



FUTA NEWS

INTEL DESIGNATES FUTA TRAINING HUB

Intel Corporation, one of the World's leading ICT firms, has designated the Federal University of Technology, Akure as a training hub for development of critical manpower in information technology. The Country Manager, Intel Corporation, Mr. Bunmi Ekunderin stated this during a recent working visit to FUTA. Ekunderin who was received by principal officers of the University led by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Daramola, expressed his organization's readiness to fund Research and endow chairs to advance the frontiers of knowledge. He said the relationship with FUTA will be beneficial to both organisations as experts from Intel will soon come to Nigeria to train people with FUTA serving as the hub of the training which will hold in November for two weeks.

He described FUTA as the University to beat in Nigeria. He also praised the Management of the Institution under the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Daramola for doing a great job in transforming the 32-year old Institution to a world class citadel of learning. Speaking on the partnership, Ekunderin said "Intel has a lot of focus on educational development globally because education aids development. Intel supports education and technology on how to make technology more permeable for people so as to have access to facilities. We also train teachers on how to integrate technology into education. Because of FUTA's achievement as one of the foremost Universities in Nigeria, we decided to partner with you. Wherever Universities of Technology are mentioned in Nigeria, FUTA comes first. We in the labour market know the worth of your products and we decided to start this relationship first with FUTA as a growing University".

Corroborating Ekunderin, Intel Corporate Affairs Manager, Akinola Babatunde said "Partnering FUTA will transform education in Nigeria. We have a lot of brilliant people in Nigeria, but we need to expose them to opportunities around them, especially the ones at Intel. We want to give FUTA 40 units of Galileo Boards based on Arduino Technology. This is the maximum a

University can have at a time. Then the workshop and training to hold in November is just the starting point. We want to train as many as possible. We will want you to invite people from outside the University. This is to further strengthen our town and gown relationship. We also want to develop local content curriculum by having a tripartite arrangement for South Africa, Kenya and Nigeria. With this, we will expand our frontier in Africa". Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Daramola appreciated Intel's interest in FUTA and the compliments the University got from the organization's Country Manager. He also expressed FUTA's readiness for the partnership and the training to hold in November. Daramola said "Part of my vision is to take FUTA to the global market place. I am so delighted that Intel recognizes FUTA so much that you are helping us to be in the global market. Our products and achievements speak volume about us and I am glad your team has confirmed that. As the best University of Technology in Nigeria, we have excellent scholars, researchers, facilities, staff and students. We have whiz kids among our students who have designed a lot of IT devices. In fact, when you talk IT, FUTA is already there, but there is still room for development and improvement. Becoming a training hub for manpower development under the aegis of Intel will be a plus for us. We already have a lot of International Collaborations through our Centres like WASCAL, CEGIST, CERAD, CENT and others. We also house a Centre of Excellence in Food Security that worth millions of dollars. In terms of readiness for the training and workshop in November, we are ready. We will give it a wide publicity to accommodate many people. We are ready for you and you will not regret partnering with us". Daramola praised Ekunderin and his team for doing the country proud and urge them to extend their intellectual largesse to the upcoming generation.

Deans and Directors of FUTA also shared their delight in Intel's offer. Chairman, Committee of Deans and Dean, School of Sciences, Professor (Mrs.) Ibiyinka Fuwape said "For your plan to partner FUTA, you have come to the right place because we are endowed with human and material resources that can measure up to global standards. I am sure this partnership will soar higher".

The Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Academic and Development, Professors Adedayo Fasakin and Tolulope Akinbogun and Director, FUTA Industrial Training Unit, Professor Olaniyan Opafunso commended the effort of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Daramola, describing him as a visionary leader, marketer and brand manager for repositioning FUTA and ensuring that the University attracts meaningful collaborations with relevant stakeholders . They all expressed optimism that the partnership would achieve its objectives.