

TRIBUTE: PROFESSOR TAIWO ADEGBOYEGA ADEWOLE

It was with rude shock that we received the news of the demise of Prof. Taiwo Adegboyega Adewole, Foundation Provost, College of Health Sciences, Osun State University, who passed away on 4 September 2019, after a brief illness at the age of 70. He was a Professor of Chemical Pathology at Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, a leading clinical researcher, teacher and administrator on a background of medicine, molecular biology, clinical chemistry and experience as a three-time Provost of two Medical schools in Nigeria.

Prof. Adewole was born on August 26, 1949 in Nigeria. He initially studied Biochemistry at the University of Ibadan (1971-1974) and proceeded to bag his Doctorate at the University of Ife (1975 – 1981) in Biochemistry. Notably, he became the first student to obtain a PhD degree in this field from the University.

He graduated in medicine from the University of Calabar (1981 – 1985). He joined the University of Lagos Teaching Hospital in 1991 for his Residency program culminating in his award of the Fellowship degree of the West African College of Physicians in Laboratory Medicine (Clinical Pathology) in 1996.

He served as a Research Fellow in the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research, Yaba - Lagos, Nigeria (Jun 1987 – Jan 2005) for a period of 17 years and eight months. He rose to the rank of a Deputy Director (Research).

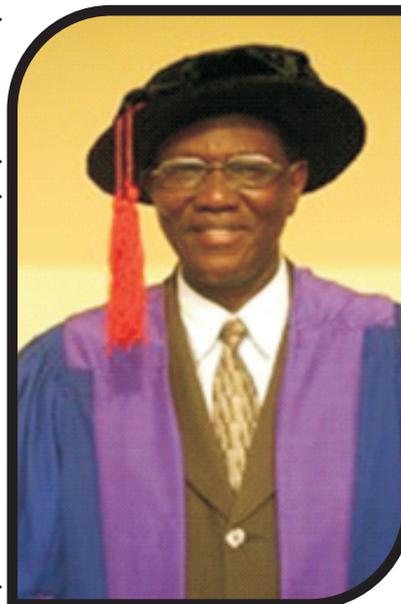
Thereafter, he joined the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology in May 2005 where he was appointed a Professor. He was also appointed a Consultant Chemical Pathologist at the Ladoke Akintola University Teaching Hospital, Osogbo (Mar. 2005 – Sept. 2007); and also Provost, College of Health Sciences Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Osogbo (Aug. 1, 2005 – Aug. 31, 2007).

He was seconded to the Osun State University in 2007 and served as the Foundation Provost, College of Health Sciences (01/08/2007 to 31/07/11). He also served concurrently as the Head of Biochemistry Department, and Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, Osun State University (01/08/2011 to 31/07/12).

He also served as the Provost of the College of Health Sciences and the Acting Chief Medical Director of Bowen University Teaching Hospital, before he returned to LAUTECH University.

Prof. Taiwo Adewole was a teacher, administrator and researcher of the highest order. He was a mentor to many, a father and great academician. The meticulous manner in which he prepared and delivered his lectures has been widely acclaimed by all his students across decades, who still remember him for his extraordinary teaching abilities. He had a novel and innovative approach to research. He was instrumental in setting up a research laboratory at the College of Health Sciences of our university and guided several mentees to achieve the highest levels of excellence in biomedical research.

Many of his works attracted both national and international attention including Application of Polymerase Chain Reaction to the Diagnosis of inherited Disorders and Infective



Diseases; Molecular Epidemiology of Malaria Parasite and Vectors and Clinical evaluation of the effects of uptake of Anti-retroviral Drugs in the management of HIV/AIDS Patients in Nigeria. He also worked on Molecular genotyping / speciation and Prenatal Diagnosis of Sickle Cell Anemia.

He published extensively in national and international journals. His mentoring qualities were of the highest order and under his stewardship, our College of Health Sciences still stand despite the challenges. Many of his students are presently occupying important positions in reputed institutions locally and internationally.

Prof. Adewole was a gentleman and a humble person. Despite his monumental achievements, his humility and dedication to work were exemplary. All his students and colleagues will dearly remember him as an affectionate and beloved teacher who gave his best to his students till the last day and as a person of highest integrity, honesty and sincerity. Prof. Taiwo Adegboyega Adewole left behind his bereaved wife, two sons and a daughter-in-law.

Professor C.O. Alebiosu
Editor-In-Chief