implementation include:
- Establishment of a Directorate System in
  the Registry, Bursary, Public Relations and
  Technologists/Technicians.
- Employment of additional academic and
  Non-Teaching Staff.
- Regularization and absorption of
  Lernstis Memorial Centre for Learning
  (LEMCEC) and Centre for Human Resources
  Development (CENHRD) staff.
- Establishment and development of
  CENHRD Village.
- Procurement of four(4) 32-Seater
  Coach Buses for students.
- Procurement of six(6) cars for Directors.

Giving the aforementioned impact, the
consensus of opinion is that, should the
tempo be sustained, the incumbent Council
led by Chief Olakunle Osayemi is on the
vege of leaving its mark on the sand of time.
Little surprise that his profile read like a
literary masterpiece, "The Making of An
Enigma".

The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman
Governing Council, Chief Osayemi Lawrence
Ayinde Olakunle assumed the leadership of
the Governing Council, University of
Agriculture, Abeokuta In August 2009.
Born on June 7, 1945, Chief Osayemi
obtained his Bachelor of Science in
Economics from the University of London
in 1978 and holds a Bachelor of Laws Degree
(LLB) and Master of Laws (LLM) from the
University of Lagos.

He trained at the London Business
School, London (LLS), Harvard Business
School, Boston Massachusetts, USA and he’s
an Associate Member, Nigerian Institute of
Management (AVNIM).

The Pro-Chancellor as an erudite scholar
is a Graduate, Chartered Institute of Cost
and Management Accountants London (CIMA),
Associate, Chartered Institute of Cost and
Management Accountants, London (ACMA),
and Associate, Institute of Chartered
Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN).

Chief Osayemi is currently the Director,
Thomas Wyatt Nigeria Plc, Member Steering
Committee Vision 20: 2020, Chairman Paper
Sector, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria
(MAN), Member Board of Directors of Bank
of Industry and Member Technical
Committee West
African Monetary Zone.

Prior to that, he was Member
Governing Council of Nigeria
Employers
Consultative, and
President, Paper
and Paper Board
Manufacturers
and Converters
Association,
1986-2006. He
was also Member
Governing Board

The Chairman Governing Council's
articulate professionalism soared as the
Factory's Accountant with Philips Nigeria
Limited and the Chief Account, Vegetable
Oils Nigeria Limited.

Chief Osayemi Lawrence Ayinde
Olakunle hails from Abeokuta in Ogun State
and is happily married with children.

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AKINTUNDE: I know that once
an institution of such moves into that area, there will be rapid
development. For example, at the Alaba end, they had to
tap the electricity from the UNAAB line to Alaba. The
Alaba people are now enjoying better electricity supply than
any other part of the city just because of the fact that UNAAB,
as an institution in the locality.

UNM: How does it feel, happening during your tenure?

AKINTUNDE: It gives me a great joy and I look at it as a divine
intervention that so much things are happening, during my
tenure in Odeda Local Government. I need to give glory to
God. Not only that, I think I have to let you know this, when I
came on board, I paid a visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor
Olajuyi Balogun and I let him know that UNAAB is my territory
and that as a research environment we should be able to
benefit from the research findings. So we had a collaboration
first with AMREC and we are doing a fantastic collaboration
there. Already, we have two model villages that are working
with AMREC and what we have put in place is going to go far
even after I might have left this office. It is going to continue
even when I get out of government and we are also planning to
push a bill to that effect so that the collaboration will continue
irrespective of personality or tenure.

UNM: Kindly Expound on the symbiotic relationship between
AMREC and the Local Government

AKINTUNDE: What we have done is to make these two villages,
models so that people don't run away from their villages. We want
them to have electricity, hospitals and to make the area economically
viable. What we are starting with is plantain plantation in one
locality that is at Makenia. In another year, the place will be
known mainly for plantain cultivation. Anywhere in Nigeria, if you
need plantain anytime, any day you will get it there. By calculation,
two to three million Naira will be coming out from there every year.
The money will be put to good use because we will not allow them to
spend the money anyhow since UNAAB AMREC will be part of the
decision. The community and the Local Government will also be part
of it. Even, the Local Government that is putting in the money will not
spend the money anyhow. The same thing is happening at Ado
Village. We have the plantain plantation there and we are helping
them on their livestock production by turning soya beans into
soymilk. I never knew soya bean was so important like that. So, if we
continue like this, in the next five years, our villages will be turned
into something else and am telling you that AMREC is doing a
fantastic job.
Liberian President:
The Road To Honour

The only recipient of the University's honorary doctorate degree during the 17th Convocation Ceremony is the 23rd President, Republic of Liberia, Mrs. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

Mrs. Johnson Sirleaf will be conferred with the Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) for her outstanding contributions to women emancipation, good governance and development in Liberia and Africa in general.

The Liberia President was born in central Monrovia in 1938 and has led a distinguished career spanning nearly four decades in the private and public life, both in Liberia and internationally.

She began her career in banking and economic and financial management in 1965 at former Treasury Department in Liberia.

In 1979, as Minister of Finance she spearheaded the move to reposition the management of government finances. After the military coup of 1980, she served as President of Liberian Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI).

In 1985, she took a sabbatical to contest for a seat in the Liberian Senate. She was placed under house arrest and then sentenced to ten years in prison for speaking against the Samuel Doe regime.

After being incarcerated for a few months she fled to the United States and served as Vice-President for Equator Bank and in 1992 she joined the United Nations Development Programme as Assistant Administrator and Director of its Regional Bureau of Africa with the rank of Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Mrs. Johnson Sirleaf left that post in 1997 to run as Presidential candidate against Charles Taylor where the official results placed her second in a field of thirteen contestants.

In 2003, when Charles Taylor was exiled to Nigeria and the National Transitional Government of Liberia (NTGL) was formed, Sirleaf was selected to serve as Chairperson of the Governance Reform Commission where she led the Country's anti-corruption reform by changing the reporting mechanism of the General Auditing Commission from the Executive of the Legislature, thereby strengthening and reinforcing its independence.

She left this position to contest the 2005 presidential elections resulting in her historical inauguration on January 16, 2006 as the 23rd President of Liberia.

The honorary awardee has revived and restored Liberia's international credibility and reputation. Through her leadership, the government has identified four pillars in support of its developmental agenda: peace and security, economic revitalisation, governance, rule of law and basic infrastructure and services.

In addition to leading the national effort for achieving development goals, she
has used her diplomatic and negotiating skills to reactivate bilateral relations with several countries including France, Germany, Canada, Israel and Italy.

Her leadership style has resulted in the lifting of UN sanctions on the country’s diamond and forestry sectors and the successful renegotiation of a 1 Billion Dollars concession agreement for her country.

Madam President has also been successful in attracting resources from private foundations and individuals in Europe, Canada and the United States thus supplementing government’s resources in support of activities in infrastructure, education and health.

After she delivered speeches, several universities have provided scholarships for the training of Liberians. In recognition of her tireless efforts at making Liberia a post-conflict success, she was awarded the coveted Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honour bestowed by an American President.

Sirleaf has served on many advisory boards and committees, which include the International Crisis Group (USA), Songhai Financial Holdings Limited (Ghana); Centre for Africa’s International Relations, University of Witwatersrand (South Africa); Women’s World Banking (USA); Synergos (USA) and Women Waging Peace (USA).

She is the recipient of several awards including the Civil Rights Museum Award (2007); the Africa Prize for the Sustainable End of Hunger (2006); the RI Freedom Award (2006), the David Rockefeller Leadership Bridging Award (2006) and the Grand Commander of the Star of Africa Redemption (1980).

President Johnson Sirleaf attended the College of West Africa in Central Monrovia and holds a Master’s in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. She has received seven honorary doctorate degrees from universities around the World (UNAAB’s award is first in Africa).

She is a proud mother of four sons and has seven grand children.
UNAAB Will Lead in Varsity Ranking – Dr. Badmus

Webometrics Centre(2,5),(998,993) is one of the latest arrivals in the projects and programmes delivery of Prof. Oluwafemi Olaya Balogun-led administration. "Webo" as it's fondly called by members of the University community is manned by a Coordinator, Dr. Abiodun Badmus, a Senior Lecturer, beloved by many for his sense of humour and openness. With him, there's no dull moment.

And so it was, in a chat with UNN Crew of Kola Adepoju, Stella Kayode and Saha Emmanuel Ajayi where Dr. Badmus sounded confident that the Webometrics Centre has prepared the ground for UNAAB to take the lead in University ranking, among other issues.

Excerpts:

UNN: Can we meet you?
Badmus: I joined the services of the University on November 13, 1995 as a Graduate Assistant in the Department of Physics, College of Natural Sciences. I passed through the ranks and file and today, I am a Senior Lecturer.

UNN: What is Webometrics and what is its relevance to the University?
Badmus: The issue of Webometrics just came up of recent in the Nigerian context, but globally, Webometrics has been existing. To a layman, web means the normal World Wide Web. And when you say web, you mean the whole world. You want to see information electronically, that is at your finger. But in the Academic setting, Webometrics means ranking of University's development in terms of content and accessibility of vital information on your University. These are the things we put on the website for people to actually access and get this information without necessarily coming to your
University. It is what we can quantify. For example when you say metric, it has to do with numbers, what are the things you can quantify about your University, that another University does not have. So when you put that side by side, you can rank University A and University B. Let me tell you that about six years back, this University was nowhere to be found in terms of ranking until this administration came on board and with the inception of this Centre, the University is now number 6 in Nigeria and 70, in Africa.

**UNM: What is the focus of Webometrics in the University?**

Badmus: The Webometrics Centre was carved out of the ICT Resource Centre (ICTREC). The function of this Centre will be to enhance web ranking of our University. Because if you say, leave it with ICTREC, there are so many things that they do. You know, the ICTREC used to be the Computer Centre but it has today grown in capacity to a Resource Centre. Webometrics was actually put up to look at those things the administration is doing in term of capacity and academic development so that it can be brought to limelight for people to pick worldwide.

**UNM: Is Webometrics then a duplication of ICTREC?**

Badmus: That is not true. Webometrics and ICTREC are supposed to complement each other. In other words, the management of the University’s website is in the hands of ICTREC, while Webometrics is saddled with contents and vital information. The issue of Webometrics being a duplication of ICTREC does not arise at all because ICTREC gave birth to Webometrics for the purpose of Web content and to prepare the University for world ranking which comes up every three months.

**UNM: How Prepared is Webometrics for the next ranking?**

Badmus: We are prepared. We are ready. Every now and then, our web Administrator is busy. In concrete, terms we have been able to make our contents to conform to the global requirements. There is a particular format you must adhere to, before you can be ranked. Take for instance, if I put your CV on the Internet and somebody just go to the internet and edit your CV and paint you black. When those people see such, they will rank it, but because you are smart enough to know that whatever you want to put on internet should be dynamic and must be secured. In this case most of the contents on the Internet about UNAAB files are in portable document (pdf) format and so nobody can edit the files. For instance, a transcript. Your transcript and academic record can be posted on the internet and cannot be edited. It can only be read. You cannot even print it. Those are the checks that we are working on so that if any of our graduates wants his or her transcript, you don’t even have to come down. Admission can also be processed through the internet, just purchase the University scratch card and you enter the codes. The University’s Examination and Records Unit can print and forward your academic records to you anywhere in the world, electronically.
I enjoy politics with my fish and cattle
- Gen. Abdulsalaam Abubakar (Rtd)

By Lasun Somoyo, Christian Ikeobi and Yinka Sotobi

It might perhaps appear an appealing alternative to take a stroll down the lions' den than steering the command ship of a nation weary of unfulfilled promises of improved conditions of living. Taking the former, the pride might momentarily have food as its least concern that the lucky intruder could pass unnoticed. No matter how deftly you undertake the latter, you are not likely to end up without getting scared. Such was the lot of retired General Abdulsalami Alhaji Abubakar (AAA), Nigeria's last military ruler (June 1998 – May 1999). He was invited to help with the task of keeping the country together at a time of great distress. Undaunted by the prospect, he made his word his bond and midwifed the shortest political transition programme in the history of the nation.

Not only did he accomplish his task on a high, he inevitably had several recourses in the lions' den calming their frayed nerves without getting consumed. Since retirement in 1999, the charismatic leader has been able to prove that life outside government and power can be meaningfully fulfilling.

The conviction spurred him into devoting a big part of his time to his childhood passion in agriculture by establishing the Maiyvue Farms Ltd in Minna, Niger State in 2001. The farm is fully mechanised and functionally integrated in crop, fish, crocodile, bee and livestock farming.

The farm boasts of about 300 heads of Holstein-Friesian alongside other hybrid and local cattle in its feedlot, computerised milking parlour, modern milk processing facility, fish ponds, vast plantations of citrus and mangoes among others. Maiyvue also processes farm produce into highly-valued consumer products such as pasteurised milk, yoghurt, cheese, vegetables as well as grape, mango and orange juices.

Maiyvue lends great support to its local communities through agricultural extension services. It encourages the nomads toward modern animal husbandry while it provides marketing avenues for them to dispose their milk. Farmers around Maiyvue/Sabon-Daga communities enjoy regular seminars in bee-keeping, fishery, vegetable production and modern irrigation practices. At harvest times, when more hands are needed in Maiyvue Farms, about 200 members of the local communities are engaged on temporary basis.

Cited within the sprawling expanse of the farm is the Maiyvue Nomadic Primary School established in 2002 by General Abubakar to provide free and functional primary education for the children within its catchment, while also availing their nomadic parents, adult literacy programmes.

With an enrolment of about 450 pupils, the school runs programmes in formal, non-formal and in the adult literacy education. Facilities available in the school will rate favourably among the top ten of public primary schools in the country. A well-stocked library, computer facilities, vocational and skills center, standard playground with basketball court and a dedicated borehole complement learning in Maiyvue Nomadic Primary School.

Expectedly, the school maintains a demonstration garden utilizing organic fertilizer and irrigation facilities to ensure year-round vegetable production. The 13 teachers and other non-teaching staff employed in the school are all well motivated to give only the best.

For a man who openly acknowledges the benevolence of God upon his life and an unfeathered love of his community, General Abubakar vows to commit his life to the services of the nation and the aspiration of the downtrodden. Asked to share his philosophy of "life with an interview crew of UNAA News, in his Minna hilltop residence, AAA said "God has been kind to my generation and family. Whatever I become is the will of God. I also enjoy a good appreciation of the community. I am always ready to assist the less fortunate and the poor."

Like many other patriots, General Abubakar eagerly awaits the turn of circumstance in Nigeria, when the electorate votes would count without hindrance and the reversal of the 'winner takes all' political syndrome. "Situation will turn for better in this country when our leaders begin to understand that they will ultimately answer for their actions and inactions while they were in power." The General advocates for a politically enlightened citizenry that is not timid in the quest for a stabilised democracy, believing that the local communities are generally law abiding. He is of the opinion that Nigerians should learn to demand their rights and that leaders should desist from taking common people for granted.

Aside from agriculture and the management of his chains of business under Maiyvue Holdings, AAA serves as peace envoy for the United Nations (UN), the Commonwealth, the African Union (AU), the African Forum (made-up of former African leaders) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). He was at a time the Chief Mediator in the Liberian Peace Talk. He has also been involved in mediation and conflict resolutions in Congo DR, The Gambia and Zamb.
Balugon Has Performed Creditably - ASUU Chairman

Dr. Agboola Adesina, an academic staff of the Department of Mathematics, is the Chairman of Academic Staff Union of University (ASUU), UNAAB Branch. He assessed the administration of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Olawafemi Olaye Babogun and gave kudos for a job well done. He also bared his mind on other tough issues in a chat with Kola Adepoju, Ope Iiro and Saba Ajayi.

UNM - How hot is ASUU Chairmanship?
Agboola - Well, I cannot say it is not hot, because it involves a lot of commitments in the sense that I can be in the class lecturing and a call will come which might be urgent and important. It is now left for me to decide how to prioritise such that one will not suffer for the other. At times, we may have struggles with the school management for a long time, particularly on members welfare, which also makes it hot. At times I may have to go for urgent NEC meeting and my primary job of lecturing is always there waiting for me. These make it hot, but not every time because once there is no struggle, I feel relaxed.

UNM - Who Do you think is ASUU Chairman and what are the challenges?
Agboola - Before you can become ASUU Chairman, you must first of all be an academic staff of a University which is the basic requirement for all aspiring members. The high-point of challenges for me as a person is combining the lecturing activities of teaching, research and extension services with the Office of the Chairman, which must not fail as well. There was a time I was the Head of Department and I had to combine it with the Office of ASUU Chairman.

UNM - Assessing the Vice-Chancellor:
Prof. Olawafemi Babogun
Agboola - Well, I can say he has been performing well since he assumed office with a lot of developmental structures in place. In terms of welfare, he has been trying but there are times we do disagree with his position and you can recall when we took the University to Court. Apart from this, I can say he has been doing fine.

Balugon Is A Core Welfarist - SSANU Chairman

AbdulSobur Salaam is a household name in the University Community. He is a die-hard Unionist, Salaam who is the Chairman of the University branch of the Senior Staff Association of Nigeria University (SSANU), was the immediate past Secretary of the body.

Young, vibrant and articulate, Salaam is one unionist who does not delude with undue praise-singing or flattering, he calls a space, spade.

He spoke to UNM crew of Kola Adepoju, Ajayi Saba Emmanuel, James Oyelakin and Ope Iiro.

UNM - How hot is the office of SSANU Chairman?
SALAA - First of all, I want to thank you for honouring me, I want to say that I am proud of the Public Relations Directorate. The production of last edition of UNAAB News Magazine is superb. For me, I do not consider the seat of SSANU Chairman being hot, because I sought for this position and having served in various capacities including the Secretary-ship of the union, I know what it takes to be a chairman. Having known what it takes, and having got the mandate of people to serve them in this regard, I do not consider it hot.

UNM - Union/Management relationship?
SALAA - Looking at it from historical point of view, historical in the sense that for those that have stayed in the University for some time now, we know where the relationship is coming from. There was a time in the University when there was no interaction between Management and the union. It broke down to a level where the union was treated with a lot of suspicion and hostilities but we now have a Management that at least, talks to the unions. Though we disagree at times, we still talk to strike a balance. I want to say at this juncture, that it has been quite productive and symbiotic and that accounts for peace and progress in the campus.

UNM - What are the challenges confronting your office?
SALAA - The challenges are in two ways. The local and the national dimension. The challenges in the local dimension are not really much and I will tell you why? My coming to office was by popular mandate and it was almost overwhelming and I have gained a lot of support from virtually all the members. There have been lots of advice and suggestions that can move the union forward in all ramifications. As a result, it gives almost no challenge because once I call on those people that elected me to office, they always come to my rescue. Perhaps, in another way round, the challenges are how to meet the aspirations and wishes of those that put me in office that is at the local level. When we look at it from the national dimension, once you are a chairman of a chapter, automatically you are a member of the National Executive Council and there are lots of issues here. The issue of professionalism, the issue of our Registrars not just an ordinary Secretary to Senate but people who can vote and take decisions at Senate and Council meetings. As you know, the Union is like a pyramid and when you have a head it trickles down to membership at lower levels and they expect much from the head. All those issues shall be addressed soonest.
1. Immediate past DVC (Academic), Prof. Clemence Erasmus is no doubt the J. J. Okocha the Super Eagles never had... South Africa 2010 beckons.

2. It is not easy to be a striker like the gangling Didier Drogba of Chelsea. All hail Prof. Adekunle of COLEM, UNAAB.

3. Exam fever: Reading in motion

4. Who is matriculating? The caps or the owners? This is a case of who the cap fits

5. ... Sleeping on duty? ... rest they say is sweet after labour but for her rest is sweet after meal, even the food flask lend credence

6. Exam fever: Exam is no respecter of fashion, else our dear undergraduate would have taken care of her hair

7. Is our dear ‘Uncle’ matriculating too?
My Challenges As UNAAB S.U.G. President
-Ogunpayimo

Tall, ebony black and witty, Olayiwola Ogunpayimo is a combination of brain and charm. The outgoing SUG President spoke of his mission, challenges and legacy, when cornered by UNM's Opeyemi Ilori.

His Vision, His Challenges.

As you rightly know, when one is vying for this kind of office, you will have one or two things in mind and you will just have to pray to God to give you wisdom and knowledge to be able to deliver. Number one is to tackle the problem of transportation but it is quite unfortunate that whenever we get to the State's Bureau of Transportation, they'd rather do nothing for UNAAB believing it is not a state-owned institution but most of the students are from this State. When we approached them for Macapolo buses, we realized that they were only interested in money and profit. It is quite unfortunate. Thanks to the university Management for providing additional buses to ease the problem. Another is the issue of accommodation and we had dialogue with landlord's associations to accommodate our students and be considerate with rent. I also have to give kudos to the university management for providing more Hostel accommodation thus reducing the stress on students. Once you are in the Hostel, there is no problem of transportation again. Welfareism another thing we have in mind which we have done.

Challenges

I always pray that I should be able to face any challenge that comes my way. The first one was the issue of increment in fees. I met with the Management and stakeholders and had consultations with them and at the end of day, we reached a consensus. The greatest one was when I was attacked in my house on allegation that I collected 12 million Naira from the Management and that I have sold them for selfish interest on any issue that may come up. Thanks to Man of War people that came to my rescue. Another challenge is how to unite the three arms of government in such a way that there is no crack within the house most especially now that we have the Judicial arm. I also have the challenge of striking of balance between students and subjected to higher authority. I think the last one is how to combine academic with unionism and personal life making sure that one does not suffer for other.

FEATUE

HOW I BECAME A UNAABITE

By Olaitan Williams


It wasn't easy gaining admission into the University. The Pre-degree was really a survival of the fittest. I read like never before but thank God He crowned my efforts with success.

My name came out in the first batch list. I actually registered for Micro-Biology as my major but I was admitted for forestry. While thinking the race is over, I was made to understand we still have the hurdle of Dial Interview to scale.

I eventually sailed through but the registration was stressful. I mean going to the bank to pay our school fees back to the Department to meet up with other demand wasn't a cocktail party.

Consequently, I was matriculated on May 8, 2009. It was a colourful event. The Student Union Government organized Freshers Night and Excel Group did a wonderful event the following night.

Excel Group has been functioning since our Pre-degree days, so also Avant Magazine.

Avant Magazine has been a rock but so unfortunate that only a member of the group passed our pre-degree examination. Lecture started in March after two weeks of registration and orientation. We had many great personalities in the three (3) days programme. The SUG President in person of Comrade Olayiwola came at the last day of the orientation.

However, we are no more freshmen but stale because the 2009/2010 short listed names for Jambite is now on the internet, and our First Semester examination result is out, real and sold.

But I tell you, not because I'm one of the 2008/2009 freshmen in UNAAB, but honestly speaking my set is the one the University has been looking up to socially and academically.

Even the stale cannot deny the fact that the "beautiful ones have been born". We are beautiful, handsome, intelligent, hardworking and religious. The female ones make the male smile, we've actually improved the style of the stale.

Now that I am in UNAAB, I have seen that truly it is an institution for skills and talents. In the next 5 to 10 years, I see UNAAB emerging one of the best in the world.

At this juncture, I would say I am happy and contented to be a UNAABITE.