

# UniPort Weekly

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For information and enlightenment

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## British Council, CGCS To Partner On Policy Studies



The British Council has expressed willingness to partner the Centre for Conflict and Gender Studies (CGCS) on policy studies and research on gender and environmental issues. The partnership proposal was tabled at a meeting between officials of the British Council and the Centre which held at the Conference Room of the Centre located at the University Park on Friday, November 18, 2016, reports *Obinna Nwodin*.

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## Side Bar IPS Induction

Activities marking the 13<sup>th</sup> Induction Ceremony of the Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS) kicks off tomorrow, November 29, 2016.

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~Editor

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## Stakeholders Brainstorm On Emerging Trends In ICT, Telecoms At CITE Confab



By Humphrey Ogu

Ways of harnessing emergent trends and innovations in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Telecommunications to solve human problems and achieve economic revitalisation formed the focus of an international conference tagged: *ICEIT 2016*.

Organised by the Centre for Information and Telecommunication Engineering (CITE) in the University, the International Conference and Exhibition, which had: "The Role of ICT and Telecommunications in Global Economic Revitalisation" as its theme, held at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium from Wednesday, November 23 to Friday, November 25, 2016.

Declaring the conference open, Vice-

Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, observed that most telecoms equipment vendors and service providers had been reaping substantially from their investments following the deregulation of the sector. He regretted that "Nigerian Universities are yet to key into this huge profit-spinning sector with the right curriculum that would prepare our telecommunication graduates to compete

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**A**ward-winning Poet and Creative Writing Lecturer in the Department of English Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Dr. Obari Gomba, has stressed the need to celebrate the arts in Nigeria as a way of building a robust creative economy as is the case in other climes.

Gomba has just returned from the 2016 International Writing Programme of the University of Iowa in the United States of America, where he participated in the famous Iowa City Book Festival and sat on the Panel on Writing and Politics. He regretted that Nigerians do not accord the arts the respect they so richly deserve, adding that Americans not only have respect for the arts, but they also celebrate literature.

"In Nigeria, the arts are still like the exclusive preserve of a few mad people who are usually dismissed as day dreamers. For instance, a kidnapper is accorded more respect than the poet in this country. The developed countries pay serious attention to the arts as an important aspect of their national identity; but Nigeria has not looked at the arts beyond what a few creative individuals have done on their own," he said.

"Take the popular Nigerian movie industry for instance, it was developed without any deliberate effort or input from the government, which is currently attempting to exploit it for political purposes. In the final analysis, it is the arts that tell our story. For instance, Iowa is the UNESCO City of Literature with all the end benefits that accrues to that city from such a cultural designation. We need to learn from the developed countries about what they are doing to preserve their cultural identity," Gomba observed.

"Our obsession for the pursuit of science and technology should not be at the expense of the arts, as they both derive from the capacity of man to imagine and recreate his world. Everything in life begins from our capacity to imagine and reason logically. For any society to develop in a globalised world, the arts and science must work together in a symbiotic relationship without preferential treatment being accorded to any of them," he recommended.

Gomba, who won the Association of Nigerian Authors (ANA) Poetry Prize 2016, disclosed that the award would be celebrated in the University of Iowa. He revealed that part of his engagement

## We Need To Celebrate Arts In Nigeria ~Gomba

By Humphrey Ogu

at IWP, included readings at Shambaugh House, UIowa, Dubuque Museum of Art in Dubuque City, Oakuell Retirement Centre, Iowa City, and teachings at Kirkwood Community College, West High College and University of Iowa, where he taught International Literature, and toured Manhattan, Broadway in New York, the State Department, Library of Congress, Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials in Washington DC, including trips to Seattle and Chicago, amongst other places of interest.

"We have not sufficiently promoted literary excellence in this country and there are many Nigerians who do not yet know the writers in the University of Port Harcourt. We need to institutionalise regular monthly reading sessions around each author to popularise their works. The biggest advert a university can have is the quality of its products. UniPort has many renowned writers associated to it. Before his demise, Elchi Amadi was a Writer-in-Residence here alongside Gabriel Okara and Ifeanyi Anicbo. There is no reason why the Master's in Fine Arts in Creative Writing programme has

not still taken off here. We have the classrooms and qualified hands to handle the programme," he observed.

On how his participation in the IWP would benefit his creative endeavours, Dr. Gomba said: "My responsibility to the University is to teach and carry out research. I take my job as a teacher seriously and I will continue to be as committed as I have always been. I will continue to raise a generation of writers and researchers. The first African to win the Eiselt Prize for Flash Fiction, Uche Okonkwo, was my student. I hope to deploy my experience in Iowa to enrich my teaching and research," he disclosed, adding that research and creative writing would give students the skillsets that would enable them excel in the expansive creative industry.

*"Our obsession for the pursuit of science and technology should not be at the expense of the arts, as they both derive from the capacity of man to imagine and recreate his world. Everything in life begins from our capacity to imagine and reason logically. For any society to develop in a globalised world, the arts and science must work together in a symbiotic relationship without preferential treatment being accorded to any of them"*



Dr. Gomba (left) and his colleagues at IWP in Iowa, USA

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Speaking at the exploratory talks, the Director of Programmes at the British Council, Louisa Waddingham, described the University of Port Harcourt not only important, but also a strategic institution with which British Council would join forces to proffer solutions to the many environmental and gender challenges facing people in the Niger Delta area.

The Programmes Director, who was visibly impressed with the activities of the Centre, promised a robust partnership that would address some of the gender and environmental issues that people in the Niger Delta battle on daily basis. "We are very hopeful that your Centre will play an important role in helping us understand what is happening within this environment," Waddingham said, adding that the aim of the visit was to ascertain what the Centre was doing in research and collaborative endeavours. She promised to forge closer ties that would strengthen the Centre to deliver better results to various stakeholders in its target area.

In his remarks, Acting Director, Dr. Fidelis Allen, disclosed that the Centre was mandated to teach, carry out research and engage in community service, further explaining that it currently ran Postgraduate Diploma and Master's degree programmes in conflict and gender studies.

"The vision of the Centre is anchored on helping to promote values that can enhance peace and conflict studies, especially in the Niger Delta region that is so conflict prone. The Centre is making frantic efforts to respond to the peculiar challenges facing the Niger Delta within available resources. As part of our research efforts, we believe that the Centre's activities must be

## British Council, CGCS To Partner On Policy Studies and Research

organized to respond in a practical way to the challenges faced by the people of the Niger Delta. Much of what we do is based on capacity building with a view to producing a critical mass of experts who can handle problem-solving strategies in gender and environmental issues that would in turn help to reduce tension in the area," he stated. Allen also disclosed that the Centre was involved in policy related research, highlighting the role the

Centre has been playing in conflict management in Rivers State. He further said that the Centre had built a conflict management system that recognized the role of stakeholders on critical policy issues in the State. Also present at the meeting were the Partnerships Manager, Chikodi Onyemerele and Project Manager, Scholarships and Programmes Support, Abidemi Kolawole.



Officials of CGCS and British Council during the meeting

## Entrepreneurship Centre Graduates Catering Trainees On Elano Sponsorship

By Olikor Samuel

Following the completion of an intensive six-month course at the Entrepreneurship Centre of the University, twelve trainees who passed the Catering and Hospitality Management programme sponsored by Elano Investment Ltd, have been issued Certificates during a passing out ceremony held at the Centre, last Friday.

Congratulating the graduates for successfully completing the short course, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Hakeem Fawehinmi, said the training was in line with Management's vision of running an Entrepreneurial University which necessitated the establishment of the Centre.

Represented by the Acting Director of Students' Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES), Dr. Adedapo Aiyelaja, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, also commended Elano Investment Ltd for helping in building the capacity of young people to be self-reliant, rather than searching for non-existent jobs opportunities in a depressed economy.

"I want to thank Elano Investment Ltd for initiating this programme. The dire situation in the country now calls for the acquisition of requisite skills, creativity and innovation to meet the needs of young people. It is on that note that I wish to express our gratitude to Elano Investment Ltd for partnering the University in the training of our youths in meaningful enterprises,"

representative of the DV-C said.

In his remarks, Chairman, Education Committee of Elano Investment Ltd, Professor Walter Olori, commended the trainees for completing the programme within the specified residency period. He promised that the next phase of the training programme would prepare the participants for the final stage, which would mobilise them to start their own businesses.

"The training that has just been completed is only the beginning of the programme. Another phase of the programme will commence on Monday, following which Elano Investment Ltd will equip you with starter packs, pay your one-year rent and provide each of you with working capital," the Education Chairman told the trainees. He also charged them to be driven by a sense of purpose, foresight, passion and perseverance to succeed.

In his address, Acting Director of the Centre, Dr. William Olori, recalled that the training started in the second quarter of the year, congratulating the graduates for demonstrating enthusiasm and commitment to the training programme.

"The event we are witnessing today started six months ago following a partnership agreement with Elano Investment Ltd to engage youths in meaningful ventures that would make them financially independent and be useful to themselves and the society," Dr. Olori said.

In his goodwill message, Programme Consultant and Managing Director of Wider Perspectives, Mr. Kalada Apiafi, disclosed that out of the 94 applicants who indicated interest in the programme, only 12 passed through the rigorous screening processes, availing the graduates tips that would enable them succeed in business.

The ceremony featured presentation of certificates to the trainees and award to Esther Worlu, who emerged the Best Performing Student in the programme by the Deputy Registrar in charge of Academic Affairs, Dr. Agatha Ataga, who represented the Registrar, Mrs. Dorcas Otto, at the occasion.



Ag. Director of the Centre, Dr. Olori (arrowed) flanked by his predecessor, Dr. Edwinna Amah (right), Dr. Ataga, Dr. Aiyelaja (left) and the graduates

# Oyegun, Etebu, Others Task COHSE Students At Orientation

By Humphrey Ogu

Newly admitted students into the Master's and Doctorate degree programmes of the Centre for Occupational Health, Safety and Environment (COHSE), have been charged to make optimal use of the training opportunities available to them by distinguishing themselves in their chosen career lines.

Speaking at the orientation exercise for the 2016/17 academic session held at the Centre at the IPS Park last Tuesday, Chairman of COHSE's Academic Board, Professor Charles Oyegun, congratulated the students for scaling through the rigorous selection process, urging them to seize the opportunity with both hands within their residency period.

"As much as we are ready to assist you succeed, a lot would depend on how diligent you may wish to pursue your studies in a very competitive academic

environment. You need to work hard from the outset because it is possible for any of you to get distracted and drop out of the programme. The antidote to failure is to hit the ground running and refuse to be distracted. I can assure you that there is no other way out.

Create right now to collate relevant literature and start a literature bank; begin to download relevant materials, go to libraries both here and outside this university and state. Gather relevant information because you can't re-invent the wheel; you can only improve on the efficiency of what is already there. Your work must be in line with global best practices and you must keep abreast of happenings around the world. Work as if your success depends on you alone and commune with God as if your success depends on his approval," he advised the students.

In her speech, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Professor Maureen Etebu, welcomed the students to

the University, advising them to be focused on their studies. "I decided to take courses in water and air pollution control during my undergraduate days, because of the level of environmental degradation where I come from. I have knowledge of how to mitigate environmental hazards and that has placed me in a position to proffer solution to the problems of my people. I know you are here to acquire additional knowledge in health, safety and environment that would enable you serve humanity, not just to earn an income," she told them.

Earlier in his welcome address, Director of COHSE, Professor Tamhari I. Eton, noted that there were many people who already had degrees without truly acquiring knowledge, stressing the importance of true learning that would carry beneficiaries through life. "Your being here is based on the fact that you passed through a rigorous screening exercise and you have the requisite qualifications that made you suitable to be admitted into the programme," he told the students.

"In life, you have three ways to assess yourself: what you are taught, what you know, and what you can do. People assess you based on the last one—what you can do. That distinguishes you from the crowd. The training we will give you here will broaden your horizon and deepen your intellect and I advise you to take advantage of this rare opportunity," the Director told the students.

Also speaking, Assistant Director of the Centre, Dr. Ejikeme Ugwoba, commended the guests for finding time to grace the event and the students for turning out to participate in the orientation exercise. "This programme is a very long journey. Happily, however, no matter how long a journey is, it begins with a step. I urge you to take each step seriously," he advised the students.



Prof Oyegun (arrowed) flanked by Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof Etebu (right) and others

## UniPort ASUU Chairman Commends Members On Nationwide Strike

By Otiakor Samuel

Chairman of the University of Port Harcourt Branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), Dr. Austen Sado, has commended members of the Branch for fully complying with the directive of the national executive of the Union to embark on a one-week warning strike aimed at drawing government's attention to the non-implementation of the 2009 ASUU-Federal Government Agreement.

Dr. Sado, who spoke to our Correspondent in his office last Thursday on his resumption of duty from the strike which commenced on Wednesday, 18 to Tuesday, 22 November, 2016, described the level of compliance as total. He expressed satisfaction with the willingness of members of the Branch to mount a collective agitation to save university education in the country.

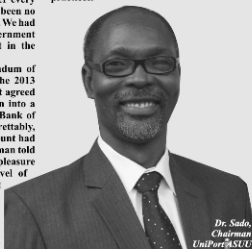
"The reason ASUU embarked upon the strike action is quite obvious to government and the public. An agreement was reached between the Union and Government at the Federal and State levels to save public universities.

"Some of the issues covered in the agreement border on payment of earned allowances, increase in retirement age, provision of more infrastructure and customised pension scheme. The agreement which was signed in 2009 provided for renegotiations after every three years. Unfortunately, there has been no renewal of the terms of the agreement. We had to protest again before the Government started implementing the agreement in the branch.

"In 2013, ASUU signed a Memorandum of Understanding which gave rise to the 2013 NEEDS Assessment and Government agreed to be paying the sum of N200 billion into a dedicated account with the Central Bank of Nigeria for a five-year period. Regrettably, after the first payment, no other amount had been made again," the Branch Chairman told our Correspondent, expressing displeasure with what he described as "the level of insincerity on the part of government on such a critical issue as education that is central to national development."

Dr. Sado frowned at a situation in which government had continued to

renege on its part of an agreement it willingly entered into in 2009, assuring all stakeholders that the ASUU was committed to ensuring that universities in the country were placed in a strong position to compete favourably with their peers in other parts of the world and in line with global best practices.



Dr. Sado, Chairman UniPort ASUU

# Experts List Ways To Curb Psychosocial Problems In Nigeria



DV-C (Admin), Prof Ibe (arrowed) flanked by National President of NSPR, Prof Nnachi, Keynote Speaker, Prof Obikeze (right), Dean, Faculty of Education, Prof Igwe (right) and others

By Otokor Samuel

**F**ollowing rising cases of psycho-social problems in Nigeria, especially among youths, stakeholders from Sociology, Psychology, Guidance and Counselling and other allied disciplines, have called on parents, the society and government at all levels to initiate proactive measures to checkmate the negative trend.

Presenting the Keynote Address at the opening ceremony of the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference of the Nigerian Society for Psycho-social Research (NSPR) at the International Students' Centre last Tuesday, Professor Nnamdi Obikeze, who spoke on the theme: *Nigeria and Her Psycho-Social Problems: The Way Forward*, called for proper leadership that would place the country on the right pedestal for accelerated national development.

"Nigeria as a nation has all it takes to be a great nation and giant of Africa when one considers her relative size, population, wealth, natural and human resources, and its favourable climate. It is the sixth largest producer of crude oil in the world and the most populous country in Africa," Obikeze of the Chukwumeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbarima, Anambra State stated.

The Keynote Speaker, identified poor leadership and gullible followership, neglect of some Nigerian cultural practices, lack of national unity, high level of ignorance, religious fanaticism and a conservative educational system which did not prepare the citizens for global competition, as some of the challenges that constitute psycho-social problems in the country. He further argued that some recent breakthroughs in science and technology also constituted nuisance to humanity and formed psycho-social problems that should be tackled.

Professor Obikeze listed regulations on the use of technological devices such as phones, films, video clips, Internet records, credit cards, ban on high alcoholic intake and increase in security surveillance, as ways to mitigate the rising cases of psycho-social problems. He suggested that creation of employment opportunities for the

teeming population of unemployed youths and establishment of entrepreneurship and skills acquisition centres where the youths could be trained to become employers of labour instead of seekers of job would also help to tackle some of the menace.

Corroborating the Keynote Speaker, Dean of the Faculty of Education at Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Professor Charles Iwundu, who presented the lead paper, identified neurotic, psychopathic, sociopathic, psychotic and psychosomatic disorders as some effects of the psycho-social problems that bedevil Nigeria. He observed that the country was gradually sliding into a society burdened by psychiatric or to say the least, psychological challenges as most Nigerians were seriously going through a Generalized Anxiety Disorder called Paranoia.

Professor Iwundu emphasised the need to assist fellow Nigerians cope with stress factors associated with the ongoing economic recession, noting that inadequacies in social, food and national, security were major indices in measuring a failed state which the country was fast sliding into at the moment.

"The socio-economic and political encumbrances circumventing the nation's march to progress, greatness, growth and development must not be allowed to play out any form of dialectic materialism because when the centripetal and centrifugal forces begin to gather momentum, the horrendous wave blow can better be imagined than said.

"Nigeria as a multilingual and multi-ethnic nation needs to celebrate what unites her rather than what divides her. We need each other to be like the United States of America. There is equally the need to support efforts, individually and collectively in helping Nigerians cope with stress debilitating factors that impinge on their overall psychological, vocational and scholastic adjustments," the lead paper presenter submitted, calling for the establishment of Counselling Units in all Local Government Areas of the country.

In his message to the Society, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, expressed optimism that the conference would critically

examine the growing psycho-social problems that bedevil the society and proffer realistic solutions in a way that would assist policy-makers achieve sustainable development.

The Vice-Chancellor, whose remark was read by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Anthony Ibe, charged the Nigerian Society for Psycho-social Research to initiate measures that would moderate human conduct to conform to conventional expectations in a civilised society.

"The mental characteristics or attitude of a person or social group, their thought processes, frame of mind, including persona, conscious and unconscious thoughts, are valid fields of inquiry for the Nigerian Society of Psycho-social Research. Your group can help us understand the behavioural traits of individuals and groups through establishing certain general principles and researching into such specific cases to the understanding of laymen.

"As a University, we are committed to supporting well-meaning government policies that are targeted at enhancing the psychological balance, intellectual growth and efficient service delivery to the people in a manner that leads to accelerated development of the nation," the Vice-Chancellor said, congratulating the Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Lawrence Igwe, members of the Local Organising Committee and the NSPR for hosting the conference in the University.

Earlier, National President of the Society, Professor Richard Nnachi, commended the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Lale for the warm reception accorded the group, pointing out that it was the first time the Society was being hosted in the University. "It is our hope that this great institution would positively influence the intellectual psyche of every member of this organisation in such a manner that at the end of the conference, there must be a positive change in our members and the University community," Professor Nnachi said.

The conference also featured interactive and technical sessions by participants that were drawn from across the country.

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favourably with their peers elsewhere. The key selling point is to upgrade the curriculum to fill the observed knowledge gaps to meet the challenges of effective telephony. This could be done through targeted short courses and certifications programmes that would sharpen the knowledge and skills of our students".

Represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) Professor Anthony Ibe, the Vice-Chancellor pointed out that: "We must expand our telecommunication capacities if we hope to develop our productive capacities and enjoy the good life that others are enjoying on a massive scale. One lesson that has emerged is that the world will not wait for Nigeria to put its ICT and Telecommunications house in order and no Good Samaritan will emerge from the blues to do it for us."

In his Keynote Address, the Executive Vice-Chairman/Chief Executive Officer of Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), Professor Umar Danbatta, who was represented by the South-South Zonal Controller of NCC in Port Harcourt, Dr. Chidi Diegwu, noted that "Under the leadership of Professor Briggs at CITE, there has been a conscious effort to change the way we do things. The programme is world class and it is capable of transforming the University."

"There are skills gap in our society. It is the expectation of NCC that universities should work through research and innovation to develop technologies that will impact positively in our lives. We could harness our economic growth through research and development. Let us bear in mind that what is currently available is already obsolete. We need to embark upon research, innovate and develop products that serve our purposes and solve our own problems. Unlike physical property, intellectual property is not geographical," he stated, adding that telecoms can work more effectively with education, capital investment and innovation.

Speaking as Special Guest of Honour, the Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Ogonnaya Onu, congratulated the management of CITE for contributing to the development of science and technology in the country. Onu, who spoke through

## Stakeholders Brainstorm On Emerging Trends In ICT



Dr. C. (Admin), Prof. Ibe (centre, front row) flanked by Deputy Registrar (Academic Affairs), Dr. Agatha Atagu, DV-C (Acad), Prof. Fawehinmi (left), Rep of NCC Boss, Dr. Diegwu

Engineer Timothy Odele of the Raw Materials Research and Development Council, Abuja, said: "It is my hope that the deliberations from the conference will chart a roadmap to sustainable development of ICT and Telecommunication sector of the Nigerian economy."

On his part, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Hakeem Fawehinmi, commended the Chief Executive Officer of NCC, Professor Danbatta, and Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Onu for sending representatives to the conference. He also congratulated the Director of CITE, Professor Monima Briggs for his insight in organising the conference. Professor Fawehinmi expressed hope that the outcome of the conference would contribute to the growth of the University and telecoms sector.

Earlier in his welcome address, Director, Professor Briggs, noted that the philosophy of CITE was to bridge the University-Industry gap through innovative curriculum, research and professional

certifications in ICT and entrepreneurial studies. "Already, the Nigerian film industry is attracting global markets, and with the establishment of information technology, Nigeria will be transformed into a knowledge economy as government seeks to lessen the country's over-reliance on the petroleum industry."

The Director further explained that the only way Nigeria could harness the enormous potentials of optical fibre technology and independent bandwidth was to invest in the critical sector. He recommended that more submarine landing should be established, and the potentials of laying fibre over existing right of way as well as along pipelines, railway tracks and major expressways should be harnessed.

The event featured technical paper presentations by seasoned experts drawn from the academia, industry, partnership forum and exhibitions of ICT-based solutions, as well as plenary and interactive sessions.

## Stanford Varsity Tops Global Employability Ranking

Stanford University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) rank first and second in QS Quacquarelli Symonds' first QS Graduate Employability Rankings, while China's Tsinghua University takes third place. Universities with a strong STEM - science, technology, engineering and mathematics - focus, particularly those emphasising technology, rank highly.

Tsinghua's third-place finish is one of several strong Chinese performances: Peking University ranks joint 11th, while Fudan University is 14th.

While the top 10 demonstrates both American dominance, with United States universities taking five top-10 places, there are five different nations represented in the top 10. The others are China,

Australia (the University of Sydney, 4th), France (Ecole Polytechnique, 6th), and the United Kingdom (the universities of Cambridge and Oxford, 5th and 8th respectively).

The other top-10 American institutions are Columbia University (7th), the University of California, Berkeley (9th), and Princeton University (10th).

Latin America's highest-ranked university is Mexico's Tecnológico de Monterrey (40th), while Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (45th) also places within the top 50.

The University of Cape Town (151-200) in South Africa is one of only two African universities represented in this year's ranking. Its compatriot, the University of the Witwatersrand (201-), is the other.

Lebanon's American University of Beirut (81-90) is the highest-ranked of six featured universities placing in the QS University Rankings: Arab Region. Universities from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt are also ranked.

The top 20 is comprised of institutions from the United States (10), the United Kingdom and China (three each), Australia (2), France (1) and Hong Kong (1).

The QS new ranking is designed to improve the quality of analyses about the links between university practices and graduate employability. The

ranking represents a development on last year's pilot, with an enhanced methodology and an additional 100 universities ranked.

It features 300 institutions ranked according to a total score on five indicators weighted differently: employer reputation (30%), alumni outcomes (20%), employer partnerships (25%), employer-student connections (15%) and graduate employment rate (15%).

Ben Sowter, head of research at QS, said: "The 2017 instalment of this ranking illustrates that universities with a heavy STEM focus are generally among the most successful in nurturing student employability."

This cannot simply be attributed to students at these universities being more employable due to taking STEM degrees, as graduate employability rate is only one of the five indicators that contribute to this year's ranking, and the employability rate is not broken down by subject taken, QS says.

Sowter continued: "As the global employment market changes in unprecedented ways, students are increasingly emphasising the link between their university choice and their future career. We're confident that the insights provided by this ranking will prove invaluable in allowing them to do so."

Three hundred institutions were included in the rankings this year. This ranking differs from QS's other exercises in offering universities the opportunity to opt-out while it remains in its nascent stages.

Culled from World University News

Adamu Adamu,  
Minister of Education



## GUIDE POST

## APPOINTMENT

**Professor Yunus Adediran**, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Ilorin, offered *Adjunct Appointment* in the Department of Electrical/Electronics Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, effective on assumption of duty.

**Professor Ephraim Okafor**, Centre for Energy Power System and Research, Federal University of Technology, Owerri, offered *Adjunct Appointment* in the Department of Electrical/Electronics Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, effective on assumption of duty.

**Dr. Moshod Basari**, Languages Section, The Test Development Division, WAEC, Ogbia, Lagos, offered *Temporary Appointment* as *Lecturer II* in the Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mr. Sydney Imah**, offered *Temporary Appointment* as *Assistant Lecturer* in the Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, effective on assumption of duty.

## CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

**Dr. Nadi Gbule**, granted a one-year *Contract Appointment* as *Lecturer I* in the Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mrs. Roseline Efiweere**, Examinations and Records Unit, Registry Department, granted a one-year *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective as from November 24, 2016 to November 23, 2017.

## RESUMPTION OF DUTY

**Professor Gregory Awiri**, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, resumed duty after a one year *Sabbatical Leave* at the Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt, effective October 21, 2016.

**Dr. Allwell Ome-Egeona**, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, resumed duty after a one year *Sabbatical Leave* at the Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Nkpolu, Port Harcourt, effective October 21, 2016.

**Mr. Samson Anuchi**, Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Science, resumed duty after *Study Leave with Pay* at the Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen Scotland, United Kingdom, effective October 21, 2016.

## CHANGE OF NAME

**MRS. BEATRICE WAKWU CHINDAH**, Former Beatrice Chukwu now wishes to be known, called and addressed as Mrs. Beatrice Wakwu Chindah. All documents bearing her former name remain valid.

**MRS. EKEH JOSEPHINE**, Former Josephine the now wishes to be known, called and addressed as Mrs. Josephine Ekeh. All documents bearing her former name remain valid.

## FELLOWSHIP AWARD

**Professor Arthur Chumere**, Department of Human Physiology, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, inducted *Fellow* of the Physiological Society of Nigeria. He was also *Re-elected* as the National President of the Society at the Joint 7<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the African Association of the Physiological Sciences (AAPS) and the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Conference of the Physiological Society of Nigeria (PSN) held between September 5 and 8, 2016.

## NOT A LAUGHING MATTER

## The Monkey Money Madness! (MMM)

Once upon a time in a village, a man appeared and announced that he would buy monkeys for N100 each. The villagers seeing that there were so many monkeys around, went out to the forest and started catching them.

The man bought thousands at N100 and as supply started to diminish, the villagers stopped their efforts. He further announced that he would now buy at N200. This renewed the efforts of the villagers and they started catching monkeys again. Soon the supply diminished and people started going back to their farms. The offer increased to N250 but the supply of monkeys became so little that it took much effort to even see a monkey, let alone catch one.

The man now announced that he would buy monkeys at N500! However, since he had to go to the city on some

business, his assistant would now buy on his behalf.

In the absence of the man, his assistant told the villagers: "Look at all these monkeys in the big cage that my OGA has bought from you. I will sell them to you at N350 and when my OGA returns from the city, you can sell it to him at N500".

The villagers squeezed out all their HARD EARNED savings and bought all the monkeys. The most greedy ones among them even sold their lands to purchase many MONKEYS, hoping to make a huge profit without labor. Then...

They never saw the man or his assistant. Only monkeys everywhere!

Welcome to MMM. The world of Monkeys! Be wise

Called from what:pp

## STOP PRESS

## UniPort-UPTH Link Gate

Following a meeting between Management of the University of Port Harcourt and authorities of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH) on Friday, November 11, 2016, it was agreed that the gate linking UniPort and UPTH will be opened with effect from January 1, 2017 to enable staff transit between the two institutions with ease.

A Letter signed by the Special Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Kingsley Wogwu and made available to *UniPort Weekly*, stated that the gate will henceforth be accessible between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. daily, adding that only staff with valid identity card from both institutions will be allowed to use the gate on presentation of official identification to security personnel on duty to facilitate movement.

The gate will, however, be open 24 hours to both ambulances and vehicles conveying patients in and out of the UPTH.

## Research Ethics Committee

**Professor Victor Wakwe** of the Department of Chemical Pathology, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences (CHS), has been appointed Chairman, Research Ethics Committee with Professor Monday Godwin-Egbin of the Department of Crop and Soil Science as Vice Chairman.

A letter dated November 23, 2016 and personally signed by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Iale, which was obtained by a *UniPort Weekly* Correspondent, indicated that the Terms of Reference (ToR) included to: "maintain ethical standards in Scientific Investigations involving people, promote the dignity, rights and safety of the individuals so involved, review all proposals for planned investigations involving people, ensure that the proposed study is scientifically valid and justifiable and that the benefits outweigh any risk of inconvenience or harm." Other Terms of Reference include to: "take adequate steps to prevent physical and psychological harm, maintain privacy by ensuring confidentiality of all personal medical information, and obtain consent from people for investigations without bringing them under duress." The appointment takes immediate effect.

Other members of the Committee include: Deputy Provost, CHS, Professor Daye Seleye-Fubara, Associate Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Professor Samuel Arokoyu, Assistant Director, CEREMAD, Dr. Olufemi Adesope and Assistant Co-ordinators of Faculty Graduate Research Committees.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
WEATHER OBSERVATORY  
WEATHER FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND SURROUNDING AREAS  
FOR NOVEMBER 27 – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 03, 2016.

DATE	TEMPERATURE (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNBURN INDEX (000 - 999)	REMARKS
SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2016	34.8 34.4	41	WSW	1.6	0.25 - 0.70	Thunderstorm expected late with some clearing clouds.
MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2016	31.6 34.4	45	WSW	2.5	0.25 - 0.70	Thunderstorm expected late with some clearing clouds.
TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2016	32.6 34.4	50	WSW	-	0.25 - 0.70	Much clouds throughout.
WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2016	34.6 34.4	37	WSW	-	0.25 - 0.70	Much clouds throughout.
THURSDAY 01 DECEMBER 2016	34.6 34.4	56	WSW	-	0.25 - 0.70	Partly cloudy early day anticipated.
FRIDAY 02 DECEMBER 2016	34.6 34.4	59	WSW	2.1	0.25 - 0.70	Thunderstorm expected late accompanied with a partly sunny day.
SATURDAY 03 DECEMBER 2016	34.6 34.4	51	WSW	4.8	0.25 - 0.70	Thunderstorm expected late accompanied with a partly sunny day.

DR. V.E. WELI

AG. HOD.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY & ENV. MGT.

DR. PRINCE C. MMOM

AG. DIRECTOR

(COORDINATOR)

## Sandwich Students' Day

**C**lose to 3,000 Sandwich Students gathered at the Choba Park Campus to celebrate the Second Sandwich Students Cultural Day. The parade of cultures from across the states of Nigeria attracted masquerade and dance displays that delighted a huge audience that included Principal Officers of the University and other invited dignitaries. Our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU**, was on hand to capture scenes from the landmark event:



DV-C (Admin), Prof Anthony Ibe being welcomed by a flower girl



Dean, Faculty of Education, Prof Lawrence Igwe, welcoming Prof Ibe



Prof Samuel Nwidedulu, Igwe, Prof Ibe and President of Sandwich Students' Association, Mr. Orubu Inabietonye



Mr. Inabietonye, reading his welcome address



V-C's representative, Prof Ibe addressing the gathering, while Registrar, Mrs Dorcas Otto and Bursar Mrs Vitalis Aliezi watch



Dean, Prof Igwe, reading his address



Immediate past Director, Dr. Gospel Kpee addressing the gathering



The famous Piiru Cultural Group from Orliri



Cultural Group from Akwa Ibom State



Ag. Dean of S' Affairs, Dr. Olu Ekpenyong (arrowed) being led into the Arena by his Kinsmen from A'ibom State



Sandwich students presenting 201 items to V-C and other Principal Officers



Prof Ibe cutting the tape at the hostel project site



Prof Ibe laying the Sandwich Students' hostel foundation stone project