

# TRCN Inducts 145 Graduate Teachers

A total of 145 Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) graduates of the Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES) in the Institute of Education, Faculty of Education have been inducted into the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN), reports *Ethel Timi-Johnson*.

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## Side Bar

Centre for Higher Education, Faculty of Education held a two-day International Conference at Lemaco Hall & Garden last week. Details next week.  
-Editor



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It was a gathering of the crème de la crème in the Oil and Gas Sector at the Atlantic Hall, Hotel Presidential last week as academics, researchers, industry players and representatives of government agencies converged and deliberated on ways of tackling the challenges facing the Nigerian petroleum refining and petrochemical industry.

Tagged "Port Harcourt 2013", the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Petroleum Refining and Petrochemicals organised by the Centre for Gas, Refining and

*By Humphrey Ogu*

Petrochemicals (CGRP), Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS), University of Port Harcourt in collaboration with Indorama Eleme Petrochemical Company Limited (IEPL), had "Creating Wealth through Diversification, Transformation, and Development of Our Refineries and Petrochemical Industries" as its theme.

Welcoming guests to the Conference, Chairman of the occasion and Honourable Minister of Petroleum Resources, Dr. (Mrs.) Diezani Alison-Madueke represented by the Group Executive Director, Refining and Petrochemicals, Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Engr Tony Ogbuigwe, noted that "the refined petroleum and petrochemical provides products feedstock to the Manufacturing Industry as well as the Agricultural Sector, which creates growth



## Stakeholders Brainstorm At Petroleum Refining, Petrochem Confab

in the real sector of the economy."

The Chairman observed that "most petroleum and petrochemical products serve as raw materials or inputs to other manufacturing industries, which ensure the country's growth in building roads, producing paint for building, serves as

ingredients for textiles for clothing and carpets, foams for beddings and furniture, medicines for hospitals, fertilizers for gardens, lubricants for vehicles and machinery, as well as plastics and polymers used in everything from computers

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# Egypt Which Way, And What Next? (2)

By Eme Ekekwe, PhD

The youths who started the revolution in the first place still saw nothing to hope for. Those with any economic and political clout were the pro-Mubarak oligarchy and the military top brass. The majority poor saw their president seemingly preoccupied with matters of little interest to them. They became increasingly alienated. Discontent was in the air and foot soldiers of protesters were made. Before too long, Morsi rested on a narrow political base as the streets filled up with angry crowds.

The pro-Mubarak forces looked up from licking their wounds and quickly made common cause with the disenfranchised public. As the leading arm of the pro-Mubarak bloc, the military saw an opportunity too good to be overlooked: they came out again supposedly in support of the people. It built a coalition of forces that had been alienated by Morsi's half-baked restructuring of the state and lack of initiative on the economic front. This coalition was on full display to the world as the Military strongman, General Abdul Fattah al-Sisi, announced Morsi's ouster.

The amount of Egyptian blood spilled in the last few days alone, points to a certain determination of the pro-Mubarak political bloc to deal the Brotherhood a death blow. They may have concluded that Mubarak was not tough enough in merely banning the Brotherhood, and that this is the time to finish it off. But will it succeed? This is quite unlikely. The Brotherhood is no Boy Scout group; it is well entrenched and ideologically very committed. It has branches beyond Egypt. If it feels overwhelmed in the present onslaught, it just might "play dead" only in order to regain strategic space.

Is it not possible that the shedding of so much blood could alienate the internal support which the

military thinks it enjoys? Already there has been a major resignation from the interim government – he is Mohamed el Baradei, the former Vice-President and Nobel Prize winner. However, it is unlikely that such reactions will be strong enough to weaken Morsi's opponents from within. Too much is at stake for them.

The international dimension could be quite interesting to watch. The large-scale violence is forcing the United States to rethink a few issues. It has started by cancelling military exercises with the Egyptian military. It is also going through an internal debate whether or not to continue the billions of dollars in "aid" that the US gives Egypt. But beyond these angry protests America is unlikely to go much further. It is doubtful that it will cut the massive aid that goes to Egypt because much of the so-called aid is tied to the American arms industry (and therefore to jobs and influential members of Congress). Consider also that the US needs an Egypt that will always give Israel some breathing space. Furthermore, were Egypt to unravel and go revolutionary, it would jeopardize US interests in the region. Obama and his team will want to carefully steer the situation into some safer, less violent channels.

A more discerning Morsi could have used the Turkey model to deal with his situation. Like its Egyptian counterpart, Turkey's military had loomed large in the country's politics for decades. It had appointed itself the guardian of Turkey's secular political space. On taking power, the present political rulers there let the

military be and concentrated on building a strong economy, thus creating a social base of support. It was only then, after winning several reelections and thus fairly certain of its base, that they moved in to curb the military's profile. Of course, Egypt is not Turkey as the drastically different outcomes show.

To be sure, Egypt will excite more questions than answers in the short to medium terms. It is morning yet and the clouds look ominous in that sad ancient nation. The valley and delta of the Nile, the longest river in the world that has silently witnessed the

longest history of the world, will endure many long and longer days of and mourning. The only thing certain now, is that this id country is ng confidently rendezvous its past.

Concluded



President Morsi

## STUDENT WORLD

## Ebirien Works On Obolo Language Structure

*Awojiowa Ebirien, a Master of Arts student in the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, is determined develop his Mother Tongue—Obolo. In this interview with our Correspondent, HUMPHREY OGU, he spoke on his research interest, experience and other issues.*

Ebirien began his journey into the academia at the Rivers State College of Education, Port Harcourt, where he obtained a Nigerian Certificate in Education majoring in English and Religious Studies, before taking a Bachelor of Education degree of the Institute of Education, University of Ibadan. He specialised in the language strand of English in both programmes.

Determined to be well grounded in language study, Ebirien proceeded to the University of Port Harcourt, where he took a Postgraduate Diploma in Communication Studies in the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies and later enrolled on

an MA programme in the same Department. Currently working on a thesis titled: "The Structure of the Obolo Noun Phrase," Ebirien disclosed that the research is aimed at developing a written document to facilitate proper understanding of the structure of the language. "At the end of this work, I hope that it would be a useful material in teaching the language at the various levels of education. Using some linguistic parameters, I looked at the noun categories of the language, which includes, number, gender, person and the rest of them. I am also trying to establish whether this language is a Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) or Subject-Object-Verb (SOV) language," he said.

"I am also trying to find out if the head noun comes before or after the elements, which qualify it. That is determining the position of the noun in a noun phrase in what is known as the head notion. In a Noun phrase, for instance, the head word is usually the noun. The element which modifies the head noun could either occur before the noun, this we call a pre-head or after the noun, which we refer to as post head modification," Ebirien added.

"So far, I have established that Obolo language is an SVO language and I have also established that in Obolo, a maximum five elements actually precedes the head noun in a noun phrase and a minimum of four elements will post modify the head noun. In addition, the noun can function as the subject, object or as a complement of the sentence," he disclosed, adding that "I found out that in Obolo adjectives and articles can also modify a noun. Again, numerals, the cardinals and the ordinals, could

appear as a modifying element in Obolo. We also have intensifiers and other grammatical elements."

Acknowledging that other linguists have carried out research on different aspects of the language, Ebirien named Dr Uche Aaron, Jones Ayuwo, Enene Enene, and an American, Nicholas Faraclas, as some of the linguists noting that "none of the earlier linguistic focused on the noun of the language. This is one of the motivating factors I have for choosing this topic."

On challenges he encountered in course of his research, he said "I came from a non-linguistic background, where I did more of literature than language courses. I am glad I passed through a PGD programme, which prepared me for my masters. During my field work when I distributed my questionnaires to older users of the language, it was difficult to see the equivalent of some English words in Obolo, I had to coin new words for some terms. I didn't have enough funds to expand the scope of the work, so I made recommendation for other future researchers in the language," stressing the need for supervisors to give more time to their supervisees to avoid undue delays.

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Ebirien



# TRCN Inducts 145 Graduate Teachers

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Administering the Oath, last Thursday at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park, Registrar/Chief Executive of TRCN, Professor Addison Wokocha, restated the Council's commitment to promoting excellence in education through effective registration, certification and licensing of teachers, as well as ensuring professionalism through accreditation, monitoring and supervision of teacher education programmes and institutes.

Advising the inductees to take the exercise with the highest level of seriousness and exhibit commitment to professionalism, Professor Wokocha noted that the Induction admits them into the teaching profession without the rigours of undergoing Professional Qualifying Examinations. "As you go into the world, I charge you to be good ambassadors of the teaching profession, the University and the country", he added, reminding them that TRCN has put in place mechanisms to check professional misconducts and prosecute offenders.

Chairman of the Occasion and pioneer Dean of Faculty of Education, Emeritus Professor Otoni Nduka, commended the Faculty of Education for adding an impressive number of professionally qualified teachers to the teaching profession. He also commended the TRCN under the leadership of its Chief Executive Officer, Professor Wokocha for lifting the teaching profession to enviable heights.

Delivering the Induction Lecture titled: *School Norms, Unprofessional Conduct and Examination Malpractice in Secondary Schools in Nigeria*, Executive Director of the Rivers State Education Quality Assurance Agency, Professor Anyamebo

Okorosaye-Orubite, described examination malpractice as the bane of the Nigeria Educational System with grave consequences to the society. He regretted that examination malpractice discredits Nigerian

educational qualifications and certificates, Professor Okorosaye-Orubite, stating that teachers as crucial facilitators of knowledge acquisition must be mindful of their behaviour and conduct within and outside the school as a way of inspiring students towards excellence in social relationships and academic performance.

Earlier in his Address, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, represented by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert

Nduka, observed that the maiden induction ceremony would contribute to quality assurance and control in the teaching profession. "This is a bold step towards checking unprofessionalism that has characterized the teaching profession over the years", the Vice-Chancellor said, commending the pioneer Inductees for scaling through the rigorous training which has paid off at the end.

In their separate speeches, Dean, Faculty of Education, Professor Ebi Bio Awotua-Efebo, and Acting Director of CHES, Dr Chineze Uche, told the Inductees that the training they received have equipped them to become excellent teachers who must bridge the gap between classroom and real life experiences for learners. The duo advised them to embrace modern technologies especially audio-visual to enhance their teaching skills.

Representative of the Inductees, Mr Isaac Legborsi thanked the Institute and the University for imparting sound knowledge to them, promising to remain worthy ambassadors of their *Alma Mater*.



Cross section of the inductees taking Oath

## Adesope Relives Experience At AESPN Workshop

By Otikor Samuel

University of Port Harcourt Platform Administrator of Research Professional Africa, Dr Olufemi Adesope, has described his experience at a three-day intensive Workshop and Conference organized by the Association of Editors of Scholarly

Publications in Nigeria (AESPN) as satisfactory.

Speaking with *UniPort Weekly* shortly on arrival from the Scientific Manuscript Writing/Research Workshop and Editorial Conference which held penultimate week at Abuja, Adesope said the event was jointly hosted with the Science Editors Consult (SEC), disclosing that the National Universities Commission (NUC) provided immense support which led to its huge success. Dr Adesope, who is also a Lecturer at the Department of Agricultural

Economics and Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, disclosed that some of the activities at the three-day event included short editorial course for scholarly journal editors, research methodology and scientific manuscript writing. "The event featured renowned experts in the field of research, statistics and scholarly journalism which are specifically dedicated to advance quality research and scholarly journals. Experienced researchers facilitated the sessions. They included Professors Francis Uba (UniJos), Babatunde Solagberu, Ekanem Ekanem (UniLag), Joseph Ana, Ndu Eke and Dr Cyril Dim (UNN)," the University Platform Administrator said.

The Lecturer revealed further that the event was rounded off with a Conference on the third day where the Executive Secretary of NUC, Professor Julius Okojie, represented by former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Uyo, Professor Akaueren Essien presented an address.

Other participants at the Workshop included Dr Geetika Sareen, a Senior Publisher with MedKnow, a renowned indexing organisation and former Governor of Rivers State, Dr Peter Odili, who was honoured for his support to the Organization.



Prof Solagberu (left) and Dr Adesope





V-C, Prof Ajienka flanked by Directors of Sports, Dr Ken Anugweje (left) and Olympafrica Centre, Dr Agi (right) in front row

# Casa, MASGULF Win Samsung Cup Football Tournament

By Otikor Samuel

Casa Football Club and Junior MASGULF FC emerged winners of the Samsung Cup 2013 organized by the Olympafrica UniPort Centre held penultimate Saturday at the Sports Complex, University Park. Casa FC of Rumuekini in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area defeated Family Love FC of Port Harcourt at the Under-15 category, after a tough encounter which ended in a goalless draw at full time and 4:4 penalty shootouts. Similarly, Junior MASGULF Football Club defeated Young Ambassadors by a lone goal

to take home the trophy and cash prize for the Under-13 category. The soccer fiesta attracted dignitaries such as Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, former Super Eagles player and Coach of Shark FC, Mr Mike Okotie and top ex-players of UniPort Football team.

Speaking to *UniPort Weekly's* Sports Correspondent, Director of Olympafrica Centre, Dr Chukwuemeka Agi, who noted that the tournament was aimed at selecting the best players for the High Performance Centre of the International Association of

Athletics Federations and the Football Academy of FC Barcelona in UniPort, expressed satisfaction with the talents exhibited by the players in the fiesta.

"We had an engaging period while the games lasted; we have discovered new talents which we hope to groom academically in sports. This Centre is the first of its kind in Nigeria; we will establish our academy and get it running. The participation is encouraging and I am quite pleased. I will pass it on to our headquarters in Dakar, Senegal" the Director added.

## UniPort Set To Commence Distance Learning

Authorities of the University of Port Harcourt is set to commence academic programmes at the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) Centre with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the African Virtual University (AVU) at the Conference Room of the Federal Ministry of Education, Abuja.

An electronic mail made available to *UniPort Weekly* through the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) indicated that the Honourable Minister of Education, Professor Ruqayyatu Rufa'l, signed the Charter of the Africa Virtual University (AVU) on behalf of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, while the Rector, Dr Bakary Diallo, signed for the African Virtual University.

The statement indicated with the development, the Platinum membership which entitles the Institution to benefit from AVU Multinational Project II programmes that involves the establishment of ODL Centre; Development of Open Educational Resources (ODER); Updating and developing content; Peace and Conflict Resolution; Quality Education and Benchmarking; Scholarship Funds, amongst others. The statement further indicated that AVU is shipping equipment to set up UniPort's ODL Centre this September, to

By Obinna Nwodin

facilitate the take-off of the Distance Learning Online Programme using dual/blended model and in keeping with National University Commission's guidelines.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igho Joe, and Director, ODL

Centre, Professor Hyacienth Dike, were present at the event.

The AVU is a pan- African Inter-governmental Organization established in 1977 and funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) with a mission to increase access to quality higher education and training through the innovative use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), with its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.



V-C, Prof Ajienka, making a presentation before the signing of MoU, while Hon Minister of Education, Prof Rufa'l, and others listen





D V-C (Admin), Prof Nduka (arrowed), Chairman House C'ttee on Education, Hon Suleiman (left), and other Committee Members with Senior Officers of the University

## House Of Reps Education C'ttee Visits UniPort

**A**s part of their oversight functions, members of the House of Representatives Committee on Education were in the University penultimate Thursday, to assess the level of projects and policy implementation in order to make constructive contributions that could assist Management continue with the impressive job it is doing.

Speaking during the visit, at the Governing Council Chambers, Chairman of the Committee, Hon Aminu Suleiman, said that they were not in the University to witch-hunt anybody or undermine authorities of the Institution, but to interact with relevant authorities to ascertain areas of challenges in order to assist them realize their fiscal objectives.

Hon Suleiman noted the 7<sup>th</sup> Assembly is constituted by distinguished Nigerians who desire the best for the country, adding that "the essence of our visit is to see what we can do,

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through legislation, to better the lives of Nigerians. We are making efforts to see that we are accountable and also ensure that those in positions of authority perform their duties to benefit the citizenry."

Earlier in a power-point presentation, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who commended the Committee over its activities, especially the hosting of the National Education Summit, said that the driving force of any society is the quality of education it provides, noting that over the years the University has made modest efforts at improving the quality of education.

Represented by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, Professor Ajienka gave a rundown of current position of the University, strategic academic plans, as well as challenges of the Institution. He stated that the University was a centre of

excellence in Sports, Petroleum Geosciences, Environmental Engineering, Biotechnology and Bio-resources, Arts and Film Studies, Health Sciences, as well as Ethnic and Conflict Studies, pointing out that the observations by members of the Committee were noted and that the authorities would ensure that they are addressed.

The Committee later visited sites of on-going projects funded by both Tertiary Education Fund (TETFund) and Internally Generated Revenue (IGR). Projects visited included Faculty of Agriculture building; Central Office Complex, Lecture Halls, as well as the Emerald Energy Institute building.

Members of the Committee at the visit were: Hon Abubakar Momah, Hon Halilu Aliero, Hon Abdulmalik Usman, Hon Mustapha Dawaki, and Hon Eucharia Adodo. Others were: Hon Linus Okorie, Hon Salisu Dahiru, Hon Kehinde Odeeye and Hon Muazu Lawal.

## UniPort Staff Tops Most-Read List For Dev Studies Journal

By Otikor Samuel

**A** Lecturer at the Department of Political and Administrative Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Dr Kiikpoye Aaron was rated the most-read Scholar for the month of July, 2013, following the wide readership of his article titled: "New Corporate Social Responsibility Models for Oil Companies in Nigeria's Delta Region: What Challenges for Sustainability."

Dr Aaron, who evaluated the corporate-

community engagement by transnational oil companies in the Niger Delta through the Global Memorandum of Understanding (GMOU) got the highest readership out of 50 articles published in *Progress in Development Studies*.

The scholar, who broke the news to *UniPort Weekly* at the News Room, Senate Building, last Thursday, further disclosed that the most-read list is a monthly practice by standard journal publishers to track articles that are read most in the life of a Journal.

Recalling the commendation that greeted the article that was published in 2012 in *Progress In Development Studies Journal* which currently ranked 16 in the world's leading 25 Development Studies Journals, Dr Aaron said: "Since its publication in 2012, the article has recorded several hits and downloads. This has made it to remain on the 50 most-read list for several months with its eventual rise to the peak in the month of July 2013."

### OUR ERROR

On page 3 of August 12-19, 2013, we inadvertently referred to Mr Kelechi Nnamdi as a Staff of the Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences. He is actually a Graduate Student, not a Staff. The error is regretted.



Dr Aaron



Cont'd from p1

## Stakeholders Brainstorm At Petroleum Refining, Petrochem Confab

to medical equipment to wind turbines and solar panels to cosmetics," adding that the ability of Nigeria to maximize benefits from the Petroleum Value Chain will significantly improve its revenue stream from the downstream sector, in addition to having multiplier effects on the nation's economy.

In his keynote address, a one-time Group Managing Director of NNPC, Dr Thomas John, stated that "there is urgent need for massive investment in the Refining and Petrochemical industry. Development in this sector will not only diversify and transform the Nigerian economy; it will provide an alternative market for the country's crude oil and natural gas resources and make the country less susceptible to the vagaries of the oil and gas market.

Earlier in his opening remarks, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who noted that refining is one of the greatest challenge in the downstream sector of the petroleum industry, expressed joy that stakeholders have gathered to find solution to it. "Transformation and development of our Refineries and Petrochemical industries by full processing of the crude oil and gas resources is a panacea to realise full value chain in the industry" he said, stating that "Institute of Petroleum Studies, under which Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals operates is an international postgraduate institution dedicated to producing the right calibre of manpower for the oil and gas industry."

In his paper entitled: "Economic Growth on the Back of the Petrochemical's Sector", Managing Director IEPL, Mr Manish Mundra, who noted that "Nigeria with its Hydrocarbon resources and its strategic geographic location, can become the world's newest most attractive location of Petrochemical Assets, especially keeping in view of the North Western European and Americas Market," said Nigeria is strategically located to serve both Europe and America, adding that "This is the right time for things to be done differently."

Recounting success story of how the acquisition of the former Eleme Petrochemical by Indorama turned



A cross section of participants at the conference

the fortunes of the company around, Mundra who disclosed IEPL's expansion and diversification plan aimed at making Nigeria to the largest petrochemical hub in Africa, said the plan is realisable, but it requires investment-friendly policies describing privatisation is the key to actualising the dream.

The Conference, which also featured goodwill messages from representative of the Honourable Minister of Science and Technology Professor Okon Ita Ewa, represented by G. N Onuoha, former Special Adviser to the President on Petroleum Matters, Dr Emmanuel Egbogah, and the Executive Secretary, Petroleum Technology Development Funds (PTDF), Dr Oluwale Oluleye.

Major highlights of the event included presentation of Papers by Group Coordinator and Director,

Corporate Planning and Strategy NNPC, Dr Tim Okon, who was represented, Executive Secretary, Petroleum Products Pricing and Regulatory Agency (PPPRA), Mr Reginald Stanley, immediate past President, Nigerian Society of Chemical Engineers, Dr N John Erinne, Director-General and Chief Executive Officer, National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), Dr Umar Bindr and Professor Sunny Iyuke of University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, amongst others.

In his remarks, Director, CGRP, Professor Godwin Igwe, commended key players in the oil and gas industry, distinguished researchers, erudite scholars, government officials, and the Management of UniPort, IEPL and sponsors of the Conference for their role in making it a huge success.

## Benefits Of The Songhai Agreement

In line with the policy thrust of the administration to produce graduates who will be self-reliant on graduation and in turn be employers of labour, the entrepreneurial policy of the Professor Joseph Ajienka-led administration received a major boost with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Rivers State Sustainable Development Agency (RSSDA). The Agreement is to enable the RSSDA through its Songhai Farm train students from the Faculty of Agriculture as part of their Industrial Training.

Under the Agreement, the students will undergo internship at the well-coordinated integrated Farm with the guidance of its officials. Prior to this

By Obinna Nwodin

development, the authorities have signed a number of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with several other organisations, both public and private, to enhance closer ties with the industry and other agencies for mutual benefits.

The integrated Farm which operates a zero-waste system affords the students opportunity of intensive training in practical aspects of their study and the current operations in the sector. From aquaculture to cropping, poultry, piggery, cattle rearing and so on, the Farm gives the interns an all-round experience on every segment of agriculture, which would impact positively on

them.

This development is important not only to the students and University, but also to the economy. With the growing demand for the diversification of the nation's economy by opinion leaders and experts in political and economic matters, agriculture remains a veritable tool for the sustenance of the economy. It has enormous potentials to enhance the foreign exchange earnings of the country, provide employment for the teeming unemployed youths in the country and also boost food production in the country. Again, it would aid the manufacturing industry in the country through the provision relevant raw materials.

More so, the Agreement would prepare the students for enhanced productivity in their areas of specialization and instil in them the culture of self-reliance in line with the motto of the University, which is: "For Enlightenment and Self Reliance".

It is high time graduates from the system started imbibing the culture of self-reliance so that they can meaningfully contribute to the economic development of the country.

This is the main thrust of the entrepreneurial policy of the administration. Now that this is in place, it is believed that in a few years, the University would produce successful agricultural entrepreneurs, who would drive the nation's economy.



Signing of the MoU by officials of UniPort and RSSDA



# GUIDEPOST

## BRIEFS FROM OTHER VARSITIES

### APPOINTMENT

**Professor O.S. Akpoghomeh**, Department of Geography & Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences, appointed *Chairman, Committee to Review Operations of Security Companies on Campus*. Other members are: Professor I.A. Akakuru, Drs Julie Umukoro, Sylvester Udeorah (Secretary) and Mr Eric Aboneni (Legal Officer). The Committee is expected to turn in its report within a month.

### RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENT

**Professor Ogwo Ogwo**, Department of Marketing, Faculty of Management Sciences, granted a one-year *Renewal of Appointment* as Adjunct Professor, effective 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2013 to 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2014.

**Dr D.I. Ekine**, Department of Agricultural Economics & Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, granted a one-year *Renewal of Appointment* as Adjunct Senior Lecturer, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2013 to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

**Dr Moses Nwagbara**, Department of Geography & Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences, granted a one-year *Renewal of Appointment* as Adjunct Senior Lecturer, effective 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2013 to 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2014.

### REVIEW OF STATUS

**Dr Ezeosa Omorogiuwa**, Department of Electrical/Electronic Engineering, Faculty of Production, Power Systems & Communications Engineering, College of Engineering, granted *Review of Status* from Lecturer II to Lecturer I, effective 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2013.

### STUDY LEAVE

**Dr Eze Okubuiro**, Department of Anaesthesiology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, granted a one-year *Study Leave with Pay* to enable him undertake a Master of Science Degree programme at the University of Leicester, United Kingdom, effective 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 to 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

**Mr Ekene Ogbodo**, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Biological Sciences, granted a one-year *Study Leave with Pay* to enable him undertake a Master of Science Degree programme at the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, effective 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2013 to 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2014.

**Mr Wobidi Echebiri**, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Physical Science & Information Technology, College of Natural & Applied Sciences, granted a one-year *Study Leave with Pay* to enable him undertake a Master of Science Degree programme at the University of Chester, United Kingdom, effective 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2013 to 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2014.

**Mr Okechukwu Onianwa**, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Biological Sciences, granted a three-year *Study Leave with Pay* to enable him pursue a Doctoral Degree programme at the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2013 to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2016.

### NOTIFICATION OF HIGHER DEGREE

**Dr John Ugbebor**, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Infrastructural System Engineering, College of Engineering, has completed his Doctoral Degree programme at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

### CHANGE OF NAME

**MR NWAUGHA CHRISTIAN KINGSLEY**. Former Mr Nwuzi Kingsley, now wishes to be known, called and addressed as Mr Nwaugha Christian Kingsley. All documents bearing his former name remain valid.

**MRS FAITH AMA-ANELE**. Former Miss Nmekele Marcus, now wishes to be known, called and addressed as Mrs Faith Ama-Anele. All documents bearing her former name remain valid.

### NOUN NOT ON ASUU STRIKE

**V**ice-Chancellor, National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), Professor Vincent Tenebe, has said that the Institution did not join the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) on its ongoing strike embarked upon since 1<sup>st</sup> July. Professor Tenebe pointed out that the online nature of its teaching and learning makes it impossible for the Lecturers, who operate from different parts of the country to embark on any strike.

### OTUOKE VARSITY MATRICULATES 2<sup>ND</sup> SET OF STUDENTS

**V**ice-Chancellor, Professor Mobolaji Aluko, has disclosed that the second set of pioneer students of the Federal University, Otuoke, Bayelsa State, matriculated penultimate weekend. A total of 376 new students took the *Matriculation Oath*. Professor Aluko stressed that the University would comply strictly to the carrying capacity of its various disciplines, stating that 215 male and 161 female students took part in the matriculation.

### JABU COMMENCES MBA PROGRAMME

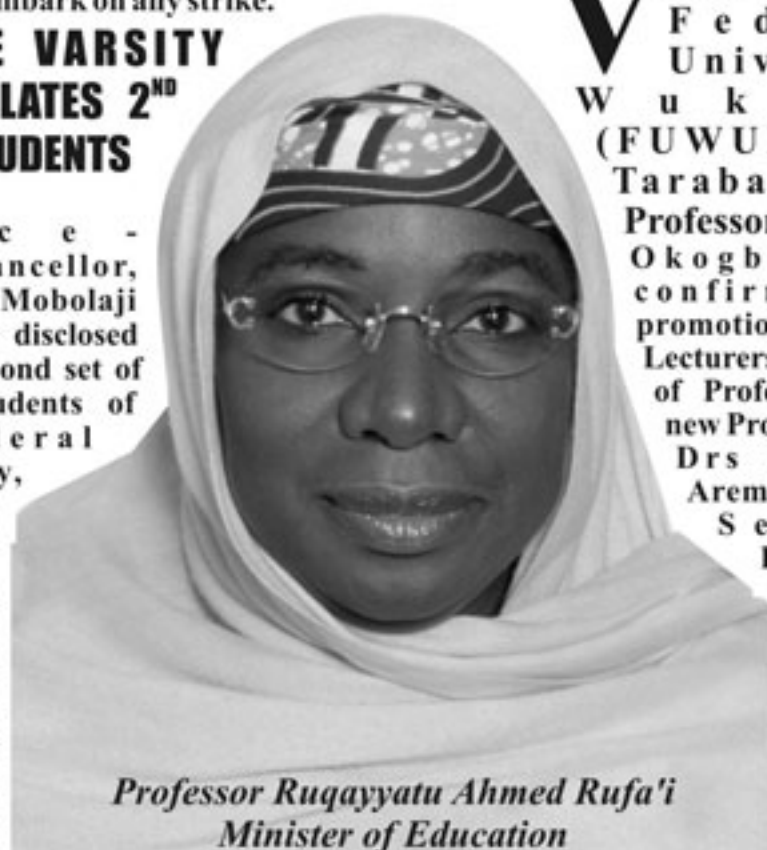
**J**oseph Ayo Babalola University (JABU), has commenced a Master of Business Administration (MBA) programme, in addition to

Postgraduate programmes in Biological, Chemical and Agricultural Sciences and Business Administration and Accounting. A press statement issued by the University said the programme is part of its effort to train captains of industry to make them relevant to both public and private sectors.

### TARABA VARSITY APPOINTS FOUR PROFESSORS

**V**ice-Chancellor, Federal University, Wukari (FUWUKARI), Taraba State, Professor Geoffrey Okogbaa, has confirmed the promotion of four Lecturers to the rank of Professors. The new Professors are: Drs Matthew Aremu, Halima Sekula, Francisca Ogwueka and Victor Okaogo. Professor Okogbaa, who congratulated the newly-

promoted Professors, charged them to justify the new status by contributing immensely to the development of knowledge.



Professor Ruqayyatu Ahmed Rufa'i  
Minister of Education

## STOP PRESS

### CONVERSION EXERCISE

In view of the forthcoming Conversion exercise for some categories of staff, Heads of Department and Unit are requested to submit their staff requirements to the Registry not later than Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2013. A Memo titled: "*Conversion Exercise/Budget Preparation*," dated 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2013, and signed on behalf of the Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim by Director, Personnel Affairs, Mr Roland Wabali, further directed the Heads of Department to also reflect the staff needs in the forthcoming budget presentation. The affected cadres are: Administrative Officers, Clerical Officers, Porters, Health Assistants, Pharmacy Assistants, Teaching Assistants, Photographers, Laboratory Supervisors and Artisans.

## DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT OBSERVATORY

### FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER, 1- SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2013

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (am) (pm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 01 SEPT, 2013	31.0 23.0	77	NE	6.9	6:26 6:38	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy and warm day anticipated.
MONDAY, 02 SEPT, 2013	27.0 24.0	86	NE	4.5	6:26 6:37	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Day anticipated being mostly cloudy and warm.
TUESDAY 03 SEPT, 2013	31.0 23.0	76	E	1.7	6:25 6:37	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy and warm day anticipated.
WEDNESDAY 04 SEPT, 2013	29.0 23.0	75	NE	3.8	6:25 6:37	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy and warm day anticipated.
THURSDAY 05 SEPT, 2013	28.0 23.0	71	NE	2.8	6:25 6:36	Widely scattered thunderstorm predicted. Day anticipated being mostly cloudy and warm.
FRIDAY 06 SEPT, 2013	28.0 23.0	71	NE	9.4	6:25 6:36	A few thunderstorm expected. Mostly cloudy and mild day expected.
SATURDAY 07 SEPT, 2013	29.0 23.0	73	NE	5.9	6:25 6:35	Isolated thunderstorm predicted. Mostly cloudy and warm day expected.

VREMUDIA WEKPE

RESIDENT METEOROLOGIST

PROF SAMUEL AROKOYU  
DIRECTOR, (CDRMDS)



## UniPort Partnership With RSSDA

**A**uthorities of the University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Rivers State Sustainable Development Agency (RSSDA) to train students of the Faculty of Agriculture at its Songhai Farm located in Tai Local Government Area of Rivers State. Vice Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajiienka led a team of senior officers of the University to the Farm. Pictures below highlight the events as captured by our Cameraman, **MITCHELLEBI-EKIYOR**.



Officers of both organisations shortly before signing the MoU



V-C, Prof Joseph Ajiienka (right), Director, Personnel Affairs, Mr Roland Wabali, signing on behalf of the University



Executive Director, RSSDA, Mr Noble Pepple, Legal Adviser, Boma Jack signing on behalf of the Agency



Group Photograph of senior officers of UniPort and RSSDA after the signing



GM, Agric/Agro-Allied Services & Business Dev, RSSDA, Mr Biedimi Oliver welcoming D V-C (Admin), Prof Ethelbert Nduka to Songhai Farm



Mr Oliver explaining the concept of the Songhai Initiative to V-C, Prof Ajiienka and his team



Farm Operators Co-ordinator, Mr Tami, Jaja explaining a point before conducting the V-C, and his team round the Farm



Cross section of Interns from the University



Workers at the Processing Unit



The piggery



Landscape of a section of the Farm



The rice farm



The pineapple orchard