# UBAANA NEWS



News and updates from the members and friends of the University of Benin Alumni Association of North America

By: Oby Moneke Secretary-General UBAANA

#### UBAANA 2019 Reunion- Creating Beautiful Memories.

Greatest Alums of the Greatest University of Benin!

The 2019 DMV reunion has come and gone with its beautiful memories. It started on Friday July 19th with UBAANA members experiencing the rich heritage of Washington D.C, the Political Capital of the World with a bus tour to key historic sites: White House, Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King Memorial, Washington Monument, The Capitol, and Library of Congress. The bus tour was very memorable despite the scorching heat. The Friday event ended with dinner and Retro night dance party which was unforgettable with the dance moves that we witnessed. Saturday started off with the General Assembly Plenary Session where we deliberated and sought solutions to the challenges faced by UBAANA. Late in the afternoon, we had a fun picnic with a variety of good food and music. We ended the day with the Gala night where the unimaginable happened, UBAANA raised over \$20,000 in less than thirty minutes to help towards UNIBEN projects. We had the opportunity to see old friends and make new ones. Needless to say, that the annual reunion is fundamental to the continued existence of UBAANA. Thank you, DMV Chapter for hosting a successful reunion!!!

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#### PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

Saturday April 11th, 2020 for the Southern California Chapter Annual Social and Fund Raiser.

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#### From the President's Corner



Kingsley Oise Momodu DDS

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I am very gratified to have another opportunity to give you a report on the state of UBAANA as we embrace a new 2020.

I have been particularly fortunate to do the work of UBAANA with a tireless Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and UBAANA Chapter Chairs who continue to donate their time and resources in doing the work of UBAANA with so much enthusiasm.

To maintain our reputation, as an effective organization we must continue to evolve, set new goals and reach for big achievements. The list of projects either undertaken or already completed is daunting.

We are currently planning a renovation of the Medical hostel or maybe completely construct and build a brand new Medical hostel for clinical students. Our aspirations are ambitious, but they remain our possibilities and I don't apologize for them

We have finished the renovation of of all the Common rooms in the Student Halls of Residence Halls 1,2,3,4 and Margaret Ekpo female hostel in Ekehuan) in both the Ugbowo and Ekehuan campuses.

With the completion of the Common room project, we are now in the midst of a renovation program for the Residence Halls Reading rooms. The Reading rooms in the Halls 1 and 2 are now completely rehabilitated and are ready for use by the students.

We must provide opportunities for our students to engage in research with faculty. To this end, we are in talks with the University Librarian to regenerate EBSCO (An electronic data base repository) initiated by UBAANA a few years ago.

We are currently looking to refurbish the Physics department lab. Also, we are looking to establish solar powered street lights around the student hostels to enhance the public safety especially in the event of a power failure.

Some of our academic facilities do not meet the needs of modern scholarship. For example, we need seminar rooms that are technologically enhanced. As a consequence, we are in talks with UBTH, to renovate a student seminar room.

It is with great fascination and a deep sense of pride that I mention the work of the Artificial Intelligence Committee, whose resolve is to enable the University of Benin become a leader in Artificial Intelligence programs. They have done an awesome job under the leadership of Stella Aduba.

We have too much to be happy about and I am deeply grateful to the alumni and friends of UBAANA who continue to give to power our mission. Thank you for all your support and I wish you a happy and rewarding 2020.

# UBAANA: Building A Legacy- Renovation of Uniben Hostels Common and Reading Rooms.

Under the prudent and exemplary leadership of our President, Dr. Kingsley Oise Momodu with the strong support of the UBAANA membership, the Common Rooms project is now a done deal. The common rooms renovation project have been largely impactful at the Margaret Ekpo Hall at the Ekehuan Campus, Hall 1, Hall 2, Hall 3, and Hall 4 at Ugbowo Campus and the students at UNIBEN are very excited and delightful. Kudos to everyone!!!

Thanks to our generous UBAANA members who continue to make these projects possible. Halls 1 and 2 Reading rooms have just been completely refurbished. After the Christmas holidays, the repair work to refurbish Halls 3 and 4 will commence.

We cannot do everything but making a difference remains our top priority. We will continue to do our best to make life more meaningful for our students.

**GREATEST UNIBEN!!!!!** 

UBAANA Reading Rooms Renovation Project
Bank Account Details

UBAANA Endowment for Reading Rooms Renovation and payment of dues

Bank: Wells Fargo Account Number: 9153100061 Routing Number: 121000248

Checks can also be mailed to:

UBAANA Treasurer 304 Chartwell Drive Jonesboro, GA 30236 Page 4 UBAANA News

Alums on the move: Distinguished Awards

Just recently, five UBAANA members were bestowed with the most prestigious award by the University of Benin Alumni Association (UBAA):

Dr. Nnamdi Maduekwe Alex. I Eronmwon Dr. Austine Ifedirah Dr. Funmi Salami Dr. Kingsley Cadmus

We are very proud of these alums, congratulate them for their achievements and representing UBAANA well!!!

Dr. Austin Ifedirah and Alex Eronmwon receiving their distinguished alum awards in recognition of their immense contribitions to the development of our Alma Mater at Uniben on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



#### Common Rooms before renovations



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#### Common Rooms after renovations



# DMV 14<sup>th</sup> Reunion Highlights







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# Reading Rooms before renovations



# Renovated Reading Rooms



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## End of the Year Party (Dallas Chapter) December 14, 2019





### End of the Year Party (Houston Chapter) December 13, 2019



End of the Year Party (Atlanta Chapter) December 27, 2019



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### Southern California Social Planning Meeting November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019





## End of the Year Party (Philadelphia Chapter) December 26, 2019



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## End of the Year Party (New York/New Jersey) December 27, 2019





## New York/New Jersey Annual Picnic June 29, 2019



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The UBAANA executive is happy to announce that the Philadelphia Chapter will be hosting the 2020 UBAANA reunion from July 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> 2020

Please go to
www.ubaana.org and follow
the link to register and
make your hotel
reservations early for the

On behalf of the President and the Executive Committee of UBAANA, we offer our condolences to our bereaved members, may God give you the courage to bear.

To all our UBAANA members with their families, we wish you all a prosperous 2020!!!

#### **MEET YOUR EXCOS**

Kingsley Momodu DDS - President Alex I.Eronmwon - Vice President Oby Moneke - Secretary-General Dr. Awele Anyahun -Asst. Sec-Gen Solomon Asapokhai - Treasurer