

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF REGISTRARS OF NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES (ARNU) FROM OCTOBER 2011 TO APRIL 2014

The present administration of the Association of Registrars of Nigeria Universities (ARNU) came into office following the election conducted at the emergency meeting held in Abuja on Saturday, May 21, 2011. The election produced the following officers:-

Chairman-	Mr. Ayorinde Ogunraku, Registrar, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife
Vice Chairman-	Alhaji Aliyu Kamara, Registrar, Gombe State University, Gombe
Secretary-	Tonny M.E. Dogun II, Registrar, Benson Idahosa University, Benin City
Treasurer-	Mrs. Maltida Nnodim, Registrar, University of Port Harcourt
Chairman, Welfare Committee-	Mr. Sam Egwu, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki
Chairman, Publicity Committee-	Mr. Adeleke Adeboye, Samuel Adegboyega University, Ogwa

The Chairman pledged, on behalf of the Executive Committee that his team would bring best practice to bear on the administration of the Association.

From October 2011 to April 2014, the Association held six (6) Business Meetings, one (1) Emergency Meeting and three (3) Annual Retreats.

1. The 51st Business Meeting/the 6 Annual Retreat was held in Calabar from Wednesday, October 13 to Friday, October 15, 2011 with forty three (43) Registrars in attendance and seven (7) absent with apologies. The theme of the 6th annual retreat was “Realizing Institutional Goals Through Sustainable Human Capital Development in Nigerian Universities” and it was also the title of the keynote address delivered by Prof. Chris Nwamuo of the Department of Theatre and Media Studies, University of Calabar. Other papers presented at the retreat were “Emotional Psychology for Effective University Administration” by Prof. Daniel I. Denga of the Faculty of Education, University of Calabar and “The Relevance of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Registry Functions” by Mr. Kennedy Dike, the president of the University of Calabar Alumni Association.

The Association paid courtesy call on the Paramount Ruler of Calabar Municipality and the Ndidem of the Quas, His Royal Majesty, Ndidem Ika Oqua V. A courtesy visit was also paid to the Governor’s Office, Calabar where members were received by the Deputy Governor, Barr. M.Efiok on behalf of the Governor, Senator Liyel Imoke. The Government of Cross River State hosted a Gala Night which also featured sent fort ceremony in honour of some members of the Association who retired as Registrars of their Universities.

2. An Emergency Meeting was held at Abuja on Saturday, February 18, 2012 and it was necessitated by the urgent need to discuss issues bordering on the reduction of tenure of Registrars of Nigerian Universities from two-term of five years each to a single term of five years in a bill passed by the National Assembly. The emergency meeting had eighteen (18) Registrars in attendance and five (5) absent with apologies.

3. The 52nd Business Meeting of the association was held at the University of Ilorin from Wednesday, May 16 to Friday, May 18, 2012. The meeting was well attended with sixty two (62) Registrars in attendance and two (2) absent with apologies. The meeting featured a Talk on “Stress and Time Management” and some of the major discussions initiated at the meeting included a proposal on Travel Fellowship Award for Junior Administrators in Nigerian universities and a proposal for Payment of Hotel Bill of EXCO Members at meetings of the Association.

The Association took time out to pay a courtesy visit to Palace of the Emir of Ilorin and the Chancellor of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka where members given a very warm reception by the Shehu.

4. The 53rd Business Meeting/7th Annual Retreat was held from Wednesday, October 10 to Friday, October 12, 2012 at the University of Port Harcourt. Two papers presented at the retreat were “Prudence in The Face of Dwindling Resources: The Role of the University Administrator” by Mr. Michael N.A. Ekeh, a former Bursar of the University of Port Harcourt and “A University Scorecard” by Mr. Segun Ogunkola, the Chief Executive Officer of Global Concepts Management LLC, Maryland, U.S.A.

Some of the major discussions and decisions at the Business meeting were on the Proposal on Conditions of Service for Principal Officers of Nigerian universities, Proposal on Travel Fellowship Award for Junior Administrators of Nigerian universities, Proposal for Payment of Hotel Bill of EXCO Members at meetings, Proposal on Some Welfare Package for retired ARNU members as well as the need to strengthen ANUPA with financial support.

The 53rd Business Meeting/7th Annual Retreat recorded forty nine (49) Registrars in attendance and two (2) absent with apologies.

A book titled “University Administration In The 21st Century (A New Edition)” written by Mr. Ayo Ogunruku, the then Chairman of the Association was presented at the retreat. The book was received and launched by members who commended the effort of author and recommended.

5. 54th Business Meeting was held at the Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti from Wednesday, April 24 to Friday, April 26, 2013. It recorded sixty three (63) members in attendance and five (5) absent with apologies. One of the major activities was the conduct of a bye-election to elect the Chairman and Vice Chairman to serve out the tenures of Mr. Ayorinde Ogunruku and Alhaji Aliyu M. Kamara who both had completed their appointments as Registrars of their respective universities.

Consequently, Dr. Omojola Awosusi, Registrar, Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti and Alhaji Ibrahim Jaji Maude, Registrar, Yobe State University, Damaturu emerged as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the association respectively. Also at the 54th meeting, the need to adopt a more befitting name for the association was emphasized and the Registrar of Ebonyi State University was mandated to bring up a proposal to that effect for discussion at the next meeting.

Courtesy visits were paid to the Palace of the Oba of Ado-Ekiti, Afe Babalola University and the Ikogosi Warm Spring.

6. The 55th Business Meeting/8th Annual Retreat was held from Wednesday, November 20 to Friday, November 22, 2013 at National Universities Commission (NUC), Abuja. The retreat had the “Challenges of University Administration in Nigeria: Role of Registrars” as the keynote address by Prof. Julius A. Okojie, the Executive Secretary of the NUC. Other papers presented were “Quality Assurance in The Nigerian University System: The Role of Registrars” by Prof. C.C. Mafiana, the Director of Quality Assurance, NUC; “Looking At What We Do: The Challenges of A Registrar In The Dynamics of The Transformation In Nigeria’s University System” by Mr. Zinfa D. Galam, former Registrar, University of Jos; “Nigerian University Registrars” by Dr. Omojola Awosusi; “Emotional Intelligence For Registrars: Navigating the Minefield of Stakeholder Expectations” by Chief Mrs. Mojisola.

At the 55th business meeting, the nomenclature of the association was changed from ‘Committee of Registrars of Nigerian Universities (CORNU)’ to “Association of Registrars of Nigerian Universities (ARNU)” while the constitution of the association was also reviewed among other matters discussed. Attendance at the retreat was over sixty members but this reduced drastically to forty six (46) Registrars in attendance as at the time the business meeting commenced on Friday, November 22, 2013. Sent fort ceremony was also organized in honour of some members who had completed their tenures or retired as Registrars of their respective universities, in a Gala Night hosted by the Nigeria Turkish Nile University.

7. The 56th Business of ARNU was hosted by the Benue State University, Makurdi from Wednesday, April 24 to Friday, April 26, 2014. The meeting had forty four (44) members in attendance and eight (8) absent with apology. The draft copy of the constitution was considered for correction and amendment while it was also decided that screening of candidates for the first batch of the Travel Fellowship Award for Junior Administrators should be done on May 8, 2014 among other matters discussed at the meeting.

T.M.E. Dogun II
Secretary