



ABUJA LEADERSHIP CENTRE
TETFUND CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP
UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA

YOUTH LEADERSHIP CLINIC IN IMO STATE

TARGETS: SCHOOL PREFECTS AND BEST STUDENTS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Venue: West Brook Hotel, Owerri

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WEDNESDAY, 20TH 
MARCH, 2024
10AM WAT

THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CLINIC IN IMO STATE

- A Narrative Report

Submitted by:

- 1) H.E Ugwumba Uche Nwosu,
- 2) Hon. Bar. Steve Asimobi,
- 3) Comrade Ibeji Nwokoma, and
- 4) Hon. Remy Chukwunyere

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NB: Link to photos: <https://bit.ly/Imo-YLC-photos>

Links to videos: <https://bit.ly/Imo-YLC-ChannelsTV> and <https://bit.ly/Imo-YLC-Video>

1) INTRODUCTION:

The Youth Leadership Clinic is a program of the Abuja Leadership Center, TETFUND's Center of Excellence for Public Governance and Leadership, University of Abuja with a vision to train up and mentor young leaders (Secondary School Prefects, Captains, and exceptionally bright students) across the 36 States plus the FCT.

It is a major plank in the evaluation of the Masters and Doctoral candidates of the Abuja Leadership Center before they are awarded the degrees of the University of Abuja.



2) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The maiden edition of the Youth Leadership Clinic outside the FCT took place in Imo State on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at the West Brook Hotels, Owerri.

The highly interactive mentoring session featured motivational speeches and presentations from Prof. Philip Afaha, the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration), University of Abuja; His Excellency, Ugwumba Uche Nwosu, former Chief of Staff, Imo State

Government House and President, Ugwumba Leadership Center; Hon. Dr. Uche Ejiogu, former Imo State Commissioner for Education; Hon. Bar. Steve Asimobi, former Special Adviser to the Governor; Hon. Remy Chukwunyere, former Director General, Imo State Directorate for Employment and Executive Director, Ugwumba Leadership Center; Comrade Ibeji Nwokoma, National President, National Association of Academic Technologists; Hon. Bar. Obinna Okwara, former Hon. Member, Imo State House of Assembly; and other dignitaries from Imo State.

Students of the University of Abuja Leadership Centre from Imo State made presentations on different leadership themes. H.E Ugwumba Uche Nwosu engaged the students on the important question “Who Is Your Role Model?” while Bar. Steve Asimobi spoke on “The Law, the People and the Government”.

As a startups development coach, Hon. Remy Chukwunyere took the students through an interactive session on “The Role of Passion in Choosing a Career” while Comrade Ibeji Nwokoma, a labour leader made a presentation on “The Power of the People in a Democracy”



The engagement with the students was superb with highly intelligent questions and contributions coming from the young leaders.

At the end of the Clinic, certificates of participation from the Abuja Leadership Centre, University of Abuja signed by the Deputy Vice Chancellor and Director of the Abuja Leadership Centre, Prof. Philip Afaha were awarded to the students.

We appreciate the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. Abdul-Rasheed N’Allah and the Management of the Ugwumba Leadership Center led by H.E Ugwumba Uche Nwosu for making this training possible.

3) OPENING REMARKS



In his opening remarks, Prof. Philip Afaha, the Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Abuja as well as the Director of the Abuja Leadership Centre informed the participating school prefects and the audience that the Clinic was a “Catch-Them-Young” program designed by the University of Abuja in conjunction with TETFUND and their partners.

According to Prof Afaha, the aim is to equip students in secondary schools, who already have leadership roles as Senior Prefects; Games Prefects; Social Prefects; Class Captains;

etc with the basic leadership skills they need to perform their roles better and to prepare them for leadership in the future.

4) GOODWILL MESSAGES

There were goodwill messages from some of the VIPs in attendance. In her goodwill message, the former Hon. Commissioner for Education and former Hon. Member, Imo State House of Assembly, Hon. Dr. Uche Ejiogu encouraged the students to embrace hard work and be focused in their studies.



Also in their separate messages, Hon. Bar. Obinna Okwara, former Member of the Imo State House of Assembly; and Hon. Bar. Emma Bukkar, former Hon. Commissioner for Science and Technology, Imo State thanked the leadership of the University of Abuja and the Ugwumba Leadership Center for putting the clinic together.

5) SUMMARIES OF PRESENTATIONS:

Below are summaries of the presentations made during the clinic:

KEYNOTE PAPER I: WHO IS YOUR ROLE MODEL?

Presented by: H.E Ugwumba Uche Nwosu



In his presentation, His Excellency, Ugwumba Uche Nwosu defined who a role model is. According to him, a role model is someone who leads and inspires those around them and takes them in the right direction. He said, “a role model can be anyone in your life such as: your parents, siblings, teachers, friends, someone famous etc.”

To drive his message home, he involved the students in an exercise, where he called out some of the students and asked them some of these probing questions, such as:

- 1) What is the name of your role model?
- 2) Why did you choose him or her as role model?
- 3) What makes him or her successful?

- 4) Which of your role model's skills do you have already?
- 5) Which of your role model's skills do you need to develop?
- 6) How are you going to develop the new skills?

After the exercise, he used the opportunity to share his experiences while growing up. He told a story of how he hawked on the streets of Aba, selling oranges, ice water, corn, etc in order to support his family.

He warned the students to be wary of the stories and contents they see on social media because, according to him "not all that glitters is gold".

He concluded the presentation by outlining the qualities of a good leader as follows:

- a) Good Morals:** A good role model must have high moral values. Role models **MUST** behave ethically and demonstrate honesty.
- b) Self Confidence:** Many people admire those who are confident in themselves. Therefore, good role models should be able to acknowledge their skills and achievements without becoming arrogant.
- c) Hardworking:** Good role models should demonstrate their commitments to a desired goal and are willing to invest the necessary time and effort to achieve success.
- d) Be Respectful:** In order for role models to be influential, they must show respect for others. Young people appreciate being treated with respect and admire those who treat them and others that way.
- e) Optimistic and Creative:** Good role models inspire youths with an upbeat, optimistic outlook on life. They tend to see the bright side in difficult situations and can find creative solutions to their problems.

KEYNOTE PAPER II: THE LAW, THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT

Presented by: Hon. Bar. Steve Asimobi

The second session on the topic: The Law, the People and the Government was led by Hon. Bar. Steve Asimobi. He informed that the law, the people and the Government are fundamental components of the society. He also said that those elements interconnect and mutually influence each other, forming the basis for a well-functioning and just society.



He said that the Law refers to rules and regulations established by a governing body to maintain order and stability within a society. He defined the people as the vital stakeholders in the realm of law as individuals are born with inherent rights that are safeguarded by legal principles.

According to him, the Government is the embodiment of collective authorities that structure the application and enforcement of laws and it is governed by a constitution or a set of fundamental rules adding that the government represents the interests of the people and exercises power to ensure the administration of justice in the society.

Furthermore, he said the government comprises of various branches such the Executive arm of government, which implements the laws, while the Legislative arm formulates the laws and the Judiciary is the arm of Government that interprets and applies the laws through the courts.

He also spoke about the nexus between the Law, the People and the Government, explaining that the mere existence of laws is not sufficient to ensure their effectiveness. People play a vital role in the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of the law.

Individuals act as both subjects and agents of the law, with their actions influencing and being influenced by legal principles and guidelines.

Additionally, the government acts as a facilitator and enforcer of the law. It is primarily responsible for creating legislations that reflect the needs and aspirations of the people.

The government also ensures that the law is upheld by establishing institutions, such as the Police and Judiciary, to enforce its provisions.

Without an effective and accountable government, the law loses its power and legitimacy, leading to a breakdown in social order and undermining the rights and freedoms of individuals.

Furthermore, the nexus between law, people, and government becomes particularly significant in times of social change and progress.

He concluded by saying that law, people, and government is a dynamic and multifaceted relationship that underpins the functioning of any society.

KEYNOTE PAPER III: THE ROLE OF PASSION IN CHOOSING A CAREER

Presented by: Hon. Remy Chukwunyere



Hon Remy Chukwunyerere took the students through an interactive session on “The Role of Passion in Choosing a Career.”

He defined, “passion” as a strong feeling of excitement, either for something or about doing something. He said, passion is often something you would love to do constantly.

According to him, the truth about pursuing your passion is that **“doing what you care about on an emotional and intellectual levels will result in you wanting to do more of it.”** Therefore, there is a **direct link between discovering and developing your passions and** achieving growth in your career and personal development.

He exposed them to how they could discover their passions, as follows:

a) Create a personal vision statement, which includes what you want to accomplish in your life, both personally and professionally.

c) Write down what you love doing. Naturally, we tend to love to do the things that make us feel really good.

d) Write down the things you do not love. Realizing what you do not love will give you a better understanding of the things that make you who you are.

e) Acknowledge your strengths. Often, people discover that their biggest strengths are the things that come naturally for them.

f) Journal your daily activities. Journaling involves writing down your thoughts and feelings as you navigate your everyday life.

g) Seek guidance from a coach. To help identify your passion, you may need the guidance of a coach, who has been trained in helping people find their passions in life and work.

Mr. Remy also discussed the difference between passion and a hobby. He defined hobby as something you enjoy doing for fun and in your free time while passion is something that is inside of you and with you all the time. Passion is something you feel compelled to keep engaging with it, even without external rewards such as compensation or recognition.

He went further to speak briefly about career, which according to him could mean **“what you do for a living”**. It could mean working as a doctor, lawyer, teacher, carpenter, electrician, cashier, teacher or hairstylist.

He concluded by teaching the students how to turn their passions into careers, as follows:

a) Assess all available opportunities. After finding your passion, it is time to make the most of the career opportunities around you and turn them into real value.

b) Do a viability check. Not every passion will lead to financial satisfaction. You need to do a viability check before jumping right in and trying to make a living from those things you love and enjoy the most.

c) Seek guidance from a coach. Seeking guidance from a career coach is vital when turning your passions into a fulfilling career.

KEYNOTE PAPER IV: THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE IN A DEMOCRACY

Presented by: Comrade Ibeji Nwokoma

Comrade Ibeji Nwokoma delivered a paper, emphasizing the crucial role of youth in upholding democracy. Democracy, he asserts, is not just a governance system but a way of life, embodying principles of equality, liberty, and fraternity.



He highlighted the power of the people within democracy, extending beyond voting to include active engagement, participation, and vigilance. He urged the youths to recognize

their responsibilities in shaping the nation's future through community organizing, activism, and political involvement.

Central to his presentation was the concept of responsibility and accountability. He stressed on the duties of the citizens in holding elected officials accountable and demand transparency in governance to safeguard democratic institutions.

Furthermore, he advocated for unity in diversity, emphasizing the strength of democracy in embracing different voices and perspectives. He encourages bridging divides, nurturing empathy, and fostering dialogue to build a cohesive and resilient society.

In conclusion, Nwokoma called on the youths to remain committed to democratic principles, become agents of positive change, and strive for a future where justice, equality, and freedom prevail.

6) VIPS IN ATTENDANCE:

Some of the VIPs in attendance included:



- a) Hon. Dr. Uche Ejiogu, former Hon. Commissioner for Education and former Hon. Member, Imo State House of Assembly, Owerri;
- b) Hon. Bar. Obinna Okwara, former Hon. Member, Imo State House of Assembly, Owerri;
- c) Hon. Bar. Emma Bukar, former Hon. Commissioner, Imo State;
- d) Hon. Bar. Okey Anyikwa, former Secretary, Imo State Universal Basic Education, Owerri;
- e) Hon. Chief Chidi Ibeh, former Hon. Commissioner for Information, Imo State; and others.

7) SCHOOLS IN ATTENDANCE:

About 25 public and private secondary schools in Imo State were duly invited. Unfortunately, it was exams period, so most of the schools could not make it.



On the whole, about 150 students from the following schools were in attendance:

- a) Rochas Foundation College of Africa, Owerri;
- b) Rochas Foundation College, Orji, Owerri;

- c) East High Academy, Owerri;
- d) Imo Girls College, Owerri; and
- e) Emmanuel College, Owerri

8) CONCLUSION:

The Clinic in Imo State was very successful with the students and their teachers, who accompanied them very satisfied with the organization of the event.

The level of engagement and interactions between the speakers and the students is evidence that the vision and objectives for which the clinic were designed were met. The highpoint of the clinic was the award of the Certificates of Participation from the prestigious Abuja Leadership Centre, University of Abuja.

In conclusion, it was agreed that such forums should be held regularly to prepare more students for leadership positions in the future.



9) APPENDIX



ABUJA LEADERSHIP CENTRE
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Certificate of Participation

This is to certify that you participated in a one-day
**Youth Leadership Clinic for Secondary School Prefects
and best Students in Imo State.**

PROF. PHILIP AFAHA
DVC (ADMIN), UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA
AND DIRECTOR, ABUJA LEADERSHIP CENTRE

**March
20, 2024**

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The banner features the Abuja Leadership Centre logo and name at the top left. The main title 'YOUTH LEADERSHIP CLINIC FOR IMO STATE' is prominently displayed in large white letters on a green background. Below the title, it specifies the targets as 'SCHOOL PREFECTS AND BEST STUDENTS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS' and the venue as 'West Brook Hotel, Owerri'. On the right side, it lists 'SPECIAL GUESTS' including H.E. Hope Uzodinma, Executive Governor of Imo State, and Prof. Abdul-Rasheed Na Allah, Vice-Chancellor, University of Abuja. The date 'WEDNESDAY, 20TH MARCH, 2024' is also included. The bottom right corner shows logos for the sponsors: UGWUMBA, the University of Abuja, and TETFUND. The background of the banner includes images of a large audience seated in a hall and a group of people in formal attire.



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YOUTH LEADERSHIP CLINIC FOR IMO STATE

 **West Brook Hotel,
Owerri**

 **Wednesday 20
March, 2024**

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

- 09.00am** Registration of students and their teachers
- OPENING SESSION:**
- 10.00am** National Anthem
- 10.05am** Opening Prayers
- 10.10am** Roll Call: Introduction of Schools in Attendance
- 10.20am** Welcome by Team Leader, Youth Leadership Clinic, Imo State
- 10.30am** Opening Remarks by Prof. Philip Afaha (DVC) and ALC Director
- 11.50am** Goodwill message from the Perm. Sec, Ministry of Education, Owerri
- 11.55am** Goodwill message from the Governor, H.E Sen. Hope Uzodinma
- 12.00pm** Comic Relief by Apama
- 12.10pm** Keynote Speaker I: H.E Ugwumba Uche Nwosu
Topic: Who Is Your Role Model?
- 12.30pm** End of Opening Session + Group Photos + Networking
- SECOND SESSION:**
- 01.00pm** Keynote Speaker II: Bar. Steve Asimobi
Topic: The Law, the People and the Government
- 01.20pm** Keynote Speaker III: Remy Chukwunyere
Topic: The Role of Passion in Choosing a Career
- 01.40pm** Keynote Speaker IV: Comrade Ibeji Nwokoma
The Power of the People in a Democracy
- 02.00pm** THE END + Refreshments

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