

**WELCOME ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE CHIEF HOST, *PROFESSOR SOLA AKINRINADE – VICE-CHANCELLOR, OSUN STATE UNIVERSITY, OSOGBO* ON THE OCCASION OF THE 2011 SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE HELD AT THE MAIN AUDITORIUM OF THE UNIVERSITY, OSOGBO BETWEEN 15 AND 18 MARCH, 2011**

Protocols/Courtesies

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Osun State University, Osogbo, Nigeria. With our main campus in Osogbo, the Osun State capital, our Colleges are located in five other towns ensuring our presence in the six geopolitical zones of the State. The National Universities Commission granted approval and formal recognition to Osun State University as the 80th University and 30th State University in Nigeria. We opened our doors to students on 21 September, 2007 and we have continued to make steady progress in the development of facilities to match the growing needs of the institution.

At Osun State University, we are driven by our vision and desire to “be a centre of excellence providing high quality teaching and learning experiences, which will engender the production of entrepreneurial graduates capable of impacting on their environment while being globally competitive”. As an institution, we have committed ourselves to creating “a unique institution committed to the pursuit of academic innovation, skills-based training and a tradition of excellence in teaching, research and community service”.

In order to achieve the desired hallmark of high quality and integrity of our academic provisions and research output, innovative strategies are continuously being devised to ensure the attraction, recruitment and retention of the highest calibre of teaching, non-teaching and support staff. Staff selection and recruitment are based exclusively on merit through the instrumentality of scrupulous and unimpeachable personnel screening processes.

UNIOSUN was not set up simply to add to the number of institutions dotting the higher educational landscape of Nigeria. Rather, the University was established to meet a felt need for a higher institution that will make a significant difference in addressing the challenges confronting the higher education sector in our country and continent at large. These include the problems of access, quality, funding and relevance. We are making available spaces for thousands of would be undergraduates while providing quality instruction with curricula that address the critical needs of the society in the 21st century. Our University Library supports and supplements the teaching-learning program of the institution at all levels. It performs this function by providing materials in various formats. Through users’ education program, orientation and bibliographic instruction, our University library teaches skills

in the use of the Library in order to equip students with basic and necessary knowledge to access, retrieve and use information from both traditional and modern technological sources.

Let me specifically welcome you to the maiden Science, Engineering and Technology Conference (SETConference2011) hosted by our College of Science, Engineering and Technology with the theme ***“Science, Engineering and Technology for Enhanced National Production and Development: Going beyond Theories”***.

This Conference was basically conceived to be a forum for Scientists, Engineers, Technologists and Professionals from the academia, industries, Governments, public and private sectors to engage in brain-storming sessions with a view to evolving pragmatic solutions to problems confronting Nigeria as a developing country. With the theme of this Conference and the caliber of participants, it is certain that Science, Engineering and Technology Research and Development opportunities in Nigeria will be explored with value-added collaboration among researchers and the industries in Nigeria, other African countries and the rest of the world. It gladdens my heart that the outcomes of this Conference will be of immense benefit to our dear country, and the world at large.

I wish to lend my support to the idea of the Convening College on the tradition of annual rotational hosting of this forum amongst Colleges or Faculties of Science, Engineering and Technology in Nigerian Universities. This will, no doubt, ensure continuous national and international research collaborations in tandem with the ever-increasing advances in the frontiers of knowledge; and subsequent transformation of research findings to national development.

Once again, I welcome you to Osun State University and I wish you fruitful deliberations and eventful stay in Osogbo.

Thank you.

**Professor Sola Akinrinade, FHSN**  
*Vice-Chancellor and Chief Host*

*15 March, 2011*