



**The Address of the Pro-Chancellor,
Lagos State University,
Professor Adebayo M.A. Ninalowo**

Your Excellency, Mr. Akinwunmi AMBODE, the Executive Governor of Lagos State AND Visitor to Lagos State University;
Permit me please to stand on existing protocols.

It is both a privilege and pleasure to warmly welcome you all to the 22nd Convocation Ceremonies of Lagos State University for the award of First Degrees, Higher Degree (Postgraduate Diploma, Academic AND Professional Master and Doctor of Philosophy)

On behalf of the entire Lagos State University Community, I extend my profound appreciation to the Governor of Lagos State and Visitor to Lagos State University, His Excellency, Mr. Akinwunmi AMBODE. Your passion and commitment towards the Lagos State University Project has continually served as a reference point and inspiration for us to continue to aim higher for Lagos State University.

This legacy of striving for the best at all times is the watchword of the Governing Council and I can unequivocally state that the University Management is also working day and night for the actualization of the vision of the founding fathers.

Kudos to members of the Governing Council, Senate, Management, entire Staff and Students of the University for the consistent hardwork since the last time we converged in this hall for the 21st Convocation Ceremonies.

Permit me, your Excellency to state that to the Glory of God, the University has enjoyed some considerable measures of equilibrium since the inauguration of the 10th Governing Council a little above two years ago. The Academic Calendar in the University is now stable and most of the inherited staff welfare issues have been resolved while the backlog of promotion cases for both Academic and Non-Academic members of staff have been cleared.

The Governing Council has now moved to the next phase of its line of action which is to entrench enduring equilibrium in the University. In this respect, we are revising and updating the staff Conditions of Service to align with current realities and global best practices.

The relative equilibrium in the University has given room for strategic expansion and qualitative academic research. One of such evident successes is the recent accreditation of the Lagos State University Open Distance Learning Research and Institute (ODLRI) by the National Universities Commission (NUC) and the hosting of an Intensive National Workshop on Research Grant Writing and Administration which attracted Faculty from more than twelve countries. The Institute will undoubtedly provide opportunities for the teeming populace who desire qualitative tertiary education, but have constraints of time or are facing challenges of access.

Your Excellency, distinguished ladies and gentlemen here present, it is also germane to note that the Governing Council has developed a robust and elaborate five-year strategic plan spanning the period 2016 – 2021. That is with a view of capturing essential future requirements of the University.

Furthermore, the Governing Council is convinced that to take Lagos State University to greater heights that we all desire as mapped out in the strategic plan, substantial fund is required. The Lagos State Government cannot do it alone, while Internally Generated Fund from the Institution cannot be adequate. Hence, the need to source for other legitimate ways of raising funds for the University to complement the existing sources. To this end, the Governing Council has constituted a Committee with a mandate to develop a strategic plan for setting up an endowment fund. This will complement the current efforts of the Lagos State University Directorate of Advancement. It is our firm belief that this plan will go a long way in ameliorating the challenge of infrastructure, amongst other areas of need.

Permit me to use this opportunity to express our deep appreciation to the Lagos State Government's unflinching support. Our appreciation also goes to the Federal Government for the consistent support that our University enjoys through the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), and NEEDS Assessment and more recently the approval and commencement of the Construction of a Primary Health Care Centre.

Similar appreciation goes to the Nigerian Universities Commission, Joint Admission Examination Board and other Agencies of Government for their support to our University.

Finally, I thank you all for coming and for your kind attention.

Professor Adebayo M.A. NINALOWO
Pro-Chancellor AND Chairman, Governing Council
Lagos State University
24th May, 2018