

# National Think Tank Partners INDS On Museum Development

In recognition of expertise available at the Institute of Niger Delta Studies (INDS), National Think Tank Nigeria has indicated interest in collaborating with the Institute and the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies on museum development reports  
*Humphrey Ogu.*

More on pg 3

**Side Bar**  
Scholars from University of California, Irvine, USA and University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK were in UniPort under the auspices of Rex Lawson Chair on Highlife Music to carry out research and initiate an interdisciplinary collaboration. Left Thursday. Details next week.  
Editor



## UniPort Weekly

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**UniPort Bakery, Another Milestone Achievement**

Story on pg 2

**NANS Protests Over ASUU Strike**

Story on pg 4

**Experts Call For Improved Marine Pollution Monitoring**

Story on pg 5

**No Payment Of Fees, No Admission Letter - CGS Provost**

Story on pg 6



## Kalabari Monarch Pledges Support For Rex Lawson, Harcourt Whyte Chairs

...To Endow Professorial Chair In Microbiology

By Obinna Nwodin

Manyanabo of Kalabari Kingdom, King (Professor) Theophilus Princewill, has pledged support for the Rex Jim Lawson and Harcourt

Whyte Chairs in the University of Port Harcourt.

King Princewill made the promise when Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, led a delegation of senior officers of the University on a courtesy visit to his

Palace in Buguma, Asari Toru Local Government Area of Rivers State, last Tuesday.

The Kalabari Monarch, who is a retired Professor of Biochemistry, also disclosed his willingness to endow a Professorial Chair in Microbiology in UniPort, stressing the need to expand the frontiers of knowledge in local activities to boost intellectualism. "We do not need to rely on other people to develop things for us. All around us are activities to develop academics, we need to make use of them," he advised, stating his resolve to identify with the growth and aspirations of the University. King Princewill, who was a former Dean of the then School of Graduate Studies, lauded the authorities of the University for recognising the contributions of Kalabari sons who played positive roles in promoting the cultural heritage of not

only the Kalabari people, but Nigerians at large. He advised that more efforts should be made to explore different areas of indigenous music, identifying late Chief

Cont'd on pg 6



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# Use, Misuse And Abuse Of Trade Unionism

For sometime, I have been agitated by the generic labour strikes in Nigeria, especially in the education sector. It has become imperative that we the ordinary citizens should, sometime, sympathize with the entity called "Government," that bears the brunt of this unnecessary aggression by its employees.

In as much as we accept that employees have their own rights and use their respective unions to protect their interests and well-being, in some of this protection of interest the abuse and misuse of trade unionism becomes apparent.

A case I will use as an example is the recent threat by the Academic Staff Union of Colleges of Education to go on warning strike and subsequently, embark on indefinite strike, if their demands are not met. Among their demands is that four colleges of education must be allowed to award degrees without supervision by any university.

Do we hear them right? Just as we, employees must defend our rights, we should not lose sight of the fact that the employer has his own rights. The employer provides job description and functions of each of its establishment. I believe it is proper for employees to conform to these

job descriptions and functions when we accept employment in such organizations and not persistently want our employer to redefine our job description and functions, using the might of trade unionism.

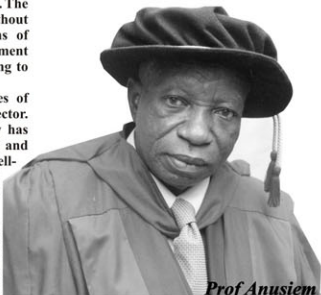
Unfortunately the government oftentimes has succumbed to these threats perhaps out of fear of incurring the wrath of the Trade Union. The government thereby appears weak and without clear policy on the roles and functions of employees and establishment. Our government appears to be pandering to threats leading to unending somersault of policies.

We have noticed the unhealthy rivalries of institutions, especially in the education sector. At the tertiary level, the national policy has established the universities, polytechnics and the colleges of education each with a well-defined function. Why this unending demand of colleges of education to award degrees?

We all complain of the rot in our universities and the falling standards in education. If Academic Staff in the colleges of education feel irrelevant and underutilized in their place of employment, they should seek

employment in the fast decaying universities. The government should at least for once remain resolute and call off this bluff.  
A.C.I. Anusiem  
Port Harcourt.

Anusiem is a retired Professor of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, University of Port Harcourt



Prof Anusiem

## STUDENT WORLD

## Wekpe Tackles Hydrocarbon-contaminated Soil In Niger Delta

*Vremudia Wekpe, a Master of Science student in the Institute of Natural Resources and Environment and Sustainability (INRES), graduated with a First Class Honours from the Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences, where he currently serves as an Assistant Lecturer. In this interview with our Correspondent, HUMPHREY OGU, Wekpe let us into his world as a student.*

On receiving a First Class honours degree in 2010, Vremudia Wekpe got a number of job offers, which he turned down. He rather took up an appointment as Resident Meteorologist in the University, before converting to teaching, where in addition to teaching introductory courses in Disaster Management, develops weather forecasts for Port Harcourt and its environs with weekly reports published in *UniPort Weekly*.

Determined to fulfil his desire to belong to academia, Wekpe, who also received a professional training at Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET), Omuagwa enrolled on a

Master's degree programme in the Institute of Natural Resources, Environment and Sustainability (INRES), where he has concluded work on a thesis, entitled: "Application of GIS in Managing Sewage in the University of Port Harcourt".

On why he chose his research topic, Wekpe pointed out that "Niger Delta is a delicate environment, which though endowed with many natural resources, especially oil, but the exploration and exploitation of the oil result in environmental damage. I believe that with the application of appropriate technology, the sewage sludge can be used to remediate the hydrocarbon-contaminated soil in the Niger Delta. This is basically what I want to achieve with my research."

Wekpe, who noted that INRES has a partnership with University of Gothenburg, Sweden, said that resource persons in the programme came from different parts of the world. "Apart from, Rodney Steven, who comes from the University of Gothenburg, and lecturers from the University here, we also have an NUC Distinguished Scholar from the USA, Professor Chidi Ibe, at the Institute. Others come from, Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun, Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island, and industry.

Despite his passion for scholarship, Wekpe is inclined to becoming an entrepreneur. "Students should be trained to be independent, rather than waiting for government jobs. I would like to teach and also engage graduate students in meaningful projects in future. I want a situation where I can have a business to engage graduate students in," he disclosed, adding that he was inspired to go into academics by his mother who is a teacher. Wekpe, who expressed satisfaction with the calibre of lecturers that taught him during his undergraduate and graduate programmes, said that their quality teaching and his personal efforts helped him to excel in academics, advising other students to work hard and trust in God to enable them succeed in their academic pursuit.

Meanwhile, Wekpe is proceeding on a one-year study leave to pursue a Master's degree in Geographic Information Science at the University of Manchester, United Kingdom.

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Wekpe

# National Think Tank Partners INDS On Museum Development



R-L: Ag HoD, HDS, Dr Okorobia; Ag Director Acad Planning, Dr Kpolovie; Roberts; Director, INDS, Prof Derefaka; Horowitz; Chairman, National Think Tank, Prof Azaiki & Mr Asuk

## Cont'd from p1

This was made known at an inaugural meeting of the collaborating parties at the INDS Conference Room, Delta Park, last Tuesday.

Speaking with *UniPort Weekly*, after the meeting, Chairman, National Think Tank Nigeria, Professor Steve Azaiki, who disclosed plans to establish a museum in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, said he and two-person team of experts in museum development were in the University to initiate a collaboration with the Institute on the establishment of the museum that would tell the true story of the Niger Delta.

"We have brought experts, who have developed a lot of museums across the world, especially in South Africa, where they came from. We have the content, the materials, but we need their expertise to set up a world-class museum. We are working in collaboration with the Institute of Niger Delta Studies and the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies," he added.

Exchanging views with our correspondent, Director of INDS, Professor Abi Derefaka, said that Azaiki wants part of a library he is developing in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State to have a museum. "He brought two South African experts on museum work to interact with us and for them

to understand issues in the Niger Delta and possibilities for exhibition. We have discussed the possible themes that they could explore. We also discussed the materials and pictures they can use," he stated, disclosing that the Institute would also collaborate with Totem Media.

Explaining their presence in the University, Samantha Horowitz and Bea Roberts of Totem Media, a museum and exhibition development firm based in Johannesburg, South Africa, said they were in Niger Delta to get better sense of space and specification of the planned museum, as well as meet all stakeholders in the project.

"We were invited by Steve Azaiki to come and look at a library he is building in Bayelsa State. He came to South Africa and saw an exhibition we did on South African Nobel Peace

Laureates: Desmond Tutu, Nelson Mandela, and Frederick

De Clerk. He liked what he saw and he deemed it fit for the library to have similar exhibitions that would attract people, provide information, stimulate their thinking and open up conversation about issues that affects them. It is going to stimulate dialogue about Niger Delta," Roberts added.

Other participants at the interactive meeting were Acting Director, Academic Planning, Dr Peter Kpolovie; Acting Head, Department of History and Diplomatic studies, Dr Mark Okorobia and a lecturer from the same Department, Charles Asuk. The event also featured a guided tour of the University Research Museum, Choba Park.

# UniPort Bakery, Another Milestone Achievement

The foundation-laying ceremony of the UniPort Bakery project signalled another landmark achievement for the University. It marked the commencement of a feeds and foods processing unit, as well as the establishment of a production facility that would serve as a Research Laboratory and a Bakers Institute.

The gains of this project are innumerable. Firstly, it would create a platform for interaction by students, bakery practitioners and academics who would combine classroom learning to hands-on training for improved productivity. Secondly, it would engage academics in industry/ marketed research on formula development, improvement and ingredient testing that would provide high level customer satisfaction.

The University's host communities also stand a chance to benefit from the Bakery project. Aside from creating more job opportunities, it would also provide training opportunities and skills for interested persons. This can be described as a prerequisite for our national, social and economic transformation, which is one of the objectives of Unique UniPort as an entrepreneurial University. As a Research Laboratory, the findings of the Bakery Research Group would bring innovation into the entire process by enhancing agricultural value chain through raw material evaluation and substitution. There is no doubt therefore, that the facility would grow to become a Centre of Excellence in Bakery Studies and Production where quality would be guaranteed.

The Bakery would also facilitate pursuit of

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

knowledge through research, learning and skills acquisition through training. This, therefore, draws attention to the ability of the University to remain responsive to the varied needs of her numerous clientele. From all indications, there

would be diversity of products that would satisfy individual needs, especially working with a consultant like the Genesis Group. While we look forward to consuming loaves of the Unique Bread soon, we also expect more achievements that would transform the University to a truly world-class entrepreneurial University.



V-C, Prof Ajenka, laying the foundation-stone for UniPort Bakery



## ASUU Demands Non-Negotiable

~Prof Okerengwo



Prof Okerengwo  
Chairperson, ASUU UniPort Branch

Chairperson of the University of Port Harcourt Branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), Professor Anthonia Okerengwo, has described the ongoing strike by the Union as non-negotiable until the full implementation of the 2009 Agreement by the Federal Government.

In a chat with *UniPort Weekly* last Tuesday, Professor Okerengwo, who regretted what she described as Government's insincerity three years after the Agreement was reached with the Union which culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in January 2012, said that a substantial part of the Agreement was yet to be met. "The strike is the last resort to ensure that Government fully implements the Agreement. If it is called off abruptly then we would be destroying the principle of collective bargaining", she stressed.

Commending Nigerians, including the students, for the support accorded the Union since the commencement of the industrial action; the Chairperson disclosed that it is a deliberate effort to

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

save the country's educational system. "We are fighting for improved facilities and infrastructure in our universities, as well as improved staff welfare. If these conditions are met then the issue of strike would become a forgotten issue and will never arise again", Professor Okerengwo added.

"Because every component of the 2009 Agreement is important, from inauguration of Councils, payment of earned allowances to progressive increase in budgetary allocation to 26 per cent, the onus is on the Government to fully implement an Agreement that was reached four years ago", she emphasized, adding that the Union has suffered years of accumulated neglect by the Federal Government.

The Chairperson, who noted that the benefit of the strike goes beyond individual interest, said it would greatly benefit Nigerian university system. "The future of Nigeria is at stake and we have to fight to save the situation so that our students would benefit in the long run", Professor Okerengwo said.

## NANS Protests Over ASUU Strike

Following the strike occasioned by the lingering face-off between the Federal Government and Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) over the 2009 Agreement both parties reached, students under the auspices of the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) have called on both parties to come to a compromise to save the future of Nigerian students.

The call came when students protested along the Choba junction of the East-West Road to draw the attention of stakeholders to their plight. The students who carried placards with inscriptions such as: "Education is a Right and not a Privilege"; "We are Dying o! Some body

By Obinna Nwodin

Help us"; "They are Paying Amnesty, But Can't Educate Us"; "Parents and Well-meaning Nigerians Come To Our Aid"; "Govt Must Obey Students".

Speaking to *UniPort Weekly*, NANS representative in Rivers State and Director of Actions and Mobilizations, Zone B, Mr Adokiye Jonah, said that the students were calling on the Federal Government to wake up to its responsibilities by honouring the 2009 Agreement with ASUU, while urging ASUU to shift ground in the interest of Nigerian students whom he said were frustrated and

tired of sitting at home. He said that the strike action has led students into in all manner of crimes and vices, noting that the future of Nigerian students were at stake.

Also speaking, former Student Union President and current Member of NANS Senate, Mr. Soye Maxwell Nyanabo, said that the protest was to express dissatisfaction with the development, calling on both the Federal Government and ASUU to reach amicable resolution to the problem. He lamented that students have died as a result of engaging in strike-induced movement.

Dean of Student Affairs, Professor Henry Bell-Gam, who was on ground to monitor the situation, advised the students to conduct themselves in a peaceful manner as they expressed their grievances.



Protesting National Association of Nigerian Students

# Experts Call For Improved Marine Pollution Monitoring



DV-C (R&D), Prof Willie Abbey (arrowed), participants from UniPort & others

In view of the rising cases of environmental radioactivity and marine pollution in the country and the dangers they pose to human health, experts have called on Federal Government to take proactive measures to check the trend through the strengthening of Monitoring programmes.

This was contained in a communiqué issued at the end of an Inter-Agency Summit on Environmental Radioactivity and Seaford Safety in Nigeria, organised by the Nigeria Atomic Energy Agency (NAEC) at Reiz Continental Hotel in Abuja, recently.

The communiqué, which called for the enforcement of existing environmental regulations, stressed the importance of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) Project, urging government to "establish sound linkages between the IAEA-FGN Project on Marine Pollution Monitoring and relevant government agencies."

Delivering the opening address, immediate past Honourable Minister of Environment, Hajia Adiza Ibrahim Mallafia, commended the efforts of NAEC in putting together the summit, affirming the Ministry's commitment to supporting such laudable national programmes that bring related agencies and scientists together to share their research findings with a view to making the environment safe.

Mallafia, who noted that the Ministry in collaboration with NAEC serve as the National Counterpart Institution for the implementation of RAF/7/008 and 009 domiciled in UniPort, disclosed the creation of a desk office for the project in the Pollution Monitoring and Environmental Health Department of the Ministry. "The Ministry is currently developing a draft Linkage Agreement with the University of Port Harcourt for the establishment of a Centre of Excellence in Marine Research and Studies," she added.

In a keynote address, Chairman/Chief Executive Officer, Dr Erepamo Osaisai, gave a rundown of the origin of the Technical Corporation Project RAF/7/008, which the IAEA established with the Federal Government of Nigeria through his office, stating that the Summit was necessary to create an avenue to inform national stakeholders of the project on the current status of Nigeria's marine environment and to create linkages for collaborative management of the challenges.

He noted that President Goodluck Jonathan, as an Environmental Scientist, has a deep understanding of the implications of marine pollution has, as a result, approved the establishment of FGN-IAEA Marine Contamination Coastal Field Monitoring Station at Kolouma in Bayelsa State to provide logistics backbone consisting of laboratories, administrative and accommodation facilities, as well as specialised equipment to address the

African countries, reiterated IAEA's commitment to supporting Nigeria's desire to ensure the safety of its environment and citizens through the TC projects, urging the Nation to take full responsibility for the project and ensure its sustainability given its immense benefits.

Also speaking, National Coordinator of the project and Director, National Centre for Marine Pollution Monitoring and Seaford Safety, University of Port Harcourt, Professor, Francis Sikoki, spoke on the activities of the TC projects, RAF/7/008 and 009 disclosing that the IAEA has trained 13 scientists in various specialised courses on the project in offshore institutions and has also provided relevant specialised equipment required for the execution of RAF/7008 and 009.

UniPort Scientists, Professor Nelson Brambaifa, Dr Bolaji Babatunde, Omokeyeke Omoreniowan, were among researchers who made presentations at the technical sessions chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, represented by the DV-C (R&D), Professor Bene Willey Abbey.

Other UniPort staff who attended the Summit were: Dean, Graduate School of Natural, Applied and Medical Sciences, Professor Gregory Awiri, Professor Mathew Wegwu, Director Special Projects, Dr E.E. David, Mr Peter Onyagbodor, and Miss Abigail Eslimagbele, Data Analyst at the Centre for Marine Pollution Monitoring & Seaford Safety.

## Team UniPort Set For Another NUGA Sports Meet

Ahead of the 24<sup>th</sup> edition of the Nigerian Universities Games Association (NUGA) competition to be hosted by the Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), Ile Ife, Osun State, next month, four times defending champion of the competition, Team UniPort is set for another sports meet.

Sports Manager of Team UniPort, Professor Matthew Wegwu, who disclosed the preparedness of UniPort contingents to our Sports Correspondent at the Newsroom of IPPR, Senate Building, last Tuesday, stated that all arrangements have been put in place to ensure another successful outing.

"The athletes have been in camp for over one month now; the spirit of everybody is high. Our dream is to remain at the top. We recognize the fact that it is going to be a stiff competition as usual, but our earnest desire is to once again garner all the Gold Medals on offer. We are doing our best to ensure that the University emerge champions again," the Sports Manager, who is also Director, Special Projects in the Office of the

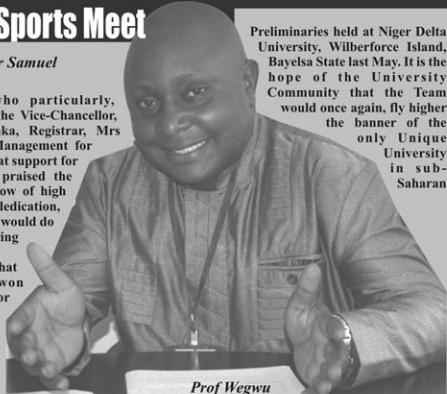
By Otokor Samuel

Vice-Chancellor said.

Professor Wegwu, who particularly, expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim and Management for what he described as great support for Team UniPort, equally praised the contingents for their show of high level of discipline and dedication, promising that the Team would do its best to continue to bring honour to the University.

It would be recalled that Team UniPort had won NUGA competitions for four consecutive times and West African Universities Games (WAUG) three times. The Team earlier came top in the Zonal

Preliminaries held at Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island, Bayelsa State last May. It is the hope of the University Community that the Team would once again, fly higher the banner of the only Unique University in sub-Saharan



Prof Wegwu

Cont'd from p1

# Kalabari Monarch Pledges Support For Rex Lawson, Harcourt Whyte Chairs

Daniel Sokari George who composed church music in Kalabari language.

Earlier, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ajenka, who disclosed the establishment of Cardinal Rex Jim Lawson and Harcourt Ikoli Whyte Chairs in the University, noted that the Department of Music has been regarded as one of the best in the country. "When we looked round, we found out that your Kingdom is blessed with great musicians who distinguished themselves in the art and we decided to establish the Chairs in their honour as a Legacy Centre".

The Vice-Chancellor also stressed the need for the Monarch to endow a Professorial Chair in his name to promote intellectualism in his area of specialization. "We know the role you played in the growth of the University. It is imperative that you endow a Chair in the field of Microbiology", noting that "it would be a fault of history if there is no Professorial Chair endowed in your name". In his speech, Head, Department of Music and Chair Occupant of the Cardinal Jim Rex Lawson Professorial Chair, Professor Onyee Nwanpka, said that the Chair was responsible



V-C, Prof Ajenka (right) handing over souvenirs from the University to King Princewill (middle) through the Palace Spokesman (left)

for collection and documentation of Rex Lawson's works in a chronological order; defining and delineating creative periods of Rex Lawson; further research and data documentation for archival preservation, amongst others.

In their separate speeches, a member of the Council of Chiefs and Omubo VIII, Chief Ombo Tom Big-Harry, and President, Buguma Youths

Council, Mr. Robinson Ibinabo, thanked authorities of the University for honouring the two Kalabari illustrious sons for their positive contributions towards societal advancement. Also speaking Deputy Vice-Chancellor, (Research and Development), Professor Bene Willie Abbey, commended the great ideas of the Professor Ajenka-led administration in promoting indigenous efforts in the art.

## No Payment Of Fees, No Admission Letter ~CGS Provost

By Otokor Samuel

**A**s a way of curbing the fraudulent practice by some Graduate Students who craftily completed their programmes without paying fees, Provost, College of Graduate Studies (CGS), Professor Roseline Konya, has disclosed that henceforth, no candidate would be able to access the Admission Letter and be considered a *bona fide* Graduate Student of the College without payment of statutory fees.

Professor Konya, who made this known last Tuesday in a chat with our Correspondent, as applicants through the College on daily basis to process forms for the 2013/2014 admission into graduate programmes, informed candidates that they can only access their Admission Letters and proceed for registration after paying fees, explaining that the new arrangement is part of efforts aimed at checking dishonest acts by some

Graduate Students, who felt they could flout the rules unnoticed.

"College of Graduate Studies devised this method of *no payment of fees, no Admission Letter* to stop dishonest students. Over the years, some Graduate Students would complete their programmes without paying their fees. The non-payment of fees was only detected in the past few years when they came for clearance. Now all that is over," Professor Konya said.

The Provost stated that candidates would be expected to sign-up online at [www.pg.uniport.edu.ng](http://www.pg.uniport.edu.ng) when they are offered the provisional admission, pay fees at designated banks, return online to download and print payment receipt, admission letter and registration forms, then proceed to the Accounts and Admission offices with relevant documents to conclude the registration process and get their registration numbers before they can commence lectures and participate in other academic activities.

The Provost, who also disclosed that the fees charged at the College are relatively cheaper when compared to some other institutions in the country, urged applicants who would be given provisional admission to make judicious use of the opportunity by registering fully and settle down for studies, adding that "Graduate programmes, ordinarily, should last for one academic session for Postgraduate Diploma, 18 months for Master's and three years for Doctoral programmes.

"Doctoral candidates and Master's degree students in all the Departments must go through a period of Coursework before they would be engaged in their Dissertations and Theses, so our programme demands commitment. The era when Graduate Students would abandon the programme and return at anytime to continue is over," Professor Konya stressed.



Prof Konya, Provost, CGS

## GUIDEPOST

## APPOINTMENT

**Professor I.M. Siminalayi**, Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, appointed *Assistant Director, Centre for Malaria Research and Phytomedicine*. The appointment which is for two years takes effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2013.

**Dr Dinebari Baidy**, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, appointed *Associate Dean, Student Affairs Department*. The appointment which is for two years takes effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2013.

**Dr Charles Tobin-West**, Department of Preventive and Social Medicine, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, appointed *Chairman, Youth Friendly Centre*. The appointment which is for two years takes effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2013.

**Mr. Safolabo Adekunle**, Department of Physics, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, appointed *Assistant Director, Community Service*. The appointment which is for two years takes effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2013.

## SABBATICAL APPOINTMENT

**Dr. Abasihi Akan**, Department of History & International Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Uyo, granted *Sabbatical Appointment as Senior Lecturer* in the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies, Faculty of Humanities, effective on assumption of duty.

## STUDY LEAVE

**Dr. Roma Oduro**, Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, granted a one-year *Study Leave With Pay* to enable him undertake an MPhil programme in Emergency Paediatrics at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, affiliated to the University of Cape Town, South Africa, effective 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2014 to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2015.

**Dr. Edward Ezedike**, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities, granted a one-year *Study Leave With Pay* to enable him carry out a Research Work in the United States of America, effective 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2014.

**Mr. Stella Orakwe**, Department of Electronics & Computer Engineering, Faculty of Production, Power Systems & Communication Engineering, granted a one-year Extension of *Study Leave With Pay* to enable him conclude her studies at the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), effective 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2014 to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.

**Mr. Comfort Owate**, Library Department, granted a three-year *Study Leave With Pay* to enable her pursue a Doctoral Degree programme in Library & Information Science at Imo State University, Owerri, effective 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2016.

**Mr. Suanu Nwigho**, Works & Services Department, granted an eighteen month *Study Leave With Pay* to enable him pursue a Master's Degree programme in Systems, Control & Information Technology at Universite Joseph Fourier, France, effective 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2013 to 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2015.

**Mrs. Joy Ben-Nwaka**, Staff Development Unit, Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), granted a thirty month *Study Leave With Pay* to undertake a Confidential Secretary Course at the Rivers State Development Training School, Port Harcourt, effective 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 to 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2016.

**Mrs. Esther Sample**, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Infrastructural Systems Engineering, College of Engineering, granted a three-year *Study Leave With Pay* to enable her pursue a Doctoral Degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Leeds, United Kingdom, effective 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2016.

**Mr. Charles Magbo**, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Infrastructural Systems Engineering, College of Engineering, granted a two-year *Study Leave With Pay* to enable him pursue a course of study in Civil Engineering (Geotechnical Option) at the Texas A & M University, United States of America effective 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2013 to 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2015.

## REVIEW OF STATUS

**Mr. Tamunonngiyefori Dugogo**, Department of Physics, Faculty of Physical Science & Information Technology, College of Natural & Applied Sciences, granted Review of Status from *Graduate Assistant to Assistant Lecturer*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2011.

## BRIEFS FROM OTHER VARSITIES

## EX-MILITANTS ENROL FOR TRAINING IN FUTA

Fifty ex-militants from the Niger Delta region have enrolled for a skills acquisition and entrepreneurship training at the Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA), Ondo State. According to a Statement by FUTA's Principal Public Relations Officer, Mr Adegbenro Adebajo, the ex-militants will be trained at the institution's Centre for Entrepreneurship. The Centre's Director, Dr Ayo Olajuyigbe, described the training initiative as relevant to the development of not only the Niger Delta but also the country. They would be trained for a period of nine months in welding/metal fabrication. The training also involves mindset change component and classes in entrepreneurship development that would encourage job creation and value re-orientation.

## AJASIN VARSITY UNVEILS 21 BOOKS

Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko, Ondo State, has unveiled 21 regulatory books to boost the running of organizations in the country. Vice-Chancellor, Professor Femi Mimiko, who presented the books, said the initiative would make governance and decision making more predictable, easier, and transparent. Chairman of the Presentation Committee and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Rotimi Ajayi, hailed the initiative, saying it would further lift the University to loftier heights.

## BABCOCK V-C WARNS NANS ON PLANNED PROTEST AGAINST

## PRIVATE VARSITIES

Vice-Chancellor, Babcock University, Ilishan Remo, Ogun State, Professor James Makinde, has cautioned the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) against its planned disruption of academic activities in the country's private universities. Makinde, who spoke at a briefing in Akure, Ondo State, after the Western Union of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Nigeria elected its new leaders, warned NANS against disrupting studies in private varsities. It would be recalled that members of the Association have threatened to disrupt studies in private universities if the Federal Government did not address ASUU's demand.

## UNILORIN WARNS NEW DOCTORS ON CONDUCT

Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin, Professor AbdulGaniyu Ambali, has urged new medical doctors from the University to be worthy ambassadors of the institution. He also restated the commitment of the University to making its College of Health Sciences a Centre of Excellence. He stated this at the induction of the second batch of the 2013 medical graduates of the University. 100 new medical doctors took the *Physician's Oath*.

## PASSAGE

## MR JUSTINE WEDE

The death has been announced of Mr Justine Wede, whose death occurred on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2013. Until his death, he was Chief Accountant in the Faculty of Management Sciences. His remains was laid to rest last Saturday at his hometown, Ozuoba in Obio/Akpor Local Government Area, Rivers State.

Late Wede

## CHANGE OF NAME

MISS EVELYN NKORONYE NWAUZI. Former Mrs Evelyn Nkoronye Npinimaa, now wishes to be known, called and addressed as Miss Evelyn Nkoronye Nwaazi. All documents bearing her former name remain valid.

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (am) (pm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER, 2013	30.0 24.0	89	NE	7.8	6:23 6:31	A few thunderstorm expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecasted.
MONDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER, 2013	32.0 23.0	86	NE	12.2	6:23 6:31	Thunderstorm forecasted. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecasted.
TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER, 2013	31.0 24.0	87	NE	-	6:22 6:30	More clouds than sun expected. Day anticipated being warm
WEDNESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER, 2013	30.0 23.0	61	NE	5.2	6:22 6:29	Scattered thunderstorm expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy and warm day predicted.
THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER, 2013	29.0 23.0	68	NE	4.2	6:22 6:29	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. More clouds than sun. Warm day anticipated.
FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER, 2013	29.0 23.0	68	NE	6.4	6:22 6:28	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. More clouds than sun. Warm day anticipated.
SATURDAY 24 SEPTEMBER, 2013	29.0 23.0	70	NE	12.6	6:22 6:28	Thunderstorm expected. More clouds than sun. Day predicted being mostly warm.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Int'l Confab on Petroleum Refining & Petrochemical

**C**entre for Gas Refining & Petrochemical, (CGRP) Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS), UniPort in collaboration with Indorama Eleme Petrochemicals (IEPL) held its Second International Conference on Petroleum Refining & Petrochemical at Hotel Presidential, Port Harcourt from 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> August 2013. Here are some pictures from the event as captured by HUMPHREY OGU.



Director, CGRP, Prof Godwin Igwe and Provost, College of Engineering, Prof Dula Appah, welcoming V-C, Prof Joseph Ajienka to the Conference



MD, Indorama Eleme Petrochemicals, Mr Manish Mundra, colleagues and former GMD, NNPC, Dr TM John



Resource Persons at the Conference



Former Presidential Special Adviser on Petroleum Matters, Dr Emmanuel Egbogah, V-C, Prof Ajienka and Chairman of the occasion, Engr Tony Ogbuigwe



Group Executive Director, R&P, NNPC & Chairman Governing Board, CGRP, Engr Ogbuigwe, Mr Mundra



Executive Secretary PTDF, Dr Olanwole Oludoye



View of stakeholders at the Conference



DG/GEO, National Office for Technology Acquisition & Promotion (NOTAP), Dr Umar Bindir, making a presentation



Immediate past President, NSChE, Dr John Erinne, making a presentation



Director CGRP, Prof Igwe speaking



One of the speakers, Dr Ajee Manman, making a presentation



Provost, College of Engineering, Prof Appah and Head, Research & Development, PTDF Dr Necka Jacob exchanging views



MD, IEPL, Mr Mundra & Colleagues