

“ONLY THE DEEP CAN CALL TO THE DEEP”

**VICE-CHANCELLOR’S WELCOME REMARKS AT THE JOINT ADMISSIONS
AND MATRICULATION BOARD (JAMB) WORKSHOP ON COMPUTER
BASED TESTING ON WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2014**

The Representative of the JAMB Registrar, Acting Registrar, Caleb University, Fellow Teachers and Stakeholders, Prospective Undergraduates, Gentlemen of the Press, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am deeply grateful to God and to the sponsors and organizers of this workshop for the privilege of chairing this event. Exactly two weeks ago, I was honoured with the responsibility of welcoming on behalf of the Visitor to Caleb University, Dr. Oladega Adebogun, the “Dame of Deeds,” the First Lady of Lagos State, Dame Abimbola Emmanuella Fashola, on her maiden visit to the Caleb Group of Schools. Last week also, I delivered a lecture on “Education, Youth Agency and National Development,” at a book presentation and scholarship awards ceremony by the Bisi Ogunjobi Foundation in Lagos. The point is that these events focused on youth education, a passion that I share with other stakeholders who are interested in the development of our country.

Education is critical to the development and ranking of nations, as epitomised by the leading countries of the world. But the stress is on quality rather than the sheer number of products churned out by the education system. This is why the role of JAMB as a quality control agency is worth commending. As an institution, Caleb University has had a fruitful working relationship with JAMB and I have had a personal experience of the responsive and proactive leadership provided by Professor ‘Dibu Ojerinde, OON, the Registrar. As proof of that, JAMB has adopted since last year the Computer Based Testing method to further improve the quality of its performance. Hence, we at Caleb University welcome this initiative and are delighted to participate in today’s workshop, aimed at empowering prospective undergraduates and eliminating common pitfalls in examination performance.

For the record, Caleb University, licensed by the Federal Government in 2007, began formal academic work in January 2008 and has produced three sets of graduates in thirteen disciplines. Till date, we are the only private university to achieve that feat in Lagos State, with a population in excess of 15 million. Our programmes duly accredited by both the National Universities Commission and relevant professional bodies (ICAN and NIA), and our products have excelled in Nigerian and foreign universities, and in the Nigerian and foreign labour market.

The University offers degree programmes in Architecture, Estate Management, Accounting, Banking & Finance, Business Administration, Economics, International Relations, Mass Communication, Political Science, Biochemistry, Computer Science, Industrial Chemistry, Microbiology and Physics-with-Electronics. In March 2013, the NUC approved our College of Postgraduate Studies, which runs the MSc Architecture and MBA programmes. We intend to add Master's degree programmes in Mass Communication and Economics before the end of the year.

All our students are resident on campus and our moderate fees, which cover accommodation, have remained the same since 2008! Our campus is serene, a place of rolling hills, lush vegetation and clean air, a home away from home. The University is blessed with outstanding and competent Professors and other lecturers, who add the personal touch of mentorship to their statutory teaching.

Ours is a university that emphasizes the combination of character and learning. We take our students through the Caleb University Leadership Academy to make them present and future leaders. The modules taught by the Vice-Chancellor – “The Essentials and the Essentiality of Leadership;” “The Making of a Leader and Change Agent;” “Profiles in Leadership;” and “Decency and Etiquette in Leadership” – are complemented by guest speakers' presentations. Last year, the pioneer Vice-Chancellor of Salem University, Lokoja, Professor Paul Omojo Omaji, delivered a lecture on “Authentic Leadership.” On January 15, 2014, the highly renowned Dr. Christopher Kolade, CON, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Caleb University spoke on “The Management of

Leadership Opportunity.” Our next speaker is expected to be Pastor Sam Adeyemi of the Daystar Ministry.

It is not for nothing that our University has received recognition from local and foreign bodies, which have been identifying with us. We have hosted the Japanese Ambassador, the United States Consulate General annual events since 2012, and the Secretary to the Lagos State Government, among others, and will be hosting the world in May 2014, when the United Nations will be launching its World Habitat Report on our campus at Imota. As they say, “only the deep can call to the deep.”

I welcome everyone to this important event. I challenge the participants to make the best of this opportunity. Once again, I commend and thank JAMB for this initiative and for inviting us to participate in it. I wish you happy deliberations.

Thank you for your attention. God bless.

Professor Ayodeji Olukoju, FNAL

Vice-Chancellor

26 February 2014