4th February 2020

The Executive Secretary
National Universities Commission
26, Aguiyi Ironsi Street
Maitama
Abuja

Dear Sir

REQUEST PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT, 2011 FOR DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE PROFESSORSHIP STATUS OF MRS SIDIKAT OSHO

The above subject matter refers.

We write this request based on provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 2011. Section (1) states that notwithstanding anything contained in any other Act, law or regulation, the right of any person to access or request information, whether or not contained in any written form, which is in the custody or possession of any public official, agency or institution howsoever described, is established. Section (2) also provides that a public institution shall ensure that its records and keeps its information about all its activities, operations and businesses. And Section 3 provides that an application for access to a record or information shall be made in accordance with Section 1 of the Act.

The Act also provides in Section 1(2) that an applicant need not demonstrate any specific interest in the information being applied for. The Registrar and Secretary to the Council of Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ogun State via a letter dated the 18th April 2016 with Reference No. OOU/ACA/P.1200/237, titled “Dismissal from the Services of the University” dismissed Mrs. Sidikat Osho. According to the letter, Mrs. Sidiat Osho was reported to the Staff Professional Ethics and Discipline Committee on allegations of gross misconduct after which the committee forwarded its recommendations through the Appointments and Promotions Committee to the Council. Based on the recommendations in the report submitted by the Staff Professional Ethics and Discipline (SPEDC), the Council approved the dismissal of the above-named person for being in contravention of the University Rules and Regulations for acts being unethical and amounting to gross misconduct. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

Based on the contents of the enclosed letter, it is alleged that the Olabisi Onabanjo University also asserts that she is not a known professor whilst in the university. This allegation cast shadows of doubt on her status as a professor, hence this request.

Based on the above relayed, kindly verify the following;
1. Is Mrs Sidiat Osho, a recognised Nigerian Professor?
2. Was she a professor at Olabisi Onabanjo University?

At HEDA Resource Centre, this request falls in line with our mandate as a non-governmental organization and non-partisan human rights and development league to protect and promote universally recognized human rights, accountability and environmental justice in Nigeria and Africa, in accordance with international standards.
Section 20 of the Freedom of Information Act provides that any applicant who has been denied access to information or a part thereof, may apply to the court for a review of the matter within 30 days after which the public institution denies or is deemed to have denied the application, or within such further time as the court may either before or after the expiration of the 30 days fix or allow.

We look forward to your utmost cooperation and the prompt response to this requested information and in any event, within seven (7) days of the receipt of this application as provided for under the Freedom of Information Act.

Should you require any further clarification, please do not hesitate to reach us on 08106292155 or via info@hedang.org.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Rebecca David (Miss)
Legal Officer

CC: The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR
Aso Villa
Abuja