

THE SUCCESS STORY OF NAHPI, FIVE YEARS AFTER CREATION: By VC of UBa



The National Higher Polytechnic Institute (NAHPI) is one of twelve schools or faculties of The University of Bamenda, created in November 2017 to foster training, research and development assistance in Cameroon and beyond in the areas of Engineering and Technology. NAHPI was created when I was already serving as the Vice Chancellor of The University of Bamenda and so I can vividly recall how my collaborators and I went straight to work immediately after the school was created to put in place the minimum requirements for a smooth start of the Institute in the 2017/2018 academic year. Today, we are elated to see the fruits of that labour being ready for consumption.

Five years down the lane, the nascent Institute has been able to achieve a major objective and a milestone: that of sending out its first batch of Master of Engineering (M.Eng) graduates. I am confident that these graduates will be true ambassadors of NAHPI and the University of Bamenda in the society through the provision of adequate solutions to various engineering problems that they will encounter. They have been thoroughly trained in our classrooms (300 course-credits taken in five years); in laboratories around Bambili, GTHS Nkwen-Bamenda, IUT-FV Bandjoun and ENSP Yaounde; and through a total of 12 months of properly organized and controlled industrial attachments (internships). They are therefore, largely field ready engineers. This **high quest for excellence** and for **thorough training** will continue to be the focus of NAHPI and UBa at large.

I seize this opportunity to thank and congratulate the management and staff of NAHPI, led by its dynamic Director, **Professor Fidelis Cho-Ngwa**, for the great strides made within the past five years, despite the infrastructural, staffing and financial challenges faced.

I express sincere gratitude to the NAHPI Council members and the large number of socio-professional circle experts participating in the Council Sessions for their very constructive contributions which have gone a long way to improve on the quality of the training in NAHPI.

A big thank-you to all the great collaborators of NAHPI and UBa at large, including but not limited to the Universities of Yaoundé I, Dschang, Buea; and the hundreds of private and public national and international enterprises that accepted the students for internships.

On behalf of the UBa community, I express sincere thanks to the Minister of State, Minister of Higher Education, **Professor Jacques Fame Ndong**; other Ministers and their Ministerial Departments; the Prime Minister, Head of Government, **Chief Dr. Dion Ngute**; and the Head of State, creator of NAHPI, His Excellency **President Paul Biya**, for the continued support accorded to NAHPI in particular and The University of Bamenda in general over these five years.

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