

## **SOLVING THE SURVEYING AND GEOINFORMATICS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ENROLMENT PROBLEM: THE UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS EXPERIENCE**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

- **First Survey School in Nigeria was established 1908.**
- **Survey school moved to Ibadan 1927, and to Oyo 1935.**
- **Yaba Technical College established 1932.**
- **University College, Ibadan founded 1947 – Temporarily had an arrangement for survey education.**
- **1962 - University of Nigeria, Nsukka absorbed the Nigerian College of Technology, Enugu which had survey curriculum.**
- **1966 – First set of students (5) graduated from University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus (UNEC).**

## **INTRODUCTION (CONTD)**

- **1967 – Few UNEC students displaced by civil war finished their courses at University of Lagos (UNILAG).**
- **1970 – Surveying training introduced at the University of Lagos (UNILAG).**
- **Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria started degree programme in surveying about the same time with UNILAG.**
- **Currently, 11 Nigerian Universities offer training in Surveying (undergraduate, postgraduate)**

## **ENTRY REQUIREMENT**

- **Passes at credit level in five subjects at Secondary School Certificate Exam (one sitting).**
- **Subjects: Further Mathematics, Mathematics, Physics, English, Chemistry or Geography.**
- **Sit and pass the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) exam and the Post JAMB tests in Mathematics, Physics, English, Chemistry or Geography.**
- **Passes at Distinction level, for holders of National Diploma and Higher National Diploma Certificate.**

## DURATION OF TRAINING

- School Certificate Candidates – Five Years
- National Diploma Candidates – Four Years
- Higher National Diploma Candidates – Three Years
- JAMB Exam Subjects are Mathematics, English, Physics and Chemistry or Geography.

## ADMISSION DATA FOR UNILAG (1998-2009)

S/N	Session	No of UME Applicants	No of UME Admitted		No of DE Applicants	No of DE Admitted		No of Applicants for Change of Course
			Merit	Supplementary		Merit	Supplementary	
1	1998/1999	*na	26	105		10		
2	1999/2000	64	28	27		13		
3	2000/2001	*na	11	65	23	25		
4	2001/2002	*na	14	147		44		301
5	2002/2003	*na	28	27		20	30	54
6	2003/2004	42	23	*na		28	1	
7	2004/2005							
8	2005/2006	52	39	17	62+	32		
9	2006/2007	36	13	45		18	2	102
10	2007/2008	36	19	23	16+	7		
11	2008/2009	59	26	2	15+	9		

\*na----not available

## DIFFICULTIES IN RECRUITING QUALIFIED STUDENTS

- Large no of Universities (11) vs Few Qualified Candidates.
- Low regard and poor publicity for profession of Surveying in the country.
- Centralised Admission Process.
- Rigid Admission Requirements (Uniform for Faculty).
- Perception of poor career prospects for graduates.
- Physically demanding and dangerous nature of Surveyor's work.
- Perceived poor financial remuneration for Surveyor's work.
- Perceived difficult and/or boring nature of training.

## MEASURES TAKEN TO SOLVE STUDENTS' ENROLMENT PROBLEM

- **CAREER TALKS**
  - Given to secondary School Students
- **PUBLIC CAMPAIGN**
  - Organized Survey Weeks
  - Organized Publicity in National Dailies
- **DEPARTMENTAL PUBLICATIONS**
  - Prospectuses
  - Departmental Handbooks
  - List of Possible Employers of Survey Graduates.

### MEASURES TAKEN TO SOLVE STUDENTS' ENROLMENT PROBLEM (CONTD)

- **REVIEWING ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

- University of Lagos Pioneered Post Jamb Exam
- The post JAMB examinations have succeeded in getting qualified candidates into the Nigerian universities.
- Department of Surveying and Geoinformatics, University of Lagos to move to Faculty of Environmental Science.
- Departmental admission requirements to be reviewed.

### MEASURES TAKEN TO SOLVE STUDENTS' ENROLMENT PROBLEM (CONTD)

- **CURRICULA REVIEW**

- New Curricula for Degree Programme at Unilag
- Review done in 2000
- Name Change in line with Review
- New Courses Introduced Include Computer Applications, Principles of Geoinformatics, Digital Mapping, GIS Tools and Applications, Coastal Mapping and Management.
- Review also at Graduate Level.

### BENEFITS OF RESTRUCTURING MEASURES

- Increment in students enrolment at all levels.
- Relocation of the Office of the Surveyor General.
- Job creation and increase in revenue.
- Infrastructural Development.

### CONCLUSIONS

- Post JAMB exam ensured recruitment of qualified candidates.
- Curricula review and change in name attracted more candidates into the profession.
- Modern trends in surveying instrumentation and practice generated more interest in students.
- More funding by Federal and State Governments encouraged Surveying professionals.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. More career talks and public enlightenment campaigns.
2. Survey projects should be awarded directly to Surveyors.
3. Stringent admission requirements should be removed.
4. Curricula should be continuously updated.
5. Stake holders in surveying profession should promote the profession.

THANK YOU