

## MDCN Inducts 57 Medics, Dental Surgeons At 44<sup>th</sup> Ceremony



For the second time in three months, the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) has inducted another set of 41 medical doctors and 16 dental surgeons trained by the College of Health Sciences, reports **Otikor Samuel**.

More on p3

## Side Bar CELEBRATING GABRIEL OKARA

The Institute of Arts and Culture in collaboration with the Faculty of Humanities, organised a "Festival of Life in honour of Late Poet and Novelist, Dr Gabriel Okara. Details next edition

Editor

## 159<sup>th</sup> Inaugural

# Modern Trade Should Learn From Traditional Igbo Market Calendar ~Kalu

By Otikor Samuel

The internationalisation of trade has not diminished the importance and significance of the traditional market calendar in typical Igbo society. This was the submission of Professor Sylva Kalu of the Department of Marketing in the Faculty of Management Sciences while delivering the 159<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Lecture of the University at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium last Thursday. The lecture was entitled, *Eke, Orie, Afor, Nkwo in Perspective: Any Lesson for Contemporary Times?*

Drawing inferences from his traditional homestead, Professor Kalu insisted that the transactional mode of exchange applied in rural marketing strategies by early Igbo traders proved effectual for economic development and personal income generation, and should, therefore, be adopted by policy makers in contemporary trade practices.

He submitted that the intrepid marketing techniques used by rural traders on designated market days in traditional Igbo society exhibited unique attributes in terms of price negotiations, informal bargaining skills



and one-to-one interaction, which formed lasting relationships between buyers and sellers in a robust economic setting. He cited the age-long transactional relationships between riverine fisher folk and their farmer

counterparts that resulted in a mutually beneficial symbiotic relationship.

"Eke, Orie, Afor, Nkwo (EOAN) are names of days in the Igbo four-day week. According to

More on p6

Ekenedo Sets New Agenda

Story on p2

INRES, COHSE Mark WED

Story on p3

Nwakanma Tasks Govt On Financial Inclusion

Story on p4

NMCN Issues Licenses To 24 New Nurses

Story on p5

## STAFF OF THE MONTH (June-July, 2019)

## Dr Chinwe Ezirim

*No man (woman) will make a great Leader who wants to do it all himself, or to get all the credit for doing it*

DAVID MINSKER

**J**unius, an anonymous publicist and social reformer who lived between 1769 and 1772, once declared that the integrity of men (add women please), is to be measured by their conduct, and not by their profession. But professional affiliation is very important because it helps us to classify the service roles of people around us and what they can offer their communities and the larger society. The irony is that you never know what people can accomplish until you put them to test with a big responsibility. A call to duty reveals character and capacity to perform great feats even under the most daunting of circumstances.

The modern medical profession made famous by Greek doctor, Hippocrates, occupies a central position as the critical glue that holds total patient care together. Modern medical practice basically consists of diagnosing, treating and preventing disease. Medicine is often used interchangeably with the substance or preparation used in treating disease in a complementary role.

While comedians take the sting out of our anger, the doctor helps to delay death through diverse palliative interventions. Anybody who is ravaged by bodily deterioration will attest to the soothing and healing hand of a caring and dedicated physician. Doctors placed in administrative positions either display their competence or reveal their crass mediocrity in the line of duty. The combined roles of doctor and administrator could sink a faint-hearted medical practitioner with average capacity to deliver on his or her core mandate of service and keeping hope alive. There is an unfathomable air of mystery that surrounds Dr Chinwe Ezirim who has been at the helm of affairs of the University's Health Services Department since Professor Ken Anugweje voluntarily turned his attention to sports science and administration. Since she mounted the saddle in acting capacity, Dr Ezirim has ploughed on with the force of energy without giving in to cynicism or the daunting odds on her way to professional fulfillment. Dr Ezirim's success story is mainly built on her refusal to be haughty, arrogant or insolent in her engagement with patients and colleagues. She has admirably and deftly navigated around the notorious professional rivalry that has undermined effective healthcare delivery elsewhere.

On first encounter, Dr Ezirim may exude a fragile look on the outside, but on closer encounter, what emerges is a woman of iron will and complete self-organisation that produces results in whatever direction she turns her attention as the officer-in-charge at the expansive *O. B. Lulu-Briggs Health Centre*. Apart from prompt service delivery to staff and students that patronise the Health Centre, Dr Ezirim has methodically presided over a comprehensive rehabilitation of the facility under the new TISHIP system. She has periodically repainted the building and ensured a fully-stocked pharmacy that efficiently dispenses drugs under the National Insurance Health Scheme (NIHS). Under the new dispensation, the facility is usually filled to the brim as early as 6.30am each day, while patients are guaranteed call doctors on weekends. Laboratory and other para-medical services almost run on auto-pilot on Dr Ezirim's watch.

Under her close supervision, the Health Centre now carries out ECG examination and other complex diagnosis expected of a functional Primary Healthcare facility in the University. Apart from routine attendance to staff and students who arrive with diverse health complications, the dedicated personnel at the Health Centre creditably handle the mandatory annual medical examination of fresh students. Under Dr Ezirim's watch, the compulsory routine medical check-



Dr Ezirim

up prescribed by Management for staff on their birthday has received more impetus. The entire compound is pin-clean and better lit at night; while hygiene and noise pollution are strictly enforced to ensure the safety of patients and visitor to the Health Centre. She has ensured that blind loyalty does not count more than professional competence amongst her staff on the understanding that only dedicated service, compassion and discipline result in improved health outcome.

Not concerned with accolades or self-glorification, Dr Ezirim carries out her functions with missionary zeal and an unusual personal touch to the admiration of many. Even in the daunting of circumstances, Dr Ezirim has the installed capacity to turn potential fiascos into impressive victories by giving her job schedule everything she's got during each performance. Dr Ezirim is truly a transformational leader who has left an easily verifiable signature of excellence at her duty post and richly deserves to be celebrated for deftly micromanaging the chaos of delivering quality clinical and counselling services at the University's Health Centre.

In recognition of her acclaimed managerial acumen, quality leadership, purpose, drive and for totally repositioning the *O. B. Lulu-Briggs Health Centre*, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Ndowa E. S. Lale, declares DR CHINWE EZIRIM AS STAFF OF THE MONTH OF JUNE-JULY, 2019. Congratulations to this Angel of Mercy and consummate leader of a result-oriented medical team!

COURTESY: IPPR UNIT

## Ekenedo Presents Mid-term Scorecard, Sets New Agenda

By Otokor Samuel

**A**cting Head of the Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education in the Faculty of Education, Dr Golda Ekenedo, has recounted her mid-term achievements in office with a pledge to do even more in the remaining part of her tenure.

In the report made available to our Correspondent, Dr Ekenedo disclosed that she took over leadership of the Department on April 10, 2018 with a clear vision to raise the research output of the Department through capacity building of both staff and students.

"Under my watch, the Department organised a *Research Writing and Anti-Plagiarism Workshop* for Graduate Students on February 26, 2019. In the last one year, we have repackaged the *Departmental Journal—Journal of Human Kinetics and Health Education Perspective*—which is now in volume 6. During the period under review, an academic staff of the Department Dr Adedaramola Onyango, won an international award as the best researcher in First Aid and Skills Development," she disclosed.

The Acting Head of Department further listed the establishment and inauguration of a functional *Departmental Alumni Association*, *Students' Health Promotion and Press Clubs* and acquisition of projector and screen to facilitate Departmental seminars, thesis and dissertation defence, as some of her accomplishments in the last one year.

"The process of demerging the two programmes domiciled in the Department (Human Kinetics and Health Education) is in progress. Achieving this feat will properly position each of the two components to produce adequate manpower that would provide professional services in the appropriate settings," she noted.

Dr Ekenedo pledged to address some other pressing needs of the Department during the remaining part of her tenure. "The planned programmes lined up in the second part of my tenure would include hosting of the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual National Professional Conference of the Nigerian Association of Health Educators, expansion of services provided at the Departmental Fitness Centre, organisation of an all inclusive Homecoming event for Alumni of the Department and a workshop on *grantsmanship* for academic staff to brighten their

chances of winning research grants both locally and internationally," she disclosed.

The Acting Head of Department further revealed that her administration would set up a functional Departmental Library to enhance research and reading culture among staff and students, including a well-equipped Health Education Laboratory to enhance effective teaching and learning. She also promised to establish a functional electronic database of students' result spreadsheet for easy access as the need may arise.



Dr Ekenedo

## EDITORIAL BOARD

Prof Ndowa E. S. Lale  
Prof Emie Ekeawe  
Williams Wodi

• Publisher  
• Editorial Chair  
• Editor

## CORRESPONDENTS

Mercy Adeniji  
Otokor Samuel  
Humphrey Ogu (Study Leave)  
Ethel Timi-Johnson  
Leton Nnen

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Mitchell Ekyor

## SECRETARIAT

Emilia Nwaka (Mrs)

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Soala George  
Nkoreweli Cyril

## GRAPHICS

Chika King-James (Mrs)

Cont'd from Page 1

The latest exercise was a major highlight of the 44<sup>th</sup> Induction/Oath-taking Ceremony which held at the Ebifimi Banjo Auditorium on Thursday, May 30, 2019. Registrar of MDCN, Dr Tajudun Sanusi, administered the *Physicians' Pledge* on the new doctors at a well-patronised ceremony witnessed by a large pool of parents, guardians, friends and well-wishers, amongst other stakeholders.

Administering the *Pledge*, Dr Sanusi charged the new inductees to prioritise service and care for human life above material benefits and personal comfort. He told them to see humanitarian service as their guiding principle in the medical profession. The Registrar also stressed the need for continued synergy between the College of Health Sciences and the Teaching Hospital in the training of quality personnel in the specialised field of medicine and allied fields.

"You have to guard against unethical conduct in the course of your practice. There are appropriate penalties that come with suspension or withdrawal of licence and once you fall into the trap, it may not only tarnish your reputation but it may also take a long time for you to put yourself fully back on track. That is why we take time to

## MDCN Inducts 57 Medics, Dental Surgeons

remind you of what practically awaits you outside the first phase of your medical training," the Registrar said. Dr Sanusi assured the new doctors that MDCN has almost overcome the bottlenecks against their internship placement, promising to resolve the remaining difficulties once the enabling legislation was signed into law.

In his speech, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Law, congratulated the 41 new medical doctors and 16 dental surgeons for successfully completing their medical training in the University. He once again, commended lecturers in the College for imparting knowledge to the newly-inducted doctors, heaping praises on their families for investing in their wards.

"Let me congratulate the 57 inductees we are gathered here to celebrate on the successful completion of their medical training in this University today. There is no doubt that these inductees have faced daunting challenges during their medical training, but their presence here this morning is a final confirmation that

they have successfully overcome all obstacles on their way to becoming certified medical doctors and dental surgeons," the Vice Chancellor stated.

He charged them to be worthy ambassadors of the University through diligent service to their patients and society. The Vice Chancellor praised the immediate past Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Professor Christie Muto for her excellent services to the College and University. He also commended her successor, Professor Iyegun Siminalayi for starting on a good note less than two months after assuming office as 10<sup>th</sup> Provost of the College.

Earlier in his address, Professor Siminalayi broke the cheering news that the MDCN has provisionally increased the admission quota for Medicine and Surgery in the University to 150. He appealed to the Vice Chancellor to prioritise the construction of a customised building for the College to enable it realise its full potentials.

In his admonition, the Medical Elder, Dr Osobonye Long-John, charged the new inductees to abide by the *Physicians' Pledge* to be properly guided in practice. "The environment we are in will tempt you to break the *Oath*, but you must resist anything that would tempt you to flout the *Oath*, because you would be happier and fulfilled keeping to the rules of the profession. Money is good, but a good name and the satisfaction you would derive from serving with integrity are by far better. I have practised in so many parts of the world where doctors are driven by a deep passion for the job," the Medical Elder advised his younger colleagues.

Dr Richard Oko-Jaja admonished the inductees on behalf of the Chief Medical Director of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH), Professor Henry Ughoma, while the 5<sup>th</sup> Vice Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs and a representative of the Rivers State branch of the Nigerian Medical Association presented goodwill messages at the occasion.

Other highlights of the 44<sup>th</sup> Induction/Oath-taking Ceremony were presentation of prizes to the best students in various subject areas, including the *Valedictory Speech* by Dr Annetebong Obot, who carted away more than five of the prizes.



VC, Prof Law (arrowed), Prof Siminalayi (left) MDCN Registrar, Dr Sanusi, Registrar of the University, Mrs Dorcas Otto in a group photograph with the inductees

## INRES, COHSE Mark World Environment Day With Lecture, Symposium

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

The Institute of Natural Resources, Environment and Sustainable Development (INRES) commemorated the 2019 World Environment Day with a walk and public lecture to draw attention of the University community to the dangers of air pollution and environmental stewardship. This year's WED with the theme: Beat Air Pollution took place at the Amatu Braide Lecture Hall on Tuesday, June 11, 2019.

Similarly, the Centre for Occupational Health, Safety and Environment (COHSE), held a symposium to further drive home the theme of this year's World Environment Day which held at the auditorium of Emerald Energy Institute along the East-West Road.

Speaking on the theme of the celebration, Professor Best Ordinola of the Department of Preventive and Social Medicine in the Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, called for collective effort to reduce the effects of climate change, as well as safeguard health and longevity. He warned that the lingering black soot arising from incomplete combustion could lead to severe cardiovascular complications among inhabitants of the polluted areas, especially in the Niger Delta.

"To take care of air pollution, we need to develop cheap modular refining technology to replace the crude technology currently in use for artisanal refining, reduce the use of firewood and encourage widespread use of cleaner fuel for domestic use and impose a complete ban on gas flaring by oil companies," Professor Ordinola recommended. He raised alarm over the increase in outdoor and indoor pollution in Nigeria, calling on relevant government

regulatory agencies to initiate proactive measures to combat the looming pollution threat.

In his opening remarks, 5<sup>th</sup> Vice Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs, who chaired the event, charged government and ordinary citizens to take necessary action that would make the environment more conducive for human existence. "We need to focus more attention on environmental issues because if we want to continue to live in this world, it must be made to sustain life. It is regrettable that humans have ravaged the world to the extent that the capacity of the world to sustain life is becoming increasingly in doubt. The effort is not just for the leaders or the government. We need to apply the APS model—creating Awareness, Preventing it from happening and applying Sanctions (APS) to safeguard our environment," he recommended.

In his own presentation at the symposium organised by COHSE at the Emerald Energy Institute Auditorium, Osoita Anako, who represented the Environment Manager of Shell Companies in Nigeria, Ojikutu Mukaila, warned of increased public exposure to air poisoning. He quoted a

figure of 4.2 million yearly deaths by the World Health Organisation, in addition to the 3.8 million deaths attributed to household exposure.

"Air pollution in Port Harcourt is neither geogenic nor biogenic. It is anthropogenic (man-made) and can be solved," Dr Anako said. He listed some urgent remedial measures to include reduction of meat and dairy consumption to cut down on methane emission, use of environmental friendly appliances and reduction of plastics, composite organic food items and recycling of non-organic trash.

In his remarks, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Professor Hakeem Fawehinmi, who represented the Vice Chancellor at the COHSE symposium, stressed the need for policy formulation and legislative framework to address environmental issues in the country. He commended the Director, Professor Tambami Leton, for packaging the events in furtherance of the mandate of his Centre.

In separate addresses, INRES and COHSE Directors, Professors Benjamin Ndukuwu and Leton, described the World Environment Day celebration as a rallying cry for the protection of the environment. "The theme urges governments, institutions, industry, communities and individuals to push towards sustainable alternatives and urgent ways to reduce air pollutants that threaten human health," Professor Ndukuwu said.



Dr VC (Acad), Prof Fawehinmi (arrowed) flanked on his immediate right by Mr. Anako, COHSE Director, Prof Leton, Chairman of Academic Board of COHSE, Prof Charles Oyegun (2<sup>nd</sup> left), staff and students of the Centre

17<sup>th</sup> FMS LectureNigeria's Economic Growth Will Depend  
On Financial Inclusion ~Nwakanma

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

Professor Prince Nwakanma of the Department of Finance and Banking in the Faculty of Management Sciences has identified inadequate development of Nigeria's financial sector as a major reason behind the country's slow economic performance. Presenting a paper entitled, *Financial Inclusion: Nigeria's Score Card* at the 17<sup>th</sup> Faculty of Management Sciences Lecture series which held on Thursday, May 30, 2019, Professor Nwakanma quoted the World Bank as referring to financial inclusion as a sure-bet strategy for poverty reduction and wider distribution of benefits arising from enhanced economic growth.

"Poverty reduction and shared prosperity can only be predicated on solid economic structures that promote economic empowerment through entrepreneurship and employment for the youth. At the individual level, financial inclusion is designed to provide a buffer against unexpected emergencies among the vulnerable segments of society," he explained.

Analysing the effectiveness of financial inclusion without income inclusion, Professor Nwakanma listed some palliative schemes instituted by the Federal Government targeted at income inclusion such as Agricultural Development Programme aimed at accelerating agricultural production, Operation Feed the Nation/Rural Banking during the first regime of the then

General Olusegun Obasanjo from 1976 to 1979, amongst others.

"Financial inclusion reflects on human development and may be a good strategy for reducing exclusion and lifting vulnerable people out of poverty. The paper recommends the need for Nigerians to re-evaluate their attitude to making money, as well as reduce the high incidence of corruption which damages the economy," the 17<sup>th</sup> Public Lecturer submitted.

Describing the lecture as a major input towards the drive for social change and development, representative of the Vice Chancellor and Director of the Quality Assurance and Quality Control Unit, Professor Ikechukwu Agbagwa, charged experts in Management and Economics to assume their proper positions at the forefront of proffering viable solutions to Nigeria's developmental challenges.

"I wish to assure you that the University Management is immensely pleased with the public lecture series of the Faculty of Management Sciences. As academics, our core mandate is to engage in quality research that would guide policy-makers to implement programmes that would

impact positively on the most vulnerable segments of society. We want to commend the Dean, Professor Barisua Nwince for sustaining the lecture series. We also wish to congratulate Professor Nwakanma on the quality of his presentation which demonstrated a clear sense of scholarship," he said.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Dean, Professor Nwince, had disclosed that the lecture series was aimed at providing an opportunity for scholars in the Faculty to focus attention on topical issues that would further clarify national and global economic trends and their impact on the common people.



Public Lecturer, Prof Nwakanma (5<sup>th</sup> left), Dean of the Faculty, Prof Nwince (7<sup>th</sup> right), Director, QAQC, Prof Agbagwa (left) and others



**B**ut it shouldn't be. On a day to day basis, food should be enjoyable and life should be pleasant. We shouldn't fear food or have a phobia for certain ingredients (yikes, gluten?). We shouldn't be addicted to counting calories or macros, and we should not be obsessed with obtaining a number on a scale.

Nutrition is an ever-changing concept and unfortunately we often turn to Dr. Google for our nutrition advice. If there is so much information at our fingertips then why are we so overweight and the sickest we have ever been? Why are we constantly trying out different diets if we swore the last one created miracles? Furthermore, did you know that not everything you read (or see or hear) on the internet is true? Gasp! Any Joe Shoenman can post an article with absolutely no evidence or credibility whatsoever. What's alarming is that we tend to believe anything we read and the majority of what we hear from others. Even if some of it is credible, why is it so hard to put this information into action? And why doesn't it ever last?

Everyone knows the basics of a healthy lifestyle. "Don't smoke, eat your fruits and vegetables, drink water, be physically active..." We've heard it all, right? But the majority of people do not follow basic nutrition advice. Something is clearly missing. That something is behavior change. Taking nutrition information and being able to implement it into our daily lives is the key to health and wellness.

There are hundreds of weight loss programs and meal plans that have the potential to work—in the short term. As soon as you stop the weight loss program or stop the meal plan, what are you left to do? That's why "yo-yo dieting" is so prevalent and why the focus on weight loss alone generates poor

## Nutrition Can Be Tough

long-term results. These types of program do not teach you how to eat healthfully. In actuality, they disconnect you from being mindful of your food choices and your health. Following a plan or program so you can follow along mindlessly will not have a successful outcome. So, you're left with a temporary weight loss that always comes back (often times gaining even more weight than starting), some seriously screwed up hormones and metabolism, and you're still clueless on how to create a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.

The weight loss programs listed above are linked to the traditional approach to medicine - treating symptoms or creating only temporary results. Conventional medicine and nutritionists focus on

foundation of Wellness Living and Nutrition—seeks to identify and treat the root causes of symptoms (including obesity), viewing the body as a whole, integrated system. This approach has the potential to heal the whole body, not just the symptoms.

Breaking free from the diet culture, experiencing food freedom, and learning new behaviors can take time. Real progress and behavior change takes time. It's the nature of the beast. But most importantly, research supports the notion that we can shift our habits and develop positive, long-lasting changes by utilizing scientific-based counseling techniques with a healthcare professional.

\*CULLED FROM: WELLNESS LIVING AND NUTRITION, FLORIDA



Eat fruits and vegetables



6th from left: CHS Provost Prof Siminlayi, DV-C (Acad), Prof Fawehinmi (arrowed), Rep of NMCN Registrar, Mr Alhassan, Bursar, Dr Felicia Ayumu, Nurse Elder, Dr Robinson Basse, other guests and the inductees

## NMCN Issues Licenses To 24 New Nurses At 2<sup>nd</sup> Induction Ceremony

By Mercy Adeniji

The healthcare system received renewed impetus last Friday with the induction of 24 new Nurses trained by the Department of Nursing Science in the College of Health Sciences. The second induction ceremony which attracted family members and other stakeholders took place at the Ebbitini Banigo Auditorium, University Park.

Speaking shortly before administering the Oath on the new Nurses, the Director in charge of Standards and Accreditation at the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN), Mr Ndagi Alhassan, congratulated the new Nurses on their successful completion of the Bachelor of Nursing Science programme in the University. The Director performed the Induction/Oath-taking Ceremony on behalf of the Registrar and Secretary-General of the Council, Alhaji Faruk Abubakar who was unavoidably absent.

"Today marks the beginning of your professional career as Nurses and a lot is expected from every one of you. This is a high standard educational programme designed to produce Nurses who are equipped with the requisite knowledge, clinical skills and professional judgment to render safe and effective healthcare services to the general public. The programme is also designed to improve the quality of nursing services in Nigeria by

empowering you to make sound nursing diagnosis, design appropriate care plan, implement and evaluate nursing care holistically.

"As graduate Nurses, you must be able to perform Nursing skills in a variety of healthcare settings, therapeutically assisting individual families and communities from diverse backgrounds. In doing this, you need to understand the psychological and physical factors necessary for the alleviation of suffering, including the promotion, maintenance and restoration of health. You should function interdependently with other healthcare professionals in the course of your practice. I encourage you to be willing to learn from your colleagues already working in the clinical areas, accept corrections, improve your skills and make adjustments where necessary. Continue to adhere to the ethics of the profession in your practice at all times," the Director charged the Nurses.

Delivering the 2<sup>nd</sup> Induction Lecture entitled, *Standards of Professional Practice: Transforming and Adding Value to Nursing in Nigeria*, Professor Mildred John of the University of Calabar, advised the new Nurses to strictly adhere to the standards of professional practice. She warned that violating professional standards could lead to malpractices or negligence with liability and potential loss of license to both the individual and organisation, especially if the breach causes injury or death.

"The core values of nursing—human touch, caring, comfort and compassion—should not diminish because of increasing technological advances. Determine to be the best Nurse that you can be; be willing to work hard; respect your senior professional colleagues and be assertive in order to be an effective advocate for your clients," Professor John charged the new Nurses.

In his speech, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, congratulated the inductees for successfully completing their prescribed course of study in the University. "You must draw clear ethical boundaries in your professional practice if you wish to practice for long as a Nurse. As you know, if you fail to live up to the standards of this noble profession, you must be prepared to face the panoply of institutional checks and balances that regulate your profession and ensure that charlatans do not go far," the Vice-Chancellor stated. He charged them to be worthy ambassadors of the noble profession of Nursing and the University, urging them to always remember why they became Nurses.

Earlier in his address, new Provost of the College, Professor Iyepu Siminlayi, commended the Nurses on their success in nursing education at the College, urging them to prove that they were properly trained by the University.

Other highlights of the event were the induction of Dr Grace Robinson-Basse as the pioneer Nursing Elder, and presentation of prizes to the Best Graduating Student, Mildred Nwokanna, who also received two awards from the Department of Nursing Science, and one each from a body known as Nursing World and an alumnus of the Department, Mr Chinedu Apuana.

The Exchange and Linkage Programmes Unit (ELPU) teamed up with the Centre for Nuclear Energy Studies (CNES) and Abuja-based Network for Nuclear Science and Technology Education (NGA-NEST), to organise a Career Talk/Workshop for selected public and private secondary schools in Rivers State. The two-day event held at the Conference Hall of the International Students' Centre from Monday, June 10 to Tuesday, June 11, 2019.

Declaring open the sensitisation workshop with the theme: "Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy," Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Professor Hakeem Fawehinmi, who stood in for the Vice Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, commended the organisers for packaging the event aimed at exposing the students to the complexities and peaceful application of nuclear technology.

"We have always associated nuclear energy with warfare and radiation. We, however, want to let the youngsters know that nuclear energy can be applied to peaceful uses at home and industry to enhance our comfort. The topic for this workshop is very appropriate as it is delivered to young boys and girls who would build on what they have been taught to make a career. I hope that this workshop would motivate them to take up exciting careers in the nuclear industry," Professor

Fawehinmi said at the opening ceremony.

In his goodwill message, Secretary of NGA-NEST, who is also an alumnus of the University, Dr Ebimou Agedag, praised the initiative aimed at exposing the youngsters to nuclear technology. "It is our desire that students at the secondary school level are encouraged to study mathematics, science and technology in preparation for careers that would expose them to the benefits of nuclear energy. We are optimistic that the programme would motivate the students to be more interested in the study of science," he stated. Earlier in his welcome address, Director of ELPU, Professor Iheanacho Akakuru, commended the various schools for honouring the invitation to participate in the programme. He hoped that the interaction would inspire the youngsters to consider careers in the nuclear

industry in their university education.

Speaking on the sideline, some of the students, Bertha Kalsowubo, from Federal Government College, Abuloma, Zurbari Dohem from University of Port Harcourt International Secondary School, Moro Kebin, from Rockbase International School and Corniel Tom-Alixi from Ema Domination International School, all expressed gratitude to the organisers of the workshop for affording them the opportunity to learn about the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and available career prospects for them.

The workshop also had a technical session at which different topics on nuclear science, technology and their peaceful application, including the educational requirements for specialisation in nuclear studies and career opportunities. Highpoint of the workshop was the presentation of certificates to the students who participated in the workshop.



DV-C (Acad), Prof Fawehinmi (arrowed) flanked by ELPU and CNES Directors, Prof Akakuru, Dr Benson Ebiyemwan (right), Deans of Science and Dentistry, Prof Ephraim Chukwosha and Dr Abiodun Arigbede, other staff and the students



*Cont'd from Page 1*

an Igbo mythology, the four strangers that visited Eze Nriijofe instructed the Eze and his people that the names of the weekdays—*Eke, Orie, Afor, Nkwo*, should be observed daily as market days during which they should be buying and selling their goods and services. They became venues for commercial exchanges and transactions. Every day is a market day in Igbo traditional villages and that is why we have *Eke, Orie, Afor, Nkwo* as market days in Igboland," Professor Kalu pointed out. He further disclosed that rural traders observed the four market days across Igboland.

"There are major lessons that can be learnt from *Eke, Orié, Afé*. *Nkwo* traditional markets that are not offered in modern supermarkets, megamalls, online markets or other retail outlets. The formal retail outlets lack the interactivity commonly canvassed in the traditional market setting, especially by the online shopping platforms. Whereas EOAN markets provide opportunities for socialisation that go beyond mere marketplace, to personal residences of the sellers, markets offer a more robust mechanism for interconnectivity in terms of depth and showcase truth, sincerity and reflect the spirit of communal marketing." the 159<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Lecturer told the large audience that gathered to listen to him.

Professor Kalu added that rural trading in Igboland instilled in the people, a passion for enterprise and networking in business which he described as critical to economic development in the contemporary setting. He argued that the EOAN provided an enabling environment for effective transaction of goods and services, political mobilisation, religious activities and mutual acquaintances. According to

him, the contemporary market outlets delay delivery of products and lack significant discounts as products are price-tagged, adding that such pseudo-interactive processes did not allow for closer product scrutiny and bargaining advantage.

The Inaugural Lecturer stated that "the experiences of buying and selling at the EOAN markets have major lessons that could be derived by modern marketing." He recommended the principles and techniques of rural marketing to moderate contemporary business transactions. Professor Kalu stated that in Africa, North America and Latin America, periodic markets formed critical aspects of their lives.

"In North Africa, much of the commercial transactions in rural areas take place in traditional markets called *Suqs*. Each *Suq* is held on a specific day of the week and takes its name from the day and group on whose territory it is held. The same pattern is followed in Zambia where periodic markets are name-*Chipata* Saturday Market, Lusaka Tuesday Market and so on," he said.

On the title of the lecture, Professor Kalu said, "*Eke, Orie, Afor*, Nkwo market days are institutions in the distributive trade: my area of specialisation. My Masteral Dissertation, Doctoral Thesis and a greater percentage of my research

publications are domiciled in the field of Distributive Trade. Secondly, there is unclear understanding of market and marketing. That is why I pointed out in 2011 that buying and selling in the markets are only aspects of marketing and distribution as one of the components of the marketing mix. Marketing goes far beyond Distributive Trade.”

In his remarkable Vice Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, he thanked the Inaugural Lecturer for educating the audience on the operational structure and benefits of rural markets in contemporary times. Professor Lale agreed with the Inaugural Lecturer that the University is also into marketing of knowledge and ideas with students as 'customers'. "The focus of our research is to help our students to develop their country can promote industry with the kind of things we have in our local markets in Aba or Onitsha, then we would develop our local economy and technology. We need to make our local industry better. We also need to do better to stem bad practices in the local markets," the Vice Chancellor said. He announced that the 160<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Lecture entitled: "*Life as a Chemical Reaction: The Clinical Laboratory and the Battles for Life*" will be delivered by Professor Aaron Ojide, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences on Thursday, June 27, 2019 at the Eghimjim Banigo Auditorium.

## *Rights Livelihood Lecture*

## Stakeholders Brainstorm On Human Rights Issues

*By Ethel Timi-Johnson*

**S**takeholders gathered to proffer diverse solutions to global environmental issues, politics, human rights and conflicts as part of the 2019 Right Livelihood Lecture in the University of Port Harcourt.

The event also marked the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the Sustainability Academy under the auspices of the Centre for Conflict and Gender Studies (CCGS), University of Port Harcourt and the Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF).

In their separate presentations at the two-day event which held at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium from Tuesday, May 28 to Wednesday, May 29, 2019, Professor Raul Montenegro of the National University of Cordoba, Argentina and Dr Ruth Manorima, recommended the promotion and enforcement of interactions at the government and grassroots level. The two resource persons also called for the integration of gender concerns, perspectives in policies and programmes for sustainable developments as some of the necessary steps towards solving emerging environmental and conflict challenges.

**Speaking on Environmental Rights Denial, Human Rights Abuses and Systemic Orchestration of Conflicts, Professor Montenegro noted that global crises that arise from social and environmental destruction, bad government and dictatorship, violation of laws, inequality and poverty affect all countries to attain optimal living. He called for increased media campaigns, empowerment of women and children, coalition between different civil society organisations, especially universities, to end rising global conflicts that undermine development. "Universities should not only teach, but also learn from grassroots people and ordinary citizens. Multilateral learning and sharing of experiences is essential, because, in the end, knowledge alone is insufficient to achieve human and environmental sustainability," he submitted.**

In her presentation on *Gender, Human Rights and Ecology*, Social Worker and Human Rights Activist, Dr. Manorama stressed the need for women to be involved all levels of policy formulation and decision-making in natural resource and environmental management. "We must strengthen or establish mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels to monitor and assess the impact of development and environment policies on women," she said. Dr. Manorama further stressed the need to focus more attention on gender concerns and perspective in policies and programmes aimed at attaining sustainable development.

Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, Professor Antonia Okeregwu, who stood in for the Vice Chancellor, described the theme of the lecture as timely, given the global increase in human rights abuse. "We are glad to note that the Memorandum of Understanding between the Rightlivelivhood Campus in the University of Port Harcourt and the Right Livelihood College in Sweden has been renewed for another five years. This

development would encourage closer cooperation in research and other endeavours," she disclosed. Professor Okerengwo added that the uniqueness of the University had earned it partnerships with local and international institutions.

In their separate addresses, Acting Director of CCGS, Dr Fidelis Allen and founder of HOMEF, Nnimmo Bassey, noted that the lecture provided an opportunity for stakeholders to exchange ideas on global environmental politics, human and environmental rights abuses and conflicts.

The second day of the event which was dedicated to the Sustain-Ability Academy with the theme, *Threatened Environmental and Gender Advocates* and sub-themes: *Climate Change and Violent Conflict, Actors in Global Environmental Politics and Outcomes, Climate Change as Human Rights Issue, Environment and Food Security, Gender and Human Rights and Gender Rights in Conflict Zones*, had Nimmo Bassey, Hans Herren, Bill McKibben and Ruth Manorama as speakers.



## GUIDEPOST

## APPOINTMENT

**Dr Job Otokwala**, Department of Anaesthesia, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, appointed *Acting Head of Department*. The two-year appointment which took effect from June 20, 2019, will terminate on June 19, 2021.

**Dr Edward Oghenevo**, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Science, appointed *Acting Head of Department*. The two-year appointment which took effect from June 6, 2019, will terminate on June 5, 2021.

## SABBATICAL LEAVE

**Professor George Tasie**, Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, granted a one-year *Sabbatical Leave* at the Institute of Foundation Studies, Federal University, Otuoke, Bayelsa State, effective June 3, 2019 to June 2, 2020.

**Dr Loveday Oghenemavwe**, Department of Human Anatomy, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, granted a one-year *Sabbatical Leave* at the Department of Anatomy, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, Gregory University, Urua, effective March 29, 2019 to March 28, 2020.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE

**Dr Gift Worlu**, Department of Management, Faculty of Management Sciences, granted a one-year *Leave of Absence* to take up appointment as Special Assistant to the Acting Managing Director/CEO, Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), Port Harcourt, effective March 1, 2019 to February 28, 2020.

## RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

**Professor Lysias Gilbert**, Department of Political and Administrative Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, granted *Renewal of Appointment* as *Adjunct Professor*, effective May 17, 2019 to May 16, 2020.

**Professor Dominic Okpara**, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, granted *Renewal of Appointment* as *Adjunct Professor*, effective May 4, 2019 to May 3, 2020.

**Dr Awoere Teme**, Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Management, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, granted *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective July 2, 2019 to July 1, 2020.

**Mr Vincent Wokem**, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Science, granted *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective April 21, 2019 to April 20, 2020.

## STUDY LEAVE

**Mr Goodluck Nwagwu**, Department of Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture, granted a two-year *Study Leave with Pay* to enable him undertake a Master's Degree programme in Applied Aquatic Ecology at the IHE DELFT Institute for Water Education in the Netherlands, effective July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021.

**Mrs Nchedo Ukwueze**, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, granted a three-year *Study Leave with Pay* to enable her pursue a Doctorate Degree programme in French Languages at the University of Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, effective May 13, 2019 to May 12, 2022.

**Mr Moses Isak**, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, granted a two-year *Extension of Leave with Pay* to enable him complete the PhD programme in Communication in North West University, South Africa, effective July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021.

## REVIEW OF STATUS

**Dr Blessing Odgwu**, Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, Faculty of Science, granted *Review of Status* from *Assistant Lecturer to Lecturer II*, effective October 1, 2018.

## New Doctors Speak On Induction

*A total of 57 Medical Doctors and Dental Surgeons were inducted by the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) on Thursday, May 30, 2019. Correspondent, LETOM NNEN, spoke to some of the Inductees on how they felt joining the medical profession. Please read on:*



**ANIEBI TOBONG OBOT**, Overall BGS, Dentistry

The quality of training we received in this University was excellent. I want to sincerely thank the Management of the University for providing standard teaching facilities

that enhanced our training as Dental Surgeons. With the skill I acquired in the course of my medical education, I can confidently compete on equal footing with my peers anywhere in the world. I am really excited today, especially as the overall Best Graduating Student in both Medicine and Dentistry. I hope to utilise my new skills to effect a change in the society through effective dental service delivery.

**HENRY NWUKE**, Medicine/Surgery

Without mincing words, I would say that our medical training in the University of Port Harcourt was one of the best in

terms of quality. It was stressful and demanding, but I am very happy to be among the successful ones at the end of it all. I am grateful to God, my parents and my wonderful lecturers for attaining this spectacular feat. It is indeed a dream come true and today is a day to celebrate my accomplishment. I am eager to practice the medical profession because I have prepared for it. I can stand out anywhere because the University trained me very well.



**BENJAMIN AGBOMMA**, Medicine/Surgery

The quality of training we received in this University was awesome. Though tedious and challenging as it was, I am here today celebrating because I did not give up. I have been able to surmount the challenges it posed at me. I hope to reap the benefits of my hard work. Today is a

special day. It is a day I was looking forward to. The years we spent in medical school ends at today's induction. I am so happy to have been inducted as a medical doctor and I am ready to join my senior colleagues in the profession.



**GODSPOWER IKPOTOKIN**, Medicine/Surgery

Though the training we received here was very demanding, it is a benchmark for other universities and medical schools. The training was wonderful and it prepared us to take

on the challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> century medical practice. It had depth and was very effective. I have looked forward to this day for so many years in my life. It was a dream yesterday; but it is a reality today. I lack words to express my happiness on my induction today. I hope to specialise as a surgeon. I love the medical profession and I have passion to save lives. I hope to discover something new and make a mark in the medical profession. I also hope to go into academics at a later point in my life because I have a natural ability to teach.

**KINGSLEY OKOROMA**, Medicine/Surgery

In terms of quality, I will score the training we received here 100 per cent. The training really pushed me to the limit and brought out the best in me. I now have the confidence that I can take on any challenge, anywhere. I have the confidence that if I can make it here in the University of Port Harcourt, I can fit in anywhere. The training was world class and it prepared us to hit the ground running. I feel great because I have just completed a critical stage of my life. I can now move on to the next level of my academic pursuit with renewed confidence. Today is truly a memorable day in my life.



**EMEKE EGBUA**, Medicine/Surgery

I feel highly elated to be among the Inductees today. I will say that the quality of training I received was good, though there is still room for improvement. Medicine is environment-oriented, so the training is good enough to qualify me for practice in our own setting. I am subject to further training as a doctor to broaden my

horizon. All the same, I feel a great sense of personal achievement. It was a tough struggle for a while, but here I am today, celebrating the result of my hard work. It is just a new beginning for me. I hope to practice and improve on the skills set I acquired here. I am very passionate about medical practice.



# Hurrah!

## Guest House Services Resume At Lagos Liaison Office!!!



**B**reaking News: Full lodging and catering services have been restored at the rebranded Guest House at the Lagos Liaison Office owned and operated by the University of Port Harcourt. Prospective lodger and transit guests are guaranteed quality hospitality services that compare with the very best anywhere in Lagos.

Special features: The Guest House is located in a highbrow area of Ikeja with light traffic and maximum security. It is less than 20 minutes drive by car from MM2 and guarantees 24-hour front desk services; on-site bar and high speed *wifi* in all rooms. Every room comes with plasma TV and hot tub for a pleasurable stay. Guests will experience sizzling continental, *ala carte* and *d'hote* cuisines and assorted drinks on demand; friendly staff, professional catering and laundry services. Pin-clean suits with new furniture and other choice facilities, including fridge and prompt room service at the dial of a bedside intercom.

- High pressure water borehole
- High-rise perimeter fencing
- Neon-lit signpost and much more...

### COME

It's totally rebranded  
It's reloaded

It's ready for discerning guests with refined taste  
It's the rave of hospitality business in Maryland now  
Guests can be picked up and dropped anywhere in Lagos at subsidised charges that will not break a bank.

Are you planning a trip to Lagos? Then visit the rebranded Guest House at the University of Port Harcourt Liaison Office to experience a unique and memorable hospitality in the Central Business District of Lagos. We are waiting to receive you.

**Come, a thousand smiles await you at the front desk!!!**

### OTHER FACILITIES

- Conference room with multimedia facilities
- CCTV cameras that monitor movements
- Deluxe, Standard and Executive rooms
- Fully air-conditioned restaurant with 60" plasma TV
- Suited rooms with brand new beds/accessories
- Automated laundry services

*UniPort Guest House...come and take another look*

*For inquiry/reservations, contact us @:*

*UniPort Lagos Liaison Office*

*No. 23, Bush Street*

*Mende, Maryland*

*Ikeja, Lagos*



email: [liaison.lagos@uniport.edu.ng](mailto:liaison.lagos@uniport.edu.ng)

Call Ibiye on: +234-802-341-5448

Or Isa on: +234-803-445-0026