

Delegation of Nigerian Investors and diplomats paid a courtesy visit to JU.

Nigerian Investor and Founder of African Children Talent Discovery Foundation (ACTDF), Engr. Noah Dallaji, visited Jimma University along with a delegation comprised of diplomats, business people, and representatives of chamber of commerce from Nigeria and Panama (Latin America). The delegation was accompanied by members of the executives of Oromia Tourism Commission.

Jimma university president Dr. Jemal Abafita warmly welcomed members of the delegation at a lunch reception he hosted in honor of the guests.

Speaking during the occasion, Dr Eng. Noah said, "We are here to establish ties with Jimma University to help students succeed in their studies and attain their goals through the provision of scholarships". He further promised to help JU students take part in and benefit from the African Children Talent Discovery Foundation (ACTDF).

The president of JU, appreciated the interest shown by ACTDF to partner with JU and briefed the delegation about the university and the potential areas for collaboration. He highlighted the importance of the envisioned area and how they are aligned to JU's current strategic goals and initiatives. In particular cooperation in areas of student talent development through scholarships, mentorship, and exchange schemes are very critical in advancing JU's key priorities in academic and research excellence he added.

It was also suggested on the occasion that cooperation in areas of research infrastructure capacity building could be vital to explore in the future.

Over a dozen of expatriate staff and exchange students from Nigeria attended the event. The president called for their active engagement in realizing the envisaged collaboration and contributing their share towards the people-to-people relations between the two countries. "We are in an era where the need for strengthening continental ties through education, trade, and technology transfer is critical to see the Africa we want within a short period. To this end, the need for joining hands towards creating universities for talent, world-class elite universities in Africa was stressed as critical now more than ever", he explained.

The delegation visited the research infrastructure and facilities at the main campus and wound up the visit after a brief discussion on the way forward, where a more detailed visit was scheduled in five months to formalize the ties.

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