



RUFUS GIWA POLYTECHNIC,

Owo, Ondo State, Nigeria.



11TH

GOVERNING COUNCIL

(2018 – 2022)



MR. GANIA OGUNDAHUNSI
RECTOR



CHIEF (MRS) OLUFUNKE AGAGU



PRINCE ANDREW AROLOYE



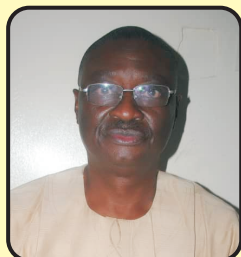
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NBTE REPRESENTATIVE



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*NATIONAL PRESIDENT
RUGIPO ALUMNI*



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TO COUNCIL*



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BURSAR



MRS R. ALADENIYI,
LIBRARIAN



**Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo.
11th Governing Council
(2018 - 2022)**

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the Rector's Office).**

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RUFUS GIWA POLYTECHNIC,

Owo, Ondo State, Nigeria.

11TH GOVERNING COUNCIL

(2018 – 2022)



VISION

To be a leading Technological Institution, recognized globally for its quality, relevance and impact in the area of training and research for developing people and making a difference locally and globally.

MISSION

To stimulate spirit of excellence in teaching, research, scholarship and creative activities among staff and students.

To encourage academic freedom, creative and innovative thoughts, ethical standards, integrity, accountability and social justice.

VALUES

Our core values include:

Spirit of excellence in teaching, research, scholarship and creative activities,

Promotion of hard work, team spirit, originality, self-reliance,

integrity and ethical values.

Our staff and students are the core assets.

National Anthem

Arise, O Compatriots Nigeria's Call Obey
To serve our fatherland
With love and strength and faith
The labour of our heroes past,
shall never be in vain
To serve with heart and might,
One Nation bound in freedom,
peace and unity.

Oduduwa Anthem

*Ise wa fun ile wa Fun Ile ibi wa
Kagbeega, kagbeega,
kagbeega fun ayeri Igbagbo
wa nipe Ba ti beru labomo
kasise, kasise kasise kajola,
Isokan ati Ominira Ni ke je ka
maa lepa Tesiwaju f'opo ire ati
ohun to dara Omo Oodua dide bosi ipo eto re
Iwo imole gbogbo Adulawo.*

RUGIPO Anthem

Arise, Lead and shine RUGIPO
Embrace our Alma Mata;
Founded on Solid Foundation
This shall forever remain;
Academic excellence and advancement;
Self discipline and compliance;
Boldness, Courage and confidence;
Shall forever be our guide.
*Hail, oh Colleagues,
Hail, oh Colleagues,
RUGIPO shall stand forever.*

Technology and advancement;
Is our motto and watchword;
Well refined and well established;
Full of wisdom and success;
Raise your voice now the Anthem raise;
Join your hands in one accord;
Pray for success, manpower;
And progress of our institution.
*Hail, oh Colleagues,
Hail, oh Colleagues,
RUGIPO shall stand forever.*



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ARAKUNRIN OLUWAROTIMI AKEREDOLU, SAN
Governor of Ondo State.

Preface



It gives me great pleasure to write the Preface to this Compendium on the achievements of the 11th Governing Council of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo (RUGIPO), which I was selected to lead since March 2018 to date. I must note from the day I was selected that I did not actually know how an academic council functions. The only true wisdom is knowing that you know nothing; hence, in going through the law governing the Institution, I discovered that the Council “shall be made up of people from the

Academics, Business world, that is, the private sector from where I came, technocrats from the various ministries and a representative each from Engineering, the Accounting profession and even women in Business”. From these groups of strong minds I have drawn my most wonderful experience of managing people from various fields. It has been a highly cohesive team of willing people who were dedicated to the assignment passed on to us by the State Government.

It has not been easy for us to get the Institution working. We faced several industrial actions from the various unions within the Institution. We battled Covid 19 pandemic which made it impossible for Council to meet physically and had to conduct some of our scheduled meetings virtually. From our Artisan Center, we were able to produce hundreds of facemasks which we donated to Government. We have worked with limited funds made available by the State Government and our not so impressive internally generated funds. We were, however, able to manage on, due to the role played by the Management team led by Engr. I.B. Ologunagba when we came in and later Mr Gani Ogundahunsi, who took over from him. I must note that it has not been easy for them to “calm the nerves” of irritated and agitating staff and students due to lack of few amenities and, in particular, payment of backlog of staff salaries passed to us by the past administration of the State.

Our Team had good working relationship with TETFund and OSOPADEC and few outside agencies. We improved much on the infrastructure we met when we came in. All of the projects started during our term are nearing completion or already completed and even those left uncompleted before we came in have been completed. I thank my Team and Management for their selfless service.

This publication is to serve as a document for now and for the future what GROUP 11 of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, met on ground when they came in and, as best possible, was able to achieve much within the four years of our stay.

The Council lost one of its members - Prof. C. O. Aboluwoye - mid-way into its four-year tenure. This indefatigable member will ever live in our memories, especially because of his invaluable contributions towards the ideals of the Council.

I need to note that deliberations during our meetings were frank and focused. And as noted by one of our contributors to this book, if TETFund was a Federal Government funded organisation meant to serve our educational institutions, one may be forced to ask then, "How come most of our projects at Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, had remained uncompleted or unfunded since 2016 to 2019?" One of our Principal Officers, however, noted that through the efforts of Council and Management, most of these projects are now funded and "surprisingly, what we met as near abandoned projects in terms of infrastructure, equipment and library supplies are now in good shape." It has been through the efforts of the men and women who supported me in getting through to the appropriate authorities.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the State Government through its leader, Arakunrin Odunayo Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, for the support his administration gave us during our tenure. The Management, Staff and Students and all the various Agencies that made our stay in Council a success are all appreciated. To God be the glory.

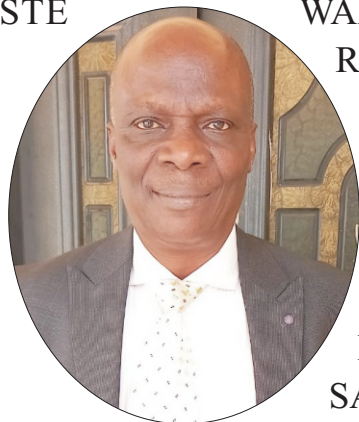
Banji Alabi, Esq.,
Chairman, Governing Council, RUGIPO, 2018-2022.

Publisher's Desk



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WARDSHIP OF the Eleventh RUGIPO GOVERNING COUNCIL



Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, formerly known as Ondo State Polytechnic, Owo, was established in 1979. It was to be a leading technological institution recognized globally for quality, relevance and make impact in the area of training and research for developing people and making a difference locally and globally.

Polyt

In the year 2018, Governor Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu, SAN, inaugurated a 14-member 11th Governing Council for the echnic, with a charge to help drive funding for academic excellence and global competitiveness. The Governor mandated and challenged the new Council Members to come up with ideas that would help revamp the fortunes of the Institution.

The Governing Council came on board at a time the Institution was trying to recover from the January 18, 2018 students riot which led to destruction of property running to several millions of naira. As at the time the Council was given its mandate, there were serious crises between the workers' unions and Management, because workers were being owed 9 months salaries. Shortly after the inauguration of the Governing Council on Tuesday, 13th March, 2018, the Banji Alabi-led council swung into action. The first major step he took was to sue for peace and cooperation of all stakeholders, including staff and students because peace was necessary to move the Institution forward. Nothing can be achieved in an environment devoid of peace.

Following the voluntary retirement of former Rector, Engr. Idowu Ologunagba, in September, 2018, the Council appointed Mr. Gani Ogundahunsi, one of the most senior academic staff as Acting Rector to provide the much-needed leadership for the Institution. Not too long after the appointment of Mr. Ogundahunsi by the Governing Council, 5 out of the 9 months' salaries owed to the workers were defrayed. And things began to fall in place for the Polytechnic. Nearly one year thereafter, Mr Gani Ogundahunsi was appointed as the substantive Rector of the Polytechnic through due process for a term of four years.

The advent of this Council heralded a lot of progressive changes and repositioning at Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo. Within the last three years of Banji Alabi as Chairman, Governing Council, with the support of the members namely: Chief Mrs. Olufunke Agagu, Engr. (Mrs.) Febi Adeyemi, Chief (Mrs.) Bose Osunmakinwa, Prince Andrew Aroloye, Mr. Yinka

Akinola, Dr. Banji Ajaka, Mr. Femi Saint James, and other statutory members from the various relevant ministries, many landmark achievements have been recorded and more are coming forth.

This publication is a testimony of what has been achieved within the four years' tenure of the Council as detailed by the various main units of the Polytechnic. In the area of academic, staff development and student affairs, five inaugural lectures have been held. Four out of the five inaugural lectures were held within the last three years, a decade after the first was held. This is an indication that academic culture has returned to the System. Some academic programmes have been improved in line with current trends in the respective areas of knowledge. Not less than nine (9) new academic programmes had been presented for resource verification and have received NBTE nod, while all academic programmes in the Polytechnic have been accredited and reaccredited.

The Council has almost concluded an affiliation process with one of the first-generation Nigerian universities that will see the Polytechnic awarding degree in no distant future. Many teaching and non-teaching staff have received sponsorship for higher degrees, workshops and conferences within and outside Nigeria.

In the past, students experienced undue hardship trying to pay their school fees through banks. It was so bad that students were constrained to only pay in designated banks (it was practically impossible to pay in banks outside Owo. But now, the narrative has changed. Payment procedures for students have been reviewed. E-payment has been adopted. It means students can now pay their school fees online from anywhere in the world.

Aside the review of payment procedure, the Council had reviewed school fees downward twice in three years. The move was to make education more affordable and accessible to the youth. The Council, in its ingenuity, also scrapped the age-long practice of differential payment between indigene and non-indigene. Both indigene and non-indigene now pay the same amount as school fees.

It is hoped that this document will serve as a guide for the next Governing Council, when it is inaugurated.

MR. S. O. OJO, JP,
Director, Public Relations and Protocol.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE 11th GOVERNING COUNCIL AT INAUGURATION

POLITICAL APPOINTEES

1. Banji Alabi, Esq. – Chairman
2. Chief (Mrs.) Olufunke Agagu
3. Chief (Mrs.) Bose Osunmakinwa
4. Prince Andrew Aroloye
5. Pastor Jide Ipinsagba
6. Gen. Joshua Adebayo Omoseebi (Rtd)
7. Engr. (Mrs.) Febi Adeyemi
8. Prof. C.O. Aboluwoye
9. Mr. Yinka Akinola
10. Mr. Femi Saint-James
11. Dr. Banji Ajaka

STATUTORY TECHNOCRATS FROM RELEVANT MINISTRIES

12. Mr. E. G. Adelayi
13. Engr. T.E. Otun
14. Engr. Alex Aragbaye
15. Revd. S.A. Asaniyan
16. Mr. Victor Olajorin
17. Alh. Sani Boluwaduro

INTERNAL MEMBERS (including those co-opted)

18. Engr. I.B. Ologunagba
19. Mr. Gani Ogundahunsi
20. Mr. Sule Atiku
21. Engr. S.A. Alagha
22. Engr. O.S. Lawson
23. Mr. A. M. Adejuwon
24. Mr. Yemi Suleeman

Alumni

25. Mr. Tope Omolayo
26. Mr. Olufemi Ehinola

NTBE

27. Alh. Abdulahi Saho Idris-Tari

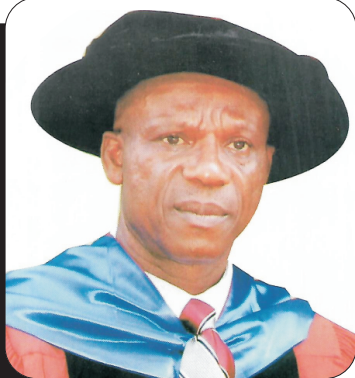


Current Governing Council

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Banji Alabi, Esq. | Chairman |
| 2. | Mr. Gani A. Ogundahunsi | Rector, Member |
| 3. | Chief (Mrs) Olufunke Agagu | Member |
| 4. | Chief (Mrs) Bose Osunmakinwa | Member |
| 5. | Prince Andrew Aroloye | Member |
| 6. | Engr. (Mrs) Febi Adeyemi | Member |
| 7. | Mr. Yinka Akinola | Member |
| 8. | Mr. Femi Saint-James | Member |
| 9. | Dr. Banji Ajaka | Member |
| 10. | Esv. Alex Alake | Perm. Sec., Min. of Lands and Housing, Member |
| 11. | Mrs. Olufunke Dare-Atunse | Perm Sec., Min of Establishments and Training, Member |
| 12. | Mrs. Lola Amuda | Perm Sec., Min of Education, Member |
| 13. | Engr. Allen Idowu | Ag. Perm Sec., Min of Works & Infrastructure, Member |
| 14. | Mr. Tokunbo Ayejoto | Perm Sec., Min. of Finance, Member |
| 15. | Mr. Sule Atiku | Registrar and Secretary to Council |

16.	Mr. Olorunwa S. Adegun	Deputy Rector (Acad)
17.	Mr. S.A. Alagha	Deputy Rector (Admin)
18.	Mr. Oyewusi, O. Odunayo	Ag. Bursar
19.	Mrs R. F. Aladeniyi	Polytechnic Librarian
20.	Engr. Adesina, A. Victor	Alumni Representative
21.	Arch. Kabir Daiyabu	NBTE Representative
22.	Dr. F.A. Adeyefa	Director, Council Affairs

Council Members



MR. GANIA A. OGUNDAHUNSI
RECTOR



CHIEF (MRS) BOSE OSUNMAKINWA



PRINCE ANDREW AROLOYE



CHIEF (MRS) OLUFUNKE AGAGU



BANJI ALABI, Esq.
CHAIRMAN



MR FEMI SAINT-JAMES



MR. YINKA AKINOLA



ENGR. (MRS) FEBI ADEYEMI



DR BANJI AJAKA

Council Members (Contd.)



MRS LOLA AMUDA
PS, MIN. OF EDUCATION



MR TOKUNBO AYEJOTO
PS, MIN. OF FINANCE



MRS OLUFUNKE DARE-ATUNSE
PS, MIN. OF ESTABLISHMENT & TRAINING



ESV ALEX ALAKE
PS, MIN. OF LANDS & HOUSING



ENGR. ALLEN IDOWU,
Ag. PS, Min. of Works & Infrastructure



ARCH. KABIR DAIYABU
NBTE REPRESENTATIVE



MR FEMI EHINOLA
NATIONAL PRESIDENT
RUGIPO ALUMNI



MR SULE ATIKU
REGISTRAR



ENGR. DR SAMUEL A. ALAGHA,
DEPUTY RECTOR (ADMIN)



MR M. A. ADEJUWON
BURSAR



MRS R. ALADENIYI
POLYTECHNIC LIBRARIAN



ENGR. ADESINA, ADEOLA VICTOR
ALUMNI PRESIDENT

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL FROM 2018 TO 2021

The statutory and special meetings held within the tenure of the 11th Governing Council are as stated below:

Y E A R	M E E T I N G S	D A T E
2018	145th Regular meeting Special meeting 146th Regular meeting 147th Regular meeting 147th Regular meeting (Continued) 148th Regular meeting	Tuesday, 3rd April, 2018 Friday, 27th April, 2018 Friday, 29th June, 2018 Tuesday, 18th September, 2018 Wednesday, 19th September, 2018 Friday, 7th December, 2018
2019	149th Regular meeting 150th Regular meeting Special meeting 151st Regular meeting 152nd Regular meeting	Tuesday, 26th March, 2019 Thursday, 20th June, 2019 Wednesday, 28th August, 2019 Tuesday, 8th October, 2019 Thursday, 5th December, 2019
2020	*153rd Regular meeting (virtual) * Special meeting (virtual) 154th Regular meeting *155th Regular meeting (virtual)	Thursday, 2nd July 2020 Friday, 4th September, 2020 Saturday, 3rd October, 2020 Thursday, 10th December, 2020
2021	156th Regular meeting Special meeting 157th Regular meeting 158th Regular meeting	Thursday, 25th March, 2021 Tuesday, 15th June, 2021 Thursday, 17th June, 2021 Thursday, 21st October, 2021

Other statutory committee meetings of the Governing Council were held as at when due.

Foot note:

*- Virtual meetings held during Covid-19 pandemic lock-down

Principal Officers of the Institution



Mr O. S. Adegun
Deputy Rector (Acad)



Engr. Dr. S. A. Alagha
Deputy Rector (Admin & Dev)



Mr Sule Atiku
Registrar



Mr. Gani A. Ogundahunsi
Rector



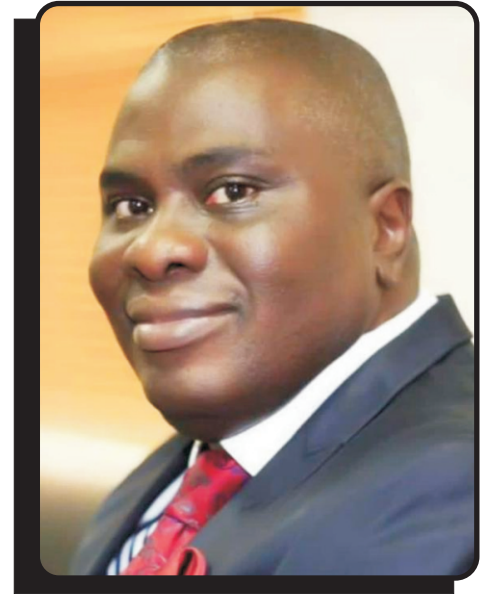
Mr. Oyewusi, O. Odunayo, FCA
Ag. Bursar



Mrs F. R. Aladeniyi, CLN
Polytechnic Librarian

Chapter One

INAUGURAL SPEECH DELIVERED BY THE CHAIRMAN, GOVERNING COUNCIL, RUFUS GIWA POLYTECHNIC, OWO, ONDO STATE- BANJI ALABI (ESQ)



Protocols.

It is with great honour and pleasure that I accept this call to service by His Excellency, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, SAN, Governor of Ondo State. Since our appointment was announced, I have had the privilege of discussing with His Excellency and other well-meaning Sons and Daughters of Ondo to more fully comprehend their expectations regarding our roles as members of the Governing Council. I am delighted at the convergence between their aspiration and the passionate commitment of the newly-appointed Council members to see a rebirth of this great citadel of learning. I appreciate the Governor for the distinguished honour to provide leadership in achieving this objective as I welcome you all on board.

I sincerely acknowledge and appreciate the achievements recorded by past Governing Councils and top Management of this Institution as well as other key stakeholders. You have all done tremendous work in building the Institution and our task is to build on the foundation and, where expedient, to deconstruct and rebuild to meet changing realities so that we can sustain the relevance of the founding of this great Institution.

Following our appointment, I have spent the last few days to reflect on the activities of the Institution, with a view to envisioning new opportunities and hope for transformation and growth. The vision of the Polytechnic, as we are all aware, is “to be a leading technological Institution recognized globally for its quality, relevance and impact in the area of training and research for developing people and making a difference locally and globally.” My thoughts took a cue from this vision and this shall form the broad framework for delivering our mandate.

We may explore new thinking and strategies about actualizing this great vision, but the underlying goals and values would remain, because they are still very relevant today; and, perhaps, more relevant than when the vision was formed. The demand for functional technology-driven education is one of the most essential requirements in addressing the development issues confronting our country. The founders of this great Institution had conceived the dream of an institution meeting the need locally and internationally. In taking up the challenge to advance the dream, we may wish to assess how the journey has been, what opportunities lie ahead of us, how can we thrive, in spite of obvious challenges, what are the quick wins for us in demonstrating the continued relevance of the dreams of this Institution and new milestones can we set as we take the Institution into the future?

In my opinion, and based on preliminary consultations with stakeholders, the core challenges before us are as broadly as follows and I hope this will stimulate our thoughts, just as we humbly request members to submit their opinions on the posers:

1. How do we make our courses and programmes more functional and relevant in the converging technology space in Africa and the world?
2. How do we improve our learning resources and retool our trainers and students for innovation?
3. How can we engage appropriate exchange, internship and mentoring programmes to empower our graduates and make them the first-choice in the market?
4. How do we re-position the School to be self-sustaining at this time of dwindling government resources?
5. How do we make the School the Polytechnic of first choice in Nigeria to attract the best brains?
6. How do we collaborate with potential partners and stakeholders to achieve the dreams?
7. How do we change the orientation of our programmes to turn out graduates to employers of labours and not job seekers?
8. How do we turn Rufus Giwa Polytechnic to a technology hub, where intensive research and development works are conducted to find usable solutions to problems?
9. How do we encourage each department of the School to use their expertise to generate funds?

This appointment confers on us a momentous privilege to transform this Polytechnic into a global learning Institution. It is a call to do something that will outlive us. Permit me to observe that the average age of members of this Council is about 55 years. What this means is that unless technology changes the course of nature, most of us may not be around in 50 years' time. To me, this represents a very good incentive for all of us to put in our best for the service of our people and leave a legacy that will continue to subsist after we have all gone. Our commitment must be to make a difference in this all important mandate and not to mark time and do the usual.

Distinguished colleagues, I welcome contributions from you — we shall form the roadmap of our activities from your input and contributions. We will value your criticisms, opinions and ideas. We will learn together what works. Continuing learning is vital to continuous improvement. This is also consistent with my personal philosophy and the expectation of our founding fathers. The need to reposition this great Institution of learning to reclaim its lost glory will be at the forefront of leadership consideration in the next few years. This we intend to champion and promote through institutionalized innovation, enhancement of Internally Generated Revenue, streamlining operations and admission processes and digitalization of our services for the benefit of all our stake holders and the present and future generations.

Importantly, we need to understand that times have changed and, therefore, must wear our innovation caps towards generating sufficient revenue internally, with little dependence on Government and optimally utilizing our resources. Business as usual must be crippled. All departments must think outside the box in this time of scarcity and ideas must be bottom-up. Great institutions are birthed by great innovators. We are a technologically oriented institution; therefore, we must live our calling by producing great ideas consistent with best

practices in educational institutions across the globe, with a view to improving our competitiveness and ranking in Nigeria. In view of the foregoing, we would soon be meeting with all the revenue generating centres and departments so as to resuscitate and reposition them to generate more funds and resources needed to drive our intentions for the Institution.

Again, we are in the era where practically almost everything in the world revolves around technology. As a great institution of learning, well revered in our technical capabilities, we should be at the vanguard of pioneering several initiatives, backed with cutting edge technology. This should not only be feasible in the quality and skills of graduates we produce year on year, but also in our activities and processes. In this light, the Governing Council, under my leadership, will be exploring several initiatives to digitalize many of our processes. This will help streamline our operational and educational activities, block leakage and improve efficiency.

In the coming days, the Council would be working with necessary departments to review the admission policy and processes of this great Institution, with a view to aligning it with best practices across the globe. Our strategic objective in this regard would be aimed at upping our game to make the School attractive to the best brains in the State, by making us the first point of choice for smart brains and driving admission processes purely on merit. It is our aspiration to build an institution where the son of nobody from any corner of the State can be rest assured that, in as much as they work hard and succeed academically, admission is accessible to them, regardless of their status in the society. This essentially will rekindle the spirit of competitiveness and excellence that Ondo State is known for and enable us to seek affiliation with other great schools in Nigeria and abroad.

We understand that at the centre of every great organization is the role of the human resources. Accordingly, it is my aspiration to turn Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, into one of the greatest places to work in Ondo State. Consistent with Governor Akeredolu's policy, the welfare of our people would be at the forefront of our decisions as we move on. Salaries and allowances would be paid as and when due and, in turn, we expect a corresponding level of work output from members of staff to justify our stand on welfare.

As we progress, we shall be meeting with key stakeholders, ranging from the rectorate, to the registry, academic and non-academic Staff, legitimate Unions, Students bodies as well as other relevant key stakeholders to engender buy-in into the renewed vision and vigour that the new Council will bring to bear.

I am also aware of several challenges facing the School at the moment, part of which have led the Students to be presently out of School. Working with relevant bodies, we believe that those challenges are surmountable and we are collectively capable to turn things around for the good of everybody. The remote and immediate cause of the Students' crisis would be looked into with topmost priority and necessary actions would be taken in due course.

Your Excellency, may I also use this medium to emphasize that all these laudable initiatives can only be a day-dream without the cooperation of all and sundry. In this regard, I solicit the cooperation and support of all members of the Governing Council, the rectorate and the management team, the teaching and non-teaching staff, our great students as well as all other stake holders to work with me in repositioning this great citadel of learning to the enviable position which our founding fathers dreamt and envisioned.

I am more than confident in our collective ability to make the necessary difference. If we all work together, everyone doing his or her own bit, our aspirations for this Institution will be fully actualized and our names would be written on the sands of time.

Thank you.

Banji Alabi, Esq.,
Chairman, Governing Council.

Chapter Two



AN ACCOUNT OF STEWARDSHIP OF MR. GANI ADEBOLA OGUNDAHUNSI AS RECTOR, RUFUS GIWA POLYTECHNIC, OWO

Introduction

I was appointed as Acting Rector of the Institution on September 18, 2018, and I immediately assumed duty the same day. On October 8, 2019, this very distinguished Council confirmed my appointment as the substantive Rector of the Institution. Since my appointment, I have been managing the affairs of the Institution to the best of my abilities and within the limits of resources available.

This administration has recorded some modest achievements, which include the following, among others:

i. Sources of Funding and the Need for Better Funding of the Institution

The State Government is the main source of funding to the Institution; it has always and (has) continued to fund the Institution as much as its limited and dwindling resources could go. For this, we are grateful. However, the monthly Government Subvention to the Institution is a far cry from over ₦290,000,000.00 required for payment of staff salaries and pension, let alone meeting other recurrent expenditures and overheads. The Institution also generates revenues from payment of school fees by students. It is, however to be noted that revenues obtained from payment of school fees had taken a plunge since 2007, due to the policy of Government (i.e. closure of all satellite campuses hitherto run by the Institution and the policy of 70:30 ratio in favour of Science and Technical Education, implemented fully from 2007/2008, which had led to a sharp decline in students enrolment, etc).

ii. Stable Academic Calendar

To the glory of God, this administration has been able to achieve a stable academic calendar, despite the numerous challenges confronting it.

iii. Sustenance of Academic Calendar and Mobilisation for National Youths Service Corps Scheme (NYSC)

Notwithstanding the myriads of challenges confronting the Institution, this administration has been able to maintain a stable academic calendar. Consequently, the Institution has always mobilized our graduates for the Scheme as and when due.

iv. Discipline

Discipline, self as well as inflicted, drives the wheel of any organization. Without it, one simply casts one's pearl - hard-earned human and material resources - before swines. Both staff and students are now learning fast to fall in line. Some may have to be whipped to toe this line of honour. We have, never for once, hesitated to do this. Today, cases of extortion, exploitation and sexual harassment are being checked and stopped frontally. This has been made easy because I ensure that members of my Management live by example - above board. But for COVID-19 and the challenge of payment of salaries, the School would have gone a long way in this regard.

v. Hard Work

Hard work is the antidote to poverty (*Ise loogun ise*). The concept of little work, much profit is misplaced. We are fast embracing anew the culture of dignity of labour. No short cuts, no cutting of corners! The crux of the matter is that the strong belief and conviction that hard work pays is gradually returning to our psyche.

vi. Staff Development

Management has been encouraging members of staff to develop themselves by acquiring higher relevant degrees. I am glad to mention that TETFund has provided a leeway for the academic members of staff, in particular, of the Institution to leverage on.

vii. Programme Upgrade (Accreditation and Reaccreditation of Programmes)

In the year 2018, when I came on board, the Institution presented 37 programmes: 32 were granted full accreditation, while the remaining 5 got interim accreditation. To the glory of God, the Institution presented 19 programmes for accreditation in September 2021. Out of the 19 programmes, 17 sailed through; 9 other programmes slated for accreditation in January 2022, as authorized by the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE), were also successful. Thus, we can confidently say that virtually all the programmes mounted in the Institution enjoy the approval of the NBTE, the Agency that supervises Polytechnics and Allied Institutions in Nigeria.

viii. Infrastructural Development

The Governing Council and Management have made monumental efforts to raise the standard of infrastructure in the Institution since my assumption of office in 2018.

ix. Resolution of Conflicts

At a time, the workforce were being owed a number of months' salaries. This led the Staff Unions, RUGIPO Chapter (NASU and SSANIP), to call out their members to withdraw their services. To the glory of God, Management has always resolved such conflicts with the Unions through dialogue. The State Government is busy addressing the matter - fast reducing the number of months of salaries owed staff. It is to be added that the current subvention from the Government to the Institution and poor student enrolments in the last seven years have aggravated this situation. Management is, therefore, working spiritedly to raise student enrolments through introduction of new programmes, affiliation with some reputable institutions in the country, among others.

x. The Menace of Cultism

The Institution has zero-tolerance for cultism and all forms of social vices. In this regard, the Directorate of Student Affairs has been empowered to embark on an intensive and extensive orientation of both returning and fresh students. The purpose is to counsel them against cultism and all forms of anti-social activities. Today, the Institution has virtually become free of cult-related activities.

xi. Sporting Activities

My belief is that the devil readily engages idle hands. Our own way of preventing students from using their out-of-class time to indulge in cultism and other criminal activities is to encourage them, to not only show interest, but to actively participate in sporting activities. We have, therefore, deliberately encouraged students to participate in sporting activities. I am glad to state that our Institution featured at the 20th Edition of NIPOGA at the Kwara State Polytechnic, Ilorin, in February, 2020. The Institution won several medals, and came ninth out of the 42 Institutions that participated at the fiesta. It is beautiful to note that RUGIPO is the host-designate for the next NIPOGA coming up in 2022.

xii. Commencement of Full Operation by RUGIPO 103.3 FM Radio Station

I am glad to state that RUGIPO 103.3 FM Radio Station commenced full operation on 17th March, 2020.

xiii. Promotion of Staff

2017 and 2018 staff promotions, which my administration inherited, have been fully implemented, while year 2019 is awaiting the kind consideration of the Appointments and Promotion Committee (A&PC) and approval of Council. It is to be noted that the staff promotions under reference followed due process.

xv. Relationship with Host Community

We have maintained very cordial relationship with the host community. I am pleased to state that the community in her concern and commitment towards the development of the Institution sent some Representatives to hold meetings with Management on how to move the Institution forward.

xvi. Student Affairs

My determination is to ensure that all our activities and policies are centred around students. In order to achieve this, I have direct access to the students at all times; and I have been interacting with student bodies directly and, in some cases, through the Dean of Students, the Director of Student Affairs and other designated Officers. Other recognized groups within the institution include the following, among others:

- (1) National Association of Ondo State Students;
- (2) The Executive Council of the Students' Union Government (SUG), especially the President;

- (3) The Students Representative Council (SRC), especially the Speaker;
- (4) The Executive Council of the Part-Time Students Association (PTSA), especially the Chairman;
- (5) The Class Representative Council (CRC), especially the Mayor;
- (6) Council of Class Governors; and
- (7) Student Para-Military organizations.

On a regular basis, I receive telephone calls from students intimating me with happenings on Campus. I am sure that the students must have been surprised to see how quickly actions were taken, based on the information I gathered from their telephone calls. With every sense of modesty, I must confess that my closeness to the students has been assisting the administration immensely in nipping crisis-laden situations in the bud. The Student Affairs division has been very much alive to its responsibilities.

xvii. Student Enrolments

When I came on board in 2018, the student enrolment was at its lowest ebb. To support this claim, I wish to state that the Institution could only manage to admit 1,948, while the total student population at that time was less than 5,000. However, as a result of strategic steps taken by this Management, the total student population today hovers around 11,000. Undoubtedly, this would have had a very positive impact on the profile of the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) of the Institution. This, however, has failed to impact on the School's IGR, as the attitude of both parents and students to payment of fees is altogether nauseating.

xviii. Internally Generated Revenue

Management is making frantic efforts to radically change the face of its business ventures to be able to generate more revenue for the Institution by consciously reorganizing the ventures for optimal performance. Currently, the Guest House has been leased to a private organization that would be remitting a stated amount of money to the Institution annually. Furthermore, Management is working on the Water Bottling Firm and the Bakery to make them more efficient.

Requests

We are not oblivious of the dwindling financial resources accruing to the State. It is, however, imperative to take advantage of the disposition of the Governor of the State to highlight the following requests:

- i. Upward Review of Subvention to the Institution; and
- ii. Payment of outstanding Gratuities and Pension by the State Government.

Conclusion

With every sense of modesty, we are satisfied that we are building a solid foundation, transparent and formidable structure on which the actualization of the dreams of the founding fathers will materialize in the foreseeable future. This dream will be realized if staff and students continue to support the Government and Management, as they are doing now.

Whilst my goal or ambition is not to be the best Rector ever, yet my resolve is to leave the Institution much, much better than I met it – in all ramifications. Far from it to ever want to sound immodest! Nonetheless, my humble quest is to lay a legacy, to become a reference point, a robust platform and spring board for those who will be coming after me. I will forever remain grateful to the Polytechnic for what it has done for me, in getting this far. Long after my stint in office as Rector, I want to heartily and confidently pass by or come to Rufus Giwa Polytechnic and say, “I once belonged here”.

G.A. Ogundahunsi,
Rector.

Chapter Three



MY EXPERIENCE IN THE REGISTRY SINCE THE INAUGURATION OF THE CURRENT GOVERNING COUNCIL IN 2018

Preamble:

The Registry is a vital organ of the Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, which is saddled with all-encompassing administrative functions, such as policy formulation and implementations, interpretation of the rules and regulation of the Institution, promotion of members of staff, staff development, staff and students' welfare. The Registry is headed by the Registrar, who is regarded as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Institution and he is responsible to the Rector for the day to day running of the Registry. As the head of the Registry, the Registrar runs the administration of the Registry through the Directorate System of Administration. Each Directorate is headed by a Deputy Registrar who superintends over the Directorate. The Deputy Registrars/Directors of Directorates are ably supported by a crop of senior and middle level Administrative/Executive officers in the day to day administration of all the Directorates. In a nutshell, the Registry is a pivot upon which all the administrative activities of the Institution revolve.

My experience and stewardship as the Ag. Registrar/Registrar of RUGIPO since the inauguration of the current Governing Council in March 2018 are based on the core roles of the Registry as a vital organ of the Institution in the general administration of the Polytechnic, taking into cognisance the following key areas:

1. Restructuring of the Institution's Directorates

In line with the directives of the Governing Council, the Registry had been restructured and re-organised into Directorates for optimal performance and ease of administration, so as to ensure an effective and efficient service delivery. This was achieved by increasing number of Directorates in the Registry from five (5) to nine (9) for broad based administration. The existing nine (9) Directorates of the Registry are as listed below:

- (i) Directorate of Academic Affairs
- (ii) Directorate of Council Affairs
- (iii) Directorate of Personnel Affairs
- (iv) Directorate of Junior Staff Personnel Affairs
- (v) Directorate of Records, Research and Statistics
- (vi) Directorate of Student Affairs
- (vii) Directorate of General Administration

- (viii) Directorate of Legal Matters
- (ix) Directorate of Board of Studies

Directorate of Academic Affairs: The Directorate of Academic Affairs is an arm of the Registry, saddled with the responsibility of admitting fresh students, handling the registration of all students for all academic programmes. The Directorate also provides the template for hitch-free examinations for all students, semester by semester, and also handles matriculations of fresh students every academic session. I am happy to state that for quite some time now, the conduct of Semester Examinations has been without hitch.

The proposal for upward review of payment of fee for collection of transcript, certificate as well as payment of acceptance fee by freshers was received from the Directorate of Academic Affairs. The increment was geared towards increasing the Internally Generated Revenue of the Institution. It is to be noted, however, that when this was put in place, a Government official wrote to raise unnecessary alarm that the slight increase in the various chargeable fees for collection of transcripts, certificates, etc., could cause students' riot. However, Management stood its ground and argued that the increment was in tandem with what obtains in other sister tertiary institutions across the nation.

Directorate of Board of Studies: The Board of Studies is a full-fledged Directorate in the Registry, saddled with the responsibility of formulating academic policies and sundry issues such as the conduct of elections for Deans of Faculty from time to time. Since 2018 to date, two or more elections and by-elections had been conducted without hitch for Deans of Faculty under the watch of the Registrar as Secretary to the Board of Studies.

Directorate of Council Affairs: The Directorate of the Governing Council is a vital arm of the Registry. The Registrar, as the Secretary to Council, coordinates and directs the Council Affairs' Secretariat through the Director for effective handling of Governing Council matters.

2. Staff Audit/Restructuring

In line with the NBTE guidelines and directives of the current Governing Council, to put in place a compact template for staffing for effective and efficient service delivery in the Polytechnic, the staffing position, which was top-heavy in most of the cadres, was appraised, reviewed and re-engineered to ensure that the required/adequate number of personnel were put in the top echelon of the different cadres across board. This was done to cut costs, block financial drain pipes and put in place a robust and compact staff portfolio in strict compliance with the NBTE guide. Please note that, prior to that time, a particular cadre

career progression had been manipulated to the effect that it was elongated to CONTEDISS 13, as against CONTEDISS 09.

However, it is to be noted that the Staff Audit/Restructuring exercise was not without its merit and demerit. The merit of the restructuring exercise was that it allows for manageable staff strength and blocked the financial drains of the Institution, which hitherto was caused by the top-heaviness of the staffing position with its attendant huge financial outlay. Without mincing words, a reasonable sum of money would have been saved by the Institution from the exercise. The other side of the exercise was the hostility displayed by the affected members of staff towards the current Governing Council and the Management and the resultant court cases instituted against the Management by the affected Staff Union.

3. Review of Staff Manual/Career Structures

In the current tenure of the Governing Council, the Registry has performed its statutory roles as expected, which led to the successful review of the Institution's Staff Manual and Career Structures by the Condition of Service Sub-Committee for subsequent approval by the Governing Council. In a nutshell, all ambiguities that characterised the former Institution's Staff Manual and Career Structures, which culminated in losing several court cases by the Institution in the past, had been addressed and made solid. This will, no doubt, stand the test of time in the running of the Institution.

4. Promotion of Staff as and When Due

The Governing Council of the Institution had made the annual promotion exercise a norm. This is being done with a view to making sure that the dutiful and deserving members of staff are promoted in every successive promotion years since the inception of the current Governing Council. As a matter of fact, backlog of promotions inherited from previous Management/Council were adequately addressed.

5. Conduct of Free and Fair Elections for Students Union Government

The Registry of the Institution, through the Directorate of Student Affairs, had been able to conduct hitch-free and fair Student Union Government (SUG) elections for the students of the Institution since the inauguration of the current Governing Council in 2018. The Registry had robust relationship with successive students' union bodies and the workers' unions on Campus which had led to the peaceful atmosphere on Campus. For the first time in the history of the Institution, E-voting was organised and successfully used for the conduct of Students Union Government (SUG) elections. The first of its kind in the history of SUG elections in the country, most probably!.

6. Registry's Efforts Towards the Improvement in the Revenue Base of the Institution

The Registry of Institution had closely worked with other vital organs of the Institution to formulate policies that would increase the revenue base of the Institution. The result of this effort is the outsourcing of the Guest House, which is currently being run by a private outfit, to generate IGR for the Polytechnic. The Directorate of Legal Matters of the Registry under the close watch of the Registrar has been there for the Institution in putting in place credible and worthwhile MOU and other working agreement between the Institution and vendors.

7. Proper Record Keeping

The Registry of the Institution has put in place a workable mechanism for keeping of students' academic records for easy retrieval, processing of transcripts, notification of results as well as issuance of certificates to graduates of the Polytechnic. The Records, Research and Statistics Directorate handles the keeping of students' files and academic records. Between 2018 to date, several National and International organisations have made requests for verification of certificates of Diplomates of the Institution.

Conclusion

Without mincing words, I must confess that things have not been very rosy, especially given the paucity of funds, compared to the previous administration. But all glory and adoration go to Almighty Allah and with the uncompromising position of the current Council even in the face of all odds, one is able to weather the storm and the System keeps running and remain afloat while one continues to dot the 'i's and cross the 't's where necessary and at the right time, too.

I would like to use this medium, therefore, to appreciate the Governing Council and Management, especially Mr. Rector, for providing the enabling environment for the Registry to perform its statutory functions towards the actualisation of the Polytechnic goals. I know that we have not got there yet, because the road is bumpy, but with the template put in place by the current Governing Council and which is being religiously followed by Management, the Polytechnic will, in no distant time, reach the Promised Land, *Insha Allah*.

**SuleAtiku,
Registrar.**

Chapter Four

ACTIVITIES OF THE BURSAR FROM 22ND NOVEMBER, 2016 TILL 21ST OCTOBER, 2021



5 YEARS IN THE SADDLE: THE BURSARY I LEFT BEHIND.

I assumed office on the 22nd November, 2016 for a 5 Year term as the Bursar of this citadel of learning. Following my appointment, the enthusiasm and passion I had when appointed was brought to bear during my tenure as the leader of the team that pushed the Department into the next phase of prompt service delivery and accountability.

The Department is saddled by the Act that established the Institution with the following responsibilities, among others:

- * Administration and control of the financial affairs of the Polytechnic.

- * Preparation and presentation of Annual Estimate to the Governing Council.

- * Ensuring that accounts of the Polytechnic are prepared in accordance with the Polytechnic Law, Statue and professional standard.

- * Responsible for the safe keeping of all funds and assets of the Polytechnic.

Within the purview of these core mandates, I drew up a vision and mission I intended for the Department during my tenure as detailed below:

- * Advising Management on diverse ways of bridging the funding gap in the Polytechnic administration.
- * Providing a conducive environment that encourages prudent Management of financial and other resources in line with best global practices and values in pursuit of excellence
- * Providing efficient and sound financial management that will recognize the core values of integrity, accountability and ethical culture of doing the right thing all the time.
- * Undertaking management of key Polytechnic financial establishments and records, provide guidance towards establishing appropriate fiscal policies and practice.
- * Providing quality service to our Students, Alumni and Polytechnic Community in a professional and courteous manner, while maintaining the highest possible standards of accuracy in the administration of the finances of the Polytechnic.
- * Leading a team that will strive to improve customer service, enhancing employee capabilities and targeting application of technology for a cost effective administration.
- * Providing sound financial management that will recognize the core values of financial integrity, accuracy , accountability and ethical culture of providing prompt and satisfactory service with discipline , probity and professionalism.

Situation when I Assumed Office:

- * Payment of fees by Students was laborious and cumbersome, with students staying long in the bank
- * Huge amount of debt owed by students
- * Audited financial accounts were in arrears of 9 years
- * Lack of procedure guide on flow of transactions
- * Lack of thorough supervision of work
- * Manual mode of processing transactions
- * Challenge of school fees portal management

What I did as the Bursar:

Looking at the challenges viz a vis my vision for the Department, I called a meeting of Accountants within Bursary Department and explained to them the Bursary of my dream and solicit their support, which they readily agreed to give and which they, indeed, gave, except for very few officers who we tried to manage to ensure that we achieve our goal.

For any finance unit of any organization to achieve its core mandates, there must be a procedure guide (financial manual) which gives direction to staff members on the flow of transactions. This was lacking. I quickly set up a committee, headed by Oyewusi Odunayo, a Deputy Bursar, to come up with a document that will serve as a guide and reference point for all staff of the Department. This was brought before Management and it was approved. This document has been put into use appropriately since then.

Another challenge is the governance structure of the Department that did not create room for proper supervision of subordinate activities, which also hampered mentoring. The structure I met was the Bursar relating directly with the unit heads. In most instances, the units were headed by Deputy Bursars and as low as Accountant 1. This structure was unacceptable to me. I got Management approval to create Divisions to be headed by the Deputy Bursars, while the unit heads report to the head of Divisions. This has assisted in supervision and mentoring of young Accountants.

I desired an ICT driven Bursary with particular emphasis on student payment platform and revenue collection processing of financial transaction in a seamless manner. This was done in collaboration with the ICT Department of the Polytechnic to develop a portal that was used in the collection of school fees and other revenue. This was done in conjunction with Government appointment service provider, Paytech Limited, that provides the infrastructure that drives the system at a fee. This has eased school fees payment by students who no longer queue at the Banks to make payment but can do that in the comfort of their homes using their internet enabled laptop or phones.

We deployed software to process our financial transaction that enables us to prepare our Financial Statements as and when due.

Government Intervention:

In running a tertiary institution in Nigeria, funding is a critical factor. The State Government, in June 2017, due to economic downturn, reduced the subvention to all tertiary institutions in the State by 30%, thus bringing down our subvention from #213,590,000.00k per month to #149,513,000.00k. However, due to the effort of the Governing Council, the subvention was reviewed upward to #199,513,000.00k in the month of July 2018. Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, was the only tertiary Institution in the State that enjoyed the upward review.

In September 2018, the Institution enjoyed state special intervention of #561,395,384.00k to pay two months salary outside the normal recurrent subvention. Also, in December, same year three months outstanding subventions unpaid by the former Administration in the state totalling #560,000,000.00k was also released to the Institution which was applied to pay October and November 2016 Salary Arrears.

In 2018, Government released a Special Capital Grant of #400,000,000.00k and #88,000,000.00k(Net of tax) 2018 Capital Grant. This grant was used to fund the Completion of the three Administrative Buildings (Rectory, Registry and Bursary), abandoned since 2014, construction of Market, Landscaping, renovation of existing structures, etc.

The breakdown of government releases is as detailed in the table below:

Recurrent

2017	#1,772,797,000.00k
2018	#3,115,551,384.00k
2019	#2,599,669,000.00k
2020	#1,795,617,000.00k
2021	#1,197,078,000.00k

Note: 2018 (Inclusive of the Intervention of #561,395,384.00k in September and #560,000,000.00k in December).

Capital

2018	#100,000,000.00k	#400,000,000.00k (Intervention).
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Accreditation

2018	#100,000,000.00k
2021	#150,000,000.00k

Challenges

Higher Education Institutes in any part of the world require huge amount of fund to achieve core mandates of Teaching, Research and Community development. Besides government

subventions, the amount generated from the students and other internally generated revenue source are not sufficient to meet the financial obligations of the Institution. Payment of staff salaries gulped over 90% of the resources of the Polytechnic. This is also compounded by the fact that the Institution will still have to pay pensions and gratuity of its retired staff. Thus, the biggest challenge is funding gap that caused the rise in unpaid salary arrears.

Recommendations

Increase in Government Funding: Government needs to increase the funding of the Institution to enable it achieve the objective of the Governing Council. To increase the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) of the Institution, all the business arms of the Institution must be given out to willing private organisations on a lease arrangement for effective management.

Council should revisit the issue of Contributory Pension Scheme, with the possibility of its adoption to halt the ever increasing pension and gratuity liability. The Institution should divest from providing Municipal Services, such as hostel accommodation. The Hostels can be leased out to private outfit that will charge commercial price, and the cost of maintaining the service will be taken off our budget. Some Jobs, such as vehicle maintenance, other maintenance services, cleaning services, environmental maintenance, security should be outsourced to enjoy private sector efficiency and to lower personnel cost.

Conclusion

I want to sincerely appreciate the Governing Council for the privilege to serve the Institution and massive support given to me to achieve my dream for the Institution.

ADEJUWON, Ayodeji Matthew, M.Sc, FCA,
Bursar.

Chapter five

THE RUFUS GIWA POLYTECHNIC LIBRARY DURING TENURE OF THE 11TH GOVERNING COUNCIL (2018 – 2022)

1. Prologue

The library serves as one of the major units of a higher institution and it is usually regarded as the Nerve Centre for acquisition, organization, storage and retrieval of information of such community. RUGIPO Library plays a very significant role in the overall development of the Institution. The Library came into existence at the inception of the Polytechnic in 1980. The Library was temporarily housed in a part of the Government Technical College, Owo, before it was relocated to its permanent site. The professional heads of the Library since its inception are:



Rev. Adediran B.O.	(1982 – 1997)
Mr. Popoola M.	(1998 – 2000)
Mr. Oloruntoba A.A.	(2000 – 2006)
Mr. Akindahunsi (Acting PL)	(2007 – 2008)
Mr. Akiyosoye H.I.T.	(2008 – 2012)
Mr. Bolarinwa J.A.	(2012 – 2017)
Mrs. Aladeniyi F.R.	(2018 – 2019) as Coordinator of the Library Services

In 2019, **Mrs. Aladeniyi F.R.** was later appointed as the **Polytechnic Librarian**, through due process by the Governing Council. By her appointment, she became the first female Polytechnic Librarian and the first female Principal Officer in the history of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo. Outside her appointment as the Polytechnic Librarian, Mrs. Aladeniyi also had other appointments. These include:

- Chairperson, RUGIPO Accreditation Committee.
- Treasurer, Committee of Monotechnic and Polytechnic Librarians in Nigeria (COMPLIN).



RUGIPO Library

2. Current Departments/Units of RUGIPO Library

Within the period under review, the Library is made up of the following departments/units:

- Administrative
- Circulation
- Cataloguing and Classification
- Collection Development/ Acquisition
- Reference
- Serial
- Audio Visual
- Book Reservation
- Research and Bibliographic
- E-Library



E-library Unit



Serial Unit

The Polytechnic Librarian is working on the establishment of the Bindery Section. Most of the bindery items of equipment are available. The Bindery will begin operations as soon as the building designated for it is completed. This, I hope, will be a major project for the next Council. It will be a big boost for the IGR of the Polytechnic
Rufus Giwa Polytechnic Library operates six days in a week.

Opening Hours for users:

8.30 am – 6.30pm – Monday to Friday

8.00am – 2.00pm – Saturday

1. Achievements of the Polytechnic Library under the current Governing Council

A. Inclusion of the Polytechnic Librarian in the Governing Council

This current Governing Council made a major shift and placed the Department within the proper management structure when The Polytechnic Librarian became a member of the Governing Council for the first time in the history of the Polytechnic. The Council led by Bar. BanjiAlabi has great value for knowledge and the custodian of knowledge (the Librarian). In view of this development, the Polytechnic Librarian now has great sense of belonging within the Management and the Council. The decision has also now given the Polytechnic Librarian the opportunity to discuss issues affecting the Library with the Council directly, unlike the situation since its inception in 1980.

The present Polytechnic Librarian and others will remain grateful to the Council for this laudable shift in policy.

A. Access to Backlog of TETFund Interventions

Prior to the inauguration of this Council, most of the projects of the Library could not be achieved due to lack of funds; in particular, the Library had a large sum of funds hanging within the covers of TETFund. The present Management of the Institution/Library, with the support of the Council, stepped up efforts to have access to the hanging funds. We were able to access backlogs of TETFund Intervention of 2016- 2019 and they were used for the following:

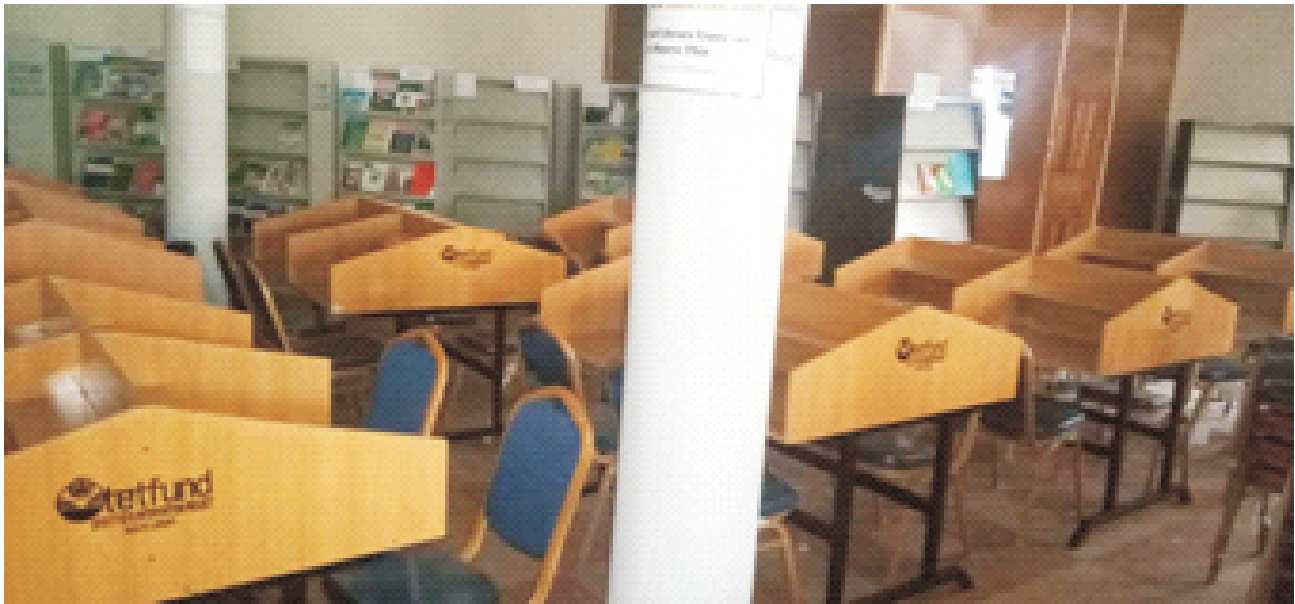
- i. Procurement of Physical Books
- ii. Procurement of Reference Books
- iii. Procurement of Physical Foreign & Local Journals
- iv. Subscription to e-books and e-journals data base
- v. Procurement of furniture for the Library
- vi. Procurement of Library equipment which includes Desktop Computers, CCTV camera, Bindery equipment.
- vii. Installation of Solar Power System.

Some of the projects have been completed, while others are to be completed soon.

With the subscription to e-books and e-journals databases, our students and staff can now access e-books and e-journals wherever they are located anywhere in the world. (*The following photographs illustrates some of the newly acquired items through TETFund*).



Newly Acquired Desktop and Furniture for the E-Library



Newly Acquired Reading Carrels and Chairs



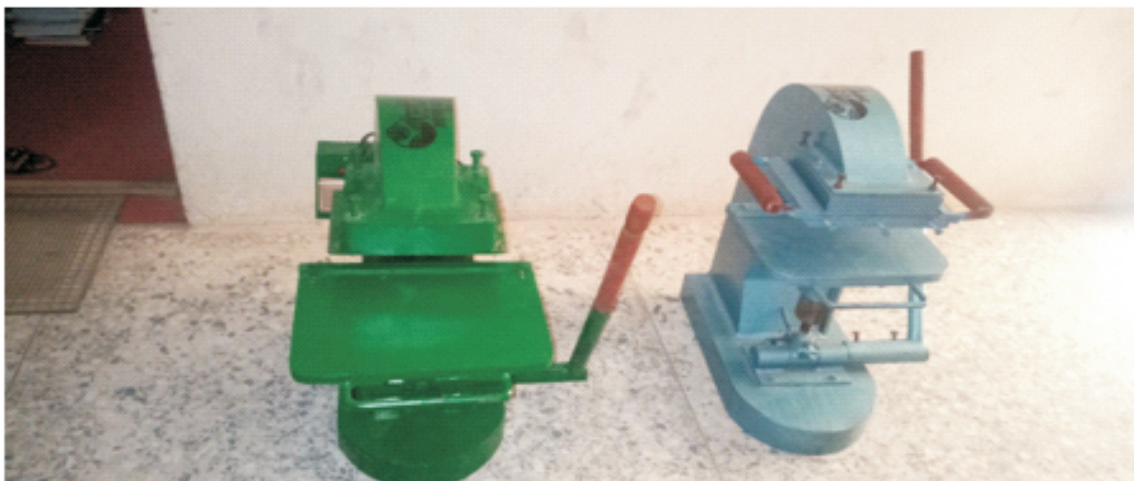
Newly Acquired Journal Racks



Newly Acquired Book-Shelves



Newly Acquired Porters Table



Newly Acquired Bindery Equipment



Newly Acquired Circulation Table



Newly Acquired Photocopy Machines

A. Accreditation of Courses

The Library plays a major role in accreditation of programmes. When a library fails to meet up to expectation, programmes in the institution will not be accredited. During the tenure of this Council, the Library recorded huge success in accreditation exercise. In 2018, thirty-seven(37) programmes were slated for accreditation; 32 were fully accredited, while 5 were given interim accreditation. In September 2021, 19 programmes were slated, 17 of the programmes were successfully accredited. In a similar vein, the mock accreditation for the proposed OAU/RUGIPO Affiliation degree program was successful in the Library.

B. Staffing

Before the inauguration of this Council, Rufus Giwa Polytechnic Library was grossly short of professional staff. The professional staff were just four which included former Polytechnic Librarian, who was about to retire then. The coming of this Council brought succour to the Library with the employment of three additional professional staff for the Library and one staff with additional qualification was converted to Librarianship Cadre.

C. Staff Development

Staff Development helps to improve efficiency and increase productivity in an organization. The Polytechnic Librarian, Mrs. F.R. Aladeniyi, and the leadership of the Management led by the Rector, Mr. Gani Ogundahunsi, see staff development as something of intellectual imperativeness. With this vision, members of staff were encouraged to develop themselves. The Council, with their great vision of recognizing staff development as an investment worthwhile, gave the full support to the Polytechnic Librarian in encouraging and supporting staff to acquire additional qualifications. Following this, some Library staff have acquired additional qualifications while some are on the verge of completion.

D. Services to Students and Staff

The leadership of the Governing Council and that of Management of the Polytechnic recognise the need to provide and enhance the existing services of the Library to the academic community, especially the students and members of staff. Thus, they introduced some additional services. Some of the additional services include:

- Access to e-books and e-journals data bases. With these services, students, lecturers and other members of the academic community can now have access to e-books and e-journals, databases subscribed to by the Library through TETFund Intervention wherever they are located;
- Provide information to lecturers on available workshops and seminars both at local and international levels. They are also kept abreast of any site where free resources can be accessed.

- Photocopying services of the Library were resuscitated. This has also assisted the users of the Library, also serving as a source of IGR to the Institution

- Feedback Mechanism

In order to get feedback from Library users, Library users 'WhatsApp platform was created. This has also helped to improve the Library services.

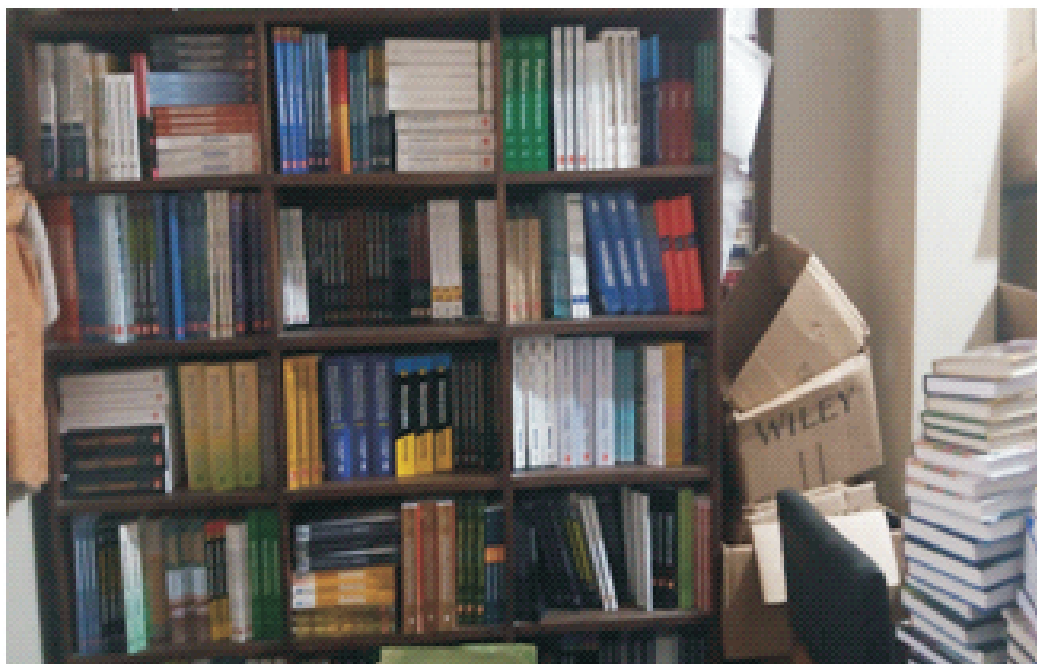
E. Internally Generated Revenue

Keying into the vision of the Council to increase IGR in the Polytechnic, we have been able to increase the IGR of the Library. Reasonable amount of money has been generated for the Institution by the Library. In the past, before the assumption of office by the present Polytechnic Librarian, the IGR of the Library stood at a Hundred Thousand Naira (N100,000) and below, annually. However, today, the Library can boast of about 1.8 million naira, paid into the Polytechnic purse, since Mrs. Aladeniyi assumed office, despite the Covid 19 lockdown policy in 2020, which affected the IGR for that year.

F. Increase in Library Collection

Large volumes of books and Journals were acquired through TETFund intervention in the tenure of this Council. This has given students and lecturers the opportunity to have access to current and relevant materials.





Some of the Newly Acquired Books

A. Donations

Under this Council, the Polytechnic Library received books, donated by some individuals. Among these are:

- His Imperial Majesty, the Olowo of Owo, Oba Gbadegesin Ogunoye III. He donated some copies of a books, titled” Practical Electrical System Installation Work and Practice”by Ewesor Peter.
- Mrs Adetula Adebisi Sheen donated One hundred and eleven titles of books with several copies to the Library. The donation was facilitated by the Council Chairman, Barrister Banji Alabi, Esq.
- Professor Adeyeri, pioneer Rector of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, donated his entire Library to the Polytechnic Library.



The Rector Receiving Books donated by the Olowo of Owo through one of the High Chiefs



The Rector handing over the books on Electrical and Electronics Engineering donated by the Olowo of Owo, to the Polytechnic Librarian, with the HOD, EET, watching.



Books donated by Mrs. AdetulaAdebisi Sheen



**The Polytechnic Librarian receiving some of the books donated by the
Pioneer Rector of RUGIPO, Professor J. B. Adeyeri**

1. Request: In our effort for growth and development and to follow the steps taken by the outgoing Council, the incoming Council should assist further through:

Additional Staff.

Considering the increase in the number of departments and the introduction of new programmes in the Institution, there is the need to have additional professional staff.

There is equally the need to provide fund to complete the building designated for the Bindery Section of the Library.

Training and Retraining of Staff in the Library

Sponsorship of Library Staff for both local and international conferences and workshops

2. Remarks and Appreciation

The Council led by Barrister Banji Alabi, no doubt, made a great impact and recorded huge achievements in RUGIPO Library. We, from the Polytechnic Library, would like to thank him and his most wonderful Team for the recognition given the Library. We shall not relent in our efforts to continue to improve on what we have achieved during the 2018 - 2022 tenure of the 9th Governing Council.

Mrs. Aladeniyi F.R.,
Polytechnic Librarian .

Chapter Six

MONUMENTAL LEGACIES (in Pix)

OLD ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING



**NEW ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX COMPRISING:
RECTORY, REGISTRY AND BURSARY**



RECTORY



THEN



NOW

REGISTRY



THEN



NOW

BURSARY



THEN



NOW

E-TESTING CENTRE



THEN



NOW

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY BUILDING



THEN



NOW

**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES
BUILDING THAT HOUSES THE RADIO, RUGIPO FM 103.3**



THEN



NOW



RUGIPO FM 103.3FM



RUGIPO FM LIVE STUDIO

RENOVATED BUILDINGS OF THE POLYTECHNIC

(I) HEALTH CENTRE



THEN



NOW

**(ii) ICT CENTRE
(Vandalized in January, 2018)**



THEN



NOW

(iii) DEPARTMENTS OF S & G AND QUANTITY SURVEYING



THEN



NOW

**(iv) CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTRE (CEC)
ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING AND CLASSROOMS**



THEN



NOW

**(v) ACADEMIC STAFF OFFICES FOR DEPARTMENTS OF
ACCOUNTANCY AND MARKETING**



THEN



NOW

(vi) MALE HOSTELS (BLOCKS 6 & 9)



THEN



NOW

(vii) FEMALE HOSTELS (BLOCKS E & F)



THEN



NOW

ULTRA-MODERN MARKET (LOCKUP SHOPS)



**OBA AJIBADE GBADEGESIN OGUNOYE (THE OLOWO OF OWO)
MARKET COMPLEX**

EXTENSION OF ACCOUNTANCY COMPUTER LABORATORY



CONSTRUCTION OF WATER FACTORY PERIMETER FENCE



THEN



NOW

NEW PROJECTS (TETFund)



**FACULTY OF BUSINESS STUDIES BUILDING
(Construction began on 6th July, 2020)**



AS AT JANUARY 2022

TWIN LECTURE THEATRE 1



CONSTRUCTION BEGAN ON 6TH JULY, 2020



AS AT JANUARY 2022

TWIN LECTURE THEATRE 2



CONSTRUCTION BEGAN ON 6TH JULY, 2020



AS AT JANUARY 2022

FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES BUILDING



CONSTRUCTION BEGAN ON 6TH JULY, 2020



AS AT JANUARY 2022



**Students Union Recreation Centre
donated by Pastor Ipinsagba**



***Water Tank donated by an old student, Comr. Ogunbodede Adekunle Michael,
for the use of Students near the Recreation Building.***

Chapter Seven

MY UNENDING APPRECIATION

To whom much is given much, they say, is also expected.

On that note, I want to officially inform members of this Council of my exit, having served out my term as the National President of RUGIPO Alumni Association.

To me, it was really an awesome experience working with you all. From the Chairman to the Management of the Institution and to every member, my gratitude is unlimited for the privilege of working with you all.



I shall never cease to continue to savour the bond of love, commitment and dedication that is synonymous with this Council.

Though the Institution may be facing some challenges today, I am more than sure that the platform already erected by the nobility of this Council shall, in no distant time, bring smiles on the faces of members of the Polytechnic Community.

Since the reward for a job done well is the ability to do more and as a member of staff of the School, I shall be more than readily available in offering my hands of fellowship for the growth of the Institution.

Again, I am very grateful.

Olufemi Ehinola
Immediate Past National President
RUGIPO Alumni

IN PIX
ACCREDITATION EXERCISE BY THE
NATIONAL BOARD FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION (NBTE)

















**IN PIX
MOCK /RESOURCE ACCREDITATION INTO DEGREE
PROGRAMMES BY OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY (OAU), ILE IFE.**













Chapter Eight

RUGIPO COUNCIL CHAIRMAN EXTOLS GOVERNOR AKEREDOLU

His Excellency,
The Executive Governor of Ondo State,
Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu, SAN,
Governor's Office,
Alagbaka,
Akure.

6th January, 2022.

Your Excellency,

EXPRESSION OF HEARTFELT APPRECIATION

On behalf of the Members of the Governing Council, Management, Staff and Students of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, I write to express our sincere appreciation to your Excellency, our own Mr. Governor, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu, SAN, for the sincerity of purpose, decisiveness and promptness with which you authorised and facilitated the release of fund for the payment of workers' outstanding salaries in the Polytechnic a few days ago. Noting the evidently clear fact that the challenge of unpaid salaries in the Polytechnic was inherited by your administration, the entire Polytechnic Community remains exceedingly grateful for the various ways in which you have continued to address the challenge. To the glaring admiration of all members of the Polytechnic Community, your Excellency's administration has consistently demonstrated its unwavering commitment to the effective funding of the Polytechnic within the limits of available (though dwindling) resources. That Rufus Giwa Polytechnic currently operates an Academic Calendar which is the fastest and most stable in the South West Region of Nigeria is one of the positive and heartwarming effects of the efforts of your administration in this regard.

The giant's strides recorded by Your Excellency's administration in the infrastructural and manpower development in RUGIPO has earned the Institution the 9th Place Ranking among Polytechnics in Nigeria, while students of our computer Science Department have excelled in a national competition organised by telecommunications giants, Huawei, which qualified them for a trip to South Africa. We promise Your Excellency that despite being in an enviable 9th position in the country, we will leapfrog others into the first place during the lifetime of your administration, because the only place for us is the TOP!

Sir, while the entire Polytechnic Community continues to marvel with deep-seated gratitude at the huge sum released to the Institution for salary payment a few days ago, kindly permit me to act the proverbial Oliver Twist as I most humbly present the clear need for further intervention on other issues. As things stand, coupled with recklessness of the past administration in the State, the Polytechnic still has some commitments to fulfil to the staff. Sir, but for the previous interventions of your administration, one of which happened a few days ago, the situation presented here would have been much worse. The old age of the Polytechnic which has led to the maintenance of dilapidating facilities and catering for a large retinue of retired workers at enormous cost is partly responsible for the precarious financial situation being experienced by the Institution. Meanwhile, all members of the Polytechnic Community have agreed to give industrial peace a chance so the academic activities for Second Semester in the 2020/2021 Session can continue and be concluded without let or hindrance as they look up to the humane Government of Your Excellency for further assistance on the release of fund for salary payment.

We are very hopeful that, sooner than expected, the release of Special Intervention Fund (SIF) will be approved by the Government of Arakunrin for the Polytechnic. Sir, as you note the Institution's humble request for kind and urgent attention, kindly accept my profound gratitude for the genuineness of purpose with which you have been attending to the needs of the Institution.

Please discount and note that all the Negative publications about RUGIPO are politically motivated with no bearings to the facts on ground.

I wish the entire First Family in Ondo State a very pleasant year 2022.

Sincere regards, Sir.

Banji Alabi (Esq),
(Chairman, Governing Council
Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo).

Chapter Nine

ON-GOING PROJECTS



Academic Staff Office Type 1



Academic Staff Office Type 2

Chapter Ten



WE DID WELL!

We have a story to tell on our tenure at RUGIPO. It is the story of the Red-headed Lizard (*Agama Agama*). The Lizard struggled with all difficulty to climb to the top of a tall palm tree. However, it couldn't achieve its full reason for climbing the palm tree, that is, to get to the fruit of the palm tree. It had difficulty getting off the palm tree and in, the process, fell to the ground. The Lizard expected an applause from the crowd watching, but none came. The Lizard shook its head severally, congratulating itself and said, "I clap for myself; I clap for myself."

Thus, we thank all those who made our stay in RUGIPO what it was. Without sounding immodest, we did really very well (*Group 11 of RUGIPO*).

Agama Agama



Chapter Eleven

JUST AS WE WERE GOING TO PRESS

History is a record of events. Just as we were going to Press, the good news on the realisation of the much awaited RUGIPO Power Plant by the 11th Council came to light.

It (the news) is on light to overshadow moments of darkness in RUGIPO and its environs. The Institution is now blessed with:

1. 1.1 Unit of 2.5 MVA Injection Sub Station to be located at the Institution's Main Gate.
2. 3 units of 500 KVA Transformer
3. 2km of 1.1KVA Length of Lines
4. 2km of Low-tension Lines.

Apart from the above, the Ondo State Government, through Agriculture, is bringing cattle ranch and milk industry to RUGIPO and this is believed would be a buoyant source of Internally Generated Revenue for the Polytechnic, as RUGIPO is already a beneficiary of N200m CBN Agric Loan by this initiative.

We, from this end, thank. most heartily, the State Government, Council Members, Mr Ife Oyedele, on the success story on Power Plant, Mr Akin Olotu, Special Adviser on Agriculture, and Management who, through their contacts, made these possible.

S.O. OJO (JP)

Director, Public Relations/Protocol

Chapter Twelve

EPILOGUE

SERVICE IN AN INCLUSIVE COUNCIL

I sincerely wish to express my profound gratitude to His Excellency for the opportunity to serve on this auspicious Council that is diversified and yet inclusive. I commend every member of the Council throughout our tenure for the '*umbutu principle*' hinged on '*omoluabi principles*' with which we all served under the leadership of Barr. Banji Alabi, Esq. We must commend the Governor and Management for providing the enabling environment to work and for being ever ready to give the needed support to reinstate peace in times of crisis triggered by the Labour Unions.



The Council was committed to the development of infrastructures since the quality of infrastructures was poor and outgrown by the current student population. Among areas to focus on and of interest to us were the introduction of smart technology through ICT, Artificial intelligence, total commitment to the well being of the entire community, capacity development of the teaching staff, management training, sustainability by being financially dependent, peace, security, gender inclusion and equality. These objectives were pursued by supporting the Management to engage TETFund in securing funds to the execute various projects which , today, have upgraded the moribound facilities we met.

Unfortunately, realising some of our objectives was impossible, because of the limitations in exposure to real Management practices as a result of Staff's academic inclinations. As we look ahead to a greater future for the Institution, the incoming Council should look into the following areas:

1. Laws regulating the Polytechnic be amended to provide the enabling power to administer the Institution with limited distractions and unionism down played, while ensuring that the welfare of staff is guaranteed;
2. Promotion should not be automatic, but tied to productivity;
3. Loans should be discouraged for non-productive activities and, if sought after, they must be backed by financial analysis for repayment plans;
4. Efforts should be made to rejig the academic curriculum to meet the increasing digital challenges of the 4th Industrial Revolution and ensure that the Polytechnic becomes a Digital hub to revolutionise Ondo State Digital growth; and
5. The Management of the Institution should be expanded to recruit management experts with profused pedigree for the Management of their non-academic assets and grow them.

Once again, I thank God for the life and pray for the repose of the soul of Prof. C.O. Aboluwoye, who died while serving on the Council and look forward to Rufus Giwa Polytechnic growing to become one of the best tertiary institutions sought after by industries. Till we meet again,

Hon. Engr. (Mrs) F. Adeyemi, FNSE, FNMGS, FNIM,
Founder /National President,
Women in Mining, Nigeria.

MY EXPERIENCE AS A MEMBER OF RUGIPO GOVERNING COUNCIL: 2018 – 2022 BY CHIEF (MRS) ABOSEDE OSUNMAKINWA



When we came on board, in order for the Institution to thrive, be self-sustaining and take its place among institutions of repute in Nigeria and in the world generally, Council discovered some abnormalities in the course of its duty towards re-positioning the Institution for a better and efficient management. The Polytechnic then appeared to be riddled with problems of over population of staff, duplication of duties, indolence among the workforce and low school fees. But then, salaries were not being regularly paid. It was of much concern to the 11th Governing Council *Ebi kii wo inu ki oro miran wo o*, that is, a hungry man cannot listen to sermons.

To proffer solutions to the problems highlighted above, we divided ourselves into sub-committees to look into the various areas of the problems identified.

Internally Generated Revenue: We found out in the course of our duty that Rufus Giwa Polytechnic Staff School with a Creche, Nursery, Primary and Secondary remitted less than ten million naira annually to the coffers of the Polytechnic, whereas the annual wage bill was a little below a hundred million naira. We recommended the closure of the schools, because they were simply operating to the disadvantage of the Polytechnic.

The Polytechnic has a lot of land for agricultural purposes, but Council was held back by incidents of encroachment on the land allotted to the Institution. We invited the Surveyor General to give us the initial Survey of the Polytechnic in order to locate and establish all the lost pillars. All efforts to identify and recover stolen land did not yield any tangible result until the end of our term. We hope the Council coming after us will look into this.

Most of the ventures associated with Rufus Giwa Polytechnic like: Water Production, Bakery, Block Making, ICT Centre, Farm all share the same sad story of abysmal performance with little or nothing to write home about, compared to the investment in them. In a nutshell, there was no tangible profit from any of the above mentioned ventures.

To establish fish farming to boost the revenue of the State, we visited Durante Company reputed for fish farming business in Ibadan, Oyo State. On our invitation, the management of the company visited the site for the proposed fishery in Owo. They decided on the old arena where initially there was a fish farm, but all the items of equipment are obsolete and have been out of use for a very long time.

Council did all that was humanly possible to sell RUGIPO Water, but due to low production, the Ventures' Management could not meet up with demand. Block Making suffered a similar fate. The Farm Manager, to our utter disappointment, could not plant ordinary vegetable for members of staff to buy on daily basis. Bakery failed to bake at a profit.

In view of the disastrous outing of all the establishments named above, Council tried to outsource some of the projects and formed a new committee that will serve as Poly Venture Management Board.

As a proposal to the Council coming after ours, we recomend:

- a. Appeal to be made to illustrious individuals of the state to support some of Rufus Giwa Research Projects.
- b. Our research projects should attract international grants and, for this purpose, we contacted three financial consultants who are ready to raise grants in billions, but the outbreak of COVID-19 and the prevailing atmosphere of insecurity all over the country made the project suffer setbacks as there were no meetings.
- c. To contact some developers who are ready to build hotel structures on lease basis and percentage payment.

Remarks:

Rufus Giwa Polytechnic is a high ranking Institution in Nigeria and in the diaspora. There are enough resources in the Institution to make the School self-sustaining without waiting endlessly and absolutely for Government subventions. The Staff must have attitudinal change to turn around the fortunes of the School. The Labour Unions of the Institution have refused to understand the plight of the School. They ought to have taught their members the right thing to do to generate revenue.

Sometimes, the Labour Unions unnecessarily engage in frivolous strike actions due to reasons best known to them. One of the fall outs of the several strikes embarked upon by the Labour Unions was that many students were compelled to leave the School for other schools, thereby compounding the problem of low student enrolment.

I would also like, in conclusion, to recommend ranching for the School. The State's Livestock Officer notes that the cows would always shrink in number, following inadequate care. Ranching, in the tradition of best practices around the globe, will avail the Polytechnic opportunities to engage in yoghurt and other diary productions in Nigeria and even beyond.

Chief (Mrs) 'Bose Osunmakinwa,
Member, 11th Governing Council.

LET RUGIPO BE

Preamble

*The four-year term of this outgoing Governing Council of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, did not go without some difficult times. The Council took some hard, but necessary, decisions so that it could achieve the objective for which it was set up. One of such decisive decisions was the scrapping of the Staff School. Also, the rationalization of some designated positions, which was not well accepted by the staff. These were considered as a drain on the meagre resources of the Institution. The decisions met with stiff opposition from within the System and beyond. Council stood its ground. As a way of explaining to all the reasons behind these decisions, this writer wrote an article, which was published in national newspapers, including the News Magazine and the Nigerian Voice. **The article is published below in full as things were in 2019.** However, the issue of unpaid Salaries, Pension, Coop-deductions, etc., continues as a huge problem for RUGIPO.*



Nearly one year and a half ago, a new Governing Council of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, was inaugurated by the Governor of Ondo State, Arakunrin Rotimi Akeredolu, SAN. It was one of the Governing Councils put in place on 15th March, 2018. Others are those of Adekunle Ajasin University – Akungba – Akoko, Ondo State University of Medical Sciences, Ondo, and Olusegun Agagu University of Science & Technology, Okitipupa. A major problem of these institutions (like many of the type in Nigeria) is that of inadequate funding. This can be identified as the main cause of the agitations by the staff and students of the institutions. Fees cannot be arbitrarily increased as this will bring hardship and burden on the parents. **The Governor did say, at the inauguration of the Councils, of his willingness to fund the institutions to the level of the available allocations** and the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) of the State. He advised the various councils to improve on the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) of each Institution.

Despite the financial challenges of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, the success achieved by the Banji Alabi-led RUGIPO Council are numerous. To list a few: Internet penetration on Campus; Establishment of Huawei ICT Academy with 100 students on admission; all servers damaged during the February 2018 riots recovered with complete Restoration of the ICT Centre; Reducing the 9 months outstanding salaries (owed by the defunct PDP administration) to only four months; Appointment of Auditors to audit the bursary; establishment of school fees payment platform, instead of paying through a contractor, Contractors back on site to complete abandoned Government projects on Campus; and the purchase of utility vehicles for the principal officers ,etc.

Most of the comments and pictures painted about RUGIPO on the social media cannot be justified by the facts on ground. Barr. Alabi was already quite comfortable before venturing into politics, which now seems to be his albatross at RUGIPO. However, his support and that of his entire team on Council, for Arakunrin Rotimi Akeredolu, SAN, and their interest for the larger Owo kingdom and that of Ondo State in general is borne out of their genuine love embedded in truth and thorough services to humanity as the bed-rock of life. They believe in what is good for the System and that is what they are working hard to achieve.

The process to rebuild Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, even almost immediately after the wanton destruction of facilities, cannot be done without some hard decisions and would definitely have some toes stepped upon. A lot of things went wrong in the System long before then, which must be put in place. It required a lot of sacrifice for a better future of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo. That is the reason for the reorganization and reforms that are going on at the Polytechnic.

Let us take few aspects of the reforms. The staff school issue is a long drawn one, like most staff schools of various higher institutions. This writer would like to draw an example from one of such staff schools of note: The University of Lagos Staff School. Most members of staff at the University of Lagos had children that went through the International School, staff school, and the Women Society nursery schools. The nursery school was owned by the Women Society of the University, while the staff school was managed by the University. The economy of the country was buoyant, and everything went smoothly then. The Women Society of the University, that had long had Nursery School, later added the Primary School during the era of Mrs. Olusola Ibidapo-Obe as leader of the women.

These institutions had nothing to do with the University, apart being within the university Campus. They built the structures of the Primary School as it is today from the prudent management of the Nursery School funds accumulated by the 32 Women Society, since the era of Mrs. Ade-Ajayi as leader. Their staff, both at the Nursery and Primary levels, were not paid from the funds of the University. No wonder then, years later, Unilag too, joined others of its type like the University of Ibadan in withdrawing from the running of its staff school which hither-to, too, had been run by the University at a loss! This did not go-well with the staff of the school and the union to which they belonged because many had put in many years in the service of the school before the University decided to take off its “hands” from the running of the school. This is precisely what is taking place in RUGIPO like it is in FUTA and other higher institutions that had adopted the practice for years.

If an individual could run a school or college like Chrisland Group of Schools (which now has a university or Adesioye Group at Offa) how come Institutions like Rufus Giwa Polytechnic and others of its kind will be running their staff schools at a loss? This writer was made to understand that the RUGIPO Staff School gulps a little below a hundred million naira annually with an annual income of less than ten million! This is one of the problems that the Banji Alabi-led Governing Council was trying to resolve through withdrawing from

the running of the School. A business that is not yielding profit will have to close-shop. No staff would lose his or her job as the new investors would take over fully all of them under 'their own terms' of employment which cannot be less than what they are at present. It could even be better a condition of service, too. Besides, the State Government was ready to absorb them through the Teaching Service Commission (TESCOM) and the State Universal Basic Education (SUBEB), as the case may be. But the offer the Staff of the Schools (Secondary and Primary) rebuffed, opting to go to Court.

Let me quickly identify another anomaly with the System called RUGIPO, where there were about thirteen Chief Nursing Officers/ Matrons at the Health Centre and many Deputy Registrars that cannot be accommodated by the meagre income of the Institution. These are just a few of the irregularities the current Council met on ground. There has to be rationalization of sort to move the place forward. The problem of overstaffing there, too, is another issue. The Council is trying to find a way out of solving the problem of what to do with identified staff in this category during the verification exercise ordered by the Government.

The self-inflicted problems are many, but those created by the various Unions of the Institution are what this writer is worried about. Workers' unions, everywhere, are to see that their men are not ill-treated by the organizations they work for. It is also the duty of the management of such institutions to see that they do the right thing for their workers. When this new Council at RUGIPO came on board, the workers were owed about nine months' salary, including several years of pensions, gratuity and co-operative deductions that were in arrears. Several on-going projects were completely neglected or abandoned by the contractors due to non-payment for work done.

The Governing Council, at inception, set up a small committee to look into how to get over this rather chronic problem. The Unions were carried along and were aware of the efforts of the new Governing Council to get them paid what RUGIPO was owing them. With the support of the Ondo State Government led by Arakunrin Akeredolu, SAN, the Governing Council, on two occasions, got "Intervention fund" to reduce the salary arrears owed to four, to be at par with the civil servants then. The Government promised to pay up its dues and add "Intervention fund", too, when it has enough fund. The Unions are aware of this. This was really a very difficult time for the Council, but it is its duty to find a solution to the problems. *Eni je gbese lo man san*, that is, he that owes pays.

The Government is not unaware of the financial problem of RUGIPO, just like it is at Okitipupa (OAUTECH) Akungba (AAU) and Ondo (OSUMED). All these institutions are finance-starved, too, because the State Government shares its received allocations to all agencies under its control, just to make sure it goes around. It sounds these institutions played into the hands of Government as the Governor **said it would fund them up to the level of available funds.** Also, TETFund and OSOPADEC have been helpful too in assisting the Institution in getting some of the projects abandoned to get started again. Their intervention funds are usually to upgrade projects. Ondo State Government gave RUGIPO an intervention fund to complete some buildings. The Rectory, the Registry, the Bursary

buildings and others have since been put into use. The Unions are aware of this effort of Council to get more funds to pay the outstanding salaries. They seem to understand what the Council was going through. **ASUP had, in one of its memos, “*acknowledged the fact that the current Council of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic – Owo is made up of men and women of virtue, academic and professional excellence*”. It however, noted *that the handling of the problems of RUGIPO by the Council* (even after all the enumerated successes) is below average. It went further to state *that the low performance of Council* (by their own judgment) *be placed on the door step of the Chairman*.** This brings a different and new dimension to the ongoing problem there. How does the Chairman control these men and women of Council adjudged to be noble in character and valor? That the Chairman of Council can manipulate the caliber of men and women on Council seems strange to this writer. He believes something has gone amiss somewhere!

When the Unions continued to pressurize The Management and Council on its demands (**not unusual of workers Unions**), Council appealed to them to understand that it was not unaware of what is right but that it will not tolerate acts of violence or disturbing the relative peace (since the riotous one of February, 2018) on Campus. Preventing workers from going about their duties, or asking lecturers not to teach, or supervise examinations is unfair to students and locking of the Polytechnic gates against willing staff who want to work, too, is considered to be unfair. It was like a game of hide and seek between the Governing Council and the workers union. However, dialogue went on.

During one of the end of the semester examinations, ASUP, however, later rescinded its decision by allowing examinations to go on after the intervention of some elders within RUGIPO led by Dr. Obanoyen, the Institution's Director of Health Services. Barr.Tunji Taiwo and a few others. It is believed that the current problem might have some political undertone which must not be allowed to stand. A particular memo in circulation showed that it was targeted at the Chairman of Council and indirectly the Council as indicated on pages five and six. *Oro to ba oju, ba imu*, that is, whatever affects the face equally affects the nose. It is unacceptable to Council to rubbish its members as contained in a letter to the Commissioner. The suspension slammed on ASUP has just been lifted. The ASUP leader and the Council Chairman are both natives of Owo and known to belong to the same political group. But like in any political setting, there is bound to be different “camps” with different views. This is what should not be carried to the affairs of RUGIPO. All the other staff unions of the Institution should understand that the current Governing Council has all along had their interest at heart. Council has always done everything possible to avert any breakdown of law and order on Campus.

We appeal, kindly **“Allow RUGIPO TO BE”**.

(andrew aroloye– a mass media educator, was former Director, Centre for EducationalTechnology, University of Lagos.) (First published in 2019)