

AN OVERVIEW OF UNIVERSITY OF JOS, NIGERIA

Ever since its establishment by the Federal Government of Nigeria in 1975, the University of Jos progressively evolved into a centre of excellence with a considerable track record of consistently achieving high standards in teaching, learning, research, and community service. This vital part of the university's mission has enabled it to build partnerships with other institutions, the public sector, industry and commerce with a few examples cited here. The Carnegie Corporation (3 grants; \$9, 000, 000.00) for institutional strengthening: Through the nine (9) years of partnership with the Carnegie Corporation, the University experienced a great deal of transformation through capacity building for its human resource and availability of infrastructure. Important outcomes include the setup and institutionalization of the Office of Research Development (ORD), Advancement Office and the Virtual Office (VO) that continues to ensure efficient and effective management of research and external funds. World Bank (\$8, 000, 000.00): this grant funded the establishment of Africa's Centre of Excellence in Phytomedicine Research and Development. This Centre recently achieved a global feat in drug production with the invention of an Anti-snake venom vaccine in which the PI was deeply involved in the protein expression work in Manchester Uk. The Centre also offers research and training in Phytomedicine with participants from Nigeria, West and Central African countries. The University has also carried out strategic research including the Ornithology and Biodiversity research and conservation since 2002 at its A.P. Leventis Ornithological Research Institute (APLORI) (courtesy of A. P. Leventis). The University's Support of Training and Mentoring in Nigeria for Academics (STAMINA) project aimed at training academics in responsible conduct of research, grant proposal writing and mentored research. The Centre for Conflict Management and Peace Studies (CECOMPS) has promoted researches in peace initiatives in Nigeria with a Grant from the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Nigeria. Its publications on conflict resolution and management especially on the spate of crises in Plateau State are outstanding. The Faculty of Arts through the Department of Religion and Philosophy had won a research grant of \$500, 000. 00 (Five hundred thousand dollars only) from Templeton Foundation in the United States of America to conduct research on the growth, social and religious impact of Pentecostal churches in Nigeria in 2010. The University has a Gender Policy, which led to the establishment of a Centre for Gender and Women studies. This Centre has over the years carried out series of research in gender and women studies. University of Jos has won several national and international competitions and National Research Funds Grants by its researchers and collaborators leading to several novel inventions of global repute.