



FUTA NEWS

SEMS HOLDS FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE, PARTICIPANTS WANT PURPOSE DRIVEN RESEARCH TO AID DEVELOPMENT

A call has been made to Universities of Technology to take the lead in reaching out to the public with their research results and engender the sponsorship of a bill that will create an enabling condition for innovation. This call was made by the Guest Lecturer, Air Vice Marshall Ibrahim Halilu Mohammed while delivering the 2015 Annual Lecture of the School of Earth and Mineral Sciences (SEMS) at the Federal University of Technology, Akure recently. He spoke on the Topic “Application of Geospatial Technology in Climate Change Adaptation and National Secretary”.

Air Vice Marshal Mohammed opined that climate change is a phenomena that is intrinsic with global weather system which emanates from reckless human activities of distorting the delicate balance of the ecological system through Biofuels, especially fuel wood and charcoal which releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. He said nearly all the sectors of the economy ranging from Agriculture, Security, Health, and human lives depend on favourable climate to flourish. To achieve this he recommended that the Universities of Technology should reach out to the public with their research output and also called on the national assembly to sponsor a bill that will support meaningful Research and Development nationally. . He was represented by Dr. Ahmed Balogun of the Department of Meteorology, FUTA.

Earlier in his message, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Daramola congratulated the Dean, SEMS, Professor Idowu Odeyemi for holding the first Annual Conference alongside its annual lecture. Professor Daramola added that the theme of the Lecture was timely and insightful in view of the global battle to have a better environment.

The Dean, Professor Idowu Odeyemi in his remark said the event was combined with award ceremony for products of the school who have distinguished themselves in their chosen careers and contributed to national development. He added that since the inception of SEMS in 1982, the school has become the centre for excellence for training of students in research in Earth and Mineral Sciences tailored towards the sustainable

exploration and exploitation of the nation's mineral resources. He enjoined students and participants to see the event as one that will add value to their careers and future.

At the conference prominent Futarians who have made their marks in their fields of endeavour were honoured.

Addressing the awardees, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Daramola represented by the Director of Works, Engineer Kehinde Bamisile said the award was in recognition of their positive contributions to the progress of SEMS and the University. He urged them not to relent in projecting the good image of FUTA as worthy ambassadors. "FUTA is proud of you as trail blazers and worthy ambassadors. Keep the flag flying and we are very proud and always willing to partner with you" he said. He congratulated the Dean, Professor Idowu Odeyemi, staff and students of the school for the success of the first conference and award night.

Speaking at the event, Professor Odeyemi and Director, Centre for Space Research and Applications (CESRA), Professor Joseph Akinyede congratulated the awardees and said SEMS and FUTA are proud of them. The awardees are Honourable Musbau Folorunso Ayinla, who is the Senior Special Assistant on Solid Minerals to Governor Abiola Ajimobi of Oyo State, Funmi Roberts Ebiwonjumi and Goke Akinrinmade of Shell Nigeria; Mrs Olajumoke Ajayi 1st female Vice Present of the Nigerian Association of Petroleum Explorationists (NAPE) and member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG); Air Commodore Charles Dipe Otegbade; Air Vice Marshal Ibrahim Halilu Mohammed; Professor Idowu Odeyemi Dean, SEMS; Professor J. S. Ojo, of Geophysics and Professor Jerome Omotosho, Director, WASCAL.

Responding on behalf of the awardees, Mrs. Olajumoke Ajayi said "The seed celebrated today were sown when we were here years ago. It took some of us some time to realize and admit that you were actually building us for the future. FUTA has been transformed over the years. When I got to SEMS, I was surprised by the transformation I saw. This is as a result of the good work been done by the University Management and it is highly commendable. We assure you of our support and promise not to let you down because we are partners in progress".