

OSUSTECH takes off as 99 pioneer students matriculate

The Ondo state-owned University of Science and Technology (OSUSTECH), Okitipupa on Thursday took off with the matriculation of 99 pioneer students at its temporary site. The Students who were admitted into four departments namely : Biological, Chemistry, Physical and mathematical sciences with an admition by the Visitor, Governor Olusegun Mimiko that that the institution, which he described as a university of first chance, built on a high moral plane and would place zero tolerance on all vices.

Mimiko who regretted the campaigns of calumny mounted by the members of the last regime who he noted were hell bent on reversing the fortunes of OSUSTECH by making its take-off a veritable tool of political manipulation, noted that with the maiden matriculation ceremony and the pace of work at the permanent site, the Institution has come to stay. He called for the support of all and sundry in ensuring that the institution takes in pride of place in the nation..

The Governor noted emphatically that given its vantage position and importance to the State, the Southern Senatorial District deserved a university to harness the numerous human and natural resources of the area for sustainable development in the light of the uneven distribution of higher education facilities in the state.

His words: "The conception of the university was therefore a logical response to the call and desire of the people. However, but for providence, this noble idea would have remained at the level of conception, because its take-off was made a veritable tool of political manipulation as it was expected to only take off after all facilities would have been adequately provided.

"This expectation contradicts all known precedents. While we were trying to sort out the contradictions, the operating license of the University was again allegedly suspended. However, our resolve to honour the wish of the people, indeed to ensure equity, justice and fair play emboldened us. We forged ahead undauntedly and the result is what we are witnessing today."

Mimiko assured that although the university is taking off on a temporary site, encumbrances on the development of the permanent site would soon become part of history as work was progressing on the site according to the plan saying that "in no distant time, we would have substantially realised our goals in this regard"

According to the Governor, "Ours is a commitment to the development of a University that is globally competitive, modern and sustainable. We desire to once again put Ondo State on the world academic and render the message unequivocally, that amongst us rests merit and excellence.

While dvising the new intakes to be devoted to attaining excellence, the governor said "as you might have been told, this University is built on high moral plane. There is therefore zero tolerance for all vices. This is a University of first chance. You must therefore exhibit high level of perseverance and dedication to your academics"

Earlier in his address, the Vice Chancellor of the Institution, Prof. Tolu Odugbemi, a former Vice Chancellor of the University of Lagos (UNILAG) had assured that in no distance time OSUSTECH would be a force to be reckoned with in the nation and beyond and enjoined the students to avail themselves of the vast opportunities that they would be exposed to during their course of studies. He warned against nefarious activities such as cultism saying that the institution authorities would not brook such vices.

At the colourful occasion were the Wife of the State Governor, Mrs Olukemi Mimiko, the Olugbo of Ugbo Oba Frederick Akinruntan who is the Chancellor and Prof Funso Akere, the Chairman of the Governing Board amongst others.

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