

Prof. Charles Korede Ayo: The Abusite Who Transformed Covenant University

Prof. Charles Korede Ayo is a distinguished Abusite, astute university administrator, a prominent scholar and respected Professor of Computing.

He was the Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, Ota, between 2012 and 2016. Before his appointment as the Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, he was the pioneer Head of Computer and Information Sciences Department as well as the pioneer Director, Academic Planning Unit of the University.

He was very instrumental in repositioning and transforming covenant University into the best private university in Nigeria and one of the best in Africa. He is currently Vice-Chancellor, Trinity University, Yaba, Lagos

Prof. Charles Korede Ayo is a native of Egbe in Yagba west Local Government Area of Kogi State. He attended Baptist LGEA Primary School, Mopa, and the famous Titcombe College, Egbe, from 1973 to 1977; and Kwara State College of Technology, SBS, Ilorin, from 1977 to 1980 for his GCE A'Level (Cambridge Moderated).

He proceeded to the great Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, where he obtained a B.Sc (Hons) Mathematics with Computer Science degree and was the best graduating student with Second Class (Upper) Division in 1984.

He obtained M.Sc (Computer Science) from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, in 1993; and a Ph.D. Mathematics (Numerical Computation) from the University of Ilorin, in 1999.

His research interests include: Mobile computing, Internet programming, e-Business, e-Government, ICT and Computing in general. He is a member of the Nigerian Computer Society (NCS), and Computer Professionals (Registration Council) of Nigeria (CPN). Similarly, he is professionally certified in CISCO and Microsoft products.

Prof. Charles Korede Ayo is a member of a number of international research bodies such as the Centre for Business Information, Organization and Process Management (BIOPoM), University of Westminster, London; the Review Committee of the European Conference on E-Government (ECEG)

Others includes the programme committee, IADIS Information Systems; the Editorial Board of: Journal of Information and communication Technology for Human Development (IJICTHD), International Journal of Scientific Research in Education (IJSRE) and African Journal of Business Management amongst others.

Furthermore, Prof. Charles Korede Ayo was an External Examiner to a number of Nigerian universities at both Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels; and some foreign universities such as the University of Cape Town, Cape Peninsula University of Technology, University of Johannesburg all in South Africa, and Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia.

He has supervised about 200 postgraduate projects at Postgraduate Diploma, Masters and Ph.D levels, and over 200 publications in scholarly journals and conference proceedings.

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Prof. Charles Korede Ayo was a guest speaker in Harvard, and a Convocation Lecturer at Crawford University, Igbesa; and the Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro, Ogun State. Similarly, he was a keynote speaker in many conferences, professional associations and organizations.

Prof. Charles Korede Ayo is a Senior Fulbright Research Scholar and an Awardee of the Ford Foundation for Teaching and Innovations. He is well reputed Nationally and Internationally in the areas of application electronic and mobile technologies to governance, business, education and health among others.

During his vice chancellorship at covenant University, He was named the African Vice-Chancellor of year (Private University), 2015, and he Most Outstanding Professionals in Africa for the year 2016 (International Business Star Quality).

Also, according to the 2017 rating of researchers globally by Scopus (Scival), Prof Charles Korede Ayo is ranked the number one (1) researcher in the world in the area of Governance, Electronic Governance and Democratic Governance.

Professor Ayo is a former President of the Gideons International; and the President of the Mustard Seed International Outreach – a ministry founded by him for helping the needy and distribution of tracts and Bibles.

Professor Ayo who is currently the Vice Chancellor, Trinity University, Yaba, Lagos is happily married to Mojisola and they are blessed with children.

Prof. Charles Korede Ayo's successes at CU

Every administrator desires career success, but not all of them have been able to achieve success in their various positions. Professor Charles Korede Ayo finds space among the successful few.

His determination to succeed where many have failed, his diligence and managerial ingenuity have made the covenant university a reference institution.

Not many people who know about these antecedents and his philosophy about life would be surprised at his achievements.

Professor Charles Korede Ayo's upbringing, academic training, administrative experience and his determination to always work as an agent of positive change everywhere he finds himself have continued to set him apart from most of his peers.

While at covenant University, he ensured that lecture rooms were equipped with ultra-modern teaching equipment with facilities for teleconferencing, collaborative teaching and real-time lecture recording and upload.

He also ensured that laboratories were equipped with the best modern and current facilities that may not be available in "Africa but a few world-class universities"

During his vice-chancellorship, Prof Charles Korede Ayo drove collaboration and linkages in a manner that was unparalleled.

Trinity University OER - Interview

He recruited the best visiting professors who visit the University mainly during summer school (May – July) to teach postgraduate students, conduct research and organize conferences and workshops for the generality of the populace.

Recall that the university organized the First International Conference on African Development Issues (ICADI) during his tenure hosted two Nobel Laureates at once. This feat is novel and unparalleled in the history of university education in Nigeria.

Proud of the height Covenant University has attained, the erudite scholar shares his experience about the private university thus: “when I came to office, I was given the mandate tagged, ‘Vision 10:2022’ which was to get the university listed as one of the top ten universities in the world within the next ten years (2012 – 2022) which we have christened as (1 of 10 in 10)

