



BUK Senate Approves Revised 2012/2013 Academic Calendar

The Bayero University Senate at its 312th meeting on 8th January, 2014 has approved, with addition of a one week break after the current semester (from Sunday 2nd to 9th February, 2014) the revised 2012/2013 academic calendar as earlier proposed by the University Management Committee (UMC). The approved calendar is as follows, according to Hajiya Fatima B. Mohammed, Director, Examinations, Admission and Records.

S/N	DATE	ACTIVITY
1	Wednesday, 1 st January, 2014	Students expected back at University
2	Thursday, 2 nd to Saturday, 18 th January, 2014	Completion of First Semester Lectures (2½ weeks)
3	Monday, 20 th January, to Saturday, 1 st February, 2014	First Semester Examinations (2 weeks)
4	Sunday, 2 nd to Sunday, 9 th February, 2014	End-of-Semester Break (1 week)
5	Monday, 10 th February to Saturday, 3 rd May, 2014	Second Semester Lectures (12 weeks)
6	Monday 5 th to Saturday 17 th May, 2014	Second Semester Examinations (2 weeks)
7	Sunday 18 th May to Sunday, 30 th June, 2014	End-of-Session Break (6 weeks)
	Monday 1 st July, 2014	Commencement of 2013/2014 session

VOICE OF TEACHING STAFF (I):

BUK Lecturers Vow To Promote Academic Excellence

By: *Bala Garba Abdullahi*

Returning to the classroom from the five month old strike, Academic staff of Bayero University have re-stated their collective resolve to rededicate themselves to the services of the University.

Most of the lecturers interviewed by the Bulletin team of reporters expressed optimism and satisfaction with the purposeful leadership now in place in the University and assured that they would do everything humanly possible to support the vision of the Vice- Chancellor, Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, who wants BUK to join the league of top global Universities.

First to bare his mind on how he utilized his time during the five month old ASUU

strike, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Arabic, Dr. Shehu Usman Kabara, said “we do not pray for a repeat of such a long period of strike, but all the same, the strike has afforded me ample time to conduct a series of research work and today, I have in my possession academic materials for publication’, he remarked.

The Arabic language Senior Lecturer stated that teaching and supervising students’ research work often times do not allow lecturers enough time to do independent research work to produce papers for publication, saying he personally saw the strike as an opportunity and he exploited it and did extensive research work.

Dr. Kabara said he wholeheartedly supports the advocacy by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed *mini* MFR for BUK to join the league of top Universities where all Postgraduate students complete their studies within the stipulated academic time frame without unnecessary extension of time and compromising quality.

In his own opinion, Dr. Kabara said both students and lecturers share in the blame for the inability of Postgraduate students to complete their programme within the stipulated time frame, adding that in the past education was considered by students as a means of acquiring knowledge and as such they devoted time to read very hard, first to understand and secondly to excel, but students of today often saw education as a meal ticket and means of acquiring certificate only.

He said over 80 percent of today’s Postgraduate students are workers, who

after concluding the course work do not have enough time for research work hence often create room by themselves for extension of the duration of the programmes. He suggested that the school authority should make it mandatory for every Postgraduate student admitted to present a letter of release from his organization, in that way their availability for studies would be guaranteed.

On the part of lecturers, Dr. Kabara blamed his colleagues for creating unnecessary problems for themselves by what he called the craze for visiting lecturing, saying that “some lecturers are visiting in up to four institutions, under such a situation how can a lecturer have enough time to supervise students’ thesis properly and timely?” he queried.

He advised his colleagues to rally round the VC’s advocacy “by rededicating ourselves to the services of the University in order to enable BUK joins the league of top Universities where Postgraduate students complete their studies as and when due without compromising quality.”

Also speaking, a lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, Malam Ubale Sani, said during the period of the strike he devoted his time to reading and managing his poultry farm.

He said as a lecturer in the Faculty of Agriculture, where practical work counts “managing a poultry farm is regarded as part of research work which will enable me acquire more practical knowledge/skills in my chosen career.”

Malam Sani also said the proceeds realized from the poultry farm had enabled him cushion the effect of “no-work-no-pay.” He also said the lengthy period of the strike enabled most of them who are lecturers but pursuing their higher degrees to use the time to almost conclude their field research work.

On the advocacy for completing Postgraduate programme within the stipulated time given, Malam Sani believed that students are to blame for their laziness and unseriousness, especially when it comes to research work, adding “because of the unseriousness of the students sometimes lecturers go the extra mile to call students via their mobile phone for them to bring their work but such calls often fall on deaf ears. In such a situation what do you do?” he queried.

He advised students to change their attitude by being more serious, because according to him they are going to be the beneficiaries of the VC’s vision, saying on their part lecturers “pledged their support and commitment to assisting the VC realize such an important initiative.”

But Malam Hayatudeen Adam of Library and Information Science Department believed shortage of manpower is one of the reasons why Postgraduate programmes are not being completed within the stipulated time, arguing that the work load is too much for some lecturers.

He, however, said in spite of the short coming they, would do everything humanly possible to ensure that all programmes are completed within the stipulated duration of time.

The “Positive” Side of ASUU Strike

By: *Auwal Isa*

Following the resumption of academic activities at Bayero University and in view of the Vice Chancellor, Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, *mni*, MFR advocacy for the University to be among the league of highly rated global Universities where both undergraduate and Post graduate students complete their studies as and when due and without compromising standard, the Bulletin tried to find out from lecturers what additional attention or efforts should students expect from them now that government has pledged to give more funding to education sector?

Both Mallam Aliyu Mustapha and Mustapha Musa of the Department of Islamic Law said they were involved in researches during the strike period to upgrade their knowledge in addition to offering professional assistance to relatives and friends on legislation and solicitation but more essentially “I was able to write three chapters of my Masters programme,” said Aliyu Mustapha.

Their female counterpart, Aisha Haruna in the Department of Public Law, who is also the Acting Head of Department expressed the same opinion and said the period was useful in a way as it enabled her to do most of the write-up for her research as she is currently pursuing a Ph.D programme in ABU Zaria.

She said that since ASUU has won the battle, lecturers on their part should attend classes on time, be open and give room to

students to ask questions and make more research and paper presentations not just for the sake of promotion but in order to develop themselves.

Dr. Rabi'a Salihu Sa'id of the Department of Physics, Faculty of Science who was a bit hesitant said, she published two papers, reviewed her lecture notes and read her books. She observed that until students stop hanging on the windows to receive lectures and new equipments are provided in the laboratories, not much might be achieved as is being envisaged.

Another lecturer who claims anonymity in the Department of Anatomy said, he rendered community services in addition to carrying out researches and publications which he said forms part of his responsibilities as an academician, during the strike.

Dr. Abbas Bubakar El-ta'alu in the Department of Physiology, on the other hand was all the time as he puts it, "waiting to hear the decisions reached between the Federal government and ASUU" while at the same time planning to attend a conference in South Africa but he could not meet up the deadline as he was late in processing his visa.

The duo called for a total change in attitude to work and emphasized the need to shun laziness and said lecturers should note that public office is a public trust similar to a post with an oath of office.

4 NEW DIRECTORS AND DEAN STUDENT AFFAIRS APPOINTED

For Centre for Qur'anic Studies, Mambayya, APD and Research Directorate

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, *mni*, MFR has approved the appointment of four new Directors in the University, along with the Dean, Student Affairs.

The new directors are Professor Mustapha Ahmed Isa of Department of English and Literary Studies who is now Director for Academic Planning; Professor Muhammad Dahiru Sulaiman of History Department is to serve as Director, Aminu Kano Centre for Democratic Research and Training (AKCDRT, also known as Mambayya House); Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, Department of Education is to head the new Directorate of Research, Innovation and Partnership while Dr. Ibrahim Muhammad of the Department of Islamic Studies and Sharia is appointed pioneer Director, Centre for Qur'anic Studies.

Similarly, the Vice Chancellor has approved the appointment of Professor Isma'ila Muhammad Zango of the Department of Sociology as Dean, Student Affairs.

The Registrar, Sani Ibrahim Amin MNIM, who signed their separate letters of appointment urged them to exhibit credible academic and administrative leadership in the discharge of their duties in their various posts.

Dr. Aliyu Mu'azu Appointed HOD, Nig. Languages & Linguistics

Dr. Aliyu Mu'azu has been appointed as the Head of Department of Nigerian Languages and Linguistics for two years with effect from 13th January, 2014.

According to a letter of appointment signed by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Abubakar Rasheed *mni*, MFR, dated 10th January, 2014, the HOD was advised to “give sound academic and administrative leadership to the department.”

Fire Prevention Tips

It is always difficult to effectively tackle fire outbreaks because many outbreaks are not observed until too late. So a checklist to be borne in mind by fire patrol team and the public should include:

- If somebody notices a fire anywhere on the campus, that person should sound the alarm if there is one in the building. If there is none, warn others by shouting or attract attention in any manner possible.
- Use the phone to call security or state fire services.
- Unless the fire is minor, do not attempt to fight it alone.
- Leave the building immediately, closing all doors behind you.
- Do not go back until asked to do so by the fire service staff.
- At the end of a working day all electrical fittings and switches should be switched off.
- Install and maintain fire safety equipment as required by regulations in buildings of the University.

- Each Department, Faculty and Centre should conduct an annual fire evacuation drill.
- Fire extinguishers should be provided in buildings that have none and that all staff should be told what to do in case of fire; designated staff should be taught how to use the fire extinguishers, fire blanket and other firefighting equipment so as to minimize small fires before fire service officers arrive.
- At home, all gas and electric cooking facilities should be switched off after use and before travelling to leave an empty house, they should be disconnected.

The essence of this fire prevention guide is to educate staff and student of Bayero University at all levels. **If you see anything that appears wrong, suspicious or dangerous, report it personally. Don't assume somebody else will report it.**

Department of Sociology: Phd Defense

The Department of Sociology informs the University community of its PhD defense as follows:

(1) Aminu Mohammed Dukku (SPS/07/SMS/00787).

Topic: *'A Study of the Evolution of Gadagi Consumption in the Kano Metropolitan Area, Nigeria.'*

Supervisor: Professor Sadiq Isah Radda

Internal Examiner: Prof. Isma'ila M. Zango

External Examiner: Prof. Bashir Salawu

Date: Friday, 24th January, 2014

Time: 10:00am

Venue: Departmental Board Room

Department of Human Physiology: MSc. Proposal Defence

The Department of Human Physiology invites members of the University community, particularly staff, postgraduate and undergraduate student of medical, allied medical and life science of its MSc. Proposal defense as follows:

Presenter: Ibahim Sulaiman (SPS/11/MHP/00012).

Topic: *‘Study of the Effect of Orchidectomy on some Hormones, LIPID Profile and Blood Parameters in Wistar Rats.’*

Supervisor: Prof. M. M. El-Kashaab

Date: Thursday, 16th January, 2014

Time: 10:00am

Venue: Physiology Laboratory (Old Camps)

Wedding Fatiha

Malam Surajo Muhammad of the Institute of Continuing Education (ICE) invites members of the University community to his wedding fatiha, scheduled to take place as follows:

Date: 26th January, 2014

Time: 11:00am

Venue: Juma’at Mosque BUK Old Campus

Appreciation

Abdulkadir Idris Ahmed of the Department of Library and Information Science wishes to extend his appreciation to the University community who commiserate with the family over the death of their father Alh. Idris Ahmed who died on 7th January, 2014. The family wishes to recognize the presence of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Abubakar Adamu Rasheed *mni*, MFR and the entire University Management team who visited their home to condole with the family. “We also wish to thank the Dean Faculty of Education, Head, Department of Library and Information Science, and colleagues from all the teaching and non teaching department of the University. Our appreciation also goes to the student of Bayero University who prayed for the soul of deceased to rest in peace. We really appreciate all your prayers,” he added in a statement.

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