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Special Release

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### **APPOINTMENT OF PROVOST (2020 – 2024)**

#### **PROF. OLAYI NKA OLUSOLA OMIGBODUN FAS**

*M.B.B.S, FMCPsych, FWACP, Dip.Psych., M.P.H*

The Governing Council at its meeting of Thursday, 16 July, 2020 approved the appointment of Professor Olayinka Olusola Omigbodun as the new Provost of the College of Medicine. She is the first female Provost of the College. The appointment took effect from 01 August, 2020.

Born on 11 February 1963, Professor Olayinka Olusola Omigbodun had her primary education in Lagos, Ibadan and Freetown. She attended the prestigious St. Louis Grammar School, Ibadan where she served as the Assistant Head Girl and won the “Character and Service” award in her final year. She had her Advanced Level programme at the International School, Ibadan and thereafter proceeded to the University of Ibadan to study Medicine, graduating in 1985 with a Prize in Physiology.

After the compulsory Internship at the University College Hospital in 1986, she had her National Youth Service (NYSC) in the Department of Psychiatry, UCH between 1986 and 1987. She subsequently had her Residency training in Psychiatry at UCH, Ibadan; Lancaster Moor Hospital, Lancaster, United Kingdom and the Queen’s Park Hospital, Blackburn, U.K. She obtained the Fellowship of the National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria (NPMCN) and The West African College of Physicians (WACP) in Psychiatry in 1991 as well as a Diploma Certificate in Psychiatry at the University of Manchester in 1992. She proceeded to the United States of America in 1993 for further training in Family Therapy in the Department of Family Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia where she was also a Visiting Scholar at the University’s Bipolar Research Unit from 1993 – 1996. Professor Olayinka Omigbodun was awarded a British Chevening Scholarship to study at the National Institute of

Public Health, University of Leeds, where she was awarded the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree with Distinction in 1999, receiving the John Griffiths Prize. Her MPH dissertation won the award for the Best Dissertation at the Nuffield Institute also in 1999.

Professor Omigbodun started her career in the University in 1997 as Lecturer in the Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan and as Honorary Consultant in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in UCH. She rose through the ranks and was promoted Senior Lecturer in 2000, Reader in 2004 and Professor in 2008 (incidentally the First Female Professor of Psychiatry in Nigeria).

Professor Omigbodun has served the University in various capacities. In 2011, she established the Centre for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CCAMH), a multidisciplinary Centre for training research and service in the College of Medicine, University of Ibadan between 2015 and 2019, she was Head of both the academic and clinical departments of Psychiatry. As HOD, she spearheaded the integration of Consultation Liaison Psychiatric Services into the Radiation Oncology Department.

The new Provost also served as the Mental Health Specialist in charge of the University of Ibadan Mental Health Service for staff and students over the past 15 years and also the Chair of the Counselling Committee of the College of Medicine, University of Ibadan.

Outside the University, Professor Olayinka Omigbodun made many academic and professional contributions. She was instrumental to the formation of the Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions in Nigeria (ACAPAN) in 2012 and had since served as Member of the Board of Trustees of the association till date. She is a member of the executive of the International Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professionals (IACAPAP) in Africa. In 2010, she was elected President, making her the first African to have held the position in the 83 years of the organization. Professor Omigbodun also served in the World Health organization and UNICEF as temporary Advisor on several programmes.

She was also member, Board of Directors of the International Association for Women's Mental Health and Member, Lancet Commission on Global Mental Health.

She has researched extensively into various aspects of Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH) in Nigeria and other countries and has published about 120 scholarly articles and book chapters.

The Provost is a recipient of several academic and professional honours and distinctions. She is happily married to Professor Akinyinka Omigbodun and they are blessed with lovely children.

**Olubunmi O. Faluyi, MCIPM, MAUA**  
**Registrar**