

“NOW THAT WE ARE BACK TO OUR BEATS:”

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, FEDERAL UNIVERSITY LOKOJA, PROFESSOR OLAYEMI AKINWUMI TO THE EMERGENCY MEETING OF SENATE HELD ON MONDAY, 17TH OCTOBER, 2022 IN THE SENATE CHAMBER, FELELE

Distinguished Members of Senate, I welcome you to this emergency meeting of Senate after the eight (8) months imbroglio occasioned by the nationwide strike embarked upon in the Public Universities.

PUTTING THE STRIKE BEHIND US:

There is no doubt that the strike has subjected all the Universities that were involved to incalculable academic set back which has resulted in our University having to work out the modalities to handle three outstanding sets of admitted candidates into the University through the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB). Already, the University has lost one academic session therefore, NOW THAT WE ARE BACK TO OUR BEATS, I will admonish us all to put the strike behind us and focus on how to cover up for the period already lost.

I want to use this occasion to appeal to us all to put in extra efforts to our schedules to make for the time lost so that our students will not suffer unduly for the strike.

I know, as a matter of fact that this is a daunting sacrifice that I request of you but we will need to bend-over backwards for the sake of our students.

REVISED ACADEMIC CALENDAR:

The Management is presenting to this August Senate, a new Academic Calendar to accommodate the programmes of the outstanding admissions already done and the one currently being handled.

I want to again appeal for our understanding in approving the calendar as presented and the additional burden it will place on all of us as we strive to work towards achieving the demands of the calendar.

BACKLOG OF ADMISSION EXERCISE:

Please recall that shortly before the commencement of the strike, admission exercise took place and the students had just registered and started lectures for about four weeks when the strike started. We earlier had a set of hundred level students who were about to start the first semester examinations.

The University now has another set of UTME candidates already waiting for admission. In essence, we will have to handle the cases of three sets of 100 level students when this admission exercise eventually takes place.

The new calendar as set out will have to take care of these various sets of 100 level students. Aware of the onerous responsibilities attached to the calendar I am therefore, earnestly pleading that we all put in our best by sacrificing for the sake of our students.

REVIEW OF THE STRIKE PERIOD AND MAJOR POLICIES TAKEN BY PRINCIPAL OFFICERS COMMITTEE ON BEHALF OF SENATE:

I wish to inform you all, Distinguished Senators that throughout the period of the strike, the Principal Officers met every Monday to handle some major issues that

affect the University and during these meetings, some major policy decisions were taken on behalf of Senate. I will just highlight some of the decisions below while details will be made available at the next regular meeting of Senate for consideration, approval and, or ratification.

- (i) Review year 2022 Action Plan and Calendar of Events
- (ii) Resource Verification of five (5) Programmes in the Faculty of Education
- (iii) Resource Verification of Programmes in College of Health Sciences
- (iv) Postgraduate admission for Institute of Legislative Studies
- (v) Reconstitution of Board of Entrepreneurship Development Centre
- (vi) Collaboration with Austrian Embassy engineered by the Directorate of Advancement and Linkages for partnership, collaboration and technical assistance
- (vii) Printing of outstanding certificates for graduates of the University
- (viii) Admission of students for the MM;BS Programme
- (ix) Resource Verification for Engineering Programmes
- (x) Report from Ad hoc Committee on Anti-Plagiarism
- (xi) JAMB Quota for 2021/2022 Session
- (xii) Result from the Board of Remedial Studies for 2021/2022 Session
- (xiii) Eight FUL students involved in Cybercrime
- (xiv) Guidelines on Visiting, Sabbatical, and Adjunct Appointments in Nigerian Universities (meeting between the Executive Secretary, NUC and VCs)
- (xv) Commencement of 2022/2023 Post-UTME screening
- (xvi) Year 2022 Webometric Ranking of Universities for FUL
- (xvii) Appointments of:
 - (a) Professor Sunday E. Adewumi as Ag. HOD of Computer Science

- (b) Dr. Jide Ibietan as Ag. Director of Quality Assurance
- (c) Dr. Martins Onimisi as Ag. Director of Entrepreneurship Development Centre
- (xviii) Collaboration with the Institute of Sales and Marketing Management of Nigeria (ISMMN)

Senate may wish to note that the Faculty of Science is now relocating to Felele and the movement of the Staff of the Faculty commenced on Saturday, 15th October, 2022.

Finally, may I again appeal to us all to put the strike behind us and strive to work conscientiously to achieve the objective of the Academic Calendar put before this Emergency Senate for the benefit of our students.

Thank you all for listening.

Professor Olayemi Akinwumi
Vice-Chancellor and Chairman of Senate