



Lack of Management Training Leads to Lower Performance – Prof. Abbas

By Bala G. Abdullahi

It is unfortunate that most teaching staff who find themselves in leadership positions usually assume such positions unprepared, because they had no formal management skills training prior to such appointments and that shortcoming often manifested itself in their leadership style, Prof. Sagir Abbas has observed.

He spoke at a 3-day Capacity Building Workshop for Principal Officers, Deans, Directors and other Senior Administrative staff of the University on Monday 22nd May, 2017 at the Staff Training Room, New Campus. The Workshop with the Theme: '*Administrative and Management Skills for Leaders in an Academic Environment*,' was organised by the Registry Department in collaboration with the Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM).

Speaking shortly before declaring the Workshop open, the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, commended the University's Registrar, Hajiya Fatima Binta Mohammed, for collaborating with the Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM) to organize this training across all senior cadres in the university aimed at capacity building.

He said capacity building had been on the agenda of the Vice Chancellor, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello, which was why Management would continue to support the efforts of the Registry in organising such important training aimed at imparting the necessary management/leadership skills on top level management

for better performance.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor said though teaching and research were the primary responsibilities of academic staff, academic staff with time found themselves in positions of leadership either as Heads of Department, Deans, Directors or even Vice Chancellors, adding that without formal training on leadership/management skills, the institutions under such leadership often suffered.

He said since he assumed the duty as a lecturer in the university, nobody had given him any formal induction on teaching or training in leadership and management, adding that he learnt the rudiments of those through personal efforts. 'This should not be so,' he stated.

Professor Abbas was of the opinion that before one was vested with any management/leadership responsibilities, one should undergo this type of training, which was why; 'I am suggesting the creation of a new unit for specifically orienting/training newly recruited academic staff on teaching as well as administrative and management skills. I learnt similar orientation/training for newly recruited administrative staff in the university. 'We need similar programme for newly recruited teaching staff'.

He urged the workshop participants to take advantage of the opportunity and learn the modern-day practice of administration, adding that doing this would go a long way to add value to the type of leadership they would give in the future.



The Deputy Vice Chancellor thanked the Resource Person, Dr. Ahmed Yahaya, who is a Management Consultant with the Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM) and at the same time a Senior Lecturer at the Nigerian Defence Academy, (NDA) Kaduna, for accepting to offer the training.

Earlier, in her welcome address, the Registrar, Hajiya Fatima Binta Mohammed, had said the Capacity Building Workshop for Administrative and Management Staff of the University being on Monday was the first of its kind aimed at imparting management/leadership skills to top level management staff.

Prof. Sagir Abbas delivering his address at the workshop for Deans & Directors

She said it was a workshop where most of the participants were academic staff, but charged with the responsibilities of administration, adding that “combining the work of an academic which is mainly concerned with teaching and research, with the work of an administrator, which deals with different categories of people, was not an easy task, hence the need for training and retraining of such categories of staff for optimum delivery.”

The Registrar said the Workshop with the theme: *'Administrative and Management Skills for leaders in an Academic Environment'* focused on developing its participants' management and administrative skills, particularly those related to managing large group of

people working collaboratively with other people. The workshop, she added, would help the Principal Officers, Deans and Directors acquire modern administrative and management skills and competencies that would enable them to direct the affairs of the university towards the achievement of desired goals.

The three-day Workshop has three categories of staff as participants. The first participants being Principal Officers, Deans and Directors was slated for Monday, 22nd May, 2017, and the second categories were: Deputy Registrars, Principal Assistant Registrars and Senior Assistant Registrars for Tuesday 23rd May, 2017, and the third categories were: Secretaries and Personal Assistants on Wednesday 24th May, 2017.

Senate to Consider First Semester Results July 26

The University Senate will consider the First Semester result on Wednesday, 26th July, 2017. This is contained in a Time-Table for the completion of 2016/2017 session for First Semester activities, signed by Deputy Registrar, Directorate of Examinations, Admissions and Records (DEAR) Hajiya Amina Abdullahi.

The Time-Table is as follows:

S/N	DATE	ACTIVITY
1.	Saturday, 27 th May, 2017	Last Examination Paper
2.	Tuesday, 30 th May, 2017	Faculty Committees on Examination Misconduct and Leakage to consider all suspected cases of Examination Misconduct.* (Within 2 weeks of last paper)
3.	Tuesday, 13 th June, 2017	Central Committee on Examinations Misconduct and Leakages to consider reports from Faculty committees.
4.	Tuesday, 20 th June, 2017	Latest day for completion of marking and submission of raw marks by examiners** (Three Weeks after Last Paper).
5.	Wednesday, 21 st June to Saturday, 15 th July, 2017	Departmental and Faculty Boards of Examiners to Consider the Results
6.	Monday, 17 th to Friday, 21 st July, 2017	SBC on 1 st Semester Examinations Results (Seven weeks after the last paper. Same as what obtained previous sessions).
7.	Wednesday, 26 th July, 2017	Senate on 1 st Semester Examinations Results

*: Faculty Examination Officers should notify all students accused of involvement in examination misconduct (in writing) that they should stay behind/return to defend themselves – as soon as each case arises.

** : This is the latest date for this activity. Departments should encourage examiners to submit their results before this date whenever possible, and Level Coordinators to start compiling the results as soon as some examiners submit their raw marks.

The statement added, “departments are reminded of Senate's decision that; Departments that are servicing other departments should hand over results, marked scripts and a photocopy of all the attendance sheets to the departments they serve”.

Senior Administrators Crucial Link in University

Administration - Registrar

By Fausat Opayomi

BUK Senior administrative staff have been described as a crucial link between the top and the bottom cadre in the administration of the University. The Registrar, Hajiya Fatima Binta

Mohammed, while declaring open the 2nd day of a 3 day capacity building workshop on Tuesday, 23rd May, 2017 urged the Senior Administrative Staff to have effective communication skills and learn the technicalities

involved in report and memo writing, so as to effectively communicate decisions.



Dr. Ahmad Yahyah facilitating the workshop for Senior Admin staff

The theme of the workshop was “Administrative and Management Skills for Leaders in an Academic Environment”. It was aimed at equipping the participants with up to date administrative skills to enhance their productivities.

Welcoming the participants, earlier, the Director, of General Administration, Mallam Sabo Mijinyawa, introduced the resource person, Dr. Ahmad Yahyah, a management consultant and former head at the Nigerian Institute of Management, Abuja. He also advised the participants to ask questions at the end of the workshop to clear any potential doubts.

The resource person, in his presentation, emphasized the need for continuous training to enhance senior staff capacity. He was elated at the large turnout of women, describing them as the back-bone of the society and hence the need to empower them.

Dr. Ahmad Yahyah also spoke on the need to improve the economic power of the Institutions through innovative ideas to boost their internally generated revenue, hence the need to think outside the box.

According to him, administrative officers were expected to prepare for emergencies through pro-active measures and that they should learn to relate with their superiors, subordinates and most importantly students who were the back-bone of the institutions. He saw diplomacy as the key to harmonious working relationship with superiors. He said they should learn to make public presentations, adding that effective communication was not an inherited skill but acquired over time through constant practice.

The speaker also encouraged the participants to move with the tide by learning ICT skills, which were the easiest and fastest means of communication. The resource person however advised them to desist from doing things based on assumptions or the fear of making mistakes.

Members of Academic Facilities Maintenance Committee Honour Prof. Ahmad Murtala By Bala G. Abdullahi

Pioneer Members of the Academic Facilities Maintenance Committee, (AFMC), on Tuesday 23 May, 2017 held a reception in honour of the Chairman of the Committee, Professor Ahmad Murtala, to rejoice with him over his recent promotion to the rank of Professor of Islamic Studies. It will be recalled that Ahmad Murtala was promoted last year to that exalted position.

The occasion, which took place at the Staff Training Room of the university, New Campus was chaired by the Director, Directorate of Academic Planning, Professor Bala Sidi Aliyu.

In his short remarks, Professor Aliyu described the celebrant as an erudite scholar, who distinguished himself in the field of Islamic Studies and was not the least surprised when he got elevated to the pinnacle of his career.

The Academic Planning Director congratulated Professor Murtala and urged him to rededicate himself to doing what he knew best-teaching and research. He also commended members of the Academic Facilities Maintenance Committee for organizing the reception.

Responding, Professor Murtala thanked the organizers of the occasion and stated that the honour would go a long way to ginger him to do more in his chosen career.

He thanked the Vice Chancellor for appointing him as the pioneer Chairman of the Committee and for choosing the caliber of members of the committee for him to work with, saying that he enjoyed an excellent working relationship with all the members which explained the level of successes recorded by the committee so far.

The celebrant was presented with an inscribed plaque by the Chairman of the occasion courtesy pioneer members of the committee.



Prof. Bala Sidi Aliyu (right) presenting the plaque to Prof. Ahmad Murtala

