

**ADDRESS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR SOLA AKINRINADE, AT THE 2010/2011  
MATRICULATION CEREMONY, JANUARY 19, 2011**

Principal Officers – DVC, Registrar and Bursar

Provosts of Colleges

Members of Senate and other staff

Our happy matriculating students and their proud parents and friends

Other guests

Gentlemen of the media

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with great pleasure that I formally welcome you to the Fourth Matriculation Ceremony of this young but very dynamic University. I am particularly delighted today to welcome the first set of students into the LL.B programme, College of Law, Ifetedo Campus.

Today's gathering is to formally and publicly admit our illustrious fresh men and women into the rights and privileges of Osun State University. It is also to perform the final stage of the registration exercise.

The road to securing admission into tertiary institutions has always been a tortuous one. This is because the available space in the Nigerian university system cannot accommodate all applicants. This year, at Osun State University, about 4,500 wrote post-UTME out of which 1,400 privileged students are matriculating today. I therefore congratulate our matriculating students for being part of the epoch-making event of today. I also congratulate their proud parents for witnessing this occasion.

I want to assure you that you have not made a mistake in coming to Osun State University to achieve your academic pursuit. Over the last three years, the University has witnessed a gradual but steady provision of solid physical infrastructure with matching equipment and facilities to ensure enhanced, positive learning experiences for our students in all disciplines. Osun State Government and the Local Governments in the State have deployed enormous financial resources to ensure that we put in place the best facilities that would ensure that you have true value for your money in a world-class institution.

All the required facilities to enhance efficient and effective delivery of services to its students are on ground. The University has provided in all its campuses, well-equipped Workshops for teaching and research; well-equipped classrooms with modern teaching technological facilities including integrated learning boards; C-band internet access with wireless access points within the College premises in all campuses. Our Library has acquired over 60,000 volumes of books and journals for all disciplines, subscribed to 500 journal titles (local and foreign), an enhanced virtual library with over 2,000 free e-books for downloading.

In pursuance of the vision and mission of its founding fathers in producing globally competitive graduates, Osun State University will continue to provide effective academic leadership and mentoring in a manner that is consistent with the development of an all round institution that can address and meet the challenges of the twenty first century. Indeed, this ceremony is the beginning of the mentoring and moulding which will continue even after you have left the wall of this University.

UNIOSUN has commenced Practical Entrepreneurial Training Programmes aimed at adding value to the knowledge acquired by students and ensuring that no student graduates without a skill that will ensure sustainable living even if such person does not immediately secure employment in the formal sector. In addition, our Graduate Support Office, the first of its kind in any Nigerian institution, will ensure that your future development, progress and growth remain our concern. Osun State University is therefore poised to train the best for tomorrow and we are committed to being the best in our generation through making a discernible difference.

The University expects students to also play their part, cooperate with the University and maximise the use of opportunities available to them: opportunity of conducive environment and opportunity to win the University's scholarship for academic excellence. You are expected to be good ambassadors of the University. You must be totally faithful to the Matriculation Oath that you have taken today and the Code of Conduct already given to you is meant for compliance. Nigeria is awaiting your leadership for this nation. Therefore, as leaders of tomorrow, say 'No' to violence; say 'No' to cultism; say 'No' to thuggery of any sort; say 'No' to examination malpractices; say 'No' to drugs; say 'No' to bad association and say 'No' to cybercrime *a.k.a. yahoo yahoo*. UNIOSUN pledges to instil in you prized characteristics of decency, probity and integrity. Your wearing of gowns today is symbolic. Regard it as a badge of honour and treat it with respect.

I enjoin the parents to also cooperate with the University in enforcing all its rules, join the Parents Forum and play active roles in its activities.

On behalf of my colleagues in the Management and the University community, I like to congratulate you all on your admission to Osun State University. I pray that you will have a truly enjoyable and memorable time with us.

In closing this address, let me congratulate once again the matriculating students and their joyous and proud parents and wish you a most pleasant experience as undergraduates of our University. And I must wish those parents who have travelled some distance to be part of this occasion, a safe trip back to their respective destinations and God's abundant blessings always. My prayer is that you will not regret investing in the future of your children by sending them to study at our institution.

I thank you for your attention and God bless.

Professor Sola Akinrinade  
19 January 2011