



FUTA NEWS

SKILLS AND COMPETENCE WILL ENHANCE STANDARD OF EDUCATION----FORMER VICE CHANCELLOR

A University Don, Professor Adebisi Balogun has recommended continuous acquisition of skills for University teachers in order to improve the falling standard of education in the country. Balogun, the immediate past Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Akure stated this at a seminar for academic staff of the Institution on Academic Quality Assurance. He spoke on the topic, “Quality Assurance for Effective Institutional Skills, Competences and Learning Outcomes”. He spoke on the advantages of skills acquisition and its national development and how skills acquisition has helped the developed countries. He stated that it was necessary as a developing country to address skill shortages in high growth sectors, improve coordination between prospective employers and education and training providers. He further advocated increase in the quality of public training and increase in workplace learning and entrepreneurship training which could be a means of encouraging small enterprise. He stated that this will build entrepreneurs and reduce over dependence on the search for unavailable jobs by the youth.

Speaking on competence he said “In a knowledge driven economy, University education provides the opportunity and serves as competence supplier. A higher education institution should target the needs of customers (stakeholders, industry etc) in order to identify the competence gaps and fill in them”. He defined Quality Assurance as the systematic activities implemented in a system so that quality requirement for a service and products are met.

Speaking further the Guest Speaker appreciated what the University has done so far in providing opportunities for students and academic members of the University to enhance their skills and competence in a highly efficient manner. He said synergy and cross fertilization of ideas from Department to Department and School to School are necessary to proffer solution to the challenges of the society. He also commended the University for producing several distinguished academic staff as Research Fellows of the Alexander Don Humboldt Foundation, International Foundation for Science (IFS) and other World Class Foundations.

Summing up he advised the University to continue to train all cadres of staff in the University “There are lots of training opportunities available to the academic. The older academic should strive to mentor the younger ones adequately so that they can grow. We cannot afford to churn out half-baked graduates. In our own days, we could compete conveniently with students in Harvard, Cambridge and the likes. Nigerian students who studied abroad were competing well with their white counterparts. This tradition should be sustained. Let’s continue to do what is expected of us. We can only do this if we tech qualitatively. Let us justify our worth and assure the quality of our profession” he said. He also commended the value – addition of the Professor Adebisi Daramola’s led administration saying “you are not a success until you have a good successor”. I am really impressed by the tremendous infrastructural development of this administration. When I go round the compound I feel fulfilled that I am truly a success. He said FUTA has done well, very close to the first generation Universities.

Addressing participants at the event, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Daramola fnaae, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Professor Tolulope Akinbogun, said that the essence of the event was to bring about revolution and innovation which ensure that the ways the business of teaching, research and community development are conducted are in consonance with international best practices. According to

him it is the tradition of the University to engage in regular development of its human resource to keep abreast of modern trends in order to achieve the cooperate objective of the University.

Emphasizing the importance of the workshop, Daramola said “As academics we need to refresh our minds to ensure we remain focused in our methodologies in the discharge of our duty in molding lives and developing our future generation for a better tomorrow. It is when we are ardently committed to our cause and engage in modern trends of producing marketable graduates that we can enjoy the fulfillment obtained from serving others through our calling as teachers”. Appreciating the choice of Professor Adebisi Balogun as the Resource Person, he described him as a well-known distinguished scholar, researcher and administrator who has contributed immensely to the growth and development of the University in various capacities.

“Professor Adebisi Balogun who has occupied difference positions in this University and the fifth substantive Vice-Chancellor of this great citadel of learning has made indelible imprints in the sands of time. This training has enabled us to identify gaps in our business of teaching, research and service delivery. He has also shown us approaches that will bring about improvements in our performance”. Speaking further he commended the efforts of the Chairman and members of the University Academic Quality Assurance Committee for organizing the Workshop. In a welcome address, the Chairman, University Academic Quality Assurance Committee (UAQAC), Professor Benjamin Adewuyi said the Workshop was part of the commitment of the Quality Assurance Committee to improving the productivity of the academic staff of the University. He also noted that the training workshop has been thoughtfully organized to equip all the academic staff in the University for enhanced productivity and improved service delivery.