



**INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT**



University of Sierra Leone

**EXTRAMURAL UNIT
WELCOMES STUDENTS TO IPAM
AND
TWO LECTURERS BAG PhD**

**By the Director of Media, Alumni and International Relations
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EXTRAMURAL UNIT WELCOMES OVER ONE THOUSAND STUDENTS

Over one thousand students attended the orientation ceremony at IPAM on 23rd March 2022. These



students are pursuing various courses at Diploma level at IPAM, the University of Sierra Leone. IPAM has Extramural campuses in different locations including Saint Edwards Freetown, Bo, Makeni, Kenema, Lunigi, Kono, Kailahun and Pujehun.

The purpose of this ceremony is to expose the students to the structures and functions of the College and the University as a whole. In addition, the students are normally informed about the major policies governing the conduct of students. For instance, examination, admission, discipline, payment of fees and the use of library. The Deputy Vice Chancellor and Principal, Professor Edmund Nonie congratulated the students and further welcomed them to IPAM. He told them that they are the first among those to be admitted to the Extramural Institute of the University of Sierra Leone. He appealed to them to be law abiding and be hardworking especially if they want to pursue education beyond the diploma level.

Professor Nonie also told them the need to fulfill all academic requirements in time so that they will have time to concentrate on their academic activities.



The Deputy Registrar, Mr. Brima Bah told the students that they made the right choice of seeking admission to IPAM. He described the administrative structure of IPAM, thereby highlighting the

functions of the office of the Deputy Registrar and other offices including Estate, the Warden of Students, Students Affairs, Library and Games and Sport etc.

Mr. Bah told them about the rules governing the conduct of examination and the penalties scheduled for those who might flout the. He also informed them about other locations where the Extramural Programmes are operating and the uniformity of the content, examination and awards.

The University Registrar, Mrs. Olive Barrie congratulated the students and extended the welcome message from the Vice Chancellor and Principal, Professor Foday Sahr. She told them about the administrative structure of the University and the functions of the Vice Chancellor and Principal including the Heads of campuses, the Registry, Finance Directorate and other offices in the management structure.

Professor Nonie reported that IPAM is desiring to upscale its teaching and learning to degree programmes in the different locations. This means that students with degree requirements in the regions will now have the opportunity to continue their studies in those locations up to the level of



degrees without coming to the main campus. Already the Quality Assurance Directorate and the Registry have done feasibility studies. The need assessment looked at the availability of ICTs infrastructure, human resource, library and classrooms etc. According to the DVC the students will get face to face teaching and virtual leaning approach mainly using Zoom to be linked with the e-learning center.



TWO LECTURERS BAG PhD



Mr. James Legbeli Sumo Kollie and Mr. Ernest Udeh successfully defended their Ph.D theses on 23rd March 2022 at the University Committee Room. This exercise was organized by the School of Postgraduate Studies, the University

of Sierra Leone. It is part of the quality control measures towards awarding research degrees. Professor Bola Carew chaired the viva while the external examiners and supervisors were all on the panel. Each of the candidates presented his thesis for 30 minutes and after which questions and comments were encouraged from the panel.



Mr. James Legbeli Sumo Kollie's thesis title is "A STUDY OF THE STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AND POLICIES OF MICROFINANCE INSTITUTIONS IN SIERRA LEONE: A CLOSE LOOK AT LAPO AND BRAC IN SIERRA LEONE". Whereas Mr. Ernest Udeh wrote on "THE IMPACT OF RURAL AND COMMUNITY BANKS ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF SIERRA LEONE."



Both lecturers are very strategic in the Extramural Programme at IPAM unfortunately they couldn't attend the orientation ceremony since it coincided with their viva.

Mr. Kollie's research is strongly hinged on the problem, that despite the robust and beautiful visions of the Financial Sector Development Plan of Sierra Leone, for sustainable financial inclusion (including the use of microfinance services), yet the levels of financial inclusion, financial literacy and management of the microfinance institutions in Sierra Leone are far from satisfactory. He therefore recommended that sufficient resources be accessed with more and better credit management policies provided by these microfinance service, with better supervisory and regulatory controls.



Congratulations to Mr Kollie!!!



Mr.Udeh 's thesis argues that there have been several attempts by the central government of Sierra Leone and other developing partners to promote rural development and improve the living standards by increasing access to quality and affordable financial services in these rural communities for examples, the Finance Act (2021) committed to rural development as part of its national strategy to improve the living conditions in rural areas through decentralization, and the government's poverty reduction strategy thrive to promote growth by expanding the outreach of financial services (RFSP Report, 2022).



The study reveals the significant roles by the Rural and community Bank in Sierra Leone in facilitating access to financial services in rural areas. Rural and community Banks provide financial services that are otherwise not available without them.

