



Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office (IPTTO)
Directorate of Research and Innovation
Ahmadu Bello University Zaria

The Centre Leader,
ACENPEE, ABU

24/05/2024

Dear Sir,

RE: GAP Assessment for the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office

I write to provide you with the update on the activities of the IPTT Office at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria (ABU). The IPTTO was established at ABU in year 2010 under the Research and Innovation Unit in the Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring at ABU. The IPTTO is headed by a Coordinator. Until recently, the IPTTO was without a Coordinator, hence, the Office was not as vibrant as expected, evidenced by the very low awareness by staff and students about intellectual property and very few intellectual property rights obtained. The following were therefore assessed as gaps for IPTTO at Ahmadu Bello University.

- i. No independent operational office and staff for IPTTO in the University.
- ii. No coordinator appointed to oversee the activities of IPTTO for over 5 years in the University.
- iii. No management committee for the University-wide Intellectual Property, Technology Transfer and Entrepreneurship.
- iv. Low awareness about IPTT by staff and students of the University.
- v. Low volume of intellectual property and copyright registration by staff and students of the University.
- vi. No training/workshop conducted for staff, students and the University community on Intellectual Property.

On January 31, 2023, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Kabiru Bala appointed Professor Emmanuel Oluwadare Balogun Coordinator, IPTTO. The mandate of the IPTTO is to raise awareness on intellectual property for stimulating high volume of intellectual property and copyright registrations by staff and students of ABU. To fulfil this role, the new Coordinator laid a foundation for an impactful IPTTO by developing an organogram and initiated the formation of the Intellectual Property, Technology Transfer, and Entrepreneurship Management Committee (IPTTEMC), which was approved and formed by the Vice-Chancellor. A physical office was allocated to the Coordinator, Room 416 in the Senate/administrative building. The IPTTEMC is currently developing policy guidelines on IPTT and Entrepreneurship for the University. Since taking over as Coordinator, six patents and two Material Transfer Agreements have been obtained by the staff of ABU. The IPTTO is providing guidance to applicants for preparing their intellectual property applications.

Within the year 2023, IPTTO organized a University-wide Hybrid Training/Workshop on Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer (IPTT) at ABU on 23/11/2023. There were two physical venues hosted at Africa Centre of Excellence for Neglected Tropical Diseases and Forensic Biotechnology (ACENTDFB) and at the Africa Centre of Excellence on New Pedagogy in Engineering Education (ACENPEE). There were 59 physical attendees and 29 online attendees who are staff and students of ABU. In addition, 7 virtual attendees were from other Nigerian institutions. There were two external invited speakers during the workshop, they were Dr. Danica Ramljak, World Bank Senior Expert for Science and Innovation, The World Bank, and Dr. J. O. Tijani, Coordinator IPTTO, FUT, Minna.



Professor Emmanuel Oluwadare Balogun,
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