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Special Release

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OBITUARY

PROFESSOR FESTUS AKINLOLU ABIMBOLA (FNAH) (18 November, 1960 - 12 July, 2014)

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Isaac Folorunso Adewole, FAS, announces with deep sense of loss, the untimely death of Professor Festus Akinlolu Abimbola, Department of Geology, University of Ibadan. The sad event occurred on Saturday 12 July 2014 in the United States of America.

Late Professor Abimbola was born on November 18, 1960 at Ibadan to the family of High Chief and Mrs. Bisi Abimbola, the Ejemu Orile-Owu of the present Ayedade Local Government of Osun State. He attended Our Lady of Fatima College, Ikire, Osun State between 1973-1978 for his secondary education. He was admitted to study Geology at the University of Ilorin between 1980 and 1984 where he graduated as one of the best students, with a Second Class Upper Division degree. He immediately went back for his M.Sc as a University Scholar between 1986 and 1988. He obtained a Ph.D in Geology of the University of Ibadan in 1995. He began his teaching career as Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Geology, University of Ibadan on 17 October, 1989 and rose through the ranks and became a Professor with effect from 1 October, 2008.

Professor Abimbola served the University in various capacities. He was the Warden, Obafemi Awolowo Hall (1998 – 2002); Acting Head, Department of Geology (2000 – 2002); Acting Director, Equipment Maintenance Centre (2008 – 2012) and Member, University of Ibadan Senate between 2001 – 2003 and 2008 till date. He was a former Chapter Chairman of his alma mater, Fatima College, Ikire Old Boys' Association and rose to become the National Chairman (2007 – 2010). He was a former Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Water Resources, a publication of the Nigeria Association of Hydrogeologists (NAH) and Managing Editor of Journal of Science Research of the Faculty of Science. He was a **Registered Geoscientist** with Council of Mining Engineers and Geoscientists (COMEG) and member of several professional associations such as , Nigeria Mining and Geosciences Society (NMGS), Science Association of Nigeria (SAN), Association of Geoscientists for International Development (AGID), Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA), Geological Society of Africa (GSAf), International Association on Genesis of Ore Deposits (IAGOD), International Medical Geology Association (IMGGA), Society of Environmental Geochemistry and Health (SEGH), Society of Economic Geology (SEG). He was also Fellow, Nigerian Association of Hydrogeologists (NAH),

Professor Abimbola was a true symbol of scholarship He was a recipient of the University of Ilorin Scholarship, 1986-1987, Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD) Fellowship 1992 & 1996, Matsumae International Foundation Fellowship (Japan) 1997, Volkswagen Foundation Grant (Germany), 1994-1997 and 2002- 2004.

He was a great sportman with a passion for football. He was the University of Ilorin Football Team Goalkeeper as an undergraduate student. He was also a graded Football Referee with Oyo State. He was married to Mrs Eniola Abimbola, a career civil servant with Oyo State Civil Service and they are blessed with four children.

Indeed, the University has lost one of its committed academic, thorough researcher and dedicated family man.

May his gentle soul rest in perfect peace. Amen.

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