Key Messaging for FirstBank Endowment Programme Feature Stories

- FirstBank, contributing to national growth and development by promoting educational development in Nigeria
- Driving and sustaining the economy through academic research
- FirstBank, providing beyond financial services; building sustainable capacity for tomorrow’s leaders.

Areas of Focus

- The take-off of the Uyo Endowment Fund in Petroleum Engineering
- The FUTA Endowment in Computer Science with focus on some of the research work done by the Professorial Chair, Dr. B.K Alese with the support of the Bank.
- The Samuel Asabia Endowment in Business Ethics in the University of Lagos which is about to take-off

Please tie Feature to Brand Vision, Mission and Promise

Mission
To set the ‘gold standard’ of customer experience and excellence in financial solutions across sub-Saharan Africa

Vision
To be the partner of first choice in building your future...

Promise
We will always deliver the ultimate ‘gold standard’ of value and excellence. Our financial services knowledge and practices lead the market in ensuring that we understand our customers and surpass expectations to strive for a better way of delivering first-class service and experience.

Background
First Bank of Nigeria Limited established its endowment structure to complement the Federal Government’s efforts in the development and advancement of tertiary education in Nigeria. The Endowment Structure necessitates the funding of research projects in federal universities, selected around the six geographical regions of the country. The funds were set up in various departments as approved by the Bank’s Management to facilitate research work in the endowed universities.
The FirstBank Endowment Programme

The FirstBank Endowment Programme was initiated in 1994 with the establishment of the Samuel Asabia Endowment in Business Ethics at the University of Lagos. Presently, the Bank has professorial endowments in nine federal universities each located in the different geopolitical zones of the country. Currently, the Bank's total endowment portfolio is an approximate N450M.

The Bank engaged the services of its sister company FBN Capital to manage the investment portfolio of the various endowments to ensure maximum yield for each endowment investment in order to promote research and learning in the universities. Each Professorial Endowment usually has a professorial chair occupant selected through a rigorous but transparent process to ensure qualified candidates are engaged for the research work.

Candidates for the Chair are sourced from within the affected Department of the University. He /She may not necessarily be a substantive Professor but not less than a senior lecturer. The University’s representative on the Board of Trustees for the Endowment Fund is empowered to advertise, select and interview candidates and thereafter appoint an occupant for the professorial chair.

A prospective candidate to the Chair is expected to present a four year research plan to the Universities representatives on the Board of Trustees consideration. This would form part of the basis for his/her selection. The research plan of each Chair Occupant in endowed universities spans a four-year tenure and should be subject to annual reviews by the Board of Trustees, to ensure proper utilization of disbursed funds.

Endowments of Focus

1. The FBN Endowment in Petroleum Engineering at the University of Uyo.
   The FirstBank Endowment in Petroleum Engineering at the University of Uyo was instituted in March 2006 and re-launched in 2015 to reposition for outstanding research and learning activities that will promote knowledge in the short term and advance the economy especially the oil and gas sector. This is part of the Bank's Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability efforts at promoting growth and advancement of the sector. The university has selected a professorial chair occupant of the FBN Endowment Fund in Petroleum Engineering and endowment activities would take off on January 29, 2016.
2. The Samuel Asabia Endowment in Business Ethics of the University of Lagos

The Samuel Asabia Endowment Fund in Business Ethics was launched in 1994 in honour of Mr. Samuel Asabia, former Managing Director of the Bank. The setting up of the Endowment Fund has the objective of promoting learning and research in Business Ethics. The Bank in partnership with the University of Lagos is repositioning the Samuel Asabia Endowment Fund to better to carry out ground breaking research works.

3. FirstBank Professorial Chair Endowment in Computer Science at the Federal University of Technology Akure

The FirstBank Professorial Chair Endowment in Computer Science at the Federal University of Technology Akure was launched in 1997 in recognition of the vital role research plays in innovation especially in the present digital age. Since its launch, the endowment fund has had two professorial chair occupants. Annually, the Endowment Fund receives grant from the Bank to carry out research in Information and Communication related issues. To bolster the activities of the Professorial Chair Occupant, a brand new operational vehicle was procured to ensure ease of mobility for the professorial chair occupant while carrying out his duties.

Since the launch of the FBN FUTA Endowment Fund, it has witnessed a series of research projects that have resulted in knowledge creation and dissemination carefully articulated in organized public lectures and integrated into policies that have served as solutions to existing peculiar concerns in the country:

One of the public lectures was delivered on April, 2014 and themed Security Issues in Nigeria: Getting Ready for The Digital Challenge.

The research/lecture which focused on Cybercrime and its security challenges enumerated the various issues arising from such crimes and challenges faced in the fight against its increase. Of particular interest to FBN is the availability of this research finding in aiding the fight against electronic frauds/malpractices which is a major concern in our migration to electronic banking. The findings in the research will serve as a valuable resource for providing lasting solutions to issues dealing with cybercrime and computer hacking when it is concluded.

As in previous annual lectures, this lecture witnessed a huge turnout of people – including the VC, Registrar, Deans of Schools, Directors, Royal Fathers, Government functionaries, Professors from other institutions, Bankers, Students, etc. The Bank was ably represented by the BM and RM of PSG Akure.
The Bank’s unflagging commitment to promoting educational development through the FBNFUTA Endowment Fund has positioned FUTA as a citadel of excellence in the global competitive stage. This was evidenced in the feat achieved by the FBN FUTA Professorial Chair Occupant and his associates in the Computer Science Department at the 8th International Conference for Internet Technology and Secured Transactions (ICITST-2013) in London, United Kingdom in December 2013.

The Paper titled “DGM Approach to Network Attacker and Defender Strategies” presented at the conference beat 1,241 papers received from 96 countries to emerge the overall best according to the panel of assessors.

The paper adjudged as the best for the year 2013 dwelt on novel strategies to checkmate infiltrations of secured transactions on the information super highway. The research paper received lots of accolades from the international faculty in favor of the ambassadors of FUTA who presented the award-winning paper.

N/B: Please find below some of the papers published by the professorial chair occupant of FBNFUTA, Dr. Boniface Kayode Alese and his colleagues with the support of the Bank. Attached is one of his research materials for your review and inclusion in elucidating on the Bank’s contribution to the development of Computer Engineering in Nigeria.


8. The 9th International Conference for Internet Technology and Secured b Transactions (UK)

9. Dauda Adenusi, Boniface Kayode Alese, Bamidele Moses Kuboye and Aderonke Favour-Bethy Thompson (2015), Development of Cyber Situation Awareness Model; International Conference on Cyber Situational Awareness, Data Analytics and Assessment(UK)

10. Moyinoluwa Abidemi Bode, Boniface Kayode Alese, Samuel Adebayo Oluwadare, Aderonke Favour-Bethy Thompson, (2015), Risk Analysis in Cyber Situation Awareness using Bayesian Approach; International Conference on Cyber Situational Awareness, Data Analytics and Assessment(UK)


12. In Cyber Situation, World Congress on Engineering and Computer Science
15. Cyber Security in Nigeria: A Collaboration between Communities and Professionals, World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology