

UniPort Weekly

Vol. 29, Edition 290 August 15 - August 22, 2016

For Information and Enlightenment

ISSN: 1522-2325

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

WAUG Media Consultant Pays Working Visit To UniPort



As Timinadi Donates Cricket Equipment

Ahead of the 14th edition of the West African University Games (WAUG) fiesta now to be hosted by the University of Port Harcourt in April, 2017, renowned Marketing and Media Consultant, Mr. Olukayode Thomas, has unveiled strategies aimed at attracting sponsorship for the Games, reports *Otikor Samuel*.

More on p3

Side Bar POLICE VISIT

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndwana Lale welcomed the new Divisional Police Officer, CSP Ben Igwe and his men to the University last Friday.

Details Next Week

~Editor

'We Are Committed To Staff Welfare'



Story on p4

S'Affairs Dept Fetes Nzimiro



Story on p5

UniPort Hosts Maiden Zonal University Nurses Forum



Story on p6

Sculpture Unit Mounts Int'l Art Exhibition



Story on p7

Mgt Appeals To ASMDA For Understanding Over Allowances

By Obinna Nwodim

Management of the University has appealed to members of the Association of Specialist Medical Doctors in Academics to show understanding with the administration,

assuring them that it was already doing everything within its powers to resolve issues bothering on the suspension of allowance.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndwana Lale, made this appeal at a meeting between Management and members of the

Association at the NIM Lounge, Ebitini Banigo Auditorium last Monday.

Professor Lale disclosed that the way universities were run in Nigeria has changed over the years, stating that recent happenings reflected the difficult changes taking place in the entire system. According to him, gone were the days when government funded education sufficiently, disclosing that the new trend was that every payment from the Federal Government must pass through a new system known as GIFMIS from which universities scramble for available allocations to pay salaries on first-come-first-served basis.

"We no longer collect any money from the Federal Government as was the case in the past, especially as they affect allowances due staff and associations in the university system. If the Federal Government pays anything, it is paid through the Single Treasury Account (TSA) and so it is very difficult to implement some of the policies we were used to," the Vice-Chancellor said. He stated that there was no deviation from

More on p6



Revisiting World Youth Skills Day Celebration

By Obinna Nwodin

The International World Youth Skills Day was celebrated on Friday, 15th July, 2016 across the world. The University of Port Harcourt was not left out as it rolled out a series of events to celebrate the maiden edition at the Seminar Hall of the Faculty of Education at Choba Park. This celebration was a major milestone as it was the first ever to be held in the University.

As noted by the Acting Director of the Centre for Sandwich and Skills Acquisition Programme, Dr. Glory Amadi, the World Youth Skills Day was made possible by a declaration of the United Nations General Assembly in 2014, following a proposal tabled by the representative of Sri Lanka and the overwhelming acceptance it received from all member states. The General Assembly unanimously adopted 15th July from 2015 as one of the international days to be observed and requested governmental organizations, educational institutions and volunteer groups in member states to organize a variety of activities to raise awareness among youths on the importance of skills development. The theme of this year's celebration was: *Skills Rule the World*. There couldn't be a more appropriate theme in the era of growing unemployment and youth restiveness. Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Ndowale, represented by the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Professor Femi Shaka, stated that Centres and Institutes in the University were expected to develop capacity building programmes for youths in the Niger Delta, who are coming under increasing social pressures in the process of actualizing themselves. He disclosed that the Senate of the University established the Centre for Sandwich and Skills Acquisition (CSSA) programmes in 2012 with a clear mandate to drive designated educational and training activities. This is against the backdrop of the challenges of unemployment, underemployment and poverty facing the youths today, especially in the Niger Delta region where there is a crying need to create skills acquisition programmes that would encourage entrepreneurship and self-reliance. He hoped that the event would create the much needed awareness aimed at assisting Nigerian youths to consider skills acquisition as a viable option in



A cross-section of participants at the World Youth Skills Day

addressing the problems of unemployment and also foster national development.

Rivers State Commissioner of Youth Development, Princewill Obogboluka, represented by the Director of Youth Enterprise and Promotion Department, Mr. Bogba Christian, also advised curriculum planners to make skills acquisition compulsory in educational institutions to ensure that no student graduates without acquiring entrepreneurial skill.

Given the current global trend, there is no doubt that properly-equipped skills acquisition centres would go a long way in reducing the challenges of unemployment, underemployment and poverty, thereby enhancing the socio-economic lives of Nigerian youths.

The University of Port Harcourt as a major stakeholder in capacity building has an enormous duty in producing graduates with requisite skills that would contribute to the socio-economic and technological development of the country. The establishment of CSSA, the Entrepreneurial Centre, as well as introduction of

Entrepreneurial Studies as a University-wide course, are strategies aimed at ensuring that graduates of the University are adequately equipped to face the future with renewed confidence.

The responsibility lies on the shoulders of CSSA to create the needed awareness and enlightenment amongst stakeholders, partner and other governmental and non-governmental organizations outside the University to evolve robust strategies that would ensure that no student graduates from the University without acquiring one skill or the other. The Centre must go beyond the motions of annual celebrations to frontally engage the youths through advocacy and practical programmes. On its own part, Management of the University should also give the Centre the needed support to enable it achieve its onerous mandate. It is hoped that when this is done, the University would be proud to produce the needed manpower that can create employment opportunities. As the theme of the 2016 celebration rightly declares: *Skills Rule the World*.

AIESEC UniPort Receives Liberian Intern On Project Young Minds Initiative

By Mercy Adeniji

The University of Port Harcourt Chapter of an International Student Organisation, Association Internationale des Étudiants Économiques et Commerciaux (AIESEC), has received yet another Intern from Liberia, Mr. T-Mark Korpu.

Exchanging views with a UniPort Weekly Correspondent on Thursday, August 4, 2016, on the purpose of his visit, the Liberian Intern, Korpu, disclosed that he arrived in Nigeria on Sunday, July 31, and would be in the country for six weeks, stating that himself, his partner from AIESEC UniPort, Justin Ifeanyichukwu and other members of the association would work with students from about ten secondary schools during the holiday

season.

"I would be working on a project called *Young Minds*, an initiative of the reigning Miss Nigeria supported by AIESEC and Microsoft. This project is about Creative Photography, Internet Management, Microsoft Office Tools and Graphic Design. This project is also about teaching the young ones about the Computer, Internet and Information Technology. Back in Liberia, I am a 300-level student of Information Technology at the Starz College of Science and Technology, and also a 200-level student of the Stella Maris Polytechnic. I would be helping pupils in primary schools on the use of social media, graphic designs and basic computer tools.

Korpu revealed that he was delighted to be in Nigeria for the first time. "Leaving Liberia to another country gives

me great joy and I am also happy being a volunteer of AIESEC Liberia working with AIESEC Nigeria team and helping to impact young minds to discover themselves in the age of digital revolution."

On his impression of the University, Korpu said: "Port Harcourt and University of Port Harcourt are nice places to be. In Liberia, we do not have Colleges as big as this with tall buildings. We have a big university, but not as large as University of Port Harcourt, with nice layouts. The flowers and landscape are beautiful; I like this place because it is the kind of place I love to be."

Korpu, accompanied by the Local Committee Vice-President (Public Relations and Communication), Justin Ifeanyichukwu, who disclosed that the programme commenced on Saturday, August 13, 2016 at the International Students' Centre, University Park.

"Basically, the purpose of the project is to enlighten young minds and also impact on the students through Information Technology (IT). The project is tagged 'Project Young Minds (Digital Art and Technology, DART)'. We would go to secondary schools to teach students four basic areas of IT which include: Creative Photography, Microsoft Office Tools, Internet Management and Graphic Design. At the end of it all, we hope to impact on students that are not equipped in these critical areas that are essential for them to cope with life in this information age."



AIESEC Liberian Intern Korpu (Middle) flanked by Ifeanyichukwu (right) and AIESEC UniPort President, Miss Vivian Atchukwu (left)

EDITORIAL BOARD

Prof Ndowa E. S. Lale	- Publisher
Prof Enne Ekwake	- Editorial Chair
Dr. Austin Sodo	- Editorial Adviser
Williams Wodi	- Editor
Obinna Nwodin	- Associate Editor
Correspondents	Secretariat
Ofakor Samuel	Photography
Humphrey Ogo	Headman Aky
Etibah Timi-Johnson	Michelle Ekiyor
	Chika King James (Nri)

Call: 08033093371

Cont'd from Page 1

Receiving the Consultant and Designer of WAUG Mascot and Logo, Mr. Onyemachi Nwabueze in his office on Monday, August 1, 2016, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, told the Consultant to leverage on the already established reputation of the University in sporting activities as reigning champions of the Nigerian Universities Games Association (NUGA) and WAUG competitions at successive competitions to attract huge sponsorship for the Games.

The Vice-Chancellor also commended Mr. Nwabueze, who lectures in the Department of Fine Arts and Design in the Faculty of Humanities for designing the Mascot and Logo for the Games, which was well-received by the WAUG delegation that earlier visited the University for that purpose.

Introducing the guests to the Vice-Chancellor, Director of the Sports Institute, Professor Ken Anguwoje, said the WAUG delegation gave pass mark to Mr. Nwabueze's design, informing Professor Lale that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Administration and Chairman of the Central Organising Committee of the Games, Professor Anthony Ibe, who stood in for him at the presentation of the Mascot and Logo would further brief him on details of the submission of the WAUG-delegation and other issues associated with the build-up to the eagerly awaited Games.

In a side line interview with the Sports Correspondent of *UniPort Weekly*, Mr. Thomas, stressed the need to package a world-class marketing and media strategy for the hosting of the Games, promising that the impression that would be left on the participants and other stakeholders after the hosting of the Games in UniPort would be a memorable one.

"Basically, it is not just a package for WAUG, it is all about how we can use WAUG competition to bring other universities to key into the highly successful UniPort model. We are also determined to encourage government, corporations and the private sectors to key into sports, which is the best way of bringing young people together and discovering new stars. We want other universities to emulate this University by imbibing a vibrant sports culture. We have what it takes to be the best in sports in the world and that is the ultimate target of the Games for me," the Consultant said, commending the Vice-Chancellor for committing the University to sports development in the University just as his predecessors did.

"WAUG has come to UniPort, but it is not just a Port Harcourt project; it is a Nigerian project, and so all hands must be on deck to make a success of the Games. Remember that it is not only for Nigerians, so if we host the best Games, the participants who will be future leaders of these West African countries will leave with a very good impression about us. I, therefore, charge all of us to be totally committed to the project so that the coming WAUG Games in UniPort will be a reference

WAUG Media Consultant Pays Working Visit To UniPort



V-C, Prof. Lale (3rd left) flanked by the Consultant, Mr. Thomas, DV-C (Admin), Prof. Ibe (left), Director of Sports Institute, Prof. Anguwoje, Mr. Nwabueze and Deputy Registrar (Information), Wodi (right)

point," he said.

Mr. Thomas also showered encomiums on Professor Anguwoje, stating that: "Nigeria is lucky to have somebody like Anguwoje who is passionate, committed and believes in sports science. The introduction of sports science to the training exercises for athletes is the best way to go now and those who follow this model which Professor Anguwoje strongly advocated are reaping the gains today." The Consultant later held exploratory talks with Head of the Publicity and Documentation sub-Committee of the Games, Williams Wodi, to chart the way forward in publicising the event to attract more sponsorship.

In another development, Head Coach of the Rivers State Cricket Association, Mr. Tonye Timinadi, donated several Cricket kits to the Sports Institute on Thursday, August 4, 2016 with the intention of hosting the game in the University.

Speaking to our Sports Correspondent on the donation, Director of the Institute, Professor Ken Anguwoje, said the equipment would boost the Cricket section of the Institute and motivate staff and students to play the game. He conveyed the appreciation of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale to the donor for his kind gesture,

urging other public-spirited individuals and groups to follow the good example of Mr. Timinadi to hasten the growth of Cricket in the State.

"Following the resuscitation of interest in the game of Cricket and owing to the fact that many of our students are members of the Rivers State Cricket team that play in the National Cricket League, I can confidently say that the game of Cricket has been fully revived in the University. It is in recognition of this fact that the Head Coach of the Rivers State Cricket Association, Mr. Tonye Timinadi has made a donation of various cricket kits in preparation for the forthcoming WAUG Games here," Anguwoje said, further commending the Vice-Chancellor for approving the building of a befitting pavilion at the Cricket pitch.

The equipment which was taken delivery of by Cricket Coach, Mr. Benjamin Nwanosike, included bats, batting gloves, pairs of batting pad, wicket keeper pads and gloves, machine and red match balls, abdominal boxes and kit bags. Chief Coach of Team UniPort, Mr. Godpower Geoffrey, also witnessed the handover ceremony.

IARD Inaugurates Research Board To Power Its Activities

By Mercy Adeniji

In a bid to reposition the Institute of Agricultural Research and Development (IARD) for quality service delivery in line with the mandate for which it was established, Acting Director of the Institute, Dr. Godwin Omekhu, has inaugurated a Research Board charged with the responsibility of mobilising support and

focus for research projects aimed at promoting Agribusiness in the Niger Delta region.

Inaugurating the Board at the Faculty of Agriculture Building, University Park on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, Dr. Omekhu stated that the new Board was inaugurated to create an opportunity for researchers to interact and develop innovative ideas for agricultural advancement in the country.

"The calibre of people on the Board would help us reposition ourselves to explore research options with innovative approaches that can contribute to solving some of the challenges posed by climate change in agriculture, as well as food and wood security in the region, hence our theme for the 2016-2017 research programme: *Climate Change and Agriculture, Food and Wood Security*."

Giving a brief history of the Institute, Dr. Omekhu recalled that IARD was established in 1982 to render extension services to farmers in the catchment areas of the University. "The Institute is poised to achieve the objectives for which it was established by assembling a formidable agricultural research and development group for innovative, collaborative and effective research contributions to agricultural productivity, food and wood security. The Institute was handed a mandate to tackle the problems of agricultural and rural development in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria," the Acting Director said. Highlight of the inauguration was the grouping of the organising Committee into sub-Committees to concentrate on different sub-themes. The Acting Director further disclosed that at the end of the last quarter of every year, the Board would mount an in-house research review programme at which papers would be presented by scientists in their specialisations, urging all stakeholders to be part of the IARD story.



Ag. Director, IARD, Dr. Omekhu (arrowed) and others after the inauguration

We Are Committed To Staff Welfare, Security ~Lale Reassures ASUU

By Obinna Nwodin

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndawa Lale, has reiterated the resolve of his administration to promote the interest and welfare of staff, even as he has expressed gratitude to the University of Port Harcourt Branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) for its numerous contributions to the development of the University.

Professor Lale made the assertion in a meeting with the Branch Executive of the Union at the Committee Room on Friday, August 5, 2016, at which he also commended the Union for taking a principled stand during the last crisis that nearly consumed the University.

The Vice-Chancellor assured ASUU and other unions that Management would continue to ensure that staff whose property were damaged during the violent student protest of April 11, 2016, were compensated to cushion their losses. He also stated that Management was working out a process for the payment to bring closure to that ugly phase of the University's history. He, however, regretted that even when they were finally made, such payments may not adequately compensate for the physical and psychological losses suffered by those affected by the avoidable protest by students.

"You are aware that in the immediate aftermath of the protest, Management set up a Committee headed by the Director of Physical Planning and Development Unit, Mr. Michael Uhom, which went round to identify and assess the level of damage done to private and public property during the protest. Students have just resumed for the Second Semester and have been given up to six weeks to pay their charges, including the cost of damage to property. We are hopeful that payment would begin once we are able to arrive at the appropriate modalities to reach everybody concerned. Our calculation is that this

process would commence in the next six weeks at the very soon and we are hopeful that ASUU would work with us to speedily accomplish this task to the satisfaction of all those concerned."

He appealed to all those who lost property during the protest to exercise a little more patience and maturity as they await the payment process, expressing the resolve of his administration to ensure that the right things were done at all times.

On the issue of getting the students to apologise for the unwarranted attack on staff, Professor Lale said: "We will do the best we can with the Student Affairs Department to ensure that the students apologise to their Lecturers, who had no hand in the crisis. It is the right thing to do and that would not cost the students anything. On the contrary, apologise to their Lecturers will engender a better relationship between both parties. It is on record that our own student leaders did not declare the demonstration of April 11, 2016; the whole sordid scenario was orchestrated from outside just to get me."

"It is also common knowledge that some ASUU members openly canvassed support for the demonstrators with the stated intention of escalating the crisis. Let me also assure you that what happened here cannot happen again by the grace of God. It is not something that anybody would wish with his enemy. Our prayer and hope are that we get it right so that this University can move forward as originally envisaged by its founding fathers," he said.

In his remarks, Chairman of the Union, Dr. Arsten Sudo, said that as a Union, the ASUU Executive was bothered about the welfare of its members, stating that those among them who suffered losses as a result of the protest deserved to be speedily compensated from the first tranche of whatever the students may be compelled to pay as surcharge.

"I have the mandate of the Branch ASUU Congress to draw the attention of the University Management to the need to speedily implement the payment process as a means of assuaging some of their losses. We will no longer tolerate such harassments from students in future. We cannot understand why our own students would turn around to attack us when we have no hand in whatsoever they are angry about. Congress has directed us to tell the administration that such an ugly situation would no longer be tolerated in future," the ASUU Chairman warned.

In her contribution, immediate past Branch Chairperson of the Union, Professor Anthonia Okerengwu, regretted that students would go to the level of attacking their teachers when there was no previous disagreement between them, advising that such unwarranted harassments that result in loss of property and threat to life should stop with immediate effect.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Anthony Ibe, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Hakem Fawehinmi, Registrar, Mrs. Dorcas Otto, University Librarian, Dr. Susan Umecvor, were present at the meeting, while the Deputy Registrar (Information), Williams Wodi and Special Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Kingsley Wogwu, were also in attendance at the meeting that also attracted other Executive members of the ASUU Branch Executive.



V-C, Prof. Lale (seated centre) flanked by DV-CA Admin, Prof. Ibe, Registrar, Mrs. Otto, immediate past ASUU Chairperson, Prof. Okerengwu (left), ASUU Chairman, Dr. Sudo, DV-C Acad, Prof. Fawehinmi, Univ. Librarian, Dr. Umecvor and other ASUU EXCO members

Slain Deputy Registrar, Kelsey Makele For Burial Friday

By Otiok Samuel

Arrangements have reached advanced stages for the burial of the slain Deputy Registrar in the University of Port Harcourt Business School (UPBS). Mr. Kelsey Makele at his residence at the New Layout, Obin/Akpor Local Government Area

of Rivers State this Friday, August 19, 2016. A statement from the Office of the Registrar indicated that a *Service of Songs* will hold at the Convocation Arena on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 at 4.00pm to kick-start the ceremony.

Another statement signed on behalf of the family of Chief Timothy Makele of Rumugologo in Ekinigbo Clan by Mr. Chikwe Orla, disclosed that the obsequies will begin with a *Service of Songs* as from 6.00pm at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church on Thursday, August 18, while the *Funereral Service* will hold at the same

venue on Friday, August 19, 2016.

Mr. Orla further stated that late Mr. Makele's remains will leave the mortuary section of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital at 7.00am on Friday for a brief stopover at his father's compound along Ikwerre Road in Rumugilo, before proceeding to the Church premises for the *Commemoration Service* at 8.00am to be followed by *Orations*. The deceased will be interred at his country home at the Rumugilo New Layout, Off NYA/Apara Road, opposite Community Secondary School, Rumugilo.



Late Makele

Stop Press

Regional Conference On Peace Building

The Modibbo Adama University of Technology, Yola in collaboration with the Nigerian Army, announces a Regional Conference with the theme: *Peace Building and Reconstruction in the Chad Basin*, holding between September 26 and 28, 2016 at the Multi-Purpose Hall of Modibbo Adama University of Technology, Yola in Adamawa State. Time is 10:00am. Vice-President, Professor Yemi Osibanjo is expected to be Special Guest, while the Keynote Address will be delivered by former Military Head of State, General Abdulsalam Abubakar. Other dignitaries expected at the Conference will include the Governors of Adamawa, Mohammed Umaru Jibrilla, Borno, Kashim Shettima and Yobe State, Ibrahim Gadam. Deadline for submission of abstracts is August 30, 2016.

Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Professor Maureen Etebu, has showered praises on the DeltaAfrik Charitable Foundation for awarding scholarships to some students of the Faculty as part of its educational intervention programme for host communities of the parent company, DeltaAfrik Engineering Limited.

The Dean, who made the commendation when a delegation from the Foundation led by its Head of Operations, Mrs. Isoma Omojani visited the Faculty on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, to interview another batch of candidates for this year's scholarship scheme, expressed happiness over the scholarship scheme.

"I have had experiences of how most Foundations run their scholarship scheme; it is usually students that earnestly seek such scholarships, but this Foundation kept reminding us to forward the names of eligible students to it and arrange a suitable date for the interview. This to me stood out from the pack and I wish to commend Management of the Foundation for its interest in the educational empowerment of young people from its operational zone," the Dean told the delegation and students who gathered under the auspices of the University of Port Harcourt Chapter of the Nigerian Universities Engineering Students Association (NUESA) at the Chi Ikoku Seminar Room in Choba Park.

In her speech, Head of Operations of the DeltaAfrik Charitable Foundation, Mrs. Omojani, who gave a brief institutional profile of her organisation, stated that the Foundation was interested in preparing Engineering students to give back to society on graduation from the University.

"Our Foundation is a not-for-profit body set up to carry out corporate social responsibility for DeltaAfrik Engineering Limited in the company's host communities. We are interested in Engineering students because our parent company is a reputable Engineering firm. We want young Nigerian Engineers to leverage on some of the opportunities available in our services and elsewhere to be active players in the various fields of Engineering. We offer support to indigent students in our host communities from Year

Etebu Lauds DeltaAfrik On Scholarship Scheme For Engineering Students

By Otiok Samuel

Three to Year Five, who put up excellent academic performance. We started in 2011 and eight students of the University of Port Harcourt are currently benefitting from the scheme," Mrs. Omojani disclosed.

She further revealed that the scheme which is to the tune of N150,000.00, is renewable throughout the period of study, provided the beneficiary would maintain the required Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA), adding that in all, 30 students from the University of Port Harcourt, University of Uyo and

Niger Delta University, Willerforce Island, Bayelsa State, have so far benefitted from the scholarship scheme.

Beneficiaries from the University of Port Harcourt were: Neebe-Akueke Nuka (Mechanical, Fifth Year), Etibo Aghogho Premobowol (Elect/Elect, Fifth Year), Olawale Oluwatoyin Esther (Elect/Elect, Fourth Year), David Ilos Effiong (Elect/Elect, Fourth Year), Abia Bright Chima (Civil, Third Year), Nwetu Emmanuel Emeka (Chemical, Third Year), Atereki Obaro Kingsley (Mechanical, Third Year) and Oghodho Collins Onyinyechukwu (Mechanical Engineering, Third Year).



Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof. Etebu (arrowed) flanked by Faculty Officer, Mrs. Irene Wariso-Madagha (right), Head of Operations of DeltaAfrik, Mrs. Omojani (left) and others

S'Affairs Dept Fetes Retiring Director, Nzimiro

By Mercy Adeniji

In a bid to encourage a tradition of excellence, hard work and commitment to work, Acting Head of the Student Affairs Department, Dr. Otu Ekpenyong and other staff of the Department have poured encomiums on the outgoing Director of the Department, Mrs. Bridget Nzimiro for her immense contributions to the growth of the University while she was in charge.

Speaking at a special send-off event which held at the premises of the Student Affairs Department on Thursday, August 4, 2016, Dr. Ekpenyong expressed gratitude to God for affording him and his colleagues the opportunity of working with Mrs. Nzimiro in the final part of her glittering public service career.

"Mrs Nzimiro did not only touch the lives of staff of the Student Affairs Department in a positive way, she also impacted other staff and students within the

University community and people from all walks of life. I came in few years ago as an Associate Dean and I experienced Mrs. Nzimiro's professional touch and deep sense of commitment to duty. She symbolised everything that this Department needed. She is a woman anybody would want to work with any day. Our retiring Director taught me a lot of things and I have taken some virtues from her, including patience and dedication to duty. Mrs. Nzimiro deserves every honour we can confer on her and we wish her long life and good health as she bows out in style," Dr. Otu said.

In his contribution, Professor Boniface Nwagwe of the Department of Philosophy praised Mrs. Nzimiro for her meritorious services to the University, charging other staff to emulate her good example to take the University to greater heights. "We are all working for the development of the University, and we must realise that hard work encourages training in excellence. We should also

learn to appreciate one another at our places of work and not allow petty jealousy which is an indication of immaturity to distract us," he admonished the staff. In her response, a visibly enthused Mrs. Nzimiro expressed gratitude to staff of the Department and the entire University for believing in her. "I urge you all to love the University as I loved everybody I came in contact with in the line of duty. The University of Port Harcourt family is so treasured by my family and it is on a sad note that I am saying farewell to all of you, but I can never say goodbye to UniPort which will always be a part of me.

"The good thing is that I am working out of here alive; I pray God to grant everybody the grace to work out of here alive the same way I did. The UniPort family has made me glad and I cannot express it all in words; I can only say a big 'Thank You' for showering me with so much praises for my modest contributions to the development of the University. I would not have succeeded without your cooperation and support," she said, appealing to them to continue to work as a team to achieve the objectives for which the University was established.

In their separate speeches, Deputy Registrar in charge of Student Affairs Department, Dr. Ngeh Mite, Associate Dean, Dr. Adedaramola Onyaso and a Hall Superintendent, Mr. Friday Chinda, were also full of praises for Mrs. Nzimiro on account of her sense of duty. They commended her mentorship and care for staff families in times of need and wished her good health in retirement.



Outgoing Director, Mrs. Nzimiro (middle) flanked by Ag. Dean, Student Affairs Dept, Dr. Ekpenyong (right) and other staff of the Dept and well-wishers

Mgt Appeals To ASMDA For Understanding

Cont'd from Page 1

the understanding that previous administrations have shown on the issue of allowances, explaining that the reality was that there was no money to pay allowances for now due to changing government fiscal policies that Management must adhere to just like any other government Parastatals. The Vice-Chancellor made a passionate appeal to members of the Association to give Management one month to work out strategies to amicably resolve the issue, expressing empathy on the plight of the affected staff over the unfortunate development. "Management will do its best to see if it can work out a model to address this problem in the interest of industrial harmony in this University. We will do all we can to find amicable solution to this knotty issue and get back to you in due course," he said. Earlier in his presentation, Chairman of the Association, Professor Princewill Chike, had wondered why such allowances that had been paid to his members over the years should become a subject of controversy now. "Members of the Association have suffered untold hardship as a result of the non-implementation of our allowances. The Association has resolved to down tools until the matter was resolved, but it is our hope that this meeting would address our concerns to enable us continue rendering services to the public," the Chairman said. In his contribution, Chief Medical Director of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital



V-C, Prof Lale and other Principal Officers and the ASMDA delegation

(UPTH), Professor Aaron Ojule, appealed to members of the Association to show some level of understanding with Management of the University, expressing hope that the issue would be amicably resolved in no distant time. Various speakers at the meeting also informed

Management that it was disheartening that such benefits which were meant to motivate medical practitioners to delve into academics were withdrawn at this point in time. They sought speedy restoration of the contentious allowances in the interest of industrial harmony.

UniPort Hosts Maiden Zonal University Nurses Forum

By Otiakor Samuel

Nurses in the South-South Zone of the country under the aegis of the Nigerian University Nurses Forum (NUNF) and their umbrella body, National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives (NANNM), converged in the University of Port Harcourt on Wednesday, August 10, 2016 for a one-day maiden Interactive Forum to chart pathways for the allied medical profession. Receiving the delegates during the opening ceremony before they went into the business session, Wife of the Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA), Mrs. Joy Lale, conveyed the goodwill message of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nodwa Lale to the visiting Nurses. She commended their contributions to the well-being of members of their various university communities and congratulated them for joining a

noble profession that was dedicated to saving lives. "I was delighted when I was told that the maiden Zonal Forum of the Nigerian University Nurses Forum will hold in UniPort. This Forum will avail the delegates an opportunity to put heads together in order to confront the challenges facing their practice. I am happy with the vision of the Forum and I hope that this laudable objective will be sustained so that the younger ones coming behind us will also see the need for such rewarding interactions," Wife of the Vice-Chancellor, who is also a Nurse told the gathering. In his address, National Chairman of NUNF, Mr. Uko Uboh, gave a brief profile of the Forum, stating that: "The Nigerian University Nurses Forum came into existence on 27th August, 2014, during her first National Meeting at the University of Uyo, Akwa Ibom State and was attended by six universities. The Forum is not a trade union; it is a unifying body of Nurses working in Nigerian University Health Centres.

"It is an arm of the National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives and shares its aims and objectives. Her philosophy focuses on issues that will impact positively on the lives of members and how to enhance our professional practice. It is believed that NUNF will help the profession to be more responsive to the health needs of students, staff and the entire university community."

Mr. Uboh submitted that: "In view of advancement and technological developments in the medical profession, knowledge explosion and most importantly, dealing with well-informed consumers of nursing care within the university community, continuing education through conferences, workshops, seminars and research shall be our focus," further stressing the need for reliable and valid health information dissemination between the profession and university Managements.

He listed the objectives of the Forum to include: creating a Forum for university Nurses to interact as a body, to regularly review the standard of nursing services rendered within the university community, to play a participatory role in policy-making and administration of healthcare services in universities,

to project the image of the nursing profession within the university and ensure better welfare and conditions of service aimed at promoting the dignity of the profession.

Earlier in her welcome speech, Chairperson of UniPort Chapter of the National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives, Mrs. Olajide Mojisola, expressed gratitude to the national body for granting the maiden hosting right of the Zonal Forum to the University. Others who spoke at the event included the Chief Matron at the O. B. Lulu-Briggs Health Centre, Mrs. Florence Ogwo, who also hoped that the Forum would provide a platform for ventilating ideas that would move the nursing profession forward.



Wife of the V-C, Mrs. Lale (centre, front row) flanked by NUNF Chairman, Mr Uboh (right) and other delegates

GUIDEPOST

APPOINTMENT

Professor Lawrence Igwe, Department of Educational Management and Planning, Faculty of Education, re-appointed *Dean of Faculty*. The two-year appointment which took effect from March 15, 2016 terminates on March 14, 2018.

Dr. Anthony Onoja, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, appointed *Acting Head of Department*. The two-year appointment which took effect from August 13, 2016 terminates on August 12, 2018.

Dr. Williams Olori, Department of Management, Faculty of Management Sciences, appointed *Acting Director, Entrepreneurship Centre*. The two-year appointment which took immediate effect will terminate on July 17, 2018.

Dr. Ipeghan Otaraku, Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, re-appointed *Acting Director, School of Basic Studies*. The two-year re-appointment which took effect from August 16, 2016 will terminate on August 15, 2018.

Dr. Soffiri Joab-Peterside, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, appointed *Assistant Director, Claude Ake School of Government*. The appointment which took retroactive effect from June 14, 2016 will terminate on June 13, 2018.

Dr. Clinton Wariboko, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, offered *Appointment as Adjunct Reader*, effective on assumption of duty.

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT

Dr. Rex Needom, Department of Adult and Non-Formal Education, Faculty of Education, granted *Confirmation of Appointment*, effective June 6, 2013.

ADJUNCT APPOINTMENT

Professor E.C. Chukwueke, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, Faculty of Agriculture granted *Change of Contract Appointment to Adjunct Professor*, effective February 11, 2016 to February 10, 2017.

SABBATICAL LEAVE

Dr. M.M. Mezie-Okoye, Department of Preventive and Social Medicine, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, granted a one-year *Sabbatical Leave*, in the Department of Community Medicine, Madonna University, Nigeria, Elele, Rivers State effective June 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017.

WITHDRAWAL OF SERVICE

Dr. Sunday Sam, Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, Faculty of Science, granted request for *Withdrawal of Services* from the University, effective August 1, 2016.

CONVERSION

Mr. Henry Dinye, Department of Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture, converted from *Fisheries Officer I to Assistant Lecturer*, effective July 1, 2016.

RESUMPTION OF DUTY

Professor Michael Horsfall Jr., Department of Pure and

Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Science, resumed duty from a three-month *Research Fellowship Leave* at the Vaal University of Technology, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa.

Dr. Y.E. Chad-Umoren, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science resumed duty from *Sabbatical Leave* at Ignatius Ajuru University of Education.

RENEWAL OF ADJUNCT

APPOINTMENT

Dr. Imo Udoja, Faculty of Law, granted *Renewal of Adjunct Appointment as Senior Lecturer*, effective June 10, 2016 to June 9, 2017.

Dr. Edem Udoaka, Faculty of Law, granted *Renewal of Adjunct Appointment as Senior Lecturer*, effective June 9, 2016 to June 8, 2017.

Dr. Benjamin Isife, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, granted *Renewal of Adjunct Appointment as Senior Lecturer*, effective August, 2016.

Sculpture Unit Mounts Int'l Art Exhibition

By Humphrey Ogu

A s a way of mentoring young sculptors in the University, the Sculpture Unit in the Department of Fine Arts and Design mounted an International Art Exhibition at the Foyer of Donald Ekong Library from Monday, August 1 to Saturday, August 6, 2016.

Briefing *UniPort Weekly* on the Exhibition, tagged: "Stars and Budding Stars", Head of the Sculpture Unit, Mrs. Antonia Okogwu, said: "The exhibition was designed to bring international stars in the arts to motivate and mentor our students and give them that needed exposure. The idea is to encourage entrepreneurship and self-reliance among our students in view of the rising unemployment in Nigeria today."

Okogwu, who was also the Curator of the session, disclosed that 31 artists made up of professionals and younger artists exhibited their works at the event. Participants ranged from an Indian expert in the production of sculpture pieces on Hindu spirituality, Nilesh Naran Gwade, Nigerian-born, Germany-based Sculptor, Del Humphrey Umezulike, Ghanaian Sculptors, Cyril Senyo Kpodo and Ray Claver Agbo, who interacted with students via the social media. A Postgraduate student, Afam Ugwu and a Third Year Student, Benita Igwe, were among budding sculptors that exhibited their works.

A visibly delighted Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Professor Femi Shaka, lauded organisers of the exhibition for giving young people exposure, expressing hope that the

students would graduate into international stars that would make the University proud.

"This maiden exhibition by staff and students with master sculptors is a confirmation of the pool of talents we have in this field of study. My prayer is that this event should be sustained to encourage budding talents to be at their very best," he said.

On his part, Head of the Department of Fine Arts and Design, Professor Michael Emaji, said: "I thank the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lule and Dean of the Faculty, Professor Shaka, who enthusiastically supported this Exhibition, both morally and financially, confirming their interest and commitment to artistic development and exposure of creative talents, both within and outside the country."

In his goodwill message, the Prince Yemisi Shyllon Professor of Fine Art and Design, Frank Ugiomoh, said: "In this exhibition, artists who have sustained their presence in the world of cultural production paired with their younger colleagues to enable them attain recognition and self-confidence that are needed for future work experience. A mix of this nature, therefore, heralds a chain that links the old to the new in such ways that foster creative magnificence."

In his contribution, Professor Osa Egunwa of Delta State University commended the organisers for pulling off the rare event, urging younger artists to strive for excellence. "Only a faint line separates the real stars from budding stars; a thin line which time, continuity of practice and sensitivity will completely delete, as the dotted chick becomes the multi-coloured hen. Welcome to the visual banquet," he said.



A view of the Exhibition

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

WEATHER OBSERVATORY

WEATHER FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND SURROUNDING AREAS

FOR SUNDAY AUGUST 14 – SATURDAY AUGUST 20, 2016.

DATE	TEMPERATURE III (°C)	LO	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (mm) (pm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 14, AUGUST, 2016	26.0	23.0	85	WSW	20	6:28 6:45	Showery and mostly cloudy day expected.
MONDAY, 15, AUGUST, 2016	31.0	22.0	65	SW	8.8	6:28 6:44	Thunder storms expected with breaks of sun expected late in the day.
TUESDAY 16, AUGUST, 2016	29.0	20.0	73	W	3.6	6:28 6:44	Showers late in the day with a cloudy disposition.
WEDNESDAY 17, AUGUST, 2016	29.0	22.0	68	SW	4.8	6:28 6:44	Thunder storms expected early in the day with a mostly cloudy outlook.
THURSDAY 18, AUGUST, 2016	30.0	22.0	67	WSW	2.4	6:28 6:44	Thunder storms expected early in the day with a mostly cloudy outlook.
FRIDAY 19, AUGUST, 2016	30.0	22.0	67	WSW	8.8	6:28 6:43	Intermittent showers with a mostly cloudy disposition predicted.
SATURDAY 20, AUGUST, 2016	30.0	23.0	62	WSW	-	6:28 6:43	Mostly cloudy day expected.

DR. V.E. WELI
AG. HOD

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY & ENV. MGT.

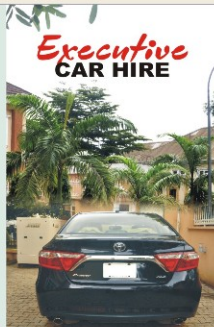
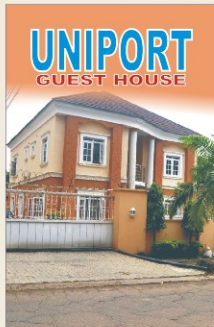
DR. PRINCE C. MMOM
AG. DIRECTOR
(CDRMS)

VISIT NEW UNIPORT GUEST HOUSE IN ABUJA TODAY

The University of Port Harcourt Guest House is a home away from home that refines the concept of modern hospitality in a brand new way. We are located right in the bustling Central Business District of No. 6 Harare Street, Wuse Zone 6. The serenity of our new operational environment guarantees our valued guests relaxation and peace of mind that only the new UniPort Guest House can offer at very affordable lodging rates.

If eating and unwinding away from home is what you desire, then our tantalizing range of continental, oriental and western cuisines are professionally prepared to suit your taste and satisfy your appetite. Are you thinking of travelling to the Federal Capital Territory anytime soon? Then come to the new UniPort Guest House and be pampered like royalty. You will long to come back again and again. Just try us for refined taste and world class care that are customized for your comfort.

UniPort Guest House...Luxury redefined!!!



Located in a serene environment in the heart of the FCT, around the Wuse Market Area and Julius Berger

NO. 6 HARARE STREET WUSE, ZONE 6

25km/20 mins Drive from Nnamdi Azikiwe Int'l Airport
5 mins drive from Int'l Conference Centre
3 mins drive to Federal Secretariat/NNPC

FACILITIES & SERVICES

- 7 well furnished rooms
- Plasma TV/satellite channels in all rooms
- Uninterrupted power supply
- Catering service
- Laundry service
- Executive car rental
- 24 hours security



Tastefully furnished rooms to help relax your body after the days activity and also hold your business meetings

