



Office of the Dean
Faculty of Engineering
UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS
Yaba, Lagos 101017

July 10, 2014.

O Lord, open Thou our lips; And our mouths shall show forth Thy praise!

Dear Faculty Member,

The People Speak Again!

I want to express my sincere thanks to every member of our faculty who supported Professor FA Falade and myself in the election that we just concluded. The election was competitive and there were negatives about the way it played out. The competitiveness of elections in itself, is not, in my opinion, a negative thing. Depending on how we look at it, here are some positives:

1. Our faculty gains in the number of ideas that have been canvassed; the number of grievances aired and the number of solutions proffered. In the midst of possible options, we know more about the things we can do and the improvements we can make.
2. A leader often needs a vehemently opposed position to see another view in clear light. When these are expressed by the people who actually want you out, you are told in the clearest of terms, far beyond what your ardent supporters would be able to do, what really pains some people and how the laudable directions you may be spending your efforts may not necessarily be seen to be addressing felt needs.
3. An election settles the disputed alternatives with a finality that we can begin now to run the faculty for the next two years at which time we have another debate again. Each time, power returns to the people directly as they exercise their franchise.

Let me tell you right away that at least four of my close friends told me that some points in my last mail went beneath the level of decorum they would expect me to maintain under any level of the heat of an election campaign and at whatever level of provocation. I want to therefore apologize here to Professor FA Falade for the specific hard tackle that must have caused unnecessary tension between our persons on the road to presenting our cases before the electorate. Unknown to many, Professor Falade and I met twice today, prior to the voting, and pledged to work together for the good of our faculty no matter who won the election. For me, the election carries with it the responsibility to ensure that everybody is looked after in the administration that we shall run over the next two years. We will do this fully conscious of the fact that the trust we have been given is to be exercised for the good of the faculty and not for self-aggrandizement. We will also try to do it knowing that the time is short and that if we do not do the work, another person will eventually do it and we shall have lost our opportunity.

I express my profound thanks to Professor Falade for congratulating me when the elections results were announced and for conducting himself with dignity at the end of a well-run race that may not have produced the result he would have desired. I will try to conduct myself in a way that will make him and his supporters in this election to know that their legitimate concerns are addressed. It is my duty now to earn their trust and ensure their comfort in the faculty even in the time I have left on this seat. I also greet faculty members who voted for me and members of the team who worked tirelessly to do logistics on our behalf. I will work hard to make you proud of your decision to support me. May God reward your labor of love. Amen.

Sincerely yours,

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