VICE CHANCELLOR APPEALS TO ASUU-LASU ON PROPOSED STRIKE

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. John O. Obafunwa has appealed to the Academic Staff Union of Universities Lagos State University Chapter (ASUU-LASU) to discontinue their plan to down tool in the interest of all stakeholders.

Prof. Obafunwa made the appeal in a letter writing to the Chairman LASU ASUU shortly after he met with the Union last Thursday. The Vice Chancellor said "... going on strike will not solve any problem. It's like we are shooting ourselves in the foot, we should just continue dialoguing while we attempt to have our points. Confrontation is not it at all." He explained that twenty (20) demands presented by ASUU-LASU have either been treated completely or receiving attention in few instances.

According to the Vice Chancellor, on the issue of retirement age as raised by the Union, he opined that all stakeholders should continue to dialogue and engage the Executive and Legislative arms of the state government.

Speaking further, the Vice Chancellor, on the issue of school fee increment, reiterated that the ASUU-LASU Union should come up with suggestions to government just as the students are doing. Together, he said, "we can make a presentation to the government and I am sure that the Lagos State Government would review your submission."

Obafunwa, in his details pointed out that the so-called “No vacancy, No promotion” policy is not the policy of the present administration as it has always being in the Condition of Service since 2008.

He acknowledged the fact that staff, including the Chairman, ASUU-LASU were promoted in year 2012, and there are currently 256 vacancies declared strictly for Academic Staff for the 2012/2013 promotion exercise, and suggested that this current exercise be finalized based on the 256 vacancies.

However, he noted that ASUU-LASU had criticized the formula used by the Academic Planning Unit in calculating the Full Time Equivalent (FTE) and strongly challenged the Union to proffer other suggestions as to how best to calculate the FTE.

“If the Academic Planning Unit’s formula is wrong, it is only fair that ASUU-LASU puts forward its own proposal and this can be reviewed along side that of the former with the hope of reaching a common ground” he said.

The Seventh Vice Chancellor of the University took time to painstakingly discuss other salient issues that included School fees; internet facility, Tetfund, Outstanding Tax, Restructuring of Academic Programmes, the University External System programmes and other challenges in the University.

‘Kayode Sutton
Public Relations Officer LASU CIPPR.