

Council Pays Condolence Visit To Bayelsa Govt, Adokeme Family

By Sam Kpenu

The Governing Council of the University, has commiserated with the Government and people of Bayelsa State over the death of Chris Adokeme, who until his sudden demise was a member of the Governing Council of the University of Port Harcourt representing Convocation. He was also the National President of the University of Port Harcourt Alumni Association. The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council, Senator Andrew Uchendu, led other Council members and Principal Officers of the University to the Government House, Creek Haven, on Thursday, July 22, 2021. Speaking at the Government House, Senator Uchendu told the Governor that the delegation from the University was in Bayelsa



Gov. Diri (2nd left), Pro-Chancellor, Senator Uchendu, VC, Prof. Georgewill, As. Registrar, Mrs. James Tammara and As. Univ. Librarian, Dr. Oronko (right), Bureau, Dr. Agho (2nd left), officials of Bayelsa State Govt and other officers of the University

State to pay a condolence visit over the death of Chris Adokeme who until his death was a member of the Governing Council of the University, describing the late Adokeme as a brilliant personality who brought his wealth of experience to bear in the discharge of his duties. "The death of Barr Chris Adokeme is a huge and palpable loss to us. He made practical contributions to the deliberations of the Council; he was robust and articulate in his presentations. He was in the Committee saddled with the responsibility of electing the 9th Vice Chancellor and it was Adokeme who moved the motion that the report of the Joint Council and Senate Selection Board be accepted. He was detailed and transparent," the Pro-Chancellor said. Responding, the Executive Governor of Bayelsa State, Senator Douyi Diri showered praises on the University for the visit. "Let me on behalf of the prosperity government and the good people of the State welcome you all; the Governing Council and Management of Unique University to your own State, to condole with us over the demise of our own son and

brother, late (Barr) Chris Adokeme who was also one of you as a colleague.

"Our brother, late Chris Adokeme was a man of many parts, he was a lawyer, journalist and a business man, so we take solace in the fact that he has lived a good life and also impacted on society. No one expected that late Chris will no longer be with us at a time we needed his experience not only in the University of Port Harcourt even as a Government in Bayelsa State. Let me thank you all for this show of love and fraternity, we pray for God to grant us, the family and you as an institution the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss," the Governor said.

The Council members and Management staff who later visited the family members at the Old Commissioners' Quarters in Yenagoa were received by the wife of the deceased, Justice Doris Adokeme and his children.

Speaking at his home in Yenagoa, the Pro-Chancellor, Senator Uchendu, informed the family that they came to condole with the family over the demise of their father. He informed the family that the University would give the late Chris Adokeme a befitting burial, describing him as an Iroko tree that stood tall in the discharge of his duties as a Council member. He prayed God to grant his family the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

Responding on behalf of the family, his eldest daughter, Tubolayefa Gbohobo, extolled the sterling qualities of their father whom she described as a man of impeccable character. She said that the father always watched over the affairs of his family with pride and dignity, lamenting that his vacuum would be difficult to fill.

VC Tasks ASMEDA On UniPort Growth

By Otikor Samuel

As a way of encouraging all critical stakeholders to join his administration for the overall growth of the University, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Owunari Georgewill, has called on the Association of Specialist Medical Doctors in Academics (ASMEDA) to continue to contribute and do their best to make the University a better place. The Vice Chancellor made the clarion call when the leadership of ASMEDA paid him a courtesy visit in the Committee Room on Monday, August 9, 2021. Professor Georgewill thanked the Association for making a token presentation to him, stating that he was aware of the numerous challenges facing the body. He promised to address some of the challenges to enable members of the body perform optimally. Earlier, the President of ASMEDA, Dr Ologhaguo Adienbo, who described Professor

Georgewill as an ardent member of the body, expressed gratitude for the appointment of Professor Georgewill as the ninth Vice Chancellor of the University.

"As an association that you are one of the pillars, we find it necessary to visit you and

register our support for your administration. We are so grateful to God and happy with your appointment. We are here to wish you well and to assure you of our support. We will always stand by you and your administration because your success is our success," the President said.



VC, Prof. Georgewill (5th right), flanked by incoming DVC (Admin), Prof. Clifford Ofurum, former DVC (Acad), Prof. Hakeem Fawehinmi (left), incoming DVC (R&D), Prof. Siminialayi, ASMEDA President, Dr. Adienbo (right) and others

Nine Medics, Dental Surgeons Take Oath At 47th Induction

By Otikor Samuel

A total of nine medical doctors and dental surgeons trained in the College of Health Sciences, have been inducted into the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) at the 47th Induction ceremony held at the College Board Room, University Park, on Wednesday, August 11, 2021. They were five medical doctors and four dental surgeons.

Speaking before he administered the Physician's Oath on the inductees, the Registrar of the MDCN, represented by the Director of Medical Services in Rivers State, Dr Chijioke Mandah, charged the new inductees to go about their practice with utmost sense of professionalism.

"You cannot practise anywhere in the world without first of all passing through this ceremony after your

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Protecting the rights and improving the quality of life of children with neurological and developmental disorder were the focus of the 171st Inaugural Lecture delivered by Professor Angela Frank-Briggs at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium on Thursday, July 29, 2021. Delivering the Lecture entitled: "Accidents of Nature: Survival and Sequelae," Frank-Briggs, who is of the Department of Paediatric and Child Health, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, said her topic highlighted some accidents in the field of Paediatric Neurology and their consequences on survival.

"As we seek to attain sustainable development goals, in the spirit of universal health coverage, all affected children should be supported to improve their quality of life," Frank-Briggs, who is a Professor of Paediatric Neurology and Neuro-developmental Disorder recommended.

"A Paediatric or Child Neurologist is a doctor that diagnoses and manages diseases and disorders that affect the nervous system in children who are persons aged from birth to 18 years as



171st Inaugural

Frank-Briggs Makes Case For Children With Developmental Disorder

By Humphrey Ogu

defined by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of the 1989 and the Nigerian Child Rights Act," she explained. "As a Paediatric Neurologist, accidents of

nature that affect the nervous system, which is made up of the Central Nervous System (brain and spinal cord) and the Peripheral Nervous System (nerves) are my focus," the Inaugural Lecturer pointed out.

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Economics Dept
Marks 44th Anniversary



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Alumni Assoc
Visits VC



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Humanities Faculty
Hails VC



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Agric Econs Trains
Staff On Google Meet



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VC Promises To Support UPWA

PAGE 2

By Sam Kpenu

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Owunari Georgewill, has promised to work closely with the University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA) to enable it deliver on its core mandate of providing qualitative education to the Society. Professor Georgewill made the promise when the executives of the Association led by its President, Dr Udeme Georgewill, paid him a congratulatory visit in his office, on Friday, August 6, 2021.

The Vice Chancellor lauded the educational philosophies of the Association, describing UPWA as a critical partner in the business of shaping young minds. "The success of UPWA is important to me and I will work with you to ensure you deliver on your mandate," Professor Georgewill declared.

Professor Georgewill particularly applauded the effort of the President of the Association for embarking on sensitisation programme to drum up support from the women to the organisation, noting that such effort would yield positive results.

He expressed the hope that their visit would further strengthen the existing cordial relationship during his tenure as the Vice Chancellor, adding that he was deeply touched by their inspired and generous words of



VC, Prof Georgewill (centre), flanked by UPWA President, Dr Georgewill (left) and others

encouragement. He promised to serve with utmost sense of responsibility with an unswerving resolve to honour that trust. Speaking earlier, the leader of the delegation and President of UPWA, Dr Georgewill, said they were in his office to congratulate Professor Georgewill on his appointment as the new Vice Chancellor of the University.

"Allow me to convey, on behalf of UPWA, our warmest congratulations on your appointment. I am confident that you will successfully steer the Institution's ship to its desired destination," the President said. She was accompanied on the visit by the Executive members of the Association.

Econs Dept Launches Book To Mark 44th Anniversary

By Humphrey Ogu

It was a reunion of sorts for the Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, as Ex-students converged at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium on Thursday, July 9, 2021 to celebrate the 44 years of training quality manpower in Economics. The event which attracted guests from all walks of life, was used to launch a 268-page book entitled *Economics @ 44: The Synopsis*.

Welcoming guests to the event, Chairman, Local Organising Committee, Professor Okechuku Onuchuku, said that at 44, the Department has had 17 Heads of Department, out of two who are foreigners served as Directors.

He recalled that the first Nigerian Professor in the Department was Willie Okowa, who was appointed in 1995, adding that Professors Augustus Gbosi and Tamunopriye Agiobenebo were the next to join the Professorial rank in 2000, while the Department currently has 10 Professors and two Readers. "Given the positive growth trajectory of this great

Department, it became pertinent for us as staff and students to celebrate," he added.

In his remarks, the most Senior Professor in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Chairman, Elders Council in the Department of Economics, Willie Okowa, shared his experience as a Lecturer in the Department from when he was employed as Graduate Assistant till date. He expressed gladness for seeing at the event some of his former students, whom he had not seen for a very long time.

"We need to interact more with the political class to bridge the gap between what we teach in class and governance," he said, recalling that he taught the Rivers State Governor, Barrister Nyesom Wike, Political Economics of Development. He hinted that that could be the reason for his love for developmental project as Governor.

Distinguished Alumnus, Dr Alex Otti, was represented at the event by Hilary Okwu, while the Chairman, Emohua Local Government Area, Dr Chidi Lloyd, and his counterpart in Ahoada West Local Government Area, Mr Hope Ikiriko, were Special

Guests of Honour.

Fathers of the Day included Eze Igbo Upata III and Regent of Ekpeye Land, His Majesty, Dr Felix Otunwari, who endowed scholarship, covering payment of tuition for the best student in the Third Year. Other royal fathers and alumni of the Department were: His Majesty Eze Chima Okpara, Eze and Nye-Nwe-Ali Aluu, His Royal Highness (Sir) Nnodi Michael, Nye Udu Akpana Upata I and High Chief (Dr) Samuel Eshenake, Unuevworo (Prime Minister) of Ohorhe in Uvwie Kingdom of Delta State.

Other dignitaries were alumni and friends of the Department, drawn from government, industry and the academia, who contributed to the success of the event. The Acting Registrar, Mrs Joyce Tamuno, was represented at the event by Dr Celestina Johnson, while Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Professor Prince Mmom, was represented by immediate past Dean, Professor Kinikanwo Anele.

Also present at the event, which was the brainchild of the immediate past Head of Department, Professor Monday Robinson, were Professors and past Heads of the Department and colleagues from sister Departments and Universities.

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Dignitaries in a group photograph after the event

GUIDE POST

APPOINTMENT

Professor George Tasie, Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, appointed *Director, Ashgrove Academy*, effective July 19, 2021 to July 18, 2023.

Professor Grace Awujo, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Psychology, Faculty of Education, appointed *Chairman, Governing Board, University of Port Harcourt Demonstration Primary School (UDPS)*, effective July 19, 2021 to July 18, 2023.

Professor Oladimeji Akadiri, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Faculty of Dentistry, College of Health Sciences, appointed *Director, Centre for Medical Research and Training*, effective July 15, 2021 to July 14, 2023.

Dr Adekemi Alagah, Department of Management, Faculty of Management Sciences, appointed *Acting Director, Students' Industrial Work Experience Scheme*, effective July 19, 2021 to July 18, 2023.

Dr Chima Wokocha, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, appointed *Acting Dean, Student Affairs Department*, effective July 19, 2021 to July 18, 2023.

Professor Patrick Eghwudjakpor, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, re-appointed *Dean of the Faculty*, effective June 10, 2021 to June 9, 2023.

Professor Chinwe Onwuchekwa, Department of Radiology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, appointed *Head of Department*, effective August 6, 2021 to August 5, 2023.

Dr Uyoata Johnson, Department of Anaesthesiology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, appointed *Acting Head of the Department*, effective July 23, 2021 to July 22, 2023.

Dr Ndikauba Egesi, Department of Geology, Faculty of Science, appointed *Acting Head of the Department*, effective August 22, 2021 to August 23, 2023.

Dr Collins Wizer, Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences, appointed *Acting Head of the Department*. The two-year appointment which takes immediate effect, will terminate on July 29, 2023.

Professor Nna Johnson, Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Social Sciences, appointed *Coordinator, BSc Public Administration Programme*, effective July 30, 2021 to July 29, 2023.

Dr Geraldine Ndakwu, Department of Human Physiology, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, appointed *Coordinator, Department of Family Medicine*, effective July 2, 2021 to July 1, 2023.

SABBATICAL LEAVE

Professor Solomon Larinde, Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management, Faculty of Agriculture, proceeded on *Sabbatical Leave* to the University of Ilorin, Kwara State, effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

REDEPLOYMENT

Mr Henry Amadi, Procurement Unit redeployed to the Internal Audit Unit as *Assistant Chief Executive Officer (Audit)*, effective July 27, 2021.

Dr Barinaaziga Tegbee, Principal Accountant, redeployed to the Procurement Unit to oversee the Unit, effective July 27, 2021.

Agric Econs Trains Staff On Google Meet

By Otikor Samuel

Staff of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension in the Faculty of Agriculture can now effectively utilise the Google App in their android phones and laptops for optimal delivery of their services in the line of duty. This followed a step-down training for staff at the Virtual Laboratory of the Department.

Acting Head of the Department, Dr Mercy Ndubueze-Ogaraku, disclosed this in a report of the training made available to *UniPort News*. The step-down training followed an online training programme for nominees of all Departments in the University.

"Dr Clara Ifeanyi-Obi, who was the Departmental nominee to the training by the University, trained participants on how to enable a UniPort Google Account, schedule a Meet in Google Calendar, join a Google Meet and navigate through settings and the browser requirements for Google Meet and classroom. Participants were also trained on the netiquette to



Some of the participants after the training

observe in using online tools and the use of Google classroom to manage learning activities," the Acting Head of Department further revealed. She also disclosed that participants were trained on how to use WhatsApp Messenger on their laptop to facilitate easy access and downloading of information shared on WhatsApp. "Through the training, the capacity of teaching

staff in the Department has been further enhanced to key into the implementation of the approved online platform for teaching and learning in the University," she added, expressing gratitude to the Management, Faculty and the Department for the opportunity given the staff to gain more knowledge on the use of Google.

Hart Donates First Aid Kits To Student Union

By Sam Kpenu

The Acting Director, School of Basic Studies, Dr Josiah Hart, has donated First Aid kits worth hundreds of thousands of naira to the Students' Union of the University of Port Harcourt. The kits comprise First Aid Box, where medical supplies are kept. It is to be used to tackle emergency health challenges amongst the students in order to save lives.

Making the presentation at his office in Basic Studies Complex, on Wednesday, August 4, 2021, Dr Hart said, the donation was borne out of his genuine desire to help save lives of students in case of any emergency health challenges before being taken to the health centre or hospital.

"I feel it is imperative to assist the students meet their healthcare needs. It will be useful to them. As a teacher, I have seen some students that have attacks and other minor health crises. In most cases, no first aid kits

were available for use in handling such emergencies," Dr Hart stated.

Dr Hart urged the students to keep the First Aid kits in the official vehicle of the Students' Union and make it accessible to all students, promising that he would always be available to provide support to the Union as the need may arise.

Receiving the donation, the Student Union President, Gift Ubauike, expressed appreciation to Dr Hart for his kind gesture. He praised him for according top priority to the healthcare needs of the students, promising that the First Aid Box would be used judiciously for the purpose for which it was donated.

The First Aid Box contains lists of drugs and information on what they are used for, the dosages to enable the non-medical personnel administer first Aid when the need arises.



Dr. Hart (arrowed), handing over the box to Student Union leaders

Osarollo, Okodudu, Others Get ICAD Fellowship

By Otikor Samuel Humphrey Ogu



L - R: CSP Osarollo, Prof Abraham, Messrs Weleria and Ekeocha

About five staff of the University of Port Harcourt, were among the 20 persons inducted into the Fellowship and Professional Membership of the Institute of Corporate Administration (ICAD). The induction

took place at Aldgate Congress Hotel, Port Harcourt on Saturday, July 24, 2021.

Staff of the University who were inducted into the Institute include the Chief Security Officer, CSP Sunday Osarollo (rtd), immediate past President of the University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA), Dr Ezinneke Okodudu, Director, College of Continuing Education (CCE), Professor Nathaniel Abraham, Principal of the University Demonstration Secondary School, Mr Fidelis Weleria and Mr Tochukwu Ekeocha, who is an

administrative staff in the Department of Political and Administrative Studies.

Also inducted at the well-attended event was the President of Rivers State University Women Association (UWA), Mrs Uchenda Okogbule and Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information and Communication, Mrs Ibiwari Clapton-Ogolo. The event had the Vice Chancellor of Rivers State University, Professor Nlerum Okogbule in attendance.

Frank-Briggs Advocates Better Deal...

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Citing Article 23 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Frank-Briggs said: "Every child with disability should enjoy the best possible life in society. Governments should remove all obstacles for children with disabilities to become independent and participate actively in the community."

She called on government to implement the various instruments available to address disability and mitigate the challenges such children face, emphasising the need for government to put in place the appropriate legislation, provide special programmes, counselling centres, educational and maternal health interventions as measures to tackle the challenges.

Frank-Briggs, whose contributions to knowledge covers teaching, research and clinical services, noted that she had trained over 2000 medical students in the past 15 years and supervised postgraduate dissertations in Paediatric Neurology, adding that some of her former students are already lecturers in the Paediatric and Child Health.

"In research, I have contributed to knowledge



171st Inaugural Lecturer, Prof Frank-Briggs (arrowed) flanked by VC, Prof Georgewill (right) and others before the Lecture

with over 50 papers in local and international conferences, some of which have won international awards. I have published 10 chapters in books and 50 peer-reviewed journal articles," she added.

Speaking after the Lecture, Vice Chancellor, Professor Owunari Georgewill, who commended the Inaugural Lecturer for a well-delivered Lecture, said: "You will all agree with me that this

is a five-star performance by an erudite scholar who was able to hold the audience spellbound while delivering the Lecture." He noted that the Inaugural Lecturer has shown that everyone in society is directly or indirectly affected by the burden of developmental disorder in children. The Vice Chancellor stressed the need for all to support the advocacy for the improvement of quality of life of children with special needs.

Humanities Faculty Hails VC, Pledges Support

By Sam Kpenu



VC, Prof Georgewill (arrowed), flanked by Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Prof Owete (left) and senior academics in the Faculty

The leadership of the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Port Harcourt took out time to interact with the new Vice Chancellor, Professor Owunari Georgewill. The Faculty Congratulated Professor Georgewill on his election and subsequent assumption of office as the 9th Vice Chancellor of the University.

The leadership of the Faculty comprising the Dean, Heads of Department and Centre Directors, said the Faculty visited the Vice Chancellor to

congratulate him and offer their solidarity to him.

Speaking on behalf of the Faculty, the Dean, Professor Kingsley Owete, said that the visit was also to express the gratitude of the Faculty to Management of the University for the positive changes in which the Vice Chancellor brought on board within the first few days in office. The Dean promised that the Faculty would continue to give the Vice Chancellor the needed support to succeed in the assignment given to him. "We are also here to inform you that as the premier Faculty of the University, we are the first son and we are here to claim our rights as the first son and should be given our pride of place," the Dean said.

Responding, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Georgewill, reiterated the commitment of his administration to the development of the University. He thanked them for the visit and their encouraging words, appealing to staff and students to all join him to take the University to the desired place.

"I am committed to ensure peace and development of the University, but I cannot do it alone. I need your support because this is our University. Let's all come together because this is our University not my University," he said.

Highlights of the occasion included the presentation of a portrait of the Vice Chancellor by some senior Professors in the Faculty.

STOP PRESS

Neuroscience Society Confab

The University of Port Harcourt Chapter of Neuroscience Society of Nigeria, invites specialists and the University community to the 18th National Scientific Conference and Annual General Meeting of the Society with the theme: "Environmental Pollution and Brain Health in Nigeria." A statement dated 30th June, 2021 and signed by the Chairman, Local Organising Committee, Dr Chinnua Orish, disclosed that the opening ceremony will take place at the IPS Auditorium on Thursday, August 26 at 9:00am, while the closing session is slated for Saturday, 28 August, 2021.

Awotua-Efebo Heads Advisory C'ttee

Professor Ebi Awotua-Efebo of the Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology in the Faculty of Education, has been appointed Chairman, Vice Chancellor's Advisory Committee on University of Port

Harcourt-Wide Appointments. The Committee is to among other things consider and recommend to the Vice Chancellor individuals or groups of persons who are suitable for appointments. Other members of the Committee are Professors Onyewuchi Akaranta and Alice Nte. The Acting Registrar is expected to appoint a Secretary to the Committee. The appointment which takes immediate effect is until further notice.

Obah Chairs Campus Electricity Bill C'ttee

Deputy Bursar, Mr Godspower Obah, has been appointed Chairman, Campus Electricity Bill Committee. Other members of the Committee are Florence Munonye, Kingdom Cookey-Gam, Ejeyovwi Barrack-Anidi, Campaign Idongesit, Christopher Osaro and Emeka Opara. The Housing Officer, C.E. Amachree is to serve as the Secretary.

Nine Medics, Dental Surgeons Take Oath

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training. That makes the induction ceremony very important," the representative of the Council Registrar said.

Reading the Vice Chancellor's address, the incoming Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration), Professor Clifford Ofurum, charged the new medical doctors and dental surgeons to follow the shining examples of their teachers in the profession.

"My revered Doctors, the Oath you are about to take is not ordinary; it is only in the medical profession that such oath is administered among all disciplines because of the sacredness of human life you are trained to manage. Therefore, this *Hippocratic Oath* is a call to service. It is a call to shun all other considerations for service to humanity. It is a clarion call for national service, especially in this 21st Century world, afflicted by all manner of sicknesses and diseases such as the coronavirus pandemic that has continued to ravage and threaten humanity to its very foundation," the Vice Chancellor told the Inductees before the administration of the Oath.

In his welcome address, the outgoing Provost, College of Health Sciences, Professor Iyeopu Siminialayi showered praises on the Inductees, their parents, the leaderships and staff of the Faculties and Departments in the College for their sacrifices in the training of the medical and dental students. "Like their colleagues who were inducted before them, these doctors will be the first set whose internship will be managed by the Medical



A group photograph of Management Staff, leadership of the College and the Inductees

and Dental Council of Nigeria. They will be posted and paid by the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria," the incoming Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Development) said.

"These Medical Doctors and Dentists are part of a set who have endured the most adversity of any set of graduands we have ever produced. They began in the year of Ebola epidemic and are ending in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. They were asked to go home about three months to their final professional examinations and that forced break, compounded by the ASUU strike, lasted

about a year. For no fault of theirs, they have had to study medicine for eight years instead of six years. Despite these difficulties, I am proud to say that this set of students are the first ever to produce distinction performances in internal medicine and surgery," the outgoing Provost said.

He informed guests at the ceremony that the 47th Induction would be his last outing as Provost if the Governing Council confirms his election as Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Development).

I Need Your Support To Succeed, VC Tells Alumni

By Humphrey Ogu

Vice Chancellor, Professor Owunari Georgewill, has called on stakeholders of the University to work with him for the common goals of making the University more prosperous, stating that he needs the support of the Alumni to succeed. Professor Georgewill made the call when he received the Rivers State branch of the University of Port Harcourt Alumni Association at the Vice Chancellor's Committee Room on Tuesday, July 27, 2021.

"Let us work together. Alumni are major stakeholders in the University system, especially in fund-raising. I need your support to succeed as Vice Chancellor," he said, describing the relationship between the Association and the administration under his leadership as a family affair.

"It is a family affair because we all hold the certificate of UniPort. If the University ceases to exist, there will be no way to verify the authenticity of your certificates. So, everything we do should be for the common good of everyone and the University. On my part, I will be firm and fair to everyone," the Vice Chancellor stated.

Reiterating his willingness to work with all stakeholders to ensure the actualisation of his dream of making the University more prosperous as he stated in his Inaugural Address, the Vice Chancellor promised to do his best to reposition the University for excellence and make it one of the best in Nigeria and beyond. He urged the Association to expedite action on an ongoing digitisation project it embarked on for the University, adding that the project has witnessed undue delay.

Speaking earlier, Chairman, Rivers State Chapter of the Association, Mr Sam Woka, who congratulated Professor Georgewill on his

assumption of office as a substantive Vice Chancellor, said they were in the University to felicitate with one of their members, expressing hope that as the 9th Vice Chancellor, Professor Georgewill would tackle the challenges facing the University and the Association. He noted that Alumni members around the world are indicating interest in participating in the activities of the Association.

Woka, who identified security of lives and property as a crucial element in the development of society, disclosed the Association's plan to build lecture theatres and install closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras on the University Campus. "We shall resume our plan for the Annual Lecture and Dinner as soon as the remains of the late National President, Chris Adokeme, are laid to rest," he added.

Also speaking, Chairman, Board of Advisers in the Association, Dr Umor Omagile, who described the Vice Chancellor as a native of the University, observed that because the Vice Chancellor is a native of the University, his tenure would be characterised by success, without any student unrest or crises. He assured the Vice Chancellor that the Association will complete the digitisation project.

The highlight of the courtesy visit was the decoration of the Vice Chancellor with the Unique UniPort Muffler on behalf of the Association by Dr Chris Akani. The Association also presented a customised UniPort tie and a Plaque to their distinguished member and Vice Chancellor of the University.



VC, Prof Georgewill (centre), flanked by Chairman, R/S Chapter of Alumni Assoc, Mr Woka (left) and other members of the Association

Doctoral Candidate Donates To LCS

By Otikor Samuel



Prof Udouo (2nd left), receiving the item from the donor, Suoyo (right) while some Lecturers watch in admiration

A doctoral Candidate in the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Appah Kelvin Suoyo, has donated a brand-new Acer Projector to assist the Department in PowerPoint presentations for academic purposes.

Speaking before he presented the item to the Head of the Department, Professor Aniefiok Udouo, in his office, on Monday, July 19, 2021, Mr Suoyo disclosed that he made the donation to end the regime of manual presentation during Departmental Seminar series.

Receiving the Acer Projector, Professor

Udouo, expressed appreciation to the donor, noting that the item would be critical to the effective delivery of research component of the mandate of the University. "We are happy with this donation and this gesture will add in making your name visible in the history of the Department. Don't be tired of supporting us. This is your Department," the Head of Department told the donor. In his remark, Coordinator of the Departmental Graduate Studies Committee, Dr Clement Asadu, stated that the projector would be fully unveiled in the next Departmental Seminar. Former Head of the Department, Professor Christie Omego also showered praises on the donor.

Igwe Gets Commendation For Instituting CGRP BGS Prize

By Humphrey Ogu

Pioneer Director, Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals (CGRP) and former NLNG Chair of Gas Processing Engineering, Professor Godwin Igwe, has been commended for instituting a Prize for the Best Graduating Student at the Centre.

A Letter of Commendation, addressed to Professor Igwe which was signed by the immediate past Acting Registrar, Dr Dakoru Charles-Granville, and made available to *UniPort News* stated: "I write to acknowledge with gratitude the receipt of your offer of Professor Godwin Igwe Prize for the Best Graduating Student of the above Centre through the Acting Director of the Centre, Dr Ipeghan Otaraku and to inform you that the University has accepted the offer." Dr Charles-Granville further commended Professor Igwe, who is currently based in Newark, USA, for his philanthropic contribution of N1.5 million only towards educational development in Nigeria, especially, in the field of Gas, Refining and Petrochemical Engineering.

Meanwhile, Igwe, who is a Professor of Chemical Engineering, has been selected as a Co-Chair of the Oil and Gas Energy Working Group of the International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences (CAETS) Energy Committee for 2021 to 2022.



Prof Igwe

VC Charges Auditors On Professional Ethics

By Sam Kperu

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Owunari Georgewill, has called on Auditors in the country to be professional in the discharge of their duties. This, he said, is in line with the Federal Government's agenda to institutionalise

fiscal discipline, transparency, probity and accountability in the management of public funds.

Professor Georgewill gave the charge when Eddy Ette and Co, Chartered Accountants and Tax Practitioners, the University's

External Auditors visited him in his office to congratulate him on his appointment as the substantive Vice Chancellor of the University.

"You should carry out your exercise with due diligence to ascertain the true financial position. Do your job without fear or favour. It is only by so doing that we can control any institution's finances," Professor Georgewill said.

Speaking earlier, the Principal Partner of the Audit firm, Eddy Ette congratulated the Vice Chancellor on his appointment, describing his emergence as the will of God. He urged him to be a father to all by not discriminating.

He thanked the Vice Chancellor and his Management team for finding them worthy to carry out the assignment and pledged their readiness to accomplish the job satisfactorily within the stipulated time.



VC, Prof Georgewill (centre), flanked by Bursar, Dr Ayuwo (right), and the auditors

Corrigendum

On page 3 of our Vol 36, Edition 394, July 2021, we inadvertently referred to the Director of University of Port Harcourt Business School as Professor Ijeoma Okereke. The Director is actually Professor Emeka Okereke, while the Assistant Director is Professor Ijeoma Kalu. The mix up is highly regretted. Editor

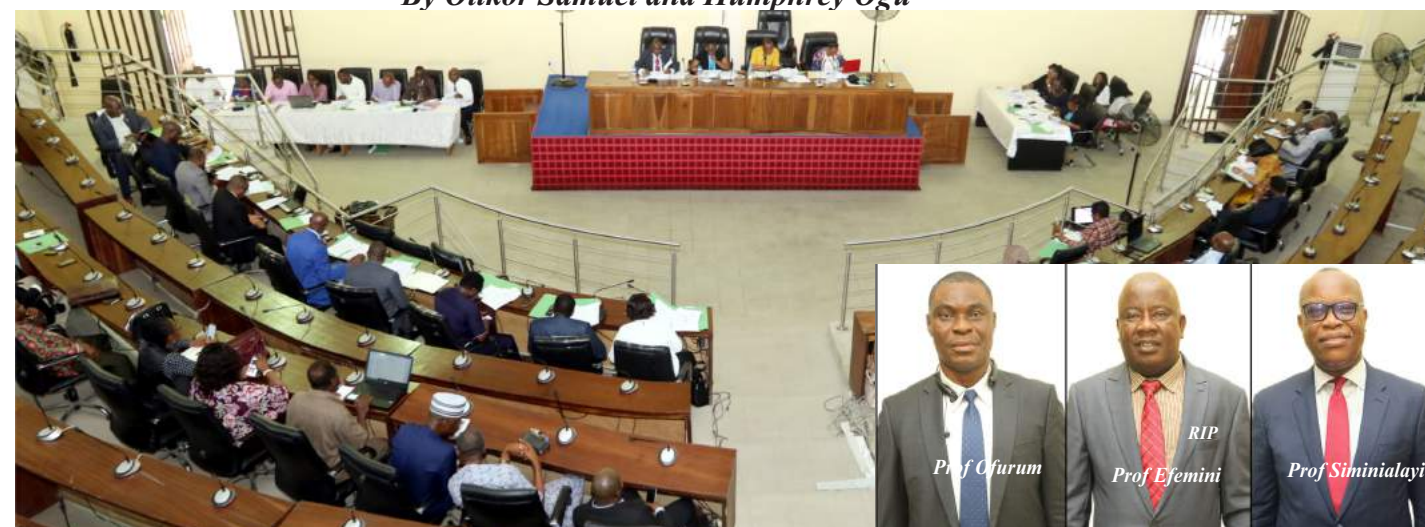
459th Senate Meeting

Ofurum, Efemini, Siminialayi Emerge DVCs Admin, Acad, R&D At 459th Senate Meeting

By Otikor Samuel and Humphrey Ogu

Senate of the University has elected three of its statutory members to serve the institution as Deputy Vice Chancellors in charge of Administration, Academic and Research and Development (R&D). The Deputy Vice Chancellors are: Professor Clifford Ofurum of the Department of Management, Faculty of Management Sciences for Administration, Professor Andrew Efemini of the Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities for Academic and Provost, College of Health Sciences, Professor Iyeopu Siminialayi for Research and Development. The election was the sole item for the 459th Meeting of Senate (Extraordinary) held at the Senate Chamber, University Park, on Wednesday, July 28, 2021.

The Vice Chancellor had in line with the enabling Act of the University nominated two statutory members of Senate for each of the positions, preparatory to the election by members of Senate. For the position of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration), Professors Clifford Ofurum and Chinedu



459th Senate in Session

Ogbuji were nominated by the Vice Chancellor. Before the poll, Professor Ogbuji stepped down for Professor Ofurum who scored 182. Professors Hope Kagbo and Sydney Aprioku also stepped down for Professors Efemini and Siminialayi, who polled 174 and 192, respectively.

Speaking earlier in his first outing as the Chairman of Senate following his new appointment as Vice Chancellor, Professor Owunari Georgewill, officially informed Senate of his assumption of office as the ninth Vice Chancellor. He expressed gratitude to the eighth Vice Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Ale and

immediate past Acting Vice Chancellor, Professor Stephen Okodudu for their efforts in repositioning the University for better service delivery, pledging to build on their success stories to move the University forward. He solicited the support of members of Senate to enable him succeed in office.

The Chairman of Senate announced some recent appointments including that of Professor Patrick Eghwudjakpor as Chairman of the Board of MacArthur Clinical Skills Laboratory (MCSL).

Again, Anugweje Heads Anti-Doping Commission

By Sam Kperu



Prof Anugweje

Again, the Athletics Federation of Nigeria, has appointed the Director, University of Port Harcourt Sports Institute, Professor Ken Anugweje as the Head of the Medical and Anti-Doping Commission of the Federation. The reappointment followed the embarrassing outing in which 10 Nigerian competitors consisting of track and field athletes were barred from competing at the ongoing Tokyo Olympic Games by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU). The AIU was founded by World Athletics in April 2017 to combat doping among athletes.

The Federation has taken this proactive step to avoid future occurrences by appointing Professor Ken Anugweje as the Head of the Medical and Anti-Doping Commission of the Federation. Tonobok Okowa, the President of the AFN, said in a statement he signed on behalf of the Federation. Professor Anugweje had earlier headed the AFN's Medical and Anti-Doping Commission during the administration of Solomon Ogba.

The athletes barred from competing at the Olympics are Ruth Usoro, Favour Ofili, Chioma Onyekwere, Annette Echikunwoke, Chidi Okezie,

Knowledge Omovoh, Rosemary Chukwuma, Glory Patrick, Yinka Ajayi and Tima Godless.

Although, the athletes did not test positive for any prohibited substances, but they were barred because their out-of-competition tests did not comply with the sample collection and analysis standards of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

The AFN President assured Nigerians that the Federation has put in place appropriate measures to comply with Rule 15 of the Anti-Doping Rules of World Athletics, explaining why the 10 athletes did not receive the clearance to compete at the game from the AIU.

"All our athletes resident in Nigeria who qualified for the Olympic Games completed the three mandatory tests. Most of our top athletes resident in the USA also completed their tests," Okowa said in the statement.

Meanwhile, Professor Ken Augweje has assured Nigerians that he would put in place appropriate measures to comply with Anti-Doping Rules of World Athletics body and promised to rewrite the unwanted records that has put the nation in bad light.