



Etebu, Onuchuku Emerge New Engineering, Social Sciences Deans

Former Director of the Science and Engineering Workshop, Professor Okechuku Onuchuku, has emerged Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, just as former Head of the Department of Economics, Professor Okechuku Onuchuku, was also elected Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, reports *Otikor Samuel*.

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Side Bar

The Department of Geology hosted its first Alumni Home-Coming last Friday. Details next week
~Editor



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125th Inaugural Ejezie Stresses Importance Of Geotechnical Engineers In Building Construction

By Obinna Nwodin

Sequel to the alarming increase in the number of collapsed buildings in the country, a Professor of Civil and Geological Engineering in the University, Samuel Ejezie, has stressed the need for builders to engage the services of qualified Geotechnical Engineers right from design and construction of structures to avert such

impending disasters.

Professor Ejezie made the recommendation while delivering the 125th Inaugural Lecture of the University at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last Tuesday. Ejezie, whose Lecture was entitled: *Geotechnical Engineering—The Cornerstone of Infrastructure Development in Difficult Grounds Environment*, strongly berated the distasteful attitude of assuming that

“nothing will happen” in constructing defective structures in any part of the country.

He called for such attitude to be “jettisoned because prevention of building failure is cheaper than the cost of failure,” advising government to directly get involved in fighting quackery in Geotechnical Engineering practice. This, according to him, can be

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TSA As A Forced Error

By Williams Wodi

In the engaging game of Tennis where Novak Djokovic and Serena Williams reign as king and queen, 'forced error' is compelled by the opposing player to extract valuable points that decide who emerges victorious from a grueling contest. The error is considered as 'forced' when a forehand or backhand stroke from a talented player unsettles the opposing player in the heat of action.

The reigning heavyweight boxing champion in town these days is known as Mr. Treasury Single Account (TSA). The fear of almighty TSA is more than the beginning of financial wisdom for Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) that are currently grueling under its weight these days. With a new sheriff in town, the hedonists who adored profligacy at its most scandalous manifestation in public places have received a technical knockout punch in their most vulnerable spot.

With the TSA, those roadside bandits, who drove against traffic for so long in government treasury departments, are in for very lean times indeed. The new austere tenant in Aso Rock promised to rein in the monster of corruption and the unbridled impunity that fuels it in high and low places. The TSA is a grinding fulfillment of that pledge on the campaign trail. The fly in the ointment is that those who propounded the gospel according to the TSA claim to stand on higher moral ground, while opponents allege that the policy was not well thought through in the corridors of power. Proponents allege that those crying blue murder brought this sad turn of events on themselves by paying lip-service to fiscal prudence over the years. TSA is here to abolish the rentier state and grease the pole to the treasury.

True, there are some positive sides that hold out promises of cushioning the obvious side effects of this monetary control policy designed to empower government to monitor fringe coded accounts that promote sleaze in the public space. Under the emergent dispensation, MDAs are expected to operate verifiable single or multiple accounts with the Central Bank of Nigeria alone to the exclusion of all others. That is the power of monopoly in a capitalist economy that promotes competition. With this emergent monopoly, the Accountant-General of the Federation is expected to have a clear idea of how much money that is in any account, while government agencies can no longer hide idle cash in one account and turn round to borrow money with another account as was the practice. For instance, report by the last House of Representatives disclosed that N9.4 trillion was not remitted by 60-revenue

generating agencies.

Additionally, Internally-Generated Revenue (IGR) can no longer be incubated in seedy 'fixed' accounts or tampered with, which would hopefully leads to efficient revenue administration through centralized government accounts. Commercial banks that previously depended on government cash flow will now have to go into full revenue drive to stay afloat in a contracting economy.

What the proponents of the new policy failed to bear in mind is the self-evident side effects of this well-intentioned move that is already having dislocating impact on MDAs. Universities are worse hit by the hastily conceived policy that compels them to open TSAs without even passing consideration of their peculiar operational structure.

On the deficit side of things, TSA will further make a mockery of the federal structure in an ethnically diverse country by resurrecting the infamous

unitary system that nearly wrecked us under prolonged military rule. What stops the Accountant-General of the Federation from becoming so powerful that he can determine who gets what, at what time and for what purpose? Worse still, the TSA became officially operational on September 15, 2015 without dress rehearsal or preamble, making it a target of trial and error. Who has been trained to operate the new system? How will the CBN account for the jumbo cash mopped up from the MDAs and wont a new layer of sleaze set in at the AG's office to defeat government's good intention?

The Gestapo-style mopping up of about N1.2 trillion from commercial banks is certainly going to impact negatively on the economy and further elongate the employment queue. The list could be longer than what is stated here, but government has a responsibility to minimize the shock occasioned by its sudden TSA policy—especially as it relates to universities, hospitals and security agencies.

Without making exemptions for these critical sectors, the 'dead hand of bureaucracy' is bound to kill them, together with the TSA that was intended to kill corruption in the public space. After all, the road to hell is paved with good intention!



President Muhammadu Buhari



Godwin Emefiele, CBN Governor

STUDENT WORLD

"I am in Gas Engineering because basically I like the sciences. While in Secondary School, I had the option to choose my subject from the Arts or Social Sciences, but I opted for Pure Science. One of my teachers told me to go for either Gas or Petroleum Engineering in UniPort. That



Amadi

Amadi Evaluates Environmental Impact Of 'Produced Water'

Jennifer Amadi is a Final Year Student of the Department of Gas Engineering with divided attention between Art and Science. She disclosed to our Correspondent OTIKOR SAMUEL, that her admission to read Gas Engineering has not dampened her flair for the Arts. Her current research effort is aimed at proper handling of 'Produced Water' in the drilling process. Welcome to the world of Jennifer, who is counting in days to complete her studies in Unique UniPort.

was how I secured admission into the Department of Gas Engineering," she told our Correspondent. Miss Amadi, who further disclosed her passion for writing and speaking, said she was tinkering with the idea of working out a platform to combine her passion for the arts and Engineering career.

On her Final Year research project, the student disclosed that her work on *Produced Water Characterization, Concerns and Efficient Management in Niger Delta*, was aimed at proffering solutions to the adverse effects of 'produced water' on the environment following oil and gas exploration in the region.

"Produced water is a major concern in oil and gas exploration. My research focuses on the amount of water that comes out in the course of drilling oil. Sometimes, the amount of water is more than the amount of oil production," she stated, listing environmental degradation, damage to aquatic animals and soil erosion as some of the dangers which 'produced water' can cause to inhabitants of the region.

"Treating 'produced water' with chemicals,

hyacinth plants and other technological devices are ways to manage its devastating effects on humans and the environment. The 'produced water' can also be re-injected into the reservoir to enable it produce oil and gas for maintenance of pressure," she added.

Miss Amadi expressed optimism that the outcome of the research would help to remediate the degraded Niger Delta environment and also advance the frontiers of knowledge.

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Etebu, Onuchuku Emerge New Deans



Etebu

Onuchuku

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Professor Etebu polled a total of 59 votes to beat two other contenders for the job. Incidentally, the three contestants lecture in the same Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Professor Etebu's election which was conducted consequent upon the abolition of the collegiate system by Senate of the University at its 411th Meeting on Wednesday, August 26, 2015, held at the Chikoko Seminar Room, Choba Park, last Monday. The new Dean, who was the first female Professor of Mechanical Engineering and former Director, Institute of Engineering Technology and Innovation

Management (METI), will take over from the pioneer and only Provost of the defunct College of Engineering, Professor Dulu Appah, after confirmation of the election by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale.

Similarly, Professor Onuchuku was elected new Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, last Tuesday. Professor Onuchuku polled 69 votes to emerge victorious after his rival for the job, Professor Lawrence Ohale, stepped down before the poll opened.

The election of Professor Onuchuku followed the vacancy created by the appointment of the incumbent Dean, Professor Henry Alapiki as Executive Director of the University of Port Harcourt Foundation (UPHF).

Disclosing the outcome of the two separate elections to our Correspondent, a member of the Special Electoral Team appointed from the Registry Department, Mrs. Mammy Otonnah, described the exercise as peaceful, credible and rancour-free, showering praises on the contestants for exhibiting a high degree of maturity which contributed to the hitch-free polls, a gesture she said could rarely be witnessed outside the academic environment.

She disclosed that the result of the two separate elections would be communicated to the Registrar, Mrs. Matilda Nnodim, for further administrative action. The electoral team was led by a Principal Assistant Registrar, Mr. Goodluck Okezie. Other members were Mrs. Mammy Otonnah, Mrs. Sylvia Okwuosa, Mrs. Chika Igwe and Messrs Samuel Gbonene and Gospel Barikor.

As a way of engaging young people to build their entrepreneurial and leadership capacities, the University of Port Harcourt Chapter of an international student organization, *Association Internationale des En Sciences Economiques et Commerciales* (AIESEC), has ended a 2-day Leadership Summit that attracted industry players and the academia. The Summit which commenced on Thursday, September 16, ended on Friday, September 17, 2015 at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park.

Delivering a paper entitled, "Leadership for the New Nigeria 2025," former Patron of the Association, Professor Mark Anikpo, described leadership as the ability to inspire others to act together to achieve an objective, explaining that "leadership enables one to impose one's ambition on other people through naked force, monetary inducement or ethnocentric blackmail." Professor Anikpo highlighted depression, youth alienation, unemployment, crime, militancy, religious fanaticism, ethno-phobia, among others, as some challenges young people face while aspiring to occupy leadership positions today, stressing that if youths are able to resist such challenges, then they can achieve their goals in life and leave an enduring legacy.

He added that leadership for the future has to be issue-based, rather than the pursuit of narrow ends that do not advance the public good. "Nigerians must have to learn to be honest and be their brothers' keepers. A leadership forum such as the type being promoted by AIESEC is very important because it is one of the core goals that can advance the career choices of the young ones who are in search of direction in a society that has lost its moral compass," Professor Anikpo said.

The retired Sociology guru, who was Director of the defunct Centre for Ethnic and Conflict Studies (CENTECS), lauded AIESEC for dedicating itself to the development of the abundant talents and leadership potentials of young people from around the world. He disclosed that for anyone to get into any leadership position, such a person "must develop charisma, which is the major force that attracts people to you and to successfully apply charismatic qualities, one must be upright and just in one's public and private life."

He lamented that "leadership in Nigeria has been unproductive, self-seeking, insincere, corrupt and parasitic, but for you to do well and be a dependable leader of tomorrow, you must be creative, innovative and sincere," he told the youths, pledging to continue his mentorship initiative for Nigerian youths at every opportunity.

Delivering the keynote address, Director of the Port Harcourt Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and

AIESEC UniPort Ends Leadership Summit

By Mercy Adeniji

Agriculture (PHACCIMA), Engineer Emeka Unachukwu, who was represented by Mr. Nkem Joseph-Palmer, expressed PHACCIMA's commitment to the growth of AIESEC UniPort and youth development generally.

"Our international platform enables young people to explore their world in a rewarding manner that would be beneficial to them and society. We are partners in progress and we are determined to collaborate with any individual or organisation that is committed to youth advancement, especially now that unemployment has become a serious issue in our country."

"As youths, you have very important roles to play in helping to change your economic outlook. You should join hands with progressive elements to work for the good of your country and your personal development," Engr. Unachukwu said.

He commended AIESEC for the bold initiative of mounting a Leadership Summit, urging the organisation to continue creating entrepreneurial consciousness amongst Nigerian youths through global

linkages. "We expect you to help change the destiny and lives of families and the larger society just like the founders of Apple I-Pad, Microsoft and Facebook, who changed the world at very tender ages."

In her contribution, the Port Harcourt Branch Manager of DP-DHL, Mrs. Maureen Adibuah, spoke on "Exploring Career Path through DHL as Employer's Choice," describing DP-DHL as a global market leader in the logistic industry. She stated that the company was founded by three persons, Adrian Daisey, Larry Hubolom and Robert Lynn. "As a company, we provide solution and logistic needs for people all over the world. We are into networking just like AIESEC," she said, adding that the company has been partnering AIESEC for over 17 years with the aim of giving back to the world.

Also speaking, a Marketing Expert, Mr. Jide Adeyemi, who spoke on the topic: *The Role of Digital Marketing in Today's Business Trend*, charged participants to make impact in society through creativity and innovation, urging them to set objective for yourself, create a community, engage the community and create a target for yourself and others, he advised young people.



A cross-section of AIESEC members at the Career Fair. Inset: Former AIESEC Advisor, Prof Anikpo

V-C Pledges Support For UPWA

By Mercy Adeniji

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, has reiterated Management's continued support for the University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA).

Professor Lale, who gave the assurance when he received a delegation of the Association on a courtesy call last Tuesday, commended the Association for the show of solidarity to his administration. He expressed gratitude to the UPWA on behalf of Management for its continued contributions to the development of the University.

"Since I assumed office, we have received a lot of courtesy visits with each group tabling a long shopping list of what we should do for them. I believe that the list from UPWA is the shortest on record and I am grateful to you for being realistic about what is possible in these times. All the same, we promise to do our best to support and encourage you to give of your best," the Vice-Chancellor assured the delegation.

"UPWA is part of the University with its own managerial structure that allows it some degree of flexibility to do things in its own way. You are all aware of the important role the University plays in supporting UPWA in the execution of its activities; so we hope to do our best to continue such support for the Association."

"We are also very impressed with the new outlook of the School under the new Executive and it is our hope that more changes would be made to reposition the

Gladys Conkey Resource Centre as one of the leading foundational institutions in Rivers State and beyond. We want to encourage you to continue to build capacity and infrastructure that would create an enabling learning and recreational environment for our children. I am also happy to note that all stakeholders are on their toes to ensure that the School grows in line with the vision of the founding fathers," Professor Lale noted.

Earlier in her address, President of the Association, Mrs. Joy Lale, who congratulated the Vice-Chancellor on his appointment, said: "We are here to pledge total support for you and promise that we will do all we can to support and ensure that you succeed in your onerous assignment. We are also here to plead that you do not chase us away whenever we run to you for assistance; rather you should welcome and listen to us. We are looking forward to a wonderful working relationship with the new Vice-Chancellor of the University," she said, expressing optimism that UPWA would soar to greater heights under the new

dispensation.

In her contribution, immediate past President of the Association, Mrs. Mercy Ajienka, expressed gratitude to the Management for all the support the University gave to UPWA during her tenure, appealing that the same be extended to her successor. "We thank the administration for all that has been provided for the Association and for your pledge of continued support for our Association. I feel elated that the University is not turning its back on UPWA and we promise to continue in our established tradition of supporting the programmes of the University and we pray that this tempo would be sustained for the mutual benefit of the Association and the University," she said.

Other members of the Executive that accompanied the President included the Vice-President, Barrister Esther Joe, Secretary, Mrs. Chioma Isiguzo, Public Relations Officer, Dr. Caroline Nnabuo, Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Ekaette Ndiho, Provost I, Dr. Celestina Harry, Provost II, Dr. Emily God's Presence, Welfare Officer I, Mrs. Cecilia Agumagu, Welfare II, Dr. Ese Awiri and Treasurer, Mrs. Esther Shaka.



V-C, Prof Lale (3rd right), UPWA President, Mrs. Lale, her predecessor, Mrs. Mercy Ajienka (3rd and 2nd left), DV-C (Academic), Prof Joe and Wife, Esther (2nd and 1st left), Bursar, Mr. Vitalis Aliezi (1st left), UPWA EXCO members and SAV-C, Mr. Kingsley Wogu (1st right back row)

UniPort, US-Based NGO Seal Partnership Deal On Quality Education

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

The University of Port Harcourt and a United States-based Non-Governmental Organization, 'Caring For Others Incorporated,' located in Atlanta Georgia, have concluded plans to go into a partnership that would facilitate development of teaching infrastructure in the University.

In an exploratory discussion with the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale in the Committee Room, last Monday, the Director in charge of West Africa, Dr. Christiana Oduguwa, disclosed her organization's willingness to assist the University with the supply of teaching aids and medical equipment, including provision of exchange and linkages opportunities between UniPort and some counterpart universities in the United States. She expressed hope that the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the partners would further strengthen the relationship

between both institutions. Giving an institutional profile of the group, Dr. Oduguwa noted that the proposed projects in the University would be executed in phases.

In his remarks, a Member of the University Governing Council, Dr. Nelson Olaniyi, who accompanied Dr. Oduguwa on the trip, commended her spirit of philanthropy, noting that his quest to advance the cause of the University prompted him to reach out to the organization which had carried out similar projects in other higher institutions.

"Whatever assistance we can get from individuals and public-spirited bodies would do the University a lot of good, hence the need for us to interface with organizations such as 'Care for others Incorporated.' We are all working towards ensuring notable changes in the University," he added, promising to always put in his best effort to move the University to greater heights.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor expressed gratitude to 'Caring For Others Incorporated' for

keying into the vision of offering to help strengthen the quality of teaching and research in the University through the provision of relevant study aids.

"We are desperately looking for opportunities like the type you are proposing and we are grateful for your stated commitment to assist the University realize its full potentials," Professor Lale stated, stressing the need for more collaborations between the University and similar institutions to explore areas of mutual interest.

"We want to make a change in the quality of graduates that we produce for the job market and we want them to be independent on graduation with requisite skills. We expect them to interface with their colleagues internationally and we look forward to translating these proposals into action points that can be achieved within specified timelines," Professor Lale said, assuring the organization of the University's capacity and experience to handle the

projects when fully implemented.

Deputy Vice-Chancellors (Administration and Academic), Professors Anthony Ibe and Igho Joe, University Bursar and Librarian, Mr. Vitalis Aliezi and Dr. Obiageli Nwodo and Director of the University of Port Harcourt Foundation, Professor Henry Alapiki and his Business Officers also attended the meeting, which continued at the University Library and the Foundation's office in Delta Park.



V-C, Prof Lale (middle front row) flanked by DV-C (Admin), Prof Ibe (2nd left) W/Africa Director of the NGO, Dr. Oduguwa (2nd right) and some Principal and Senior Officers of the University

Senate Elects Reps To Selection Boards For Registrar, Librarian ...Approves Ph.D Programme In Nuclear Engineering

Senate of the University of Port Harcourt has elected members to represent it on the Selection Boards for a new Registrar and University Librarian. It also approved the commencement of a new doctorate degree programme in Nuclear Engineering to complement the existing Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes in the same field of study.

Those elected to the Selection Boards are Professor Barisua Nwince of the Department of Finance and Banking and Professor Ben Ndukwe of the Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology for the selection of a new Registrar, while Professor Emmanuel Emesele of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies and Professor Ernest Achalu of the Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education will serve on the Selection Board for a new University Librarian.

The keenly contested election held at the 412nd Meeting of Senate, which was chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, at the Senate Chambers, University Park, last Wednesday.

The approval for a doctoral programme in Nuclear Engineering was made after a presentation by

By Obinna Nwodin

Music—all in the Faculty of Humanities.

The august body also approved the Summary of 2014/2015 Outstanding First Semester Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Sociology, 2011/2012 Outstanding Degree Results (Part-Time, Port Harcourt Centre) from the Department of Sociology, 2012/2013 Supplementary Degree Results (Part-Time, Port Harcourt) from the Department of Sociology and 2012/2013 Supplementary Degree Results (Part-Time, Yenagoa Centre) from the Department of Sociology in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

Senate also considered and approved the Summary of the 2014/2015 First Semester Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, Correction of 2013/2014 Second Semester Result (Full-Time) from the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, 2013/2014 Supplementary Degree Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, 2013/2014 Outstanding Degree Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Computer Science, Summary

application for Temporary Withdrawal from Studies. It also approved the Summary of 2014/2015 Outstanding First Semester Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Electrical/ Electronics Engineering; Summary of 2014/2015 Outstanding First Semester Results (Part-Time) from the Department of Electrical/Electronics Engineering, 2013/2014 Supplementary Degree Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Electrical/Electronics Engineering, Correction of 2013/2014 Degree Results (PHND) from the Department of Electrical/Electronics Engineering and the 2013/2014 Degree Results (PHND) from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, including the Summary of 2014/2015 Outstanding First Semester Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Mechanical Engineering—all in the Faculty of Engineering.

Senate approved the 2010/2011 Omitted Second Semester Results from the Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, 2013/2014 Omitted First Semester Results from the Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension,



Senate in session

Director of the Centre for Nuclear Energy Studies, Professor Ayoade Kuye, which was followed by extensive deliberations on the safety aspect by Senate Members.

Senate directed that the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Examination Malpractices in the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences be presented at its next Meeting.

The highest academic policy-making body also considered and approved the 16th Senate Certificate Verification Report from 6th July to 15th August, 2015 after it was presented by the Chairman, Professor Michael Monanu.

Senate approved the following: Correction of 2005/2006 Degree Result (Part-Time) from the Department of English; Summary of 2014/2015 Outstanding First Semester Result (Full-Time) from the Department of English Studies, Appointment of External Examiner, Department of English Studies, 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 Degree Results (Full-Time) from the Department of English Studies, Summary of 2014/2015 Outstanding First Semester Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Fine Arts and Design, 2013/2014 Supplementary Degree Result (Full-Time) from the Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, 2013/2014 Supplementary Degree Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Philosophy and Summary of 2014/2015 Outstanding First Semester Results (Full-Time) from the Department of

of 2014/2015 First Semester Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Geology and Summary of the 2014/2014 First Semester Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Senate also took the Submission of List of Students on Probation from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Summary of 2013/2014 Third Term Results (Part-Time) from the School of Science Laboratory Technology (SSLT), Summary of 2013/2014 Outstanding First Term Results (Part-Time) from the School of Science Laboratory Technology, Application for Temporary Withdrawal from Studies from the SSLT in the Faculty of Science.

From the Faculty of Education, Senate also took the 2013/2014 Supplementary Degree Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, 2010/2011 Outstanding Degree Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, 2011/2012 Outstanding Degree Results (Full-Time) from the Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, 2012/2013 Outstanding Degree Results (Part-Time) from the Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, 2013/2014 Degree Results (Sandwich) from the Department of Educational Management, Correction of 2009/2010 Degree Results (Sandwich) from the Department of Educational Management, Application to write Examination as First Attempt, as well as

Ratification of Degree Results, Appointment of External Examiner from the Department of Animal Science, 2014/2015 First Semester Results from the Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management—all in the Faculty of Agriculture.

It also approved the 2012/2013 Bachelor of Pharmacy Result (Ratification), 2013/2014 Degree Result (Bachelor of Pharmacy) from the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

2013/2014 Supplementary Degree Results were also approved from the Department of Human Anatomy, 2013/2014 Outstanding Second Semester Results from the Department of Human Anatomy, 2014/2015 Outstanding First Semester Results from the Department of Human Anatomy, Results of Part 1 MBBS Examination 2014/2015 Session (August/September, 2015), as well as the Results of Part 1 MBBS (Resit) Examination for the 2012/2013 Session (August, 2015)—all in the College of Health Sciences and submissions of Higher Degree/Diploma Results from the School of Graduate Studies.

Earlier, the Chairman of Senate, Professor Lale announced the election of Professors Ogoebi Etebu of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Okey Onuchuku of the Department of Economics as Deans of the Faculties of Engineering and Social Sciences, respectively, as well as Professor Regina Ogali as new Dean of the School of Graduate Studies.

Cont'd from p1

achieved by "enacting and enforcing appropriate legislation or amendment of existing ones to make the Engineering regulation body more effective in checkmating quackery," stressing that the move was necessary because human lives were usually at stake when buildings collapsed.

The one-time Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, who said that he had been engaged in 30 years of teaching and research that had enabled him to apply theoretical and practical knowledge in solving Geotechnical problems, highlighted some of his contributions to Geotechnical Engineering to include "modeling the engineering behavior of soils and prediction of soil responses to dynamic loading; solution of soil structure interaction problems resulting from induced ground vibrations, including dynamic load response of humid tropical soil, development of a framework for producing the engineering behavior of humid tropical soils," amongst others.

Professor Ejezie further disclosed that his study also focused on "laterites and problem soils in Southern Nigeria, solution of foundation

Ejezie Stresses Importance Of Geotechnical Engineers

engineering problems in parts of the Niger Delta, failure analysis of geotechnical structures and design of mitigation and protection work in various parts of the Niger Delta, as well as Geotechnical Engineering Education and Manpower Development."

He also advised both private and public developers to ask for evidence of license to practice before patronizing anybody who claimed to be a Geotechnical Engineering Consultant as some people claim to be experts in the profession even though they barely have the awareness, advising developers to always insist on having first hand witness of the progress of site specific geotechnical investigation work carried out by a Consultant before accepting any report.

The one-time Head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering also advised government agencies charged with housing and

urban development and approval of building plans to liaise with the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN), the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) and the Geotechnical Division of NSE, in particular, to obtain reliable information on registered Engineers in the discipline, adding that extrapolation of results from one site to the other should be avoided as much as possible.

This was because "subsurface materials exhibit a high degree of variability, vertically and laterally and in both space and time." Professor Ejezie, also said that "the critical nature of Geotechnical Engineering calls for dedicated research and development to guarantee improved safety of constructed facilities and also renders the environment habitable," commending the University of Port Harcourt for taking the lead by establishing the Centre for Geotechnical and Coastal Engineering Research. He expressed hope that when fully operational, the Centre would be a Referral Centre of Excellence for all Geotechnical and Coastal Engineering problems in the Niger Delta region.

In his remarks Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, who described Professor Ejezie as a thoroughbred academic, who stood out on a number of issues, described Geotechnical Engineering as a very critical specialization that should help builders to stabilize structures to minimize incidents of building collapse in the country.

"Most academics mount the rostrum to deliver Inaugural Lectures; but Professor Ejezie came here to tell us what he has done in his many years of research and teaching in the academy." He commended the Inaugural Lecturer for the brilliant Lecture, stressing that Professor Ejezie had given a good account of himself as an 'ordained Geotechnical Engineer.'



Inaugural Lecturer, Prof Ejezie (2nd left), flanked by V-C, Prof Lale (arrowed) and other Professors before the lecture

V-C Reassures Unions On Staff Welfare

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, has restated his total commitment to staff welfare, while assuring all stakeholders in the affairs of the University that he would be guided by the tenets of honesty, transparency and accountability throughout his tenure.

The Vice-Chancellor, who spoke during a courtesy call on him by the Executive of the University of Port Harcourt Chapter of the Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SSANU), last Monday, in the Committee Room, expressed gratitude to the Association for pledging support and loyalty for the new administration.

Clarifying issues raised by the Association in its address, including the contentious promotion examination for staff, Professor Lale noted that the proposed exercise was aimed at evaluating staff competence and ensuring quality in the University. "If we do nothing about the declining quality of some staff who serve the University in very critical positions, we may wake up one day to appoint a Registrar who can neither write nor read minutes of meetings.

We can no longer pretend that all is well with the administrative hierarchy of the University. I am not saying that this situation is limited to only those in administration. We occasionally come across some teaching staff who are not up to the mark. Some form of evaluation of capacity to deliver quality service in an academic setting will not be out of place in my opinion. A University must be able to put its best foot forward in order not to face public ridicule on account of a few staffers who are not able to prove their mettle in the line of duty," Lale told the Union leaders.

Describing the Association as relevant stakeholders

working towards the uplift of the University, he disclosed his resolve to improve the quality of life on Campus, including the provision of municipal services that would enhance staff welfare and motivate them to greater efficiency.

In his address, Branch Chairman of SSANU, Bikume Syder, who pledged the Association's support to the University Management, promised that the Union would constructively engage the administration to address issues bothering on staff welfare and the University at large. "We are ready to partner you to bring about the much desired wholesome and prosperous University of Port Harcourt," he assured the Vice-Chancellor.

Some of the issues raised by the Union included

approval of reviewed career structure, implementation of earned allowances and payment of arrears, expansion of housing facility on Campus, proposed promotion examination, security, staff re-orientation, withdrawal of teaching staff from pure administrative schedules, training and development programmes, amongst others.

Other members of the Executive that attended the meeting included Bernard Chukwu, Vice-Chairman, Nicholas Assah, Secretary, Gift Kamalo, Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Edith Enyi, Treasurer, Mrs. Diepreye Ekine, Financial Secretary, Nigeria Nutee, Public Relations Officer, Monday Nwideduh, Trustee, Abel Ejiowhor, Ex-Officio, and Mrs. Charity Enyi, Women Leader.



V-C, Prof Lale (middle) flanked by DV-C (Admin), Prof Anthony Ibe (2nd right), Bursar, Mr. Vitalis Aliet, SSANU Chairman, Mr. Syder (2nd and 1st left) and EXCO members of SSANU

GUIDE POST

ACIB/B.Sc Programme Begins Form Sale

By Mercy Adeniji

The Department of Finance and Banking, Faculty of Management Sciences, has announced sale of form for admission into the 2015/16 ACIB/B.Sc. Linkage Part-Time programme in Finance and Banking.

A statement signed by the Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim and made available to *UniPort Weekly* stated that the Associate Certificate in Banking (ACIB) programme is designed to update, strengthen and enhance the academic and analytical skills of students, with a view to improving their efficiency and productivity on the job. The programme will lead to the award of the Bachelor of Science (B.Sc Honours) degree in Finance and Banking to successful candidates.

The Registrar disclosed that all candidates must have five credit passes, including English and Mathematics at the Ordinary Level, as basic requirements. "Candidates must have professional or academic certificates obtained through examinations in any one or more of the following courses: Banking, Insurance, Actuarial Science, Marketing, Management, Accounting, Commerce, General Administration or Higher National Diploma (HND) or degree in any of the functional areas in Management Sciences/Business Administration or Economics."

She added that the duration of the programme is two years on weekend basis, adding that courses are covered in three terms per session. Application forms could be obtained online at www.uniport.edu.ng, while payment could be made at designated banks nationwide as listed below: First Bank Plc, Ecobank, Fidelity Bank and University of Port Harcourt Micro Finance Bank (U&C).

The letter further directed interested

candidates to proceed with the payment slip (Teller) from the Bank and obtain Application Form from the Finance Officer in the Faculty of Management Sciences, University Park on payment of a non-refundable fee of Eleven Thousand, Five hundred Naira (N11,500.00) only, which includes bank charges, directing prospective candidates to return completed application forms to the Coordinator, ACIB/B.Sc Linkage Programme, Faculty of Management Sciences, University Park, not later than Friday, December 18, 2015.



Mrs. Nnodim, Registrar

STOP PRESS

AEB Holds Dept'l Seminar Oct 5

Former Acting Head, Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, Dr. Helen Imafidor and Dr. Sidney Nzeako would be Lead Speakers at the Department Seminar Series scheduled for Monday, October 5, 2015 at the Board Room of the Faculty of Science. Dr. Imafidor would speak on *Aspects of Plant Nematology-Diagnostic features-Series I*, while Dr. Nzeako would speak on *The Pathogenicity of M. Javanica on four tomato varieties: Roma VF, UC83B, DeRica & Gboko*. Time is 11:00 am. The University community is cordially invited.

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DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT
WEATHER OBSERVATORY

FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 - SATURDAY OCTOBER 03, 2015.

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (am) (pm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 27 SEPT, 2015	30.0 25.0	75	NE	10.0	6:20 18:26	Thunder storms expected. Cloudy day forecasted.
MONDAY, 28 SEPT, 2015	29.0 24.0	80	NE	5.7	6:20 18:25	Isolated thunder storms expected. Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
TUESDAY, 29 SEPT, 2015	29.0 24.0	88	NE	14.3	6:20 18:25	Thunder storms anticipated. Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
WEDNESDAY 30 SEPT, 2015	31.0 23.0	78	NE	5.5	6:20 18:24	Thunder storms expected early in the day. Cloudy day forecasted.
THURSDAY, 31 SEPT, 2015	31.0 23.0	79	NE	4.3	6:19 18:24	Thunder storms expected early in the day. Mostly cloudy day expected.
FRIDAY, 1 SEPT, 2015	30.0 23.0	77	NE	2.0	6:19 18:23	Thunder storm expected early in the day. Partly sunny day anticipated.
SATURDAY, 2 SEPT, 2015	31.0 23.0	75	NE	20.2	6:19 18:23	Thunder storms expected late in the day. More clouds than sun expected.

Dr. Gladys Emenike
Acting HoD

Dr. Prince Mnom
AG. Director, (CDRMS)

Inauguration Of UniPort Parents' Forum

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, convened a meeting of the newly-established University of Port Harcourt Parents' Forum (UPHPF) on Wednesday, September 16, 2015. The meeting also featured the inauguration of an eight-member Interim National Executive Council. Our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU** captured pictorial highlights of the meeting as shown below:



Some Parents and Guardians registering at the foyer of the venue



Rep of the Pro-Chancellor, Engr. Gesi Asamao, Prof Owunari Georgewill making remarks



V-C, Prof Ndowa Lale presenting his State-of-the-University Address



DV-C (Academic), Prof Igbo Joe (left) and Prof Owunari



V-C, Prof Lale and DV-C (Admin), Prof Anthony Ibe in a light mood



Nye Nwe Ali, Choba, Eze Raymond Okocha presenting a goodwill message on behalf of the host communities



Renowned Journalist, Elder Lindsey Barrett (standing) making remarks



Cross-section of parents making contributions during the interactive session



Nye-Nwe-Alis of host communities and other parents



President, Student Union, Endwell Chuku making a speech on behalf of the students



Interim National Executive Council Members of the Forum