

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, IBADAN



ALL HANDS MUST BE ON DECK TO ENSURE A HITCH FREE 2018/2019 SESSION: A PASSIONATE APPEAL TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS

Our academic calendar has been delayed by at least eight months and our dear students constitute the group that is worse-off by this unfortunate situation. As we progress into the 2018/2019 academic session, it is important to state that the University Management is committed to the overall best interest of our students. Hence, the determination to ensure that the current Academic Session runs seamlessly from 15 June 2019 to 14 April 2020. By the grace of God, the 2019/2020 Academic Session will commence 9 May 2020. The realisation of these timelines, however, requires the active cooperation of all stakeholders: government, staff, students, parents/guardians and the general public.

To ensure effective communication between University Management and students, a meeting held on Sunday, 23 June 2019. The purpose was to discuss some of the issues bordering on the welfare of students on campus. These included the prohibition of commercial motorcycle transport (Okada) services, reinstatement of Ojo Aderemi, lifting of the suspension of the Student Union and the introduction of Technology Fee.

Present at the meeting were the following:

Vice Chancellor - Professor A. I. Olayinka (Convener)
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration) - Professor K.O. Adebawale
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) - Professor A.B. Ekanola
Dean of Students - Elect - Professor I. A. Abiona
Deputy Dean of Students - Dr. A. A. Lewis
Chairman, ICTC - Professor O. A. Adegbesan
Member, Intra Campus Transport Committee (ICTC) - Dr. J.K. Apotiade
Chief Security Officer - V.G. Fadeyibi
Chairman, Council of Hall Chairs - Taiwo Aladesanmi
Secretary, Council of Hall Chairs - Grace Adeyemo
Chairman, Ransome-Kuti Hall - Ayotola Olafare
President, Faculty of Agriculture - Ayodeji Akin-Olagunju
President, Faculty of Science - Joseph Ojo
President, Faculty of the Social Sciences - John A. Adeleke
President, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine - Oluwaseyi S. Sanusi
President, Faculty of Education - Aliu Olusesi
President, Faculty of Renewable Nat. Resources - Festus Adegbola
President, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences - Tobi Alfred Omolono

President, Faculty of Public Health - Miracle A. Owolawi
President, Faculty of Arts - Udochukwu Anagwaonye
President, Faculty of Economics - Joshua Babalola
President, Faculty of Law - Victor Olanipekun
President, Faculty of Dentistry - Michael O. Adejumo
Chairperson, Obafemi Awolowo Hall - Bibire Akinbola
UCJ President - Martins Isaac Olusanya
President, Faculty of Clinical Sciences - Boluwatife Aderounmu
Assistant Registrar, DVCO (Administration) - O. Olomiloro

The main observations and conclusions on each of the contentious issues are presented below.

Prohibition of Commercial Motorcycle Transport (Okada)

To re-engineer the commercial transport system of the University in accordance with the best practices in service delivery, the ban on commercial operation of motorbikes, popularly known as “okada”, was discussed. Reasons for the ban include:

- Serious security concerns about life and property
- Frequent accidents and fatality (occasional loss of life) due to non-usage of helmet or other safety kits by passengers.
- Illegal operation by unregistered bike riders leading to loss of revenue by the University
- Over speeding
- Flagrant disobedience to rules and regulations guiding operations

To ensure effective and efficient transportation services on campus, an alternative has been provided through the UNIBADAN Microfinance Bank loan Scheme for current motorcycle operators to purchase tricycles.

The request by student representatives for the reversal of the ban of commercial motorcycle transport on campus was discussed extensively and the following observations were made:

- There was a direct correlation between the presence of commercial motorcycle transport and prevalence of crime such as burglaries, robberies and rapes on campus.
- Commercial motorcycle transport was responsible for most road accidents on campus.
- Commercial motorcycle transport system is already banned in many areas, cities, universities and institutions in Nigeria due to its apparent negative tendencies.
- Every point or place on campus is accessible by road and will be reached by tricycle.

It was resolved that commercial motorcycle transport remained prohibited on campus with effect from 1 July, [2019](#). Management will ensure that students and staff are able to commute easily and cheaply on campus. At present, there are 22 space wagons, 28 buses and 210 cars rendering transport services on campus. Fifty tricycles have also been deployed to operate on campus and the situation is being monitored to ensure convenient transportation services within the campus.

Ojo Aderemi

After the decision of the Student Disciplinary Committee to rusticate Ojo Aderemi for four semesters, he was duly informed that he could appeal to the Governing Council of the University for a reconsideration of his case within 14 days. He, however, chose not to explore this opportunity but rather adopted other legal means. The case of Ojo Aderemi is already the subject of litigation before the Federal High Court, Ibadan Division, and to that extent it is *subjudice*. Hence, the University cannot comment on a matter before a court of competent jurisdiction. For as long as the case is in court, the University does not have a choice but wait for the outcome of the judicial process. The case has been adjourned to Wednesday, 2nd October 2019 for mention.

Reinstatement of the Student Union

After due deliberations on the appeal made by the student representatives for the reinstatement of the student union in the University, the Vice Chancellor mandated the Student Affairs Division to come up with a proposal on the need for purposeful student unionism and the reinstatement of the Student Union. The proposal is to be discussed at the next meeting of Senate.

Technology Fee

Hitherto, students were paying N2,500 for Portal Access. This is what has been re-designated as Technology Fee. Apart from the facilities previously enjoyed by students, the Technology Fee is meant to facilitate the provision of a more efficient internet access for all our students on campus. The University hitherto subscribes to 470 Mbps of bandwidth from Odua Telecoms Ltd and ipNX Nigeria Limited. With the introduction of the technology fee, the bandwidth will be increased to 935 Mbps with effect from August 2019. Arrangements are ongoing to ensure that students have internet access, in the first instance, around the academic area. This will be extended to all Halls of Residence subsequently.

Passionate Appeal

The University appeals to all parties with a genuine interest in the stability, peace and progress of our University to put all hands-on-deck to ensure a hitch free 2018/2019 Academic Calendar. We must not allow external forces, devoid of any stake in the University of Ibadan to needlessly create problems for us.

Thank you and God bless.

Signed

University Management
Saturday, 6th July 2019