



## Brown, Odili, Laud V-C, Music HoD, On Appointment

Newly-appointed Artistes-in-Residence, King Sunny Brown and Chief Anthony Odili, have commended the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, for their appointment, promising to boost the capacity of the Department of Music to become a one-stop destination for training of students, especially in Highlife Music, report *Humphrey Ogu and Williams Wodi.*

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UNESCO, the Federal Ministry of Culture, Tourism and National Orientation and University of Port Harcourt for reappoints the Key Williamson, Chair of Cultural Heritage, Daily's Next Week -Editor



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## UniPort, German Embassy, To Partner On Language Studies

By Obinna Nwodin  
Authorities of the University of Port Harcourt have expressed willingness to partner the German Embassy in Nigeria to stimulate and enhance interest in German Studies. Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, made the assertion when he received the Attaché for Culture and Press in the German Embassy, Dr

Burkard Weth, at the Governing Council Chambers, last Tuesday. Represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, the Vice-Chancellor, who said that German, French, Spanish and English languages were major languages used for communication in the international arena these days, said that "Our University is well placed to interact with groups and countries

that offer these languages to promote better global understanding."

He said that the University can go beyond just language and cultural exchanges to have exchange programmes that would yield mutual benefits both to Nigeria and Germany and the University, in particular, adding that the University had valuable experience in running such partnerships. Professor Ajienka

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At 84 years of age, Founder, Global Academy for International Advancement and second Professor of Thinking worldwide, Professor William Maxwell, arrived the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, brimming with the satisfaction of a very accomplished grandfather, who is proud of his exploits in mentorship of the younger ones. Standing erect and strong as a six-inch concrete nail, Professor Maxwell shook the Vice-Chancellor's hand and surveyed his expansive office with zeal. The two correspondents in attendance suspected that there was something special, when the Vice-Chancellor offered to do the introduction himself. "Professor Maxwell was my teacher at Government Comprehensive Secondary School, Birkirkat, Port Harcourt about 42 years ago, when he was our Vice-Principal." Oh! The cat had finally been let out of the bag. A meeting between teacher and pupil is always a special moment that the pupil cherishes like the music of Mozart.

Maxwell took over from there. "Comprehensive was the first College to run the American Secondary School system in this part of the world. The students were very enthusiastic to learn and we taught them quite a lot in those days," the renowned educator disclosed, rolling out names of his students as if he met them only yesterday. He recalled many years ago when someone he had expected to play Nigerian music was bearing the music of Jenny Cash in his stereo. Nigerians must love Mr. Cash! So, Maxwell gave Professor Ajenika a Compact Disk containing the best recordings of the famous American artist.

On a more serious note, the Professor came to do the University a great and very historic favour. He came, he disclosed, to proclaim "The Genius Principle" for the first time. Harvard University, Maxwell said, lost the opportunity of being the ground for the proclamation of the theory.

Too eager to commence his lecture three days before the official scheduled date of Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2014, the erudite scholar, converted the Vice-Chancellor's office into a lecture hall. He disclosed that a typical child is born with an Intelligent Quotient (IQ) of about 200 point. It falls by 50 point per year normally, except where the parents do the right thing and keep it at that 200 point for the genius to blossom in the right environment. Words were tumbled out of his mouth like water out of a spigot.

The 84-year old Professor of Thinking told UniPort Weekly in an interview that IQ does not measure a child's ability to get along with his parents, which is a very important skill.

Professor Maxwell revealed that the Genius Principle has been evident for a long time, right under our noses, but unrecognised and unapplied by every government on planet earth. "All humans at conception are potential geniuses in some domains. Genius, however, is time-

# Maxwell Relives Days In PH



V-C, Prof Ajenika (right) and former teacher, Prof Maxwell

**By Mercy Adeniji and Williams Wodi**  
sensitive, environment-sensitive and merino-sensitive," Professor Maxwell said, explaining that we are all geniuses as we have about 100 billion brain cells, stating that we are capable of learning anything. He further disclosed that if we are not behaving like geniuses now, it is not genetic as research evidence has shown that genius is very delicate as it disappears sometimes for lack of proper cultivation.

He added that all cases of neurosis and psychosis are because of mistakes parents made before the children attained the age of three and half, citing Sigmund Freud, the father of Psychoanalysis, who stated that "if the world had intelligent government they would have instituted parents' education for all parents before they procreate, otherwise, they would have trained parents on how to raise children so that we would have no neurone neurosis".

Professor Maxwell said every child is a genius; we have to learn to find it in a child by developing the child, disclosing that the mind of a child is like a rich farm, where some plants grow and some do not. He advised that people should find the right seed and great things would come out, revealing that there has been thousands of studies that shows that when a child obeys the commandment "honour thy father and mother", that child is nearly always highly successful.

He noted that there are thousands of techniques or

corrective measures to correct a child, rather than give a child corporal punishment, which he described as effective in some countries such as Sweden and Norway, among other countries. Professor Maxwell appealed to parents to correct their children with love; instead of beating them up, a parent should correct the child with love, using such words as: "I love you, I would love you more, if you behave", which he described as a good psychology parents should adopt. He pointed out that there are some causes of low IQ which could be linked to stress, sickness, and hunger.

The Professor of Thinking attended Howard University in Washington, D.C.; Oregon State University; the University of California, Berkeley; the University of Maryland; Oxford University; and Harvard University, where he earned a Master's and a Doctorate degrees in education.

Speaking earlier during the courtesy visit, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenika recalled that Professor Maxwell taught him and other colleagues of his how to debate and put them on the right path. He thanked Professor Clifford Oram of the Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Sciences, for facilitating Professor Maxwell's trip to Nigeria.

Also present were Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Elibert Nduka, Bursar, Vitalis Aloré, Professors Oforin, Ikemere Fawehinmi and Director of Works, Mr. Ibiri Ibikun.

# Astronauts Demystify Big Bang Theory

Cont'd from last edition

The team then had to account for any observational biases. While the survey includes more than 100,000 asteroids, these are the brightest such objects in the sky. Asteroids that are smaller and less reflective are much harder to pick out, meaning that an asteroid map based on observations may unintentionally leave

out an entire 4 population of asteroids.

To avoid any bias in their mapping, the researchers determined that the survey must likely includes every asteroid down to a diameter of five kilometers. At this size limit, they were able to produce an accurate picture of the asteroid belt. The researchers grouped the asteroids by size and composition, and mapped them into distinct regions of the solar system where observed.

From their map, they observed that for large asteroids, the traditional pattern holds true. The further one gets from the sun, the colder the asteroids appear. But for smaller asteroids, this trend seems to break down. Those that look to have formed in warmer environments can be found not just close to the sun, but throughout the solar system and asteroids that resemble colder bodies beyond Jupiter can also be found in the inner asteroid belt, closer to Mars.

As the team writes in its paper, "the trickle of asteroids discovered in unexpected locations has turned into a river. We now see that all asteroid types exist in every region of the main belt."

The compositional diversity seen in this

new asteroid map may add weight to a theory of planetary migration called the Grand Tack Model. This model lays out a scenario in which Jupiter, within the first few million years of the solar system's creation, migrated as close to the sun as Mars is today. During its migration, Jupiter may have moved right through the asteroid belt, scattering its contents and repopulating it with asteroids from both the inner and outer solar system before moving back out to its current position—a picture that is very different from the traditional, static view of a solar system that formed and stayed essentially in place for the past 4.5 billion years.

\*Culled from The Guardian of Thursday, Feb. 6, 2014, p31

Concluded

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Colliding asteroids

Cont'd from p1

The duo, who were associates of celebrated King of Highlife Music, Cardinal Jim Rex Lawson of blessed memory, also expressed gratitude to the Head, Department of Music and the occupant, Rex Lawson Chair in Highlife Music, Professor Olaye Nwankpa, for recommending them for the appointment.

"By employing us, the University of Port Harcourt has made the world, particularly lovers of highlife music, to know that we are still alive and doing our thing. We are very grateful to the Vice-Chancellor and the HoD, Music for this appointment. We will justify the confidence reposed in us by making the Department a destination for Highlife Music," they said.

Recounting his experience with the late highlife maestro, Rex Lawson, 77-year-old Brown, who started music in the 1950s, said: "I and Rex Lawson schooled together; we were in the school band. We later went our separate ways and resided under the Paradise Dance Band, Paradise Hotel, Kano, where we went for an audition as trumpeters."

He recalled that it was the late Isaac Adaka Boro that saved him and Jim Lawson from being killed during the Nigerian Civil War, adding that he and Rex Lawson resided at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Commando Band, where they played for the army, under the command of the then Colonel Benjamin Adekunle in 1968. "Music gave me everything I have in this world," said the ace trumpeter.

In his own contribution, 85-year-old Odili, who formed Rex Lawson Memorial Band at the demise of the King of Highlife, recalled that he met the maestro at Nelly Orchestra, Nelly Hotel, Warri, in 1957.

Odili, who later formed The Wings-Soul and Dance Band, narrated what could be described as the story of Highlife music in Nigeria. He told *UniPort Weekly* how music took him and his colleagues to other parts of the country, the continent and London, where they spent over five months. "Music kept me alive, young and healthy," the famous Conga player said, disclosing that one of his sons plays the keyboard and conga exceptionally well.

## Brown, Odili, Laud V-C, Music HoD, On Appointment



HoD Music, Prof Nwankpa flanked by the Artists-in-Residence, Brown and Odili

The Artists-in-Residence, who still into the King of Highlife several decades after, bemoaned the quality of music produced by younger musicians in Nigeria today, stating that their music not only lack depth, focus and meaning, but also have negative impact on societal moral and norms.

"Most musicians singing in Nigeria today are in a hurry to make money. Their music have no message; they can't even compose good music. For us, we take time to look at the lyrics of the music we send out to the public. We guard against music that has the potential of corrupting the society, especially the youths," observed Brown and Odili, who still play at ages of 77 and 85, respectively.

Accompanied by their sons, Joshua King Sunny Brown, who plays the keyboard and drums and Precious Kpekot, a guitarist, the veteran musicians urged younger

musicians to be patient and work hard to see that their music enhanced cultural growth, rather than encourage moral debasement through lowly lyrics that make reference to women's bodies.

It would be recalled that on an assumption of office as Vice-Chancellor in July, 2010, Professor Ajienka promised to appoint Artists-in-Residence alongside Writers-in-Residence, who have since assumed office last year.

It would also be recalled that three international scholars, Dr Nubabisi Naamami of the Faculty of Music, University of Cambridge, UK, Professors Bryan Reynolds and Mark Levine of Departments of Drama and History, University of California, Irvine, USA, were in the University to carry out research on West African Highlife Music last September.

## NEC UniPort Partners FG On Migrant Education



Prof Ekeazu

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

of life of the migrant fisher folk. Disclosing that since 2011 the Centre sponsored by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), has been researching into factors that promote school drop-out among children of migrant fisher folk.

Professor Ekeazu identified lack of funding from the Federal Government to confine with teacher training as a major hindrance to realization of the laudable programmes envisioned by the Nomadic Education scheme. "This Centre was established to serve as a core teacher training unit for the National Commission for Nomadic Education (NCNE)," he said in addition to developing teaching and learning materials.

"Aside from the core mandates of the Centre which includes conducting research into the life patterns of migrant fisher folk in 21 states of the federation, training teachers, developing and reviewing materials for migrant fisher folk children education, NEC UniPort in collaboration with the NCNE successfully organized a Writers' and Critics' Workshop to develop pupils textbooks and teachers guide", he stressed.

The intention of the Federal Government, Ekeazu disclosed, was to ensure that this category of Nigerians were not left behind as a result of their peripatetic lifestyle, promising that the full impact of the scheme would be felt once sufficient funding was made available to run the Nomadic Education initiative.

In line with Federal Government's effort to provide relevant and functional education to nomadic groups in the country through the design, development periodic review and update of the national Nomadic Education Programme, the Nomadic Education Centre (NEC) in the University spearheaded a five-day workshop for review of the Curriculum Guides for the education of the children of migrant fisher folk.

Director of the Centre, Professor Benjamin Ekeazu, in an interview with *UniPort Weekly* last Thursday, disclosed that the purpose of the Workshop was to adapt the draft of a new national curriculum for basic education, recently developed by the Nigeria Educational Research and Development Council (NERDC) to the unique socio-cultural and economic pattern

## UniPort Doctor Wins Best Housemanship Award

In recognition of his outstanding performance and conduct during his Housemanship, a University of Port Harcourt trained medical doctor, Dr Emmanuel John, has won the Association of Resident Doctors (ARD), Best House Officer Award of the University of Uyo Teaching Hospital, Akwa Ibom State.

Briefing *UniPort Weekly* on the award last Thursday, the 2012 graduate of the Department of Medicine and Surgery, College of Health Sciences, said that "the award was based on some selection criteria which included quality of care given to patients, knowledge of medicine,

good work place attitude, team work and interpersonal relationship with colleagues and the general public."



Dr John

## Agric Faculty Mounts Staff Workshop

**A**s part of efforts aimed at re-positioning the Faculty of Agricultural to key into the agricultural transformation agenda of the Federal Government, a one-day sensitization workshop on enhancing performance in a teaching, research and entrepreneurial organization was organized for non-teaching

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

junior staff of the Faculty.

Addressing participants at the Workshop last Thursday, Director of Quality Assurance and Quality Control, Professor Tony Arinze, commended the Faculty for blazing the trail in



Prof Arinze (standing) and other participants at the Workshop

staff training and development, disclosing that the Faculty which started as an Institute of Agricultural Research has evolved into a full-fledged Faculty with international standards and best operational practices.

Dean of the Faculty, Professor Ekanem Wokoma who described the theme of the Workshop as timely, noted that the programme was aimed at streamlining the activities of the Faculty, giving the place of agriculture as the mainstay of successful economies around the world.

She noted that the Faculty was poised to key into the new transformation agenda of the Federal Government by ensuring food security in the country through research, training and community extension services. "At the end of the workshop, I want you to see yourselves as stakeholders in the agricultural business", she advised participants.

Papers on how attitude affects job performance and service delivery, responsibility of stakeholders in teaching, research and extension and the role of staff in optimizing profit in agricultural business were presented by Junior Staff Officer, Mrs Elizabeth Ndolokho, Pioneer Dean of the Faculty, Professor Ndawa Lale and Dr Emmanuel Nwokolo of the University of Port Harcourt Business School.

## Senate Approves INM, Sets Up C'ttee To Review Collegiate System

**T**he Senate of the University of Port Harcourt has approved establishment of an Institute of Natural Medicine (INM). When fully operational, the Institute is to be coordinated by the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

This decision was taken at the 396<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Senate held at the Senate Chambers, last Wednesday. Presenting the proposal on the floor of Senate, Director, Local Affiliations, Professor Inobong Udolom, said that the proposed Institute, amongst other functions, would provide operational structure for collaborations that would offer opportunity for the University to be involved in training, developing, guiding and certifying traditional medicine practitioners and professionals in the science and art of herbal medicine, as well as serve as a centre for documenting, systematizing and rationalizing the use of African traditional medicine for tackling emergent diseases that seem to defy orthodox treatment.

Senate also set up a broad Committee that comprised the Committee of Provosts and Deans, Internal Members of the University Governing Council, the Committee on the evaluation of the performance of the Collegiate System chaired by Professor Enurie Akpokodje, Professors Osaretin Odia of the College of Health Sciences and Vincent Idemisor of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, to look at the proposals by the Faculties of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences to transform into colleges.

Chairman of Senate, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who said the Committee was expected to submit its report before the next Senate meeting, stated that the Committee would also look at the cost and efficiency of the Collegiate system, adding that "we need to know what we want; what will improve the academic culture and deepen it. Let me repeat for the umpteenth time that I am not forcing any Faculty to go the collegiate way. We are simply responding to submissions from the various Faculties to transform into Colleges."

Senate also approved the Second Batch of graduates of the Centre for Nuclear Engineering, bringing the total number of Nuclear Engineers graduated by the University

By Obinna Nwodin

to thirteen. Senate also took on a presentation on online registration by the Director of Information Communications Technology Centre (ICTC), Professor Anthony Ibe. He informed Senate that every student is required to register on-line and that at the close of registration, the ICTC will download the list of duly registered students and that it was only those, who are duly registered that will be allowed to sit for examinations as bona fide students of the University.

Senate also considered and approved results from the Faculty of Humanities, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Management Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, College of Health Sciences, as well as College of Graduate Studies.

Various requests for approval to temporarily withdraw from academic sessions and request to

write examinations as first attempt, including applications to resume classes, were considered. Senate considered and approved appointment of External Examiners for various Departments.

The Vice-Chancellor also announced the emergence of Professor Minapuye Siminlayi as the new Dean of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences and Professor Lawrence Igwe as Dean of the Faculty of Education.

Senate also deliberated on the report of the Ad-hoc Committee on Guidelines for Inaugural and Valedictory Lectures, which was presented at the last Senate meeting.

Earlier, Senate had entertained a presentation by Dr Maigida Abdulrahman of the Faculty of Education on Convention of Controversy: Establishment Date of the University of Port Harcourt which resulted in a resolution to adopt 1975 as the year of establishment of the Institution, as against 1977, the year in which the University College finally transformed into a full fledged University.



Senate in Session

Barely three months after parents of Boards involved in an emergency meeting to contribute towards the purchase of a electricity generating plant to power the boarding houses to create an enabling environment for their wards at the University Demonstration Secondary School (UDSS), the item has been purchased and commissioned penultimate Saturday after the annual Inter-House Meet. The event preceded the mid-term break of the School.

Speaking before cutting the tape to unveil the 60KVA sound-proof generating plant, former Chairman, Board of Governors of the School, Professor Johnny Otaigbe, who described the purchase of the plant as a landmark achievement, lauded the parents and Management of the School for the lofty idea of providing comfort for academic activities to flourish in UDSS. Earlier, the Principal, Mr Ogechi Anzle, had thanked the parents for not only welcoming the idea when it was mooted and discussing same at an emergency meeting last November, but also for responding promptly to ensure its prompt realization. He expressed satisfaction that the dream to install a befitting power generating plant had finally come true.

"The initiative was informed by the fact that the School wanted a solution to incessant power interruption. We are grateful to the parents for responding promptly to tackle the problem of electricity supply," pointing out that the plant will provide power to the dormitories and offices. He specifically praised Chairman of the Parent-Teacher Association, Mr Jones Ayawa for mobilizing parents to realize the vision laudable vision.

## Parents Donate Power Plant To UDSS

By Otiok Samuel

Representative of parents on the Committee that purchased the equipment, Dr Nath Ojekado, also eulogized the Principal for giving them the free hand to

serve, leading to the purchase of a 60KVA as against the original intention of 40KVA. According to the Committee members, the new arrangement was embraced when they realized that the money generated was enough for a 60KVA power plant.



Immediate Past Chairman, UDSS Board of Governors, Prof Otaigbe (front) Chairman, PTA, Mr Ayawa and Principal, Mr Ogechi (behind)

## V-C Tasks SSANU On Institutional Growth

By Obinna Nwodin

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has advised members of the University of Port Harcourt branch of the Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SSANU), to make useful suggestions on how to improve the welfare of staff and enhance the development of the Institution.

Professor Ajienka gave the advice during a meeting with the Executive Committee of the Union in his office, last Thursday.

Professor Ajienka said that to forge ahead, it would be necessary to have regular meetings between Management and officials of the

unions, noting that his administration was open to such meetings which would afford both parties the opportunity to rub minds for the progress of the University.

He told them that the ASUU strike that lasted for nearly six months affected the revenue from the non-NUC funded programmes which resulted in the inability of the authorities to pay the 13<sup>th</sup> month salary which was earlier promised.

The Vice-Chancellor disclosed that a Committee, which would comprise representatives of the Unions, would be set up to implement the 13<sup>th</sup> month salary bonus. "I would like you and other unions to be part of the implementation. The Committee would be able to tell us what has been accumulated from the programmes and ensure that the package is implemented to reach every staff in the University," he stated.

Reacting to the issue of staff accommodation, Professor Ajienka stressed the need to woo estate developers to develop property in the Institution, pointing out that the University would be willing to cooperate with such investors.

On conversion exercise for staff who acquired the requisite qualifications, the Vice-Chancellor said that the issue has been brought to the notice of the Registry Department, assuring them that the exercise would soon be conducted. He, however, advised qualified staff to endeavour to apply for positions whenever internal and external vacancies were advertised.

Speaking on the issue of accommodation, he said that the Governing Council was trying to set up a property company to see how the problem can be addressed, stressing that Management would welcome useful suggestions on how to improve the situation.

Earlier in his address, Chairman of the Union, Mr Bikume Syder, said that the meeting was necessitated by the need to clarify issues that bordered on the welfare of its members, noting that as representatives of staff, the Executive Committee was under bond to seek their welfare and interest.

Mr Syder enumerated a number of problems that bothered staff which included: non payment of the 13<sup>th</sup> month salary for 2013, payment of over-time claim for staff, conversion exercise, staff accommodation, career structure, as well as the sudden retirement of Mr Morgan Achi of Bursary Department.



Prof Ajienka

Mr Syder

## V-C Inaugurates C'ttee On Staff Quarters Renovation

By Humphrey Ogu

Following the expiration of the tenure of the Professor Francis Sikoki-led Taskforce on the Renovation and Rehabilitation of Staff Quarters, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has set up another Taskforce to continue overseeing the renovation and rehabilitation of the quarters.

Speaking through the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ekechere Ndaka, the Vice-Chancellor expressed joy that the outgoing Committee made some efforts and recorded modest achievements, urging the incoming Taskforce to improve on the achievement of its predecessor. "The course of this committee is to execute projects, without spending much," the Vice-Chancellor told them.

Also speaking, Chairman of the outgoing Committee, Professor Sikoki, enumerated the purpose of the Taskforce and its achievement so far, expressing hope that his successors will not only continue from where he stopped, but would also do better he achieved in his tenure.

Responding, new Chairman of the Taskforce, Dr Friday Nwadike, expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for finding them worthy of taking on the service, pledging the Committee's commitment to do its best to fulfil the purpose for which they were appointed.

Other members of the incoming Taskforce include Messrs Sunny Orakwona, Ekiyio Kowamini, Sunday Ajienkwo, Ezebaraha Michael, Amakoh Chukwura, Mrs Anina Musa and Housing Officer, Mr Oshondamu Samuel.



Dr C (Admin), Prof Ndaka (6th right) flanked by Prof Sikoki (left), Nwadike (right) and other staff

# UniPort, German Embassy, To Partner On Language Studies



D/Cs (Admin), Prof Ndaka (5<sup>th</sup> right), Academic, Prof Joe and R&D, Prof Willie Abbey (3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> right), Dr Weth (4<sup>th</sup> right) and others

## Cont'd from p1

expressed hope that the visit would mark the beginning of a fruitful interaction between UniPort and the German Embassy.

In his speech, the German Attaché, Dr Weth, expressed pleasure that the University offered German language as a discipline, noting that the language is important in many respects, particularly in international diplomacy and scientific research.

The Envoy, who observed that political and cultural realities between Germany and Nigeria

are developing very well, pledged to encourage German language studies in the University. He said that the Embassy would be interested in equipping the University library with books that would enhance the study of the language, adding that authorities of the University should keep the Embassy informed about current developments.

"As far as collaboration is concerned, we should think about university partnership. We will support you as much as we can," he stated.

Also speaking, facilitator of the visit, Dr. Aloysius Orjinta, who described the University as properly

equipped to offer German Studies and International Relations at the Doctorate level, enumerated steps taken to develop the programme in other sister institutions, including the University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

In their separate speeches, former Associate Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Professor Aho Akakuru and Professor Boniface Nwige of the Department of Philosophy, said that the visit was an opportunity to reinvent German studies in the University, noting that it would help train better students in the discipline.

# Stakeholders Brainstorm On Second Strategic Plan

By Mercy Adeniji

Stakeholders in the University gathered at the Emmanuel Egbagha Auditorium of the Emerald Energy Institute to deliberate on a new path to take the University forward for the next five years. This was the main focus of a one-day sensitization workshop organised by the University of Port Harcourt Foundation, penultimate Tuesday.

Declaring open the event, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, expressed gratitude to the organizers of the sensitization workshop, stating that the Strategic Plan is very important to the growth of the University. Welcoming participants to the event, Professor Ajenka, disclosed that the building is an example of what can be achieved if we all come together and talk to people, who would be willing to partner the University and endorse more Professorial Chairs to enable the Faculties and Departments engage in more quality research.

He recalled that when he took over in 2010, he directed a review of the first Strategic Plan document, revealing that at the level of Council, plans are on to improve the financial sustainability of the University as a major task.

"We must think ahead as a University and find solutions to our problems. As a University, we are meant to be consultants to industries and government, so we should also be able to solve their own problems. Again, part of the Strategic Plan is to set up a University of Port Harcourt Foundation to secure the finances of the University and today, the Foundation is fully operational. We now have to develop a Strategic Plan for the next five years, 2014-2019," Professor Ajenka stated.

The Vice-Chancellor said: "I will like to leave you with the following thought; two Faculties have decided to form a College. It is gradually becoming clear that many Faculties now want to go the Collegiate way, but we are worried about the cost and the bureaucracy of running a Collegiate system, so from the Strategic Plan, we should think of how best to manage and minimise the cost.

"How we manage cost is a challenge as we increase our bureaucracy, since we all want to go in that direction. It means the Colleges would now become centres for generating funds for the University, as the Provost of the College would not interfere with anything academics. The Provost would join me and the Director

of UPF to source funds to run the Colleges. You would also have some financial autonomy, prepare your budget, run your account and also purchase whatever you want in your College," the Vice-Chancellor said.

In her welcome address, Acting Executive Director, University of Port Harcourt Foundation, Dr Ngudi Odu, commended stakeholders of the University for finding time out of their busy schedules to participate in the event. "We are very excited to have your esteemed presence. A philosopher once said that team work makes ordinary people do extra ordinary things. We believe that today, as we work as a team, we would make something out of this that would benefit the University," she noted.

Giving a brief overview of the Strategic Plan, Professor Mark Anikpo recalled that the first Plan was produced in 2003, for a period of 10 years and it elapsed in 2013, disclosing that best practice requires that there should be a mid-term review which emanated from three earlier documents, which were the Report of the Think Tank Committee chaired by Late Professor Chiboka, Blue Print Committee and the Report of Revenue Generation chaired by him.

Professor Anikpo added that in the course of the report, the Committee had made some significant findings, which showed that at the implementation level of the original Plan, it showed that fifty per cent of the expenditure of the plan was not implemented at the time of the review, disclosing that a Strategic Plan process must involve people, who must be ready and willing to contribute to the process.

Professor Anikpo described Strategic Plan as a collective responsibility of the entire University as everyone is expected to be involved in the implementation process, noting that the idea of raising a Strategic Plan is all about succeeding. "A well-written Strategic Plan will describe clearly how anyone can tell whether the organisation is successful or not. The plan may measure intended future outcomes, either qualitatively or quantitatively, but it always defines threshold criteria of achieving success," he said, suggesting that there should be some monitoring for implementing the Plan, since the Committee discovered a lot of deficiencies in the last plan as these in monitor it were not there. He expressed optimism that the Committee would come up with a very realistic document.



V/C, Prof Ajenka (1<sup>st</sup> right front row) flanked by D/C (R&D), Prof Willie Abbey, Prof Anikpo (left) and Dr Odu, Prof Ndaka and others

# GUIDEPOST

## APPOINTMENT

**Dr. S.O. Nwagwu**, Centre for Sandwich and Skills Acquisition Programmes, appointed *Director* of the Centre, effective 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

**Dr. O. Okorie**, Department of Pharmaceuticals and Pharmaceutical Technology, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, appointed *Coordinator* of the Department, effective 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

**Dr. M.O. Adenbo**, Department of Human Physiology, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, re-appointed *Coordinator*, Bio-Medical Technology Programme of the School of Science Laboratory Technology, effective 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

**Dr. C.J. Ogburne**, Department of Microbiology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, re-appointed *Coordinator*, Microbiology Technology Programme of the School of Science Laboratory Technology, effective 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

**Dr. G.J. Monaghe**, Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, re-appointed *Coordinator*, Biochemistry/Chemistry Technology Programme of the School of Science Laboratory Technology, effective 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

**Dr. G.J. Udum**, Department of Geology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, re-appointed *Coordinator*, Geology and Mining Technology Programme of the School of Science Laboratory Technology, effective 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

**Dr. C.N. Ehirim**, Department of Physics, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, re-appointed *Coordinator*, Physics Electronic/Production Technology Programme of the School of Science Laboratory Technology, effective 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

**Dr. B.S. Kingioma**, Department of Petroleum and Gas Engineering, College of Engineering, re-appointed *Coordinator*, Industrial Chemistry/Petroleum Technology Programme of the School of Science Laboratory Technology, effective 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

**Chief Anthony Odili**, appointed *Artiste-in-Residence* at the Adam Fikereima School of Music, effective 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2014.

**King Sunny Brown**, appointed *Artiste-in-Residence* at the Adam Fikereima School of Music, effective 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.

## STUDY LEAVE

**Mrs. Charity Okpara**, Department of English Studies, Faculty of Humanities, granted eighteen months *Study Leave* with Pay to enable her pursue a Master's Degree Programme at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls, United States of America, effective 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2014.

## DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT WEATHER OBSERVATORY

FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 02-SATURDAY, MARCH 08, 2014

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI (°C)	TEMPERATURE LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SET (mm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY 02 MAR 2014	34.8	25.8	62	NE	21.4	6:40-6:45	Heavy rain predicted. Mostly cloudy and hot day forecasted.
MONDAY, 03 MAR 2014	33.8	26.8	60	NE	4.2	6:40-6:45	Thunder storm expected with occurrence of broken clouds. Day expected being warm.
TUESDAY 04 MAR 2014	33.8	25.8	67	E	7.7	6:43-6:45	A few thunder storms expected. Partly sunny and warm day forecasted.
WEDNESDAY 05 MAR 2014	31.8	25.8	66	E	8.6	6:42-6:45	A few thunder storms expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day expected.
THURSDAY 06 MAR 2014	32.8	25.8	63	N	-	6:42-6:45	Partly sunny and warm day forecasted.
FRIDAY 07 MAR 2014	32.8	25.8	70	N	12.2	6:43-6:45	Thunder storms expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecasted.
SATURDAY 08 MAR 2014	32.8	24.8	74	NE	18.2	6:43-6:44	Thunder storms expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecasted.

## Odokuma To Sponsor Swimming, Biology Lab At UDSS Sports Tourney

By Otiokor Samuel

**E**rstwhile Senate Representative on the Board of Governors of the University Demonstration Secondary School (UDSS), Professor Lucky Odokuma, has announced his intention to sponsor swimming competition in the School to consolidate its growth in sporting activities.

Odokuma, who was also a guest at the 20<sup>th</sup> Inter-House Sports Meet at the Permanent Site of the School, further promised to equip the Biology Laboratory of the School with state-of-the-art facilities to aid modern teaching and learning. The former Board Member made the pledge at the 20<sup>th</sup> Inter-House Sports Meet of UDSS held at the Permanent Site penultimate Saturday, requesting authorities of the School to work out modalities for the swimming competition and provide a list of books and equipment needed for the Biology Laboratory.

In his welcome address, the Principal, Mr. Ogechi Aniele, who recalled that the School had the first Inter-House Sports competition two years after its inception in 1982, reiterated that the annual sports meet had come to stay after his administration had revived it last year when it held last in 2008, under the tenure of Professor John Otaigbe as Board Chairman.

The Principal stressed the need to combine academic activities with sports training, stating that: "UDSS will henceforth, strive to provide opportunities for our students to identify their talents, develop and excel in life, by promoting

participation in local, state and national tournaments."

Mr. Aniele thanked the parents of one of UDSS proud Alumni, Romiljan Ayuwu, who donated a giant trophy to honour the former Social Prefect, now a Law student at the University of Lagos, who won the best prize in a Faculty competition organized for Law students last year and doing excellently well.

Meanwhile, Purple House emerged the best House in both the March Pass and the overall competition with a total of 468 points. White House came second with 435 points. Blue House got a total of 383 points to emerge the third. Green, Red and Yellow Houses got 380, 360 and 269, and were placed on fourth, fifth and sixth positions, respectively.

Ebenezer Dagnu courted home the Overall Best Athlete Prize, while Mirabel Jaja was the Best Behaved Athlete Prize. Precious Appah won both Best Athlete (Girls) and Best in Long Distance Race in the female category, while Nicholas Nkholi emerged the Best in Long Distance Race in the male category.

In his closing remarks, Chairman, Parent-Teacher Association, Mr. Jones Ayuwu commended former Board Chairman, Professor Otaigbe and parents for participating in the event. He also praised Professor Odokuma for his readiness to identify with the progress of the School, calling on people of goodwill to continue to contribute to the accelerated development of the School, which has trained so many important personalities in the country.



Purple House celebrating its victory

extra-curricular activities in the School, organizing regular inter-house sporting competitions and encourage students

## CHANGE OF NAME

**MRS NYEKAZI SANDRA JUSTICE-AMADI**, Former Miss Nyekazi Echeonu now wishes to be known, called and addressed as Mrs Nyekazi Sandra Justice-Amadi. All documents bearing her former name remain valid.

**MRS FRANCISCA UCHECHI ANYANWU**, Former Miss Francisca Uchechi Onyagwu now wishes to be known, called and addressed as Mrs Francisca Uchechi Anyanwu. All documents bearing her former name remain valid.

## STOP PRESS

### COOKEY AT 80!

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sylvanus Cookey, will join the Octogenarian Class of 80 in April, 2014. Send in your tributes to this consummate historian and administrator to:

The Editor, Unique Accolades, C/O: IPPR Unit, Senate Building. Last date of submission is Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2014.

### V-C Calls On Bayelsa SSG

**V**ice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka led a high-powered delegation to confer with the Secretary to Bayelsa State Government, Professor Edmund Allison-Oguru on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014. The pictorial details of the visit were covered by our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU** for your delight.



Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka in a warm handshake with Emeritus Professor Ebiegheri Alagosa



Information Commissioner, Markuson Fefegha, greeting Professor Shirley Udoe



SSG, Prof Allison Oguru in a handshake with Prof Ache Alagosa, while Humanities Dean, Prof Ozo-ekansi Nimele looks on



SSG addressing the delegation in his office



Prof Ajenka addressing the SSG



Emeritus Prof. Alagosa making his remarks



Deputy Registrar, IPPR, Williams Wodi, introducing the University delegation



Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Prof Nimele, making a speech



SSG, Alagosa, Ajenka and Nimele in a close discussion



Bayelsa State Govt officials exchanging views with UniPort officials



Alagosa, Allison-Oguru and V-C



Group photograph of Bayelsa officials and UniPort delegation



Another view of the Bayelsa and UniPort officials after the meeting