

Professor Ayo Francis Ogunye Trust Foundation, University of Lagos (PAFOTFUL) Presents First Research Grant Award.

The Professor Ayo Francis Ogunye Trust Foundation, University of Lagos (PAFOTFUL) on Tuesday April 12, 2016 at the senate chamber, Senate House, 2nd Floor, University of Lagos presented the first edition of research grant of ₦1,000,000.00 (One million Naira) under the Prof. Ayo Ogunye Chair of Chemical Engineering to Mr Olawole Olanipekun in a brief ceremony.

The event which commenced at about 11.30am started with the recognition of guests by Professor Fakinlede the Dean of Engineering of the University of Lagos who doubled as the Master of Ceremony. The guests included Professor Ayo and Mrs Adenike Ogunye- the Donor and The Board of Trustees members: Engr. A.O. Shobo-the Chairman of PAFOTFUL, Dr. Mrs Taiwo Ipaye-the Registrar of the University, Dr. Lateef Odekunle-the University Bursar, Mrs. Ibironke Salaam-the Director of the office of Advancement, Engineer Afolabi Oladele, Chief J.J. Akpieyi , Dr. John Erinne, Prof. O.B. Familoni -the Chairman of the Research Grant Committee of PAFOTFUL and a host of other dignitaries including the Deans of other Faculties and the HOD of Chemical Engineering Prof Kayode Denloye. Professor Rahman Bello, The Vice Chancellor of University of Lagos, was also the chief host of the event.

The welcome address was delivered by Engineer Shobo who thanked members of the board of trustees for their dedication to the cause of supporting the PAFOTFUL and asked all present to support the Trust Foundation. Prof Ogunye, the fund donor also gave a short speech where he acknowledged all the people who impacted him in one way or the other, including his students, one of whom is the Vice Chancellor of the University of Lagos. Prof. Ogunye went further to state that the fund grew to its present amount of fifty nine million, eight hundred and ninety seven thousand, four hundred and forty four Naira sixty eight kobo (**N59, 897,444.68**) from his initial donation of one hundred thousand Naira (N100,000)

The Chief host, Prof. Rahman Bello also gave a brief remark. He said that Prof. Ogunye is a dogged fighter and a very principled man who imparted some discipline into the students he lectured, but he also maintains a very good relationship with his students. He stated the fact that it was Professor Ogunye that started the Chemical Engineering Department in the University of Lagos and recalled with nostalgia how he was received in the University of Lagos by his former lecturer when he was an assistant to Chief J.J. Akpieyi who came to inspect the facilities of the University as part of the activities leading to a financial grant of over \$500,000.00 for Laboratory equipment for the Chemical Engineering Department of Unilag from Petroleum Development Trust Fund (PTDF) which Chief Akpieyi headed at that time.

The presentation of the grant award by Prof. and Mrs Ogunye, Engr. Shobo , Prof. Bello was thereafter anchored by Mrs Ronke Salaam.

This was followed by a brief remark from Mr. Olanipekun who explained the import of his research that was granted the award. He also reiterated the title of the research which he said was '**Modeling The Fate Of Multi-Component Contaminants In A Porous Media**'

The event ended at about 1.10pm with a vote of thanks by Prof. Familoni.

About PAFOTFUL

Prof. A.F. Ogunye a renowned scholar and teacher, set up the department of Chemical Engineering, University of Lagos and became its Professor of Chemical Engineering in March 1979. as a determined and tireless researcher, he decided during the launch of the faculty of engineering endowment fund in 1990 to endow a Professorial Chair of Chemical Engineering in the university.

To achieve this dream and initiate the endowment, he donated the sum of N100,000.00 in two installments of N50,000 each, in February and March 1990. To Further demonstrate his commitment, he sacrificed his retirement benefits (gratuity of N333,370.70 and his pension entitlements, earned since 1995 till date) which amounts to **N59, 897,444.68** towards the endowment of the professorial chair in the department of Chemical Engineering.

To fulfill its vision, objective and achieve good governance, the Board of Trustees (BOT) was inaugurated in November 2008.

- To fund and maintain a professorial chair to be called Prof. Ayo Ogunye Chair of Chemical Engineering for the purpose of teaching and research in the field of Chemical Engineering at the University of Lagos. The Prof. Ayo Ogunye Chair shall be occupied by a suitable person who has proven academic excellence and sufficient intellectual merit in the area of Chemical Engineering.
- to organize public lectures periodically in the Chemical Engineering profession and to impart the engineering industry at large through the use of research

It is important to note that the research based endowment by Professor Ogunye is also aimed at promoting scholarship and academic excellence in the department of Chemical Engineering, a part of the total amount of **N59, 897,444.68** raised to date towards the endowment of the professorial chair in perpetuity have been used to award scholarships and prizes to deserving students of the university, from 2008/2009 session to date.

In 2014, the Board of Trustees approved the establishment of an annual research grant of N1m to further enhance research in key areas of Chemical Engineering. The award shall be open to all tertiary institutions in Nigeria.



