



FEBRUARY 2024

# BOWEN MONTHLY



## A CALL TO ARMS AGAINST DRUG-RESISTANT MICROORGANISMS; OWOSENI DELIVERS 12TH INAUGURAL LECTURE

In a lecture that resonated with urgency and purpose, Professor Abimbola Owoseni, the first female Professor of Microbiology in Bowen University, delivered a stirring inaugural lecture titled "Microorganisms: Invincibility in Invisibility." Her address, delivered on Thursday, February 22, 2024, at the Red Hall, emphasised the critical need for increased research efforts to combat drug-resistant micro-organisms.

Professor Owoseni's lecture underscored the pressing need for microbiologists and other scientists to spearhead research aimed at developing new drugs that microorganisms cannot resist. She lamented the growing ineffectiveness of current antibiotic treatments in the face of rising antibiotic resistance.

"To win this war against microorganisms, one must understand the microbes and the power they wield," she asserted.

Highlighting the global impact of microorganisms on human and livestock health, Professor Owoseni attributed the rise of drug-resistant strains to the injudicious use of antibiotics. She warned that antibiotic resistance is a significant threat to global health in the 21st century, emphasising the ease with which resistant strains can spread between individuals.

"Antibiotic resistance is a global menace that threatens progress in healthcare, food production, and life expectancy," she warned, citing a World Health Organization report that attributed about 25,000 deaths in parts of Europe to infections caused by resistant microorganisms.

To combat this threat, Professor Owoseni called for increased funding for research in basic sciences and advocated measures to promote personal hygiene, the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables, and access to potable water.

In his remarks, Professor Jonathan Babalola, the Vice Chancellor of Bowen University, praised Professor Owoseni as a reliable expert in microbiology and highlighted the University's commitment to producing 21st-century leaders who will positively transform society through teaching and research.

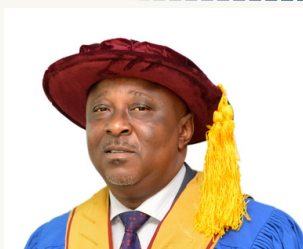
Professor Owoseni's lecture served as a rallying cry for the Bowen University community and beyond to join the fight against drug-resistant microorganisms, emphasising the crucial role of research and education in safeguarding public health.

## BOWEN UNIVERSITY'S 2024 ANNUAL LEADERSHIP RETREAT

Bowen University's Management recently organised the 2024 Annual Leadership Retreat under the theme "Repositioning Bowen University Operations: Quality Assurance and Processes." The retreat, held from Friday, 9th February to Sunday, 11th February 2024, at the Ilaji Hotels and Sports Resort, was a dynamic and engaging event that drew enthusiastic participation from key members of staff in attendance.

Eminent speakers graced the occasion including Professor Olufemi Adebisi Bamiro, the 10th substantive Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan; Professor Abel Idowu Olayinka, the 12th substantive Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan; and Chief Mojisola Ladipo, a pacesetter former Registrar of the University of Ibadan. Their presentations were insightful and thought-provoking, shedding light on various aspects of quality assurance and operational processes in higher education.

The retreat provided a platform for robust discussions and collaborative decision-making processes. Participants engaged in fruitful deliberations that led to the formulation of various strategies aimed at enhancing the growth and development of Bowen University. Overall, the 2024 Annual Leadership Retreat was a resounding success, setting the stage for a new chapter of excellence and innovation at Bowen University.



## HONOURING A LEGACY: RETIREMENT AND FAREWELL LECTURE FOR MR. SUNDAY ILUPEJU

On Thursday, February 15, 2024, the Bowen University community came together to honour Mr. Sunday Ilupeju, Deputy Registrar and two-time Acting Registrar, as he retired from the active services of the University. The Registry of Bowen University organised a retirement and farewell lecture in his honour at the Timothy Olagbemiro Library seminar room.

The lecture, titled "Leadership Experiences in University Administration," was delivered by Professor John Ayoade, an emeritus professor of Political Science. It was a fitting tribute to Mr. Ilupeju's dedicated service and his impactful leadership in university administration.

The event was graced by distinguished guests, including Professor J. A. Faniran, a father figure to Mr. Ilupeju, the Vice Chancellor - Professor Jonathan Babalola, the Deputy Vice Chancellor - Professor Oluwatosin Atobatele, the Registrar - Mr. Babtunde Adetona, the Bursar - Mr. Babatunde Kolawole, the University Librarian - Dr. Aderonke Otunla, and the University Chaplain - Rev. Dr. Gideon Akanbi. Staff members from different Programmes and units, as well as well-wishers from within and outside Iwo, also attended the event.

The Retirement and Farewell Lecture was not just a celebration of Mr. Ilupeju's career but also a testament to the impact he has had on Bowen University and the lives of those around him. It was a reminder of the importance of dedication, leadership, and service in the University community.

## HEALTH ADVISORY: LASSA FEVER AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

Dear Bowen University Community,

The Deputy Director of Health Services, Dr Adeleke T. Olumide, on behalf of the Directorate of Health Services, deems it necessary to inform the University community and the general populace about the ongoing Lassa fever outbreak in the country. This advisory is crucial to ensure the safety of all members of staff, students, and the general public as the University resumes for the second semester. The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention has confirmed 476 cases and 84 deaths from suspected cases in 23 states as of February 18, 2024, within seven weeks of the outbreak.

### What is Lassa Fever?

Lassa fever is a deadly disease that affects multiple organs and systems of the human body. It is caused by the Lassa fever virus carried mainly by multimammate rats (rats that have many breasts) named *Mastomys natalensis*. The disease occurs throughout the year but is more common during the dry season. It was discovered in Lassa Village, Borno State, Nigeria, in 1969, and affects all age groups and both sexes.

### How is Lassa Fever Transmitted?

Lassa fever spreads through:

- Eating food or drinking water contaminated with urine, faeces, saliva, or blood of rats.
- Direct contact with urine, faeces, saliva, or blood of rats.
- Contact with beddings and household materials contaminated with urine, faeces, saliva, or blood of rats or body fluids of infected persons.
- Inhalation of air contaminated with tiny particles of urine, faeces, saliva, or blood of rats during sweeping or cleaning activities.
- Person-to-person through contact with blood, body fluid secretion, or semen of an infected person.

### Signs and Symptoms of Lassa Fever:

- Fever (temperature of 38.6 degrees Celsius or above).
- Sore throat
- Vomiting.
- Diarrhea
- Back pain.
- Cough.
- Chest pain.
- Stomach pain.
- Restlessness.
- Swelling of the face.
- Bleeding through the body openings (nose, ears, eyes, mouth, etc).

### Suspected Case:

A patient with fever  $\geq 38^{\circ}$  for 3-21 days with any sign of:

- Vomiting.
- Diarrhea.
- Sore throat.
- Myalgia - muscle pain
- Generalized body weakness.
- Abnormal bleeding (mucosal, puncture sites, uncontrolled intra-op/post-op).
- Abdominal pain.

### Preventive Measures:

The Directorate of Health Services advises the following:

- Wash hands with soap under running water always.
- Avoid handling rats.
- Wash fruits and vegetables with clean water before eating.
- Avoid spreading food items along roadsides and open spaces.
- Discard all foods (cooked or raw) partly eaten by rats or other animals.
- Isolate all suspected cases of Lassa fever and contact the Local Government Area (LGA) Disease Surveillance and Notification Office (DSNO).
- Ensure proper wearing and removal of full personal protective equipment (face masks, hand gloves, gowns, and goggles) before and after entering a patient's room.

Lastly, if you or others feel unwell, consult your doctor promptly.

Let's stay vigilant and take necessary precautions to protect ourselves and the community against Lassa fever.

Stay safe and healthy.

Directorate of Health Services Bowen University

## BOWEN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES SHINE IN NIGERIAN LAW SCHOOL BAR FINAL EXAMINATION



Bowen University graduates have once again showcased their excellence, as statistics from the recently concluded Bar Final Examination of the Council of Legal Education in the Nigerian Law School have been released. We are proud to announce that seven of our students have achieved First Class honors in this prestigious examination.

The seven outstanding students are Bukola Ogunwale, Tomi Taiwo, Iyanoluwa Ajayi, Victoria Akingbemila, Oluwakorede Idowu, Iyioluwa Bankole, and Akinpelu Akinloluwa. Their exceptional performance is a testament to their hard work, dedication, and the quality of education they received at Bowen University.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to these students on this remarkable achievement. They have not only made Bowen University proud but have also set a high standard for future graduates. We wish them continued success in their future endeavors.



## BOWEN UNIVERSITY STUDENT EXCELS AT NUMACS ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

At the recent Academic Leadership Summit organized by the National Union of Mass Communication Students (NUMACS) across Osun State, Bowen University's Imoleayo Adio, a 400 Level student of Mass Communication, stood out as a shining example of excellence. The summit, held to discuss the "Role of Media Literacy in Combating Misinformation and Fake News," saw Imoleayo deliver a compelling and articulate presentation that captured the audience's attention.

Imoleayo's oratory skills were on full display as he eloquently addressed the topic, showcasing a deep understanding of the subject matter. His presentation not only resonated with the audience but also impressed the judges, securing him victory in the oratory competition. His victory was a testament to his hard work, dedication, and passion for Mass Communication.

By emerging victorious, Imoleayo Adio has earned the honor of representing Osun State at the National level of the oratory competition. His achievement is a source of pride for Bowen University and a testament to the exceptional talent and academic prowess of its students.

## CONGREGATION ELECTS REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

During the meeting of Congregation held on Wednesday, February 14, 2023, Bowen University's Congregation conducted elections for representatives to the Governing Council. Dr Jaiyeola Oyewole, from the Communication Arts Programme, emerged as the academic staff representative after a closely contested election. Dr Oyewole secured 103 votes (98 from Iwo Campus and 5 from Ogbomosho Campus) out of 264 accredited voters, defeating two other candidates.

In the same meeting, Mr Eytayo Ojemola, Deputy Registrar (Council Affairs), was elected as the non-academic staff representative to the Governing Council. Mr Ojemola ran unopposed and garnered 251 votes (212 from Iwo Campus and 39 from Ogbomosho Campus) out of 264 accredited voters.

The election results highlight the active participation of the Bowen University community in governance matters. Dr Oyewole and Mr Ojemola's election to the Governing Council is a testament to their credibility, competence, and the confidence reposed in them by their colleagues. Their representation on the Governing Council will undoubtedly contribute to the University's continued growth and development.



## BOWEN UNIVERSITY HONORS MR. STEPHEN A. AKANJI FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE

The Management of Bowen University, under the leadership of the Vice Chancellor, Professor Jonathan Babalola, recently paid tribute to Mr. Stephen A. Akanji, a distinguished member of the University staff. Mr. Akanji, who has served as both the acting bursar and current Deputy Bursar, was recognised for his unwavering dedication, strength of character, and commitment to excellence.

During his tenure as acting bursar, Mr. Akanji demonstrated exceptional leadership, steering the Department with wisdom and foresight. His efforts were instrumental in ensuring the smooth financial operations of the University, even during challenging times.

As the current deputy bursar, Mr. Akanji continues to be a pillar of support for the Bursary Department and the University as a whole. His commitment to excellence and his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty have earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and the University community.

Mr. Akanji is an inspiration to us all, highlighting the impact that one individual can have on an institution through hard work, perseverance, and a commitment to excellence. Bowen University is privileged to have Mr. Akanji as part of its team, and his legacy will continue to inspire future generations of staff and students.

## EXPANSION OF LEARNING FACILITIES AT BOWEN UNIVERSITY

In a move to enhance the learning environment, the University Governing Council has approved the construction of two 800-seater lecture theatres. These facilities, which will be built at both the Ogbomosho and Iwo campuses, are aimed at addressing the increasing demand for quality classroom spaces.

The decision to construct these lecture theatres reflects the University's commitment to improving classroom conditions and providing students with a conducive environment for a good learning experience. The new facilities will not only accommodate more students but also create a more comfortable and efficient learning environment.

This development marks a significant step forward for Bowen University and underscores its dedication to providing world-class education to its students. The construction of these lecture theatres is expected to begin soon, with completion slated for the near future.



**BOWEN UNIVERSITY**  
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