

UniPort Weekly

Vol. 31, Edition 309 January 9 - January 16, 2017

For Information and Enlightenment

ISSN: 1522-2225

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

Mgt Inspects Ongoing Hostel Renovation Work

...As V-C Tasks Contractors On Timely Projects Completion



Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, has expressed total dissatisfaction at the slow pace of ongoing renovation work in most of the hostels in the University, urging contractors handling the projects to intensify efforts aimed at their completion within the stipulated timeframe that was agreed upon by all parties, reports *Ethel Timi-Johnson*.

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Side Bar WELCOME BACK

We welcome our esteemed readers back from the Christmas and New Year break. Wishing you a prosperous 2017.

~Editor

Senate Expels 23 Students, Proscribes Faculty Presidents' Forum

By Otikor Samuel

Following their involvement in various acts of misconduct, ranging from proven membership of outlawed cult groups, brazen assault on a female lecturer and openly threatening law and order on Campus, the Senate of the University has summarily expelled 23 students to serve as a deterrent to other students.

Among those expelled were 12 former Faculty/College Presidents who were adjudged to have engaged in various acts of gross misconduct that were out of sync with terms of their admission as students of the University of Port Harcourt. The offending letter that conveyed the threat claimed that Management of the University did not 'consult' the Faculty Presidents before it implemented the Senate's directive of 'No Payment of Charges, No Marking of Examination Scripts' policy.

Senate also proscribed a non-statutory body known as Faculty/College Presidents' Forum for hijacking the functions of the elected Students' Union Executive and threatening in writing to mobilise faceless elements to unleash another mayhem on the University. It further directed that all Faculty Dues

• Approves Visitation Panel To Engineering

previously remitted to the coffers of the proscribed Faculty Presidents' Forum should henceforth be paid into the Students' Union Account.

The august body also expelled eight students who openly admitted to being members of two outlawed cult groups, namely, the Vikings and Black Axe confraternities. The apex academic policy-making body also expelled three others from the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies for assaulting a female Lecturer and disrupting a Congress Meeting of the Department.

The decision to expel the students was taken at the 426th Senate Meeting of the University held at the Senate Chambers on Wednesday, December 21, 2016. The action followed presentation of reports on Notification of Impending Breach of Peace within the University Community, Committee's Report on

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NIMN Confers Distinguished Service Award On Kalu

By Williams Wodi

The received wisdom is that everybody can buy and sell in the village square. Probe deeper and you begin to understand that Marketing is predicated on the concept of meeting customer needs through communication of goals of selling products and services. Communicating product value to customers is a key aspect of Marketing which thrives on the creation of an attractive business brand that lures customers to spend money. Management or exchange relations is at the centre of every marketing activity, while professional marketers think about business in terms of satisfying customer needs. This is both an art and a science that some people appear to take for granted.

Professor Sylva Kalu is a self-effacing professional marketer with a penchant for adding value to whatever he sets his hands on. He was among five eminent marketing professionals that were honoured with distinguished service awards by the Port Harcourt Chapter of the National Institute of Marketing of Nigeria (NIMN) at an elaborate Dinner/Award Night which held at Orian Hotel, Rumuodara, Port Harcourt on Friday, December 16, 2016.

To fully prepare himself for a glittering career in the business of creating values, Professor Kalu travelled to Beirut, Lebanon and Manila, the sprawling capital of the Philippines, from where he took degrees in Business Administration, Psychology, Management and Marketing.

Having acquired the requisite skills, Professor Kalu was ready to bestride the corridors of the academia



Prof Kalu (right) receiving his Service Award

like a colossus. On his return to Nigeria, the alluring city of Port Harcourt beckoned like a beautiful bride. He took the bait and landed at the University of Port Harcourt which was already running a thriving Business School that later transformed into the present Faculty of Management Sciences.

Between 2010 and 2014, Professor Kalu held sway as Dean of the Faculty and also served in various other capacities in the University, including as Acting Head of Department of Marketing. A Fellow of the National Institute of Marketing of Nigeria (FNIMN), Professor Kalu has authored over sixty articles in peer-reviewed journals in and outside Nigeria.

The NIMN, which was Chattered by Act No. 23 of 2003 regulates its members and provides them with requisite skills to practice; it also has a mandate to raise a highly skilled corporate membership to service the industry, partners government to achieve economic prosperity and ensures that consumers' rights are respected at all times. The Rivers State Chapter of NIMN was established in 1987 with Mr. ChidiNwankpa as its current President.

The award was in recognition of Professor Kalu's contributions to the marketing profession and support for the Port Harcourt Chapter of the body. It is a great motivation to start the year 2017 and we say congratulations to the marketing guru, ace

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, has commended the staff contingent that represented the University at the 12th edition of the Nigeria University Staff Sports Association (NUSSA) games hosted by the National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN).

The well-patronised fiesta took place between December 8 and 16, 2016 in Kaduna. The Vice-Chancellor commended them for toeing the path of honour which the University was known in sporting circles throughout the period of the games.

Receiving the contingent at the Governing Council Chambers on Monday, December 19, 2016, Professor Lale, praised the staff for doing exceptionally well in the events they participated in, expressing optimism that with the established profile of the University in sports, the contingent would have carted away several laurels if it was a scoring competition.

"Let me express the collective gratitude of the University to you for observing the values for which the University is known in sporting circles. I was informed that the organisers decided not to score

V-C Commends Staff Contingent To Varsity Games In Kaduna

By Otikor Samuel

the games to outsmart some of the institutions that fielded known mercenaries as their staff. I am happy that our University went there with only *bonafide* staff and I want you to continue to stick to our cherished value system, not minding what others may wish to do," the Vice-Chancellor admonished the staff athletes.

He urged the Sports Institute to devise proactive measures that would attract more staff to engage in regular exercises aimed at keeping fit, stating that staff would be more productive if they engaged in regular physical activities.

In their separate speeches before presenting a souvenir and certificate of participation to the Vice-

Chancellor, Director of the Sports Institute, Professor Ken Anugweje and Leader of the Contingent, Professor Johnson Okpako, expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for supporting staff to attend the games. They disclosed that the games were primarily aimed at promoting health and physical fitness among participants.

"Over 30 universities participated in the Games and the UniPort contingent did very well. We organised and conducted ourselves well in line with the known *Team UniPort* spirit. Though the Director of the Sports Institute did not go with us, we were in constant contact with him and I am pleased to report that the whole exercise went very well," Professor Okpako told the Vice-Chancellor. Games featured in the competition included football, swimming, basketball, badminton, chess, dart and volleyball. Others were scrabble, table tennis, swimming, golf and draught.



V-C, Prof Lale (arrowed) flanked by the contingent to the competition and some Senior Officers

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Speaking when he led a team of Management and Senior Officers of the University on an unscheduled on-the-spot assessment visit to the hostels last Wednesday, the Vice-Chancellor also frowned at what he described as poor supervision of the various project sites by the resident consultants, stressing the need for strict adherence to the terms of the contracts.

"Three things are required from contractors handling these projects. The first is for them to strictly adhere to the stipulated completion time; next is honest use of the right materials and lastly, adhering strictly to the agreement specified in each of the projects," Professor Ale stated. He warned that contractors who fail to deliver the jobs within the agreed timeframe and were found guilty of using substandard materials would be summarily blacklisted from doing business in the University.

Reiterating the need for dedicated boreholes to service the hostels on the completion of the massive renovation work, Professor Ale said that students resident in the hostels should, henceforth, be made to exhibit some degree of responsibility to ensure that the facilities were not vandalized. "We also want to provide cloth lines on each floor to discourage the distasteful practice of students spreading their clothes on the rails in front of each hostel. We want to ensure the comfort of our students, but at the same time not compromise the aesthetics of the buildings," the Vice-Chancellor remarked, directing the Department of Physical Planning and Development to also supervise the projects in a diligent manner to guarantee the delivery of quality job and timely completion to enable the students move into the hostels.

Disclosing that renovation work on the hostels

Mgt Inspects Ongoing Hostel Renovation Work

commenced on November 14, 2016, and was scheduled to have been completed within six weeks which elapsed on December 25, 2016, Deputy Director of the Department of Physical Planning and Development, Mr. Michael Ubom, recommended extension of the deadline by the University Management for completion of the projects, cleaning of hostels, furnishing and final handover of the projects. He also called for proper identification of each hostel and rooms, provision of signboards for easy identification of hostels and labelling of each floor and room.

Responding to questions on the sideline of the project sites, some of the contractors, including Williams Whyte of Beuvic International Limited, Ayo Atedi of Crisgabwill

Nigeria Limited and Catherine Tom-George of Mikwo Global Limited, promised to embark on the last lap of the projects, including cleaning of debris this week to make the hostels habitable for students.

Hostels currently under renovation included Goodluck Jonathan, OBJ Clinical I and 2, Claude Ake Blocks A and B, Nelson Mandela Blocks A, B, C and D, PG Hostel Blocks A, B, C. Others are Aminu Kano Blocks A and B and Clinical Hostel.



V-C, Prof Ale (centre) flanked by Bursar, Mr. Vitalis Aliezi, Director QAQC Unit, Prof Agbagwa (right) and DV-C (Admin) Prof Anthony Ibe (left) listening to explanation by one of the contractors while others look on

V-C Commissions IPS Graduate Hostel Named After Briggs

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

It was amidst encomiums, congratulatory and goodwill messages that the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Ale, commissioned a new hostel building along the East/West Road, dedicated to the use of postgraduate students of the Institute of Petroleum Studies. The new hostel is appropriately named after the 5th Vice-Chancellor of the University, Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs.

Performing the commissioning ceremony on Thursday, December 22, 2016, the Vice-Chancellor commended the Management of the Institute for its foresightedness in constructing and naming the hostel project after Emeritus Professor Briggs, who played a decisive role in the establishment of IPS in 2003 as Vice-Chancellor, describing him as a perfect example of sustained good leadership and worthy role model for the younger generation. Professor Ale lauded the current and past Directors of the Institute for providing quality leadership that had remained as a standard reference point in and outside the University.

"We are grateful to God for the life of Emeritus Professor Briggs and for the honour done him today through the naming of this hostel project after him. Everybody agrees that Emeritus Professor Briggs richly deserves to be so

honoured for the giant strides he recorded in office as our 5th Vice-Chancellor and the support he continues to give us since his retirement from the University. His chairmanship of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors has remained a reference point in that organisation and we just cannot thank him enough.

"We want to continue to benefit from his wealth of knowledge and experience for many more years to come and what is happening here today will further deepen his ties with the University as one of our advisers and a major source of inspiration," Professor Ale said at the commissioning ceremony. He also paid glowing tribute to the representative of IFP School, Mr. Francis Fusier for all his sacrifices in helping to steady the ship of IPS since its inception in 2003.

Disclosing that the idea of the hostel project was conceived and commenced in 2014, Director of the Institute, Professor Dulu Appah, described the initiative as a self-help project that attracted donations from staff and friends of the Institute, including Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs himself who graciously mobilised his friends and associates to support it.

"The building is designed to accommodate both male and female students enrolled into the Institute. It has Common and Laundry Rooms, amongst other facilities that would

guarantee the comfort of our students, in addition to adequate security arrangements in this location," he said, commending the Vice-Chancellor and other stakeholders for supporting the project, which he said was modelled after a similar one at the IFP School in Paris.

Praising the Institute and Management of the University for ensuring completion of the project and naming it after him, a visibly enthused Emeritus Professor Briggs, who served as 5th Vice-Chancellor between 2000 and 2005, lauded the Institute for insisting on completion of the projects within the stipulated timeline. "It is a generally acknowledged fact that the IPS is one of the major flagships of the University of Port Harcourt and can be described as a famous Institute that has brought huge benefits and new opportunities to the University," he stated, promising to always support the activities of the Institute. Emeritus Professor Briggs joined other speakers in appealing that the occupants be made to appreciate the need to put the facility to proper use with a good maintenance culture that would encourage the stakeholders to do more in future.

In his own contribution, 7th Vice-Chancellor and pioneer Director of the Institute, Professor Joseph Ajiinka, congratulated the Institute of Petroleum Studies for completing the project, hoping that the hostel would solve some of the logistic problems associated with accommodating students outside the University. He called for proper maintenance of the building and prompt completion of the second phase of the hostel projects to make room for more students of the Institute to study in a conducive environment.

In their goodwill messages, Chief Medical Director of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital, Professor Aaron Ojule, Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Professor Christie Mato, former Registrar, Dr. Chris Tamuno, Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Professor Henry Ugboma, former Aviation Minister, Alabo Tonye Graham-Douglas, Senator Bennet Birabi and Engineer Pedro Egbe, took turns to extol the sterling qualities of Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs.

They separately described the honoree as an outstanding medical educator and practitioner, astute administrator, mentor and great philanthropist, who touched many lives in his many years of distinguished public service career. Speaker after speaker congratulated Emeritus Professor Briggs for his exemplary conduct in public and private life, agreeing that the honour done him by the University was well-deserved.

Emeritus Professor Briggs was accompanied to the commissioning ceremony by his wife, Lady Data Briggs, one of his daughters, Boma, including other relations and friends. Also in attendance were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Anthony Ibe, Registrar, Mrs. Dorcas Otto, Bursar, Mr. Vitalis Aliezi, including a large delegation from the College of Health Sciences.



V-C, Prof Ale flanked by others guests cutting the tape to commission the new hostel

Newly-admitted students into the third batch of the two-year Diploma programme of the Faculty of Law domiciled in the College of Continuing Education (CCE), have been warned against involving themselves in acts that could jeopardise their primary aim of seeking admission to study in the University.

Dean of the Faculty, Professor Lucky Worika, who handed down the warning at a one-day Orientation exercise held on Friday, December 16, 2016, at the Centre for Gender and Conflict Studies Auditorium, University Park, informed the new intakes that the University would not hesitate to invoke relevant sections of its rules and regulations against any student whose conduct ran contrary to the extant policies of the Institution.

"We would not want to admit and train students who cannot defend their certificates on graduation or exhibit the character traits of lawyers. So, you need to invest your time very well to achieve your purpose of being here. Be on notice that this programme does not tolerate examination malpractices or other social vices. The authorities of the University will not hesitate to discipline any of you caught in acts that are adjudged unbecoming of law students," the Dean warned, urging them to take their studies seriously to justify their admission into the programme.

"We are not here to make life difficult for you. We are here to make life easy for you and that is why we are taking time to show you the right direction through this orientation exercise. We are, however, not going to undermine the standards to which relevant regulatory agencies want us to strictly adhere. In this University, every person knows who a Law student is. You are coming into a learned and respectable profession, so we have to set and maintain standards, starting from the ongoing Diploma to the main LL.B programme which shall commence soon," Professor Worika further told the students in his remarks.

Speaking on *Information on Registration and*

Law Faculty Ends Orientation For Diploma Students



A cross-section of the students. Inset: Law Lecturers after the exercise

By Otikor Samuel

Commencement of Lectures and Venue, Dr. Uzuazo Etemire pointed out that only duly registered students would be allowed to attend lectures. He further disclosed that the students would be introduced to the *Moot Court* to grasp practical knowledge of the legal profession.

Mrs. Ijeoma Mgbuehuruikwe, who spoke on dress code for lectures and other activities of the Faculty, warned the new students against improper dressing, describing proper dress code as a way of life in the legal profession from universities to the

Law School and even during practice. The Faculty Officer, Mrs. Nkechi Barinua, took the students through the payment and registration procedures.

Other speakers at the Orientation exercise included Dr. Mercy Oke-Chinda, who advised the students to carefully study their brochure to fully understand the programme, while Mr. Nelson Sobere spoke on grading of scores for continuous assessment and examinations. Patricia Gbobo, who stood in for Dr. Reuben Okonkwo, provided information on eligibility requirements for transition from the Diploma to LL.B programme.

The exercise also featured an interactive session with the students.

Towards A Prosperous New Year

By Humphrey Ogu

Every right-thinking human being looks forward to a Happy and Prosperous New Year at the end of the Christmas Holidays. It is rather an irony of fate that majority of those who earnestly crave for happiness and prosperity at the beginning of every new year never really fulfil such desires as they are usually trapped in the zone of mere wishes. Quite unfortunately, wishes alone don't just metamorphose into great achievements. It takes much more than mere wishes to translate a dream into reality as every successful person can testify.

Now that the much-talked-about 2017 is here at last, it

behoves everyone who plans to make the best of the New Year to know that 2017, like its precursors, came with opportunities and challenges and work towards actualising their dreams. This entails working hard and doing the right thing at the right time. There is no denying the fact that there are challenges and distractions that have the capacity to derail anyone from his or her dream. This is true of staff as it is of students, in the case of the University community.

Despite their usefulness, the social media—WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram constitute a veritable source of distraction for students. Apart from dissipating their energies on chatting on various social sites, some students expend their pocket money

on gambles such as NairaBets, NaijaBets, Bet9ja, WGB, and lately the MMM phenomenon that swept through the country like a hurricane. Some of these habits have been seen to be very addictive.

There are students whose ambition is to excel in their academics, graduate and contribute to the development of society. Others have neither ambition nor focus. Similarly, there are staff who are dedicated to their duties and those who treat official issues with levity. In all cases, these various categories, like other normal people, have been wishing themselves 'a Happy and Prosperous New Year'. This is tantamount to a pipedream. Funny enough, most students who don't take their studies seriously make frantic efforts to get the best results by hook or crook, especially through engaging in examination malpractices. In the same vein, it is ironical that most staff who show lackadaisical attitude towards their official duties expect the best rewards from the system.

The reality is that academic excellence is not attained by mere wishes. Or, does anyone know any students who ever excelled academically simply because it was his or her wish to attain such a feat? The kernel of this piece is that achieving a Happy and Prosperous New Year is a matter of choice, and it requires deliberate and sustained effort to achieve it.

The bottom line, therefore, is that it does not matter how unsuccessful one was in 2016; 2017 offers those privileged to be alive an opportunity to start on a clean slate and make the best of their lives without succumbing to a daily diet of mere wishes. In the final analysis, the key to achieving a Happy and Prosperous New Year lies in having a vision, staying focussed, maintaining the right lane, working hard, praying and doing the right thing at the right time. Everyone has the opportunity of achieving whatever he or she wants to achieve in 2017. As noted earlier, it's a matter of choice. Let's choose wisely!

Do have a Happy and Prosperous New Year, folks!



Children celebrating the festive season

HoD Pledges More Dev Initiatives For LCS

By Otikor Samuel

In furtherance of his resolve to transform the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies through partnership with relevant stakeholders, Acting Head of Department, Dr. Baridisi Isaac, has unveiled plans to attract more development to the Department this year.

Dr. Isaac made the disclosure while presenting Christmas packages to staff of the Department on Thursday, December 23, 2016, promising that his focus this year would be to consolidate on his achievements in 2016. Dr. Isaac further explained that on assumption of office, he made a personal decision to leave the Department better than he met it.

For instance, he sourced and distributed 50 bags of 25kg rice to staff of the Department and stakeholders at a well-attended End-of-Year Get-Together held at the Seminar Room which also featured presentation of various categories of awards to deserving staff of the Department.

"I assumed office on December 1, 2015 with a determination to serve the Department in which I took all my degrees in an honest manner. I resolved to face the daunting challenges I met on ground headlong," Dr. Isaac told our Correspondent.

The Acting Head of Department disclosed that he inherited a backlog of Graduate Students who had overstayed their residency period on their programmes as stipulated by Senate of the University. "Over 50 of about 200 of such deregistered graduate students besieged my office immediately I assumed office. By the time they explained themselves, it was obvious that part of the problems was systemic. Over 90% of them had finished their course work and awaiting external defense. So, they had a good case for which I approached the Vice-Chancellor for intervention. As we began 2016, Senate graciously announced 'amnesty' for the backlog of graduate students in that category," Dr. Isaac recounted, disclosing that he immediately availed the kind gesture of the Vice-Chancellor to invite External Examiners for the students.

"By our record, we have now harvested 16 PhDs and over 140 Masters' degree students. We will continue with the process for those who are yet to defend their Thesis. Between then and now, we had engaged two different External Examiners for the two options we offer in the Department and they had sat over seven times to clear the backlog," he added.

Dr. Isaac was then in the right frame of mind to set new targets for himself and tackle them without further delays. "I came up with a policy that you don't leave everything to the Management of the University. My Department has a strong Alumni network and I felt that we can depart from the traditional way of looking

for funding from within. So, I started thinking out of the box to get our Alumni and friends to identify with us. We took the networking campaign to parents and our students readily indicated interest in contributing to the growth of the Department," he revealed.

On whether the partnership with parents would not give room for cheap compromises in enforcing academic standards, the Acting Head of Department argued that "no parent was under compulsion to make contributions. They only felt a need to fill a gap and in any case, most of the students are top flight candidates who desire no special favour," Dr. Isaac said.

On academic development, the Acting HoD disclosed that: "We want to return the Department to what we met when the likes of Professor Kay Williamson and other scholars were on ground. We have keyed into the directive of Management to commence teaching on the first day of resumption and all the Lecturers are keeping to the new directive."

"The accreditation team from the National

Universities Commission was enthused with our facilities and the progress we have made so far. To attest to the enthusiasm the team showed about our programme, we did not receive any query during the Exit Meeting. This means that the Department is under steady growth and it is my hope that we would secure full accreditation," he said.

He was also enthused that the Department produced the local Branch Chairman of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) and the 2nd Vice-Chancellor of Ignatius Ajuru University of Education (IAUE), both under his watch.

"I strongly believe that 2017 will offer us yet another clean slate for growth. We are looking forward to a rousing homecoming of our products and I hope that the event would offer us unprecedented opportunity for growth in the Department," the Acting Head said.

He expressed appreciation to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale for his appointment as Acting HoD and for supporting him to succeed in office, adding that it would not have been possible to record such accomplishments without God.



Associate Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Dr. Desmond Nnete cutting the tape to unveil the bags of rice, while Prof Kingsley Owete, Ag HoD, LCS, Dr. Isaac (left) and others watch in admiration

FUT Minna Expels 700 Students For Low Academic Performance, Misconduct

Professor Musbau Akanji, Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology (FUT), Minna, says 700 students have been expelled for poor academic performance and bad behaviour in the 2015/2016 academic session.

He made the disclosure on Thursday during the 30th Matriculation ceremony of the University in Minna.

The institution matriculated 5,141 students for the 2016/ 2017 academic session. Professor Akanji said majority of the students were expelled due to low academic performance and anti-social behaviour.

According to him, the institution has cancelled awarding pass mark for first degree courses. "The score has been raised, most of those expelled cannot score above 1.5," he said. Professor Akanji said the university would reduce the high rate of failures recorded last year, adding that

tutorial lecturers from the Postgraduate School would be engaged to assist students.

"We have investigated high number of failures and have put in place structures to address such," he said.

The Vice-Chancellor, however, advised the matriculated students to be committed to their studies to achieve academic excellence. He enjoined the students to shun examination malpractice, cultism, theft, and illicit drug abuse, adding that the university had set up a Committee against Anti-Social activities to monitor students with anti-social behaviour. (NAN).

UniPort-UPTH Link Gate Now Open For Use

By Humphrey Ogu

The gate linking the University of Port Harcourt and the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH) has finally opened for use by staff to facilitate easy movement across the two institutions.

It would be recalled that the Management of UniPort and UPTH had at a meeting held on Friday, November 11, 2016, as published on page 7 of the November 28 to December 5, 2016 edition of *UniPort Weekly* agreed to open the gate with effect from January 1, 2017.

A letter signed by the Special Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Kingsley Wogwu, had stated that the gate would be accessible between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. daily, adding that only staff with valid identity cards from both institutions will be allowed to use the gate on presentation of official identity card to security personnel on duty.

The gate, it was gathered, will however remain open on a 24-hour basis to ambulances and vehicles conveying patients to and from the UPTH.

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Molestation of a Female Academic Staff by Students and Committee's Report on Cultism and Cult-related Activities, which were presented

on behalf of the Acting Dean of Student Affairs Department by one of the Associate Deans, Dr. Adedaramola Onyiaso. The session was presided over by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale in his capacity as Chairman of Senate.

Eight of the students expelled for belonging to the Vikings and Black Axe Confraternities are: Ototo Oyimesue Harvard (Department of Biochemistry), Tamunobubelebara Tom Benjamin (Department of Mathematics and Statistics), Oyam-Jaja Tamunoselegha

to ensuring that the rules for grading and presenting results were strictly adhered to in all cases. Senate also frowned at a situation in which External Examiners were allowed to encroach on its statutory powers as the only body mandated by law to approve results.

Senate also considered the proposed Academic Calendar for the 2016/2017 academic session which would be made public on resumption from the Christmas and New Year breaks.

The body further considered the report on the plagiarism

Year.

"Let me inform Senate that various accreditation teams were in the University to evaluate 35 programmes offered in the various departments. Though we are yet to receive the report on the exercise from the National Universities Commission, we got very positive comments during the various Exit Meetings that point to positive assessment. I will, therefore, be surprised if we don't have a huge number of our programmes securing accreditation because of our painstaking preparations for the exercise. I want to thank

Directors of Centres and Heads of Department. He thanked staff, students and other stakeholders for their support to his administration in the past year, soliciting more support in the New



Bobmanuel

Oyam-Jaja

Amua

Ototo

Ugeh

Okwusi

John



Osaro

Uzomba

Benjamin

Nwaonu

Sangha

Okpako

Chima

(Sociology), Bobmanuel Tamunosaki (Linguistics and Communication Studies). Others are: Ugeh Israel Edozie (Computer Science), Osaro Gift Obari (History and Diplomatic Studies), Fuayefika Biobele and Patrick Ogbob.

Senate could not confirm the status of one Fuayefika Biobele who claimed to be a student of the Department of Computer Science with 'Matriculation Number' as U2014/5570027. Similarly, it proved difficult to ascertain the status of Mr. Patrick Ogbob as a bona fide student of the University.

Also, three students of the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies: Amua Harcourt Ikechukwu, Manfred Gogo Okwusi and Matthew Onwuegbu were expelled for assaulting a female lecturer and disrupting a Congress Meeting of the Department.

The 12 former Faculty Presidents who were expelled are: Okpako Henry (Faculty of Science), Godson John (SSLT), Isaiah Ernest (Engineering), Folabi Yemi Ibrahim (Education), Umejuru Wheomachukwu (Agriculture), Chima Uzomba (Management Sciences), Chima Kingsley Onyenduzi (Social Sciences), Sangha Nuka David (Humanities), Amoo Ahmed Abiodun (Pharmacy), Nwaonu Bright (Dentistry), Opara Emmanuel (Clinical Sciences) and Jaja Great Loveday (Basic Medical Sciences).

Senate approved and ratified some results from the College of Health Sciences, Faculties of Agriculture, Education, Engineering, Humanities, Management Sciences, Science, Social Sciences and School of Graduate Studies.

The august body rejected some of the results for poor documentation and improper explanation of the prolonged delay in their submission for scrutiny. One of such cases of rejection of results which led to the approval given by Senate to set up a Visitation Panel was witnessed in the Faculty of Engineering where old results inexplicably resurfaced for approval on what Senate members described as unacceptable diet of excuses. When constituted, the panel would be mandated to scrutinise previously approved results from the Faculty with a view



Isaiah

Afolabi

Amoo

Opara

Jaja

staff of the University for rising to the occasion that took us so much time and resources," the Vice-Chancellor said, frowning at the unending internal wrangling in the Department of Fine Arts and Design which shamefully played out before the accreditation team.

"Despite parading many Professors, the Department of Fine Arts and Design put up a very negative attitude in the build-up to the exercise. What played out in that Department is shameful and embarrassing to the University," Professor Lale said. He also told Senate that the accreditation team recommended that the Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management which is currently domiciled in the Faculty of Management Sciences be transferred to the Faculty of Agriculture.

The Chairman also informed Senate that 44 academics were promoted to either Readers or full Professors in the last quarter of 2016, adding: "Contrary to unfounded speculations that I had decided never to promote deserving staff, I want to announce that my administration set a record in the history of this University with the promotion of 44 academics to the Professorial or Readership cadres. There are others on the waiting list and I have no intention of sitting on their promotion once all the due processes are completed."

"To ensure that we did the right thing at every stage, I sent the final assessment report to the Federal Ministry of Education for approval before announcing the newly-promoted academics. A Director from the Ministry also sat in during the Appointments and Promotions Committee Meeting. I wish to also state that there is nothing in the University Act that compels us to table all such promotions before the Governing Council before they gain the force of law."

Earlier, Senate had observed a Minute's Silence in honour of its departed members, Professor Edith Elenwo of the Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology. Her remains had since been laid to rest in her home town, Okporowo, Ogbakiri in Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State, while the remains of Professor Elijah Iyagba of the Department of Chemical Engineering would be laid to rest at Okrika next month.

The Chairman also reeled out names of newly-appointed

staff of the University for rising to the occasion that took us so much time and resources," the Vice-Chancellor said, frowning at the unending internal wrangling in the Department of Fine Arts and Design which shamefully played out before the accreditation team.

"Despite parading many Professors, the Department of Fine Arts and Design put up a very negative attitude in the build-up to the exercise. What played out in that Department is shameful and embarrassing to the University," Professor Lale said. He also told Senate that the accreditation team recommended that the Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management which is currently domiciled in the Faculty of Management Sciences be transferred to the Faculty of Agriculture.

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GUIDE POST

CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Professor Molar Ogunlape, Department of English Studies, Faculty of Humanities, to end her *Contract Appointment* on May 31, 2017.

Dr. Chijioke Reginald, offered a one-year *Contract Appointment* as *Lecturer I* in the Department of Management, Faculty of Management Sciences, effective on assumption of duty.

RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENT

Dr. Godwin Okon, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, granted a one-year *Renewal of Part-Time Teaching Appointment*, effective on January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

STUDY LEAVE

Mr. Ikosum Syder, Information and Communication Technology Centre, granted a 30-month *Study Leave with Pay* to enable him pursue a Confidential Secretary Course at the Staff Development Centre, Establishments, Training and Pensions Bureau, Office of the Head of Service, Government of Rivers State, effective November 14, 2016 to July 31, 2019.

RESUMPTION FROM LEAVE

Professor Michael Emeji, Department of Fine Arts and Design, Faculty of Humanities, resumed duty from *Annual Leave*, effective September 11, 2016.

Professor Marshall Enenajor, Department of Fine Arts and Design, Faculty of Humanities, resumed duty from *Annual Leave*, effective October 28, 2016.

Professor W. J. Okowa, Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, resumed duty from *Sabbatical Leave*, effective November 11, 2016.

Dr. Edward Ogheneovo, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Science, resumed duty from *Sabbatical Leave* at the Rivers State University of Science and Technology, effective November 2, 2016.

REDEPLOYMENT

Mrs. Gloria Osaro, Legal Unit, Senate Building, redeployed to the *Anti-Corruption, Transparency Monitoring Unit/Independent Corrupt Practice Commission (ICPC)* at the Basic Studies Complex. The redeployment takes immediate effect.

STOP PRESS

UniPort Now To Resume Jan 29

A new date has been fixed for resumption of full academic activities for the 2016/2017 academic session. The change in date followed a decision taken at a meeting of the Committee of Provost and Deans to appraise the state of ongoing rehabilitation of hostels and classroom.

The body in its 358th Extra-ordinary Meeting held on Thursday, January 5, 2017 has fixed Monday, January 30, 2017 for resumption of academic activities. A statement issued by the Registrar, Mrs. Dorcas Otto, a copy of which was obtained by *UniPort Weekly*, directed students to move into their halls of residence on Sunday, January 29.

"Having considered the level of work on the various renovation projects, the Committee on behalf of Senate of the University decided to move the resumption date for the 2016/2017 Academic Session to Sunday, 29th January, 2017, while lectures will commence on Monday, 30th January, 2017," the statement read in part.

It would be recalled that Senate had originally fixed Sunday, January 8, while lectures were to have commenced on Monday, January 9, 2017. An unscheduled inspection visit to the hostel rehabilitation sites revealed the magnitude of work that is yet to be completed, thus, necessitating the shift in resumption date.

UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT

APPROVED ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR 2016/2017 SESSION FOR FULL-TIME AND SANDWICH PROGRAMMES

FIRST SEMESTER

- 0.0 Monday, 12th December, 2016 - Friday, 6th January, 2017
Pre-resumption Registration for Fresh Students
- 1.0 Monday, 19th December, 2016
Registration of Returning Students Begins
- 2.0 Friday, 23rd December, 2016 - Sunday, 8th January, 2017
Christmas Break
- 3.0 Sunday, 29th January, 2017
Fresh and Returning Students Arrive
- 4.1 Monday, 30th January, 2016 - Friday, 7th April, 2017
 - (i) Lectures Begin for All Students (30th January, 2017)
 - (ii) Late Registration for All Students (End of Registration - 17th February, 2017)
 - (iii) Orientation for Fresh Students (22nd February, 2017)
 - (iv) Matriculation Ceremony (Tuesday, 14th March, 2017)
 - (v) Convocation Ceremony (Saturday, 25th March, 2017)
 - (vi) Easter Break (Friday, 14th April, 2017 - Monday, 17th April, 2017)
 - (vii) End of Lectures (7th April, 2017)
- 5.0 Monday, 10th April, 2017 - Friday, 14th April, 2017
Revision
- 6.0 Monday, 17th April, 2016 - Friday, 5th May, 2017 (3 weeks)
First Semester Examinations
- 7.0 Monday, 8th May, 2016 - Saturday, 20th May, 2017 (2 weeks)
First Semester Break
- 8.0 Wednesday, 24th May, 2017
Extra-ordinary Meeting of Senate to consider First Semester 2016/2017 Results

SECOND SEMESTER 2016/2017 SESSION

- 9.1 Sunday, 21st May, 2017
 - (i) All Students Arrive
 - (ii) SIWES (June 2017 - December 2017)
- 10.1 Monday, 22nd May, 2017 - Friday, 11th August, 2017 (12 weeks)
 - (i) Lectures Begin for All Students (22nd May, 2017)
 - (ii) End of Lectures (11th August, 2017)
- 11.0 Monday, 14th August, 2017 - Saturday, 19th August, 2017
Students Union Week: Cultural Activities/Students Union Election
- * The Senate of the University approved this Academic Calendar at its 426th Meeting (Extraordinary) held on Wednesday, 21st December, 2016, in the hope that the ongoing renovation of students hostels would be completed before 8th January, 2017. Please note that the resumption date may change in the event that the renovation work is not completed before Sunday, 8th January, 2017.
- 12.0 Monday, 21st August, 2017 - Friday, 25th August, 2017
Revision
- 13.0 Monday, 28th August, 2017 - Friday, 15th September, 2017 (3 Weeks)
Second Semester Examinations
- 14.0 Monday, 18th September, 2017 - Saturday, 7th October, 2017 (3 weeks)
2016/2017 Long Vacation (Full-Time Students)
- 15.0 Wednesday, 18th October, 2017
Extra-ordinary Meeting of Senate to consider Second Semester 2016/2017 Results

2017 SANDWICH PROGRAMME

- 1.1 Monday, 10th July, 2017 - Friday, 14th July, 2017
 - (i) Fresh and Returning Students Arrive (10th July, 2017)
 - (ii) Students Resume (contact with Student Affairs)
 - (iii) Registration of Fresh and Returning Students
 - (iv) Orientation for Fresh Students
- 2.1 Monday, 17th July, 2017 - Friday, 6th October, 2017 (12 Weeks)
 - (i) Lectures Begin for All Students (17th July, 2017)
 - (ii) End of Lectures (6th October, 2017)
- 3.0 Monday, 9th October, 2017 - Friday, 13th October, 2017
Revision
- 4.0 Monday, 16th October, 2017 - Friday, 20th October, 2017
Examinations for All Sandwich Students
- 5.0 Wednesday, 15th November, 2017
Extra-ordinary Meeting of Senate to consider Sandwich Programme 2017 Results

Professor Hakeem B. Fawehinmi
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

STOP PRESS

Chukueggu Heads Committee On Anti-Plagiarism

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, has appointed Professor Chinedu Chukueggu of the Department of Fine Arts and Design in the Faculty of Humanities as Chairman of the Special Committee on Anti-Plagiarism. The Letter conveying the appointment which was dated December 19, 2016 and personally signed by the Vice-Chancellor, stated that the appointment takes immediate effect and would last till further notice. The Committee is to receive and investigate allegations of plagiarism and plagiarism-related cases against students in the University, brief Senate on regular basis and submit investigation reports to the Vice-Chancellor. Other members of the Committee are: Professor Ikechukwu Agbagwa, Dr. Eucharia Nwaichi and Dr. Akuro Big-Alabo

Visit To Rivers Police Command

*The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, led a delegation of some Principal and Senior Officers of the University on a visit to the Rivers State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Francis Odesanya on Monday, October 17, 2016. Our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU** captured highlights of the event as shown below:*



V-C, Prof Ndowa Lale (right), DV-C (Academics), Prof Hakeem Fawehinmi (left), Registrar, Mrs. Dorcas Otto (behind) and others stepping into the premises of the R/S Police Headquarters at Moscow Road, Port Harcourt



V-C, Prof Lale (left) in a warm handshake with R/S Police Commissioner, Mr. Francis Odesanya



Prof Lale signing Police Visitors' notebook



A view of UniPort delegation in the Commissioner's Office



V-C, Prof Lale (left), CP, Mr. Odesanya (middle) and DSP in charge of Administration, Mr. Cyril Okoro



L-R: Deputy Superintendent (Administration), Mr. Cyril Okoro, Assistant Commissioner (Operations), Mr. Steven Hasso, Chief Security Officer, Lt. Col. Reginald Iguzo (rtd) and Police Public Relations Officer, Mr. Omoni Nnamdi (standing)



R-L: Registrar, Mrs. Dorcas Otto, Unis, Librarian, Dr. Susan Umecozor and Acting Dean, Student Affairs Dept, Dr. Otu Ekpenyong



Prof Lale reading his address, while DV-C (Acad), Prof Fawehinmi looks on



R/S Police Commissioner, Mr. Odesanya responding to V-C's address



Prof Fawehinmi (right) exchanging views with Mrs. Otto



Mr. Odesanya presenting a plaque to the V-C, while PPRO, Mr. Omoni Nnamdi watches



A group photograph of Principal, Senior Officers of the University, Police Commissioner and top officers of the R/S Police Command



V-C, some Principal and Senior Officers of the University departing from the Police H/Qtrs