



KADUNA STATE UNIVERSITY

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KADUNA STATE UNIVERSITY STOOD STILL AS PROF. HELEN AFANG ANDOW IS HONOURED WITH A TWO-VOLUME FESTSCHRIFT CELEBRATING HER DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARSHIP AND SERVICE



Kaduna State University (KASU) witnessed an atmosphere of celebration, pride, and scholarly reverence as the institution hosted the formal launch of a *two-volume Festschrift in honour of Professor Helen Afang Andow, the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Strategy, Innovation and Service Delivery*. The event, held at the 1000-Seater Auditorium, drew an impressive assembly of academics, public officials, colleagues, family members, and well-wishers, an unmistakable testament to her towering influence within and beyond the university community.

In a university renowned for its vibrant academic culture and constant flurry of activities, this occasion rose above the ordinary. Preparations leading to the ceremony infused the campus with a sense of anticipation, as staff and students alike aligned themselves with the significance of celebrating one of KASU's most accomplished scholars. It was clear from the moment proceedings began that this was no routine gathering; it was a moment of institutional pride, honouring a woman whose scholarship, leadership, and service have left a distinct imprint on the university and on Nigeria's academic landscape.

The twin volumes, curated by respected scholars spotlight Prof. Andow's contributions to entrepreneurship management, public policy, and development studies. As the first female Professor of Entrepreneurship Management from Northern Nigeria, her academic journey continues to inspire younger scholars, especially women striving to break barriers in academia.



The event's conveners, *Professor Benjamin Kumai Gugong, who also serves as Kaduna State Commissioner for Sports, and Professor Hauwa'u Evelyn Yusuf, first female Professor of Kaduna State University and Administrator of KASU's Kafanchan Campus*, offered glowing introductory remarks. They described Prof. Andow whose birthday celebration coincided with the event as *"a repository of knowledge whose work provides pathways for addressing entrepreneurship and development challenges in Nigeria and across Africa."* Their tributes underscored the intellectual depth, passion, and commitment that have shaped her scholarship over the years.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Abdullahi Ibrahim Musa, joined other dignitaries in celebrating her legacy, describing her as a symbol of what purposeful leadership and academic excellence can achieve. His remarks echoed widely at the event, reinforcing the notion that excellence knows no gender, and that Prof. Andow's contributions in academia and management stand as both exemplary and transformative.

One of the highlights of the ceremony came from the Registrar of KASU, Samira Balarabe, Esq, who detailed Prof. Andow's sterling personal qualities. She praised her as a dedicated team player: sincere, honest, compassionate, and unwaveringly committed to community development. Her involvement in several non-governmental initiatives, the Registrar noted, reflects a life devoted not only to knowledge but to service and humanity.

Despite prevailing economic challenges in the country, the event demonstrated the unfading generosity of Nigerians when it comes to celebrating excellence. Guests, including the Chief Launcher, university leaders, and friends of the honouree enthusiastically announced various donations and book purchases, reaffirming their belief in the enduring value of scholarship and intellectual contributions.

By the time the ceremony drew to a close, one message rang clear: Professor Helen Afang Andow is more than an academic; she is a symbol of intellectual courage, leadership, and service whose legacy will resonate for generations within and outside Kaduna State University.

The two-volume Festschrift launched in her honour stands as a scholarly monument, documenting a decade of academic excellence while inspiring future thinkers, innovators, and leaders.

In her remarks, Prof. Helen Afang Andow expressed gratitude to all who honoured her with their presence at the occasion. She celebrated her husband for his unwavering support throughout her academic journey.

