

FUTA HONOURS OUTSTANDING MEMBERS OF STAFF

About One hundred members of staff and retired officers of the Federal University of Technology, Akure have been recognized for their various contributions to the development of the University.

Speaking at the Excellence and Productivity Award Night, One of the activities marking the 23rd Convocation Ceremony of the University, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Balogun stated that the institution cannot but express appreciation to the members of staff and retired officers whose exemplary efforts have assisted the University in its quest to become one of the best Universities of Technology in the world.

Professor Balogun who described the ceremony as special, being his last as the Vice-Chancellor of the University, reiterated that the occasion was to motivate the outstanding members of staff and encourage others to work hard, assuring that there will always be rewards for hardwork.

The Vice-Chancellor explained that the inclusion of the retired staff of the University was to celebrate some of them who spent the greater part of their productive years for the benefit of humanity through their contributions to the growth and development of the University.

He regarded the awards as token of Management's appreciation to the few identified individuals, among several worthy others, and confessed that it would be difficult to put price on individual's invaluable services to the University.

Professor Balogun admitted that there are still other members of staff, students and publics who despite their excellent performances, were not nominated. He said that the logistics would be difficult to handle if all qualified individuals were to be recognized.

In his remarks, the Chairman,



The VC presenting an Award to a member of Staff during the Award Night

FUTA/Akure Community Partnership, Chief (Dr) Reuben Fasoranti expressed delight at visiting FUTA, saying that he always appreciates the well-kept lawns of the University and its other aesthetic values.

Chief Fasoranti commended the Vice-Chancellor and his Management team for the gesture, adding that the presentation of the awards will go a long way in motivating the awardees and bring out the best in other members of staff.

While describing FUTA as paradise on earth, the Afenifere Chairman urged the University to keep focusing on its vision of being the best in the world.

One of the awardees, Professor Adegboyega Ademosun, who spoke on behalf of other awardees, thanked the Management for the recognition and honour done them.

He admonished other members of staff to work with the fear of God. Professor Ademosun promised that the awardees will not relent but give more to see the University thrives.

The awards which cut across both academic and non-academic staff included Best researcher of the year, Best inventor of the year, Best staff of the year for both Senior and Junior categories, Longest serving staff and many others.

APBN BOSS IDENTIFIES ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSTRUCTION DEVELOPMENT BANK AS SOLUTION TO HOUSING PROBLEM

Establishment of private-sector owned Construction Development Bank in Nigeria has been identified as the solution to housing problem the country is facing.

The President, Association of Professional Bodies of Nigeria, Mr. Olusegun Ajanlekoko gave the hint while delivering the 4th Annual Lecture of the School of Environmental Technology, Federal University of Technology, Akure, titled "Construction Development Bank: A Panacea for Affordable Housing and Infrastructure Development in Nigeria".

Mr. Ajanlekoko expressed belief that the proposed bank when operational would give Government relief from funding many infrastructural projects and allow it to face other crucial sectors like health, education and internal security.

While warning that the country's path to development cannot be completed without providing housing to the teeming population, the Lecturer expressed concern that half of Nigeria's population lives in urban and semi urban areas, with majority living in slums and substandard accommodation.

He faulted the allocation of N36.7 billion to the Federal Ministry of Lands and Housing by the Federal Government for capital projects like boreholes, town halls, street lights, market stalls, land acquisition and salaries, instead of building houses for the homeless masses.

According to him, the proposed specialized bank would be a catalyst for industrial growth and development, adding that the increase in output would lead to increase in the production of inputs for the production of construction output, thereby leading to increase in Industrial Capacity

Utilization as well as increase in employment and growth in the national economy.

Earlier, the Dean, School of Environmental Technology, Professor Rufus Ogunsemi feared that architectural design will remain unaccomplished if there is no finance to translate the design into bricks and mortar.

Prof. Ogunsemi reiterated that the imperativeness of the Construction Development Bank in tackling housing deficits and infrastructural decay cannot be over-emphasized. He stated that the topic of the 4th Annual Lecture was carefully chosen as housing problem has dominated contemporary discourse in the last few years.

In his words, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Balogun informed that annual lecture series have been institutionalized in the University in order to regularly appraise the institution's theoretical experiences and juxtapose them against the dynamics in the larger society.

Prof. Balogun revealed that events like annual lecture series have created avenue for accomplished experts, academics and professionals in various fields to rub minds, and identify the aspects of the University's curriculum that are in tandem with the best practices and also highlight those areas that require review and possible improvement.

He commended the innovativeness of the School, saying that the School has continued to wax stronger since the last assessment by the National Universities Commission, which declared it the best School of Environmental Technology in Nigeria.

Highlight of the occasion was the Award for meritorious service given to the former Acting Vice-Chancellor of the University and pioneer Dean of the School, Professor Adeyinka Adeyemi.