Be good ambassadors of FUTA, Daramola admonishes Students’ Leaders

The Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Professor Adebiyi Daramola has called on Students’ Union leaders to be good representatives of the institution both within and outside the campus. Daramola, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Professor Adedayo Fasakin made this call at the induction ceremony of the newly elected students leaders recently held at the T.I. Francis auditorium of the institution.

Addressing the officers, Daramola said, “Your character and the various choices of action or inaction you make while in office are important. Avoid irrational behavior detrimental to the operations of the University. Do not let the position you occupy get into your head. That you are now students’ leaders does not mean you should be rude to your elders and constituted authorities. You must be humble and approach every situation with maturity because the way you present yourselves today has great implication for your future”.

Daramola also urged the students’ leaders to see themselves as servant leaders. According to him, leadership is service, thus he urged them to behave as stewards to those who elected them into office and to the University authority as partners in progress. “You are stewards to those who elected you and partners in progress to management. As the University ambassadors, behave well in and outside the campus. You cannot afford to disappoint the University because all eyes are on you. Ensure you carry your colleagues along. Extend camaraderie to those who contested with you. By doing this you will avoid internal strife that can defeat teamwork. Your fellow students will not always agree with you, but you must work together in an open and cooperative manner to get things done.”

On management part, Daramola assured the students' leaders of open door administration and participatory decision making. He assured them of their adequate involvement in the decision making process, particularly on issues that will impact on their wellbeing. He, however, admonished them to always employ statutorily established communication channels to route their challenges to the management. To this effect, he encouraged them to always be in contact with the Students' Affairs Division.

Professor Daramola also stressed management's readiness to always build in students' leaders management skills. This informed annual retreat for leaders locally and also leadership training
programmes sponsored by the University internationally. These trainings will expose them to global best practices in Student Unionism and leadership.

Closing his address, Daramola urged them to face their studies because as leaders, their academic standing is important.

Speaking earlier, Dean, Students’ Affairs, Dr. Kayode Alese called on the students’ leaders to be honest and transparent if they want their colleagues to trust and follow them. He said "When leaders demonstrate honesty and transparency the followers will follow suit. It is a great privilege to have the trust of the entire University Community to lead, therefore demonstrate maturity in everything you do.

Corroborating Daramola's assurance of management’s support he said “Management has put in place several facilities to give you a good learning environment. The Students' Affairs Division is also a home to you for guidance. Avail yourselves of every opportunity to better the relationship between Management, Staff and Students. Do not be confrontational. Embrace dialogue in all you do". Both Professor Daramola and Dr. Alese commended the immediate past leadership of the Union for the peace that the University enjoyed during their regime and urged the new officers to follow suit.

In his inaugural address, President, FUTA Students Union (FUTASU), Ashola Oluwaseun Daniel promised to operate in line with the vision and mission of the University. He also appealed to the federal government and the security services to do all to bring back the abducted girls and pleaded with those disturbing the peace of the country to cease fire.

The oath of office was administered on the new officers by Barrister Adeboye Olatunji of the University legal unit.

The occasion had in attendance Principal Officers of the University, Honourable Tayo Akinnikiju, Special Assistant to Governor Olusegun Mimiko on Students Matters, students' leaders from sister institutions and parents of some of the Students Union leaders.

The new students' leader and their offices are:

**President:** Ashola Oluwaseun Daniel  
**Vice President:** Ayodele Temilola A.  
**General Secretary:** Adegoke Segun Babatunde  
**Assistant General Secretary:** Adeparusi Bobola  
**Public Relations Officer:** Mobolaji Iyanu-Oluwa H.  
**Director of Socials:** Adeoye Olusegun Adeola  
**Director of Sports:** Oludimu Oluwafemi S.  
**Welfare Director:** Ojo Feranmi Joseph  
**Financial Secretary:** Ogunmokun Adebimpe E.  
**Treasurer:** Olusanya Damilare