

UniPort Weekly

Vol. 28, Edition 282 June 20 – June 27, 2016

For Information and Enlightenment

ISSN: 1522-2275

A Publication of the Information, Publications and Public Relations Unit, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria.

Ibe Tasks Staff On NIN Registration

Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Anthony Ibe, led Principal Officers and other senior officers of the University to participate in the National Identification Number (NIN) registration exercise under the auspices of the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) located behind the Ebirim Banigo Auditorium, **reports By Ethel Tim-
Johnson**

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Side Bar OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY GUEST LECTURE

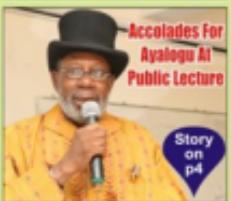
5th Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs, delivers the first Guest Lecture of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, on Tuesday, June 21, 2016.

[Details next week.
~Editor](#)

Social Sciences Faculty Implements Welfare Policy

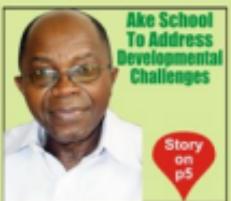


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TOTAL Reaffirms Faith In IPS Partnership

By Williams Wodi

Outgoing Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Institute of Petroleum Studies, Mrs. Edith Ofili-Okonkwo, has reaffirmed the commitment of TOTAL E&P to the continued existence of the Institute even in the face of the current downturn in the oil industry.

Mrs. Okonkwo made the pledge as she presided over her last meeting as Chairman of the Institute's Governing Board at the IPS Park along the East/West Road, on Friday, June 10, 2016. Describing the University of Port Harcourt as a technology-driven institution that has the capacity to diversify its revenue sources, the outgoing Chairman called on the Management of the Institute of IPS to tap other sources of raising funds to drive its mandate in the years ahead.

"I am looking forward to a time when IPS would generate funds from other sources, and

no longer totally dependent on only one source to drive its activities. As we all know, times are very hard and individuals and organisations are careful about their patterns of expenditure to remain afloat. I must, however, commend what we have jointly achieved under the TOTAL-IPS partnership, and I also wish to commend the IFP School in Paris for believing in us," she said, urging the new Management of the Institute to continue to be frugal in administering the scarce resources allocated to it.

Expressing gratitude to the Management of the University for attending her exit meeting, Mrs. Okonkwo wished the Institution well, promising to keep a tab on its progress in the years ahead. "I wish to specially thank the IFP Coordinator, Mr. Francis Fusier, for his abiding interest in IPS and for the immense sacrifices he has been making over the years that has enabled IPS to develop specialised

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As UniPort Resumes Academic Activities Today

By Humphrey Ogu

Different strokes for different folks, as they say in Uncle Tom's country, is a phrase that aptly describes the ambivalence that greeted news of the resumption of academic activities in the University after a nine-week emergency "holiday" that was forced on us by a combination of circumstances that went awfully out of control. In a sane society, virtually everyone will receive the news of resumption of normal academic activities with joy and relief.

Students, whose academic pursuits were abruptly put on hold, and their parents should be pleased to know that the Senate and Management of the University have worked overtime to return normalcy to the University since the violent protest by students. Expectedly, the resumption of normal academic activities this morning should be cheering news to all serious-minded students, their parents and guardians. Students in this category were already running out of patience while the hull prevailed until the Senate reached a decision for students to resume academic activities at its 422nd Extraordinary Meeting which held on Friday, June 10, 2016. There is every evidence to prove that genuine students of the University were already tired of idling away their valuable time at home, while their colleagues elsewhere in the country were already taking their studies to the next rung on the academic ladder in a highly competitive environment.

These students are, however, not the only ones celebrating the resumption of normal academic life on Campus. Equally in a jubilant mood are the commercial bus and taxi drivers and other business operators within and around the University. These

stakeholders had experienced serious hard times in their bid to make ends meet while the University remained shut to academic activities. With the resumption of normal academic activities today, businesses can thrive once more.

Exhilarating as the piece of news may be, there is a category of "non-academic students", who appear to

if lectures held or examinations take place. This group of professional agitators would wish that the University remains in a permanent state of gridlock. It is rather disturbing to observe that the social media is now awash with largely baldly constructed language, expressing dismay with the resumption of normal academic activities and continual postponement of the previously scheduled examinations that was put on hold. Even more appalling is the fact that these pre-ridiculous Facebook posts apparently emanate from University "students". Little wonder that the authors of such ill-conceived messages are not interested in returning to the Campus to engage in serious academic work, since they do not seem to fit into the University system that confers privilege and exerts serious obligations from students and staff. All stakeholders - Management, Staff, Students, Parents, Government and every member of the University community should share the resumption as an opportunity to start on a new slate by ensuring that the ugly incident that led to the disruption of the academic calendar does not repeat itself. Whereas a peaceful academic atmosphere will bring immense benefit to all stakeholders, crises will always have negative impact on all and sundry. After all, the students have got virtually all their "demands" granted by a Management that is eagerly desirous of peace. It is now their turn to reciprocate this gesture. It behoves on well-meaning students, whose primary focus is in the University is to develop their intellectual capacity to face their studies and eschew politically-motivated abstention. Those who may be threatening to further disrupt the system should remember that Peter Obafemi paid the ultimate price to bring us to where we are today. It is important that we all respect his memory that would linger for a long time. There is time for everything, including politics and activism. A word is enough for the wise! We wish to welcome back all genuine students to Unique UniPort!



Prof. Enenchechi, D1-C Academic

abide the rigours of true academic pursuits. To this group, there was nothing cheering about the news of returning to the University to resume the "boring" routine of making the rounds from the classroom, library, laboratory, tests to examination venues. For all they care, the professors could remain shut for as long as it may take. To them, it matters little or nothing

Social Sciences Faculty Implements Welfare Policy

By Obinna Nwodim

A part of efforts aimed at promoting the welfare of its staff, the Faculty of Social Sciences has presented welfare purses to the families of deceased staff in the Faculty and another academic staff on the demise of his mother. Making the presentation on Friday, June 10, 2016, Dean of the Faculty, Professor Okye Onwuchukwu, described the gesture as part of "the welfare policy of the Faculty which is in line with the time-tested philosophy of being our brothers' keeper. It is our little way of showing love, solidarity and support to colleagues in times of need, especially to bereaved family members who need a shoulder to lean on. What we have done today is just a token presentation that reflects the depth of our empathy with our colleagues and we hope to continue along this line to encourage others that they are not alone in times of crisis."

Responding on behalf of the families, one of the beneficiaries, Professor Samuel Arokuwu, who lost his mother, expressed gratitude to the Faculty for identifying with the bereaved families in their moments of need, praying God Almighty to continue to strengthen the bond of love that currently existed in the Faculty. "We are very grateful to the leadership of the Faculty and our other colleagues for extending this welfare package to us and it is our hope that this highly commendable welfare policy would be sustained to benefit other colleagues who may be in the same situation in future," Professor Arokuwu said. Other beneficiaries of the welfare package were the families of late Professor George Ossoroboro, who was laid to rest last weekend and Professor Chinanya Mac-Ogbon, both of the Department of Political and Administrative Studies, and Dr. Azie Ogbue of the Department of Geography and Environmental Management, who has since been buried.



Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Prof. Onwuchukwu (left) flanked by the beneficiaries and some Staff of the Faculty

STOP PRESS

Ibe Assumes Office As Acting V-C



Prof. Ibe

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Anthony Ibe, has assumed duty as Acting Vice-Chancellor, following his appointment by the Governing Council of the University. The decision was reached at the 157th Meeting of Council held on Monday, June 6, 2016.

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TOTAL Reaffirms Faith In IPS Partnership

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manpower for Nigeria's oil and gas industry," the outgoing Chairman said, describing him as the bedrock of the programme.

In his remarks, Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Anthony Ibe, expressed gratitude to TOTAL for its unfailing support for IPS since it was established in 2003, commending Mrs. Ojili-Okonkwo for her interest in the development of Phase II of the Institute's building. "We will always be grateful to TOTAL for making IPS the flagship of the University of Port Harcourt. Let me assure TOTAL that the Management of the University is seriously committed to the survival of the

Institute and we promise to play our part along this line. Our hope is that the oil industry would stabilise once again to enable TOTAL continue its commendable support for the Institute," Professor Ibe said.

Also speaking, Coordinator of the IFP School in IPS, Mr. Fusier, expressed happiness about the partnership that has resulted in the training of high impact personnel that are

holding forth in the oil and gas industry. "We are very proud of what has been achieved so far and we are already consulting further on how to improve the situation on ground. The partnership between TOTAL, IFP School and UniPort will continue to grow," he assured the stakeholders.

In her own contribution, Registrar of the University, Mrs. Dorcas Otto, praised the

Also speaking, TOTAL's Executive Manager in charge of Corporate Services, Abuja, Mr. Vincent Nnadi, said that he had been privileged to work with three Chairmen, each of who brought his or her own unique qualities to bear on the job. "On behalf of TOTAL, let me thank Mrs. Ojili-Okonkwo for her immense contributions to the sustenance of IPS. We are beginning to see

changes in the way the Institute is administered and we are very encouraged by the new ideas that have been injected into the running of IPS. We want to ensure that the Institute must survive and continue to discharge its responsibility to society," Nnadi said.

It would be recalled that Mrs. Ojili-Okonkwo would be disengaging from TOTAL after thirty-five years of meritorious service to the company. Others present at the event included Mr Paul Obiechina, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Hakeem Fawehimi and Director of the Institute, Professor Dulu Appah.



Standing Chairman, IPS Board of Governors, Mrs. Ojili-Okonkwo (3rd right) flanked by Prof. Obiechina, Registrar, Mrs. Dorcas Otto, Director IPS, Prof. Appah (left) and Mr. Hakeem Fawehimi, Univ. Librarian; Dr. Susan Umeh, Mr. Frank Peterside, Mr. Uche Okechukwu, Mr. Chijisie Nwaneche, Mr. Edward Akilar, and others

outgoing Chairman for successfully completing her tenure as Chairman of the IPS Board of Governors. "I wish to thank you on behalf of the University for all that you have done for us through your support for IPS. You are a very humble and unassuming professional who has always been there for us. We wish you a restful retirement and hope that you would continue to stand by us," Mrs. Otto said.

Faculties Hold Joint Board Meeting In Ayalogu's Honour

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

In recognition of his meritorious and selfless services to the University, the Faculty of Science in concert with the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences organised a rare joint Faculty Board Meeting at the College Hall on Wednesday, June 8, 2016, to mark the retirement of a distinguished scholar and mentor, Professor Obinzo Ayalogu of the Department of Biochemistry.

In her opening remarks, Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Professor Christie Matsa, described the occasion as a milestone event following the glorious end of his career and mentorship of younger colleagues by Professor Ayalogu while in service. "We want to thank Professor Ayalogu for his many years of sacrifice and mentorship of younger academics. We also thank the Organizing Committee for bringing together two faculties and the College of Health Sciences to accomplish this feat. This would pave way for team work and further collaborations between the College and the Faculty of Science," she said.

In their separate addresses, representative of the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Chijisie Nwaneche and Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor Nnamdi Frank-Peterside, commended Professor Ayalogu for his valuable contributions to the Faculty of Science where he started his career and the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, where it finally came to glorious end.

"Professor Ayalogu was a foundation staff and pioneer Head of the Department of Medical Biochemistry in the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences. His



Service & Merit Awarding at the Joint Faculty Board Meeting
Inset: Provost, CHS, Prof. Matsa (2nd right) supported by Prof. Edward Akilar and Mr. Hakeem Fawehimi making presentation to Prof. Ayalogu

exemplary role led to the smooth take-off and subsequent accreditation of the Department. We salute his dedication and commitment to duty and wish him a well-deserved rest from formal academic activities," Professor Nwaneche said, describing Professor Ayalogu as the engine room of the Department of Biochemistry.

On her part, Professor Frank-Peterside described Professor Ayalogu as a consummate academic and researcher, who made immense contributions to the accelerated growth of the Faculty of Science, especially in its foundation stages. His services would certainly be missed as he finally retires from formal academic activities. It is my hope that the younger academics Professor Ayalogu is leaving behind will follow his good examples in the Department of Biochemistry and the Faculty of Science."

In their goodwill messages, Professor Bene Willie-Abbey, immediate past and serving Heads of the

Department of Biochemistry, Professor Matthew Wrigmo, Dr. Charity Ogunka-Nnadi, and new Acting Head of the Department of Medical Biochemistry, Dr. Hamilton Oparum, took turns to extol the virtues of Professor Ayalogu, who they described as a father, mentor and worthy role model, who would be sorely missed.

Responding, a visibly touched Professor Ayalogu expressed gratitude to the Faculties, including the College of Health Science for the honour done him. "It is a thing of joy for one to witness one's own celebration, including raving testimonials from colleagues and loved ones alike. I did not remotely imagine that people would shower me with all the eulogisms that I am getting since I took my final bow from the University," he told the gathering, promising to make himself available in whatever capacity that his services may be needed in the development of the Faculties, the College and the University.

Accolades For Ayalogu At Public Lecture To Mark His Retirement

By Humphrey Ogu

It was a harvest of accolades of sorts as colleagues, friends, associates and former students of Professor Obisior Ayalogu converged at Auditorium I of the new Animal and Environmental Biology (AEB) Building on Friday, June 10, 2016 to honour him with a well-attended Public Lecture for his unshaken service record to the Departments of Biochemistry, Medical Biochemistry, Faculty of Science, College of Health Sciences, the Central Library and General Administration of the University of Port Harcourt.

Delivering the Lecture entitled: *The Biochemist and Medical Researcher*, Professor Patrick Uadias of the University of Benin, described vaccine as "a suspension of antigen that upon administration to humans or to animals, will produce active immunity and will provide protection against the organism from which the antigen was obtained. A vaccine would be expected to enable the development of anti-plasmodia antibodies in addition to generating an elevated cell response."

He noted that an ideal malaria vaccine would attempt to generate both an active cellular-mediated and antibody response on parasite presentation. "A malaria vaccine that activates both the humoral and cellular immune system and could be boosted during natural infection is the right vaccine that can eradicate malaria. Such a vaccine in my mind can only be developed after a careful study of the immunology of the disease in a natural setting," the Guest Speaker told the audience.

Speaking on behalf of the University Management, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Hawken Fawehinmi, congratulated the Provost, College of Health Sciences (CHS), Dean of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences and his counterpart in the Faculty of Science for organising the public lecture to honour Professor Ayalogu, who he described as teacher of teachers and a man-of-medicine humility.

"This lecture is very important, timely and thought-

provoking, because of the endemic nature of malaria in a resource-poor country such as Nigeria. The malaria scourge is regrettably more prevalent in Third World countries and accounts for most hospital presentations in endemic countries. The importance of developing effective vaccines against malaria cannot therefore be overemphasized, neither would there ever be enough public enlightenment programmes aimed at drawing attention on regular basis to the dangers posed by malaria which has been described as the poor man's disease. I wish to commend what Uadias and his colleagues are doing to find a lasting cure to the disease. Such concerted efforts could lead to a major breakthrough in the world of defeating malaria in Nigeria and other parts of the world. Perhaps, a Nobel Prize in Science is on the way if the effort

University Librarian, Dr. Obiageli Nwodo, who drew attention to the contributions of Professor Ayalogu as Acting University Librarian, and Professor Kana Nnagiakporo, who spoke on the contributions of Professor Ayalogu as a non-eated Biochemist.

Responding to the litany of accolades and presentation of gifts to him, a visibly enthused Professor Ayalogu commended his colleagues and students for making his life worthwhile while he was in active service. "Many of my colleagues have played significant roles in my life and I must publicly acknowledge such contributions that enabled me to make the modest contributions that are being applauded today. If you hear people say I produced this and that Biochemist, Doctor or Professor, and mentioned me to scholars, it is because the people involved made it possible for me to sow into their academic lives.

"I wish to express immense gratitude to all those who contributed one way or the other in making my time in UniPort great and worthwhile. Thank you all for being nice to me and for your valued friendship. Everything that has a beginning must have an end in line with the cyclical nature of human existence on earth. My time here has finally come to an end, but I will continue to cherish the memory and bear UniPort in mind at all times. It is difficult for me to forget an institution where I spent my entire active academic career," Professor Ayalogu said.

Also speaking, Chairman of the Committee that organised the Public Lecture, Professor Victor Dapper, lauded Professor Uadias for accepting to come down from Benin to honour a great man of science and for the depth of his lecture. He also praised Acting Head of the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, Dr. Alite Nwachukwu, for making the Auditorium available for the Lecture, expressing gratitude to the University Management, Provost of the College, Professor Christie Matu, and Deans of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, Science, Clinical Sciences and Dentistry for their support in making the send forth ceremony for Professor Ayalogu a huge success.



Prof. Obisior Ayalogu (seated, 3rd from left) receives tokens of appreciation from the University Management, Deans, Faculties, Staff and former students. Also in the photo are Prof. Victor Dapper (seated, 2nd from left), Dr. Alite Nwachukwu (seated, 4th from left), Prof. Christie Matu (seated, 5th from left), Prof. Hawken Fawehinmi (seated, 6th from left), Prof. Kana Nnagiakporo (seated, 7th from left), Dr. Obiageli Nwodo (seated, 8th from left) and Prof. Uadias (seated, 9th from left).

succeeded. We urge you not to be deterred by the challenges that may crop up as you continue in your research." Dr. Obiageli Nwodo, who told the Guest Speaker and others engaged in malaria research, expressed hope that Nigeria could give the world a lasting cure for the scourge.

The event, which featured a Round Table discussion moderated by Professor Owanari Gwergewill of the Department of Pharmacology, who witnessed brief talks on aspects of Professor Ayalogu's activities in the University. Professor Eugene Onyekwile, spoke on the memorable contributions of Professor Ayalogu as an arc teacher, who made the subject interesting for students. Professor Joyce Akaniwe spoke on the contributions of Professor Ayalogu as a consummate researcher. Others, who also spoke at the gathering were immediate past

ELECO Chairman Lists Rules For UniPort SSANU Poll

By Mercy Adeniji



institution," the Electoral Chairman told our Correspondent.

Mr. Makinde further stated that following approval of the electoral guidelines, all members of the outgoing Executive must prepare their handover notes, a copy of which should be submitted to the Chairman of the Electoral Committee on or before the date of the election, stressing that the rules bar member from obstructing the free and fair conduct of election. He added that the method of voting shall be by secret

ballotting, warning that the circulation of posters and social media as instruments of campaigning for office would be strictly prohibited and may result in the disqualification of culprits.

"For purposes of security and proper identification, SSANU members would have to present their Staff Identity Cards during the accreditation exercise, among other requirements that would qualify them to vote and be voted for at the election," Mr. Makinde said.

The Electoral Chairman disclosed that collection and submission of completed nomination forms would commence as from June 15 to June 21, 2016, while screening of candidates would begin from June 22 to 23, 2016. The list of cleared candidates would be made public on June 24, 2016, while the campaign period would begin on Monday, June 27 and end on July 4, 2016. Mr. Makinde said, advising all candidates to adhere strictly to the electoral guidelines in line with the extant rules governing the exercise. He further disclosed that all duly elected officers would be given their certificates of return, preparatory to a formal swearing-in ceremony to be performed the same day.

"Members of SSANU who feel they are qualified to run for office should pick up their nomination forms from the Secretary of the Electoral Committee. The forms should be duly signed by two sponsors, after which prospective candidates should submit them with their credentials, including letters of first and confirmation of appointment," the Electoral Chairman said, advising contestants to be ready to articulate what they intended to accomplish in office since their advertised intention was to render quality service to the Association.

Ake School Will Address Nigeria's Developmental Challenges - Director

By Obinna Nwodim

Barley two years after it commenced full academic activities along William James Street in the heart of Port Harcourt, the Claude Ake School of Government, is gradually emerging as a veritable template for addressing the long-term problems of the Niger Delta region and Nigeria in general.

Pioneer Director of the School, Professor Emeka Ekekwe, who reviewed the achievements of the School in an interview with a Correspondent of *UniPort Weekly* in his office, last Wednesday, expressed hope that it would gradually become a first choice destination for students, public officers and other professionals looking for a place to acquire hands-on training in the public policy-making process.

The Director stated that the School planned a number of short courses that would help public servants to become more effective in service delivery, pointing out that even when the competence lies within the reach of public servants, there was still a need for the right kind of skills to make such latent attributes even more result-oriented. He said that the School was also evolving measures to partner government agencies and other institutions to deliver world-class services to clients and engage the public sector in critical thinking through seminars and workshops on some of the problems facing the country.

Professor Ekekwe said that "the objective of the School is to engage in such scholarship and other activities that would contribute to national development and help in training skilled personnel that have global orientation. The School, which was established in 2014, is mandated to run Diploma and Degree programmes. By the approval of Senate, it will offer taught and research programmes: the Master of Public Administration programme, which commenced in the 2015/2016 academic session with a total of 12 students, and a Diploma programme for the Nigerian Navy Ratings. The Master's Degree programme is an Executive type course with most of the resource persons coming from the public sector. Some of them are retired permanent secretaries and consultants with valuable practical experience that enriches the learning process."

Professor Ekekwe further described the Diploma programme for the Nigerian Navy as a special initiative aimed at improving the capacity of Navy Ratings to discharge their duties in a more effective manner, adding that the School successfully completed the training of the second batch of course participants at the end of April, 2016.

"Unfortunately, we were not able to graduate the first batch because even though we successfully executed our part of the bargain, there was no corresponding financial commitment from the Navy and so we had to apply the 'No Payment, No Examination' policy, but I am pleased to state that we have successfully graduated the second batch because even before we started, the Naval authorities made full payment in line with the Memorandum of Understanding," the Director said. He further disclosed that the Master's Degree programme admitted a total of twelve students, while 56 Naval Ratings were awarded Diplomas on their successful completion of the course which runs at the Navy Basic Training School in Onira, Onitsha, Rivers State.

The Director stated that the School sourced faculty according to its needs, disclosing that such experienced personnel teach on temporary basis and get paid as they submit results. The School, according to Professor Ekekwe, was established to be self-sustaining, adding that it was expected to raise its own funds through diverse academic activities.

Professor Ekekwe said that the School was established as a partnership programme between the University of Port Harcourt and the Centre for Advanced Social Sciences (CASS) founded by the late Political Economist and pioneer Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences in the University, Professor Claude Ake. He expressed gratitude to the 5th Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Nnani Briggs for his immense contributions towards the establishment of the School, adding that apart from the programmes, the School had also organised programmes in entrepreneurship with a renowned motivational speaker and consultant, Mr. Ugochukwu Onyema as resource person, as well as a career guidance programme



Prof Ekekwe, Director

for Undergraduate students.

The Director said that getting the right operational structure and processes in place were some of the challenges facing the School at the commencement of academic activities. "What we are doing now is that whatever finances we raise are streamlined in accordance with approvals from the University and sound accounting principles; the challenges associated with our location resulted in some delays in the communication process between the School and the University, thereby creating unnecessary bureaucratic bottlenecks that we are working hard to resolve," Professor Ekekwe said.

In Praise Of Professor Obuoforibo

By Obinna Nwodim

Death sweeps through our society on a daily basis, plucking along its destructive trail, the sick, the strong, the rich and the poor and leaving an endless trail of woes and sorrows behind. Death always reminds us of how temporal our act on the stage of life is; hence it is often echoed that we all are strangers on this stage. At the appointed time, we shall take our exit, even against our will.

For the late Professor George Iyanabotamano John Obuoforibo, his time is up and he has gracefully taken his exit from the stage of life. The late Professor Obuoforibo was a great teacher and Professor of International Relations, who did his job with great passion as if his life depended on it.

At a Special Convocation in his honour last Thursday, Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Anthony Ibe, described Obuoforibo as a successful intellectual in the finest tradition of scholarship in the Faculty of Social Sciences, where he rose through the ranks to become a Professor of International Relations in 2013, adding that he was a role model, teacher and mentor to his younger colleagues, students and other associates who knew him from close quarters.

Even as colleagues, friends and family members mourn Professor Obuoforibo, there was an outpouring of tributes at a well-attended Service of Songs in his honour last Wednesday. Head of the Department of Political and Administrative Studies, Professor Naa Johnson, described Professor Obuoforibo as a colleague, who led an exemplary lifestyle. He described him as a good man, who loved both the Department and



late Prof Obuoforibo

Faculty and did his work with passion. According to him, until he died, Professor Obuoforibo was concerned about the progress of the Department.

Also, one-time Head of the Department and one of the foundation staff of the Department, Professor Kimese Okoko, described George as a committed academic and team player, who interacted with everybody in a cordial manner. Okoko said that Obuoforibo worked diligently and never had problems with colleagues or students.

In his tribute, one-time Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Professor Mark Anikpa, said he found it difficult to believe that Professor Obuoforibo was no

more, describing him as a humble academic who cooperated with his colleagues. Anikpa described his late younger colleague as a dependable academic, who exhibited a high degree of peaceful disposition in his life time.

Also speaking, Chairman of the University of Port Harcourt Branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), Dr. Austin Sada, stated that Professor Obuoforibo died struggling for a better Nigeria, describing him as a true comrade, whose critical support would be sorely missed at this moment. Professor Hassan Salia of the University of Birnin said that Professor Obuoforibo was a good friend, who gave a good account of himself in the subject area, describing him as a very reliable colleague at work and good family man at home.

Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Professor Okoye Onuchukwu, described Professor Obuoforibo's death as a monumental loss to the faculty, pointing out that he was a close associate to academic and non-teaching staff. He said that Professor Obuoforibo had a passion for research and teaching with over forty publications to his credit and effectively supervised several Undergraduate and Graduate students in his lifetime.

Professor Obuoforibo, who was a one-time Acting Head of the Department of Political and Administrative Studies, joined the services of the University in 1992 as Lecturer II and held many important positions in the Department, Faculty and the University. He was National Vice-Chairman of the Nigeria Society for International Affairs from 2012 until his demise. His remains were interred in his hometown in Ogbu-Ubo Local Government Area of Rivers State last Saturday, June 18, 2016. May his soul continue to rest in the bosom of the Lord!

Ibe Tasks Staff On NIN Registration

Cont'd from Page 1

Briefing UniPort Weekly on its exercise after successfully completing the exercise, Professor Ibe described the NIN registration as a federal government directive exercise that is obligatory for every Nigerian. He disclosed that the ownership of the card will be a necessary requirement for Nigerians to fill all official requirements in the nearest future, just as the just-concluded Bank Verification Number (BVN).

"The official University Identity Card is a good identification for our staff, but it will not be sufficient for all financial and other transactions that may be required for official documentation outside the University," the acting Vice-Chancellor said, advising staff to avail themselves of the opportunity provided by the temporary NINIC office in the University to register for their National Identity Cards.



Principal Officers being documented by a NIN Technical Support Officer

Recalling that a schedule from the Office of the Registrar to accommodate each Faculty, Department and Units for the NIN registration exercise was published in the last edition of UniPort Weekly, Professor Ibe, encouraged staff to adhere strictly to the schedule to avoid loss of valuable manhour and overcrowding of the registration venue.

"By undertaking this exercise, Management is encouraging other staff and colleagues to follow suit. This is a mandatory exercise for everybody and the Schedule that was released by the Registry would ensure that it is conducted in an orderly and timely manner. It is no longer a time-wasting exercise as was experienced at the initial stages. We have addressed the complaints by staff and hope that everybody would now participate in the exercise, we are ready to handle new challenges that may arise in the process of implementing the exercise in the University," Professor Ibe assured all staff.

Other Principal Officers who participated in the exercise included the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Academic matters, Professor Bakare Fawehinmi, Registrar, Mrs. Doron Otto, University Bursar, Mr. Vitalis Alford, University Librarian, Dr. Susan Umarau, including the Deputy Registrar in Charge of Information, Publications and Public Relations Unit, Williams Wodi.

SGS Begins 2016/2017 Form Sale

By Otiok Samuel

The School of Graduate Studies has announced the commencement of sale of application form for the 2016/17 academic session.

A statement signed by the Registrar, Mrs. Doron Otto, and made available to UniPort Weekly, disclosed that the application form is obtainable online on the payment of N20,000 at designated banks, advising prospective applicants to access the over 100 programmes of study at the portal of the University or other The Postgraduate School of Monday, June 20, 2016.

"Application for fourteen thousand naira should be paid online at any of the following Banks: UAC Microfinance Bank, UBA, Union Bank, Access Bank, Erithbank and First Bank. It is mandatory for every candidate to pay the sum of Six Thousand Naira for Prospects. Candidates should also visit www.sgs.uniport.edu.ng/cast/portal/application to download the Application Forms after payment," the statement read in part, adding that there would not be refund of money after

payment for the form. It also added that purchase of form would not guarantee automatic admissions to applicants.

On completion of the online processes, applicants are further directed to enclose two copies of Degree or Postgraduate Diploma Certificate (as applicable), NYSC Discharge Certificate or Exemption Certificate, O Level Certificate, Birth Certificate or Affidavit of Age Declaration, Marriage Certificate/Newspaper publication of change of name (where applicable), Local Government Identification Letter and Reasons of payment for the Form for submission at the Documentation Unit of the School.

The statement directed that: "Completed Application Forms with all necessary enclosures must be returned to the Office of the Graduate Studies Officer, not later than Friday, September 30, 2016," adding that the Graduate Studies Officer, and the Liaison Officers for Abuja and Lagos could also be contacted for further inquiries on work days between 9:00am and 4:00pm through the cell-phone numbers 07059243946, 08037986089 and 08023415408, respectively.



Prof. Regina Ogwueze, Dean SGS

Stakeholders Canvas Women Development At Workshop

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

I issues bordering on developing the capacity of women in a male-dominated society formed the main thrust of the second edition of Being a Woman (BAW) Workshop put together by the Early God's presence Project.

Addressing participants at the event which held at the Centre for Conflict and Gender Studies (CCGS) Hall, University Park, on Thursday June 9, 2016, representative of the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nneoma Franklin-Peterside, commended the Convener of the Workshop, Dr. Emily God's presence of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, Faculty of Humanities, for sharing her knowledge and experience with the society.

"A whole lot of our colleagues have benefited from such exposure, but sadly refused to share such experience with

their colleagues on their return to the University. It is heartening to know that this is your second outing and it is quite encouraging that you have freely agreed to share this issue that is dear to the hearts of women—especially those of us in the academics. You deserve to be encouraged by stakeholders in the crusade to free women from those things that tend to hold them down," she told the organiser.

Presenting the lead paper on the theme of the Workshop *Being a Woman and an Edge in a Man's World*, the Risk Factors, Convener, Professor Madel Ewurwolor of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, University of Abuja, regretted that the traditional practical law has not accorded the girl-child from birth untilled against the affirmation of women, describing education as the only weapon that would dismantle structures that work against women.

"There is need to build gender-friendly universities as is

obtainable in India and South Africa, develop gender-friendly infrastructure in schools, tackle violence against women through policy and actions that would enable women move forward," she submitted, stressing the need for women to seek alternatives to male-centred approaches in national development.

In her keynote address on *Adolescent Sexuality and Reproductive Health: Issues, Challenges and the way Forward*, Director of the Institute of Maternal and Child Health, Professor Nwadiatu Akani, identified the key problem militating against adolescent and children's health as the non-implementation of policies that favour them. She stressed the need for promoting health issues through actions directed at strengthening the skills and capabilities of young people. "Adolescents make up a large proportion of our population and we cannot ignore their behaviour and health concern as the country grapples with its developmental challenges," she remarked.

Representative of the Managing Director of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), Mrs. Iyanga Nnumbere, who commended Dr. God's presence for initiating the project and convening the Workshop, reiterated the Commission's commitment to capacity-building and women empowerment—especially in the Niger Delta.

Disclosing that the Workshop was her own way of fulfilling the Junior Falgbright mandate of giving back to society, Dr. God's presence noted that the Workshop was designed to serve as a platform for women from all professions to share their experiences and stories to help challenge others to contribute to the development of society.

"It is hoped that this Workshop would help women to step into the mainstream of affairs and make impactful contributions to society," she told the participants.



*A cross-section of participants at the Workshop
Inset: Dr. God's presence, Convener*

GUIDEPOST**RESUMPTION OF DUTY**

Professor Ethelbert Nsaka, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Faculty of Science, has resumed duty from **Sabbatical Leave**, effective May 4, 2016.

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Dr. Caroline Afiosa, Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, granted one-year **Renewal of Contract Appointment**, effective April 6, 2016 to April 5, 2017.

Dr. V. E. Ejisae, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Science, granted one-year **Renewal of Contract Appointment** as Adjunct Senior Lecturer, effective January 2, 2016 to January 1, 2017.

APPOINTMENT

Dr. Tawasosiki Ogan, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities, appointed **Acting Head of Department**, effective May 31, 2016 to May 30, 2018.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Dr. Andrew A. Ejisae, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, granted one-year **Leave of Absence without Pay**, effective May 23, 2016 to May 22, 2017.

PROMOTION

Dr. Adekemi Alagah, Department of Management, Faculty of Management Sciences, promoted to **Senior Lecturer**, effective October 1, 2015.

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT

Mr. Kenneth Jokson, Department of Human Anatomy, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, granted **Confirmation of Appointment**, effective October 8, 2014 to retirement age.

STOP PRESS**WAUG LOC INAUGURATION**

Inauguration of the Port Harcourt Local Organising Committee for the forthcoming West African University Games (WAUG), has been slated for November 23, 2016. This was the outcome of an Emergency Executive Meeting of WAUG held from June 9 to 10, 2016. Other issues discussed at the meeting included receiving reports from the Nsukka Champions, State of the Association, ECOWAS Youth and Sports Assistance, Funding sources and the Association, FASU Games in South Africa, Burkina Faso Meetings and Facilities Inspection.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**WEATHER OBSERVATORY****WEATHER FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND SURROUNDING AREAS FOR SUNDAY JUNE, 19 – SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2016.**

DATE	TEMPERATURE H (°C)	TEMPERATURE L (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (Local Time)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 19 JUNE, 2016	29.0	24.0	77	NW	27.2	0:21 6:45	A few thunder storms expected with a mostly cloudy disposition.
MONDAY, 20 JUNE, 2016	29.0	23.0	78	NW	6.3	0:22 6:46	Thunder storms expected with a cloudy outlook.
TUESDAY, 21 JUNE, 2016	32.0	23.0	60	NW	-	0:22 6:46	More clouds than sun expected in the day.
WEDNESDAY, 22 JUNE, 2016	34.0	23.0	69	NNE	-	0:22 6:46	Partly sunny day anticipated.
THURSDAY, 23 JUNE, 2016	29.0	23.0	68	N	-	0:22 6:46	Day expected to be mostly cloudy.
FRIDAY, 24 JUNE, 2016	28.0	23.0	71	WSW	6.8	0:22 6:47	Thunder storms expected early in the day. Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
SATURDAY, 25 JUNE, 2016	29.0	22.0	79	NW	17.7	0:23 6:47	Strong thunder storms expected with a mostly cloudy outlook. High possibility of heavy rainfall.

DR. V.E. WELI
AG. MDC
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY & ENV. MGT.

First Semester Exams Begins Today

By Orikor Samuel

The Senate of the University of Port Harcourt has approved the resumption of academic activities in the University. The Senate also approved the Revised Academic Calendar for the 2015/2016 Academic Session.

A statement by the Registrar of the University, Mrs. Durcas Oito, directed all Full-Time Undergraduate Students to arrive on Campus on Sunday, 19th June, 2016, disclosing that the First Semester

Examinations will begin on Monday, 20th June and end on Saturday, 16th July, 2016.

All Full-Time Undergraduate Students are, therefore, required to print and complete the Undertaking of Good Conduct Form at www.campus.usipart.edu.ng for submission at the commencement of the second semester. The Registrar welcomed the students back to the University as they commence their First Semester Examinations, urging them to maintain peace.



Mrs. Oito, Registrar



Prof. Ewuchukwu, DEVC Academic

Omokhua Unveils Vision For IARD

By Mercy Adeniji

Barely seven months into his tenure as Acting Director of the Institute of Agricultural Research and Development (IARD), Dr. Godwin Omokhua, has started repositioning the Institute for quality service delivery in line with the mandate for which it was established.

Exchanging views on the activities of the Institute with a Correspondent of *UniPort Weekly* in his office last Tuesday, Dr. Omokhua expressed gratitude to the authorities for the opportunity to serve the Institute, promising to enthuse professionalism and a culture of excellence in his approach to research and development. "To accomplish the mandate of IARD, research fellows have already been divided into functional teams for innovative, collaborative and effective research initiatives. The Institute is endowed with experienced scientists that are ready to tackle the challenges facing agriculture and rural development in the Niger Delta and the rest of the country," the Acting Director said.

He disclosed that the Institute had already prepared



Dr. Omokhua, new Acting Director

agronomic treatments on the crop. We also want to assess how we can treat the seed to reduce infection and adopt other measures apart from sediment medium, using organic methods of control and shift away from inorganic insecticide which is capable of posing health challenges for consumers," he said.

Dr. Omokhua further disclosed that plans were underway to convene the maiden Research Board Meeting of the Institute, adding that it also intended to organize an Annual Research Review before the end of the year. The purpose, according to him, was for each scientist to review all research work and paper published in the year, stressing that the move would help the Institute devise ways of handling the numerous problems that bedevil the Nigerian agricultural sector.

The Acting Director, who assumed duty in November, 2015, expressed satisfaction with the calibre of staff at the Institute, urging them to continue in the spirit of cooperation, collaboration and unconquerable dedication to duty.

MUHAMMAD ALI

1st International Malaria Colloquium

The Centre for Malaria Research and Phytomedicine organized the 1st International Malaria Colloquium on Tuesday, May 17, 2016, at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium. Our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU**, captured highlights of the event:



Director CMR&P, Prof Chijioke Nwuche, welcoming participants to the event



DVC (Admin), Prof Anthony Ibe, making his opening remarks



Chairman of the occasion and RS Commissioner of Health, Dr. Theophilus Odagene speaking



Deputy Governor RS, Dr. Isabella Harry-Bandjo addressing participants on behalf of the Governor, State Governor Wike



Prof Iyesu Siminalayi reading a citation on the guest lecturer



Guest Lecturer, Dr. Colin Sutherland delivering his lecture



DVC and Chairman, Governing Board of CMR&P, Executive Pro-Chancellor presenting the Journal of Malaria Research and Phytomedicine



Representative of Managing Director of NDDC, Dr. George Uzunweze giving a goodwill message



Mr. Timothy Obot representing Co-ordinator of the National Malaria Elimination programme



Pioneer Director of CMR&P, Prof Omawale Ebong decorating the Chairman, Dr. Odagene with University Magfler



Provost CHS, Prof Christie Moto, decorating Guest Lecturer, Dr. Sutherland with University Magfler



The Colloquium in session



Dignitaries and participants after the event