Man petitions Bauchi varsity over lecturer’s sexual assault on wife

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Ja’afaru Buba, the spouse of a female student of the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi, has escalated his petition to the authorities of the university to investigate the conduct of a varsity lecturer whom he alleged harassed his wife over her refusal to have illicit affairs with him.  
  
Buba made the plea when he briefed newsmen in Bauchi, noting that his lawyers had filed a petition before the Vice Chancellor of the University and copied the Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering of the university and the Resident Anti-Corruption Commissioner of the Independent Corrupt Practices, Bauchi, office.  
  
He disclosed that after filing the petition, the university’s management pledged to investigate and ensure justice was done over the matter.  
  
However, in a twist of event, the embattled lecturer has also filed a suit before the Bauchi State High Court, alleging defamation of character.  
  
Arewa PUNCH gathered from a copy of the petition filed by the complainant, Barrister Mohammed Sani, which read in parts, stated, “We hereby forward this complaint to you on for and behalf of our client, Kamila Rufa ‘i of the Chemical Engineering Department, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi against Usman Mohammed, a lecturer, in the Department of Chemical Engineering.  
  
“That our client is an M.Eng. Chemical Engineering Student of the University, wherein Usman Mohammed taught her CHE 635 (polymer processing and its application) and now teaching her 656 (Fluidisation).  
  
“However, it is in view of the student-lecturer relationship, the said Usman Mohammed took advantage of harassing our client sexually.  
  
“At several times and without lawful justification, invited her to his office and also sent to her, unbecoming love messages through Whatsapp despite knowing that our client is a married woman.  
  
“It’s pertinent for you to know that our client did not honour any of his invitations.”  
  
He maintained, “Due to the resistance of our client, the said Usman Mohammed informed our client’s friends that he would fail her in this examination as she will not graduate as an M.Eng. student from the university.  
  
“He also, on a personal basis, informed our client of the same threat because of her resistance to having sex with him.”  
  
Counsel to the petitioner alleged further, “That the conduct of Usman Mohammed is against the university laws and conditions of service.”  
  
He urged the management of ATBU to conduct discrete investigations into the matter and sanction Usman Mohammed in accordance with the university’s law and condition of service in order to serve as deterrence to other lecturers.  
  
Our correspondent further reports that Barrister Sani has attached the alleged Whatsapp chat/conversations of Dr. Usman Mohammed Aliyu and those of his client as proof of their complaint for consideration and necessary action.  
  
When contacted, the Public Relations Officer of the university, Zailani Bappah, said he was not aware of the petition but would confirm from the management.  
  
On his part, the accused lecturer, Usman Mohammed, denied the allegations when contacted.  
  
He refused to respond extensively, saying the matter is in court.  
  
He stated, “I am aware of the case, and it is before the court, so I reserve my comment.”