

Abel Idowu Olayinka

Stewardship as Head of Department 2006-2010

As Head of Department, I was involved in fund generation from alumni, alumnae, corporate institutions and friends of the Department of Geology. The money mobilised during such campaigns has been used to upgrade our teaching and learning facilities and the environment which is now more user-friendly. We believe that benefactions can play a vital role in supporting the training of successive generations of students. Many of our alumni and alumnae were requested to join the history of philanthropic support and help us continue to transform the lives of our students. Through this focused charitable programme of fund raising, many have joined our community of graduates who are proud to know they are supporting one of the finest teaching, research and life opportunities in the geosciences in the world.

The major achievements include the following:

- The *Association of Ibadan University Geologists* provided a state-of-the-art Petrological Microscope Laboratory in the Department in March 2007. The endowment, comprised two trinocular research microscopes and 21 binocular microscopes, with camera attachments, was valued at Ten Million, Five Hundred Thousand Naira (₦10,500,000.00) only.
- We are improving the teaching, learning and research environment. The entire departmental complex was re-painted and refurbished in March 2008 at a cost of Two Million, One Hundred Thousand naira (₦2,100,000.00) which was raised from donations.
- We attracted the Esso Exploration and Production Nigeria Ltd to fund a Field Mapping Project, in conjunction with the Nigerian Geological Survey Agency. Through this initiative:
 - A brand-new 18-seater Toyota Hiace Field Vehicle, valued at Four Million Five Hundred Thousand naira (₦4,500,000.00) was donated to the Department in February 2008.
 - Our Senior Technologist was sponsored by Esso to undertake a week training course in Scotland in June 2008.
 - A Logitech Thin section Machine, a 30 KvA Generator and sundry field equipment has been supplied to the Department.
 - ◇ These were further complemented with 4 No units of inverters with a combined capacity of 9.6 KvA and batteries donated in July

2010. These were to be dedicated to the thin section machine, data processing workstation, the petrological microscope laboratory and the Office of the Head of Department.

- We are benefiting to the tune of Seventy Five Million Naira (₦75,000,000.00) over the three-year duration of this project.
- Endowment of Prizes: The Department of Geology now has some 16 Prizes and Awards generously endowed by alumni/alumnae and friends of the department at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
- We created the *Department of Geology Occasional Publications Series* in March 2007, with three academic titles published.
- The *Mosobalaje Oyawoye Library*, named after the foremost African Geologist and first African Head of our Department, received a major facelift, in terms of computer hardware and software, recent journal collections and current books.
- We established the '*Department of Geology Thesis Support Grant Scheme*' in June 2010 for members of academic staff on their PhDs. This was designed as a token incentive for our academic staff who are on training positions to complete their research programmes and become prospective postgraduate teachers. Two members of staff benefitted from the maiden award, which carries a monetary value of Fifty Thousand Naira (₦50,000.00) each.
- Three new members of the academic staff were employed. This has brought the total Faculty to 19, currently comprising 5 Professors/Readers, 6 Senior Lecturers and 8 Lecturer/Assistant Lecturers. A cartographer was employed, bringing the total non-academic staff (technical and administrative) strength to 10.
- Ten research students, 4 of whom are members of UI academic staff, successfully completed their PhD programmes.
- All the lecturers' offices were provided air-conditioning units and adequate furnishing.
- The Department secured '*Full Accreditation*' status from the NUC in 2008, with a Programme score of 89% compared with '*Interim Accreditation*' with a Programme Score of 61% in 2005.