

DAY ONE
UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, NIGERIA



ADDRESS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR RAHAMON A. BELLO, *FAEng* AT THE 2014/2015 CONVOCATION CEREMONIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, NIGERIA IN THE MULTI-PURPOSE HALLS, MAIN CAMPUS, AKOKA

The Visitor, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari, *GCFR*,
The Honourable Minister of Education, Alhaji Adamu Adamu,
The Governor of Lagos State, His Excellency, Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode,
The Chancellor, His Royal Eminence, Alhaji (Dr.) Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai El-Kanemi, *CFR*, Shehu of Borno,
Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Unilag Governing Council, Professor Jerry Gana, *CON*,
Distinguished Senators and Honourable Members of House of Representative,
Members of the Diplomatic Corps here present,
Visiting Vice-Chancellors from other Universities,
The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics and Research), Professor Babajide Alo, *FAS*,
The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Management Services), Professor Duro Oni,
The Registrar and Secretary to Council, Dr. (Mrs.) Taiwo F. Ipaye, *FNIM*,
The Bursar, Dr. Lateef Odekunle,
The University Librarian, Dr. (Mrs.) Olukemi A. Fadehan,
The Provost, College of Medicine, Professor Folasade T. Ogunsola,
Other Members of Council of the University of Lagos,
Deans,
Directors,
Representatives of other Universities,

**Other Members of the University Community,
President and Members of the Alumni Association,
Presidents Professional Bodies here present,
President and other Members of the ULSU Executive,
Great Akokites!!!
Gentlemen of the Press,
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

INTRODUCTION

I welcome you all, with great pleasure, to the first day of the 2014/2015 Convocation Ceremonies. Permit me to commence my address by welcoming the Visitor of this University, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency, Muhammadu Buhari, *GCFR*, to the University of Lagos. While wishing you a successful tenure, we also count on your vast experience to steer the affairs of this nation to greater heights.

Before I go into the business of the day, I wish to once more offer our condolences to the family of our immediate past Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of our Governing Council, Late Deacon Gamaliel Onosode, who was conferred with an Honorary Doctor of Letters (LL. D) at our last Convocation. May the soul of the departed rest in peace.

Your Excellencies, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, we want to commend the President and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, Muhammadu Buhari, *GCFR*, for the giant strides his government has taken and the results achieved on the two cankerworms eating into the fabrics of Nigeria viz: Terrorism and Corruption. We salute the President's courage and urge him to continue unabated until the two issues are completely wiped out.

On our part, we have taken steps to play our expected roles to complement Government's efforts through research and advisory roles. Research Centres have been set up to research into various aspects of the issues and to continuously proffer solutions that will create a peaceful and corruption-free nation.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, this year's Convocation Ceremony spans over three days. Altogether, the University will graduate a total of **10,907** students, comprising **5,472** with first degrees and **5,435** with postgraduate degrees.

Today, being the first day, the University will be graduating students of the Faculties of Arts, Education, Environmental Sciences, Sciences and Social Sciences. Tomorrow, it will be the turn of graduating students of the Faculties of Basic Medical Sciences, Business Administration, Clinical Sciences, Dental Sciences, Engineering, Law, Pharmacy and the Distance Learning Institute (DLI).

The third and final day of the Convocation Ceremony will witness the installation ceremony of the 7th Chancellor of the University, a first class traditional leader and philanthropist, the Shehu of Borno, His Royal Eminence, Alhaji (Dr.) Abubakar Umar Garbai El-Kanemi, **CFR, LL.D, M.Sc., M.A.;** and the award of degrees to successful students for the postgraduate Diplomas, Masters and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D).

STATISTICS OF GRADUATING STUDENTS

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, by the end of today's ceremony, a total of **2,585** (Two Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty-five) students who have successfully completed their studies and found worthy in character, would have been admitted to their various Diplomas, Certificates and Degrees in the Faculties of Arts, Education, Environmental Sciences, Science and Social Sciences. Specifically, the University of Lagos will graduate students across the following disciplines:

| S/N | FACULTY | FIGURE |
|------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Arts | 393 |
| 2. | Education | 605 |
| 3. | Environmental Sciences | 201 |
| 4. | Science | 710 |

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| 5. | Social Sciences | 676 |
| T o t a l | | 2,585 |

Out of this figure, an overall total of **66** graduating students finished in the First Class Honours category, comprising of **2** from Faculty of Arts, **6** from Faculty of Education, **6** from Faculty of Environmental Sciences, **36** from Faculty of Science, and **16** from Faculty of Social Sciences. We also have **860** with Second Class Upper Division; **1,246** with Second Class Lower Division; **394** with Third Class and **19** with Pass degrees.

I am most delighted to inform you that among this cohort of graduands, a student of this University has broken a record, graduating with a perfect score, having obtained a Cumulative GPA of 5.00. This means he scored A's in all courses he took in the programme. He is Mr. Ayodele Daniel Dada of the Department of Psychology. Congratulations to Mr. Dada, who has set a record for others to meet. The University of Lagos continues to maintain the tradition of excellence and of producing quality graduates that do compete favourably with their counterparts all over the world. This is in line with our vision and we have vigorously maintained this tradition over the years.

THE SCORE CARD OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS IN THE LAST ACADEMIC SESSION

Today's ceremony provides an opportunity to present some of our achievements in the last year. The University of Lagos is a centre of academic excellence which is justified by our countless awards and laurels in academic, social and sporting competitions.

I would like to mention a few of these outstanding achievements by students of this great citadel of higher education in the last academic session:

A student in the Department of Mathematics, Kareem, Kazeem Abiodun emerged the overall winner of the National Mathematics Competitions for University students for the 2014/2015 session, organised by the National Mathematical Centre, Abuja.

Fifteen students from various faculties were awarded scholarships to the tune of N150, 000 each by *Impact Your world* organisation.

A PhD graduate of Economics, Dr. Taiwo Victor Ojapinwa won the Best PhD Thesis Award in Nigerian Universities for the 2014/2015 session. The thesis is titled, “Macro-Economic Impact of Remittance Flows on Financial Development and Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa”.

A final year Computer Engineering Student of the Department of Electrical/Electronics and Computer Engineering, Mufutau Ayotunde Akuruyejo was awarded a Scholarship by MTN Foundation as an MTN Scholar and beneficiary of the European Organization Nuclear Research (CERN) Computer Internship Programme in Switzerland in partnership with Oracle. Based on his Internship experience, he co-authored a publication with his foreign mentor Stavros Moiras of the Department of Computer Science and Technology, University of Peloponnese, Greece, titled “Source Codes Defects-Case Studies and Lesson learnt“. The paper takes a look at the vulnerabilities in Source Codes and how to mitigate them.

As part of a consortium made up of the Northwestern University, Illinois, U.S.A.; University of Cape Town, South Africa; University of Ibadan; and the University of Lagos, The Department of Biomedical Engineering was awarded a United States National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant for a project entitled “Developing Innovate Interdisciplinary Biomedical Engineering Programs in Africa”.

Our Geosciences students, in 2015, won two major intervarsity quiz competitions, one hosted by University of Ibadan and organized by the American Association of Petroleum Geologist/Nigerian Association of Petroleum Explorationists and the other by the Nigerian Mining and Geoscience Society and hosted by the University of Ilorin.

Miss Are, Adejoke Kafayat, a former student of the Faculty of Law, finished with first class honours and she was the overall best candidate in the November 2015 Bar final examination.

PARTNERSHIPS

The University continues to pursue partnership arrangements that would immensely benefit the staff and students of the University. One of such is the partnership with R.T. Briscoe to construct a world standard automobile workshop. The workshop was commissioned on Friday, 29th September, 2015. The workshop would provide training for our Mechanical Engineering students in Automobile Engineering and services to the University community.

The University also has partnership with LG Air-conditioning World Wide to provide training for our engineers. I am proud to inform you that we have in our campus an LG Air-conditioning Academy located in the Faculty of Engineering. This Academy is the only one of its kind in Africa at the moment. With the practical lessons from the academy, our graduates of engineering and allied studies will be experts in air-conditioning, while the facility provides opportunities for research into air-conditioning as well.

The University's Entrepreneurship and Skills Development Centre has now taken off. It will provide avenues for students to acquire special skills that can make them job-ready or towards entrepreneurship. It will also assist budding entrepreneurs to realise their potentials aimed at self-employment and job creation.

University of Lagos is one of the six Universities selected for the training of graduate students across West Africa under the Ecowas Postgraduate Mobility Scheme, run by the Association of African Universities (AAU). As at today 33 students from various countries across West Africa are currently enrolled in various Masters and Ph.D. programmes in the University.

CONCLUSION

I want to congratulate our graduating students for successfully completing their studies at the University of Lagos. I also congratulate your families, parents and guardians who stood by you during the period of studies.

Before I end this address, I want to urge my dear graduating students to contribute their quota to the development of their Alma Mater, the University of Lagos, the University of first choice and the Nation's pride. And one way you could do that is by identifying with the Alumni Association of the University. I implore you therefore, to visit the Office of Advancement of this University to get registered so that you can play active roles in the Association's activities, now and in the future.

My dear graduating students, I want to inform you that your certificates are all ready for collection from your Faculties. I will therefore implore you to start the process of clearance.

Once more, I thank you all for your patience and attention. I wish you all God's blessings and safe journey back to your various homes.

God bless the University of Lagos
God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria

**Professor Rahamon A. Bello, *FAEng*,
Vice-Chancellor,
University of Lagos.**

DAY TWO
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Great Akokites!!!
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INTRODUCTION

It is with great delight that I welcome you all to the second day of the 2014/2015 Convocation Ceremonies. Permit me to commence my address by expressing my best wishes to the Visitor of the University, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, who was the President-elect during the last Convocation, but today we welcome you as the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. You are most welcome and we wish you a very successful tenure.

I especially recognize and congratulate the families and friends of the graduates here present, as you have been the back-bone of today's graduates through advice, encouragement and support.

At this juncture, I wish to once more offer our condolences to the family of our immediate past Pro-Chancellor, and Chairman of our Governing Council, Late Deacon Gamaliel Onosode. May the soul of the departed rest in peace.

I am also grateful to all staff and students of this University particularly members of the University Senate, under whose authority we are graduating our students today.

STATISTICS OF GRADUATING STUDENTS

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, this year's ceremonies commenced yesterday with the graduation of **2,585** (Two Thousand, Five Hundred and Eighty-five) students who, having successfully completed their studies, were admitted to various diplomas, certificates and degrees in the Faculties of Arts, Education, Environmental Sciences, Sciences, and Social Sciences. Today, a total of **2,887** (Two Thousand, Eight Hundred and Eightty-Seven) students

will be conferred with various degrees and diplomas of the Faculties of Basic Medical Sciences, Business Administration, Clinical Sciences, Dental Sciences, Engineering, Law, Pharmacy and Distance Learning Institute (DLI).

The third and final day of the Ceremony will witness the installation ceremony of the new Chancellor of the University, in the person of a first class traditional leader in Nigeria, a philanthropist, His Royal Eminence, Shehu of Borno, Alhaji (Dr.) Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai El-Kanemi, CFR, LL.D., M.Sc., M.A., and award of postgraduate degrees to successful students for the postgraduate Diplomas, Masters and Doctors of Philosophy (PhD).

A break-down of the graduating students across various disciplines is as follows:

| S/N | FACULTY | FIGURE |
|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Basic Medical Sciences | 172 |
| 2. | Clinical Sciences | 114 |
| 3. | Dental Science | 26 |
| 4. | Business Administration | 803 |
| 5. | Engineering | 366 |
| 6. | Law | 251 |
| 7. | Pharmacy | 92 |
| 8. | Distance Learning Institute | 1,063 |
| T o t a l | | 2,887 |

Out of this figure, **112** of the graduating students finished with First Class Honours degree. Thirty-eight (**38**) of these are in disciplines in the Faculty of Business Administration, **41** from Faculty of Engineering; **1** from Faculty of Law; **4** from Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, **6** from Faculty of Clinical Sciences and **10** from Faculty of Pharmacy and **12** from Distance Learning Institute (DLI). There are a total of **757** finishing with Second Class Upper

Division degrees, **1,250** in the Second Class Lower Division, **490** in Third Class, **247** passed with degrees not usually classified in Medical disciplines and Pharmacy and **31** with Pass degrees.

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A University of Lagos staff in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy & Biopharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy, Mrs. Fatima Salawu Ikolaba, was the winner of the Best Doctorate Award at the 2nd International Summit on Clinical Pharmacy.

PARTNERSHIPS

The University continues to pursue partnership arrangements that would immensely benefit the staff and students of the University. One of such is the partnership with R.T. Briscoe to construct a world standard automobile workshop. The workshop was commissioned on Friday, 29th September, 2015. The workshop would provide training for our Mechanical Engineering students in Automobile Engineering and services to the University community.

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Prof. Folasade Tolulope Ogunsola and others in the College of Medicine secured a \$3.6 million NIH grant titled, **Building Research and Innovation in Nigeria's Science - (BRAINS)**. The grant is expected to build capacity in Research in HIV, Infectious diseases, Genomics, Neuroscience and Biomedical Engineering.

As part of a consortium made up of the Northwestern University, Illinois, U.S.A.; University of Cape Town, South Africa; University of Ibadan; and the University of Lagos, The Department of Biomedical Engineering was awarded a United States National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant for a project entitled "Developing Innovate Interdisciplinary Biomedical Engineering Programs in Africa".

A total sum of N50, 000, 000 (fifty million naira) was donated by the Lagos State Government to the university's endowment fund to institute the Lagos State Professorial Chair in Tax and Fiscal Matters. Similarly, an endowment of N52, 904, 000 million was formally presented by the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer, UBA Group, Mr. Phillips Oduoza to the University towards the resuscitation of the UBA Professorial Chair of Finance.

Two endowments, in form of legacy-giving for the sum of N36 million each, totaling N72 million was bequeathed to the university by late Mrs Abimbola Aina Omololu-Mulele in her Will and Testament. The two endowments in form of annual lectures are: Abimbola Aina Omololu-Mulele Annual Lecture in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Ladipo Mobolaji Abisogun-Afodu Annual Lecture in Pharmacy.

CONCLUSION

I want to congratulate our graduating students for successfully completing their studies at the University of Lagos. I also congratulate your families, parents and guardians who stood by you during the period of study.

Before I end this speech, I want to urge my dear graduating students to contribute their quota to the development of their Alma Mater, the University of Lagos, the University of First Choice and the Nation's pride. And one way you could do that is by identifying with the Alumni Association of the University. I implore you therefore, to visit the Office of Advancement of this University to get registered so that you can play active roles in the association's activities.

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God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

**Professor Rahamon A. Bello, *FAEng*,
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DAY THREE
UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, NIGERIA



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The Honourable Minister of Education, Alhaji Adamu Adamu,
The Governor of Lagos State, His Excellency, Akinwunmi Ambode,
Your Excellencies, Governors of other States here present,
Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission, Professor Julius Okojie,
The Chancellor, His Royal Eminence, Alhaji (Dr.) Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai El-Kanemi, *CFR*, Shehu of Borno,
Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Unilag Governing Council, Professor Jerry Gana, *CON*,
Distinguished Senators and Honourable Members of House of Representative,
Kabiyesi, Your Royal Highness, Oba Riwan Akiolu, Oba of Lagos,
Other Emirs and Royal Fathers here present,
Members of the Diplomatic Corps here present,
Visiting Vice-Chancellors from other Universities,
The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics and Research), Professor Babajide Alo, *FAS*,
The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Management Services), Professor Duro Oni,
The Registrar and Secretary to Council, Dr. (Mrs.) Taiwo F. Ipaye, *FNIM*,

**The Bursar, Dr. Lateef Odekunle,
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Great Akokites!!!
Our Lords, spiritual and temporal,
Gentlemen of the Press,
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

INTRODUCTION

It is a great honour and privilege for me to welcome the Visitor, His Excellency, Mohammadu Buhari, GCFR, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to this grand occasion on behalf of Senate, Management, staff and students of the University of Lagos. This is the first time His Excellency is visiting the University as the Visitor since his election. Sir, we are sincerely grateful to you for honouring us with your presence. We most sincerely thank you for finding time out of your busy schedule to be with us today and we wish you a successful tenure. I also particularly welcome the Shehu of Borno, His Royal Eminence, Alhaji (Dr.) Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai El-Kanemi, CFR, LLD, M.Sc., M.A., who is today being installed as the 7th Chancellor of the University of Lagos.

I also welcome our respected guests, parents, students and well-wishers to the 48th Convocation ceremonies of our great University. The ceremonies commenced on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. I give all thanks to God Almighty for His continued mercies on us all. His divine support at all times, teamwork and of course, our dedication have taken us thus far. I want to sincerely thank our

numerous stakeholders whose invaluable support has kept us atop other universities in our great country.

University of Lagos is the first University to be established by the Federal Government of Nigeria by an Act of Parliament in 1962 and little wonder that it has now become the University of *First choice and the Nation's pride*.

Your Excellencies, since its establishment, the University of Lagos has prided itself as an Institution that turns out graduates with impeccable character and focus. We are happy to note, sirs, that alumni of the University are visibly in front in governance in Nigeria today. Among these are: the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency, Professor Yemi Osinbajo, **GCON**; the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode; Governor of Anambra State, Chief Willie Obiano; Governor of Gombe State, Dr. Ibrahim Dankwambo and the Deputy Governor of Abia State, Rt. Hon. Sir Ude Oko Chukwu, **FCA**. There are also three prominent Ministers: Dr. Ogbonnaya Onu, Honourable Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Kayode Fayemi, Honourable Minister of Solid Minerals and Alhaji Lai Muhammed, Honourable Minister of Information and Culture. There are also many Senators, Honourable Members of the House of Representatives and many others, too numerous to mention.

Our convocation lecture entitled: ***Positioning Nigeria as the Technology Hub of Africa*** was delivered on Monday, 29th February, 2016 by Dr. Ogbonnaya Onu, the Honorable Minister of Science & Technology. The lecture simply was an eye opener and a masterpiece. Judging from the caliber of people who attended the lecture, I must say, it was the lecture of the moment. Once again, I thank the Honourable Minister, Dr. Ogbonnaya Onu, for a thought provoking and well delivered lecture. Putting the concept to practice is a task before all us and not the government alone as this is what will take our nation out of our current economic quagmire and sustain the economy, thereafter.

Your Excellencies, Nigeria today is facing economic and security challenges. While Nigeria is not the only nation with such challenges our own has become worrisome out of mismanagement and neglect. The issue of Corruption and the multidimensional problems with the economy, along with the incipient

terrorism and other security challenges have come to make governance and development very challenging. As academics, we have not folded our hands and have also taken up the role as a think tank for the nation through the pulling together of multi-disciplinary Research Centres targeted specifically to review and continue to study and make available findings to relevant government agencies on long, medium and short-term solutions to these national problems. These Centres will be there as reservoirs of knowledge for government agencies and departments to consult from time to time.

INSTALLATION OF THE 7TH CHANCELLOR

I congratulate, His Royal Eminence, Alhaji (Dr.) Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai El-Kanemi, CFR, LLD, M.Sc., M.A., the Shehu of Borno who has just been installed as the 7th Chancellor of the University of Lagos.

The choice of His Royal Eminence, as the 7th Chancellor could not have come at a more opportuned time.

A First Class Royal Father for the first and foremost University in Nigeria is a square peg in a square hole. His Royal Eminence is an astute administrator, a reservoir of knowledge and wisdom. He is an embodiment of the sacred El-Kanemi cultural values and foremost paramount ruler of the Borno Kingdom. As a civil servant, he rose to the enviable post of Permanent Secretary before he ascended to the exalted throne of his ancestors, as the Shehu of Borno. Evidence of the Shehu's stature is easily seen in the composition of the eminent dignitaries at today's occasion.

We are lucky to have you at this point of our development and are assured that Your Royal Eminence will bring to bear on the University, your wealth of experience, influence and your abiding love and passion for education.

STATISTICS OF GRADUATING STUDENTS

Today is the third and last day of our 2014/2015 Convocation Ceremonies. Altogether, the University is graduating a total of **10,907** students comprising **5,472** as first degree recipients and **5,435** postgraduates. Hence, in the last two days the **5,472** first degrees and diplomas have been awarded. Among

these were a total of **178** graduates with First Class Honours degrees, **1,617** with Second Class Upper Division degrees, **2,496** in Second Class Lower Division, **884** in Third Class, **50** with pass degrees and **247** with unclassified degrees in Medicine and Pharmacy.

We shall witness the awards of postgraduate Diplomas, Masters and Doctor of Philosophy degrees to a total of **5,435** graduating students. Out of these, we have **71** with Ph.D degrees while **4,973** will receive their Masters degrees and **391** with postgraduate diploma certificates.

I am most delighted to inform you that among this cohort of first degree graduands, a student of this University has broken a record, graduating with a perfect score, having obtained a Cumulative GPA of 5.00. This means he scored A's in all courses he took in the programme. He is Mr. Ayodele Daniel Dada of the Department of Psychology. Congratulations to Mr. Dada, who has set a record for others to meet. The University of Lagos continues to maintain the tradition of excellence and of producing quality graduates that do compete favourably with their counterparts all over the world. This is in line with our vision and we have vigorously maintained this tradition over the years.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UNIVERSITY

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, during an occasion like this, it is appropriate for us to review events of the previous year. First, we must thank God Almighty for giving us a peaceful session. I also want to thank members of staff and students of this University for creating the needed peaceful environment on our three campuses: Akoka, Idi-Araba and Yaba. Needless to state that peaceful environment is a precursor to efficient, effective and meaningful teaching, learning, research and service to humanity.

Your Excellencies, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the University of Lagos is a centre of academic excellence, which is justified by our countless awards and laurel in academic, social and sporting competition. I would like to mention a few of these outstanding achievements by staff and students of this great citadel of higher education in the last academic session:

A student in the Department of Mathematics, Kareem, Kazeem Abiodun emerged the overall winner of the National Mathematics Competitions for University students all over Nigeria for the 2014/2015 session, organised by the National Mathematical Centre, Abuja

A Ph.D graduate of Economics, Dr. Taiwo Victor Ojapinwa won the Best Ph.D Thesis Award in Nigerian Universities for the 2014/2015 session. The thesis is titled, “Macro-Economic Impact of Remittance Flows on Financial Development and Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa”.

A final year Computer Engineering Student of the Department of Electrical/Electronics and Computer Engineering, Mufutau Ayotunde Akuruyejo was awarded a Scholarship by MTN Foundation as an MTN Scholar and beneficiary of the European Organization Nuclear Research (CERN) Computer Internship Programme in Switzerland in partnership with Oracle. Based on his Internship experience, he co-authored a publication with his foreign mentor Stavros Moiras of the Department of Computer Science and Technology, University of Peloponnese, Greece, titled “Source Codes Defects-Case studies and Lesson learnt“. The paper takes a look at the vulnerabilities in Source Codes and how to mitigate them.

Our Geosciences students, in 2015, won two major intervarsity quiz competitions, one hosted by University of Ibadan and organized by the American Association of Petroleum Geologist/Nigerian Association of Petroleum Explorationist and the other by the Nigerian Mining and Geoscience Society and hosted by the University of Ilorin.

Miss Are, Adejoke Kafayat, a former student of the Faculty of Law, finished with first class honours and she was the overall best candidate in the November 2015 Bar final examination.

A University of Lagos staff in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy & Biopharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy, Mrs. Fatima Salawu Ikolaba, was the winner of the Best Doctorate Award at the 2nd International Summit on Clinical Pharmacy.

PARTNERSHIPS

The University continues to pursue partnership arrangements that would immensely benefit the staff and students of the University. One of such is the partnership with R.T. Briscoe to construct a world standard automobile workshop. The workshop was commissioned on Friday, 29th September, 2015. The workshop would provide training for our Mechanical Engineering students in Automobile Engineering and services to the University community.

The University also has partnership with LG Air-conditioning World Wide to provide training for our engineers. I am proud to inform you that we have in our campus an LG Air-conditioning Academy located in the Faculty of Engineering. This Academy is the only one of its kind in Africa at the moment. With the practical lessons from the academy, our graduates of engineering and allied studies will be experts in air-conditioning, while the facility provides opportunities for research into air-conditioning as well.

The University's Entrepreneurship and Skills Development Centre has now taken off. It will provide avenues for students to acquire special skills that can make them job-ready or towards entrepreneurship. It will also assist budding entrepreneurs to realise their potentials aimed at self-employment and job creation.

University of Lagos is one of the six Universities selected for the training of graduates students across West Africa under the Ecowas Postgraduate Mobility Scheme, run by the Association of African Universities (AAU). As at today 33 students from various countries across West Africa are currently enrolled in various Masters and Ph.D programmes in the University.

Prof. Folasade Tolulope Ogunsola and others in the College of Medicine secured a \$3.6 million NIH grant titled, **Building Research and Innovation in Nigeria's Science - (BRAINS)**. The grant is expected to build capacity in Research in HIV, Infectious diseases, Genomics, Neuroscience and Biomedical Engineering.

As part of a consortium made up of the Northwestern University, Illinois, U.S.A.; University of Cape Town, South Africa; University of Ibadan; and the University of Lagos, The Department of Biomedical Engineering was awarded a United States National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant for a project entitled “Developing Innovative Interdisciplinary Biomedical Engineering Programs in Africa”.

A total sum of N50, 000, 000 (fifty million naira) was donated by the Lagos State Government to the university’s endowment fund to institute the Lagos State Professorial Chair in Tax and Fiscal Matters. Similarly, an endowment of N52, 904, 000 million was formally presented by the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer, UBA Group Mr. Phillips Oduoza to the University towards the resuscitation of the UBA Professorial Chair of Finance.

Two endowments, in form of legacy-giving for the sum of N36 million each, totaling N72 million was bequeathed to the university by late Mrs Abimbola Aina Omololu-Mulele in her Will and Testament. The two endowments in form of annual lectures are: Abimbola Aina Omololu-Mulele Annual Lecture in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Ladipo Mobolaji Abisogun-Afodu Annual Lecture in Pharmacy.

CONCLUSION

I want to congratulate our graduating students for successfully completing their studies at the University of Lagos. I also congratulate your families, parents and guardians who stood by you during the period of study.

Before I end this speech, I want to urge my dear graduating students to contribute their quota to the development of their Alma Mater, the University of Lagos, the University of First Choice and the Nation’s pride. And one way we could do that is by identifying with the Alumni Association of the University. I implore you therefore, to visit the Office of Advancement of this University to get registered so that you can play active roles in the association’s activities.

My dear graduating students, I want to inform you that your certificates are all ready for collection from your Faculties. I will therefore implore you to start the process of clearance.

Once more, I thank you all for your patience and attention. I wish you all God's blessings and safe journey back to your various homes.

God bless the University of Lagos.

God bless the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Professor Rahamon A. Bello, *FAEng*
Vice-Chancellor,
University of Lagos.