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Selected Tributes to the late Professor David Olufemi Olaleye by Colleagues, Friends, Mentees

From the Acting Vice Chancellor, University of Ibadan

Adebola B. Ekanola, FNAL

Professor of Philosophy and Ag. Vice Chancellor, University of Ibadan. Ibadan, Nigeria

Professor David Olufemi Olaleye was born on July 21, 1954 in Ogbomoso, Oyo State, Nigeria to the family of Pa James and Mama Esther Olaleye. He graduated as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D. V. M.) in 1981. He went on to earn a Master of Veterinary Science (Diagnostic Pathology) degree in 1985 and a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Virology in 1991, all from the University of Ibadan. He also earned the following certificates:

- *Certificate on Radiation Safety in the Laboratory from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA;*
- *Certificate on Principles of Epidemiology, Centers for Disease Control Atlanta, USA;*
- *Certificate on Communicable Diseases Control, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, USA;*
- *Certificate on Working Safely with HIV and other Blood Borne Pathogens from the Laboratory of National Institute of Health, Bethesda;*
- *Certificate on Laboratory Safety from the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA; and*
- *Certificate in Basic Course in Bioethics, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, USA.*

Late Professor Olaleye joined the services of the University of Ibadan immediately after his NYSC in 1982, as Resident Veterinary Officer (Pathology) and was later appointed Lecturer I in the Department of Virology, College of Medicine, in 1986 where he rose through the ranks as Senior Lecturer (1989) and Professor of Virology in 1995.

Professor Olaleye left very impressive administrative and academic landmarks in the University of Ibadan, having served the University meritoriously in various capacities. These include:

- *4 times Head of Department of Virology, College of Medicine (1994-1996, 1998 - 2001; 2004 - 2006, 2014- 2018);*
- *Dean of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences (2006 to 2010);*
- *Member, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Academic Staff Assembly, (1986 -2021);*
- *Member, Committee of Provosts and Deans, University of Ibadan (2006 to 2010);*
- *Member, University of Ibadan Development Committee (2006-2010);*
- *Member, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences' Appointments and Promotions Panel (1994-2021);*
- *Member, College of Medicine Academic Board, (1994 – 2021);*
- *Member, University of Ibadan Central Appointments and Promotions Committee (2002 – 2016);*

- *Member, University College Hospital, Ibadan, Medical Advisory Committee (1994-2021);*
- *Member, University of Ibadan Postgraduate Board;*
- *Member, College of Medicine, Appointments and Promotion Panel for academic staff (1998-2017);*
- *Faculty Basic Medical Sciences Promotion Panel (1994-2021);*
- *Department of Virology Promotion Panel (1994-2021);*
- *Chairman, Panel on Mock Institutional Accreditation for University of Ibadan (2012-2014);*
- *Member, University Budget Monitoring Committee (2011-2019);*
- *Chairman, University of Ibadan Committee for the Prevention and Preparedness for Ebola Virus Disease (2014-2015);*
- *Member (Senate representative), Board of Otunba Tuwase Paediatric Hospital (2015-2017);*
- *Member (Senate representative), Board of Veterinary Teaching Hospital, University of Ibadan, (2015-2017);*
- *Convener, COPD Ad Hoc Committee on Inaugural Lectures, (2006-2007);*
- *Convener, COPD Ad Hoc Committee on Grant Sourcing and Allocation (2008);*
- *Member, COPD Subcommittee on Senate Research Grants (2006-2010);*
- *Chairman, Panel of Investigation into the Allegation of Headship Conspiracy in the Department of Theatre Arts (2011-2012);*
- *Member, Board of Examiners, Pathology Section, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan (1986-2021);*
- *Member, University of Ibadan Senate (1994 – 2021); and*
- *Member, Board of Central Laboratory, University of Ibadan (2012 – 2014).*

Outside the University of Ibadan, Prof Olaleye served as Member, Presidential Committee on Claim of Cure for AIDS by Dr. Abalaka (2000); Member, Presidential Committee on Avian Influenza outbreak (2006-2021); and Member, National HIV Surveillance Committee (1999-2018).

Until his death on 27 July 2021 Professor Olaleye was Director, WHO National Influenza Centre, University College Hospital, Director, HIV Laboratory, Department of Virology, UCH; Adjunct Professor, Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois, USA, and a Member of the Oyo State COVID-19 Task Force. Professor Olaleye was a brilliant researcher who attracted several high-profile grants to the University of Ibadan. He had research collaborators from different parts of the world including USA, Germany, France, UK, Italy, Kenya, South Africa,

Cameroon, Ghana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Uganda, and Nigeria. One of his major research breakthroughs was the first isolation and characterization of the 2nd HIV recombinant form (CRF02) during his Fogarty International Research Fellowship Programme at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA (Sept. 1990-Sept. 1992). This virus strain that he named IbNg (for Ibadan Nigeria) has been shown to be the predominant strain circulating in West Africa and a good candidate for development of vaccine in the region.

Professor Olaleye was a Fellow of the Fogarty International Fellowship Program, at the University of California, Los Angeles; DAAD and AvH Fellow (Germany); and a Research Fellow at NIH with many short-term research visits to the United States and Germany. In the last twelve years, his efforts focused on the development of research capacity among junior faculty at Universities in Nigeria. He was a founding member of the African Forum for Research and Education in Health (AFREhealth), a Fellow of the African Academy of Science (FAAS), Member of the America Science Honors Society (Sigma Xi), Member, International AIDS Society (IAS), Member of World Virology Congress, Member, Nigeria Veterinary Medical Association, Member, International Society for Infectious Diseases, Member,

National Geographic Society of U.S.A., Member, American Society for Microbiology, USA, Member, African Society for Laboratory Medicine, as well as a member of many other national and international scientific and professional bodies.

Professor Olaleye had over 250 articles published in peer reviewed journals. He successfully supervised several M.Sc. projects and 20 Ph.D. theses in Virology. A man of stern principles, who dedicated himself completely to a life of scientific research, Prof. Olaleye was a highly respected and very successful mentor to many distinguished scholars within and outside Nigeria. No doubt, his was a life of very significant impact in the local and the global research community, and his scientific contributions to scholarship will certainly endure the test of time.

Personally, I learnt many life lessons from him, and benefitted tremendously from his goodwill at very significant moments in my life. He believed in and supported me openly, and I am eternally grateful to him. My memories of him will always be fond.

Professor Olufemi David Olaleye is survived by his beloved wife, Mrs. Caroline Adedayo Olaleye, children, grandchildren, and siblings.

Adieu, great scholar! Rest in Peace!! You will be sorely missed!!!

From the Provost, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan

Olayinka Omigbodun *FAS, FNAMed, FAMedS*

Professor of Psychiatry and Provost, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

The entire College of Medicine, University of Ibadan (CoMUI) community was thrown into mourning on Tuesday 27 July 2021 at the news of the sudden death of a foremost researcher, teacher and mentor, Professor Olufemi David Olaleye FAAS. It is extremely hard to believe that one of our Nation's foremost virologists, an extremely brilliant, and outspoken researcher had passed on in the heat of the COVID-19 battle. He was a frontline soldier, committed to ensuring that we won but alas, he would no longer be at the frontline and boldly speak out his mind about issues ranging from disease control to administrative processes.

It is truly hard to believe one of the rare minds holding our institution's history and procedures to the letter had passed on. It is truly hard to believe that just two weeks ago, he participated in a symposium; and in health and strength spoke on how to obtain international funding and opportunities for Nigerian journals. It is really hard to believe that an elder and prolific writer in our midst, the one who would tell you his own perspective on issues even if he remained in the minority view is gone. Yes indeed, whether you loved him or otherwise, all are bound to miss him because he was a special gift from God to the CoMUI community. It is therefore with deep sorrow that I announce the passing of Professor Olufemi David Olaleye into eternity.

He was appointed Lecturer I, in the Department of Virology, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Nigeria on 1 October 1986 and Professor of Virology on 1 October 1995. He was appointed Consultant Virologist, University College Hospital, Ibadan, Nigeria on 11 March 1992 and held this position as Specialist Adviser until he passed away.

He served the University of Ibadan as Head of Virology multiple times and was Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria from 1 August 2006 to 31 July 2010. He was also an Adjunct Professor, at the Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois, USA from May 2010 to date.

He served his nation through the Federal Ministry of Health as Consultant Virologist, National HIV/Syphilis Sentinel Survey Programme from 1999 to 2012 and was Consultant Virologist and Member, Ministerial Committee on Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme of the Federal Ministry of Health of Nigeria from 2001 to 2005. He was Director of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) National Influenza Centre, University College Hospital, Ibadan, Nigeria from 1998 to date.

Professor Olaleye was an Elder in his local church and was happily married to Mrs Caroline Olaleye and blessed with wonderful children. On a personal note, we lived for many years in the same neighbourhood and I remember very vividly, several years ago, the joy and thanksgiving, which exuded from his heart, when we all gathered in the neighbourhood as he and his wife, dedicated their house to God.

Approximately two weeks before his demise, Professor Olaleye participated as a speaker at the 1st Professor Ayorinde Elegbe Symposium hosted by the Department of Physiology in the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences on Wednesday 14 July 2021. Little did we know that that would be his last public outing in the College. He will be greatly missed.

'To live in the hearts of those we love is never to die'.

Prof. David Olufemi Olaleye: The Man of Due Process

Samuel Babafemi Olaleye

Professor of Gastrointestinal Physiology and Inflammation and Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of medicine, University of Ibadan. Ibadan, Nigeria

Although I wish I were writing this at his retirement party instead of his funeral, we all know that life isn't fair sometimes. It's not fair that Prof. David Olaleye was taken from us just three years before the retirement age. It is obvious that death came calling on Prof. Olaleye at the wrong time. Death and indeed a death so sudden and painful like the death Prof O.D. Olaleye on July 27 2021 makes one realize the brevity of life. It has made me take time to appreciate the loved ones in my life because I don't know what tomorrow will bring.

Thirteen days before his death, and on one of his last official functions at the 5th year anniversary symposium in honour of Prof R.A. Elegbe, our fourth Dean in the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, Prof David Olaleye spoke extensively on how to help local journals in Nigeria meet the standard expected of them. At the end of the lecture, I was in the car with him for another one hour, discussing on matters related to the department, the future of the faculty and University of Ibadan. I did not realise that the distinguished and experienced professor was verbally writing a will to bequeath to the institution he had served for more than 27 years.

Until his death, Professor Olaleye was Director, WHO National Influenza Centre, University College Hospital, Ibadan; Director, HIV Laboratory, Department of Virology, UCH; Adjunct Professor, Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois, USA, Consultant Virologist, University College Hospital, Ibadan and Member of the Oyo State COVID-19 Task Force.

He was Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria (2006 to 2010) and 4-time Head of Department, Department of Virology, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria (1994 to 1996, 1998 to 2001, 2004 to 2006, 2014 to 2018), he had over 20 years of management experience at the university level.

I got attracted to Prof David Olufemi Olaleye as a young faculty in 1996, when I moved to Ibadan from the University of Ilorin. Attending faculty board meetings and listening to

elders' contributions to issues with facts and references to regulations of the University was always interesting with the likes of O.D in attendance. Professor O.D. Olaleye was obviously in the category of people with institutional memory. His knowledge of general office processes and Nigeria's constitution helped in solving many knotty issues.

In many ways, he impacted on the lives of many academics through counsel and mentoring. He empowered many young academics by encouraging them to attend conferences, applying for grants and seeking placements for trainings in different parts of the world. He won grants not for selfish undertones but to help humanity.

It was during his tenure as Dean of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences that the concept of organising an international conference was muted to mark the 60th anniversary of the University of Ibadan during the tenure of Prof. Olufemi Bamiro as Vice Chancellor. This was a huge success and a rallying point for scientists showcasing the outputs from their laboratories and clinics. He supported subsequent conferences with passion.

Prof Olaleye obviously had to contend with many foes who saw him as threat anytime he opposed any manipulative attempt to doing things without following normal procedures. He would quietly listen to others as they made their points but would later strongly express his points to drive home his own conviction. He was one man who cared less about how enemies destroyed his name (as long as he was convinced of what he considered as truth). In most cases, I found that at the end of these battles of opinion and processes, he came out justified. Prof Olaleye feared no man but was compassionate to those who sought his counsel and help in difficult situations.

Prof. David Olufemi Olaleye, you will be remembered for your selfless service to the Department of Virology, where you spent most hours of your days. You will be remembered for your contributions to the growth of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences where you touched the lives of many young academics. You will be remembered for all you did to make teaching and research appreciated in the University of Ibadan.

Adieu, Prof. David Olufemi Olaleye.

A Great Teacher, Excellent Mentor and An Academic Giant

Georgina Njideka Odaibo

Professor and Head, Department of Virology, University of Ibadan. Ibadan, Nigeria

I have tried to come to terms with reality and accept that Professor Olaleye is no more, but it has been difficult, and referring to him now in past tense has been a big challenge. This sad and shocking event occurred almost two months ago but it still feels like a dream. Well, I guess I do not have a choice, as his first PhD student and one who worked more closely with him for almost 30 years; I had to pray for special grace to be able to pencil down something.

My first encounter with Professor David Olufemi Olaleye was in 1993 when I came to Virology department of the University of Ibadan for my master's degree program. The

event of that encounter with him is well documented in my inaugural lecture ("The Same Enemy, Different Consequences") presented on the 27th of June 2019. That encounter that I today consider a divine providence, stimulated my interest in retrovirology and also instilled in me the spirit and attitude of hard work, commitment and dedication.

Prof was a great man with many parts. He supervised my MSc project (1993-94) and I am his first PhD student (1994-1999). He was a great teacher, an excellent mentor, a father to many, defender of the oppressed, a forthright person, a man of integrity and one who will stand for the truth even when every

other person is against him. He was a researcher par excellence, highly knowledgeable, brilliant and intelligent person who at the same time was humble and willing to learn from others.

In this tribute, I would like to highlight some of these attributes/qualities of Professor Olufemi David OLALEYE hoping that those who take time to read through will learn and imbibe one or two things.

Professor Olaleye As A Great Teacher: Professor Olaleye was very knowledgeable about so many things/different areas and his memory was superb. He used all of these to bring to bear on his expositions on difficult principles, using day to day examples or happenings. There was always a story to tell on almost every topic that will help you understand and also remember when the need arises.

To him, there was never a bad answer in the class, as he would always find ways of making you realize that your response was wrong without making you look stupid. When it comes to working on the bench; he taught by example. I remember during our days as MSc students, for every new experiment we performed, he would first of all demonstrate and then we would carry on. At the end of the experiment, he would also review the results and discuss the implications with us.

Professor Olaleye as Excellent Mentor: Professor Olaleye's keen interest in career development of young people was impeccable/outstanding. He had a God given skill for mentoring, which was sharpened by his experience in various institutions and laboratories where he trained overseas. He had a vision on how to institutionalize mentoring in the university system in the country. Each time he returned from one of his trips for a short training abroad, one of the experiences he would share with us was the kind/level of organized programs for young faculty that existed in those institutions. He would compare it with what operated locally where a young man/lady is employed as a lecturer/researcher and all he or she gets is an office, teaching schedule and students to supervise; and from then on he/she is on his/her own (OYO); there is little or no guidance on how to do the business of academics.

He looked forward to having opportunity of establishing formal mentoring program at the University of Ibadan. While waiting for the opportunity to demonstrate this on a large scale (university wide), he started with those within his immediate reach. Some of us who shared in that vision allowed ourselves to be mentored while few others taught the process was too cumbersome. Mentorship is a good example of the Bible passage that reveals that "it takes two to tango". Hence the Mentor and Mentee must agree to work together (Amos 3:3 "can two walk together unless they agree"?), otherwise none of them will benefit from the relationship.

The opportunity to fulfill his dream eventually came in 2010 when he and other colleagues from six Universities in Nigeria (UI, UNN, UNILAG, ABU, UNIJOS & UNIMAID), Harvard School of Public Health, Boston USA, Northwestern University, Chicago, USA and APIN Public Health Initiative, Nigeria received a grant (MEPIN) from the National Institute for Health (NIH), USA. Prof Olaleye was the Principal Investigator of this grant that focused on capacity development with mentored research as one of the flagship objectives. With the award of this grant, Prof's desire to implement an organized/formal mentoring program was not only achieved at

the University of Ibadan but in five other universities located in different regions of Nigeria. This training had great impact on career development of thousands of young faculty, resident doctors and PhD students who participated in the program.

In 2015, Professor Olaleye and Colleagues in the University of Ibadan received another grant (UI-MEPI-J) from NIH, specifically for mentored training for junior faculty in medical sciences and related fields at the University of Ibadan. Junior faculty, Resident doctors and PG students from faculties of Basic Medical Science, Clinical Science, Dentistry, Public Health, Veterinary Medicine, Pharmacy, Sciences, Social Science and the University College Hospital have benefitted from this program.

Professor Olaleye mentored several people many of whom are at the peak of their career including 8 full Professors and 4 Directors of institutes. His mentees are from diverse specialties and located in different part of the globe. As a way of appreciating Prof for his commitment, dedication and sacrifices made towards our career development, his mentees celebrated him specially on his 60th birthday (July 21 2014). The height of the celebration was the presentation of a guest lecture on epidemic prone viral infection by Professor Nasidi, the then Director of special duties, FMOH. I remember it was while Prof Nasidi was returning to Abuja via Lagos, after that lecture that he received the news of the index case of Ebola virus in Nigeria. The co-incidence of the lecture that dwelt so much on Ebola because of the ongoing epidemic in West Africa at that time and the 1st report of the virus in Nigeria was quite interesting. Prof's mentees were already looking forward to celebrating him again @ 70 when he would have been bowing out of the services of the University of Ibadan in July 2024 but this was never to be.

Looking back, I give thanks to God (the one who knows the end even from the beginning) that we celebrated him while he was alive and able to hear us say all the great things about him. He provided mentoring in research (grants writing, implementation and management), teaching, administration, work ethics, career development, rules and regulations, and institutional guidelines etc.

Professor Olaleye as a rare father: Professor Olaleye was father, not only to his biological children, but to every young person who came his way. He will not hesitate to commend any hard and great work as well as condemn any bad behaviour as a loving and caring father will do. It didn't matter your status, your gender and where you come from (he was a completely de-tribalized person), he will treat you with care. When he was not happy about a situation, he will say it clearly and instantly too, mainly to correct and prevent reoccurrence. At the Department of Virology, he was referred to as "Daddy Virology". He was loved by most of the staff who were ready to celebrate him on any achievement. His birthday was always celebrated by staff of the department, and he was also always there to celebrate birthdays, naming ceremonies, marriages etc. of any of the staff.

He had a listening ear and a sympathetic heart that was always ready to help as the need arose. One of the non-teaching staff of the department has this to say about him and I quote, "A rare father, counselor, teacher you can't come back the same even if he can't solve your problem, he will always ensure you don't leave his office with a heavy heart.. the wound created in our hearts by your demise cannot be healed by any physician".

Professor Olaleye as A Brilliant Researcher: Professor Olaleye was a Researcher per excellence! His research area focused on Sero-immunodiagnosis of virus-related diseases among patients, isolation and identification of viruses from specimens collected from patients attending the University College Hospital and several other hospitals in south-western Nigeria, laboratory investigation of epidemics of viral diseases in Nigeria particularly yellow fever, Rift Valley fever, Lassa fever, influenza, acute respiratory diseases, rotavirus, isolation/characterization of HIV-1 & 2 from different parts of Nigeria, surveillance of HIV infection among different risk groups in Nigeria, sub-typing HIV-1 & 2 isolates in Nigeria and more recently, characterization of SARS-CoV-2 isolates in Nigeria.

One of the major breakthroughs of his research was the first isolation and characterization of the 2nd HIV recombinant form (CRF02 during his Fogarty International Research Fellowship program at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA (Sept. 1990 - Sept. 1992). This virus strain that he named IbNg (for Ibadan Nigeria) has been shown to be the predominant strain circulating in West Africa and a good candidate for development of vaccine in the region.

Professor Olaleye does not have any single authored research article. He believed that good science can never be done in silos and collaborated with others both internationally and in Nigeria. He had research collaborators from USA, Germany, France, UK, Italy, Kenya, South Africa, Cameroon, Ghana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Uganda, Nigeria, etc. Prof Olaleye was Principal Investigator, Co-PI and Investigator of many research grants received from various granting bodies. He attracted one of the highest number of grants (in terms of number and Dollar value) to the University of Ibadan. In fact, his name was synonymous to “research grant”.

Professor Olaleye As Capacity Development Guru: The two broad areas of capacity development are human and infrastructural development. Professor Olaleye contributed and invested in-terms of time & effort, immensely to both human and infrastructural development in the Department of Virology, the FBMS, the COMUI, the University of Ibadan and Nigeria university system in general.

Infrastructural Capacity Development

Revitalization of the Department of Virology: In 1994 when he was appointed for the first time as acting Head of the Department of Virology, the department was in a deplorable state, as was the situation with most other units in the University at that time. Today, the face of the department has completely changed and has been elevated to enviable position within the university. Department of Virology used to be a go no area for many people. I remember very clearly some of the staff of UCH/COM asking the few who related and visited us at the Virology department what they were looking for at the department? But today, the story is different! The question is in the reverse order, why are you not in Virology? Virology belongs to us and that is where we should be? These are the kind of responses we get. It took the effort/hard work, dedication, commitment of this great visionary, selfless, team player and erudite researcher, Professor David Olaleye to bring about this glorious face of the Department of Virology. With funds from his grants and support from funders, the department was renovated (tilled, painted, air conditioners for

labs etc.), state of the art equipments and backup generators were provided.

In addition, during his tenure as Head of Department (1998-2001), a decision was taken to accumulate funds allocated to the department from postgraduate school for a period to be able to purchase good equipment as needed by the department for teaching and research. This has become the practice in the department till date and a couple of equipments have been bought through this means.

The Department of Virology have been transformed from a unit with few equipment for classical laboratory techniques to a state-of-the-art laboratory with up-to-date facilities for serology, molecular virology, cytometry, immunology and chemistry. With the provision of generators, the department is among the few areas in the University and the hospital that is enjoying 24 hours power supply.

As a member of the Presidential Committee on Avian Influenza, he lobbied for the establishment of a special pathogen laboratory from the Federal Ministry of Health. This building was completed with funding from the World Bank. This is the building housing a major part of the Department since the commencement of the reconstruction of the departmental building since June 2015.

Professor Olaleye led a team of well-motivated academic and technical staff of the Department of Virology University of Ibadan through the WHO Strengthening Laboratory Management Toward Accreditation (SLMTA) program and the WHO Regional Office for Africa’s Stepwise Laboratory Quality Improvement Process Towards Accreditation (SLIPTA) and the SANAS Quality Management Training Program our laboratory was granted international accreditation for ISO15189 for medical laboratory in March 2018, thus making the history of being the first and the only laboratory in this University to achieve this status. It is important to note that only four public laboratories in Nigeria have such international accreditation.

Establishment of the e-Learning center: Professor Olaleye was an advocate of the use of technology for teaching and learning. According to him, “training at the university level in the 21st century requires a shift toward self-learning and therefore the need to provide access to information, teaching materials and other references that are available online to our students”. It was on this premise that during his deanship he decided to establish an e-learning center at the preclinical units of the Faculty. This he was able to accomplish with part of the funds saved over the first 3 years of his tenure as the Dean.

Human Capacity/Faculty Development: With support from NIH training grants, Professor Olaleye spearheaded and coordinated, at university level, various faculty development workshops including, Responsible conduct of Research, Grants writing, Manuscript writing, Research methodology. Many academic staff in the College of Medicine as well as related Faculties in the University (Science, Veterinary, Pharmacy, Agriculture) has benefited from this program. These short courses which were initiated in collaboration with Professor Rob Murphy of NU, Chicago and Prof Phyllis Kanki of HSPH, Boston have been well integrated into the system with highly experienced/senior faculty facilitating each of the courses annually.

During his tenure as Dean of Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, Professor David Olaleye established the UniIbadan

conference of biomedical research to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the University of Ibadan in 2008. This conference, which attracted participants in biomedical sciences and related fields in universities all over the country and abroad created a platform for young scientist within the country to showcase their work, learn new ideas and establish networks required for career growth in their various fields. Today, this conference has become a flagship conference in the University of Ibadan and some sister faculties in other Universities have followed suit. As Dean, he also part sponsored some junior faculty for training abroad to complete Ph.D. bench work.

Summary and Conclusion: I would like to conclude this tribute by noting that Professor David Olufemi (OD-as he was fondly called by some his close friends) was a great man who impacted many lives, both old and young. His integrity was impeccable. He was an honest and peace-loving person who would oppose any case of injustice meted, not only to him, but to anyone at all, even those he did not know before the act of injustice.

He was hardworking and he appreciated hard work, and would not trade merit for sentiments, tribalism or anything less. He was a forthright person who would always see white and call it white, outspoken and truthful. Unfortunately, we are in a society where a good proportion of people do not like to be told the truth, either about them or what they are doing. When you look at them straight in the eye and tell them the truth, they castigate you, label you and call you all sort of names. But to Prof, he closed his ears to all of that, calling them “noise and distractions”.

Professor Olaleye, despite his high level of intelligence and brilliance, was humble. He respected everyone, irrespective of age and gender, he was humility personified. He was a system person and a patriotic Nigerian. He would always consider the interest of the system first, be it the Department, Faculty, University and the country at large in any decision or comment.

He was a custodian of history about so many things and spheres of life. All you needed to do was to ask him about something that happened in the past, and he would pour down

every detail. This he was able to do because he had his ears to the ground, read widely and paid attention to details. Professor Olaleye was a child and servant of the Most High and God’s principles guided his decisions and relationships. In fact, men of his caliber are rare to find, we have really lost a gem! One of the young faculty in the Department made a statement few days ago: “great people like Prof usually bow out unceremoniously and when the ovation is loudest, however, we continue to see them through their great works and the lives they have impacted”. I gave this a good thought and began to see examples around us.

Professor Olaleye was a Virologist par excellence who served his community selflessly and meritoriously. He impacted lives and made indelible marks in the sand of time.

For me and all his mentees scattered all over the world, Professor Olaleye was the giant who provided a shoulder that enabled us to stand tall under any circumstance. Unfortunately, that shoulder is no more, however, he did not only give us fish, but he also taught us how to fish. So, this is the time for us to stand on our feet and to go out fishing so that we can sustain all the wonderful legacies he left under our care.

Professor will be sorely missed by all who ever met him because there was never a dull moment with him, he always left an impression no matter how short the encounter. It is not how long but how well a man lives, that matters.

I thank God for the opportunity for me to know him and be a beneficiary of his fulfilled and an impactful life. He will always live in our hearts.

It is my prayer that the Spirit of God, who is the great comforter, will grant his beloved wife, Mrs. Caroline Adedayo Olaleye, children, grandchildren, siblings, and other family members the fortitude to cope with his absence.

May the gentle soul of my Professor, Mentor, Father and Friend continue to rest in the bosom of his creator until we meet to part no more. Amen!

Good night Prof!

Adieu my Mentor, Father and Friend!!

Your mentee and academic daughter

He Was Not an Academic Politician

Professor Olufemi Adebisi Bamiro

Former Vice Chancellor, University of Ibadan

First and foremost, I must commiserate with the immediate and extended families and colleagues of this great academic, Prof. David Olaleye. The suddenness of his departure was captured by Prof. Dele Jegede, Director, Research Management Office, University of Ibadan in his tribute in the Tribune Newspaper titled, *Sunset at noon, Professor Olufemi David Olaleye*. In the tribute he noted, as follows:

In fact, during our discussion on Wednesday, 21 July, 2021 about the upcoming visit of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) monitoring team from the Nigeria Academy of Science (NAS) to his project scheduled for Friday, 23 July, 2021, he did not show any sign of weakness. His condition looked very good that day and he was of high spirit to the extent that we planned to meet on Monday, 26. Unfortunately, we couldn't meet on Monday as planned but only to receive the sad news of his death far away in Abuja in the early hours of Tuesday. What a tragedy!

Thus, if I am to title this tribute, it will undoubtedly be - “*David Olaleye: Another sudden death too many in the hand of the arrogant enemy of humanity*”. Death, through its wicked hands, did us an irreparable damage by snatching from us our brilliant, amiable, creative, hard-working professor of Virology in a rude and shocking manner and in this critical period that his expertise is most needed.

I had the opportunity of close association with Prof. Olaleye when he was the Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, from 1st August 2006 to 31st July, 2010, a period that was within my tenure as the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan from 30th November, 2005 to 1st December, 2010. I can still recall his contributions to issues then as a member of the Appointments and Promotions Committee of the University. Always downright logical and not given to sentiments or “academic” politics. As noted by Prof Olayinka Omigbodun,

the current Provost of the College of Medicine in her tribute, "... the one who would tell you his own perspective on issues even if he remained in the minority".

I recall with gratitude the help rendered and care shown to me, my extended family and colleagues in the height of the COVID Pandemic. He was always there to advise and act. I am eternally grateful.

This tribute will be incomplete without my reference to his research capacity in respect of which I had earlier sent a tribute as my contribution to the special publication by the UI Research Management Office. Therein I shared with readers my involvement with the research grant won by this excellent scholar in the journey towards tackling the problems posed by the COVID Pandemic.

Under the TETFund COVID-19 Special grant, with which I was actively involved as the Chairman of the National Research Fund Screening and Monitoring Committee, with responsibility for the screening of proposals for possible grant awards, Prof Olaleye was the Principal Investigator (PI) of the research proposal titled "Development Of Simple Affordable PCR Technique, Immunology and Molecular Characterisation of Sars-Cov-2 (Covid-19) in Nigeria". In the proposal, Prof Olaleye noted as follows:

"These early and structural genes of the virus are targeted for diagnosis using the Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) technology. The challenge with the RT-PCR method is the limited availability of facilities for the assay and limited manpower to carry out the assay in the country. It is therefore important to develop simpler molecular assay, which can be

used to target the same early, and structural genes for a more affordable assay for widespread diagnosis of the virus infection in resource-limited settings like Nigeria. Furthermore, although the complete genome of the SARS-CoV-2 has been elucidated and published, there is still dearth of information on the genome of SARS-CoV-2 in Africa, including Nigeria."

There were 10 Co-Researchers from diverse disciplines and from the University of Ibadan, University of Lagos, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Federal University of Technology, Owerri, and Northwestern University, Chicago, USA. This shows clearly his grasp of the need for a multidisciplinary approach to tackling such problem, and, most significantly, his reaching out beyond the confines of the University of Ibadan in constituting the research team. The proposal was highly commended by local and foreign assessors who noted the great potential for scientific breakthroughs, disruptive innovation, start-ups, spin-offs commercialization. According to foreign assessor, it had the distinct possibility of leading to some important information for vaccine, antiviral and diagnostics design.

Painfully, Prof. Olaleye, the Project PI had bowed out, leaving other members of the Research Team to continue, with the hope of accomplishing the project goals. Disturbing and most shocking as it is, it serves to remind us all of the inevitable end of all mortals. However, for our Late Professor of Virology, his good works and excellent memories console one. May he rest well in the realm where death is a futility.

My condolences, once again, to all and his beloved family.



African Forum for Research and Education in Health

He Always, Boldly Spoke His Mind

The African Forum for Research and Education in Health (AFREhealth) mourns the passing of Professor David Olufemi Olaleye, Professor of Virology at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria and a member of the AFREhealth Governing Council.

David was the Principal Investigator of the NIH funded University of Ibadan MEPI Junior Faculty Training Research Training Program (D43TW010140) and founding member of the AFREhealth. David contributed to the establishment of AFREhealth to the best of his abilities. He was a regular at Council meetings and participated keenly in discussions. He will be remembered for the passionate manner in which he would seek clarification or make a contribution and his opinion always generated further discussions and considerations of a matter. He was admired for boldly speaking his mind

Prof Olaleye served as the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee that successfully hosted the AFREhealth 3rd

Annual Symposium in Lagos in August 2019; which recorded the highest attendance in AFREhealth history. He, together with the team, ensured that standards were met and conference delegates travelled back with wonderful memories of Lagos.

He was the Principal Investigator of the STRIPEN-HIV project a partnership between AFREhealth and the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

We, his colleagues at AFREhealth describe him as a jolly one; he always brought the cheer to our discussions.

Professor Olaleye was a great mentor, teacher, brilliant researcher and academic giant and friend.

He will be missed dearly for his passion for AFREhealth and volunteerism.

May his soul rest in perfect peace.

He Had A Positive Outlook

Flora N. Katz, Ph.D.

Director, Division of International Training and Research, Fogarty International Center, National Institute of Health, USA

Dr. David Olaleye was a long-time grantee of the Fogarty International Center, a valued colleague, and a friend. He was instrumental in the success of the Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) and in leveraging the MEPI Principal Investigator Council into a pan-African, vibrant interprofessional network, AFREhealth.

He always had an opinion, often different from others, and enriched every discussion. He always had a positive outlook, was engaged in research and training, and was an incredibly gracious host.

He will be missed. Our sympathy goes out to his colleagues all over the world and to his family and friends.

David Olufemi Olaleye: The inevitable transmutation

Dr Gani Adeniran

Department of Veterinary Pathology, University of Ibadan. Ibadan, Nigeria

It is an understatement to say that he virtually worked himself to the end of his life as a virologist of national and international repute. I saw him last on Wednesday, 7th July in his office. He was hale and hearty. I had gone to request for a proper face mask that would protect me more securely in the plane as I travel to Abuja for the wedding of the son of a colleague of mine who he also knew very well. He had wanted to attend the wedding himself but he cancelled the trip because of the demands of COVID-19 and other challenges. As I was leaving his office with the face masks, he slipped into my hand some crisp Naira notes to augment the cost of my trip to Abuja. Professor Olaleye was ever generous and very considerate. Our paths first crossed in May 1980 when he was in the penultimate class in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Ibadan. I had gone to make enquiry about admission to the Faculty having just finished a Diploma programme in Animal Health School, Moore Plantation a year later. He was also an alumnus of the school which he attended, finishing in flying colors in 1975. That was the beginning of a long-lasting relationship of over 40 years that was only rudely and cruelly terminated by death.

After the NYSC year, Professor Olaleye returned to the Faculty first to handle my class in practical demonstration in Veterinary Pathology and he thereafter became a staff of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. He was a most diligent lieutenant of Professor Lekan Oyejide in the Immunopathology Laboratory where I did the long vacation SIWES in 1984/1985. I recall a mild drama during a simple Agar Gel precipitation test after we had set the Agar the previous day. After the necessary mixture of antigen and antibodies, Dr Olaleye (as he was then) asked me if I could observe any reactions in the holes. As if I was regurgitating textbook or lecture notes, I said yes, I saw antibody antigens; but when he asked what types of antibody antigens, I couldn't answer!

By the time Prof Olaleye completed his MVSc degree of Veterinary Pathology in 1985, he was already reaching for the stars. His appointment at the Department of Virology, College of Medicine was seamless and his elevation to the pinnacle of his career as a scholar in 1995 was a tale foretold. Working under the tutelage of the finest virologists the nation could boast of (Professors David West, Fagbami, Fabiyi and Tomori), Olaleye firmly established himself. He spoke science

through the viruses. He researched the nature and taxonomy of the viruses extensively: yellow fever, Rift Valley fever virus, Potiskum Newcastle disease, Respiratory Syncytial virus, Dengue, Rotavirus, Polio, Human Papilloma, Hepatitis B, C and E, Ebola, HIV and COVID-19. Name it!

The title of his inaugural lecture, which he delivered in 2003, captured most succinctly his adventures in the world of viruses: "Finger Prints of a Monster: Message from the Dead to the Living". He worked till his last days on earth. He was always in the laboratory till very late in the night. Sometimes I wondered if he had time to relax or if he ever indulged in any other pastimes. Be it as Head of Department, Dean of Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences or at Faculty, College and University Appointments and Promotions Committee meetings, his guiding principles were: truth, honesty, integrity and sound academic judgement. Some people certainly had difficulties coping with him. In his usual frank manner, he oftentimes explained to people that he was a human being and could also make mistakes and was ever ready for constructive engagement but he had no space or patience for sheer shenanigans or buccaneering.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought out the best in him as a scholar and coordinator. Together with Professor Georgina Odaibo, he rose to the challenges of COVID-19 since the early 2020 and, together, they gave their very best from actual diagnosis in the laboratory, isolation of patients at Olodo, as well as vaccination to advocacy on print and electronic media. Olaleye was a household name. On a particular day, he told me that he was in the Governor's office till 1.00am! He was a responsible family man who brought up his children in the way of the Lord, to put it mildly.

Even in death, David Olaleye remains our common friend, brother, colleague, confidant and benefactor. Personally, I am yet to fully come up to terms with the reality of his departure from mother Earth. When he was alive, I stayed with him through thick and thin and I have no reason to betray our friendship for he never betrayed me in any way. He led a spartan life of dedication, forthrightness, honesty, integrity and dogged commitment to values and ethos. May his gentle soul find comfort and peace in the bosom of his Creator. The world of science will miss this great man. May his redoubtable soul rest in perfect peace.



Celebrating the life and contribution of AAS Fellow David Olufemi Olaleye

Nairobi, Kenya, September 2021

The African Academy of Sciences (AAS) is deeply saddened to have heard of the death of AAS Fellow, Professor David Olufemi Olaleye who passed away on 27 July 2021 in Nigeria.

Professor Olaleye obtained his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1981, Master's in Veterinary Science (Diagnostic Pathology) in 1983 and PhD in Virology in 1991, all from the University of Ibadan. He joined the university immediately after the mandatory one-year national service in 1982 as Resident Veterinary Officer (Pathology). His journey as a virologist started when he was appointed lecturer in the Department of Virology, College of Medicine of the same university in 1986. He rose through the ranks and became a Professor of Virology in 1995. He was appointed a Consultant Virologist at University College Hospital, Ibadan, Nigeria on 11 March 1992, and held this position as specialist adviser until his death.

He was an Adjunct Professor at North Western University, Chicago, Illinois, USA. A founding member of the African Forum for Research and Education in Health, member of the

American Science Honors Society (Sigma Xi) and a member of the Oyo State COVID-19 Task Force.

Professor Olaleye had a distinguished career as a scientist. His research focused on diagnosis, characterisation and molecular epidemiology of various virus-related diseases in Nigeria. He was an excellent teacher and mentor. He mentored many who are at the peak of their careers today.

He dedicated over 20 years in management at the university level and served as the Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan (2006 to 2010) and four-time Head of Department, Department of Virology, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan (1994 to 1996, 1998 to 2001, 2004 to 2006, 2014 to 2018).

The AAS remembers him for his contribution to the growth of the Academy.

Media contacts, The African Academy of Sciences

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Institute of Global Health Mourns Longtime Colleague

The Institute for Global Health, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, United States of America

To our colleagues and global health community, it is with immense sadness that we inform you of the passing of longtime friend and colleague Professor Olufemi David Olaleye, FAAS on Tuesday 27 July after a battle with COVID-19.

Professor Olaleye was appointed Lecturer I in the Department of Virology at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria in October of 1986, and Professor of Virology in October of 1995. He was appointed Consultant Virologist at University College Hospital, Nigeria in March of 1992, and held the position as Specialist Adviser until he passed away. Professor David Olaleye was an Adjunct Professor of Virology here at Northwestern University beginning in 2010 to the time of his passing, and was a frequent visitor to Chicago where he participated in many events alongside our students and faculty.

His continued drive for knowledge and skill led him to be known for excellence in his field, and over the years has won several awards for his distinctive work, and obtained many fellowships and grants for training, such as the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Professional Service Contract where he studied at the Laboratory of Immunogenetics from 1997 to 1998. His wealth of accomplishment and expertise was clearly evident from the structures and systems he built up and sustained throughout his career.

Throughout his longtime partnership with Northwestern, he served as the Principal Investigator of the University of Ibadan MEPI Junior Faculty Research Training Program: UI-MEPI-J from 2015-2021, in collaboration with Northwestern

University. This program was an extension of the highly successful Medical Education Partnership Initiative Nigeria (MEPIN), of which the goal was to provide an opportunity to address many of the challenges facing the Nigerian education institutions and to improve and strengthen the medical educational system in the country.

Through structured training and mentored research programs, junior faculty members at the University of Ibadan gained enhanced capabilities in research methodology, research management, bioethics training, mentorship, scientific publication productivity and grant writing with the goal to enhance individual research capacity for scientists whose work addresses the priority health needs of Nigeria.

Professor Olaleye served his nation through the Federal Ministry of Health as Consultant Virologist, National HIV/Syphilis Sentinel Survey Programme from 1999 to 2012, and was Consultant Virologist and Member of the Ministerial Committee on Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme of the Federal Ministry of Health of Nigeria from 2001 to 2005. He was also Director of the World Health Organization's (WHO) National Influenza Centre, University College Hospital, Ibadan, Nigeria from 1998 till the time of his passing.

He has been described as a brave and brilliant leader, teacher, and mentor, and will be remembered for his talent, intellect, and life of service. We convey our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and all who knew Professor David Olaleye.

Unforgettable Footprint

Adesola Ogunniyi

Professor of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

The death of Prof Olaleye came as a rude shock because, in academic circles, he loomed larger than life. The outpouring of emotions after his death showed that he touched many lives in his lifetime. He was the quintessential researcher, Virologist, academic administrator, mentor per excellence, adviser and a humane person. He was renowned for his work on various viruses including hepatitis viruses and the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). He would be remembered for his contributions on the geographic distribution of HIV-1 group showing recombinant virus CRF_AG to be the most prevalent subtype in West Africa, and the documentation of cross-reactivities of HIV 1, 2.

Our collaboration started 25 years ago when we studied the association between the human T-lymphotropic virus I (HTLV-1) and myelopathies. We thereafter worked very closely in developing the proposal for our unique Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) programme, and later its execution. The grant was secured from the US Presidential Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and administered by the Fogarty International Center. He was the Principal Investigator of the Nigerian Consortium that included 6 Universities – Ibadan, Lagos, ABU, UNN, Maiduguri and Jos.

The Northwestern University and Harvard School of Public Health were our US collaborators. Through his commitment, dedication and vision, the grant ran successfully for a decade. The grant has contributed largely to the revision

and implementation of the curricula of various undergraduate medical courses in many Nigerian universities. In the later years of the grant, he focused on the mentoring of early career researchers. Our College of Medicine benefited from a renewal of the MEPI grant which transformed into the UI-MEPI-J award for junior faculty. Many academic staff attended the various capacity building programmes and continuing medical education courses organized under these initiatives.

His unique leadership style of inclusiveness, team building, diplomacy and wide consultation on all issues resulted in our successful hosting of the annual conference of the Africa Research Health and Education (AFREhealth) community in August 2019. It was a joy to travel with him within Nigeria and outside as part of the project demands as such trips always provided a new learning experience and opportunities to understand him better as a man of integrity, and with godly principles.

Professor Olaleye has left a legacy of excellence, devotion and commitment. For those of us who worked closely with him, we will miss his friendly disposition, wise counsel, passion, drive and depth of knowledge. His footsteps in the sands of time will not be forgotten. May his soul rest in peace and may God console his family and loved ones.

Adieu Prof. David Olaleye.

Gentle Sense of Humour

Dr. Keith Martin.

Executive Director, CUGH

It was with profound sadness that we heard of the passing of our friend and colleague, Prof. Dr. David Olaleye. The news was almost impossible to comprehend and is still difficult to accept.

Prof. Olaleye was a giant of science, medicine and global health in Nigeria, across Africa and around the world. A mentor to many and a friend to many more, he always worked for those who were most vulnerable, striving to improve their lives. A founding member of the African Forum for Research and Education in Health (AFREhealth), he was central in enabling that organization to become the leading consortium of academic institutions in Africa addressing global health challenges.

He was also instrumental in forging a strong relationship between AFREhealth and our Consortium of Universities for

Global Health (CUGH) in Washington, DC. However, he was much more than a professional colleague. He was a friend.

Kind, thoughtful, and considerate, he always made you feel welcome. His gentle sense of humor brought joy to anyone within his orbit. These personal qualities in such an esteemed scientist were inspiring, especially to those young researchers at the start of their career. In Prof. Olaleye they saw an individual who was a scientist, teacher and role model. A superb ambassador for our profession and his beloved Nigeria.

No words can assuage the grief David's family, friends and colleagues are enduring at this time but please know that, from all of us at CUGH, our hearts are with you during this most difficult of times.

Personally, I deeply miss David but I know that his gentle presence and gracious example of leadership and compassion will remain with us.

A Friend, a Collaborator and An Expert Virologist

Phyllis J. Kanki

Mary Woodard Lasker Professor of Health Sciences, Harvard T H Chan School of Public Health

Professor David Olufemi Olaleye was a distinguished Virologist known for his commitment to combatting the most important viral pathogens affecting the country. I join the many students, friends, and colleagues in mourning the passing of our dear Professor. I met David Olaleye in the year 2000 on my first trip to Nigeria. From that very first meeting

we began our research on HIV/AIDS that would span over 20 years. Not only was Professor Olaleye an expert Virologist but also one with the necessary public health perspective to address diagnostic and surveillance challenges.

He was one of the leaders of the University of Ibadan Medical Education Partnership program in Nigeria (MEPIN)

that began in 2010, blossoming to subsequent programs in Jos and Lagos.

These longstanding international research training programs provided young scientists throughout the country

with opportunities to develop their research capacity, a legacy that Prof would be proud of. Over years of research collaboration and friendship, David was kind and generous with his time and expertise, he will be greatly missed.

The Sun That Set at Noon

Ayodele Samuel Jegede,

Director, Research Management Office, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

The death of Professor Olufemi David Olaleye of the Department of Virology, University of Ibadan in the early hours of Tuesday, 27 July, 2021 came as a rude shock to the university community. He was born on July 21, 1954, in Ogbomosho, Oyo State, Nigeria to the family of Pa James and Mama Esther Olaleye.

He joined the service of the University of Ibadan immediately after his NYSC in 1982 as Resident Veterinary Officer (Pathology) and later was appointed Lecturer I in the Department of Virology, College of Medicine of same University in 1986 where he rose through the ranks of Senior Lecturer (1989) to Professor of Virology in 1995. Until his death Professor Olaleye was the Director of the World Health Organization's (WHO's) National Influenza Centre, University College Hospital, Ibadan; Director of the HIV Laboratory in the Department of Virology, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan; Adjunct Professor of the Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois, USA and a Member of the Oyo State COVID-19 Task Force.

Professor Olaleye was the Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria (2006 to 2010) and he was the Head of Department of Virology, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan at different times (1994 to 1996, 1998 to 2001, 2004 to 2006, 2014 to 2018).

In fact, during our discussion on Wednesday, 21 July, 2021 about the upcoming visit of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) monitoring team from the Nigeria Academy of Science (NAS) to his project scheduled for Friday, 23 July, 2021, he did not show any sign of weakness. His condition looked very good that day and he was of high spirit to the extent that we planned to meet on Monday, 26. Unfortunately, we couldn't meet on Monday as planned but only to receive the sad news of his death far away in Abuja in the early hours of Tuesday. What a tragedy!

A Professor of Virology and a great scientist with outstanding achievements, Professor Olaleye was a hardworking person and an excellent researcher who did not compromise standards. He brought his training experiences to bear in all his undertakings. Professor Olaleye was a German Academic Exchange (DAAD) Postdoctoral Fellow at Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Institute, Hamburg, Germany; American Foundation for AIDS Research; Fogarty International Research Fellow and Lady Tata Memorial Leukaemia Researcher all at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA for a period of four years. His further research training as Alexander von Humboldt Fellow in Frankfurt, Germany and National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Rockville, Maryland, USA eloquently prepared him for a lifetime research in infectious diseases. He made significant contributions to the world of science during his lifetime.

Professor Olaleye used his research experience and opportunities to address institutional and human capacity

building needs at the critical period of the university system in Nigeria especially in the area of research. As a result, the University of Ibadan Research Management Office (RMO) mourns the shocking demise of this man of honor and reputation for his significant contributions to the development of research administration at the university.

A foremost Virologist, resourceful and productive researcher, Prof. Olaleye wrote his name with indelible ink on the growth and development of the RMO. He was always advancing innovative ways to achieve best practices. He is indeed passionate about the future of research in UI and as a result, invested enormous resources - time, energy and money - to promote the institutionalization of research infrastructures in the university.

As the Principal Investigator of the Medical Education Partnership Initiative Nigeria (MEPIN) project, he sponsored the training of Research Administrators at the North-western University, Chicago and Harvard School of Public Health, Boston USA from his grant. This was the first major landmark training of the RMO staff. Aside from this, he sponsored Research Administrators' attendance at conferences with a view to increasing their capacity and standard for global best practices and the visibility of the research management office.

Professor Olaleye used his position as the Principal Investigator (PI) of the MEPIN project to support research ethics education and review systems. For more than 10 years, he supported many workshops on the research ethics. For instance, apart from being in attendance, he through the MEPIN project in collaboration with the Institute for Advanced Medical Research and Training (IAMRAT) funded a workshop on "Emerging and Contemporary Issues in Human Subject Research" for Members of the Ethics Committee and Reviewers which took place on 28 and 29 June, 2016. Also, he supported the Animal Care and Use Research Ethics Committee (ACUREC) during the maiden edition of the ACUREC workshop in 2017 and the recently concluded training workshop of 2021.

At the recently organized Reviewers' training workshop by ACUREC in 2021, he was in attendance to share his wealth of experience with the participants.

Professor Olaleye demonstrated an exemplary accomplishment in his contributions to medical education. As the PI of the MEPIN project, he introduced several activities focusing on comprehensive research capacity building for undergraduate medical students, postgraduate students, Resident Doctors and Junior Faculties. The training have been institutionalized in the participating institutions. Over 4,500 participants were trained in research design and implementation. He aroused a research culture among upcoming early career scholars.

The MEPIN project, under his leadership, addressed the dearth of manpower in the rural health sector and improving retention of health workers through community-based education (CBE) preceptorship. This programme enabled

students to learn and acquire professional competencies in a community setting such as basic clinical, research and communication skills. It provides contextual learning that enables trainees to acquire requisite local experiences, competence, confidence and values. The case-based teaching method added value to medical education. For the first time in medical school in Nigeria, the use of AD Instrument (power lab) for the teaching of physiology and pharmacology practical at the undergraduate level was achievable. Also, E-learning was introduced to enhance teaching in the MEPIN institutions.

The outputs from the MEPIN project were encouraging and clearly demonstrated accountability and responsible leadership. Over 100 articles in peer-reviewed local and international scientific journals have been generated from the MEPIN project. The MEPIN project facilitated the development and implementation of competency based medical and dental curricula in Nigeria and some other MEPIN project institutions in Africa.

Also, the dearth of manpower needs for the HIV/AIDS care in sub-Saharan Africa was addressed through the MEPIN project under his leadership. This innovation has positively impacted HIV care service delivery in Nigeria. Over 60,000 university students in four MEPIN institutions in Nigeria have offered the course on reproductive health issues developed as part of this project. The course emphasizes the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs). A new M.Sc. degree in HIV Science program initiated was established to increase the number of high-level health care providers equipped with knowledge and skills for various aspects of prevention and management of HIV/AIDS in Nigeria. Sixty-five Resident Doctors received a certificate of completion of an online, graduate-level "Clinical Management of HIV" course from the University of Washington. All of them are currently offering HIV prevention and treatment services in their clinics and training medical and nursing students. The MEPIN project facilitated rotation of undergraduate medical and dental students and several health professional postgraduate students through the PEPFAR-supported ART clinics in the 6 MEPIN institutions.

As the PI of the University of Ibadan Medical Education Partnership Initiative for Junior Faculty (UI-MEPI-J) project which succeeded the MEPIN project, his achievements were remarkable. As at the time of his demise, a total of 19 trainees from years 01 to 04 cohorts were progressing well with their mentored research training programs after receiving ethical approvals. Fourteen (14) of them spent 4, 6 or 10 weeks for their short-term overseas internship training and mentorship at the Northwestern University, Chicago and Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, USA. Two of the year 01 mentees have presented findings from their project work at international conferences and developed manuscripts for publication.

The UI-MEPI-J project continued to implement the curricula previously developed for faculty development short courses for the institutional level that started in year 01. Additional short courses including viral genomics, sequence analysis and phylogenetic analysis have been developed and being implemented. So far, 1,500 participants have attended the short courses. An intensive course on responsible conduct of research was conducted where all the participants completed the University of Miami online Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI Program) ethics course and 30 hours of didactic Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) lectures; 50 hours each of phylogenetic analysis, viral

genomics/sequence analysis, data analysis and manuscript writing. Participants had 30 hours of hands-on classes in bibliography and literature reference management; 36 hours each for research design/methodology and bioethics. Participatory/group discussion approaches with practical exercises/cases were used for each of the training programmes.

In addition, participants developed specific documents relevant to each of the courses. There were group works on research integrity, authorship and plagiarism during the RCR course; individual participants developed research proposals during the research design and methodology training. So far, over 2,000 researchers have completed the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) course during the year 04 of implementation of UI-MEPI-J grant. About 50 publications have been generated from the project.

No doubt, the scientific community will miss his contributions to the science of Virology, especially his role in surveillance and control of HIV/AIDS, Ebola virus, other virulent viruses and the recent global pandemic, COVID-19, locally and internationally.

As Dean of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, Professor Olaleye initiated and organized the first Unibadan conference of biomedical research as part of the programs for the celebration of the University of Ibadan 60th anniversary in 2008. The conference attracted participants in biomedical sciences and related fields locally and internationally. The conference has since created a platform for young scientists to present their works, learn new ideas and establish networks while the senior scholars renew and strengthen their networks. Today, this conference is one of the flagship faculty-based conferences in the University of Ibadan. As Dean, he also partly sponsored some junior faculty for training abroad to complete their PhD bench work.

Indeed, Professor Olaleye was a beacon of strength and support for institutional building throughout his career at the University of Ibadan. He was an open-minded and large-hearted man. He was a committed and faithful member of The Apostolic Church to the core, who believed in and exhibited Christ's virtue and tenets in all his dealings.

Professor Olaleye was a hardworking researcher, wonderful mentor, who supported every forthright individual who came his way. One of his beliefs in life was the importance of being authentic with people, saying: "what needs to be shall be." OD, as many people fondly called him, would say "don't worry, just wait and let us see what God will do. Don't lose hope. Let us continue to pray. Prayer is never too much." My interaction with him strengthened my faith in God and enabled me to be stable in my faith in Jesus Christ.

The success story of the RMO will be incomplete without this academic giant who gave himself selflessly to serve humanity. We are deeply pained by his demise and we pray for the repose of his soul and that the Lord grant him eternal rest, and comfort his loved ones.

Certainly, Professor Olaleye did all he could and left his footprints on the sands of time. The death of Professor Olaleye is like the sun that sets at noon, and we are left dumbfounded. However, when we love people, it is so comforting to know that they will always be with us in our hearts.

Professor Olufemi David Olaleye, truly we love you, but God loves you more.

Sleep on till we meet to part no more.
Adieu! Adieu!! Adieu!!!

Novelty in Contributions To HIV/AIDS Research

Tribute from APIN Public Health Initiatives, Nigeria

When Harvard University won the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation award in 2000 and wanted to begin the implementation of the AIDS Prevention Initiatives in Nigeria (APIN) project, one of the scholars they reached out to was Professor David Olaleye. The reason for this was not far-fetched. Prof. Olaleye had done extensive work on the HIV virus in Nigeria which led him to identify the circulating recombinant form CRF02_AG otherwise called IBNG because it was discovered in Ibadan Nigeria. Over the years, as the project transitioned from research based to service delivery, Prof Olaleye was instrumental in helping to build the critical mass of healthcare personnel that was needed at the time to be on the frontline of the HIV epidemic.

As the Co-Principal Investigator of the APIN supported HIV program in UCH, Prof Olaleye contributed in no small measure in making the UCH program one of the best in the country. This program gave birth to other centers in nearby Adeoyo and as far as Ijebu-Ode, Saki and the enormous achievements recorded in HIV treatment in the entire Oyo state and other parts of the south west region. As Director of the APIN supported Virology Laboratory, Prof Olaleye

contributed immensely to making the lab one of the best in the country. He was also very instrumental in the successful execution of the Medical Education Partnership in Nigeria (MEPIN) in collaboration with APIN.

Prof Olaleye's contributions to laboratory services in the concept of HIV were novel and innovative. His passion for the development and strengthening of laboratory services in Nigeria was highly commendable. Under his leadership, the APIN-supported Virology Laboratory became the third public laboratory in Nigeria to achieve ISO 15189 accredited with international recognition. The meticulous manner in which he carried out all activities that had to do with HIV program not only in Oyo State but Nigeria at large will forever be well acknowledged and appreciated. Serving in different national task teams on HIV, Prof Olaleye was a great asset to APIN and the national HIV response.

We all at APIN will miss Prof. Olaleye: He was an icon in the field of virology who left his mark in the sands of time for the HIV community in Nigeria and the virology world at large. It is our prayer that the Lord console his family and the Virology community.

Memorable Friendship

William Brieger MPH, CHES, DrPH (Atunluse of Idere, Otun Ba'asegun of Igbo-Ora)

Professor, Health Systems Program, Department of International Health, The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Maryland, USA.

When in 1977, I was first allocated a residence in Independence flats at University of Ibadan, I looked to develop a friend network that was local, as my UCH colleagues lived all across the Ibadan metropolis. Fortunately, the cousin of a departmental colleague was a student of Veterinary Medicine, and I got introduced to his friends on campus, among whom was Femi Olaleye. Our conversations over pepper soup and drinks in the evenings went a long way to introduce me to the current issues facing the campus and the country. That friendship persisted over 44 years.

His move into Virology was a perfect fit for his unquenchable thirst for knowledge and desire to improve the health of people in Nigeria and the region. I was not only able to observe his tenacity in HIV and other viral pathogens research, but learn about the latest science and trends as we would still get together socially as in his student days.

In recent years my visits to Nigeria and particularly Ibadan have unfortunately been minimal, but I was able to see Femi occasionally in Abuja and of course when he visited the National Institutes of Health near Washington. We continued to exchange email and discuss research priorities ranging widely from yellow fever to HIV to Ebola. It was always valuable to compare his biological perspectives with my social science orientation to examine how viruses and human beings interacted in real life.

His dozens of scientific articles, some of which have just been published in the past few months, will be a lasting legacy of his scientific contributions. I am glad to have access to these, but more importantly I am most happy to have the memories and photographs of our get together over the years as evidence of a dedicated friend and scientist.

He Was A Man of Great Conviction and Conscience

Prof. Peter Donkor

*Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana
President, West African College of Surgeons*

I met David in 2010 in Johannesburg for the first time during the initial meeting of Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) awardees with US funders from OGAC, HRSA and NIH. He walked up to me and, with a broad grin, introduced himself as the Principal Investigator (PI) of the grant at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. Over the following 10 years, he and other African MEPI PIs worked assiduously to promote competency-based health education on the continent.

David and other African colleagues helped to promote interprofessional health education which eventually led to the creation of the African Forum for Research and Education in Health (AFREhealth), of which he was a founding member.

I received the news of David's death with shock. He will be remembered as a well-meaning, candid and principled colleague who demanded clarity at all times. He was the "conscience" of the Governing Council of AFREhealth, and was never afraid to hold a minority position until his doubts

were erased. He never ceased to remind me that as the first President, my prime goal should be to ensure the survival of the nascent organization.

Prof Olaleye was a man of great conviction, an accomplished academic, a consummate teacher, and a renowned Virologist who spearheaded research into HIV,

Ebola Virus Disease and COVID-19 in Nigeria and Africa. His demise is a great blow to his family and colleagues. In his death, a part of all of us is gone forever and we must pick up the mantle from where he left off.

May his soul rest in perfect peace.

The Passing Unto Glory of a Legend

Prof. and Mrs Ademola H. Fagbami

Retired Professor of Virology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

I was deeply saddened by the passing of David Olaleye, the renowned Professor of Virology, Department of Virology, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan. I first knew about David when in 1986 he responded to an advertisement for a Lecturer I position in the Department of Virology and I was given the task of assessing him as well as four other candidates. Going through the curriculum vitae of all applicants, he stood out clearly as the most qualified. As a student, he excelled as the best at all levels of education graduating as the top student in secondary as well as undergraduate and postgraduate degree examinations. He also led other candidates in the number and quality of published research articles.

Throughout his career as an academician, he worked with passion, diligence and integrity and was able to distinguish himself as one of the most brilliant and accomplished Virologists of our time. He was recognized by his peers and senior colleagues at home and abroad as a foremost researcher on HIV/AIDS and other virus infections of major public health importance including Lassa fever, bird flu and COVID-19. Jointly with his coinvestigators, he attracted major grants to the University, changing the fortunes of the Department of Virology and the College of Medicine, University of Ibadan for the better and making it possible to train postgraduate students at home here in Nigeria with the type of state-of-the-art facilities found in reputable institutions abroad.

David Olaleye will be remembered for his kindness and how he positively touched the lives of many. As a teacher, he served as academic supervisor to many students at undergraduate and postgraduate level. He meticulously supervised their research projects training them to become excellent virologists that they are today. With his research

grants, he created job opportunities for many including the young and the old as well as widows and facilitated conference grants for his peers and senior colleagues. As an Elder of his church, he served God, the Apostolic Faith mission, and humanity to the best of his ability, and as a husband and father, he loved his family very dearly.

David will also be remembered for his humility, honesty and sincerity. He would readily and publicly honour his teachers, acknowledging their contributions to his career development; and when he disagreed with them on any issue, he would do so with humility and respect. He was not a friend of the indolent, the arrogant, the dishonest, and the corrupt, and would fiercely defend the truth everywhere, every time and under any circumstance.

We commiserate with his widow, Mrs. Caroline Olaleye and his children, Damilola, Funmilola, Tomilola and Fisola at this difficult and trying time. God Almighty is your strength and will stand by you as you proceed in this life's journey without your wonderful and devoted husband and father. Trust in God and He will lead you through all challenges that may come your way. His grace will be sufficient for you and you shall find His favour wherever you go and in whatever you do.

David, we mourn your loss today, but we are comforted by the fact that you passionately served God and His church with all your heart and strength while on this earth. It is our belief that, you will be handsomely rewarded in heaven. Just as Saint Paul said about himself in second Timothy, verses 7 -8, David Olaleye has fought a good fight, he has finished the race and kept the faith, and the Lord, God Almighty will reward him with the crown of righteousness.

David Olaleye, sleep on in the bosom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Good Night to a Brilliant, Creative and Hard-Working Professor

Festus D. Adu

Retired Professor of Virology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

Professor Olaleye and I joined the Department of Virology almost at the same time (1987/1988) after both of us completed our PhD under the same Supervisor from the Department.

Professor Olaleye started his immense contribution to the Department immediately he became a faculty, which contribution culminated in his attracting to the Department many international collaborators and fundings. It is to Professor Olaleye's credit that he brought to the Department the APIN (AIDS Preventive Initiative in Nigeria) project which eventually metamorphosed into PEPFAR (President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) as a result of his ground-

breaking research in all aspects of the Virology of the HIV/AIDS virus.

Prof Olaleye was an astute researcher and a very stout University Administrator both at the Departmental, Faculty, Academic Board, and Senate levels. His contributions to debates, deliberations, meetings at all these levels were always expected and ground-shaking.

Prof Olaleye was a great Mentor in the Department and most of his supervised students are holding positions of integrity in various parts of the world today.

I pray that God Almighty will console and preserve those he left behind.

The Institutional Builder

E. Olatunde Farombi, PhD, FRSC, FAS, FAAS, ATS, FNSBMB, FAMedS

Professor of Biochemistry and Toxicology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

It is with a heavy heart that I write this tribute in honor of Professor Olufemi David Olaleye, a distinguished and inimitable Professor of Virology, Fellow African Academy of Sciences (FAAS), a consummate scientist, outstanding scholar, ebullient resource person; rich in 'research currency', exceptional grants man and devoted system man.

What a colossal loss and what a national loss! We lost one of the finest researchers in the University of Ibadan on the 27th July 2021 to the cold hands of death. A man who contributed significantly to the research and grant profile of the College of Medicine and the University of Ibadan.

Unarguably, Professor David Olaleye was a mentor to so many people globally especially University of Ibadan that he loved so much and devoted his life to serve passionately and selflessly even until death. His untimely death has therefore left an unfillable cavernous vacuum in our system.

It is very painful and sad for me to write this tribute as I cannot come to terms that we would not be able to talk, interact, discuss and reason together as we used to do especially late in the night through telephone calls.

On Saturday 24th July around 3 am, I got a call from Dammy who anyway calls me from time to time but never that late at night.. I was deeply asleep but on picking the call and seeing his name, he informed me that Professor Olaleye, his Dad, was seriously sick. Immediately I put up calls to appropriate doctors that can attend to him.

Of course, it was not possible for me to sleep again other than to pray for him and very early around 6 am, when University of Ibadan gate was opened, I quickly drove my car to meet him at the hospital. Throughout the day I was with him, I never thought he was not going to make it as I had full assurance that Professor Olaleye was not going to die.

My encounter and relationship with him date back to the 90s and it was purely based on his ardent love for research and capacity building. This relationship grew in the late 2000s when he became the Dean of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences of our University. Actually, he polled the highest votes in the competitive election between him and two other contestants on account of recognition of his brilliance and research capability and capacity by Faculty members.

As Dean of Faculty, he built exceptional capacity in research and development and entrenched robust research culture especially among the budding faculty members. One of the major achievements when he was Dean of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences was the need to start local conference with the main aim of impacting scientists especially budding academics across the nation. This initiative resulted in the Unibadan Conference of Biomedical Research (UCBR), a biennial conference which has reached its 7th edition.

Today, the conference draws scientists from virtually every state of Nigeria and contributions from esteemed Faculty in the USA, UK, Europe and other African countries. During his tenure as Dean, many young and middle career staff in the College of Medicine benefited from his research efforts through his many grants as they were supported locally and internationally for research activities and mentoring.

Undoubtedly, Professor Olaleye's academic training is quite robust and highly infectious. His outstanding research

output and sterling qualifications and competence could easily be traced to his pedigree and research training as German Academic Exchange (DAAD) Postdoctoral Fellow at Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Institute, Hamburg, Germany; American Foundation for AIDS Research; Fogarty International Research Fellow and Lady Tata Memorial Leukaemia Researcher all at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA for a period of four years. His further research training at Alexander von Humboldt Fellow in Frankfurt, Germany and National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, at Rockville, Maryland, USA eloquently prepared him for a life time research in infectious diseases.

His exceptional research effort has earned him several distinctions and international recognitions for instance as Adjunct Professor in Northwestern University Chicago, USA and as distinguished Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences.

Professor Olaleye was committed to postgraduate training in Virology at the University of Ibadan. He trained several doctoral students and many of them are full Professors of Virology among whom are Professor Georgina Odaibo of Virology Department and Professor 'Dimeji Oluwayelu of Veterinary Microbiology of our Veterinary Medicine Faculty. A diligent and painstaking mentor and researcher, his research effort at the postgraduate level was recognized and rewarded as many of his students received so many awards. For instance, two of his doctoral students won the highly competitive awards of the best PhD thesis in the University of Ibadan in 2018 and best PhD thesis in Veterinary Medicine in Nigerian Universities adjudged by NUC in 2006.

As a man solely committed to research and as an institutional builder, he contributed significantly to research ethics and the establishment and running of the Research Management Office (RMO) of the University of Ibadan. Many researchers at the University of Ibadan have imbibed research culture and learnt the correct way of conducting research responsibly while eschewing scientific misconduct in research as Professor Olaleye facilitated series of workshops, symposia and lectures by engaging international Faculty as resource persons. It is on record that more than 4,000 young academics were trained in research design and implementation and he facilitated the training of over 1,000 students through organization of short courses involving data analysis, manuscript writing and genomic sequence analysis.

As Principal investigator of the MEPIN project, he also facilitated the training and mentoring of undergraduate medical students, postgraduate students and junior faculty. Incontrovertibly, Professor Olaleye's output and productivity naturally dwarfed the achievements of most of his contemporaries.

Through the MEPIN and UI-MEPI-J program Professor Olaleye mentored several resident doctors and early careers medical consultants through rigorous exposure to research training and ethics in research. Many of them have grown by leaps and bounds in the proper conduct of research and thus building a robust research capacity for the College of Medicine and the UCH.

Certainly, the scientific community at the local and national levels will miss his contributions to the science of Virology especially his role in surveillance and eradication of HIV-AIDS, Ebola virus, other virulent viruses and the recent global pandemic, COVID-19. As alluded to by Professor Hilary Inyang, a co-Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences, he succinctly in his elegy for late Professor David Olaleye described him as a “A David against ravages of Viruses”. The University of Ibadan especially, the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences will sorely miss his leadership in terms of wisdom, courage to speak, deep experiential knowledge of the University system, wise counsel for senate to take appropriate decision and pursuit to logical conclusion his belief in matters dealing with adhering to the rules and regulations contained in the books of the University.

His many valuable contributions at the College and Central Appointments and Promotions Committees distinguished him as sound and exceptional academic who stood for truth, honesty, integrity and sound academic judgement. These virtues endeared him to at least two past Vice-Chancellors of the University of Ibadan he worked with at the committee, as they relied so much on his judgment before taking overall decision on promotion cases. At the international level, I recall

in Pretoria, South Africa in 2017 during one of the extraordinary meetings of the African Academy of Sciences, these characteristic virtues of Professor Olaleye assisted greatly in resolving a thorny issue that had lingered so long in the academy to the admiration of Fellows of the academy.

We are consoled by his exemplary, impactful, courageous, daring, daunting, tenacity of purpose and epoch-making career. A bastion of knowledge, a man of brilliance, distinction, excellence, honor, merit, ardent lover of due process and an establishment person, Professor Olaleye will be greatly missed and we will not forget his legacy of research at the College of Medicine and the entire University of Ibadan.

As a close friend to his family, I can say without a tinge of doubt that Professor Olaleye was a God fearing man and family man who brought up his children and raised them in the fear of God in humility, good behavior and respect for people.

May the Lord console his wife Mrs. Caroline Olaleye, his biological children, his academic children and close associates. Indeed, we have lost a rare gift to humanity and a towering academic giant to behold.

Eternal rest grant his gentle soul.

Good night to a wise man and good night to a man of value and valor.

The Exit Of A Great Mentor!

Professor F.A. Okanlawon

Department of Nursing, University College Hospital, Ibadan

Professor David Olaleye would for long be remembered for his distinct and uniqueness as a man with brilliant ideas, marvelous opinions and great vision. He was a good leader who knew the way, showed the way and led the way.

Good people like Professor Olaleye are like candles, they burn themselves up to provide light for others. Professor David Olaleye burnt himself up to serve humanity and to mentor many people that are too numerous to mention. I have worked with Professor Olaleye for many years under MEPI and AFREhealth. Many people knew him as father of MEPI (Medical Education Partnership Initiative), Nigeria Chapter known as MEPIN. MEPI was primarily a matrix of 32 African institutions (13 prime grantees and 29 consortium partners) and 20 US institutions formed in response to a PEPFAR/NIH initiative to promote the quality of medical educations, research capacity, strengthening and retention of health professionals against a backdrop of the dire human constraints for health needs in Sub-Sahara Africa.

Professor Olaleye was one of the African MEPI principal investigators and the pioneer principal investigator for MEPI in Nigeria. Under his leadership, MEPI trained and sponsored so many junior and senior faculty members for postgraduate programs in various medical disciplines. Some of my postgraduate Nursing students benefitted from MEPI sponsorship for their PhD programs.

In 2015, MEPI was expanded, leading to formation of AFREhealth (African Forum for Research and Education in Health) which includes MEPI and NEPI (Medical and Nursing Education Partnership Initiative). AFREhealth is an interdisciplinary health professional forum which seeks to improve health care in Africa through research, education and capacity building. Professor Olaleye recommended me to

AFREhealth to become one of the pioneer PI council members of AFREhealth from University of Ibadan.

Through his high connection, Professor Olaleye assisted in attracting grants for AFREhealth with support from many organizations such as Fogarty International Center (FIC), NIH, CUGH and HRSA.

AFREhealth has executed several training and symposia in many African countries and I had the privilege of travelling with Professor Olaleye to participate in all the AFREhealth programs in many countries including South Africa, Kenya, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Ghana and Zambia. I had the opportunity of taking some of my postgraduate students to AFREhealth programs in some of the above countries to present research papers.

Professor Olaleye again recommended me to D43 MEPI Junior Faculty Research Training and one of the Facilitators for STRIPE (Strengthening Interprofessional Education for HIV). He was the PI for STRIPE in Nigeria. Under his leadership, series of training of trainers had been executed in Nigeria involving thousands of students and staff from different professional background including Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Laboratory Scientists and Counsellors. Many of my Nursing students and academic staff have benefitted from STRIPE. The program is still ongoing currently under the leadership of Prof Georgina Odaibo.

I will forever be grateful to late Prof. Olaleye who has touched and impacted so many lives. You lived an excellent life of service to God and humanity. You have left an indelible legacy for so many people.

We love you but God loves you most. Adieu!

Imperishable Footprint

O. O. Akinyinka

Department of Paediatrics and former Provost, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

The news of your sudden demise came as a shock and it has been the hardest thing to lose you. Professor David Olufemi Olaleye meant so much to friends and academic colleagues.

A great friend and an accomplished academic is never truly gone. Professor Olaleye's memory will remain ingrained in our hearts and minds. In the eternal words of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: "lives of great people remind us we can make our lives sublime and, departing leave behind us footprints in the sands of time."

Professor David Olufemi Olaleye left the world of academia and friendship with imperishable footprints in

research, faculty development and international collaborations.

David Olaleye was great! He was a custodian of rules and regulations.

Fondly called O. D or D. O. will always be remembered by his warm smiles and the long hours we spent together in the evenings in our offices and conferences.

David Olaleye will be sorely missed as O. D will remain in my thoughts.

Good bye my friend.

Expert in Conflict Resolution

Professor Akinyinka O. Omigbodun, FAS, FNAMed

Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Former Provost, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan

Professor David Olaleye was not only a colleague at work, we lived in the same neighbourhood for several years and our children were classmates in school. He has departed far too soon, leaving a huge gap in those places where he had been such a major force for action.

Professor David Olaleye was the Dean of the Faculty of the Basic Medical Sciences during the four years I served as Provost of the College of Medicine, so we had no choice but to work closely together. While we did not always see things from the same perspective, there was no doubting the sincerity of Professor Olaleye in his quest to build up the institution to which he belonged.

The energy he exhibited while performing his duties sometimes seemed unreal; he would attend administrative meetings all day and return to his office/laboratory in the evening to spend several hours with his postgraduate students and members of his research team, only to show up early the following morning for other meetings. He was also deeply knowledgeable about the Public Service Rules of Nigeria, an attribute that was often helpful in resolving knotty administrative issues, but which sometimes led to difficulties in solving other problems.

In the neighbourhood where we both lived then, Professor Olaleye was active in the residents' association and contributed significantly in making the environment a more liveable place. When the community was facing the menace of herdsmen who brought their cattle from Bodija Market to pasture in the neighbourhood, his veterinary knowledge must have helped him come up with pieces of advice on how to

dissuade the herdsmen from coming to the community without overt confrontation. The measures taken then by the committee in charge were quite effective because, within a few weeks, the herdsmen sought other places for their cows to forage for food.

After we both left administrative office, we continued to work together on the Medical Education Partnership Initiative in Nigeria (MEPIN), a testament to his commitment to institution-building and the creation and sustenance of a good learning environment at the University of Ibadan, as well as other institutions training health professionals in Nigeria.

That project and those that followed have contributed significantly to imparting knowledge about reproductive health to several cohorts of university undergraduates. It has strengthened the culture of research in the University, especially among undergraduates and among new academic staff in the College of Medicine, University of Ibadan. It also provided new opportunities for networking between academic staff from Ibadan and those working in other universities in Africa and beyond.

Professor David Olaleye devoted his life to learning and education, and that legacy will surely outlive him. The numerous students he has trained, both in his primary field of Virology as well as in other disciplines, will carry on the work, ensuring better health for the next.

Adieu erudite Professor, seasoned administrator and amiable neighbour.

Worthy Collaborator

Prosper Okonkwo

Chief Executive Officer, APIN Public Health Initiatives

The news of Professor Olaleye's death came to me as a rude shock, not having heard that he was even mildly ill. It took a lot of phone calls to confirm this sad news and many more days to come to terms with the reality of this sad loss.

As we ruminate and mourn this great loss, we should always remember that this is the way of man- He returns to His maker at the instance of our sovereign Father. He alone

knows the day and the hour, and, in all things, we give Him thanks.

My first meeting with Prof Olalaye was in January 2004, when I joined the Gates Foundation funded Harvard T. Chan School of Public Health APIN project as program manager with office at IITA Ibadan. It was such tough baptism for me to suddenly find myself "supervising" Prof Olaleye's projects amongst those of many other Professors in Ibadan. The support and

encouragement I received from them made my work in the South West easy and prepared me for my increasing supervisory role over the years.

Professor Olaleye role on the APIN program at that time spanned Laboratory support for the PMTCT program, HIV Surveillance in Oyo State, Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT)- as it was called at the time- at Saki and in UCH, Biosocial interventions with Association for Reproductive and Family Health (ARFH), HIV case finding at DOTS centers in Oyo state, amongst many human and infrastructural capacity building initiatives.

As the PEPFAR program commenced later in 2004, the Virology laboratory was upgraded and Professor Olaleye provided the leadership for all the great work the laboratory undertook not just for UCH, but at some stage for most of the APIN sites in the SW, except Lagos. The Lab went on to receive the SANAS accreditation, as only the 3rd public laboratory in Nigeria to receive such accreditation.

One other area of significant accomplishment by Professor Olaleye was in leading a consortium of 6 Nigerian and 2 American Universities and APIN to implement the Medical Education Partnership Initiative in Nigeria (MEPIN), an NIH/Fogarty young faculty mentorship program. The success of this program, led to another round with 3 individual

institutional awards to the University of Ibadan, University of Lagos and University of Jos. On a personal note, it was an honor that Prof Olaleye asked me to chair the Technical Advisory Committee of UI's of MEPI-J grant.

His footprint would continue to be indelible in the annals of Virology, Infectious Diseases and HIV in particular, where he made seminal contributions to the body of knowledge.

Professor Olaleye always held firm convictions to opinions he felt strongly about, occasionally resulting in differences in positions, but these views were often driven by his desire that better outcomes be attained from every endeavor.

My last encounter with him was at an APIN site leadership meeting held in Abuja in April this year, where we had discussions on things we wanted to do regarding some data that needed to be analyzed and written up, and hardly did I know it was our last meeting.

Prof would be sorely missed by his family, students, colleagues, academic and broader scientific communities amongst other stakeholders.

I send my sincere condolences to the family on this great loss and trust that as those looking unto His appearing, they would not weep like those without hope.

Adieu Prof.

Diligent and Soft Spoken

Prof. Ayoola Akinwale

Chairperson, Academic Staff Union of Universities, -University of Ibadan Branch

Oh death where is your sting? Oh Death where is your gain or strength!! Yes we do not deny that a huge loss has been recorded for us in ASUU-UI, with the death of an academic icon such as Prof. Olaleye. He was known for his diligence and soft-spokenness, a man who mentored many mentors and stood out in the crowd.

Prof. Olaleye was a distinguished personality in research and scientific discoveries. Indeed, we have lost an asset and will continue to miss you in University of Ibadan.

The world generally will miss you. But one thing is sure, your footprints will continue to remind us of you. As you rest in the bosom of Our Lord. With a heavy heart, we say Au revoir with a deep sigh from all of us in ASUU, University of Ibadan Branch.

Embodiment of Rules and Regulations

Professor Ademola J. Ajuwon

Department of Health Promotion and Education, University of Ibadan

I knew Professor Olufemi David Olaleye since 1991 when I was employed as an Assistant Lecturer at then Department of Preventive and Social Medicine, Faculty of Clinical Sciences and Dentistry, University of Ibadan.

Professor Olaleye played important roles in the development of my career as a researcher; he was a mentor, a role model, a counselor, a helper, and a friend.

As a mentor he created many opportunities for me to participate in the research projects in which he was the Principal Investigator including AIDS Prevention Initiative in Nigeria (APIN), Office of Global AIDS Control (OGAC) Mentorship program, Medical Education Partnership Initiative in Nigeria (MEPIN), Medical Education Partnership for junior faculty MEPI-J, and Strengthening Interprofessional Education for HIV (STRIVE).

My involvement in these projects spanned over twenty-five years resulting in significant improvement in my research project management skills, capacity to win my own grants, and expansion of my network of local, national, and international contacts.

Since I was involved in many of the project activities, I can describe Professor Olaleye's contributions to research capacity development targeting young faculty in Nigerian universities. The MEPIN grant resulted in the training of 9000 junior faculty on grant writing, data analysis and manuscript development, and reference management in the six universities in the MEPIN consortium namely University of Ibadan, Ahmadu Bello University, University of Lagos, University of Jos, University of Maiduguri, and University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

In addition, 100 junior faculty from these institutions benefitted from the mentored research, in which \$5000 was provided to young faculty to conduct exploratory research needed to develop a big grant application. The publications from this scheme have published the name of the researchers and improved the visibility of their institutions.

With respect to the MEPI-J grant, approximately 5000 post-graduate students and early career researchers from University of Ibadan and resident doctors from the University College Hospital benefited from training in responsible

conduct, research design, bibliography, data analysis and manuscript and grant writing. About 20 mentored research were also awarded under this program.

I should emphasize that Professor Olaleye and his local and international partners worked very hard to not only win these grants but even harder to coordinate training programs that ensured that majority of young faculty from Nigerian universities and teaching hospitals benefitted from them.

In all these efforts, Professor Olaleye was self-less, courageous, innovative, committed, and honest. His contributions in facilitating access to good quality training on research and promoting local and international collaboration among Nigerian researchers are outstanding because the impact of his achievements transcends his own institution, University of Ibadan.

I also benefitted from Professor Olaleye's wealth of administrative wisdom and experience. His wise counsel

bailed me out of the several administrative dilemmas that I faced during my tenure as the Dean of the Faculty of Public Health (2012-2014). He was an embodiment of the rules and regulations and protocol of university administration; each time I approached him for counsel, he would listen attentively, pause for some seconds, and provide suggestions to help solve the problem I sought help on.

One of the most important counsels he gave to me on how to succeed as an academic administrator was that I should read and understand the **spirit and letter** of each rule and regulation of the university. I acted as instructed and this proved very useful to me during and even after leaving the position of Dean. I am very grateful to him for this.

I am very pained by Professor Olaleye's death because I have lost a role model, a counselor, a helper, and a friend. Dear Prof, continue to rest in peace until we meet again.

My Boss, Our O.D and D.O

Seun Falayi

Programme coordinator, MEPI-J

It's been difficult for me to write this homage. I'll keep it short because you showed me that being brief requires a lot of words. I will use your name DAVID to describe you.

Prof was a **Defender** of whatever he believed in even if it meant standing alone. He was an **Achiever** throughout his career, as evidenced by the numerous scholarships and grants he received. He was a **Voice**, not a noise, and all he needed was the microphone or the floor to get everyone's attention and appreciate his vast knowledge. He is **Indestructible**; the department, the entire institution, and those he came into contact with will never forget him; he has etched his name in the annals of Virology around the world. To say Prof was a

Dedicated individual would be an understatement, because he believed in consistently striking a location until you got a result.

My professor was also human, and he made mistakes that I learned from.

I am grateful to him for allowing me to learn from him. I could write a thesis on my relationship with my boss but there is a lot of merit in being brief in communication.

I commensurate with Mummy, Damilola and his siblings, Virology family, MEPIN/UI-MEPI-J team.

Adieu my Prof, My Boss, our O.D and D.O.

Quotes from Professor O. D. Olaleye

- *Always remember that, whatever is documented is not done. This the hallmark of a good quality system"*
- *"Never be in a hurry to append your signature on any document, even the document originated from you or was written by you. You know a twit in a word or even a letter can change the meaning of what you intend to say. Make sure you read through a final time before you sign".*
- *"The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is the EXTRA. For you to make good success, you must be ready to put that EXTRA. This applies to every area of life be it work, spiritual and even relationship with others. If you want promotion in due time, you must do extra"*
- *"Idea is the Science and Science is the Idea. Good science is driven by good idea and when you do good Science it gives you idea for good Science".*
- *"You have to give those with such thinking some benefit of the doubt; the virus seemingly to them emerged from nowhere, it destabilized peoples' plan, by the year 2020 people had plans but today millions of people are gone!"*
- *"whatever has been said against the virus is all fear message without scientific citation, so part of what we need to do as science community is to use education to push back against these unverified claims"*
- *"We should use information, use science to educate more people. The whole world is overwhelmed, so one must back up claims with science; people need to be rightly informed."*
- *"You have to be able to develop straightforward messages backed with scientific proves to counter fear messages.*
- *"It will be helpful to engage the religious leaders also, you mentioned the claim on infertility, I can tell you that there is nothing; absolutely nothing related in any way to show that the vaccine has such component to cause infertility. It was the same as the time with the polio vaccine. But the response of engaging the traditional institution to help make people better informed. That is what we must continue to do; people will come up with all kinds of mischief and hypothesis, as scientists we need to constantly use science and information to educate the public."*
- *"Punctuality is the soul of Business"*

PROF. OLALEYE: A DAVID AGAINST THE RAVAGES OF VIRUSES

An elegy for **Prof. David O. Olaleye**, the late Fellow of the African Academy of Science and Distinguished Professor of Virology at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria by Prof. Hilary "BrownBard" Inyang, FAAS, F. Geol. London. (September, 2021).

*O! the ravages of fate,
the stoic sneaker that strikes
without regard for costs!
Our wards are recklessly left
to the bites of vicious viruses
when the antidote's injector leaves.*

*Were viruses to rejoice,
sojourners would understand,
for Olaleye has abruptly left
with his magnifying glass.
Didn't he freeze their stealth
upon demystifying their style!*

*And the bereaved sulk,
not just for a fine soul gone
to the realm of ageless sages
but for utility sharply lost
on scraping of invisible forms.
Olaleye tracked their foibles.*

*He led the bold vanguard
against Covid's rude invasion
of Oyo Empire and beyond,
with methods to neutralize
their toxins and crafty means.
And the low fatalities confirm.*

*Aptly christened: David",
not just as a cute namesake
of one who downed Goliath
but in anticipation of rebuke
of pandemics that would come.
And the prophets were right.*

*Wouldn't you shed a tear,
even from your limpid eyes
that failed to foresee and shift
the final retirement of a sage?
But Olaleye's legacy shines
too staunchly to be erased.*

*The seed from Ogbomoshu
germinated to luxuriance,
a canopy for impressionable
wards
from very far and wide.
Where it intended to hide,
the golden fleece was unveiled.*

*Of what utility is a sage
who is gagged mum to plight?
Olaleye wasn't dumb on blight.
That's a true reformer's style.
Sense is a worthy panacea
across all human indulgences.*

*Meteors roam to feel space
in spite of their dead shells.
How about the living then,
replete with sensors and
emotions?
Olaleye explored far and wide,
and grabbed clues for his trade.*

*Messiahs come in various brands
to serve and save the multitude.
For some, it is from strife,
and for others, it is from bites,
self-inflicted or otherwise.
Tempest decays best in parts.*

*So, the scrolled or flat annals
will adequately bear his name,
for Olaleye didn't join parades
just for passage of rites.
He conspired to chase viruses.
to sumps from whence they came.*

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