

NEWS

Group calls for proper research funding in tertiary institutions

SEYI JOHN SALAU

The Nanotechnology Research Group (NANO+) of the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH), Ogbomosho, in setting agenda for nanotechnology research in tertiary institutions across the country has called for proper funding of research institutes and tertiary institutions in Nigeria as catalyst for growth of tertiary education in Nigerian.

The NANO+ stated this in preparedness for its forthcoming second annual workshop/conference on nanotechnology tagged 'LAUTECH NANO 2018' slated for October 23-25 in Ogbomosho.

The theme of the conference, 'Nanotechnology for sustainable development: prospects for Africa' is expected to draw scholars, policy makers and participants from within and outside Nigeria in agriculture, life sciences, physical sciences, environmental sciences, engineering and medical fields to discuss research activities that can engender development in Africa through the multidisciplinary field of nanotechnology.

The research group which

is headed by Agbaje Lateef, a professor of Microbiology in the Department of Pure and Applied Biology, LAUTECH, comprised of dedicated scholars from the fields of Physics, Engineering, Biochemistry, Botany, Microbiology and Zoology.

The group earlier successfully organised the maiden National Workshop on Synthesis, Characterisation and Applications of Nanoparticles on August 21-24, 2017, in which Africa was called upon to invest in nanotechnology to aid development.

According to Lateef, activities of the research group have led to enormous contribution to knowledge in the field of nanotechnology through publications in journals and training of manpower in the field of nanotechnology.

The group has been described as a focussed and productive research cluster in Nigeria in the field of biomimetic nanotechnology by the first Professor of nanotechnology in Nigeria, Enock O. Dare, of the Department of Chemistry, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, who delivered the keynote address at the opening ceremony of the maiden workshop held in August 2017.



L-R: Folaseto Akin-Olugbade, associate, Actis; Debola Badejo, principal, Themis; Zeina Beydoun, CEO, Z Kitchen; Naresh Asnani, CEO, EMEL Group of Companies, and Temitope Odukoya, partner, West Africa, financial advisory leader, Deloitte, all of Alumni of London Business school (LBS), at the word wide celebration of London Business School in Lagos, at the weekend.

Pic by Olawale Amoo

Labour vows to vote Buhari out in 2019, sets November 6 for nationwide strike

JOSHUA BASSEY & KEHINDE AKINTOLA

Organised labour has threatened to vote out President Muhammadu Buhari in 2019 general elections over the lackadaisical attitude towards the implementation of the new national minimum wage.

The leaders of the three labour centres: Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Trade Union Congress (TUC) and United Labour Congress (ULC) in a joint statement obtained by BusinessDay, also vowed to ensure that all the governors who claimed to lack the capacity to pay the new national minimum wage do not return to office.

To this end, the coalition unanimously resolved to hold a day national outrage and mourning protest on October 30, 2018, and nationwide strike as from

November 6, 2018.

"Nigerians are no longer surprised why governance in the nation seems to have become a huge joke, if this is how they tackle other serious national issues. Imagine Governors' Forum that has six representatives in the tripartite committee jumping in to make excuses after its representatives had made their submissions in the committee! We shall consider any governor saying that he is unable to pay as unpatriotic and, an enemy of Nigerian workers and masses. We shall vote them out in 2019.

"We the organised labour in Nigeria having not seen any sign that this government is willing to demonstrate honour and integrity in relating with Nigerian workers and masses have resolved to as follows: Organise a day of national outrage and mourning which will be used to sensitize Nigerians

on our plight and on the issues at stake. This shall take place in all states of the federation including Abuja on Tuesday, the 30th day of October, 2018.

"A meeting of various organs of the Unions will hold as appropriate: on Friday, the 2nd day of November, 2018, a Joint Central Working Committee (CWC) meeting of all the Labour Centres in Nigeria shall hold to receive reports and make final preparations for our ultimate engagement with the Federal Government on this matter.

"This is the first time in the history of this nation in recent times that such meeting will take place and this goes a long way to show the seriousness with which Nigerian workers and its leadership hold this matter.

"If nothing is responsibly done by the Federal Government to meet our demands, on Monday, the 6th day of November, we

shall embark on a nationwide strike to compel this government to show more sensitivity to the plight of Nigerians and the suffering that is decimating our people on daily basis," the joint statement read.

Contrary to Federal Government's position that the Tripartite Committee on National Minimum Wage did not agree in any figure, Ayuba Wabba, NLC president; Bioboi Kaigama, TUC president, and Joe Ajaero, ULC president in the statement argued that the N30,000 was unanimously agreed procedurally within the Committee.

"All these are clearly not pointers to a party whose negotiation motives are in good faith but expressly demonstrate to all Nigerians that this party was unfortunately willing from beginning to play games on a life and death issue like a new national minimum wage for Nigerian workers.

Ogun assures every successful applicant will collect C of O

TELIAT SULE

Ogun State governor, Ibikunle Amosun, has assured Homeowners' Charter Programme applicants that they will collect their Certificates of Occupancy (C of O) before the end of his administration.

Governor Amosun stated this at the 35th edition of the distribution of C of O and Building Plan Approval to another set of beneficiaries at the Arcade Ground, Oke-Mosan, Abeokuta.

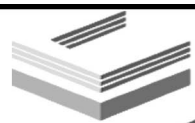
Amosun, represented by the commissioner for works and infrastructure, Olamilekan Adegbite, said the process was being fast tracked by issuing the land title documents to 2,000 beneficiaries monthly.

"One of the missions to rebuild Ogun State came with the message of validating the residency of every person that has property in Ogun and we are consistently doing that, by putting smiles on the faces of thousands of people on monthly basis and we will continue to do that until every applicant that met the requirements collect his or her C of O," Adegbite said.

The commissioner, who was equally represented by the director, administration and supplies in the ministry, Nofiu Adebisi, enjoined those that

were yet to pay for assessment to do so.

In his opening remarks, the director, planning, research and statistics, the ministry of urban and physical planning (MUPP), Bola Ajayi, congratulated beneficiaries and asked them to continue supporting the present administration to spread the dividends of democracy to the nooks and crannies of the State.



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RETURNS ON UTILISATION OF FUNDS SOLD TO CUSTOMERS FOR THE WEEK ENDED 19 OCTOBER 2018

S/N	CUSTOMER	ITEM OF IMPORT	DATE OF FUND PURCHASE	EXCHANGE RATE	AMOUNT (\$)
1	AIR WAVE LIMITED	OFFSHORE CHARGES	18/10/2018	307.0000	1,526.52
2	FBNQUEST MERCHANT BANK/AIR WAVE LIMITED	OFFSHORE CHARGES	18/10/2018	307.0000	1,142.4
3	FBNQUEST MERCHANT BANK/AIR WAVE LIMITED	OFFSHORE CHARGES	18/10/2018	307.0000	828.97
4	FBNQUEST MERCHANT BANK/SEVEN-UP BOTTLING CO	OFFSHORE CHARGES	18/10/2018	307.0000	2,701.52
5	TAANA LTD	WATERPROOFING MEMBRANE	18/10/2018	307.0000	20,000.00
6	AGHA REHOBOTH CHIEDOZIE	SCHOOL FEES	18/10/2018	307.0000	15,000.00

RETURNS ON SOURCES OF FUNDS SOLD TO CUSTOMERS FOR THE WEEK ENDED 19 OCTOBER 2018

S/N	SOURCE	DATE OF FUND PURCHASE	EXCHANGE RATE	AMOUNT (\$)
1	CITIBANK	15/10/2018	306.5000	20,000.00
2	OTHERS	16/10/2018	306.5000	15,338.08
3	ECOBANK	18/10/2018	306.5000	10,000.00
4	FIRST BANK	19/10/2018	306.5000	20,000.00
TOTAL AMOUNT				65,338.08
AVERAGE AMOUNT				16,334.52

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