NES), Mr Aliu A. Badmos, has called on both staff and students of the University of Ilorin to always prioritise financial intelligence as a means of avoiding financial incapability and living a better life all the time.

Mr Badmos made this call last Wednesday (January 21, 2026) while speaking at a programme themed "Unlocking Financial Freedom Through Money", organised by the Communication and Information Sciences Students Association (CISSA) at the Faculty Lecture Theatre.

The proprietor stressed the importance of making money, saying it is very important because we spend money every day, and nothing is free. He emphasised that whatever food you take advantage of being consumed free of charge or any free service enjoyed, somebody somewhere might have paid for it.

Mr Badmos, who was the Guest Speaker at the event, said money making can be managed through two perspectives: Financial Literacy and Financial Intelligence. He explained that financial literacy deals with understanding the rules that guide monetary aspects, pointing out that one of the rules is that money is a tool that can help or destroy you.

He emphasised the need to continue to learn about how money earned can be grown. He warned against spending all earned money on consumption alone as he recommended the priority of saving.

Speaking further on financial intelligence, Mr Badmus advised participants to be smart about the money they earn and ensure they focus more on their financial future. "Avoid bad debt and cherish good debt, noting that good debt is when borrowed money is spent to invest in what can earn more profit or interest to pay back conveniently and still have a project or product to be proud of", he said.

The renowned Economist called on participants to watch the relationship between their income and expenses and

never allow their consumption to surpass their income.

Earlier in her remarks, the Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Saudat Salah Abdulbaqi, commended the University management for investing heavily in the Faculty as she appreciated the ongoing renovation at the Faculty and urged students to maintain the facilities, saying that "to whom much is given, much is expected".

Prof. Abdulbaqi appreciated CISSA's leadership for collaborating with the Faculty management to maintain orderliness and ensure students don't violate the University's dress code. She acknowledged their self-designed initiative to maintain Faculty cleanliness, setting aside a month to clean the Faculty and its environment, which she described as unprecedented in the University of Ilorin.

Also speaking, the Ag. Head of the Department of Finance, University of Ilorin, Dr Biliqees A. Abdulmumin, while presenting a paper on "Money Management Skills", enlightened participants on the need to have better awareness and remain disciplined on how to earn, spend, and save money.

The Head of the Department said that if one is able to achieve this, one would be seen as a financial manager. She encouraged the audience to always track their expenses and incomes, as this will enable them to adjust regular expenses and also add up where necessary.

The don cautioned them against buying imported goods and yielding to pressure to get materials or needed products like their peers, lamenting that their means of earning differ.

She emphasised the importance of spending 50% of their earnings on consumption, 30% on needs, and saving 20% as it is very necessary.

While advising the participants, she suggested saving money on fixed deposit as the fastest way of growing interest on money and ensuring they extend the value of their money from time to time.

The President of CISSA, Sanni Nurudeen Akorede, thanked the management and staff of the Faculty for the quality service delivery to students.