

V-C Charges Administrators On New Skills

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has stressed the need for staff to utilize training opportunities provided by Management to improve productivity and the global ranking of the University, reports *Ethel Timi-Johnson*.

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Side Bar

Authorities of the University paid a visit to Chiefs and Stakeholders in Aluu Clan, last Friday. Details next week -Editor



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*V-C, Prof Ajienka (right) addressing the Media

Why Efemini Was Suspended As HoD, By V-C

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has sounded it loud and clear that authorities of the University were not against Dr. Andrew Efemini for exercising his democratic right to advertise his grievances the way he deemed fit and proper as a free citizen of Nigeria and an academic as guaranteed him by relevant sections of the Nigerian Constitution. The Vice-Chancellor disclosed that Dr Efemini suspension as

Reassures Students, Staff Of Safety

By Obinna Nwodin

Acting Head of the Department of Philosophy was predicated on the inciting statements credited to him by the mass media which he did not deny. Professor Ajienka made the clarification during a crowded media briefing at the

Governing Council Chambers, last Wednesday, while giving an update on the killing of four students of the University in Omuokiri community in Aluu Clan by an irate mob on the wee hours of Friday, 5th October, 2012.

Professor Ajienka stated emphatically that

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NUC Team Proposes New Faculty



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Omuokiri Killings

Education Minister, NUC Scribe, Condole UNIPORT ...Sekibo, Uchendu Too



Prof. Ruqayyatu Rufa'i

Minister of Education, Professor Ruqayyatu Rufa'i and Executive Secretary of the National Universities Commission (NUC), Professor Julius Okojie, have both expressed their heart-felt condolences to the University and the bereaved families over the gruesome murder of four students of the University by an irate mob at Omuokiri community in Aluu clan in the wee hours of Friday, 5th October, 2012.

Represented by Professor Adebisi Balogun, who led members of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Campus Safety to the University on a fact-finding mission, they expressed grief over the incident and described the action as barbaric and dastardly, stating that the Committee decided to embark on an on-the-spot assessment of the incident. "When we received news of this ugly development, we decided to undertake an on-the-spot assessment of what happened, and also interact with stakeholders to gather accurate information on the incident. This exercise is very important because we need to make recommendations to the Federal Government, especially as it has to do with accommodation in our universities with a view to convincing government on the need to build more hostel accommodation in the universities", adding

By Obinna Nwodin

that the Committee would also initiate a stakeholders' forum to share ideas on how to solve the problem of insecurity in the nation's universities.

Professor Balogun, who was former Vice-Chancellor of Federal University of Technology, Akure, disclosed that the Commission would prepare a bill on cultism that would include input from stakeholders before it would be tabled before the National Assembly for further deliberations.

In his response, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, briefed the Committee on the sequence of events, as well as measures so far taken by authorities of the University to contain the highly combustible situation. The



Senator Sekibo

written condolence letters and sent a delegation to commiserate with them over the painful losses, pointing out that everybody in the University was alarmed by what happened. He thanked the Honourable Minister, the Executive Secretary of NUC and the Director of Higher Education for the support given the University during its trying period of grief and anger.

Professor Ajenka told the delegation that the University had enjoyed very excellent relationship with its host communities over the years, stressing that what happened needed to be properly investigated to forestall a reoccurrence of similar incidents in future. "It was a very unfortunate development and we hope that such a horrendous incident would never happen again in any Nigerian University".

He reiterated the need for the Federal Government to address the sensitive issue of land compensation to the host communities that the University was currently facing; pointing out that it posed a grave security risk to the Management of the University. Professor Ajenka disclosed that while the issue of land compensation was not responsible for what happened at Omuokiri community, the frequent disagreements with the University's host communities were capable of threatening peaceful co-existence in the area.

Members of the Committee interacted with the Student Affairs Department, Student Union leaders, as well as the Choba Council of Chiefs and later visited the scene of the killings at Omuokiri community to see things for themselves.

In a related development, the Senator representing Rivers East Senatorial District in the National Assembly, Chief George Sekibo and the Member representing Ikwerre/Emohua Federal Constituency in the House of Representatives, Chief Andrew Uchendu, have separately commiserated with authorities of the University over the sad incident at Omuokiri. Senator Sekibo, who described the incident as very painful, expressed shock that such a barbaric act could happen in 21st Century Nigeria. "As your representative, I want to assure the University

community and the public that the Senate is taking some definite steps to ensure that this unacceptable incident does not happen again in our country.

"I wish to condole with the entire University community and parents of the deceased over the mindless killing of the four students, whose alleged offences were not established before they were murdered in cold blood by a lynch mob. It is barbaric, satanic and I cannot find suitable words to describe such a barbaric act", the Senator said. He lauded the efforts made by authorities of the University to contain the difficult situation, describing the temporary closure of the Institution as a step in the right direction under the circumstance. Senator Sekibo advised community leaders to closely scrutinize the character of people who live within their neighbourhood as a way of nipping such incidents in the bud.

Also speaking, Honourable Uchendu, said that the incident was strange and completely not part of the conduct of his constituents, who he said have respect for the sanctity of life, disclosing that the community was willing to cooperate with security agencies to establish the true facts that led to the ugly incident. "The hearts of the entire Aluu community and Ikwerre Ethnic Nationality go out to the parents of the deceased and the University community. The people of Aluu have assured me of their willingness to promptly apprehend and hand over any of their son or daughter that may be implicated in the commission of the heinous crime. We pray God to grant the bereaved families the fortitude to bear the irreparable losses which have diminished all of us in the brotherhood of man", he stated.

Responding, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who separately briefed the law-makers on the incident, thanked them for their show of solidarity with the University in its moment of grief. He said that "the University community was eagerly waiting for justice to be done so that the perpetrators of such an evil act would be speedily brought to book. The law enforcement agencies must leave no stone unturned in their bid to bring justice to families of the murdered students. We appreciate your concern over what has happened in these trying times", he said.

Honourable Uchendu was accompanied on the visit by the Chairmen of Ikwerre and Emohua Local Government Councils, Messrs Welendu Amadi and Allen Nma, respectively.



Hon. Uchendu

From The EDITOR'S INBOX

Dear Editor,

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to you for announcing Professor Moseley's death in this week's newsletter. I'm very impressed by your professionalism and excellent work ethic. I couldn't be prouder of my alma mater! As I told you previously, I read the newsletter every week, and it has enabled those of us in the Diaspora to keep track of events at our alma mater. I find the newsletter to be very rich, informative, and well-written. The pictures are also great, and make me feel as if I'm on campus. Please keep on doing your excellent work.

Cheers

Steve Onyeiwu,
Associate Professor of Economics
Meadville, Pennsylvania, USA

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V-C Charges Administrators On New Skills

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Declaring open a two-day Global Concepts Management Workshop on "Critical Thinking for Executive Decision Making" last Tuesday at the Council Chambers, University Park, Professor Ajienka, described the theme of the workshop as timely. "Critical thinking or thinking outside the box comes in handy during this era of sustainable development which also entails not only funding, but human resources development and management by a skilled workforce".

The Vice-Chancellor, who remarked that no organization can grow without training and retraining her staff, pointed out that the essence of the training was to keep abreast with new technological developments to enable the University compete favourably with other universities. Pledging Management's commitment to providing more training opportunities locally and internationally, Professor Ajienka advised participants to "put what is learnt into practice. Join the few that work selflessly to put the image of the University right", he charged them, promising to initiate a reward mechanism for diligent staff.

Earlier, Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim, emphasized the role of staff as partners in driving the



V-C, Prof. Ajienka (5th from left), flanked by Registrar, Mrs Nnodim, and Resource Person, Mr Ogunkola

vision of the University administration, calling on participants to invest the training received in the upliftment of the University. "Go back to sharpen your skills and lift the image of the university even as it goes through this crises period", Mrs Nnodim pleaded with the participants.

The Registrar, who charged them to be open-minded to gain from the Workshop, said it was a consolidation of the promises made by the Vice-Chancellor on assumption of office. "Let this investment not be in vain", she advised, reiterating the need for them to be at par with their counterparts in other parts of the world.

Facilitator of the Workshop and Resource Person, Mr Segun Ogunkola of Global Concepts Management, Maryland, America, who emphasized

the role of critical thinking for executive decision-makers, told participants that their decision as Senior Administrators can impact negatively or positively on the University. Explaining that their sense of reasoning must never be in doubt, Ogunkola advised them to resist having their decisions clouded by emotions or personal considerations.

The Workshop which was organized by the Staff Training and Development Unit, Registry Department, had in attendance, Principal Officers of the University, Centre and Institute Directors, Deans of Faculty, including College of Health Sciences, School of Graduate Studies and Registry Directors. It was rounded off with an interactive session and group activities.

Self-styled student activists who hide under the cloak of National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) to foment trouble and issue threats on the University of Port Harcourt on reinstatement of Dr Andrew Efemini as Acting Head of Department of Philosophy, have been warned against aggravating the already tense situation on Campus, following the killings of four students of the University at Omuokiri community in Aluu Clan.

Concerned students of the University, who issued the warning in an interview with *UNIPORT Weekly* last Thursday, reiterated their condemnation of the act by the unruly mob which took the law into its hands, condoling families of the slain students for the irreparable losses. They called on their colleagues to allow law enforcement agencies investigate and prosecute the case to its logical end, rather than issuing empty threats against the University and its host communities.

Meanwhile, two weeks after closure of the University following a violent protest that resulted in looting and wanton destruction of property at Omuokiri community in Aluu and its environs, the students also appealed to

Concerned UNIPORT Students Warn NANS, Appeal For Resumption

By Otikor Samuel

Senate of the University to reopen the Institution to enable them conclude their programmes in record time.

Warning those who claim to be members of NANS to refrain from threatening to attack the Institution when it resumes to desist from such an evil plan, the students led by a former presidential candidate in the botched Student Union election, Mr All Is Well Eme, said that carrying out such baseless threats would run contrary to NANS' earlier condemnation of lawlessness as witnessed in the Omuokiri killings. The group said that two wrongs cannot make a right in the circumstance.

"For two weeks now, we have been mourning the lynching of four of our colleagues by some inhuman elements in Omuokiri Community in Aluu. We are yet to

fully recover from the shock of such barbaric and atavistic act which has traumatized us emotionally and psychologically. We would, therefore, not condone any obnoxious behaviour that would aggravate the sorrowful situation", the students warned, advising NANS, Civil Society groups and political parties which had shifted attention to the University by calling for removal of the Vice-Chancellor, to concentrate on the case which had attracted wide condemnation and now before the Court, rather than diverting attention to other irrelevant issues that tend to diminish the memory of the murdered students.

"Justice for the murdered students and prompt resumption of academic activities should be the primary focus of all genuinely concerned students, the University authorities and the general public, not childish threats

and vexatious media campaigns against the University",

Mr. Eme said, warning that UNIPORT students would mobilize to resist any attempt by elements of NANS to disrupt law and order on Campus.



STOP PRESS

COMMITTEE ON REVIEW OF STRATEGIC BUSINESS UNITS

Professor Mark Anikpo, Department of Sociology, appointed Chairman, Committee on Review of Strategic Business Units and other Sources of Funding in the University. Other Members of the Committee are: Professor John Otaigbe, Professor Henry Njoku, Mr Boniface Woko while Mrs Otami Akubom is to serve as Secretary.

PANEL ON THE RECENT STUDENTS CRISES

Professor Anthony Arinze, Director, Quality Assurance and Quality Control, appointed Chairman, Panel on the recent students crises in the University. Other Members of the Panel are: Professor Steve Okodudu, Henry Bell-Gam, Lt Col Reginald Isiguzo (Rtd), Dr Sylvester F. Udeorah is to serve as Secretary.

PANEL ON REVIEW OF FINANCIAL MGT OF UDPS

Dr Emmanuel Ibanichuka, Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Sciences, appointed Chairman, Panel on the Review of the Financial Management of UDPS from 2010-2012. Other Members of the Panel are: Mrs Amina Musa Momoh, Dr Nkechi Okoli, Dr Peter Kpolovie while Mrs Grace Udeala will serve as Secretary.

Capital Campaign Donors Get Appreciation Letters

University Advancement Centre (UAC), has commenced the publication of names of staff, who made generous donations to the University's Capital Campaign which was launched in June, 2006. This token of appreciation is to encourage staff, who are yet to make contributions to imbibe the spirit of philanthropy.

132	Dr. B.M Moore	Preventive & Social Medicine
133	Mr. D.Z Okonika George	Science/Engineering Workshop
134	Miss. C. A Dibia	Dean's Office, Faculty of Dentistry
135	Mr. Morgan. C. Ejekwu	Dean's Office, Faculty of Dentistry
136	Mrs. Edith Eberachi, Elekwa	Dean's Office, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences
137	Joke Facsat, Sanni	Dean's Office, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences
138	Prof. Okeke Kelechi, Udeala	Dept of Pharmaceutics & Pharm Tech, Faculty of Pharm Sci
139	Otubadu. T. Amadi	Dean's Office, School of Graduate Studies
140	Mr. C.F Amietubodie	Science Engineering Workshop
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142	Mr. Elele Omere	Museum
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145	Mr. Ndubuisi Iweji	Central Library
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147	Rhoda Binakeyi, Omu	Central Library
148	Mr. Godknows Wubi	Central Library
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152	Mrs. J.L Arimie	U.D.P.S
153	Mrs. Beatrice Adaji, Chuku	U.D.P.S
154	Chuku Evelyn Ada	U.D.P.S
155	Mrs. N.O Gideon	U.D.P.S
156	Mrs. Kofoworola Jolaiya	U.D.P.S
157	Ndani Sara Friday Ledego	U.D.P.S
158	Mrs. Patience Okrika	U.D.P.S
159	Mrs. Tom Cecilia Nsirim	U.D.P.S
160	Mrs. Georgina. O. Umegwu	U.D.P.S
161	Mrs. Grace A. Woko	U.D.P.S
162	Mrs. Angela Wordu	U.D.P.S
163	Blessing Wordu	U.D.P.S

To be cont'd next week

Only Professionals Should Be Allowed To Teach ~Ogunkunle

By Humphrey Ogu



Dr Ogunkunle

As Nigerian teachers joined their counterparts across the globe to mark the 2012 "World Teachers' Day" on October 5, Acting Director, Centre for Teacher Education and In-Service Training, Dr Abiodun Ogunkunle, stressed the need for the professionalization of the teaching profession in Nigeria to ensure that only those licensed to teach are found in classrooms.

Ogunkunle, who made the observation in a chat with *UNIPORT Weekly*, penultimate Thursday, noted that there were many challenges facing teachers in the country, especially, non-professionalization of teaching, regretting

that despite the existence of the Teachers' Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN), teaching was yet to be fully professionalized, a situation, she said militated against the desired optimal results from the educational system at all levels.

"The Teachers' Registration Council has not yet registered all teachers practising in the country as members. That alone is a big challenge. We have all sorts of people masquerading as teachers in the educational system. In advanced countries, you need a teachers qualifying status before you will be allowed to teach in any primary, secondary, or even tertiary institution," she pointed out, warning that the free-for-all situation in Nigeria must be reversed for the country to regain her pride of place in the critical sector.

"We need to go beyond giving out certificate of registration; so many people are not even aware that after acquiring such certificates, they still need to be licensed before they can practise. This is because most institutions are not owned by professionals," the Director said, stressing that "until quality assurance measures are put in place to fish out those who do not have the required certificates and licenses from various schools, those currently teaching illegally will not see the need to be licensed before practicing as a precondition for entering the profession."

According to the Don, most people look down on their colleagues who opt for degrees in Education, only to resort to teaching on graduation, having failed to secure their preferred jobs. Conceding that there are born teachers, who still needed to follow due process to get to the pinnacle of their career, Ogunkunle decried a situation where teachers continue to depend on what they learnt decades ago, without updating their knowledge in line with the needs of a digital learning environment.

Commending the recent restructuring of the Institute of Education, Ogunkunle said: "there is the Centre for Teacher Training and another one for In-Service Training for creating innovative programmes, providing short term training for teachers to improve their skills, especially in this era of information technology."

Ogunkunle, who described the perception of Nigerian teachers as poor, stressed that their image has to be redeemed, adding that "this could be achieved when stakeholders take a stand for teachers in line with the 2012 theme for *World Teachers' Day*, which was: "Take a Stand for Teachers". According to her, the theme was timely and a step in the right direction, blaming low-quality graduates on the educational system, which she said, emphasizes materialism at the expense of quality and personal integrity.

World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually on 5th October to highlight the critical role of teachers in providing quality education at all levels for the accelerated development of society.

Overhaul Institute Of Education ~Osaat

By Otiakor Samuel

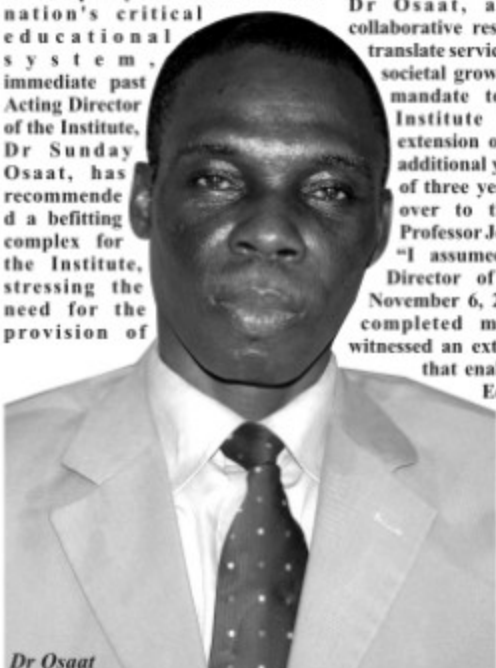
As a way of optimizing the capacity of Institute of Education to train the much-needed quality teachers to man the nation's critical educational system, immediate past Acting Director of the Institute, Dr Sunday Osaat, has recommended a befitting complex for the Institute, stressing the need for the provision of

modern technological facility to aid teaching, research and community service, in addition to regular training of staff in and outside the country to boost manpower.

Dr Osaat, also called for collaborative research approach to translate services into products for societal growth, stating that the mandate to restructure the Institute resulted in the extension of his tenure by an additional year, making a total of three years before handing over to the new Director, Professor Joseph Okoh.

"I assumed duty as Acting Director of the Institute on November 6, 2009. I successfully completed my tenure which witnessed an extension of one year that enabled the Faculty of Education conclude restructuring of the Institute as demanded by the current national trend. This has been concluded and approved by Senate", he said in an interview with *UNIPORT Weekly*, last Tuesday.

Dr Osaat



Dr Osaat

Immediate past Acting Head, Department of Adult and Non-Formal Education, Dr John Ihejirika, has declared that he left his Department better than he met it by realizing his set goals of refocusing it through the cooperation he received from his colleagues and students, who showed commendable team spirit. Ihejirika, who stated this in a chat with



Dr Ihejirika

UNIPORT Weekly in his office, last Tuesday, said that his vision was to uplift the Department to an enviable position in terms of infrastructural development, academic and administrative excellence.

"I was able to fulfil my vision to replace nonfunctional facilities by procuring new computer sets and accessories, photocopier, television and power generating sets and initiated a move to give the offices a facelift," he said, pointing out that the renovations were still ongoing even after he left office.

Ihejirika disclosed that in response to his unrelenting effort towards initiating *practicum*, a six-week specialist practical experience training for students in the Department was approved and funded by the University, describing it as a very essential part of Adult Education programme that was initiated by his administration.

On the secret of his success in office, he said: "I used the Committee system of administration in which every academic staff headed a Committee and since no leader would allow his Committee to fail, we worked together and succeeded together," urging his successor, Dr Morfu Oyebamiji, to sustain that system by carrying everyone along in the scheme of things.

Ihejirika, who emphasized the need for the Department to be included in the Sandwich Programme run by the Faculty of Education, said he had made submissions to Senate of the University through the Faculty to actualize the vision, adding that he had also submitted a proposal for Senate to approve the award of Bachelor of Education degrees in Literacy

We Worked Together And Succeeded Together

~Dr Ihejirika

By Humphrey Ogu

Education, Distance Education, Adult Education Administration, Environmental Adult Education and Community Development.

"When approved, these additions would expand our programme and give the students wider leeway in choosing courses at the postgraduate level," he said, regretting the inability of his Department to produce first class graduate during his tenure.

Commending the Vice-Chancellor for giving him the opportunity to serve, Ihejirika also extended his heartfelt gratitude to both staff and students, whose support made his tenure successful, enjoining them to accord his successor maximum cooperation, especially during the forthcoming accreditation exercise to enable him succeed too as Acting Head of Department.

UNIPORT Authorities Condole Slain Students' Families

By Obinna Nwodin

Authorities of the University have condoled with families of the four students who were gruesomely murdered in a mob attack in Omuokiti community, Aluu Clan by an irate mob. The messages were conveyed when an official delegation from the University paid condolence visits to the bereaved families, last Monday.

In an emotion-laden voice, Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Joseph Ajienka, told the grieving families that the University was still in great shock over the horrendous incident. In separate condolence messages to the families, Professor Ajienka, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, described the incident as unfortunate, stating that the University had been in deep grief over the incident. He prayed God to grant the bereaved families the fortitude to bear the irreparable losses they suffered. He assured them that the University would always stand by them in their quest for speedy justice and emotional support, appealing to law enforcement agencies to intensify efforts aimed at apprehending all those connected to the heinous crime that has dragged the good image of the Institution to the mud and brought great anguish to so many homes. In their separate speeches, the families expressed sadness over the incident and called on both government and authorities of tertiary institutions in the country to improve security around their various

campuses to avert such incidents in future. They said that their children paid the supreme sacrifice so that critical issues that affect the society—especially young people, would be addressed by those in positions of authority, calling on the government to immortalize the victims for paying the supreme price for the barbarism of the society into which they were born.

The University delegation visited the families of Chidiaka Beringa, Lloyd Toku, Tekena Elkanah

and Ugonna Obuzor, all students of the University, who were gruesomely murdered in a mob attack, at Omuokiti, Aluu on Friday, 5th October, 2012. Other members of the delegation included the Dean of Student Affairs, Professor Henry Bell-Gam, PTDF Chair of Petroleum Engineering, Professor Elijah Iyagba, Director of Community Service Centre, Professor Anthony Ekine, Professor Ben Ndukwu of the Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, Director, Academic Affairs, Mrs Dorcas Otto, while Interim Students Union President, Mr Maxwell Nyanabo led the students' delegation.



DVC (Admin), Prof Nduka (standing), on behalf of V-C, Prof Ajienka, condoling Mr Messiah Obuzor over the murder of his son

Cont'd from p1

Why Efemini Was Suspended As HoD, By V-C



V-C addressing gentlemen of the press during the Media Briefing

"the position of Head of Department is a position of responsibility that students and junior academics look up to as a role-model", pointing out that "as Acting HoD, Dr Efemini statutorily represents the Vice-Chancellor in the Department and outside the University and whatever he does in that position, I also bear vicarious responsibility as the appointing authority". He added that "since I am not convinced of his method of making inciting statements that further infuriated an already angry mob protesting the mindless murder of students at Omuokiri, community in Aluu Clan, you would agree with me that Dr. Efemini's ill-advised action on that day inflamed an already tense situation that we were battling on all fronts to contain" adding that "under the untenable situation in which Dr. Efemini's action put me, it was better to protect him and myself.

"I have also a responsibility to protect the institutional image of the University that was already dealt a crushing blow by the horrendous incident at Omuokiri. I, therefore, had no other choice but to relieve him of the mantle of responsibility so that he could be free to act according to his freewill" He said that "inciting one violent mob action after another is an inexcusable celebration of criminality and an invitation to chaos and anarchy that cannot be tolerated by any responsible administration. That was why I removed Dr Andrew Efemini as Acting Head of Department of Philosophy in line with the extant rules governing the terms of his appointment to that exalted position in the University".

The Vice-Chancellor stated that "in enlightened societies where subordinates have cause to openly disagree with their superior officers on matters of

principle that are anchored on personal convictions or ideological differences, they resign honourably" adding that "one level of leadership or authority does not undermine a higher level of leadership in the pursuit of personal principles or ideological differences, let alone make inciting public statements on a very delicate situation that was capable of engineering a mob action".

The Vice-Chancellor reassured stakeholders of the administration's determination to restore normalcy and initiate confidence-building measures that would create a conducive atmosphere for the return of students to the University's host communities, stating that "we want to be sure that our students and staff who live in the host communities would be guaranteed their safety and harmonious relationship with their landlords, as used to be the case" adding that "in a society that is governed by the rule of law, we all expect that everybody who is directly or remotely connected with the heinous murder of our students will be speedily brought to book to serve as a deterrent to others, who may wish to follow such unacceptable conduct. Nothing but justice will satisfy the bereaved families and the general public that watched the gory lynching of four young men on charges that were yet to be subjected to proper legal scrutiny".

The Vice-Chancellor commended the great care and maturity of the police personnel on duty that day that averted more bloodshed, pointing out that the country and indeed the world would have been more alarmed and infuriated by the resulting violence from careless statements in a highly combustible situation that called for utmost restraint on all sides.

NUC Team Proposes Faculty Of Environmental Sciences From Geography Dept

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

As part of efforts aimed at improving academic standards in Nigerian universities, the National Universities Commission (NUC) Accreditation Team evaluated programmes in the Department of Geography and Environmental Management and the Faculty of Dentistry, penultimate Tuesday.

At an Exit Meeting with the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, Leader of the NUC Team to the Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Professor Augustine Eziachi, recommended the separation of the Department into two distinct Departments to be housed in the Faculty of Environmental Sciences with Estate Management, Quantity Survey and Architecture as additional programmes that could benefit the people of the Niger Delta region.

Disclosing that the recommendation is based on the need to reduce the academic workload of students, who labour to merge the degree with single honours, Professor Eziachi, commended the quality of academic work in the Department, describing the curriculum as adequate. "Your staff and student ratio meet the minimum requirement and your staff mix is quite commendable", he said.

The Team Leader, who commended the Department for the quality of facilities and equipment available for training of students, stressed the need for them to improve on the provision of e-books, Journals and computers, while tasking the Department on the need to be Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) conscious at all times through the provision of safety gadgets at strategic locations in the University.

Also speaking, Leader of the Team to the Faculty of Dentistry, Professor Gbemisola Oke, commended

the Faculty for its quality of teaching staff, describing them as a team to be proud of. Oke, who stressed the role of quality medical educators to boost the ailing health sector in the country, urged the Faculty to continue to advance the cause of the medical profession, disclosing NUC's endorsement of the programme.

Receiving the team, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who acknowledged the objective assessment of the academic programmes by the Team, promised that substantial improvements would be made in the recommended areas. He also reaffirmed the commitment of the University Management in ensuring that the medical school would be rated as one of the best in the country.

The Vice-Chancellor lauded the team for suggesting areas of improvement, expressing hope that the University would benefit from the exercise. Professor Ajenka reiterated the University's drive to become an Entrepreneurial University that can capitalize knowledge for the benefit of society.

Other members of the NUC team include, Professor Clement Adeofun, Mr Akinlabi Akinola, Dr Tessa Arigba and Professor Olawunmi Fatusi.



V-C, Prof Ajenka (arrowed), flanked by members of the Accreditation Team and other Principal Officers of the University

GUIDE POST

APPOINTMENT

Dr Edward Uzoma Ezedike, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities, appointed *Co-ordinator of Department*, effective 12th October, 2012 to 14th October, 2013.

Professor J.H. Enemugwem, Department of History and Diplomatic Studies, Faculty of Humanities, appointed *Honourary University Historian/Archivist*, effective 11th October, 2012.

Dr Moses Okemini Nwagbara, granted one year *Part-Time Appointment* in the Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences as *Senior Lecturer (Adjunct)*, effective on assumption of duty.

CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Mr Miesoinuma H.S. Minima, granted one year *Contract Appointment* in the Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures, Faculty of Humanities as *Retired Lecturer I*, effective 5th October, 2012.

Professor Tonye Ngoji Johnnary, granted one year *Contract Appointment* in the Department of Civil/Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Engineering as *Professor*, effective 5th October, 2012.

SABBATICAL APPOINTMENT

Dr Ukadike N. Frank, granted one year *Sabbatical Appointment* in the Department of Theatre Arts, Faculty of Humanities as *Associate Professor*, effective on assumption of duty.

Dr Okorogwe, Declan Sixtus, granted one year *Sabbatical Appointment* in the Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences as *Senior Lecturer*, effective on assumption of duty.

VACANCY

The Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria, South Africa, has announced vacancy for Postdoctoral Research Fellowship positions at the Institute of Economic Research on Innovation for Development in Africa, Faculty of Economics and Finance. Deadline for submission of application is November, 30, 2012. Applicants are required to submit a copy of their CV and at least a five-page research proposal and a two-year plan of how they intend to undertake research and publish their works by selecting a research question that is related to any of the above areas. They are to submit an electronic copy to: Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for Development in Africa at <sti4d-africa@dggroups.org>.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) has congratulated the University and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajiinka, for allowing Dean, School of Advanced Engineering Technology, Professor Adelewe Dosunmu to participate in the 2011-2012 Distinguished Lecturer Programme. The SPE has also announced a President's Luncheon in honour of Professor Dosunmu for his commitment to the Society.

CHANGE OF NAME

MRS LOMDA ROSEMARY THOMAS GBOTEEDOBARI. Former Miss Lomda Rosemary Johnson, Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences, now wish to be known and called Mrs Lomda Rosemary Thomas GboteedoBari. All documents bearing her former name remain valid.

PASSAGE

MR BENSON GEORGE

The death has been announced of Mr Benson George. Until his demise, he was a Staff of the University deployed to the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, Faculty of Science. George who died on 8th August, 2012, was buried on Saturday, 20th October, 2012, in his hometown, Mgbuitanwo, Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State.



Late George

HIV/AIDS ALERT

HIV/AIDS is real. Protect yourself. Avoid a reckless lifestyle that can expose you to infection.

Closing Date For SGS Forms Now Oct 31

By Otikor Samuel

Sale of application forms for admission into the School of Graduate Studies for the 2012/2013 academic session has been extended to Wednesday, 31st October, while submission of duly completed forms ends on Friday, 9th November, 2012.

Dean of the School, Professor Roseline Konya, who announced this in an interview with *UNIPORT Weekly* in her office, last Tuesday, said the extension was approved to enable prospective applicants, particularly those from other states to complete processing of their application forms.

"The School of Graduate Studies has in recent weeks contended with a rush by candidates seeking admission into the postgraduate programmes of the University to submit their application forms. Most intriguing about the crowd that builds up each day is the ethnic mix. From as far as Kogi, Kano and Kaduna states, candidates come to seek admission", she said.

Meanwhile, some of the applicants interviewed during the rush to meet the



Prof Konya

original deadline of October 12, stated reasons for the choice of the University of Port Harcourt. Their choice of UNIPORT, some of them said was informed by the quality of staff, programmes, products and policies. Others said they were attracted to the school by proximity and availability of employment opportunities in the various multinational companies in Port Harcourt and its environs.

Insecurity And Jungle Justice In Nigeria

By Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja

There is an overwhelming feeling of insecurity in our society today which results from fear of criminal activity. It is the civic obligation of government never to allow citizens feel insecure, because insecurity of lives and property is a dangerous feeling. Insecurity is a situation devoid of governmental protection in which a person or group of persons feel helpless and dehumanized by acts that threaten life, including law and order. The law requires that when a citizen is accused of committing a crime, the alleged criminal act must be proved and punished only through the due process of law. Any act of punishment that does not follow due process is an act of jungle justice, which is the exact definition of 'extra-judicial murder' or compensatory punishment of *tit-for-tat* (an eye for an eye). When these helpless citizens react to insecurity by taking the law into their own hands by punishing those they presume to be a threat to their security, jungle justice occurs. No society or group is authorized by law to impose any form of extra-judicial punishment on other citizens without following due process as prescribed by law, which requires that any form of crime be proved in a court of competent jurisdiction. Such a formal judicial process requires irrefutable evidence that the alleged crime was indeed committed by the accused person or persons. It also requires that the act be clearly established to have been committed with malicious intent—*mens rea*. Citizens who suffer from crime that result in death, bodily harm or threat to property must show evidence of physical harm—*actus reus*—to justify their claim.

The rich can afford to buy personal security, but the poor cannot buy security making the resort to self-help more likely, though not justifiable. Jungle justice is mainly carried out by youths and poor people, who cannot afford to buy protection or go through complicated legal processes that take so much time and resources. Those who resort to self-help may believe that they are protecting themselves from criminal elements in the belief that

government has denied them security. Sometimes, criminally-minded persons among the youths and the upper class hijack the idea of jungle justice or extra-judicial killings to further their personal interests.

Commission of crime which may be followed by jungle justice prevail in Nigeria because the people appear to have lost confidence in the criminal justice system, especially in the ability of the Police to investigate and prosecute crime. A situation where the people take laws into their own hands or where justice is administered without due process is a call to anarchy. The recent mob-lynching of four students of the University of Port Harcourt at Omuokiri in Aluu is a clear example. The Police are seen as corrupt and accused of sometimes colluding with criminals to perpetrate crime, while also helping them to evade justice. It is generally believed that the Police are slow in their response to distress calls from victims of crime, while the court system is slow in the dispensation of justice.

The government is aware of the situation, but has not responded effectively to the challenge, which appears to predispose some citizens to jungle justice or self-help as was witnessed at Omuokiri and many other places in Nigeria today.

Insecurity in Nigeria manifests in such serious instances as petty theft, burglary, assassination, cultism, ritual killings, rape and corruption. Jungle justice is a cause for serious concern because it portrays us as an uncivilized society. The legislature must check this growing trend by promulgating laws that would make aiding and abetting of jungle justice a capital offence. The way forward is to devise new strategies for effectively policing the country. The time has come for Nigeria to experiment with the idea of State Police and Community Policing as an effective safety-valve against jungle justice.

Iwarimie-Jaja is a Professor of Criminology in the Dept of Sociology



Iwarimie-Jaja



D V-C (Admin), Prof Nduka condoling Mr Friday Elkanah, father of Tekena Elkanah

ALUU KILLINGS UNI PORT Pays Condolence Visits

Following the gruesome murder of four students of the University by an irate mob on Friday, 5th October, 2010 at Omuokiri, Aluu, authorities of the University paid condolence visits to the bereaved families, last Tuesday. The official delegation was led by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka. Pictures show highlights of the visit.

Pix: HEADMAN ALU



Mrs Elkanah mother of Tekena



Prof Nduka handing over Vice-Chancellor's condolence letter to Mr Elkanah



Prof Nduka condoling Mr & Mrs Toku Mike, parents of Lloyd Toku Mike, while Director, Academic Affairs, Mrs Dorcas Otto, watches on



D V-C (Admin), Prof Nduka handing over Vice-Chancellor's condolence letter to Mr Toku Mike



Prof Nduka signing the condolence register in honour of Lloyd Toku Mike



Mr & Mrs Toku Mike listening to words of consolation from the Vice-Chancellor's representative



Prof Nduka condoling Mr Messiah Obuzor, father of Ugonna Obuzor



Mr Messiah Obuzor responding to V-C's message



Mr Stephen Biringa welcoming the D V-C (Admin) to his residence



Prof Nduka condoling Mr Biringa on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor



Mrs Biringa (left), relatives and Prof Anthony Ekine



Mrs Biringa bemoaning the loss of her son Chidiaka