



Minister of Information Commissions Broadcast Complex, Says BUK Re-defines Mass Communication *By: Nura Garba*

The Honourable Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, has officially commissioned an ultra-modern broadcast complex in the Faculty of Communication and said the edifice was one of the best in Nigeria.

The Minister, who was assisted in commissioning the complex by Professor Jibril Aminu, on Wednesday, 6th September, 2017, said Bayero University had redefined the Mass Communication discipline through

“BUK is a foremost university in Nigeria and Africa in the area of Mass Communication. What BUK did was to elevate the status of Mass Communication to a faulty level and not only by pronouncing it, but also providing necessary infrastructure to make it possible. Bayero University has really blazed the trail,” the Minister said.

Earlier, the Vice Chancellor had informed the Minister that the broadcast complex houses three studios for Television, Radio and Print, as well as a 150 computer room for students' practicals. He added that BUK had applied to the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) for television license and as soon as it is approved, it will commence television broadcasting, where students will learn the practical aspects before graduation.

Meanwhile, the elder statesman, Professor Jibril Aminu, had commissioned the Department of Theatre and Performing Arts.

In his speech, the Dean, Faculty of Communication, Professor Umar Pate, explained that all the studio equipment were imported and would soon arrive in the country for installation. He commended the Minister and Professor Aminu for



Minister of Information, Culture & Tourism, Alh. Lai Mohammed (middle) cutting a tape, assisted by VC, Prof. M. Y. Bello (1st right) and Dean, Faculty of Communication, Prof. Umar A. Pate (left)

transforming the department into a full-fledged Faculty with the state-of-the-art facilities for teaching, research and training.

commissioning the projects despite their tight schedules and also thanked the Vice Chancellor, Professor Muhammadu Yahuza Bello for supporting the Faculty.

BUK To Set Up Community Television Soon... VC

By: Lamara Garba

As part of the grand design to expand the programmes in the Faculty of Communication, plans are underway for the establishment of a community television broadcasting, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello, has announced.

Speaking at the opening of the 4th Annual Conference of the Association of Communication Scholars and Professionals of Nigeria (ACSPN) at Green Desert Hotel Kano, on Wednesday, 6th September, 2017, the Vice Chancellor said already the University had approached the regulatory body, the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) for the processing of the issuance of television broadcasting license.



Minister of Information, Culture & Tourism, Alh. Lai Mohammed (left) receiving a plaque from VC, Prof. M. Y. Bello

“We have approached the NBC for a community television broadcasting license. In the same vein, we have ordered complete digital broadcasting equipment for our radio station to replace the existing analogue station. Equally, our brand new 150 computer unit laboratory for online journalism classes will be operational before the end of the year, all these aim at improving teaching and learning in the communication field. Indeed, the management is determined to ensure that the Faculty of Communication is visibly on the radar of global communication education,” the Vice Chancellor said.

According to him, the management would do everything possible to ensure that communication programmes attract the best staff and students; acquire the latest gadgets and offer high quality, relevant and dynamic training reflective of the emerging trends in the discipline globally.

“Our Communication Faculty is our selling point in and out of Nigeria and we shall make it the best, if it is not already the best, at least, in Nigeria. Our goal is to produce ethically minded journalists of excellence, for,

we fully know the implications of poorly trained journalists on national development,” he also stated.

The Vice Chancellor, while acknowledging the commitment and efforts of the Dean and his team, which led to securing a grant of over N200 million, said there is the need to diversify in the process of learning, teaching and research which were the primary mandates of a university.

Earlier in a welcome address, the Dean of the Faculty of Communication, Professor Umaru A. Pate, commended the effort of the management of Bayero University for a special consideration afforded the Faculty which led to its transformation from a department to a full-fledged Faculty of Communication, which stood to be the first of its kind in this part of the world.

He also acknowledged the immense contribution of the Governor of Kano State, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje as well as other numerous guests including the UNESCO Communication Training and Curriculum Development Programme Specialist, Professor Facson Banda, describing the occasion as unique and dear to the University.

Scholars Must Re-focus Towards Reforming On Our Social Formation

.... Says Prof. Sule-Kano, Former ASUU President

By: Lamara Garba

A radical scholar and onetime National President of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), Professor Abdullahi Sule-Kano, has said that there is a strong nexus between the discipline of mass communication and the political economy stratum of a society.

ruling class and the generality of the members of the dominant class do not have a scientific understanding of the state of Nigeria and the type of government and economy they were operating. This ugly trend, according to the erudite scholar, may not be unconnected with the dominant trends in which the

state's mass communication system propagates the preservation of status-quo.

“All modern states aspire to be capable in the most liberal sense. All modern states aspire to defend their territories and liberate their citizens from external aggression, wants, hunger, ignorance, poverty and carve a niche for themselves in some strategic place in the globe, so as to present themselves as a great nation. But, alas, here in Nigeria, it isn't so.

Professor Sule-Kano frowned that, “those in control of the state of economy in Nigeria pretend to be part of this league, even though

there are some incongruences between their thoughts and actions when it comes to putting into practice courses of action that could lead to the achievement of these aspirations”.

He further advanced that modern state could be better understood if examined in the context of their origin and socio-economic relations. He pointed out that the challenges before the scholars and practitioners of mass communication in Nigeria was to pay serious attention on societal relationships in relation to the path of development chosen for the people, which should be in



Prof. Abdullahi Sule-Kano, presenting a keynote speech

In a keynote paper he delivered at the opening ceremony of the 4th Annual Conference of the Association of Communication Scholars and Professionals of Nigeria, on Wednesday, 6th September, 2017 at Green Desert Hotel in Kano, titled **The Political Economy of Mass Communication and the Politics of Political Communication in Nigeria**, the political scientist lamented that scholars in Nigeria pay little attention to the study of socio-cultural, political and economic aspects of the Nigerian social formation.

He noted that it was amazing that both the Nigerian

the context of inter class interest and relationships, intra class interest and relationships and the essence of social groups and cultural conglomerations.

The scholar pointed out that it was on the premises of these that a sound foundation for peaceful coexistence and progressive societal development of our nation and elsewhere could be attained.

“There is still some massive hangover of the relics of the colonial information system, which was transformed into a more sophisticated dependence on external sources of information about our society. Regrettably,

critical information about Nigerian political economy and path to societal development is still generated from outside the country.” He explained.

Furthermore, he argued that, taking into cognisance the history of the colonial origin of the Nigerian state, the evolution of the organs of state, some of which were used for conquest, subjugation, repression and exploitation of African people found in the present Nigeria area, what constituted the essence of the modern Nigerian state must be part of the front banner of the mass communication of the people of Nigeria.

Suspend Your Strike Now ... Prof. Jibril Aminu Begs ASUU By: Lamara Garba

The pioneer Executive Secretary of the National Universities Commission (NUC) and a onetime Minister of Education, Professor Jibril Aminu, has passionately appealed to the striking members of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) to, in the interest of the nation, suspend their action forthwith.

Speaking on Wednesday, 6th September, 2017 at the opening ceremony of the 4th Annual Conference of the Association of Communication Scholars and Professionals of Nigeria and Mass Communication Curriculum Review Meeting at the Green Desert Hotel, Kano said the strike action would adversely affect the students hence, his appeal for the Union to suspend it while negotiation continues.

Professor Aminu, a onetime Vice Chancellor of the University of Maiduguri as well as former Minister of petroleum resources, said only through negotiation that meaningful development and amicable resolution could be achieved, therefore, there is the need for them to reconsider their stand because of the negative implication on the wider society in general and the education system in particular.

While appreciating the demands of the University lecturers particularly the desire to attach greater commitment on the side of the government, however, he said, strike might not be the only viable option of resolving the impasse.

Professor Jibril Aminu, who served as the Chairman of the occasion, also commended and appreciated the resilient efforts of the Nigerian media, through which it immensely contributes towards the development of the country.

Declaring the conference open, the Governor of Kano State, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, said the conference came at a most appropriate time and the theme was apt taking into consideration the issues of hate speech and fake news peddling nowadays.

The Governor, who was represented by the Commissioner of Information, Malam Muhammad Garba, commended Bayero University for bringing the crème de la crème of Communication scholars and media practitioners to the state. He promised to continue to support University to host such activities which would develop intellectualism and cultural linkages.

Dr. Amina Mustapha Re-appointed Deputy Director O & P

The Vice Chancellor has approved the re-appointment of Dr. Amina Mustapha as Deputy Director (Outreach and Publications), Centre for Dryland Agriculture for another period of two years.

In a letter signed by the Registrar, Fatima Binta Mohammed dated 5th September, 2017, said the appointment took effect from 1st July, 2017.

Nigeria Now Out of Recession Says Minister of Information By: Lamara Garba

At last, Nigerians can now heave a sigh of relief as the living condition of the people will improve with the formal exiting out of recession, the Minister of Information, Tourism and Culture, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, has revealed.

“Your conference is coming a day after Nigerians received the good news that our country, Nigeria, is officially out of recession. Let me therefore congratulate Nigerians over the good news,” said the minister.

Delivering a keynote address at the 4th Annual conference of the Association of Communication Scholars and Professionals of Nigeria, on Wednesday, 6th September,

2017, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, however, said while greater percentage of Nigerians would be jubilating about the good development, yet a few sadists would be dumbfounded and utterly unhappy.

He revealed that according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the economy now grew by 0.55 percent in GDP terms for Q2 2017, describing this as a good development, in which Nigerians had cause to smile and jubilate. He said, that it was sad news for the purveyors of fake news, disinformation and hate speech, because part of the reasons they have devoted their energy to spreading lies about the administration is to pull the wool over the eyes of

Nigerians and give the impression that the administration is not working.

Alhaji Lai Mohammed pointed out that taking Nigeria out of recession did not happen by accident, rather it was the culmination of months of hard work by the administration and fidelity to its well-articulated economic policies.

He condemned the critics of Buhari administration,



Minister of Information, Culture & Tourism, Alhaji Lai Mohammed

describing them as unnecessarily being antagonists because of their special hatred to the good policies and initiatives of the government, which aim at empowering the populace to be dependent and self-reliant.

The minister charged media not to allow the naysayers to have their ways in commandeering the affairs in which these positive developments do not constitute news.

“That's why they make up their own fake news and engage in disinformation and hate speeches. They believe that by seeking to overwhelm the polity with fake news disinformation and hate speeches, they can easily obliterate the glaring achievements of the Buhari administration,” he explained.

Alhaji Lai Mohammed in particular commended the effort of the management of Bayero University for its foresight and steadfastness in the promotion of intellectualism and education sector in general.

The representative of UNESCO, Professor Facson Banda in a goodwill message commended the organizers of the conference the theme of which he said, with the philosophy of the United Nations, and that he would be glad to always assist and support such programmes and activities for the development of the society.

Top communication scholars from within and outside the country attended the conference. This was held for the first time by the University. About 50 papers were presented during the two day conference.

Highlights of the conference were the public presentations of two books on multi culturalism and digital communication as well as some awards of excellence to some distinguished personalities.

PENSION UNIT:

Documentary Requirement for Processing the Retirement Savings Account (RSA) and Client Familiarity Index (“CFI”) FORM: Stanbic IBTC Pension Managers

This is to inform clients/staff (RSA holders of Stanbic IBTC Pension Managers) that the Pension Fund Administrators, (PFA) will capture the biometric information of staff who registered with PFA as follows:

Date: Monday 18 - Friday 22, September, 2017

Time: 9: 00 a.m. daily

Venue: Human Resource Department Division Committee Room, New Campus

Staff are required to bring the following:

(A) Proof of Address (any one of the following)

- (i) Utility bill within the past three months
- (ii) Valid Driver's License (not expired)
- (iii) Recent Tenancy Agreements

- (iv) Voters Card
- (v) Normal I.D. Card
- (vi) Active Bank Statement (within the past 3 months) containing current address

(B) Personal Identification Document ((either of the following)

- (i) Bio Data Page of Current Internal Passport
- (ii) Valid official/company Identification Card
- (iii) Valid Driver's License
- (iv) National Identity Card

Sample of the CFI form available in the Pension Unit for clients/staff to make photocopy.

