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Mindset Shift, Collective Responsibility Critical to Sustainable Universities, Says BUK DVC Tsauni

Dr Nura Garba, Hauwa Mustapha Ahmad Isa and Halima Muhammad Aminu

Nigerian universities must abandon the mindset of perpetual dependence on government funding and embrace innovation, strategic partnerships and collective responsibility if they are to remain sustainable in the face of growing challenges, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics) of Bayero University, Kano (BUK), Professor Ahmad Muhammad Tsauni, has said.

Professor Tsauni made the call while delivering the revived Bayero University Public Lecture titled **“Development Dynamics and the Sustainability of Nigerian Universities”** at the CBN Centre of Excellence on Thursday, 10 September 2026. He identified mindset change, institutional resilience and shared ownership as critical ingredients for building universities capable of responding effectively to changing economic, technological and social realities.

The lecture is part of efforts to reinvigorate intellectual engagement and create a sustained platform for critical discourse on contemporary national and institutional issues.

In the presentation, Professor Tsauni described Nigerian universities as operating under increasing economic, technological and governance pressures, stressing that their sustainability depends not only on increased government funding but also on institutional resilience, adaptive leadership and a fundamental shift in mindset.

He argued that universities must deliberately transition from dependence to diversified funding, from passive compliance to adaptive governance, from institutional isolation to strategic partnerships, and from individual responsibility to collective ownership.

The economist identified macroeconomic instability, inadequate funding, rising operational costs, brain drain, human capital erosion and governance challenges as some of the major threats confronting Nigerian universities. He maintained that these interconnected challenges require innovative responses, including revenue diversification, research commercialisation, stronger alumni engagement, industry collaboration and sustained investment in postgraduate education.



Professor Ahmad Muhammad Tsauni, delivering the lecture

The University don emphasised that sustainability begins with what he described as **"institutional thinking,"** where the interests of the university take precedence over sectional interests. According to him, universities must cultivate a culture that shifts from *"my faculty"* to *"our university,"* from *"my priority"* to *"our strategic plan,"* and from *"my tenure"* to *"our legacy."*

He further stressed that the responsibility for building sustainable universities extends beyond university management to staff, students, government, alumni, industry and development partners, noting that collective ownership remains indispensable to safeguarding the future of higher education in Nigeria.

To strengthen institutional resilience, Professor Tsauni proposed a six-pillar framework comprising financial resilience, academic quality and relevance, human capital and staff wellbeing, governance and accountability, innovation and digital transformation, as well as strategic partnerships and societal engagement.



He also urged universities to embrace emerging technologies, strengthen interdisciplinary research, commercialise research outputs and deepen collaboration with industry in order to remain globally competitive in an increasingly knowledge-driven world.

Earlier, the Chairman of the occasion and former Executive Secretary of the National Universities Commission (NUC), Professor Abubakar Adamu Rasheed, described the lecture as timely and relevant, noting that Nigerian universities are witnessing significant transformation in teaching, research, administration and technological advancement.

According to him, rising expectations from students, parents and government, coupled with intense global competition, have shifted the conversation from whether universities should develop to how they can achieve sustainable development.

Professor Rasheed also expressed delight at the presence of six former Vice-Chancellors alongside the incumbent

Vice-Chancellor, describing it as a strong demonstration of institutional continuity and sustainability in Bayero University.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Haruna Musa, fsi, observed that universities across the world face numerous challenges, noting that sustainability means meeting the needs of today's students without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs.

He explained that reviving the University's Public Lecture Series became necessary to provide an enduring platform for generating ideas and charting sustainable pathways for Bayero University's continued growth and development.

Professor Musa highlighted several milestones recorded during his first year in office, including sustaining BUK's position as Nigeria's leading university in international outlook for the third consecutive year, retaining its status as the best university in Northern Nigeria and ranking among the country's top three universities. He also cited achievements in research, teaching, international partnerships, staff and student welfare, municipal services

and staff promotion, adding that a comprehensive one-year scorecard and plans for the University's second year would be presented separately.

The Vice-Chancellor commended Professor Tsauni for delivering what he described as a timely and thought-provoking lecture, assuring that the Public Lecture Series would become a regular intellectual tradition of the University. He announced that the next lecture, titled **"Understanding Cancer, Pursuing a Cure,"** will be delivered by Professor Abdullahi Sarki Abba on **2 October 2026.**

Serving as a discussant, former Vice-Chancellor of Bayero University, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello, attributed the University's sustained ability to attract external grants to its culture of accountability and transparency which he said is another means of sustainability and enhances financial standings.

Another discussant and immediate past Vice-Chancellor of Bayero University, Kano, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, represented by the Vice Chancellor of Northwest University, Kano, Professor Mukhtar Atiku Kurawa, urged Nigerian universities to think creatively and embrace innovative approaches to ensure their sustainability.

Also contributing, Professor Murtala Sabo Sagagi, a Non-Executive Director of the Central Bank of Nigeria, said Bayero University's greatest assets are its credibility and reputation, stressing that these qualities position the institution to attract funding and partnerships from across the world.

The lecture attracted principal officers of the University, former and serving Vice-Chancellors, heads of tertiary institutions, academics, students and other members of the University community, reaffirming Bayero University's commitment to promoting intellectual engagement and generating practical solutions to national development challenges.

Professorial Inaugural Lecture:

Prof. Alkali Harps on Transforming Nigerian Healthcare through Architecture

By Suleiman Salihu and Kareem Adewale

An erudite scholar and pioneer Professor of Architecture in Bayero University, Kano Professor Alkali Ibrahim Abubakar called on stakeholders to embrace a more holistic approach to healthcare design that placed people at the centre and recognized the healing potential of the environment.

Prof. Alkali made the call on Thursday, September 3rd 2026 while delivering the 62nd Professorial Inaugural Lecture, themed: **“Design for Healing: The Architect's Intervention in Transforming Healthcare Environment in Nigeria.”** The lecture took place at the CBN Centre of Excellence, BUK New Campus.

Prof. Alkali explained that the central argument that architecture was not simply the physical container within which healthcare was delivered; rather it was an active therapeutics resource capable of influencing recovery, reducing stress, supporting families, enhancing staff performance and ultimately improving healthcare outcomes.

He began by the realization that buildings were not merely physical structures; they influence how people live, work, interact and ultimately experience life. He further explained that in architectural design, buildings measured not only by their aesthetic quality or technical performance but also by the value they add to human life. He viewed design as means of addressing societal challenges and

public well-being rather than merely creating physical forms.

The scholar addressed a critical shortfall in Nigerian healthcare infrastructure, where medical interventions focused heavily on physical ailments while neglecting mental and psychological well-being.

Tracing his academic journey, he explained how his research systematically evolved around a single overarching question: How can architecture become an active partner in healing? Moving progressively from patient-family integration to healthcare workers' wellbeing, therapeutic environments, biophilic design and evidence-based design, his studies demonstrated that architecture could make a measurable contribution to recovery and staff efficiency when grounded in local Nigerian realities.

Detailing his empirical findings, Professor Alkali highlighted his foundational research into patient-family integration at the Federal Medical Centre, Gombe where he discovered that family members actively participated in feeding, personal care, emotional support, medication procurement and routine hospital operations. This revealed that traditional British-model hospital wards fail to account for essential "family transaction spaces," necessitating a complete redesign of functional spatial zoning.



Professor Alkali Ibrahim Abubakar presenting the lecture



A group photograph of Senate members after the 62nd Professorial Inaugural lecture

Expanding his scope to healthcare providers, his research into occupational stress isolated key environmental stressors, such as noise, poor lighting, improper ventilation and excessive working distances, leading to proposed architectural, landscaping and ambient control strategies designed to enhance staff well-being.

In the realm of mental health and specialized care, Professor Alkali noted his extensive studies revealing that substance abuse-related disorders comprised nearly 34% of prevalent mental health cases in Kano. Case audits across facilities like the Federal Neuropsychiatric Hospital *Dawanau*, Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital and *Dorayi* Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center exposed a lack of essential therapeutic features, prompting him to propose therapeutic frameworks integrating natural integration, art therapy and mindfulness to prevent relapse.

Similar investigations into neurology care at Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital and Murtala Muhammad Specialist Hospital exposed a severe lack of biophilic compliance, prompting design interventions tailored to psychological restoration. For women and children's healthcare at Khalifa Isyaku Rabi'u Pediatric Hospital and Murtala Mohammed Specialist Hospital, his studies emphasized visual connections to nature, healing gardens, natural lighting and ventilation to mitigate the anxiety and fear experienced by mothers and young patients.

Culminating in a unified, context-sensitive healing framework grounded in Nigerian cultural, climatic and resource realities, Professor Alkali's work bridges academic research, curriculum development and professional practice across landmark projects such as the proposed Zaria General Hospital, the Trauma Center Kano,

the Kano National Drug Rehabilitation Centre, Specialist Neurology Hospital, Danbatta, and women and Children Hospital Kano.

Prof. Alkali argued that healing-centered architecture was more than a design philosophy; he referred it as commitment to designing environments that restore dignity, reduce suffering, support healthcare professionals, strengthen family participation and improve lives.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Haruna Musa, fsi, noted that Professorial Inaugural lectures remained a key tradition for sharing research findings for societal benefit. He assured that Bayero University would continue to fully sponsor and fund all logistics associated with the lectures.

Highlighting recent administrative updates, he revealed an upward review of the honorarium allocated to presenters and unveiled an ambitious institutional shift to increase the frequency of inaugural lectures from monthly to bi-monthly while urging other distinguished professors to step forward and share their scholarly contributions.

In his remarks, the Head Department of Architecture, Dr. Bashir Salim Umar, expressed his heartfelt appreciation to the Vice Chancellor for his unwavering institutional support, encouragement and approval.

He noted that the lecture marked a historic milestone as the very first professorial inaugural lecture delivered from the discipline of architecture in BUK's history, celebrating how his scholarship elevated architecture beyond mere building design into an active, multidisciplinary participants in the healthcare delivery, technology, human behaviour and societal development.

BUK Senate Approves Special Resit Examinations for Eligible Students

By Dr. Nura Garba

The Senate of Bayero University, Kano (BUK) has approved the conduct of special resit examinations for eligible students, particularly final-year and spill-over students who meet the stipulated requirements.

The decision was one of the major resolutions reached at the 438th meeting of the University Senate held on Wednesday, 26 August 2026, following consideration of the report of the Committee on Special Resit Examinations.

The committee had examined the prospects, necessity, implementation strategies and modalities for introducing special resit examinations in the University.

Under the approved arrangement, the special resit examinations will be conducted at the end of the academic session and thereafter as the need arises. The examinations

are specifically intended for eligible final-year and spill-over students who meet the conditions approved by Senate.

According to the approved eligibility criteria, a student must have registered for, attempted and failed the relevant taught courses in a regular examination to qualify for the special resit examination. A final-year student must have failed **not more than three courses**, while a spill-over student must have failed **not more than five courses** to be eligible.

The approval is expected to provide an additional opportunity for qualifying students to clear their outstanding taught courses and progress towards completion of their academic programmes, subject to the approved conditions and procedures.

CICID Calls for the Establishment of Interfaith Rapid-Response Mechanism to Address Crises and Misinformation

By Hauwa Mustapha Ahmad and Halima Muhammad Aminu

The Director of Center for Islamic Civilization and Interfaith Dialogue (CICID), Professor Taufiq Abubakar Hussaini proposed the establishment of an interfaith rapid-response mechanism to address crises and misinformation, alongside stronger digital and social media literacy among religious leaders.

Presenting a paper at a seminar titled: "Interfaith Dialogue in Islam: Foundations, Principles and Contemporary Relevance" organized by the Center, Professor Taufiq distinguished between principled interfaith dialogue and religious unification, explaining that Islam supported meaningful engagement with people of other faiths while maintaining clear theological boundaries.

The seminar which took place on Thursday, September 3rd 2026, at the CICID Board Room, brought together academics and participants to examine the Islamic foundations of interfaith dialogue and contemporary developments surrounding the Abrahamic concept.

He said interfaith dialogue should be guided by wisdom, patience, respectful communication, rational argument and mutual understanding, with the objectives of promoting justice, peaceful coexistence and constructive cooperation.

Professor Taufiq drew on Qur'anic teachings and Prophetic precedents to establish the Islamic foundations of interfaith engagement. He cited examples including the interactions of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) with the Christians of Najran and Jewish communities in Madinah as models of peaceful communication, dignity, security and coexistence.

He further stressed that effective interfaith engagement required representatives who possessed sound knowledge, emotional discipline, patience and clarity of purpose, cautioning against inflammatory communication, misinformation and taking religious texts out of their proper context.



Professor Taufiq Abubakar Hussaini

Addressing the Nigerian context, Professor Taufiq identified interfaith dialogue as a potential instrument for peacebuilding, social cohesion, conflict prevention and sustainable coexistence. He, however, highlighted Islamophobia and stereotyping, political manipulation, socio-economic pressures, misinformation and hate speech on social media as some of the challenges

confronting effective interfaith engagement.

He recommended the development of interfaith literacy programmes, including certificate and diploma-level training, greater youth participation and a shift from dialogue focused solely on theological issues towards practical cooperation in areas such as poverty alleviation, education, humanitarian assistance, environmental protection and violence prevention.

Earlier, in his welcome address, the Deputy Director, Training and Outreach, Dr. Aminu Isma'il Sagagi, welcomed participants and urged them to pay close attention to the presentation in order to benefit from the topic under discussion.

Also speaking, the Chairman of the occasion, Professor Muhammad Babangida Muhammad, congratulated the Centre and its Director for organising the academic initiative, describing it as an important step towards deepening understanding of interfaith dialogue from an Islamic perspective.

Professor Muhammad observed that interfaith dialogue had previously generated concerns, misconceptions and misrepresentations, noting that CICID had therefore approached the subject with caution in determining programmes that would best serve its mandate.

He expressed optimism that the seminar would set the pace for the Centre to develop programmes that would project the Islamic perspective on interreligious dialogue, particularly as the subject continues to attract international attention.

Contributing to the paper discussion, Dr. Muhammad Auwal Ishaq commended Professor Taufiq for clearly distinguishing interfaith dialogue from religious unification. He also praised the paper's Qur'anic foundations, use of Prophetic examples, practical

recommendations and effective presentation.

Dr. Ishaq, however, observed that the concept of religious unification required more extensive treatment in the paper. He recommended that the study examine its origins, advocates, contemporary movements and relationship with the concept of universalism.

He further called for greater attention to contemporary initiatives, including the Abraham Accords, Abrahamic Family House in Abu Dhabi, Document on Human Fraternity and House of One project in Berlin, noting that such developments should be examined from an Islamic theological perspective to clearly establish the boundaries of interfaith engagement.

Dr. Ishaq also recommended the inclusion of more contemporary scholarly references and a clearly stated methodology, while suggesting that concepts such as al-hiwar (dialogue), al-ta'aruf (mutual understanding) and al-ta'awun (cooperation) would further strengthen the Islamic theological framework of the paper.

Drawing from his experience of participating in an interfaith programme in the United Kingdom in 2015, Dr. Ishaq cautioned Muslims involved in interfaith initiatives to understand the objectives and perspectives of organisations they engage with.

The seminar provided a platform for scholarly reflection on contemporary interfaith relations and the Abrahamic concept, while underscoring the importance of dialogue that promotes peace, justice and cooperation without erasing genuine theological differences.

The initiative marks a significant step by CICID towards strengthening academic discourse and practical engagement on interfaith relations from an Islamic theological perspective.

Two BUK Scholars Elected Fellows of Nigerian Economic Society

By Dr. Nura Garba

Two distinguished scholars of Bayero University, Kano (BUK), Professor Badayi M. Sani and Professor Shehu Usman Rano Aliyu, have been elected Fellows of the Nigerian Economic Society (NES), in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the advancement of economics through teaching, research, academic mentorship and professional service.

The two professors received the prestigious honour during the 67th Annual Conference of the Nigerian Economic Society, held in Abuja from 7 to 10 September 2026. Their induction into the Fellowship places them among economists whose contributions to scholarship, public policy and national development have earned the recognition of the foremost professional body for economists in Nigeria.

Both Professor Sani and Professor Rano Aliyu have played active roles in the affairs of the Nigerian Economic Society, serving in various capacities, including membership of the Society's Council, conference committees and other strategic subcommittees. Their



Professor Shehu Usman Rano Aliyu (left) and Professor Badayi M. Sani (right)

elevation to Fellowship further reflects their sustained contributions to the economics profession and the academic community.

The recognition also adds to the growing number of BUK scholars who have attained Fellowship of the Nigerian Economic Society. In 2024, Professor Ummu Ahmad Jalingo was conferred with the NES Fellowship following her successful tenure as President of the Society from 2021 to 2023.

Also honoured at this year's conference was Professor

Muhammad Mutakka Usman of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, a 1991 alumnus of Bayero University, Kano. His recognition, alongside that of Professors Sani and Rano Aliyu, further highlights the enduring contribution of BUK's academic community and alumni to the development of economics scholarship and practice in Nigeria.

ANNOUNCEMENT: BUK Makes Tree Seedlings Available to Staff Residing Outside University Quarters

This is to notify Staff of Bayero University, Kano residing outside the University Quarters, that the Committee on Massive Tree Planting under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Management Services, Professor Aliyu Mu'azu has made available free tree seedlings as part of the University's Massive Tree Planting initiative. This is contained in a statement signed by Ali Sani, Secretary of the Committee on Massive Tree Planting.

The announcement according to the statement followed the outcome of the committee's meeting held on Tuesday, September 8th 2026 in which it directed members of the University community, particularly staff residing outside

the University Quarters to be informed of the availability of the seedlings at the Maintenance Services Department (MSD).

It said all interested staff are advised to contact the Director of the Maintenance Services Department (MSD), Malam Bashir Dan'Umma for access to the available seedlings, saying that the distribution of the seedlings will commence as soon as possible.

This development provides an opportunity for interested staff residing outside the University Quarters to take part in the University's tree planting efforts by obtaining seedlings through the designated department.

DEPARTMENTAL SEMINARS

Department of Political Science: *Invitation for Viva-Voce*

Candidate 1: Abdulkadir Ahmed – SPS/20/PPS/00003

Supervisor: Prof. Abubakar Jika Jiddere

Internal Examiner: Prof. Abdullahi Yahuza Zainawa

External Examiner: Prof. Yahaya Tanko Baba, Department of Political Science, UDUS

Topic: The Politics of Boundary Disputes and Resource Extraction in Nigeria: A Study of Kolmani Oil Field of Bauchi and Gombe

Candidate, 2: Mohammed Kachallah – SPS/21/PPS/00002

Supervisor: Prof. Abdullahi Yahuza Zainawa

Internal Examiner: Dr. Sani Safiyanu

External Examiner: Prof. Yahaya Tanko Baba, Department of Political Science, UDUS

Topic: Fuel Subsidy Removal and its Effects on the Access to Tertiary Education: Study in Yobe North

Candidate, 3: Aishatu Mahmoud – SPS/16/MPS/00008

Supervisor: Prof. Abdulaziz Sani Zango

Internal Examiner: Prof. Abdullahi Yahuza Zainawa

External Examiner: Prof. Yahaya Tanko Baba, Department of Political Science, UDUS

Topic: An Assessment of the Challenges of Democratic Consolidation in Nigeria's Fourth Republic: A Critical Analysis of the Buhari Administration Strategies and Outcomes, 2015-2019

Candidate, 4: Yusuf Junaidu Na'aliya – SPS/21/MPS/00006

Supervisor: Dr. Muktar Bello

Internal Examiner: Prof. Abdullahi Yahuza Zainawa

External Examiner: Prof. Yahaya Tanko Baba, Department of Political Science, UDUS

Topic: A critical Evaluation of the role of ECOWAS in Regional Peace Building in West Africa: The Case of Mali (2012-2024)

Date: Monday, 14th September 2026

Venue: Departmental Seminar Room

Department of Agricultural and Environmental Engineering: *Postgraduate Students' Proposal/Seminar Presentations*

Presenter 1: Anula Liambunde Michael (SPS/21/MAE/00001)

Title: Assessment of Hydro-Morphological Dynamics and Flood Severity for Forecasting of Hadejia-Jama'are River Basin, Nigeria.

Presenter 2: Babawale Samuel Ojo (SPS/19/PAE/00002)

Title: Development and Evaluation of Pedotransfer Functions for Dryland Soils in Nigeria Using Machine Learning.

Presenter 3: Nafisatu Abdulhamid Abubakar (SPS/19/PAE/00004)

Title: An Integrated Approach to Irrigation System Management at KRIP under Climate Change Scenarios.

Presenter 4: Ibrahim Umar Bala (SPS/18/PAE/00012)

Title: Performance Evaluation and Process Optimization of an Improved Rice Parboiler for Small-Scale Rice Processors
Presenter 5: Abuabakar Yahaya Inuwa

(SPS/19/PAE/00005)

Title: Effect of Hydro-Climate Variables on Potential Floods and Capacities of Major Tributaries at Hadejia River Valley



The Vice-Chancellor
Professor Haruna Musa, fsi
On behalf of the entire University community

Cordially invites
to the

63rd PROFESSORIAL INAUGURAL LECTURE

TOPIC:
PUTTING HEALTH AND DISEASE IN PLACE: MY STORY AND LEGACY

PRESENTER:
YUSUF M. ADAMU
BSc, Hons. Geography (UDUS); MSc (Ibadan),
PhD (BUK), MNAL, FANG, FANA
Professor of Medical Geography
Department of Geography
Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences
Bayero University, Kano

CHAIRMAN:
PROF. HARUNA MUSA, fsi
Vice-Chancellor
Bayero University, Kano



Date: Thursday, 24th Sept., 2026
Time: 2:00pm
Venue: CBN Centre of Excellence, BUK, New Campus

Virtual Event  **zoom**
Meeting ID: 936 8074 1467
Passcode: 953626

ANNOUNCER: Professorial Inaugural Lecture Committee

APPRECIATION

On behalf of the family of late SP Madugu Yusuf (died 1st Sept, 2026), I sincerely appreciate everyone who stood by us during our time of grief. We are deeply grateful for your prayers, condolences, calls, visits, messages and every other form of kindness/support shown to us before, during, and after the funeral. Your presence and support brought us comfort and reminded us that we were not alone in this

difficult moment. The family is truly grateful for the love and concern you showed. May God Almighty bless you richly and reward your kindness.

May the gentle soul of our beloved father rest in eternal comfort. Ameen.

Yusuf Umar Madugu [on behalf of the family]

Wedding Fatiha

Wedding Fatiha

Malam Abubakar Sadeeq Isa of the Department of Library and Information Sciences, wishes to invite members of the University Community and the General Public to his wedding fatiha with his fiancé' **Hama Muhammad Ibrahim**, scheduled to take place as follows:

Date: Saturday, September 26th 2026

Time: 2:00pm

Venue: Jiji Juma'at Mosque, Kofar Gabas, Sumaila L.G.A, Kano State



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