



Prof. Darren Kew of University of Massachusetts, Boston, USA delivering the lecture

## **ViabLe and Credible Opposition a Tool for Democratic Consolidation ... Prof. Darren Kew**

*By Our Reporter*

**F**or consolidating the practice of Democracy, which will pave way for good governance and development in developing nations, there must exist a viable and credible opposition. This was the submission of Professor Darren Kew from University of Massachusetts, Boston, USA.

He was delivering a paper titled "Democratization in Nigeria: Current Crises and the Prospects of Consolidation" at a public Lecture series organized by the Aminu Kano Centre for Democratic Research and Training (Mambayya House) on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 at Sa'adu Zungur Hall.

The American Scholar, noted that: "A viable opposition is very crucial and a fundamental tool for improved governance outputs and for a rise in human development indices."

He further used the complementary but separate thesis of fellow American academics Lindberg and Samuel Huntington to show additional indices towards consolidation of democracy: a nation should conduct an unbroken chain of elections over 16 years and the ruling party must hand over power to opposition peacefully at least twice, respectively.

Professor Kew, who is also the Director of the Centre for Peace, Democracy and Development at the University of Massachusetts, Boston in the United States of America, lamented, however, that Nigeria needs a strong, credible and viable opposition irrespective of who is the ruling party.

He advised political parties particularly those in opposition to copy from the ruling APC book in the build up to 2015 elections in order to give the government a good and credible opposition devoid of hate speeches, while at the same time, called on the ruling APC to put its house in order as well as come out with a clear statement on the President's state of health.

Other processes of enthroneing and stabilizing democracy in the country as proposed by the American scholar include the need for democratic institutions to have adequate balance of power, to give religious groups a role in the political discussion, to encourage civil societies to be up and doing, to give local government autonomy as well as to make restructuring to be on the agenda of 2019 elections, among others.



From Left: Prof. Darren Kew, the Guest Lecturer; Prof. Haruna Wakili, Director, Mambayya House; Prof. Garba Shehu, Provost, AKCILS; Prof. Mustapha Isa, Vice Chancellor, Yusuf Maitama Sule Uni., Kano; Prof. Kamilu Sani Fage, Chairman of the Occasion; Prof. Habu Mohammed, Discussant; Dr. Junaidu Muhammad; Prof. Salisu Shehu, Dean, School of Continuing Education and Prof. R. A. Adebola, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry.

A discussant, Professor Habu Muhammad of the Department of Political Science, explained that as a way out of the logjam, there must be an interplay among the various democratic institutions, lamenting that, as it were, there was no cohesion among the various arms of government.

He said each one was trying to outsmart the other in the process of fighting corruption, which is one of their key campaign agenda.

“We have the problem of democratic institutions not supporting democratic process. For us to achieve the much needed consolidation in our democracy, there must have an interplay among these democratic institutions. For example, Judiciary and Legislature

have become hurdles in the fight against corruption,” he observed.

Earlier, the Director of the Centre for Democratic Research and Training, Professor Haruna Wakili, said the Lecture series was part of the initiative of the University of bringing scholars and experts in various fields to discuss issues for articulation so that it will strengthen our practice of governance and democratic development.

He said it was a great pride for the Centre to have the likes of Professor Kew to deliver papers on burning issues, pointing out that the Centre will not relent in its efforts towards inviting erudite scholars of repute to discuss issues of national and global concerns.

## Revised Calender for the Remaining Activities for 2016/2017 Academic Session for Undergraduate Programmes

20 <sup>th</sup> September – 25 <sup>th</sup> October, 2017	2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Lectures Continues
19 <sup>th</sup> October – 11 <sup>th</sup> November, 2017	2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Examinations
13 <sup>th</sup> November, 2017	End Session

**Signed:**

**Professor Sagir A. Abbas**  
*DVC (Academics)*

# ASUU Suspends Strike

The Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) has announced the suspension of its four weeks strike, thereby directing all Lecturers in the public Universities of the country to resume work as from on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Announcing the resolution to call off the strike after the National Executive Council meeting of the Union which held at the Federal University of Technology, Minna on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2017, the National President of the Union, Professor Biodun Ogunyemi, said “Finally, NEC resolved to suspend the strike action embarked upon with effect from Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and directs its branches to resume work forth with.”

Professor Ogunyemi said the suspension of the strike was as a result of the appraisal of the various reports as submitted by branches majority of which accepted the offers given by the Federal Government towards resolving the impasse.

However, he declared that the Union would continuously and diligently monitor the implementation of the joint resolutions in all branches, facilitate the inauguration of the implementation monitoring committee on the report of the Needs Assessment of Nigerian Universities, ensure faithful compliance with the report and ensure that the Union members do not suffer any form of

victimization, loss of deserved benefits arising from the strike, especially the unresolved issue of Earned Allowances.

Some of the terms agreed upon include, government's faithful implementation of the resolutions reached and signed to engage the services of the Universities in special consulting services, payment of outstanding balance of Earned Academic Allowances and timely release of revitalisation funds for the next five years, among others.

Meanwhile, here in Bayero University, most of the teaching staff have reported back to their offices and resumed normal activities, but lectures are yet to resume.

Our Correspondent has also observed that students who had earlier vacated the campuses were seen returning in troops.

In a related development, the University management has released a revised academic calendar for undergraduate programmes.

A letter signed by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, (Academics), Professor Sagir A. Abbas stated that lectures will resume from 20<sup>th</sup> September and ends on 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2017, while second semester examinations will begin from 19<sup>th</sup> October and finish on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. The statement also said that the 2016/2017 session for undergraduate programmes will end on 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.



Minister of Educaiton, Malam Adamu Adamu

# Wedding Fatiha

**Yakubu Ahmed weds Khadijah Bello**  
**Habib Opebiyi weds Bilkisu Aliyu**

Professor S. O. Bello of Faculty of Education and Alhaji Ibrahim Ahmed invites members of the University community and general public to the wedding fatiha of their children, Yakubu Ahmed and Khadijah Bello and Habib Opebiyi with Bilkisu Aliyu, scheduled as follows:

**Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

**Time:** 10:30am

**Venue:** BUK Juma'at Mosque, New Campus

**Sadiq Mukhtar weds Khadija Isa Sheshe**

Sadiq Mukhtar of the Department of Geography invites members of the University community to his wedding fatiha with his bride Khadija Isa Sheshe, scheduled as follows:

**Date:** Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

**Time:** 11:30am

**Venue:** BUK Juma'at Mosque, New Campus

## PENSION UNIT:

**Documentary Requirement for Processing the Retirement Savings Account (RSA) and Client Familiarity Index ("CFI") FORM: Stanbic IBTC Pension Managers**

This is to inform clients/staff (RSA holders of Stanbic IBTC Pension Managers) that the Pension Fund Administrators, (PFA) will capture the biometric information of staff who registered with PFA as follows:

**Date:** Monday 18 - Friday 22, September, 2017

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. daily

**Venue:** Human Resource Department Division Committee Room, New Campus

Staff are required to bring the following:

**(A) Proof of Address (any one of the following)**

- (i) Utility bill within the past three months
- (ii) Valid Driver's License (not expired)
- (iii) Recent Tenancy Agreements

- (iv) Voters Card
- (v) Normal I.D. Card
- (vi) Active Bank Statement (within the past 3 months) containing current address

**(B) Personal Identification Document ((either of the following))**

- (i) Bio Data Page of Current Internal Passport
- (ii) Valid official/company Identification Card
- (iii) Valid Driver's License
- (iv) National Identity Card

Sample of the CFI form available in the Pension Unit for clients/staff to make photocopy.

**NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS (NAMAP)**  
Cordially invites its members and general public to the  
**28TH ANNUAL COLLOQUIUM AND CONGRESS**

**DATE**  
31st October to 3rd November, 2017

**VENUE**  
Mahmud Tukur Theatre Complex,  
Bayero University, Kano

**THEME**  
**MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS: A TOOL FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**SUB-THEMES**  
Includes but not limited to  
\*Mathematics and Physics in Environmental Assessment; \*Challenges and Prospects of Mathematics and Physics Education in Senior Secondary Schools in Nigeria; \*Renewable Energy; \*Mathematical Biology; \*Biomechanics; \*Molecular Dynamics; \*Control Theory; \*Computational Fluid Dynamics; \*Semiconductors; \*Neural Networks; \*Stochastic Processes; \*Mathematical Modelling; \*Nanomaterials and Devices; \*Remote Sensing

**CHIEF HOST**  
Prof. Muhammad Yabuza Bello  
Vice Chancellor  
Bayero University, Kano

**HOST**  
Prof. Sani Muhammad Gumel,  
Dean, Faculty of Physical Sciences,  
Bayero University, Kano

