

# Breaking grounds in academic excellence

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*Caption: Prof Gboyega Adebola Ogunbanjo, SMU Acting Director School of Medicine.*

Prof Gboyega Adebola Ogunbanjo added another feather to his academic cap. He was appointed “Honorary Professor’ in the Department of Family Medicine and Rural Health, Faculty of Health Sciences at the Walter Sisulu University (WSU) for a period of 5 years, with effect from the beginning of 2016.

Prof Ogunbanjo is currently the Acting Director: School Medicine, Professor and Head of Department of Family Medicine & Primary Health Care at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU). He was former vice president of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA), a position he held for 9 years (3 terms) and which ended in October 2015. He was subsequently elected to serve as the CMSA’s Honorary Academic Registrar for a 3-year term. His main objectives at WSU will be to enhance academic excellence and advance the

Department of Family Medicine and Rural Health's teaching and research output. This means that he will support WSU on a part-time basis sharing his vast knowledge and experience in the specialty of Family Medicine and Primary Health Care amongst other responsibilities.

His appointment followed a strict peer review process of his credentials by the WSU senate, in addition to his academic contributions and support to the Department of Family Medicine and Rural Health at WSU over the past 20 years. *"An honorary professorship is awarded based on one's academic excellence and one must have excelled in the area of expertise in that particular specialty to get recognition"* said Prof Ogunbanjo.

Prof Ogunbanjo has published over 180 articles in peer reviewed scientific journals and has supervised close to 90 Masters' students in his academic career. He holds a number of qualifications under his belt from different accredited academic institutions around the country and outside our borders, focusing on family medicine and primary health care.

He holds the Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MBBS) from the University of Lagos (Nigeria), a master's degree in Family Medicine and Primary Health Care from MEDUNSA now known as SMU. Other qualifications include the fellowship of the College of Family Physicians of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA), and fellowship of the South African Academy of Family Practice & Primary Care, just to mention a few. Other qualifications outside the continent include fellowship of the Australian College of Rural & Remote Medicine, fellowship of the Australasian College of Tropical Medicine, and fellowship in International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER), Philadelphia, USA and many other accolades under his belt.