

BLU students protest as final year colleague dies due to poor medical service

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There was protest by students at the Legacy Campus of the Benson Idahosa University, Benin City, Edo State over the death of a final year student of the Department of Computer Science, identified as Bruno Chigozie Ezeonye said to be 21 years old.

It was learnt that the deceased, the only son of his parents, is from a Nigerian father and South African mother. The parents are said to be based outside the country.

It was also gathered that the deceased on Monday collapsed while playing football at the campus' football pitch and that help did not come on time as the doctors and nurses in the health facility in the campus were said to be "foot-dragging in the face of an emergency condition," a parent who preferred to be anonymous complained.

According to him, "the Clinic workers have always shown a lackadaisical attitude and this has always been complained to the

University authority, but they did nothing about it.

"When they eventually responded and needed to refer him to Faith Mediplex Hospital, an affiliate of the Institution, located at Airport Road, a far distance from the Legacy Campus, they said the ambulance driver complained that there was no petrol in the ambulance.

"For a school that collects millions of naira from students?"

The students who reportedly mobilised to protest on yesterday morning after vandalising the school's clinic and security post when the news of the death of Ezeonye filtered were eventually calmed down by the President of the University, Bishop Feb Idahosa.

Repeated calls to the mobile line of the Head, Communication and Brand Strategy Unit of the University, Mr Temi Esonamunyor did not succeed as his phone was switched off and the Head, Students' Services unit of the University, Awipi Emmanuel did not pick his calls nor responded to text messages.