



Canadian Govt Pledges Support For UniPort

The Government of Canada has expressed willingness to partner the University of Port Harcourt in the development of its educational infrastructure to deliver quality teaching and research to students and help strengthen democracy in the country, reports *Obinna Nwodin*. *More on p3*

Side Bar

We wish you a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year in advance.
See you in 2015
~Editor



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Xmas Message

V-C Commends Staff, Students

By Obinna Nwodin

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has expressed gratitude to staff, students and stakeholders in the affairs of the University for their efforts in the successes recorded by the administration in 2014, urging them to work even harder in 2015 to achieve the full potentials of University.

Professor Ajienka made the commendation in an exclusive interview with *UniPort Weekly*, last Tuesday. The Vice-Chancellor who was full of praises for staff and students for their contributions to the growth of the University, said: "A few staff selflessly stretch themselves from day to day to ensure that the University continues to grow and that is part of the reason we are celebrating our achievements in the out-going year," appealing to a

stakeholders to redouble efforts aimed at building the UniPort of our dream.

He expressed happiness that the Universities won the NUGA Games for a record fifth time, and also the West Africa Universities

Games (WAUG) for the third consecutive time, thus confirming its supremacy in university sports. "We have also signed a landmark agreement with the International Amateur Athletics Federations

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Nnodim Heads Registrars' Association

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

At the 57th Business Meeting and 9th Annual Retreat of the Association of Registrars of Nigerian Universities (ARNU) which held on 24th October, 2014 at the Enugu State University of Technology, the Registrar, Mrs. Matilda Nnodim emerged Chairman of the Association.

Briefing *UniPort Weekly* on the development last Monday in her office, Mrs. Nnodim who previously served as Treasurer of the Association described her election as a continuation of her service and commitment to the advancement of ARNU. "Being part and parcel of the immediate past Executive of the Association, the onus is on me to continue the task of professionalizing university administration in Nigeria by putting in place mechanisms that would ensure mandatory continuous professional training for Registry Staff in the affiliate universities," she pointed

out, adding that appraisals should be based on how much one is in touch with contemporary administrative techniques.

The Registrar who promised to disseminate the lofty ideal of the Association to her colleagues, called for collective effort to actualize the goal for which it was established. Mrs. Nnodim also disclosed plans for the establishment of a befitting Secretariat for the Association at the Federal Capital Territory. "The idea is to bring the Secretariat closer to the seat of power to make interaction easier since the supervising ministry and regulatory body are also situated in Abuja," she noted, reiterating that the election would motivate her to work harder to uplift the Association. "The election is also in recognition of the contributions of the University of Port Harcourt to the body," she remarked.

It would be recalled that the Association was previously known as Committee of Registrars of Nigerian Universities (CORNUT).



Mrs Nnodim: Registrar

Stakeholders End Roundtable On Modular Refineries

By Humphrey Ogu

Stakeholders in the oil and gas industry gathered at the expansive auditorium of the Emerald Energy Institute to brainstorm on ways of developing modular refineries to ensure availability of petroleum products and check environmental degradation occasioned by illegal refining of crude oil in the Niger Delta.

Organised by the Niger Delta Environment and Relief Foundation (NIDERE) in collaboration with the Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals, Institute of Petroleum Studies, University of Port Harcourt, the Roundtable, which had *Promoting Modular Refineries* as its theme, also featured paper presentations, interactive sessions and issuance of a communiqué.

Declaring the Roundtable open, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, observed that "a university is a think-tank for society, scholars engage in research for the good of society," pointing out that illegal mining is going on in the Northern parts of the country, with little or no negative impacts on the environment, but illegal refining in the Niger Delta has a very adverse impact on the environment.

He commended Professor Ben Naanen of the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies, who is a Trustee of NIDERE for publishing a useful book entitled, *Private Gains, Public Disaster: Social Context of Illegal Oil Bunkering and Artisanal Refining in the Niger Delta*, a research report on oil theft in the Niger Delta.

In his opening remarks, Professor Naanen, disclosed that modular refinery was one of the recommendations in the research report he co-authored with Mr Patrick Tolani of UK-based Redeemers' Relief Agency International (RAIN) and launched last September. He told the participants that "whatever we discuss here would be communicated to the Minister of Petroleum and other major stakeholders in the industry for necessary action. I have spoken with Chairman of the Senate Committee on Petroleum about the need to ameliorate the devastating effects of illegal refining of crude oil on the environment."

Delivering the lead paper on: *Technical and Economic Feasibility of Modular Refineries in Nigeria*, Director of the Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals (CGRP) in the Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS), Professor Godwin Igwe, noted that Modular mini-refineries could provide a flexible and cost-effective supply option for crude oil producers in remote regions of the country.

He said that "a Modular Refinery will help the country to among other things: support and improve the operations of existing refineries, save foreign exchange in such services currently rendered abroad, contribute to the Nigerian Content Initiative programme of the Federal Government, contribute to research and development in the downstream sector and human capital development in the oil and gas sector to the benefit of all Nigerians.

"All these could be achieved through a deliberate strategy to build, operate and

commission Modular Refineries in Nigeria to train and grow the refining and petrochemical industry as a sure path to diversifying the country's revenue stream and growth in other sectors," he added.

On his part, former Group General Manager in the Corporate Planning and Development of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Dr. Joseph Ellah, whose paper was entitled: *Government Policy, Modular Refineries and their Potential Economic Benefits*, observed that "a Modular Refinery can be located anywhere along an appropriate crude oil pipeline. We have several crude oil pipelines in the Niger Delta and therefore Modular Refineries can be located in different parts of the Niger Delta."

A communiqué issued at the end of the Roundtable urged Government to redirect its policy framework to provide an enabling law that would encourage investment in Modular Refineries, stating that "considering the implications of the *Land Use Act and Petroleum Act* the oil and gas industry vis-à-vis the ownership of crude oil, the Federal Government should supply crude oil to Modular Refinery operators, who must have markets for their products."

The communiqué, which also observed that diversification would provide the required boost for Nigeria's economy, said: "It is also important that the people optimise crude oil resources and ensure that every raw material available in Nigeria is refined in the country." The communiqué called on the Federal Government to redirect its policy goals in a way to engage the Local communities where crude oil is available for the establishment of Modular Refineries.



Convener, Prof Naanen (speaking) flanked by V-C, Prof Ajienka (2nd left) Prof Igwe (3rd right) and others

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Canadian High Commissioner to Nigeria, Ambassador Terry Calderwood, gave the assurance when he paid a working visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka at the Governing Council Chambers, last Tuesday.

Ambassador Calderwood, who said he was impressed with the tremendous capacity the University exhibited, disclosed that there were about 6,000 Nigerian students in various Canadian universities. He also expressed delight that the University was already collaborating with some top Canadian institutions in developing institutional capacity in running its academic affairs, assuring the University Community that his country would support and deepen such mutual partnerships.

Commending the University for the giant strides it had recorded in the Nigerian Home Movie industry popularly known as *Nollywood*, the Ambassador further said he was pleased to know that the Institution was an African centre of excellence in oil and gas studies. He also commended authorities of the University on their drive towards developing partnerships with the private sector, adding that UniPort stood to gain immensely from such partnerships with the private sector.

Welcoming the High Commissioner, Professor Ajenka said that the Institution, which was striving hard to become an Entrepreneurial University also engaged in international collaborative graduate programmes in partnership with industry

Canadian Govt Pledges Support For UniPort

and professional bodies, research and development Centres aimed at capitalizing knowledge in an emergent Technology Park, amongst others.

Professor Ajenka who said that the mission of the University was to pursue academic excellence, advancement of knowledge and community service through quality teaching and life-long learning, noted that the University paraded the best Petroleum Engineering Faculty in Africa. He

also disclosed that the University which has a well articulated strategic plan and a strong partnership with the industry is also a centre of excellence in Sports, Geosciences, Environmental Engineering, the Arts, Health Sciences, Biotechnology, Ethnic and Conflict Studies and Nomadic Education, amongst others.

The High Commissioner was accompanied on the visit by Ambassador Harcourt Adukeh, Honorary Canadian Consul in Port Harcourt.



Canadian High Commissioner, Ambassador Calderwood (centre) flanked by V-C, Prof Ajenka (4th right), Ambassador Adukeh (4th left) and other Principal and Senior Officers of the University

IPTTO Secures Patent Rights For UniPort Inventors

By Otokor Samuel

Three researchers from the University of Port Harcourt, who applied for patent rights to secure their inventions and innovations, have been issued patent certificates through the Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office (IPTTO) after passing through rigorous screening processes.

Director of the IPTTO, Professor Samuel Ibojide, disclosed this cheering news shortly before issuing one of the certificates to Dr. Jackson Godwin and Mrs. Ifeoma Uzoukwu, wife of late Professor Bieleonwu Uzoukwu, for their collaboration on a research work entitled: *Separation of U (VI) from a mixture with PB (II) in aqueous solutions using N,N'-Ethylenebis Schiff Base*.

The certificate dated 4th August, 2014 and signed by the Registrar of Patents and Design under its establishing Act, according to the Director, serves as a protection for the original innovators to reap

dividends accruing from their research outcome.

"By patenting the outcome of their research, it raises the status of the product and shows that it is officially recognized; it gives the project owners the exclusive claims to it. Any other person interested in using the product must do so with the express permission of the patent holders. No other person can reap from another person's patented intellectual work illegally," the Director said, adding that protection of innovations and inventions would in the nearest future direct the country's economy.

Professor Ibojide, who was joined at the brief ceremony by his assistant, Dr. Tobinson Briggs and staff of the IPTTO Office, further disclosed that two other staff of the University, Professor Marshall Eneanjanor of the Department of Fine Arts and Design, who invented *Mari-Marsh Paper Frame* and Professor Mankanjola Okì whose invention was entitled: *Functionalised Chromate Conversion Coating*, also secured patent rights

through the IPTTO.

"Three patent certificates have been received by the Office, three applications are being processed by the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP); 15 patent applications which are for corrections are still on the waiting list," he said, disclosing that the Office partners NOTAP in capacity building for its staff to recognize genuine inventions and innovations.

"NOTAP is a midway between us and the Patent Office and with the training from NOTAP, we do the verification and write our observations before forwarding applications to the Patent Registry for issuance of certificate," the Director added.

On only a few patent certificates have been issued so far, Professor Ibojide said that the process was a slow one which largely depended on the cooperation of the inventor, revealing that "there are certain requirements and descriptions needed to be filled in the application form. What has happened so far is that quite a number of inventors that wanted patents have not been able to respond to the request for corrections of aspects of their products."

"For a researcher to have a patent protection for an invention or innovation, such a claim must have been certified to be original, following which it must have passed through the stringent process of verification," he said, adding that the Office also partners the College of Graduate Studies to ensure originality of graduate research in the University.

"My advice is that the future of patenting intellectual property is very bright for those who make breakthroughs in their research in the University. Unless you protect your innovations, it will be open to others to use and you don't have any right against such people. For you to go into commercialization and wealth creation from the product of your sweat there is a need to patent your products," he advised budding inventors and innovators.



Director, IPTTO, Prof Ibojide (centre) handing over one of the certificate to Dr Godwin and Mrs Uzoukwu (2nd and 1st left)

CHD Ends Training For Nursing Lecturers

... Marks World AIDS Day

By Humphrey Ogu

As part of its determination to build capacity in healthcare research, the Centre for Health and Development (CHD) held a weeklong workshop on research for Lecturers in the Department of Nursing Science from Monday, 1st to 5th December, 2014 at the CHD Conference Room in the Medical Library Building of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH). The occasion was also used to commemorate the 2014 World AIDS Day. Briefing UniPort Weekly on the event, Acting Director of CHD, Dr. Seye Babatunde, who disclosed that the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Programme was the initiative of Carnegie Corporation of America, said that CHD UniPort was one of the 32 centres selected from African universities that submitted proposals to the Foundation.

"The objective of the programmes is to build the capacity of Lecturers in the Department of Nursing in conducting research related to maternal, neo-natal and child health, with special focus on the use of qualitative research methods," Dr. Babatunde explained, adding that over a period of four weeks, the Visiting Carnegie Fellow will conduct training workshops and mentoring sessions for Lecturers in the Department to update their skills.

The Director, who observed that "CHD is also using the opportunity provided by this programme to commemorate the World AIDS Day 2014," pointed out that the theme for this year's celebration was *Closing the Gap*. "We see research as one of the mechanisms that can be used in complementing efforts towards checking the source of HIV/AIDS. Research could help in identifying and closing the gaps, thereby making room for tailor-made interventions which could close the identified gaps in our bid to render quality service. These include testing and reaching people with drugs and counselling them to change their behavioural

patterns," he added. Also Speaking, Visiting Carnegie Fellow, Dr. Josephine Etowa of the University of Ottawa, Canada, who expressed delight for being factored into the training programme, disclosed that the workshop was aimed at building capacity for nurses in research. Etowa, who is a qualitative research expert, said: "This workshop is

an opportunity to interact with Nursing Lecturers on how to design research proposals and help them attain competence in writing quality proposals that can attract funding."

Some of the topics covered by the workshop included: *Developing Research Proposal, Developing Programme Research, Getting your CV and other Resources Ready, Self-Assessment of Research Capacity, Qualitative Research Approach, Rigours and Ethics in Research and Small Group Discussion on Identifying Research Methods*, amongst others.



Ag. Director, CHD, Dr. Babatunde (1st right), Dr. Etowa (5th right) and other guests

UniPort Trains Host Communities Youths On Computer Skills

By Otokor Samuel

The Directorate of Special Projects in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor in conjunction with the Information and Communication Technology Centre (ICTC), has trained eight indigenes of Choba, one of the University's host communities, following their participation in a three-month computer training programme which is an initiative of the Professor Joseph Ajienka-led administration.

The initiative is in appreciation of the magnanimity of the host communities which had lived in peaceful co-existence with the University since its inception in their midst in 1975.

Speaking at a brief passing out ceremony which

held at the Board Room of ICTC, University Park, last Wednesday, Director of the Special Projects Unit, Professor Matthew Wegwu, who stated that the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ajienka, donated 20 laptop computers to flag off the laudable scheme, disclosed that the eight indigenes were the pioneer batch of trainees to benefit from the programme, which is in fulfillment of the University's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to its host communities. "The training of the first batch of beneficiaries was jointly implemented by my Office and the ICTC and we hope to expand the scheme to take on more trainees in the next batch. They were selected from their communities and trained by staff of the Information and Communication Technology Centre on computer appreciation because

Information Technology rules the world today. As a University, we have a duty to impart knowledge of the modern society into them to make them self-reliant," Professor Wegwu said.

Also speaking before handing over certificates of participation to the new trainees, Director of the ICTC, Professor Anthony Ibe, said the training was an empowerment programme which the University as a citadel of knowledge could offer to youths in its host communities.

Chief Instructor, Tunjimzechi Abi-Bezam, said he was elated to be recommended by his Director to train the first batch of participants on the programme. "It was the first time I related directly with people from the University's host communities, so the approach was totally different for me to connect with them. We started from *Computer Appreciation* and later went to *Word Processing*. In all, the three month period was an exciting experience for everybody," he said.

Mr. Abi-Bezam, who advised the organizers to carry out more awareness on the programme to get more trainees involved, also stressed the need to empower them with computer systems that would enable them continue to practise what they learnt and possibly make a living out of it. In their reaction, some of the trainees who spoke with our Correspondent said the computer empowerment scheme was better than monetary reward. "There are certain things that are actually better than money and knowledge is one of them. Money comes and goes, but knowledge is intrinsic and that justifies the essence of the training," said Onyemachi Igwe.

In her remarks, a staff of the University, Mrs. Elizabeth Okey-Wali, thanked the Institution for the gesture, expressing optimism that with the graduation of the first batch, more trainees from the host communities would show interest in the scheme.

The recipients were: Onyiechi Worlu, Onyemachi Igwe, Kingdom Okemini, Chibuke Igwe, NkesiAhanonu, Rejoice Andy, Golden Igwe and Fatima Hassan.



Director, ICTC, Prof Ibe, Special Projects, Prof Wegwu and four of the beneficiaries displaying their certificates

Staff, Students Speak On Outgoing Year, Expectations For 2015

As the year 2014 waddles to the finish line, there is an atmosphere of eager anticipation about 2015 and mixed reactions about the outgoing year. UniPort Weekly captured the views of staff and students on their expectations:



Mr. Nwikobe

Mr. Dominic Nwikobe Accountant, College of Continuing Education

2014 has not been a bad one. There are challenges here and there, especially in the system we find ourselves. There are limited funds to do what the administration wants to do, especially in the area of staff welfare and infrastructural development. Based on the developments of the outgoing year, we expect better things in 2015. Generally, the challenges facing governments at all levels are enormous. There is the issue of falling oil prices and insecurity in the North Eastern part of the country. These are the issues government should tackle in the New Year, particularly as the general elections are drawing close.



Prof Idemiyor

Professor Vincent Idemiyor Visiting Scholar, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

For 2014, my impression with reference to the health sciences is that the University has done a lot of work to ensure that programmes are built to standard, in terms of lecturer/student ratio to comply with the stipulated standards. What we need to do now moving forward to 2015 is to inculcate the process of life-long learning into all the health-related disciplines and also the development of inter-professional practice, which is the trend globally. It means that the health disciplines must work together to raise the bar. The respective programmes must work across disciplines. That way, we can get involved in conducting clinical researches which must be based on our own common disease-state in the country. A young university such as UniPort is bound to face institutional and infrastructural challenges which cut across board in Nigerian universities. 2015 holds out so much hope of a University that would strive for greater heights.

Miss Obele Wokoma Vice-President, Students' Union

I am hopeful that Nigeria would become better as new leaders take over the mantle of leadership in 2015. I am also hopeful that elections would be peaceful irrespective of all the obstacles. I also look forward to improved infrastructural development in tertiary institutions across the country following the intervention by the Tertiary Trust Fund (TETFund). I see Nigerian youths impacting positively on the country in 2015. It is my expectation that the government would create opportunities that would showcase the abundant talents of these youths.



Ojifo-Raphael

Undiandeye Ojifo-Raphael Third Year Philosophy Student

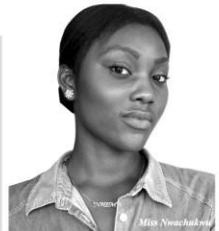
My expectation for 2015 is in three folds. I anticipate improved standard of living following the emergence of a new crop of leaders after the elections. Economically, I expect that the devaluation of the Nigerian national currency pays off significantly as it has done in Ghana and other countries that have practised it. Finally I expect that Nigeria remains united.

Miss Sandra Nwachukwu Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

A Third Year Student of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Sandra Nwachukwu, disclosed that she would visit an orphanage to share love with the orphans before travelling to her hometown for the Christmas celebration. "I have expectation for better grades and hope to allow the institution to pass through me as all this while I have been passing through it. I will engage more on academic activities and equally allot time for extra-curricular programmes. The last time I checked my CGPA it was 3.50 so I wish to work harder to improve on it. I found out that engaging more time on the Internet was a major distraction for me. Students spend more time on smart phones and computers. If such time is invested on studies, every student will make better grades," she said.



Miss Wokoma



Miss Nwachukwu

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V-C Thanks Staff, Students

(IAAF) to set up the first African High Performance Centre in Sports in this University. These were among the significant feats we recorded in 2014 that are worth celebrating," the Vice-Chancellor told our Correspondents.

"For instance, we are about to sign a major partnership agreement with FMC, a globally-renowned logistics company, which would result in the establishment of the first Sub-sea Engineering programme in Africa in this University. It is a very hi-tech project that involves deployment of robotics and other complex technologies to fix underwater equipment. Most Europeans remain unconvinced that Africans have the capacity to engage in the complexities of Sub-sea Engineering. With this agreement, we are set to change their mindset," the Vice-Chancellor disclosed.

Professor Ajienka also noted that the University was busy with numerous academic activities and infrastructural development, stating that "the University is one of the highest beneficiaries of TETFund projects in the country in recent times," assuring the University Community that iconic projects were in the offing.

We have so far received over N3 billion worth of projects from TETFund and other Federal Government agencies and I must say that we are extremely lucky to benefit from such project allocations. Being located in Port Harcourt is an added advantage for the sighting of projects by the Federal Government. If we continue in this direction, the University will continue to grow from strength to strength and I must quite frankly thank everybody for the tremendous progress we have so far recorded in this University," he stated.

Professor Ajienka also noted that 2014 was a peaceful year "in which we enjoyed industrial harmony that has enabled us to concentrate on our core mandate of running the University to the best of our abilities. All



R-L: V-C, Prof Ajienka and Chief Medical Director, UPTH, Prof Aaron Ojule granting interview to UniPort Weekly Correspondent, Obinna Nwodin

staff will get their usual bag of rice and groundnut oil this year as usual. I must say that if we work harder next year, everybody will benefit as we prepare to mark a new phase in the infrastructural and academic development of the University." He encouraged academic staff to apply themselves to the pursuit of knowledge in order to add value to their careers. "If we dedicate ourselves to the pursuit of knowledge in a knowledge-based economy, we all will benefit," he noted, stressing that only academic business can make money for the University.

On expectations for the year 2015, the Vice-Chancellor said he was eagerly looking forward to the installation and full operation of the gas power generating plants that should supply uninterrupted electricity to the University Community for improved productivity. He pointed out that next year will be an interesting one with a number of activities lined up in the University and at the national level.

"Most ongoing projects will hopefully be completed and commissioned next year, while new ones will be initiated to improve the institutional capacity of the University to serve its increasing clientele. 2015 will also mark the 40"

Anniversary Celebration of the University and he hoped to properly rebrand our activities to attract more projects to the University in the next few years. We believe that during the 40th Anniversary celebrations, every Department should be able to identify 40 distinguished alumni that have projected the image of the University and recognize them accordingly to serve as motivation to others," he stated.

Professor Ajienka also noted that the incoming year will witness a change of the leadership baton in the University with the appointment of a new Vice-Chancellor to continue where he stopped, hoping that Nigerians can elect new political leaders without fulfilling the doom predicted for the country in 2015 by America.

He called on staff and students to be focused and prayerful to get a Vice-Chancellor with the capacity to add content weight on the solid foundation that has already been laid. Professor Ajienka described the Vice-Chancellorship position as a relay race in which a new energetic entrant receives the baton to continue from where the last runner stopped, calling for increased dedication that would take UniPort to higher grounds.

Standards Are Still High In UniPort, V-C Assures Accreditation Teams

By Obinna Nwodin

A part of efforts aimed at ensuring quality service delivery in the educational sector, authorities of the University played host to Accreditation Teams from the National Universities Commission (NUC) on various programmes offered in the various Faculties and Colleges. Colleges and Faculties that came under the scrutiny of the NUC Teams were the Colleges of Health Sciences, Engineering, Natural and Applied Sciences, Faculties of Humanities, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Social Sciences, as well as Management Sciences.

Welcoming members of the various Teams at the Governing Council Chambers, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who noted that the exercise was crucial to strengthening the quality of tertiary education in Nigeria, said that proper implementation of the accreditation exercise would determine the future and quality of the educational sector in Nigeria as it would help universities rectify defective areas in their programmes.

"I am very pleased that the various Panels did not just focus on our weaknesses; they also made very useful suggestions on how to remedy the observed lapses with a view to helping us strengthen our programmes. I believe

that accreditation is an important part of the university system as it helps institutions to update their programmes in line with best operational practices. We need to update our curricula on a regular basis in line with prevailing realities and the recommendations of professional regulatory bodies as a way of equipping our students with life-long skills that would prepare them for the knowledge economy," the Vice-Chancellor told the delegations at separate Exit Meetings.

Represented at the various Pre-Accreditation Meetings by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ekechukwu Ndulka, the Vice-Chancellor, stated that the exercise which is a peer review mechanism would help improve the programmes run in the University. Professor Ajienka made the point that members of the Accreditation Teams and the University stood a great chance of benefiting from each other in a mutually complementary manner. He assured the various Panels that the University placed great emphasis on the quality of each programme.

"We do not commence new programmes in this University unless we convince ourselves that all necessary inputs are on ground and that we have the right manpower to run such courses. This is because we have always been mindful of the need to uphold standards as stipulated by the National Universities Commission (NUC) and relevant professional bodies," assuring them of full cooperation from authorities of the University in the successful execution of their assignment.

In their separate speeches on behalf of members of the Teams, Chairman of the Accreditation Panel for the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Professor John Akereke and Chairman of the Team assigned to the Faculty of Management Sciences, Professor Ben Ogbuofor, said they were in the University to ensure that the various programmes conformed to the minimum benchmarks established by the NUC. According to him, the essence of the exercise was to ensure that minimum standards were met, as well as make a comprehensive report of their findings which would ensure that the necessary assistance was provided by the Federal Government to ensure quality service delivery.



Some Principal and Senior Officers of the University in a photograph with some of the accreditation panel members

GUIDEPOST

APPOINTMENT

Professor Alice Nte, Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, appointed *Director, Centre for Research Management*. The appointment which takes immediate effect is for a period of two years.

Dr. O.M. Adegoke, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, appointed *Assistant Director, Centre for Research Management*. The appointment which takes immediate effect is for a period of two years.

Professor Francis Sikoki, Centre for Marine Pollution Monitoring and Seaford Safety, granted *Extension of Tenure* as Chairman, Housing Committee. The appointment which takes retrospective effect from August 4, 2014 is until further notice.

Dr. R.O. Naga, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, appointed *Acting Director, Institute of Agricultural Research and Development*. The appointment which takes immediate effect is for a period of two years.

Dr. C.J. Ogunbiyi, School of Science Laboratory Technology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, appointed *Associate Dean*. The appointment which takes immediate effect is for a period of two years.

PROMOTION

Dr. Ihekchukwu Igbovwa, Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, Faculty of Biological Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, promoted *Reader*, effective 10th October, 2014.

Dr. Herbert Stanley, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Biological Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Lois Abraham, Department of Curriculum Studies and Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Ofonime Nlloho, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Okopom Isak, Department of History and Diplomatic Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Olutayo Adedokun, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Obiancho Nwaogwugu, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Festus Mbali, Department of Adult and Non-Formal Education, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Mr. Sylvester Ifejiro, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Mr. Dan John, Department of Pharmaceutical Microbiology, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Mrs. Onyinyechi Ochuba, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2014.

R.M. Bugbi, Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Management, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2014.

ELECTION INTO UDPS BOARD

Professor S.O. Oluwusi, Department of Educational Management, Faculty of Education, elected into the Board of the University Demonstration Primary School (UDPS), effective 26th November, 2014.

V-C Sensitizes Bonny Youths On Career Opportunities In Energy Industry

By Humphrey Ogu

In view of the huge petroleum resources in the oil terminus town of Bonny and the rising unemployment in the country, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has charged youths in the area to embrace education that would enable them benefit from the vast employment opportunities in the oil and gas sector.

Represented by Director of the Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals (CGRP), Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS), Professor Godwin Igwe at the sensitization programme organised by the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) for the Bonny Youth Congress (BYC), the Vice-Chancellor, who spoke on the topic: "Career Opportunities in the Energy Industry," advised them to become creative and innovative in their thinking if they hoped to dig themselves out of unemployment and poverty.

The Vice-Chancellor, who expressed delight that the University of Port Harcourt was one of the beneficiaries of the NLNG-University Support Programme for Six Nigerian Universities, expressed gratitude to the company for their partnership with UniPort. He commended NLNG for the ongoing construction work on an iconic building that would house the Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemical in the University being sponsored by the company.

"The Petroleum Industry drives the Nigerian economy accounting for 30 per cent of the nation's Gross Domestic Product, 85 per cent of government revenue and 95 per cent of foreign exchange," he explained, describing energy as wealth, development and power.

Describing education as a great equaliser, Professor Ajienka said: "The wealth under your feet is no

guarantee of personal wealth to anybody. Competitive pricing elsewhere can render your product uneconomical as is currently the case with Nigeria's crude oil in the international market," advising the youths that everyone was born with talent and should develop same through the right kind of education and application of what was learned.

"The more books you read, the taller you become. So get taller with education, in trade schools, polytechnics, and universities, Bonny, Rivers State, the Niger Delta and Nigeria will be better off with educated citizens," he pointed out. He gave a detailed gas value chain, showing the different stages of gas production, which begins from the processing plants to pipeline, regasification, storage, liquefaction and so on before the liquefied natural gas would be shipped to consumers around the world.

The Vice-Chancellor noted that "each unit in the oil and gas process is a career development opportunity, because each step is a manufacturing process waiting for you. When we make things, design things, we create employment opportunities for better living for our people. Development will only come from innovative thinking of our people, and not from someone else, somewhere."

Advocating deep thinking and strategy, he said: "We need to build capacity because, for example: a big hospital without doctors and nurses is not a hospital. We need manpower to operate our refining and petrochemical infrastructure." He explained that the Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals, has created an unprecedented awareness by educating Nigerians on the oil and gas value chain through organising three successful international conferences on Petroleum Refining and Petrochemicals.



Prof. Ajienka, V-C



King Edward Asimini William Dappa Pepple III

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT
WEATHER OBSERVATORY

FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 TO SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2014

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI (°C)	TEMPERATURE LO	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (am) (pm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 14 DEC, 2014	34.0	24.0	62	N	-	6:24 18:18	Mostly cloudy expected. Warm day forecasted.
MONDAY, 15 DEC, 2014	34.0	23.0	60	NE	4.3	6:23 18:17	Isolated thunder storms. Morning clouds expected. Day predicted to be warm.
TUESDAY, 16 DEC, 2014	33.0	24.0	58	E	-	6:23 18:17	Partly cloudy and sunny day expected
WEDNESDAY 17 DEC, 2014	34.0	24.0	61	NE	-	6:23 18:14	More sun than clouds expected. Warm day forecasted.
THURSDAY 19 DEC, 2014	34.0	24.0	61	NE	-	6:25 18:14	A mixture of sun and clouds expected. Hot day expected.
FRIDAY, 20 DEC, 2014	33.0	22.0	61	NE	2.2	6:25 18:14	A few rain showers expected. More sun than cloud anticipated.
SATURDAY 21 DEC, 2014	34.0	24.0	57	N	-	6:27 18:18	More sun than cloud expected.

DR. GLADYS EMIKE
ACTING HODDR. PRINCE MMOM
AG. DIRECTOR, (CDRMD/DS)STOP PRESS
NIM UniPort End-Of-
Year Activities

The University of Port Harcourt Chapter of the Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM), holds its **End-of-Year activities/commissioning of project on Wednesday, 17th December** at the Ebbitani Banigo Auditorium, University Park at 2.00pm. The National President and Chairman of Council of the Institute, Dr. Nelson Uwaga is the Special Guest of Honour.

Contact: Ekanem Ekanem, Secretary, NIM UniPort Chapter

Maiden CNAS Lecture

The maiden Public Lecture of the College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CNAS) was delivered by Emeritus Professor Emmanuel Anosike of the Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Biological Sciences on 6th November, 2014 at the expansive Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium. Our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU** captured pictorial highlights of the event as shown below:



V-C's representative, Prof Bene Willie Abbey (r) welcoming Guest Lecturer, Emeritus Prof Emmanuel Anosike



Guests rise for UniPort Anthem



Students also rise for UniPort Anthem



Provost, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Prof Nnenna Frank-Peterside welcoming participants



Prof Bene Willie Abbey making V-C's opening remarks



Prof Florence Nduka reading citation on the Guest Lecturer



Guest Lecturer, Emeritus Prof Anosike making his presentation



Provost, CNAS, Prof Frank-Peterside (r) chatting with Prof Willie Abbey



Participants listen in rapt attention to the Guest Lecturer on the rostrum



Students also listening to the Lecture



Profs Joseph Oluk (left) and Chukwunonye Ojina



Cross section of the audience