



FUTA NEWS

REDEEMER'S VICE CHANCELLOR CANVASSES RESPONSIBLE UNIONISM AT FUTA RETREAT FOR STUDENTS' LEADERS

Students all over the country, especially those in the leadership position of Students Unions have been charged to show exemplary behavior and devise mechanisms to contribute meaningfully to the development of their institutions. Professor Debo Adeyewa, Vice-Chancellor, Redeemers University, Mowe, Lagos gave this charge while addressing Students Leaders of the Federal University of Technology, Akure at a Leadership Retreat for 2014/2015 elected Officials of the FUTA Students Union held at the Warm Spring and Resort Centre, Ikogosi in Ekiti State. Professor Adeyewa who spoke on the topic "Managing the Myths of University Funding, Students' Welfare Services and Teaching Resources for Academic Excellence: A Way Forward" said Students Leaders and Students body can form a body to raise funds to assist their Universities. This gesture he said will help to alleviate poverty in the system. He urged the Students Leaders to be creative enough to start small legitimate ventures that can attract funds to their Universities.

According to him, Nigerian education system is in crisis today because of underfunding which has negatively affected the standard of education. Adeyewa said "Quality education anywhere in the world is expensive. This is because quality education requires quality infrastructures with conducive environment, well remunerated staff and adequate modern curriculum that will meet the challenges of the 21st Century. A world Class University is such that concentrate on talents with abundant resources and adequate budget and favourable government regulations". Speaking further, the don, a one-time Deputy Vice-Chancellor at FUTA said "Leadership task in the University system is enormous. In view of this, University managers should be able to transform the citadels of higher learning to make them meet the global best practices".

On the way forward for Nigerian education system, the don said "Our education system need good leadership that will invest into the future. Such investment will build confidence into the system and give a sound foundation to the education system of our country. Leadership cut across all the divides of our nation and as Students Leaders you need some soft skills that will take you there. Such soft skills include how you package yourself – your dressing, the way you compose yourself at gatherings or social events – all these tell a lot about you because it shows people's perception about you".

Adeyewa also admonished Students Leaders to be builders who will leave good legacies behind. According to him,

generation coming behind will never forget good legacies that they meet from previous leaders. His words "Lead aluta against poverty to make FUTA a land where giants can rise. You can facilitate genuine fund raising activities to support your University. If you lead a genuine fund raising cause, parents and governments will listen to you and assist you appropriately. Do not raise funds to be embezzled or to enrich your pockets. It will not take you anywhere. Strive to encourage yourselves because true leaders are not discouraged, they encourage themselves. Winners don't quit and quitters don't win". Adeyewa concluded.

In his address, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebisi Daramola called for positive transformation in the attitude of the Students Leaders so that they can record great achievements than their predecessors. Daramola said "Always strive to team up with other stakeholders to build a strong, virile, high-flying Institution.

You should be concerned with issues of academic breakthroughs, academic quality assurance, cult-free environment, peaceful co-existence and financial prudence. Imbibe attribute of dynamic academic culture that promotes dialogue, consultation and positive initiatives and not violence or confrontation". Daramola also promised management's commitment to students' welfare and assured them of his administration open door policy and participatory decision making. "We will always ensure you are adequately involved in the decision making process, particularly on issues that have direct impact on your well-being" he stated. Professor Daramola urged them to foster value-adding and impactful leadership that will make their names written in gold at the end of their tenure. In his charge to the Students Leaders, Dean, Students' Affairs, Dr. Boniface Alese said "Endeavour to embrace dialogue as the only tool for achieving and addressing your grievances. Shun violence and unwholesome tendencies that can cast aspersions on your maturity and integrity. Be humble, civil and servile. Be servant leaders".

Both Professor Daramola and Dr. Alese commended the immediate past Students Union Leaders for performing well to maintain peace during their tenure. Dr. Alese also thanked management for the support his office and the students always receive in the University and promised a continuous harmonious parent-children relationship between students and management.