



# Afe Babalola University, Ado – Ekiti (ABUAD)

## 2019/2020 SEVEN-PAGE REPORT

### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti (ABUAD) has a bold vision: to achieve the highest standards of excellence in societally relevant research, innovation and enterprise development and to become one of the world's top tier research intensive Universities. ABUAD has already secured its position as Nigeria's foremost entrepreneurial research institution and the fastest growing University in Africa. With exceptional strengths in agriculture, medicine, law, entrepreneurship, engineering, social sciences, amongst others, ABUAD's strategic plan for the next 5 to 10 years will be to consolidate its leadership, while also raising its profile, presence and reputation as an internationally engaged world-class University.

As an entrepreneurial University, ABUAD is committed to transforming students into expert thinkers, innovative managers and resourceful technocrats in all fields through collaborative programmes, professional and hands-on training opportunities provided for them.

### 2.0 INTRODUCTION

ABUAD is a research-intensive and non-for-profit Federal Government licensed private University located in the serene and beautiful city of Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State, about 250 miles south of the city of Lagos, Nigeria. ABUAD was established in 2009 by Nigeria's eminent and well decorated lawyer, farmer, philanthropist, educationist, reformer, trailblazer, transformational leader and the 2018 recipient of the prestigious Chief Obafemi Awolowo Prize for Leadership, **Aare Emmanuel Afe Babalola OFR, CON, SAN, FNIALS, F.CI Arb, LL. D, D.Litt.**

The Acting Chairman of the Governing Council of ABUAD, is **Ambassador Prof Tunde Adeniran OON** while the Acting Vice Chancellor is **Prof. Elisabeta Smaranda Olarinde FCI Arb, FCAI**. ABUAD has eight Colleges: College of Medicine & Health Sciences, College of Law, College of Engineering, College of Social & Management Sciences, College of Sciences, College of Agriculture, College of Arts & Humanities and College of Postgraduate Studies.

Since its establishment, over 10 years ago, ABUAD has recorded enormous progress in research, innovation and entrepreneurial education. Consequently, students and Alumni of the University have been carting home national and international awards, laurels, commendations and encomiums as well as recognitions. These include "Team LifeWatch", the inventor of AsthmaVisor, under the mentorship of Dcn Bayo Ogundipe (Director ICT), which emerged fourth out of the five teams nominated for Imagine Cup Ability Award in the 2015 Edition of Microsoft Imagine Cup Competition in Seattle, United States of America, on account of the potential impact their projects can have on the lives of people with disabilities and design principles, usability and potential in the marketplace. An Alumnus of the University, Engr. Olamide POPOOLA, led "Team Nigeria" to win

the Unilever Idea Trophy in Category Number 1 Award for “Authentically on Brand, Relevant to target Audience and Drives Talkability and Shareability (A.R.T)” in London (UK).

Most importantly, ABUAD is home to exquisite, technologically advanced, and world class infrastructure that promote innovative learning. These include a magnificent, ultra-modern and state-of-the-art Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Centre; 5-Modular Theatre; 400-hundred bed and state-of-the-art Multisystem Hospital; Magnificent building housing among others 5 Laboratories, 500 Seater Classrooms and staff offices for the Medical Laboratory Programme; 156 rooms magnificent ABUAD Inn and 7-storey, beautiful and intimidating administrative building (White Rock) just to mention but a few.

### **3.0 REPORT ON TEACHING**

ABUAD has made an institutional commitment to innovation in teaching. Our commitment to innovation is driven by the vision of the Founder who frequently recalls with relish that it was the quality of teaching in his days in primary school that enabled him to independently read at home for both Cambridge GCE of London University as well as for his degrees in Economics and Law. Hence as far back as 2010, Aare Afe Babalola instituted an annual workshop for teaching and learning methods which is attended by all teachers in the first week of each new academic session. Resource persons are drawn from NUC, UNESCO and other Universities. ABUAD was the first to use interactive boards for collaborative teaching in January 2010. The University prohibits the sales of handouts and dictation of notes to students and makes the use of Interactive Boards for teaching mandatory. The University insists on punctuality using biometric attendance system (clock in and clock out machine) and proper dressing to classes. Lecture begins at 8am promptly till 12noon with an hour break and resumes at 1pm to continue till 3pm as well as reconvenes at 7pm and ends at 9pm Monday to Friday. ABUAD also offers a large variety of sports and entertaining activities for students and staff.

The students and staff academic engagement was further enhanced by the use of Online Learning Management System (LMS). Attendance Registers are opened for students who must achieve at least 90% attendance at Lectures as a pre-condition for writing their Semester Examinations. ABUAD has introduced problem-based learning where students work in groups to solve prevailing problems and bring about solutions that positively impact the community. ABUAD also established the ABUAD Salt Valley Associate (ASVA) where talented students across all levels and disciplines are brought together to develop innovative projects.

In recognition of the quality of teaching, training, and the state-of-the-art facilities at ABUAD, several of our graduates have secured competitive positions in private sector entities, government agencies and ministries both within and outside Nigeria. Our Alumni, who are in employment, have received high commendations from their employers for being innovative, entrepreneurial, performance driven and leadership qualities. Furthermore, several Alumni of the University have secured international admissions and scholarships for Masters and Doctoral programmes in Law at leading universities in Canada, United States, United Kingdom, Australia amongst others. Our graduates have continued to contribute positively to shaping their professions, the Nigerian society and beyond.

For instance, about 6000 students across the country sat for the 2018 Finals Bar Examination of the Nigerian Law School. ABUAD recorded 100% pass rate with Ekpo Naomi Uwem from ABUAD emerging the Overall Best Student, won 13 prizes while ABUAD graduates in all won 24 out of 36 prizes (Source: [www.nigerianlawschool.edu.ng](http://www.nigerianlawschool.edu.ng)). In the same vein, ABUAD has graduated two sets of Medical Doctors in 2018 and 2019. Forty-three (43) students were presented for the First MBBS Examination in July 2018 and recorded an unprecedented 100% pass rate with eight (8) distinctions – the equivalent of First Class in other disciplines, the fifty (50) students who were presented in 2019 also recorded 100% pass rate. This accomplishment makes ABUAD the first University in the Country (Nigeria) to produce Medical Doctors in six and half years after its Medical Programme flagged off. In 2018 Accounting Technician Scheme (ATS) examination of the Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAN), a 200 Level student of the Department of Economics, Miss Nellieken Ochinke emerged Second Best out of the 2500 candidates who sat for the examination in West Africa. Consequently, outstanding teachers and students are awarded prizes by the Founder at the Annual Convocation Ceremonies of the University.

Furthermore, the introduction of foreign languages, leadership and entrepreneurship development into the curriculum of ABUAD has yielded good fruits in preparing our students for a better competitive advantage in the future. In addition there is an annual scholarship training in Chinese language in the Chinese Universities.

#### **4.0 REPORT ON RESEARCH**

In a bid to deepen collaborative research and contribute to global knowledge, the researchers in the University have churned out about 700 peer-reviewed and collaborative journal articles that are of high impact in Scopus indexed Journals. ***This made ABUAD to be among the only 8 out of 74 Private Universities*** that are listed in Scopus Indexed Database by Elsevier (Source: <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331674100> RESEARCH TRENDS IN NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES ANALYSIS OF NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS IN SCOPUS 2008-2017). The numbers of citations on the rich journal article publications of the University in the Google Scholar cannot be overemphasized. The University organized several research-grant workshops and seminars to widen the capacity of the staff and facilitate grant to the University.

ABUAD has been recognized by the United Nations through two UNESCO Chairs: The UNESCO Chair in Entrepreneurship Education and Sustainable Development and Peace and Citizenship. The University is also currently home to the *Youth Employment in Africa-Business and Sustainable Agriculture (YEASA)* scheme, a three-year capacity development project on agriculture in Africa, sponsored by the Africa Rice Centre, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). This transnational and innovative youth empowerment programme is designed to provide managerial, marketing, financial management and entrepreneurial training and skills for over 1,000 unemployed rural youths (350 from Benin Republic and 650 from Nigeria).

To promote research, ABUAD has 37 laboratories stocked with state-of-the-art equipment in the University's College of Engineering. The Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) affirmed that 40% of the equipment are not available in any other university in Nigeria. Unsurprisingly, many universities in Nigeria have been coming to see the towering triumph of Technology that ABUAD's Engineering College typifies and have been making use of the world-class equipment therein. ABUAD's ICT

modern Training Facilities, equipment and tools allow our students to acquire the cutting-edge knowledge on digital innovation.

Some of the leading research work done at the ABUAD in areas of healthcare, agriculture, information technology and entrepreneurship have changed the world – much more than one could ever expect from a relatively young university. For instance, the ABUAD Multi-System Hospital is changing the face of health care delivery in the African continent. Similarly, the ABUAD Farm is playing an important role in agricultural development, food security and agri-technology in Ado Ekiti and beyond. The ABUAD Planetarium is providing inestimable opportunities for our academic community and students to explore space innovation and space technology concepts.

To encourage research productivity, the University has put in place a robust reward system which has contributed immensely to achieving these feats. These are in the areas of paying for publication of journal articles, paying for staff development training (Post-Doctoral Research, Ph.D Training, Professional Development), which made several academic staff to obtain Post Doctoral Fellowship in China, Brazil, USA, South Africa, Germany, Pakistan, Malaysia and Europe.

Similarly, in a bid to enhance research, development and innovation, the Office of Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic, Research, Innovation and Strategic Partnership (ARISP) was established in 2019. This office is headed by Professor Damilola S. Olawuyi who also serves as Chairman of the University Research and Innovation Committee (URIC). Working with major national, regional and international alliances and networks, as well as partners from industry, the public sector and the civil society, the Office implements and oversees the University's medium and long-term research priorities and aspirations. Over the last year, the Office has spearheaded a number of initiatives. These include the ABUAD Research Seminar Series, The ABUAD Monthly Research Newsletter, as well as active engagement and partnerships with private sector stakeholders in key sectors such as construction, energy, innovation, IT infrastructure and training development. The ARISP Office is currently finalizing plans for the ABUAD International Research Conference and Exhibition that will provide opportunities for students to network with over 300 leading international and national private sector firms in ICT, construction, energy, agriculture, natural resources and environment.

## **5.0 REPORT ON COMMUNITY SERVICE**

In 2019, the University continues to be the largest employer of labour after the government in Ekiti State while its Founder, Aare Afe Babalola, SAN is and still remains the highest tax payer in Ekiti State. This is a feat that he had held onto since Ekiti was part of Ondo State. The University embarked on four sessions of Free Medical Outreach Services for Nigerians at the Federal Teaching Hospital, Ido-Ekiti and the other at the new ABUAD Multi-System Hospital that commenced full operations in March 21, 2018. The Multi-System Hospital started the Cardiac Mission project in May 24, 2019 and has carried out sixty-four (64) cardiac procedures and three hundred and fifty-seven (357) interventions which were 100% successful. The University has embarked on a health-related project tagged “Helping Babies Breathe” which is done in partnership with USA-based Project CURE. Over 25 communities have benefited from this project. This project is coordinated and directed by the Wife of the Founder Yeye Aare Modupe Babalola and the Department of Nursing Sciences of the University.

The College of Law through its Law Clinic offers free legal services to inmates in Ekiti State Prisons. More than a dozen inmates were bailed out by Law Students using their personal resources through the Free Legal Service initiative of the College. Advocacy and awareness campaigns on drug possession, use and abuse and environmental impact are always done by the students and staff of the University. At the 2019 Annual Poverty Alleviation Programme, beneficiaries received N100,000 each; another set of 180 beneficiaries received N50,000 each; 300 beneficiaries received N10,000 each and the last batch of 500 people carted home N5,000 each, totaling N16.5 million. *In the same vein, The Founder has been providing annual scholarships to ABUAD teachers and students totaling N7m, N17.5m, N32million, N35million, N42million, N45 million, N72 million, N135million and N147million in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively.* During the seven editions, from 2012 to 2019, of the Annual Afe Babalola Agricultural Expo (ABA-EX), Aare Afe Babalola has been giving out ₦1 million to the Best Farmer in the Ekiti State and ₦250,000 to the Best Farmers in each of the 16 Local Government Areas of the State. On January 25, 2018, ABUAD turned the sod of its Research Industrial Park. The Park shall facilitate intellectual capability to interpret and translate the Research efforts of Nigerian Universities, particularly ABUAD, into viable products and services through the establishment of various industries in a dedicated Park, thus buoying the economy of the State and reduce unemployment. The Federal Road leading to the University has always been maintained by the University. The neighboring communities are also benefitting from the University's power supply. ABUAD has impacted the life of many youths positively under the Youth Employment in Agri-business and Sustainable Agriculture (YEASA) Scheme, a transnational three-year capacity development project on Agriculture in Africa, sponsored by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) with Africa Rice Centre and International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) as supporting institutions. The overall training goal is to improve rural livelihoods of the youth living on agriculture and agriculture-based enterprises. The specific objective is to train the youth for enhanced technical, business/entrepreneurial skills for increased incomes and creation of employment opportunities. The Founder, in his own philanthropic manner, singlehandedly provided the start-up fee and materials for the 351 Youths that graduated from the YEASA Project in 2019.

## **6.0 REPORT ON ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The University is currently running 47 undergraduate and 71 postgraduate programmes across all disciplines. Biomedical Engineering, Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering, Postgraduate Programmes in all Engineering programmes; Ph.D programme in Law and Ph.D programmes in Colleges of Sciences, Medicine and Health Sciences and Social and Management Sciences. The NUC approved the **Performing Arts, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Architecture and Optometry programmes during the 2019 Resource Verification Exercise.** The University has 47 and 71 fully accredited undergraduate and postgraduate programmes respectively. Most of the University's undergraduate programmes were reaccredited by NUC in 2019 while fewer ones remaining will be re-accredited in 2020. The three flagship programmes remained Law which the National Universities Commission, NUC, the Regulatory Authority for University Education in Nigeria, has described as the **“Best in West Africa”**, Engineering which the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) acknowledged as the **“Template for Engineering Education in Nigeria”** and **Medicine and Health Sciences** which the former Minister of State for Health, Dr. Khaliru Alhassan, said **“will be difficult for any other university in Nigeria to equal”**. The three programmes are often over-subscribed because of the quality of education in ABUAD. ABUAD in partnership with the Channels Television has established Channels Academy. The Channels Academy has commenced

the training of our students in all areas of Journalism and the art of speech making. Approval has been given by the NUC for part-time programmes in Colleges of Social & Management Sciences while resource verification for the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) is scheduled for 2020.

## **7.0 REPORT ON PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

In 2019, ABUAD completed and commissioned the Ultra-modern and magnificent Administrative Building (The White Rock); the Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellor and the Principal Officers Lodge; two additional male and female hostels. The current capacity of students' hostels is about 10,000 while our student population is about 8000. This shows that ABUAD has excess hostel accommodation to meet the needs of our prospective students. The minimum bed spaces required by NUC have been met within these hostels. Building of more students' accommodation is always on-going. The magnificent, 5-Modular Theatre, 400-bed ABUAD Multi-System Hospital which was completed and commissioned in October 20, 2017 and commenced full operations in March 21, 2018 has since recorded superlative success in all the procedures, investigations and interventions carried out thus far. The accompanying Staff Quarters for Medical Staff and Hostels for Medical and Allied Students were also completed. More Senior Staff Quarters and the Fuel Dump Station were also finished during 2019. The already completed and commissioned ultra-modern 2,500-seater PTCF Amphitheatre commenced full operation in January 2019 while a modern Shopping Mall housing a Chinese Restaurant, Cafeteria and Fast Food Point was also opened. Apart from the above, the University's 18-metre Planetarium (the second best in Africa) was completed. The Postgraduate College Complex, Postgraduate Halls of Residence, Postgraduate Cafeteria, and the gigantic College of Social & Management Sciences that were commissioned in 2018 have become fully functional from January 2019. Other constructions completed and made fully operational are the Morgue at the AMSH; the Mechanical Workshop at ABUAD Farms; and the refurbished Mango Juice Factory.

## **8.0 CHALLENGES**

Lack of funding and limited access to necessary infrastructure such as good motorable roads, airport, electricity, and water supply are among the major challenges. Being a Private University, the Founder remains the sole financier of the gigantic University projects which include two big farms, the Multi-System Hospital and the 121-unit Industrial Research Park. The issue of paucity of funds is compounded by the attitude of Nigerians to giving. An average Nigerian does not believe in giving. This is very much unlike the practice in leading universities such as Stanford, Harvard, Yale, Oxford, Cambridge etc., which realize trillions of dollars yearly from Alumni, gifts, endowments and grants. These allow them to embark on expansive research, Linkage programmes and other developmental projects. *The failure of Government to extend Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) to Private Universities is unfortunate. The problem of funding is further compounded by unfulfilled promises by the State Government. When Ekiti State Government, under Engr. Segun Oni persuaded the Founder to site the University in Ekiti instead of Ibadan which was the original intention of the Founder, it promised to provide land, construct roads, provide electricity and water supply. None of these promises were fulfilled.* When the Founder persuaded the Federal Government to construct an airport in Ekiti State along with others including Delta, Bayelsa and Gombe, it set aside over N800million for its take-off. However, the former, (now incumbent) Governor Fayemi said that an airport was not his priority. Today ABUAD students come from all states in Nigeria and Cameroon. One can only imagine the sufferings of students and parents in coming to ABUAD sited in Ado – Ekiti in a landlocked state with no good motorable roads, rail line nor airport. This makes movement to and fro Ekiti a herculean task. Today, ABUAD provides its

own water through sinking of boreholes. It also provides its own electricity through the instrumentality of 23 giant generators. It has been maintaining the roads that lead to the University since inception. The University provides its security at a very high cost as Ekiti State has become increasingly unsafe. These are daunting major challenges that need to be addressed without any further delay.

## 9.0 PROSPECTS FOR 2020

A key aim for 2020 is to address critically important issues of transportation. It is urgently crucial for authorities to reconstruct the already dilapidated and collapsed bridge linking the University to every part of the country. Furthermore, it will be helpful for the Ministry of Aviation and Ekiti State Government to fast-track the process of constructing an airport, that had the turning of the sod done some years back. The University has also reached an agreement with Cabotas Energy Services for the supply of 5.67 Megawatts of electricity. We shall further develop the use of ICT in learning, teaching, administration and governance in order to achieve a paradigm shift and change ABUAD to a paperless environment. The Open and Distance Learning as well as Part -Time programmes shall be aggressively pursued to reach out to those who cannot afford face-to-face learning. We also plan to stem the more medical outward tourism that ABUAD has started in Nigeria through provision of affordable and quality healthcare services. We plan to provide food security and create wealth by continually training youth on agriculture, agribusiness, entrepreneurship, mobile application development, artificial intelligence, internet of things, cybersecurity, and space development. *We pray that the TETFund policy, which is currently being reviewed, should include well-qualified private universities like ABUAD. This can be in the areas of collaborating or partnering with Public Universities (Federal or State) especially in research and development.*

## 10.0 CONCLUSION

There is no gainsaying that ABUAD has been contributing and providing quality and functional education in Nigeria and sub-Saharan Africa. This and all other activities of the University are encapsulated in the University anthem and so visible in the contributions of our ABUAD Alumni to the world ecosystem. There is an increase in the international mobility of staff and students and in students' employability, which is gradually positioning the University to attain a world class status.

## 11.0 FUNDING

2019/2020 SESSION PUBLISHED FUNDING		
1	Average Annual Undergraduate Tuition (2020)	861,228.57
2	Average Annual Undergraduate Other Charges (2020)	453,085.71
3	Total Undergraduate Fees per Session (Tuition and Others Charges) - SCIENCE STUDENTS (2020)	9,999,078,806.00

4	Total Undergraduate Fees per Session (Tuition and Others Charges) - NON-SCIENCE STUDENTS (2020)	3,932,260,000.00
5	Percentage of Students on Bursary, Scholarship and Loan Schemes (2020)	2%
6	Average Unit Cost for Training an Undergraduate in the University (2020)	1,314,314.29
7	Percentage of Personnel Cost Provided by the Proprietor (2020)	11%
8	Total Capital Grant released to the University (2020) (NOT FROM TETFUND OR NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT)	1,503,829,140.00
	Total Cost of Running the University in 2020	9,787,204,190.00
10	Percentage of Total Cost of running the University in 2020 that was funded from Internally-Generated Revenue (IGR)	11%

Prof. E. Smaranda Olarinde, *FCArb., FCAI*  
***Ag Vice Chancellor***