

Profiles

Keynote Speaker



Professor Olufemi Peters

Professor Peters obtained his BSc Degree, Second class Upper in Chemistry from the University of Ibadan in 1979. After his year-long National Youth Service in Kano, he obtained a Master of Science degree in Polymer Science and Technology from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria in 1982. He obtained a Ph.D. degree in Polymer Science and Technology, from the Victoria University of Manchester, (UMIST) England in 1988.

Peters started his teaching career at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria as an Assistant Lecturer in 1982. He joined the services of the National Open University of Nigeria in 2003 as an Associate Professor and was later promoted to the rank of Professor in 2006.

At the Ahmadu Bello University, Professor Peters taught in the following areas of chemistry: The Chemistry of Industrial Raw Materials; Polymer Chemistry; Chemical Thermodynamics; Protein and Carbohydrate Chemistry; Quantum Chemistry; Petroleum Refining Processes; Rubber Technology, and Petrochemical Processes II.

At the postgraduate level, he lectured in the specific area of Polymer Degradation and Stabilization. He served as External Examiner for a number of Doctoral theses and was at various times, a panel member for Accreditation exercises for educational regulatory bodies in Nigeria such as; the Interim Joint Matriculation Board (IJMB); National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE); National Board for Technical Education (NBTE); and National Universities Commission (NUC) respectively. He also served variously as a member and Chairman of a number of committees for the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) and the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC) respectively.

Olufemi Peters served as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian Stored Product Research Institute, (NSPRI), Ilorin, an agency of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development between 2014 and 2018. At the expiration of his tenure at NSPRI, Peters returned to the National Open University of Nigeria in January 2019. In February 2021, Professor Peters became Vice-Chancellor of the University where he had respectively served as Dean, Faculty of Science, Director of Academic Planning, Director of Examinations and Assessment and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academics.

In addition to numerous journal articles and published proceedings in the fields of chemistry, polymer science and technology, agriculture as well as in open and distance learning in peer reviewed international and local journals; his personal contribution to scientific innovations included: co-designing and constructing a locally made (made-in-Nigeria) 60 degree Gloss meter for determining gloss levels of surfaces of coatings including that of the human skin; At NSPRI, Peters led a team of researchers to patent two of the institution's research findings, one of which is NSPRIDUST, a Diatomaceous Earth (DE) which is effectively useful as a grain protectant without side effect to human beings. Also, during his tenure as CEO of NSPRI, the institute designed and constructed a 5-tonne parabolic solar dryer for grains, fruits, and vegetables.

In Open and Distance learning practices, Professor Peters has served as Lead Consultant to the Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver, Canada to a number of African Universities and many Nigerian Universities seeking to transit to dual mode delivery, on areas of policy formulations for Dual mode Institutions, quality assurance practices and management of ODL institutions. He also led several study teams from NOUN to ODL Institutions such as, the University of South Africa, International College Group and Western Cape Learning Centre (Parrow), Cape Town, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, National Institute for Open Schooling (NIOS), India and the University of London.

His memberships of professional associations include the Chemical Society of Nigeria (CSN); the Polymer Institute of Nigeria (PIN); the Materials Science & Technology Society of Nigeria (MSN) and the Institute of Public Analysts of Nigeria (IPAN), the African Council for Distance Education; and the International Council for Distance Education. Professor Olufemi Peters is a Fellow of the Chemical Society of Nigeria, (FCSN) Society for Peace Studies and Practice (FSPSP). He is presently the first Vice President of the African Council for Distance Education (ACDE).