



VC Makes Case for Organic Agriculture



R-L: VC, Prof. Balogun, WANOART Chair, Prof. Aiyelaagbe with female officials of the British High Commission during the Organic Agriculture Programme.

Professor Balogun described organic agriculture as a unique way of producing food and fiber through environmentally sustainable means, by exploiting the benefits of ecological cycles and deliberately excluding the use of agrochemicals, which could be harmful to human health and the environment.

He said that UNAAB, as one of the few specialized Universities in West Africa with agriculture as its sole mandate was committed to increase in agricultural productivity through its tripod mandate of teaching,

research and extension.

The Vice-Chancellor noted that through the initiative of the University, the Work Group on organic agriculture was inaugurated in 2004 and has led to the birth of the Organic Agricultural Project in Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria (OAPTIN).

Presenting his paper at the event, the Chief Executive Officer of ELOC Farms, Ghana, Mr. James Cole, advised that potential farmers in organic agriculture must be groomed in essential skills such as basic farming, entrepreneurial management and export handling, to successfully benefit from the practice.

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The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (UNAAB), Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun has observed that the over 300 million population in the West African sub-region is precariously threatened by food insecurity and impoverished livelihoods.

The University don has therefore advocated for an increase in organic agriculture awareness and its skill as a way of stemming the tide.

Professor Balogun gave this insight while delivering his welcome address at the opening ceremony of the roundtable on 'Skills Gap Analysis on Organic Agriculture in West Africa' organized by the West African Network on Organic Agriculture Research and Training (WANOART).

Professor Balogun, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Professor Segun Lagoke, identified ignorance in the field of organic agriculture and shortage of skilled manpower as part of problems responsible for the food insufficiency in the West African sub-region.

According to him, "organic agriculture is presently the fad in global agriculture and it is imperative for the West African sub-region to tap into the global trade, which is currently worth more than \$40 billion".

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Postgraduate Fellowships, courtesy ANSTI

The African Network of Scientific and Technological Institutions (ANSTI), is offering limited number of fellowships for postgraduate studies in the 2009/2010 academic session.

The fellowships, designed to support staff development in ANSTI member institutions of which UNAAB belongs, cover fee, subsistence and international travel for postgraduate studies at African Universities.

Application for the current programme closes by May 31, 2010 while interested applicants should visit the ANSTI website: <http://www.ansti.org> for application forms and necessary details.

.....ACU Fellowship awards too

Female Senior Lecturers of the University, interested in the Association of Commonwealth Universities Fellowship award, have been encouraged to send their detailed applications to the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, immediately.

A release issued by the Director of Linkages and Partnership, Dr. Kayode Akinyemi said such application must be endorsed by the applicant's Head of Department and Dean.

UNAAB offers Bench Work support for Lecturers

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun has hinted that Academic Staff currently undergoing Ph.D programmes can benefit from the Education Trust Fund (ETF) provision for training.

The Vice-Chancellor has therefore directed Academic Staff undergoing Ph.D programmes that may require special financial assistance to send their requests for consideration.

The request that will be routed through the Directorate of Linkages and Partnership, must include, among others, officially confirmed details of expenses, period of stay and invitation or acceptance from the host.

It is however mandatory that the applicants must be nominated by the Deans of their respective Colleges.

Pastor Bakare's blessing drops on UNAAB

Three students of the University have bagged Pastor Tunde Barare's Scholarship Awards to pursue their desired academic programmes.

Two of the students that will benefit from the cash award under the Scholarship Scheme are from the Department of Electrical/Electronic of the College of Engineering while the third beneficiary is from the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics of the College of Agricultural Management and Rural Development.

The lucky students are:

S/N	Names	Dept. & College
1.	Gbadamosi, Taibat Oluwaseun	NUD, COLAMRUD
2.	Abiose, Adeyemi Temitope	Elect/Elect, COLENG
3.	Balogun, Olusola Abiodun	Elect/Elect, COLENG

Lecturer Bags MONBUKAGAKUSHO (MEXT) Ph.D Scholarship Award



An Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, Mr. Cornelius Alarima has bagged a Ph.D Scholarship Award of the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport, Science and Technology.

The Scholarship takes effect from April 1, 2010 at the Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences, Shimane University, Matsue, Japan.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun has expressed his delight of the achievement, wishing Mr. Alarima a successful sojourn in Japan.

UNAAB delivers on STEP B objectives – Professor Ariyo

The Science and Technology Education Post Basic Project (STEP B) in the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta has achieved significantly on its target objectives.

The University's **STEP B Project Manager, Professor Johnson Ariyo** who disclosed this recently in an interview with **UNAAB Bulletin**, said the Project has been able to upgrade the University's biotechnology laboratory to an international standard.

According to **Professor Ariyo**, the Project has been able to achieve its goal of exposing indigenous scientists to the latest technologies in biotechnology, while 110 indigenous and international participants were trained last year, in **Plant Biotechnology** and **DNA Purifications**.

The Project Manager said the University has commenced a bilateral partnership with the **International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Italy**, as well as with the **Cornell University, USA**.

The Manager added that the partnership with **ICGEB** has paid-off with a donation of €15,000 for biotechnology development in the University while the **Cornell University** is assisting UNAAB, in facilitating research in animal breeding genetic.



Hand-On Training activities in the recently upgraded Bio-Technology Laboratory



Professor Ariyo expressed his delight that through STEP B, more of the University students enrolled for courses in biotechnology, while remarkable improvement is also being recorded at the postgraduate studies level, as a result of the increased awareness.

Professor Ariyo who was optimistic that the University will experience more quality publications in biotechnology resultant of the research efforts in the highly

equipped laboratory, said the society will be the ultimate beneficiary in the area of food sufficiency.

FREE DIABETES AND HYPERTENSION SCREENING FOR STAFF

The Health Services Department of the University in collaboration with the Ogun State Ministry of Health is organising free Diabetes and Hypertension screening for members of staff.

A release issued by the University's Acting Director of Health Services, Dr. A.O Amusan disclosed that the exercise which comes up on Thursday, March 11, 2010 is part of activities commemorating the World Kidney Day.

Dr. Amusan said the Department has concluded arrangements to avail staffers of a weekly Non-Communicable Disease Clinic (NCD), starting from Wednesday, March 17, 2010.

GTB job offer for UNAAB best

The Guaranty Trust Bank Plc is offering jobs for the brightest graduating students of the University. To this effect, 22 students have been shortlisted to undergo an aptitude test, which takes place on March 12, 2010.

They are:

S/N	NAME	MATRIC. NO.	DEPARTMENT
A.	COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (COLERM)		
1.	ADEYEMI, Abdulkabir Ayobami	2003/0720	FWM
B.	COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (COLENG)		
2.	OLOPADE, Abdullah Oluwaseun	2003/0586	E/ELET
3.	SONOLA, Oluwasegun Feyisitan	2003/0589	E/ELECT
4.	IGBA, Ejirogheme Joel	2003/0597	MCE
C.	COLLEGE OF ANIMAL SCIENCE AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION (COLANIM)		
5.	DUROSARO, Samuel Olutunde	2003/0318	ABG
6.	ADEDOKUN, Felicia Temitope	2003/0430	APH
D.	COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (COLAMRUD)		
7.	FARINOLA, Lucy Adeteju	2003/0036	AE&FM
E.	COLLEGE OF FOOD SCIENCE AND HUMAN ECOLOGY (COLFHEC)		
8.	BABATUNDE, Folashade Titilope	2004/0139	NUD
9.	JAYEOLA, Victor Oladimeji	2003/0174	FST
10.	OYEDEJI, Ajibola Bamikole	2003/0194	FST
11.	ABODERIN, Adebukola Tolulope	2003/0155	FST
F.	COLLEGE OF PLANT SCIENCE AND CROP PRODUCTION (COLPLANT)		
12.	DOKUNMU, Ayodeji Ololade	2003/1204	CPT
13.	LAWUYI, Dapo Akano	2003/1392	SSLM
G.	COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES (COLNAS)		
14.	OLOPADE, Helen Jimisayo Olutunde	2004/0418	BCH
15.	AYILARAN, Ayobami Rufus	2005/0337	BCH
16.	OYEWALE, Tosin Damilola	2005/0347	BCH
17.	JIMOH, Azeez Abiola	2004/0410	CHM
18.	IDOWU, Joke Mujidat	2005/0785	BIO
19.	BOLAJI, Olufemi Ademola	2004/0666	PHS
20.	EWEYEJU, Modupe Rashidat	2004/0630	MCB
21.	ONI, Oluwaseyi Akanji	2004/0588	CSC
22.	SALAKO, Oluwatimilehin Samuel	2005/0418	CSC

For further details, shortlisted students are requested to see Mr. R.A. Adeniran in the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) on Wednesday, March 10, 2010.

APPOINTMENTS

S/N	Name	Dept	Appointment	Effective Date	Tenure
1.	Mr. E.A Bankole	Plantation Village	Administrator, E.M.U	March 4, 2010	Till Further Notice
2.	Dr. O.O Atanda	Food Service & Tourism	Ag. HOD	Feb. 22, 2010	2 Years

Students to address Committee of Vice-Chancellors

The Committee of Vice-Chancellors of Universities in the federation has endorsed the participation of University students in its next Conference, scheduled for the Osun State University, Osogbo.

The Committee has to this end, slated Essay Competition among University students as one of the events at the next Conference which comes up between April 19 – 22, 2010.

Entries have therefore been called for quality essays on the theme, *The 21st Century Students*, to be submitted via avcnu2010@osunstateuniversity.edu.ng latest by Tuesday, March 30, 2010.

Such essays should be typed double-space with Time New Romans/12 font of about 450 words. Interested applicants have been further advised to visit the AVCNU 2010 website: <http://avcnu.web.offcelive.com> for additional information on the competition.

Harvested essays will be processed by a panel of experts while authors of essays selected for the Conference will be honoured with various prizes.

Dr. Shua'ara appreciates UNAAB

The Director, Tertiary Education, Federal Ministry of Education, Dr. (Mrs.) Jamilat Shua'ara has expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun and the entire University Community for pleasantly giving her a 'unique birthday bash'.

Dr. Shua'ara whose birthday coincided with the date of the 17th Convocation Lecture, was cynosure of all eyes as the Community gave her a special birthday ovation and 'a jolly good fellow' song, as soon as she stepped into the Julius Okojie Lecture Theatre Complex, venue of the Lecture.

The Director appreciated the display of love and goodwill showered on her, noting that the sweet memory of the occasion will linger in her, for a long time.

Organic Agriculture - from front page

In his remarks, the Permanent Secretary, Ogun State Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Olusoji Vaughan, called for continuous awareness in the practice of organic agriculture, as it is relatively new in the sub-region.



Right: Prof. Phil-Harris of Coventry University, UK being taken shown organic agricultural products on display

The National Network Coordinator of WANOART, Professor Isaac Aiyelaagbe, in his contribution, said the importance of organic agriculture to the socio-economic development of any nation cannot be over emphasized and therefore urged stakeholders to join hands towards giving the practice, its pride of place in the country.



Dr. Shua'ara appreciating UNAAB community