**ADDRESS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR B. C. OZUMBA, ON THE OCCASION OF THE ORIENTATION PROGRAMME ORGANIZED BY THE SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES FOR THE 2017-2018 FRESH POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS, HELD ON JULY 11TH, 2018 AT MARGARET EKPO CONVOCATION ARENA**

Principal Officers of the University here Present

The Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies

Associate Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies

Our Invited Speakers and Resource Persons

Deans of Faculty and Directors of Institute here present

Distinguished Professors

Heads of Academic and Administrative Units

Distinguished Academics

Old and New Postgraduate Students

Lions and Lionesses

I am pleased to welcome all of you to the second edition of our special orientation programme for fresh postgraduate students. The first of its kind took place last year. The orientation programme is an innovation that is in line with accepted international best practices. It is consistent with the vision of the current University Administration to reposition our postgraduate programmes for global competitiveness through timeliness, excellence and ethical conduct. Invariably, this will impact the research output and citation base of the University, as we strive to maintain and improve on the enviable position of the University in Webometric ranking.

Ethical re-orientation in both lifestyle and research is imperative in our quest to produce graduates that will compete favourably and excel anywhere in the world. Therefore, we hope to inculcate in you the requisite ethical standard for success in every sphere of life. Moreover, this orientation programme will acquaint you with the necessary procedures and regulations that govern the pursuit of postgraduate study in the University of Nigeria, with a view to ensuring that you register and graduate as and when due. This will help you to evade unnecessary delays and other indices of poor performance. You will need to understand and work with the timetables for lectures, examinations and specified periods for arrival of external examiners.

In consideration of our commitment to the transformation of the University of Nigeria into a research-oriented institution, we have equipped the University Library with many relevant resources and databases that will help to improve the conduct of research by our students. In addition, modern information and communication technology tools have been made available in the University to enhance teaching and research. Therefore, we expect high quality research results from your projects and theses. More so, the University has subscribed to the use of Turnitin software to check plagiarism and encourage originality in research output. The research results of our postgraduate students should be publishable in reputable impact factor-rated journals. This is similar to what obtains in world-class universities around the globe.

Finally, I urge you to pay careful attention to the talks that will be presented by carefully selected speakers and resource persons in the course of this orientation programme. Their knowledge, experience and expertise will put you on the path of success in the pursuit of excellence in your postgraduate study.

As I warmly welcome you, I hereby declare the 2017-2018 postgraduate students orientation programme open!

Have a wonderful time.

Professor B. C. Ozumba

Vice Chancellor