FOUR FUTA STUDENTS TO COMPLETE PROGRAMMES IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

The collaboration between the Federal University of Technology, Akure, FUTA, and the Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University (FAMU), Tallahassee, USA has translated into reality with the departure of the first set of students for the United States of America.

The students who are to complete their undergraduate programme at FAMU under the 4-1-1 programme are Oluwalowo Abiodun (Metallurgical and Materials Engineering), Ogundana Ifedayo Joseph (Electrical/Electronic Engineering) and Ebere Onyewuchi Emmanuel (Mechanical Engineering), while Fasakin Tolulope is to pursue a Master degree in Industrial Engineering.

Addressing the students on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebiyi Daramola, when the management of the University organized a mini send forth for them, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Adedayo Fasakin urged the students to represent the University well as its ambassadors. According to Professor Fasakin, opportunities like this are rare and should be properly utilized. He said, “Do not jeopardize this and future opportunities. You are very fortunate among your mates because many applied, but God favoured you. See this as an opportunity to further sell FUTA to the world. This is a very important and enviable milestone in the history of FUTA. So, do not disappoint us. Help yourselves to shine because when you shine, FAMU will be encouraged and make request for more students from us. Please help us to sustain this collaboration and relationship”.

Speaking further, Professor Fasakin assured the students of FUTA’s continuous support and monitoring from the day they start their studies because their success is FUTA’s success. Professor Fasakin praised the efforts of Professor Daramola for initiating the programme and Professor Ben Adewuyi of Metallurgical and Materials department and his team for a job well done by linking constantly with FAMU, FUTA and the American Embassy.

Responding on behalf of his colleagues, Ebere Onyewuchi Emmanuel gave glory to God for counting him and others worthy to be among the first beneficiaries of the programme. He said, “I believe our going is for good and we promise God and FUTA management that we will not disappoint. We thank God for our Vice-Chancellor and the management team of FUTA for giving us this rare opportunity. This is because they have exposed us to the outside world for further and greater success. Without the effort of the management led by Professor Daramola and Professor Adewuyi and our Heads of Departments, we may not have made it. When I reflect on this, it still appear like a dream to me, FUTA with this development has broken new frontiers which must be sustained”.

Under the terms of the agreement, FAMU will offer a two – semester programme of course work in its schools like Engineering, Agriculture, Sciences, Environmental Technology, etc, for eligible students of FUTA. The programme coded 4-1-1 will also provide qualified FUTA students with the opportunity to complete their Bachelor and Master’s degree at FUTA and FAMU, respectively. Students from FUTA are expected to spend four years at FUTA and their 5th and 6th year at FAMU. The 5th year is designed to serve two purposes. It will enable them to complete the requirements for Bachelor at FUTA and serve as a bridge for the postgraduate programme at FAMU. Credits from the one year at FAMU will be
transferred to FUTA to meet the requirements for the award of B.Tech/ B.Eng. Students in the programme could proceed for their master’s degree at FAMU. To further firm up the collaboration through students exchange programme, a postgraduate student, Ms. Renee Gordon of FAMU College of Engineering, was recently in FUTA on a working visit.

Professor Daramola, the initiator of the collaboration said its primary aim is to develop academic and research cooperative efforts between the two institutions through which staff and students will enjoy opportunities to enhance their teaching, research and learning activities. He said it would also engender exchange programmes on short, medium and long-term basis as a means of promoting scientific and scholarly research output for the benefit of both institutions.

Present at the send forth were: Dr. Kayode Oke (HOD Mechanical Engineering), Dr. Joseph Omotoyinbo (HOD, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering), Dr. Lanre Ogunti (HOD, Electrical/Electronic Engineering) and Mr. Adeyemo of the office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics).