

SPEECH BY THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF SSANU

COMRADE M. H. IBRAHIM, *FNIPR, FNILS, FCIML, MANUPA*

AT THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

FRIDAY 24TH - SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER, 2025

THEME: "LEADERSHIP BEYOND LIMITATIONS: SSANU WOMEN SHAPING THE FUTURE OF NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES."

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

Fellow Comrades.

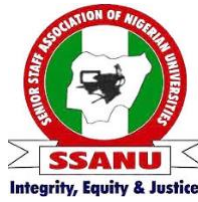
It is with great pride and a deep sense of joy that I welcome you all to this year's National Women's Conference. This gathering stands as a reminder of the strength, vision, and resilience of women in our Union and across the Nigerian university system.

Let me begin by sincerely appreciating the Women's Committee and the entire organizing team for their commitment and creativity in bringing us together under such an inspiring theme, **"Leadership Beyond Limitations: SSANU Women Shaping the Future of Nigerian Universities."**

This theme could not have come at a better time. It challenges all of us to reflect on how women can move beyond every obstacle; social, institutional, or personal and take their rightful place in shaping the future of our universities and our nation.

Comrades, the story of SSANU cannot be told without the contributions of our women. Across all campuses and departments, SSANU women continue to demonstrate excellence, diligence, and professionalism. Whether in the registry, bursary, laboratories, or health centers, our women are the silent drivers of progress, ensuring that our university system stands firm.

However, true leadership begins with professionalism. I therefore charge all our women to continue to uphold the highest standards in their respective places of work. Let your conduct, competence, and commitment speak louder than any title. When you demonstrate a high level of professionalism and dedication, the sky will be your limit. Nothing will stand as an obstacle to your growth, and there is no reason why you should not rise to become Bursars or Registrars in your respective universities. Through professionalism, you project the image of SSANU as a disciplined, credible, and forward-thinking union.



I also want to speak directly to our women on leadership aspirations. Too often, many limit themselves to the position of Women's Coordinator. While that role remains vital, I encourage every SSANU woman to look beyond it. Aspire to serve as Branch Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Zonal Officer, or even National Officer. Leadership has no gender boundary. Our Union needs your voice, your intelligence, and your compassion at every level. The future of SSANU and our universities will be stronger when women step fully into these spaces of leadership and decision-making. We must also continue to confront the challenges that still hold many women back, including work-life balance, limited opportunities, bias, and harassment. These realities demand our collective response through stronger institutional policies and union advocacy. SSANU remains committed to fairness, equity, and the protection of women's rights across all our universities.

This conference, therefore, is not just a gathering; it is a call to action. It is a call for SSANU women to move beyond limitations, to inspire others through excellence, and to lead with courage. Let us see this as an opportunity to strengthen mentorship, support one another, and build a legacy of capable, confident, and visionary women leaders.

In closing, I urge every participant to return to their branch, their office, and their community with renewed energy and determination. Let your presence be felt not just in service, but in leadership. Let your work and your example shape the future you wish to see.

Together, men and women, we can build a stronger SSANU, a stronger university system, and a better Nigeria.

Thank you, and may this conference be impactful and inspiring.

WOMEN ARE GREAT

Comrade M. H. Ibrahim, *fnipr, fnils, fciml, manupa*
National President, SSANU
National Internal Auditor, NLC
Chairman of JAC (SSANU/NASU)