



## 33rd Professorial Inaugural Lecture: Advancement in ICT Boosts Statistical Analysis

– Prof. Bello Idrith Tijjani

By Fausat A. Opayomi

**A** Professor of Atmospheric Physics, Bello Idrith Tijjani, has revealed that advancement in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has changed the way statistics is learned, taught and even used.

Presenting the 33<sup>rd</sup> Professorial Inaugural Lecture on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, at Mahmud Tukur Theatre, Old Campus, titled “*Navigating the Data Labyrinth: Application of some Advanced Statistical Analysis in Atmospheric Physics*,” Professor Tijjani explained that some descriptive statistical tools that were used to summarize and present data, now easily understood, as a result of the new technology.

According to him, histogram could give a general idea of the shape of a distribution and that two numerical measures of shape give a more precise evaluation. He further explained that skewness tells the amount and direction of skew and kurtosis tells how tall and sharp the central peak is, relative to a standard bell curve.

The Professor revealed that a distribution is said to be skewed if the observations above and below the mean are not symmetrically distributed. He added that the distribution is positively skewed when the mean is greater than the median and negatively skewed when the mean is less than the median.

The University don also defined time series as a time-oriented or chronological sequence of observations on a variable of interest, which are collected at equally spaced and discrete time intervals. He said that time series data arises in virtually every application field, such as business sales figures; economic stock prices; official statistics; natural sciences and environmetrics, among others.

Giving further explanation, he said time series modelling analysis is due to the fact that some aspects of the past pattern would continue to remain in the future and that the objective of the time series analysis is to generally understand and identify the stochastic process that produces the observed series and then to forecast future value of a series from past values.

Earlier, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello, who was represented by the Director, Academic Planning, Professor Bala Sidi Aliyu, commended the Inaugural Lecture Committee for its tireless efforts in ensuring that the lectures were being presented regularly. He, however, said that the number of Professorial lectures presented was still small compared to the total number of Professors in the University. He, therefore, assured them of Management’s support even if the inaugural lecture would be on a weekly basis.



Prof. Bello Tijjani delivering his Inaugural Lecture

# Nigerian Cardiac Society Worries Over Increasing Rate of Heart Related Diseases

By Adamu Garba



From left: Prof. R. A. Adebola, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry; District Head of Makoda, Alh. Ibrahim Waziri; Kano State Commissioner of Health, Dr. Kabiru Ibrahim Getso; the University Librarian, Dr. Musa A. Auyo and Prof. Aminu Zakari CMD, AKTH

The Nigerian Cardiac Society has expressed grave concern over the alarming increase in heart and other related diseases, describing the situation as pathetic, and called for urgent action by all stakeholders.

Rising from their 47<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference held in Bayero University between 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2018, the Conference participants regretted that poor facilities occasioned by lack of awareness among the populace had further compounded the problem. The theme of the Conference was *“Cardiovascular Care in Contemporary Nigeria: Bridging the Gap”*.

While declaring the Conference open, the Executive Governor of Kano State, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, represented by the Commissioner of Health, Dr. Kabiru Ibrahim Getso, stated that non-communicable diseases, under which cardiovascular disease fell, had become prevalent in Nigeria in recent times. He stressed the need for all stakeholders to redouble their efforts and squarely tackle the phenomenon.

In her address, the President of the Nigerian Cardiac Society, Prof. Amam Mbakwem, pointed out that the Nigerian Cardiac Society strived to disseminate current and evidence-based information on cardiovascular diseases to the public, as well as to promote the adoption of healthy life-styles by the general public through the adoption of cardiovascular disease preventive measures that had been borne out of

research.

The *Asuquo Antia* Lecture for this year's conference, titled *“Dyslipidemia and Cardiovascular Disease: the science and the fairy tales”* presented by Prof. Basil N. Okeahialam from University of Jos, described “Dyslipidaemia as a very important risk factor for the development of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease.

“Ischaemic Heart Disease is increasingly prevalent in Nigeria, facilities for diagnosis and adequate treatment (repercussion) are still scarce. And three quarters of those who suffer Acute Coronary Events do not have access to Coronary Angiography and PCT. And that the vast majority of Nigerian Children with congenital heart disease have no access to corrective cardiac surgery. It shows that hypertension affects more than 30% of Nigerians,” Prof. Okeahialam said.

In his address, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Muhammad Yahuza Bello, who was represented by the University Librarian, Dr. Musa A. Auyo, thanked the society for selecting Bayero University, Kano for this year's conference. He reiterated the University's commitment and support to science and medical professions. He said that was why the University established the College of Health Sciences.

Highlights of the Conference include conferment of the prestigious Fellowship of the Nigerian Cardiac Society (FNCS) on some 46 members.

# Nigerian Cardiac Society Visits the Vice Chancellor

By Rabi'u M. Sagir

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello, has said vascular disease and its many manifestations, including coronary artery disease (CAD) and peripheral artery disease (PAD), had a major impact on the lives of millions of patients, especially in developing countries.

Speaking on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 during a courtesy visit by the Nigerian Cardiac Society in his office, Prof. Bello said despite these advances, the



VC and other principal officers in a group photograph with the representatives of the Nigerian Cardiac Society

residual risk of major adverse cardiac events remained high. But research and technological innovative strategies were on going to address the residual risk, the

Vice Chancellor said.

Professor Bello said the University was doing its best in trying to meet up with the technological advancement of using simulations in solving the high risk in vascular disease and assured that a 3-man committee was currently consulting some advanced countries concerning this issue. "BUK has the confidence that they would succeed in it. The University was enjoying its good relationship with federal and state governments whereby Kano State Government recently approved the sum of N170m for constructing a building for community medicine and a research centre at the University Health College," the Vice Chancellor revealed.

Earlier, the President of the Society, Professor Amma Mbakwem, commended the outstanding transformation the University was witnessing during Prof. Bello's tenure. She also thanked the Vice Chancellor for the moral and financial support he had given to the association towards organizing its 47<sup>th</sup> meeting in the University.

Professor Amma said the association would continue to help the government in trying to solve problems of vascular diseases through frequent capacity building training and improvement of the facilities that are available in our hospitals.

## PAN AFRICAN AGENCY OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL (PAGGW)

### CALL FOR APPLICATION FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2018 – 2019

#### *Research and training support program (RETSUP)*

Application are hereby invited from suitably qualified candidates for the above named program

#### **BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE**

The Research and Training Support Program (RETSUP) of the Pan African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW) promotes the training of Master and Doctoral students and the inter University exchanges of teacher – researchers from Member States (Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan and Chad) to strengthen technical and scientific skills and promote mobility of researchers in space. In this context, PAGGW developed the RETSUP for nationals of the member states of the GGW and setup for this

Allowance for training in master or engineering design

**Target:** Students holding a bachelor's degree and student engineers admitted to the second cycle engineer (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year)

**Duration:** 2 years, that is 2x9 month;

**Amount:** 1 350 000 FCFA distributed as follows:

**1<sup>st</sup> year:** 600 000 FCFA

**Monthly allowance:** 50 000 FCFA

**2<sup>nd</sup> year:** 750 000 FCFA

**Internship report fees:** 25 000 FCFA

**Outfits:** 75 000 FCFA

**Field research costs (2 missions):** CFAC 100 000 at the rate of 50 000 FCFA/ mission;

**Reporting expenses:** CFAF 25 000 / reports:

**Final exam fees:** 75 000 FCFA (50% payable during the writing and 50% after validation and transmission of a copy to PAGGW by the head of the student's reception structure)

**Purpose:** various instrument to support training and research on themes of interest for the Great Green Wall, especially:

1. Allowances for training in master or engineering design (AF);
2. Research Support Grants (RSGs) to doctoral students and research teams;
3. Improvement Training Allowances (ITA) for agents of the structures of the Great Green Wall;
4. GGW awards and distinction for contribution to the Great Green Wall

### Conditions:

Candidate must have a valid registration for the academic year 2018 – 2019 in Universities or important schools recognized by CAMES or any other equivalent institutions in the other GGW Member States;  
Be at least 25 years old at the opening of applications.

Necessarily produce a letter of commitment to work on one of the themes defined in relation to the responsibility of the host structure for students admitted in year of preparation of Final Report (5<sup>th</sup> year)

### Research Allocation

Target: students authorized to enroll in thesis;

Duration: Three years

Amount: 500 000 FCFA/year distributed as follows:

Monthly allowance: 100 000 FCFA durant 9 mois;

Outfits: 1 50 000 FCFA;

Research and report fees: 300 000 FCFA (100 000 FCFA/mission);

In addition to this amount, the doctoral students in the final year of the thesis will also receive the sum of 150 000 FCFA corresponding to the preparation of the dissertation. This amount will be paid: 50% during the writing of the thesis and 50% after delivery of the copy of the dissertation corrected to the APGMV, transmitted by the thesis supervisor.

### Conditions:

Have a valid registration for the academic year 2017/2018 in the Universities or high schools recognized by CAMES or any other equivalent institutions;

Be at least 30 years old at the opening of applications;

### Submit a scientific file including:

- (i) An indicative thesis project document validated by the host laboratory, including the themes, objectives, expected results, methodology, timing of activities and supervision;
- (ii) A letter of recommendation from the candidate's host organization for his or her research work.

### Support for the research teams

Grant can be awarded to research teams from PAGGW member countries working on GGW themes in order to improve their working conditions. The amount is three million five hundred thousand (500,000) FCFA. It is mainly intended for the acquisition of products, small laboratory equipment, analytical data and participation of students in seminars and conferences, subscription to scientific journals

**Research and report fees:** 300 000 FCFA GT

### FIELDS OF INTEREST

For students preparing for master and Engineering, the area of interest is biology, geosciences, agronomic sciences, economic, legal sciences and social sciences.

### SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

Applications are to be forwarded to the national structure at the Great Green Wall in the country by post (the post mark is authentic; or by e – mail (indicated by the national structures) with a copy to this address: [dst.apgmv@grandmurailleverte.org](mailto:dst.apgmv@grandmurailleverte.org) and [sdst.apgmv@grandmurailleverte.org](mailto:sdst.apgmv@grandmurailleverte.org).

**Application period:** from 3<sup>rd</sup> September to 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2018

**Notification to beneficiaries:** 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2018

## APPRECIATION FROM ABUBAKAR S. MINJIBIR

On behalf of Dr. Ma'ruf Shehu Minjibir of Mathematical Department, Dr. Aisha N. Shehu of History Department and the entire family of the late Mallam Shehu Minjibir, I Abubakar Shehu Minjibir of the Department of Mass Communication, wish to express our appreciation to members of Bayero University Community who travelled

to Minjibir, phoned or sent messages to condole with us over the death of our father, Mallam Shehu Minjibir, who died on Tuesday, September 11, 2018. Our thanks to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Muhammad Yahuza Bello, the Registrar, Deans and Directors, Head of Departments, Academic and Non-Academic staff and students. We pray that God will reward you all abundantly.

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