



## Onyeike Calls For Nutritional Disorder Mgt Centre

In order to promote the health of the citizenry through proper nutrition, the Federal Government has been advised to establish a Centre for the Management of Nutritional Disorders in each of the six geo-political zones in the country, with experts in food, nutrition, dietetics and toxicology to run short-term intensive courses on food nutrition education for staff of General and Teaching Hospitals, Health Centres and individuals engaged in Catering and Hotel Management, reports *Obinna Nwodin*.

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## Side Bar

The 388<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate holds this Wednesday at the Senate Chambers, University Park. Details Next week -Editor



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## V-C Constitutes 29<sup>th</sup> Convocation C'ttee

### ...As Chairman Calls For Team Spirit

By Williams Wodi

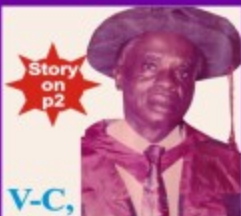
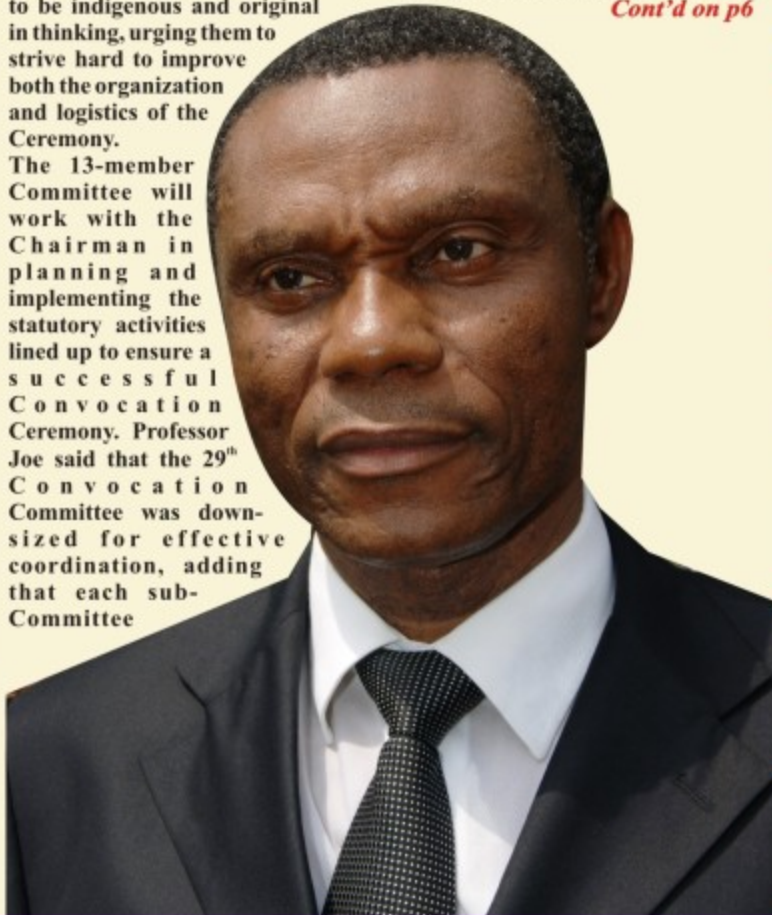
The build-up to the 29<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony of the University commenced last Wednesday with the Inaugural Meeting of the Convocation Committee, headed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igbo Joe. The 29<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony would kick-off on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> with a series of activities that will climax on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 with award of First and Higher Degrees, Postgraduate Diplomas and Prizes to deserving recipients. While previous Convocation Ceremonies usually held between April and June, the 29<sup>th</sup> in the series was brought forward to coincide with the *Founders' Day* of the University, which was established on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1975 by the Military Government of the then General Olusegun Obasanjo. Inaugurating the Committee, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, charged them to organize a Convocation Ceremony that would be better than what obtained last year, stressing that "the University can only grow when there is continuous improvement in our input. That is how to build a true university culture and enduring brand". He also advised

the Committee members to embrace creativity and innovation, which he described as the best way to be indigenous and original in thinking, urging them to strive hard to improve both the organization and logistics of the Ceremony.

The 13-member Committee will work with the Chairman in planning and implementing the statutory activities lined up to ensure a successful Convocation Ceremony. Professor Joe said that the 29<sup>th</sup> Convocation Committee was downsized for effective coordination, adding that each sub-Committee

was free to co-opt knowledgeable staff that can assist it discharge its mandate for the overall success of

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RPA Trains Staff On Grants Opportunities



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VC's Office Gives Boss 58<sup>th</sup> Birthday Surprise



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Patience Jonathan Gender Centre For Inauguration March



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# V-C, Briggs, Others, Eulogise Elechi

By Ethel Timi-Johnson, Henrietta Otonnah & Juliet Nnamdi

**V**ice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, former Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs, Provost, College of Health Sciences, Professor Chris Akani, Chief Medical Director, University of Port Harcourt (UPH), Professor Aaron Ojule, were among dignitaries that gathered at the Ofirima Hall Quadrangle, University Park, last Thursday, to pay glowing tribute to Late Professor Edwin Elechi of the Department of Medicine for his distinguished service to the profession and society.

In his speech, Professor Ajienka described the Late Professor Elechi as a committed academic, who laid a solid foundation for the former School of Graduate Studies in the University. "Professor Elechi contributed to advancing the Medical profession in the country through many years of practice and the training he gave to a generation of medical doctors. It is with fondest memories that we have gathered to bid him farewell", he said.

In his own tribute, former Vice-chancellor,

the deceased Medical Elder for taking Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery to a new level in Nigeria and beyond.

Chairman of the Rivers State Chapter of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA), Dr Ibitrokoemi Korubo, recounted his experiences with the deceased as a student, describing him as an accomplished teacher and doctor.

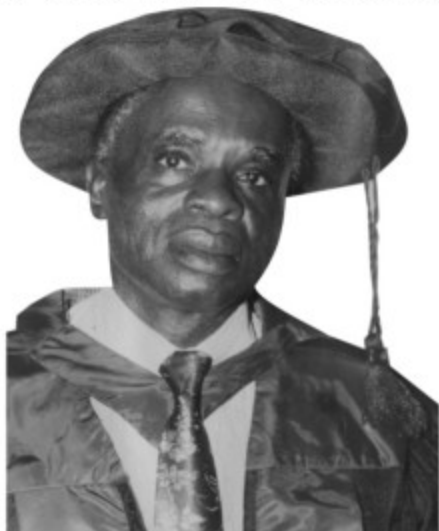
"Professor Elechi was a great Surgeon and mentor to young medical doctors and a strict disciplinarian", he said, recalling that the first story that scared them as young medical students, was to be told that the man failed his own wife during the Surgery examination! Dr Korubo advised younger doctors to emulate the exemplary character and lifestyle of the deceased



V-C, Prof. Ajienka (standing), Registrar, Mrs. Nnodim (left) and Provost CHS, Prof. Akani

if they hope to make a success of their professional life.

Survived by his wife, Dr Gloria Elechi and six children, the remains of Late Professor Elechi were laid to rest in his hometown, Omuofa, Ndele in Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State last Saturday.



Late Prof. Elechi

Emeritus Professor Briggs, recalled that Elechi was among the foundation staff of the Teaching Hospital and the emergent Department of Medicine, who came with full medical training to commence work. "Professor Elechi trained some of the doctors, who now occupy important positions in both the University and the Teaching Hospital", he disclosed, describing him as a man of integrity, who did not ask for anything for himself all through his years of service.

In a sermon titled: "Ending Well", Professor Wellington Wotogbe-Weneka of the Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, who described Professor Elechi as a man of principle and impeccable character, advised the congregation to live well, knowing that all mortals would one day give final account of their sojourn on earth.

At the well-attended *Service of Songs* for the one-time Acting Provost of the College of Health Sciences and Dean of former School of Graduate Studies, former students and colleagues also paid glowing tributes to their erstwhile teacher and colleague. While Professor Ojule praised Elechi for his numerous contributions to the development of Medical practice at the Teaching Hospital and for charting a part for him in Chemical Pathology, Professor Akani eulogized

## STUDENT WORLD

## 'I Want To Be A Molecular Biochemist'

Fortunate to be admitted into the University which is one of the fastest growing institutions in sub-Saharan Africa, **MICHAEL NICHOLAS**, a fresh student of the Department of Biochemistry, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, in this interview disclosed his ambition to become a renowned Molecular Biochemist. He spoke to our Intern, **HENRIETTA OTONNAH**. Welcome to his World!

**M**ichael Nicholas gained admission into the University of Port Harcourt for the 2012/2013 session through the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) examination, which was complemented by the internal Post-University Tertiary Matriculation Examination. He is a reserved person and loves using the social media. "I browse the Internet for research and social interactions", he said.

It has been his dream right from childhood to attend the Institution because it has produced several icons in the society. "My uncle and brother attended this Institution and they spoke very highly of its capacity to positively impact on students", he said.

On his study habit, Nicholas said he loves reading about Scientists and their works. "Rather than attending parties, I devote most of my time to reading and learning from other established Scientists. The famous Physicist, Albert Einstein is my role-model", he added.

Nicholas aspires to be a Molecular Biochemist so that he can study the functions of living organisms and focus on the biochemical research of proteins, carbohydrates, lipids and nucleic acids found in various combinations. "I want to become a Molecular Biochemist so that I can develop a cure for Alzheimer's Disease (AD)

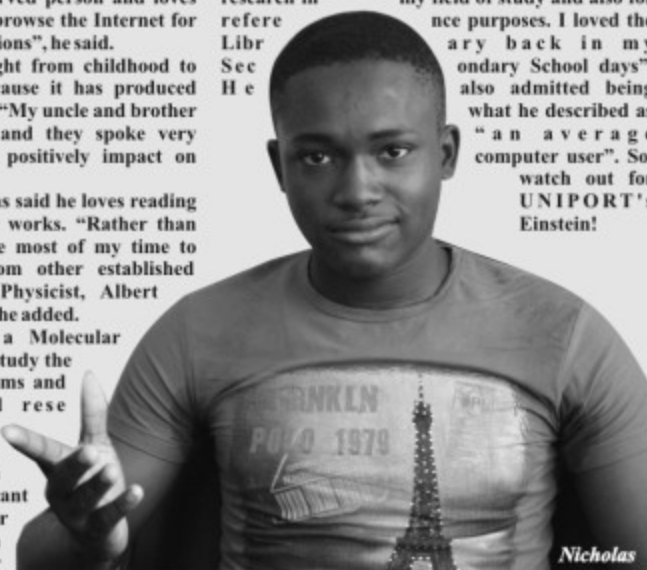
that is debilitating famous people such as former world Heavy Weight Boxing Champion, Mohammed Ali", describing Alzheimer's disease as an irreversible brain disease that slowly destroys the memory, thinking skills and ability to carry out the simplest tasks of daily living. The fresher lists the main symptoms of Alzheimer's disease to include: plaques, tangles in the brain and loss of connections between nerve cells in the brain.

Nicholas is determined to become a Molecular Biochemist to discover a cure for this Alzheimer's

disease to assist in recording a major breakthrough in research and add to the body of knowledge.

On the use of the Library, Nicholas, as a Fresher, admitted that he was yet to get into the habit. "I look forward to making use of the Library for research in my field of study and also for refereed purposes. I loved the library back in my secondary School days".

also admitted being what he described as "an average computer user". So, watch out for UNIPORT's Einstein!



Nicholas

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# Onyeike Calls For Nutritional Disorder Mgt Centre

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This call was made by Professor of Biochemistry, Eugene Onyeike, while delivering the 99<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Lecture of the University, at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium last December. The well-attended lecture was the last for the year 2012.

Professor Onyeike, who said that the "Centre when established should have Rehabilitation Units where patients with different nutritional disorders are catered for free of charge funded from at least 1% of the Federal Government annual budget", also advised Government to fund research in the sciences, technology and agriculture so that enough food would be produced, packaged and distributed at relatively low cost to end users.

The Inaugural Lecturer, whose presentation was titled: "Food, Nutrition and Toxicology: Is Your Life in Your Hands?", recommended that the policy thrust of Nigerian government at all levels should include reduction of taxes on food and to release food stuff, removal of value-added tax on baby

foods, edible oils, rice and grains, reduction of electricity and utility bills and introduction of special programmes for schools and hospital feeding.

Professor Onyeike also suggested that a Food Regulatory Body should be put in place in each State in Nigeria to ensure the right type of food is consumed, calling on Federal and State Governments to evolve measures aimed at helping the populace manage their lifestyles and prevent disorders that are occasioned by malnutrition. Professor Onyeike stressed the need to embrace herbal medicine to ensure total health care delivery in Nigeria.

Said he, "Many of our research findings in the area of Medical and Pharmacological Biochemistry and

Toxicology have shown that the plants we investigated have ethno-pharmacological importance and confirm their use in traditional health care practices for the treatment and management of abdominal pains, diarrhoea, asthma, hypertension, carbon tetra chloride induced hepato-toxicity/hepatic cytotoxicity, diabetes mellitus, cancers, inflammatory diseases, cardiovascular diseases such as congestive heart failure, upper respiratory and urinary tract infections".

In his remarks, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who described the Inaugural Lecturer as a thorough-bred academic and researcher, commended him for his contributions to knowledge and growth of the University, urging orthodox medical practitioners to key into the gains of herbal remedies to advance the health of the people side by side with western medicine.



Onyeike (arrowed), V-C, Prof Ajenka and other Professors before the Lecture

## CEBAS Calls For Better Environmental Stewardship

By Mercy Don-Baridam

In a bid to ensure that the University environment is kept clean at all times,

Acting Director of the Campus Environmental Beautification and Sanitation (CEBAS) Unit, Mr Okezie Ochuba, has stressed the need for staff and students to stop all forms of bush burning and ensure that refuse is tied in cellophane bags to enable the Unit evacuate same on weekly basis.

Speaking with *UNIPORT Weekly* last Monday in his office, Mr Ochuba said the call was in line with a directive from the University Management for the Unit to ensure that the environment is kept clean and devoid of waste as the Institution prepares for the 29<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony.

Mr Ochuba stated that with the hamathan season now in full swing, burning of any form of waste should be discontinued by residents and other users in the three Parks, lamenting that apart from the hazardous pollutants that are released into the atmosphere that endanger humans when refuse is indiscriminately burnt on Campus, there are other unacceptable environmental practices that are injurious to health that CEBAS is working hard to stop through practical examples and enlightenment.

The Acting Director disclosed that the Unit is working hard to ensure that the University is kept free of any form of waste. "For us in CEBAS,

keeping the environment clean is a daily business that we take very seriously here. We intend to reach out to all stakeholders and the Dean

of Student Affairs to assist us stop students from defacing the walls of our University with banners and posters, especially during their election periods", he said, noting that if students and staff stop defacing the Campus with posters, the University environment would become clean.

On the aspect of Campus beautification, Mr Ochuba said that appropriate steps are being taken to achieve the feat, which he described as the collective effort of staff, students and visitors to the University. "The Campus Environmental Beautification and Sanitation is making a difference in this respect. We want the University to serve as a model for other institutions in beauty and cleanliness as we hope to plant more ornamental plants in and around the three Parks", he disclosed, expressing optimism that the Unit would work harder to attain the objective of a clean environment this year.

He appealed to staff and students to assist CEBAS achieve its mandate by complying with all environmental rules, advising organizers of events on Campus to always notify the Unit to enable it make contingency plans to evacuate refuse that may be generated during such occasions.



Mr Ochuba

## RPA Trains Staff On Grant Opportunities

By Juliet Nnamdi & Otikor Samuel

In a bid to explore funding opportunities to secure grants through Research Professional Africa Platform (RPA), over 230 staff and researchers had undergone theoretical training to meet part of the core mandate of the University, as well as utilize the huge investment on the project by Management as part of its human capacity development drive.

Speaking during a one day train-the-trainer session held at the School of Basic Studies Unit, last Wednesday, the University Platform Administrator of Research Professional Africa, Dr

Olufemi Adesope, disclosed that the training aimed at accessing funding opportunities through the platform, using single and advanced search methods developed by his organization.

He noted that the University spent about 15,000 US dollars last year to subscribe to the platform, which is tenable for a year, revealing that four African universities are currently benefiting from it.

The training which drew participants from various Departments featured an interactive session on the procedures for registration with the platform to attract grants to the University for research purposes.



Dr Adesope

## Konya Becomes Pioneer Provost Of CGS ...As New Deans Also Take Office

By Obinna Nwodin

Following Senate approval of the transformation of the School of Graduate Studies into a College, a pioneer Provost has been appointed for the new College. She is Professor Roseline Konya of the Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences.

Until her new appointment, Professor Konya was Dean of the former School of Graduate Studies. A letter signed by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienna conveying the appointment read in part, "...as Provost, you would be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor through the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Development), who oversees all Graduate Programmes and through them to Senate of the University for the management of the affairs of the College". The appointment which took effect from 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 will terminate on December 20, 2014.

Similarly, pioneer Deans have been appointed for the new Graduate Schools under the College. They



Prof Dosunmu



Prof Awiri



Prof Ifeanacho



Prof Konya

are Professor Gregory Awiri for the Graduate School of Natural, Applied and Medical Sciences (GSNAMS), Professor Chinedu Ezirim, Graduate School of Management, Business and Trade (GSMBT), Professor Adewale Dosunmu, Graduate School of Engineering and Technology (GSET) and Professor Martin Ifeanacho, Graduate School of Arts, Education and Social Sciences (GSAESS).

The appointments which took effect from 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 will terminate on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2014. It would be recalled that Senate at its 386<sup>th</sup> Meeting approved the upgrade of the former School of Graduate Studies to a College status for

better service delivery to take care of the growing clientele of the new College of Graduate Studies.

In a related development, Professor Dulu Appah of the Department of Petroleum and Gas Engineering has been appointed Chair Occupant of the Chi Ikoku Chair of Petroleum Engineering. Professor Michael Monanu of the Department of Biochemistry was also appointed Chair Occupant, Emeritus Professor Emanuel Anosike Chair of Biochemistry and Professor Godfrey Ofunne, Chair Occupant of FUGRO Chair of Environmental Management. The appointments which took effect from 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 will terminate on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2014.

## Frank-Peterside Emerges Provost, CNAS ...Faculties Elect Ndukwu, Monanu, Ukaegbu Deans

Professor Nnenna Frank-Peterside of the Department of Microbiology, has been elected pioneer Provost of the new College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CNAS). Frank-

Peterside, who was the immediate past Dean of the defunct Faculty of Science,

By Humphrey Ogu & Henrietta Otonnah emerged unopposed at the elections held inside the MBA 1 Hall, Ofirima Complex, last Wednesday.

Professors Ben Ndukwu of the Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, Michael Monanu of the Department of Biochemistry and Victor Ukaegbu of the Department of Geology, were also elected Deans of the new Faculties of Biological, Chemical and Physical Sciences and Information Technology, respectively.

Ndukwu was elected unopposed, while Monanu polled 25 votes to defeat his co-contestants, who had 17 and four votes, respectively. Similarly, Ukaegbu polled 55 votes to defeat his contender, who got 14 votes.

Announcing the results, Director of Academic Affairs, Mrs Dorcas Otto, promised to convey the outcome of the elections to the Management of the University for ratification, congratulating the newly-elected Provost and Deans on their well-deserved victory.

Responding to their electoral victory, Professors Frank-Peterside, Ndukwu, Monanu and Ukaegbu expressed delight at the confidence reposed in them by their colleagues, promising to justify their elevation through enhanced productivity and team-spirit in the new College.

Earlier, the new Provost gave account of her stewardship as Dean of the demerged Faculty, recalling the achievements recorded by her administration since assumption of office in July, 2012, as well as the challenges faced by the defunct Faculty, which she promised to tackle in the new College setting.



Prof Frank-Peterside



Prof Ndukwu



Prof Monanu



Prof Ukaegbu

## VC's Office Gives Boss 58<sup>th</sup> Birthday Surprise!

By Obinna Nwodin

In what could be described as a surprise package, staff of the Vice-Chancellor's Office marked the 58<sup>th</sup> birthday of their boss, last Thursday morning, with a boisterous Happy Birthday song that reverberated through the Senate building. Members of staff arrived earlier than usual to the office to await the arrival of the unsuspecting celebrant, who strolled into the waiting arms of his staff.

A visibly surprised Professor Joseph Ajienna thanked them for the honour done him, as well as their contributions to the effectiveness of the office since he was appointed Vice-Chancellor in July, 2010, adding that the gains of their contributions would be enjoyed by all. A bouquet of flowers and Birthday Card were presented to Professor Ajienna by the Office to mark his 58<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Not to be outdone, the Institute of Petroleum Studies, where the Vice-Chancellor was pioneer Director also treated him to a birthday reception. The landmark event was later rounded off with a get-together at the Vice-Chancellor's Lodge, at which the Department of Music performed to the delight of guests and members of the Ajienna household.



V-C, Prof. Ajienna and Prof. Arinze click glass while Sec. Anne-Young looks on



Prof Okeke

## Patience Jonathan Gender Centre For Inauguration March

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

**D**irector, Patience Jonathan Centre for Gender and Women Development Studies in the University, Professor Elizabeth Okeke, has disclosed plans for the formal inauguration of the Centre and first advocacy workshop to be held this March.

The Director, who spoke while exchanging views with a *UNIORT Weekly* Correspondent, also revealed plans by the Centre to commence full-time Postgraduate programme in Gender and Women Development Studies in the 2012/2013 academic session.

Professor Okeke reiterated the Centre's commitment to in-depth revitalization, transmission and continuous research on gender issues and women development generally, initiation of formal and non-formal education programmes that impact on gender-related and women development studies, saying that it would engender an enabling environment that would provide equal opportunity for men and women to develop their potentials and participate fully in the attainment of excellence.

She disclosed that the Centre would focus on women's health, empowerment and skills acquisition as part of its statutory mandate. "We would focus on identifying women health issues and potential areas of training to build self-reliance and independence amongst women", she said, adding that the Centre would partner institutions, government at all levels and non-governmental organizations to develop the womenfolk as part of efforts aimed at accelerating national development.

## V-C Commends NAEC On Energy Centre

By Juliet Nnamdi, Ethel Timi-Johnson & Adeola Ojo

**V**ice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has commended the Nigeria Atomic Energy Commission (NAEC) for siting the Centre for Nuclear Energy Studies in the University, pointing out that when fully operational, the Centre would assist in building capacity for the development of the emerging nuclear energy sector.

Professor Ajienka made the commendation when Chairman/Chief Executive Officer of the Commission, Dr. Franklin Osaisai, led a delegation on a courtesy visit on him at the Committee Room last Tuesday.

The Vice-Chancellor, who expressed gratitude to Dr Osaisai for his role in attracting the Centre to his *Alma Mater*, noted that one of the buildings was commissioned during the last Convocation Ceremony, while plans are at an advanced stage to commission the second building during the 29<sup>th</sup> Convocation on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2013. Professor Ajienka told the Centre Director, Professor Ayo Kuye and his staff not to wait till the building was completed before moving in, advising that they could commence preliminary activities if basic facilities are made available by the Commission.

Speaking earlier, Dr Osaisai, who reviewed the

objectives of the Centre; stressed that it was set up to train requisite manpower in the development of nuclear science and technology for Nigeria. "NAEC is not just a certificate awarding institution, as it is expected to basically train Master's Degree students in the specialization", promising that NAEC would continue to support the development of the Centre to enable it attain its full potentials, thus launching the country into the comity of nations that utilize nuclear energy to power their industrial and social development.

He disclosed that the Federal Government's determination to ensure adequate manpower training and capacity building in nuclear science and development led to the establishment of the Centre for Nuclear Energy Studies (CNES) in the University.

Recounting that the Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) are also partnering the University through the Centre for Marine Pollution Monitoring and Seafood Safety (CMPMSS) and Centre for Malaria Research and Phytomedicine, Osaisai commended the CNES for fulfilling the core mandate of the Commission, promising to provide more facilities for training, research and development in the Centre.



V-C, Prof. Ajienka, DV-C (R&D), Prof. Willie-Abbey, Chairman NAEC, Dr. Osaisai (arrowed), DV-C (Acad), Prof. Joe, other Officials of NAEC and senior officers of the University

## PTA Donates Office Complex To UDSS

By Ethel Timi-Johnson & Adeola Ojo

**A**s a way of contributing towards the accelerated development of the University of Port Harcourt Demonstration Secondary School (UDSS), the Parent/Teachers Association (PTA), last December, handed over a newly completed staff office complex to Management of the School.

Speaking during the commissioning of the Project, Chairman, Board of Governors of the

School, Professor Johnny Otaigbe, who commended the PTA for meeting the expectation of the School, noted that the new office accommodation would spur staff to greater productivity and efficiency. He also called for proper utilization of the new building, as a way of attracting more projects from all stakeholders.

Chairman of the PTA, Mr Jones Ayuwo, pledged continued support of the Association to uplifting standards in the School through initiation and implementation of projects that would usher in an environment that is conducive for learning and recreation. "This PTA is committed to providing facilities that would positively impact on our children and their teachers", he said, citing plans to provide portable drinking water in the School as one of such projects on the drawing board for implementation at the earliest opportunity.

Presenting the End-of-Year Report, Principal of the School, Mr Ogechi Anele, noted that owing to quality teaching and stringent quality assurance and control measures adopted by Management, the School recorded a resounding 96 per cent pass at credit level in the 2012 West African Senior School Certificate Examination, promising that efforts would be intensified to attain a 100 per cent pass rate at the next examination to justify the confidence reposed in the School by stakeholders.



Prof Otaigbe and Mr Ayuwo at the commissioning of the project  
Inset: UDSS Principal, Mr Anele

Cont'd from p1

# V-C Constitutes 29<sup>th</sup> Convocation C'ttee

the event. "In appointing the Committee members, the Vice-Chancellor took into account clearly identified areas of need that have direct bearing on the overall success of the Convocation Ceremony. We have a huge challenge to pull off a successful Convocation Ceremony", the Chairman said, adding that the Vice-Chancellor reposes so much confidence in the ability of each member to creditably discharge his or her responsibilities to the University in this respect.

Addressing the Committee during the Inaugural Meeting held in the Vice-Chancellor's Committee Room, last Wednesday, Professor Joe charged them to be conscious of the limited timeframe available to them as they go about their duty schedules, advising them to commence work immediately by forwarding their budgetary estimates for consideration without further delay. The Chairman told the Committee members to ensure that the observed loopholes in the 28<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony do not repeat themselves in the forthcoming event, promising that all sub-Committees would be assisted to accomplish their functions to specification.

The reconstituted membership of the Committee comprises Professors Nnenna Frank-Peterside and Gregory Awiri, Dr. Peter Kpolovie, Mrs. Agatha Ataga (Registrar's Representative), Mr. Samuel Ogbughu (Bursar's Representative), Mr. Nicholas



Prof Joe, Chairman, Convocation C'ttee

Abule (Director of Work's Representative), Mrs. Dorcas Otto, Professor Henry Bell-Gam, Williams Wodi, Dr Sylvester Udeorah, Lt Col Reginald Isiguzo (rtd), while Mr. Promise Simeon will serve as Secretary.

The Committee is also at liberty to co-opt anybody with the right expertise to assist it put up an excellent outing during the 29<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony of the University. Watch out for more details of the Convocation Ceremony in subsequent editions of *UNIPORT Weekly*.

## NAEAP Elects Kpee National Scribe

By Mercy Don-Baridam

**V**ice-Chairman of the University of Port Harcourt branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities, Dr Gospel Kpee, has called on educational administrators and graduates to avail themselves of the opportunity to be part of the Nigerian Association of Educational Administration and Planning (NAEAP), to enable them function effectively on their jobs.

Speaking with a *UNIPORT Weekly* Correspondent last Monday, Dr Kpee, who doubles as Acting Co-ordinator, Post-NCE Sandwich Degree Programme in the University, disclosed that he emerged as National Secretary-General of the body following a competitive electoral process, stating that the Association is the umbrella body that moderates all activities of Educational Administrators and Planners in Nigeria.

Dr Kpee disclosed that the Association, which holds its academic conference annually, also produces the



Dr Kpee

widely-read *Nigeria Journal of Educational Administration and Planning* (NJEAP).

He stated that membership of the Association cuts across Principals in Secondary Schools, Administrators in Nigerian Universities and graduates of Educational Administration and Planning, explaining that plans are underway to ensure that membership of the Association becomes one of the criteria for appointment of Secondary School Principals in the country.

Dr Kpee said: "I won the election based on the ranking which the University of Port Harcourt has attained over the years. As I took over as National Secretary-General, I have been able to introduce a permanent membership plaque and number, to enable us tag members at all conferences", he said, stating that all members need to do henceforth, is to pay their dues and renew their membership during Conferences. The new National Secretary-General added that the innovation has enabled the Secretariat determine the actual membership strength of the Association for proper planning purposes.

## Humanities Marks End-Of-Year In Style

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

**T**he 2012 End-of-Year Party of the Faculty of Humanities which held at the Office Quadrangle, last December, offered staff and Students a rare opportunity, to drop their guards and reflect on the activities of the academic year. The gathering also offered a platform for staff to chart a new direction for the new academic session.

The Dean, Professor Ozo-Mekuri Ndimale, who recounted the achievements and losses recorded in the Faculty last year, said that seven staff earned promotion, while two Lecturers, Dr Obed Ojukwu and Dr Ekaete Akpan, died in a ghastly motor accident in the line of duty. "Despite the painful losses, we still have a cause to give glory to God for his abundant mercies, hence we conceived the idea of a get-together to enable us take stock of how we fared during the year that has just ended",

he said.

Urging other Faculties to emulate Humanities, the Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim, noted that the gathering provided an avenue for relaxation and stock-taking amongst staff and students. "Ensure that this becomes an annual retreat so that staff, who work round the clock all through the year, would have an opportunity to unwind away from the rigours of work", she remarked, promising that the Administration would continue to support accelerated development of all Faculties in the University.

The event which had teaching and non-teaching staff of the Faculty in attendance, featured presentation of awards to students on the Dean's List, drama sketch by the Department of Theater Arts, Musical renditions by students of the Department of Music and a fashion parade by the Department of Fine Arts and Design.



Profs Nwankpa, Bell-Gam, Registrar, Mrs Nnodim, Prof Ndimale and Prof Kilani at the party

# GUIDEPOST

## PROFESSORIAL PROMOTION

*Dr Atemie, Josiah Dagogo*, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, promoted *Professor of Sociology (Demography)*, effective 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2010.

## PROMOTION

*Dr Ehirim, Longinus Ndubuisi*, Department of Anesthesiology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Osokogwu, Uche*, Department of Petroleum & Gas Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Ubani, Chikwendu*, Department of Petroleum & Gas Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Dr (Mrs) Kaegon, Lesi Elizabeth Saaronce*, Department of Educational Management, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Dr (Mrs) Ekechukwu, Rosemary Obiagari*, Department of Educational Psychology Guidance and Counseling, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Dr Elendu, Ifeanyichukwu Christian*, Department of Human Kinetics & Health Education, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Dr Ezimah, Michael Onyebuchi Azubuike*, Department of Adult & Non-Formal Education, Faculty of Education, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Dr Ojule, John Dimkpa*, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Dr Onyegbue, Leticia Nneka*, Department of Computer Science, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Obiechina, Georgy Ogonna*, Department of Human Kinetics & Health Education, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Dr Sapira, Monday Komene*, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Dr Alasia, Datonye Dennis*, Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

*Eteng, Akua Agbaeze*, Department of Electrical/Electronics Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

## CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT

*Mr Nwaobakata, Chukwumeka*, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, effective 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2011.

*Dr (Mrs) Asodike, Juliana*, Department of Educational Management & Planning, Faculty of Education, effective 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2010.

*Mr Nyewusira, Benjamin Nnamdi*, Department of Educational Foundation, Faculty of Education, effective 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2011.

*Dr Ipallibo, Simpson Wokoma*, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, effective 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2007.

*Dr Obiorah, Christopher Chinedu*, Department of Anatomical Pathology, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, effective 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2010.

## ASSUMPTION OF DUTY

*Dr Okonta, Kelechi Emmanuel*, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, assumes duty as *Lecturer I*, effective 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2012.

*Dr Oranu, Emmanuel*, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, assumes duty as *Lecturer I*, effective 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2012

## STUDY LEAVE

*Mr Laud, Charles Ochei*, Department of Computer Sciences, Faculty of Physical Science & Information Technology, College of Natural & Applied Sciences, proceeds on a three-year *Study Leave with Pay*, effective 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2013 to 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2016.

*Mr Iloinso, Bruno*, Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Chemical Science, College of Natural & Applied Sciences, proceeds on a one-year *Study Leave with Pay*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2012 to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2013.



V-C, Prof Ajenka, presenting a plaque to Mr Akani, while Mrs Kadana and Ms Dabo display theirs

## V-C Tasks Staff On Enhanced Productivity

By Obinna Nwodin

A passionate plea has gone out to all categories of staff of the University to redouble their efforts in line with the stated objective of the present Administration to bequeath a world-class Entrepreneurial University that future generations would be proud to associate with. Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who gave the advice, called for diligence and hard work from staff in the course of their service so as to live a lasting legacy for others coming behind to emulate.

Professor Ajenka spoke during a Send-Forth ceremony in honour of three retirees in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor. Those honoured were: former Chief Executive Officer (Secretarial), Mrs Ukpong Kadana; Chief Catering Officer, Ms Rose Dabor and Senior Technical Officer, Mr Clement Akani.

Professor Ajenka, who said that hard work, has never killed anyone, but rather rewards, paid glowing tribute to the retirees for their dedication and meritorious services to the University, especially in the Vice-Chancellor's Office, where staff work under enormous

pressures to meet deadlines. He also commended them for leaving lasting legacies, which he enjoined others to emulate, stressing the importance of mentoring in any system so that younger staff would imbibe the positive qualities of the older and experienced ones, who are bound to leave the system at some point in their public service career.

In their separate tributes, Mr Gabriel Nwauzoigwe, Mrs Ngozi Isikwem, Mr Patrick Amadi and former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Bernard Efiuvwevwe, said that those honoured made significant impact in the quality services they rendered to the University.

Responding on behalf of the honorees, Mrs Kadana, who thanked staff of the Vice-Chancellor's Office for the honour done them, commended the unity amongst staff of the Office as a motivating factor behind their excellent services to the University, advising those they left behind to emulate such work ethic in order to move the University to greater heights. The event featured presentation of awards and prizes to the honorees.

## STOP PRESS

### COMMITTEE ON STAFF REMUNERATION

Professor Mark Anikpo, has been appointed Chairman, Committee on Remuneration of Staff from Non-National Universities Commission (NUC) Funded Programmes. Other members of the Committee are: Professors Elijah Iyagba, Steve Okodudu and Representatives of the Bursar, ASUU, SSANU, NAAT and NASU. An Officer from the Registrar's Office would serve as Secretary. The Committee's Terms of Reference include: reviewing the policy of remuneration to staff from income generated from all Non-NUC funded programmes, evaluating the income, expenditure and remunerations to Teaching and Non-teaching staff from 2010-2012, as well as recommending appropriate remunerations and benefits to other staff of the University.

### MGT GOES TOUGH ON LATENESS

Hard times await Staff of the University, who may wish to continue in the old habit of reporting late to the office in the New Year. There is also bad news for those, who may wish to make a career out of truancy, absenteeism and malingering in the line of duty.

A statement signed on behalf of the Registrar by the Director of Personnel Affairs, Mr Roland Wabali, warned that Management would henceforth punish such infringements as promptly as they occur in any part of the University, regretting that subtle approaches adopted in the past to stem the unprofessional habit had so far failed to yield the desired result, thus necessitating the new measures.

The statement further warned that all forms of misconduct would no longer be tolerated by Management. "For the avoidance of doubt, regular spot checks will be carried out in all Faculties, Departments and Units to ensure that members of staff report at their duty posts and close at the appropriate time," the statement said, advising staff, who reside far away from the University to set out early enough for the office if they hope to escape sanction.

Management also warned that flimsy excuses that result in lateness would no longer be tolerated from staff, who do not wish to put in an honest day's work to deserve their pay at the end of the month, soliciting the cooperation of all staff towards the attainment of organizational goals in the New Year.



Provost, Prof Chris Akani (middle) Deputy Provost Prof Owanari Georgewill and Deputy Registrar, Williams Wodi before the event



Former Provost, CHS, Prof Osaretin Odia admonishing the new Dental Surgeons and Medical Doctors

## Medical Doctors Induction

**F**ive pioneer Dental Surgeons and the 32<sup>nd</sup> Batch of Medical Doctors were inducted by the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) at the Banigo Auditorium, last December.

Pictures below show highlights of the event as captured by our cameraman **HEADMANALU**.



Provost, College of Health Sciences, Prof Akani giving his welcome address



Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, Ambrose Obiechina delivering his address



Best Graduating Student, Dr Dickson Ibaranyankaye in a handshake with Provost, Prof Akani



Medical Elder of the Day, Dr Christopher Hekerem listening to his citation



Dr Emmy Abu in a handshake with representative of the Registrar and Director Personnel Affairs, Mr Roland Wabali



Oba (Dr) A.Y. Dirisu, one-time Council Member, and his Olorin



A cross-section of the new doctors taking the Physicians' Oath



Chairman, Medical Advisory Council (CMAC), UPTH, Prof Christie Mato, congratulating one of the new doctors



A cross section of the new doctors



One of the new doctors affirming the Physicians' Oath



The new doctors in a group photograph with some Principal Officers of the University