



UNIPORT Hosts Maiden African Composers' Summit

As part of efforts aimed at repositioning African Music on the world arena, accomplished Indigenous Music Composers and stakeholders converged at the University of Port Harcourt between Monday and Wednesday, last week, to brainstorm on ways and means of improving the quality of Music produced in Africa in the face of the onslaught from Western musical forms. The historic event was also used to celebrate the Black History Month under a collaborative venture between Summit organizers and the Centre for Black and African Arts and Civilization (CBAAC), report *Mercy Adeniji and Humphrey Ogu*.

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Side Bar

The Institute of Arts and Culture (ARTS VILLAGE) organized a choral concert last Wednesday. Details next week -Editor

UNIPORT Weekly

Vol. 13, No. 1

March 4 - 11, 2013

ISSN: 3790-3790

For Information and Enlightenment

A Publication of the Information, Publications and Centre for Public Relations Unit, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria

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Nursing Dept Plans Maiden Induction



101st Inaugural

Leton Advocates Appropriate Technology Centre For National Dev

By Humphrey Ogu

Professor Tambari Leton of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, College of Engineering, has called for the establishment of a Centre for Intermediate and Appropriate Technology (CIAT) in Nigeria to cater for the dissemination of knowledge and practical training of requisite

manpower in Engineering for accelerated national development.

Leton, who made the call while delivering the 101st Inaugural Lecture, titled: "Engineering with a Human Face", at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last Thursday, defined Appropriate Technology as "being mindful of what we are doing, and being aware of the consequences thereof", adding that "the crux of the

matter is that our training should be meaningful to us and at the same time guide and enable us to apply our acquired expertise in solving societal problem.

"The people, who pioneered Appropriate Technology, were some of the most brilliant and articulate minds I have ever known. Before one can go into Appropriate Technology, one must

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UAC Kick-Starts Alumni Database Alert

The University Advancement Centre (UAC) has embarked on an Alumni Database Alert Project designed to forge closer ties with the Alumni Association aimed at consolidating the existing relationship between members and their *Alma Mater*. Speaking at a formal presentation of the project last Thursday, Director of the Centre, Dr Ngozi Odu, disclosed that in a bid to identify with distinguished Alumni, the Centre has created a database that would ensure an open-ended communication with members, in addition to giving them a sense of belonging as ex-students of the University, who remain committed to the development of the Institution that gave them identity.

"Initiation of the database is a deliberate effort aimed at celebrating our Alumni as the database would be configured to send out messages to them on memorable occasions such as their birthdays, wedding anniversaries and good will messages during festive seasons. It is also our own little way of letting them know that we appreciate them and acknowledge their individual contributions to the overall development of the University and society", Dr Odu added.

Benefactor of the project and Alumnus of the



(3rd from left), Dr Odu, Mr Ideozu, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Dr Gloria Emenike, Admin Officer of MARG, Mrs Daba Alii flanked by staff of the UAC

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

University, Mr Godson Ideozu, who also doubles as the Chief Education Consultant of MARG Education International, said that the project would constitute part of his Annual Giving to the University, promising that the database would be periodically upgraded to

give out useful information to Alumni members when necessary.

Alumni Relations Officer, Mrs Stella Nwaonuma, who lauded MARG Education International for partnering UAC on the project, assured the firm that the database would be put to effective use to achieve the desired result for which it was created.

UDPS Marks Girls' Guide Day

By Mercy Adeniji

Founder and his Wife, Lord and Lady Baden Powell, with a courtesy visit to some Principal Officers of the University.

Speaking when the Guide paid him a visit, penultimate Thursday, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igbo Joe, commended the School for the initiative, urging the organization to continue in the spirit of rendering humanitarian and social services to people in need. He also made a personal donation to support the organization.

President of the Guide, UDPS Branch, Mrs Benedicta Bakor, disclosed that the mission of the Girls' Guide is to equip young girls and women to develop their full potentials as responsible citizens of the world. "During this period, the Nigerian Girls' Guide and Boys' Scouts join their peers all over the

world to take action on issues that affect young people. We visit charity homes, give health tips to expectant mothers and carry out fund-raising activities to support the less-privileged ones among us".

Mrs Bakor noted that the theme of this year's celebration is titled: "Together we can save children's lives and improve Maternal Health", explaining that the theme focused on one of the Millennium Development Goals of the President Goodluck Jonathan-led administration. She pointed out that other activities for the week included: visit to some residential quarters on Campus to do menial jobs, visit the some charity homes and organize a get-together with the children.

Secretary of the Guide, Mrs Agu Joan disclosed that the mission of the Nigerian Guide is to raise funds to improve the health of children and improve maternal health. "This year, we intend to visit some charity homes from the funds we have raised".

The pupil also visited other Principal Officers to commemorate the day and create awareness about the activities of the organization on Campus.



L-R: DV-C (Acad) Prof Joe (arrowed) President, UDPS Girls' Guide, Mrs Bakor, Secretary, Mrs Agu, Teachers and Students of the guide

As part of activities that marked this year's Nigeria Girls' Guide Day, the University Demonstration Primary School (UDPS), joined her counterparts all over the world to celebrate the birthday of their

mission of the Girls' Guide is to equip young girls and women to develop their full potentials as responsible citizens of the world. "During this period, the Nigerian Girls' Guide and Boys' Scouts join their peers all over the

STUDENT WORLD

I Had Always Loved To Be A Midwife

If you are looking for a young lady with burning passion for the profession of the legendary Florence Nightingale, then look no further than CHINASA OBODO, a Final Year Student of the Department of Nursing, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, who wants to be a Midwife by all means possible. The budding Caregiver spoke with our Intern, OGHENETEJIRI ODUBU.

"UNIPORT had always been my first choice of University right from my Secondary School days. I chose UNIPORT because I had both my Primary and Secondary School Education in Enugu State in South Eastern Nigeria. It was the spirit of adventure that motivated me to break new grounds by opting to study outside Enugu. Unique UNIPORT was the natural choice", she recalled.

Miss Obodo lives at the Presidential Hostel, University Park, one of the benefits of being a student of Nursing in the University of Port Harcourt. As a result, she does not have to go through the daily stress of commuting to the Campus to attend classes like her counterparts, who live off-Campus.

On her reading habit as a Student of a Department that is well known for hard work that could drive one to the edge, Chinasa said, "Sometimes, I make use of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital Library during the day or spend a maximum of four hours in the evenings at any of the free lecture halls allocated to Clinical Students."

Being aware of the popular saying that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," Miss Obodo said, "I do engage in social networking, as well as watch movies at my leisure hours," adding that she surfs the Internet three times a week for information that would enhance her understanding of the subjects taught in class.

On her eating habit, "I eat at least three times a day," she said, disclosing that she does not keep late nights, except

when she is out studying. The strict enforcement of corporate wears by the Department of Nursing does not bother Chinasa, as she usually loves to go corporate as a matter of personal preference.

On her profession and life after School, Miss Obodo who disclosed that she had always wanted to study Nursing as a stepping stone to Midwife practice said, "I love Midwifery, because I love children and I love to see the joy on a Mother's face after safe delivery of her baby. It is both a memorable experience and privilege to be part of the special process of bringing in a new creation into the world. So when I gained admission to study Nursing through the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME), I knew it was my dream come true to qualify and practise my first

subject—Midwifery," she recalled.

Describing Nursing as a noble profession that enables practitioners to render Godly care to people who are not able to help themselves, Miss Obodo said, "I love the aspect that has to do with assisting pregnant women during delivery, attesting to the fact that God does the delivery and not the Midwives".

The budding Midwife cited Mrs. Amininiye Manuel as her role-model in the Department, describing her as very intelligent and engaging in her approach to imparting knowledge to students. "In fact, she is a born Nurse", Obodo added. So, the next time you walk into a Maternity Ward any moment from now, please look out for this angel of life, who loves to assist expectant mothers to populate the world; this is in addition to caring for the sick—in the hallowed footsteps of Florence Nightingale.



Obodo

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V-C, Prof. Ajenka (arrowed) flanked by Emeritus Prof. Nketia (right), DV-C (Admin), Prof. Nduka, HOD Music, Prof. Nwankpa and other Music Icons

UNIORT Hosts Maiden African Composers' Summit ...As CBAAC Marks Black History Month

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The event which was organized by the Department of Music in collaboration with CBAAC, with the theme: "From Indigenous to Modern African Music Composition" drew participants from universities within and outside Nigeria. Declaring open the two-day maiden African Composers Summit held at the Theatre Arts Lecture Hall, University Park, last Tuesday, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, expressed hope that "the Summit would afford African Indigenous Composers a rare opportunity to shape the direction and development of our rich creative genres and assess their contributions to the growth of the global music industry".

"Art is so important that civilizations rise and fall, but only the arts of the people survive. As a University, we want to celebrate creativity; we want to ensure that we celebrate the arts not just the degrees we award to students on graduation. Music touches the spirit and soul and we must make the best out of our cultural background to produce the right kind of music for our delight and instruction", the Vice-Chancellor told the gathering that included globally-renowned Composer and Music Teacher, 92-year old Emeritus Professor Kwabena Nketia of the University of Cape Coast,

Ghana.

The Vice-Chancellor called on African Composers and Musical Educators with common interest in research activities to invest their time and resources in creating diverse musical styles, vocal and instrumental works that would project African indigenous music to the rest of the world, promising to support establishment of a Secretariat for the two newly-inaugurated Association of African Composers (AAC) and Society of Nigerian Composers (SNC).

He expressed gratitude to the Director-General of CBAAC, Professor Tunde Babawale and his team for their commendable interest in the promotion of the Black identity through sponsorship of the maiden African Indigenous Composers' Summit aimed at documenting aspects of the local repertoire that stands out anywhere in the world. "We believe that this Summit would aid us to engage in more collaboration with CBAAC", Professor Ajenka noted.

Delivering the Keynote Address titled: "Compositional Procedures In Africa Music Practices: Types and presentational Styles", Professor Dan Agu of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, disclosed that Africans make great use of music in all activities, ranging from birth, religion, politics, social and warfare, stating that music conveys a lot of meaning to be acknowledged and accepted by any audience.

"All African Composers should be encouraged to give their ideas without inhibition, their composition must be heard for whatever they are, since the ideas of today could serve as pivot on which tomorrow ideas will rotate", he said, advising Composers to seriously consider application of African rhythmic and melodic instruments to enhance the beauty of their works and make them uniquely African.

Director-General, CBAAC, Professor Babawale, expressed gratitude to the Department of Music and Management of the University for accepting to host the Summit. "I want to thank the Vice-Chancellor and assure you that CBAAC is ready to carry this partnership forward as we hope to sign an MoU with your University to advance Diaspora studies", he disclosed.

In his Address, Head of Department of Music and Convener of the Summit, Professor Onyee Nwankpa, said the essence of the gathering was to involve the academia in exchange of ideas and scholarship, stating that the Summit was convened to articulate artistic direction and leadership in the academia and music industry, considering the state-of-art in musical creation, including innovation in vocal and instrumental arrangements on the African continent.

"It is expected that modules and methods of musical creativity as a document for educational development will emerge at the Summit leading to the production of a study guide in musical creativity and industrial innovation, as well as software development, computer music and instrument technology for African music," he noted, charging participants to invest their time and resources in creating diverse musical styles, vocal and instrumental works for diverse media.

Erudite Historian and Cultural Ambassador, Professor Okon Uya, delivered a paper titled, "Diaspora and Homeland: An Emerging Theme in African Cultural and Historical Studies", in which he called for the institutionalization of studies of Africans in the Diaspora in the Nigerian university system to forge a new sense of oneness with the African continent.

Earlier, during a courtesy visit on the Vice-Chancellor, Chairman of the Summit, erudite scholar and Composer, Emeritus Professor Nketia, called for encouragement for young Composers, stressing that music has a universal appeal that has the capacity to build bridges across cultures. "I have been studying developments in Nigerian music dating back to 1952 and I am very impressed with what the younger generation of musicians are doing; but my advice is that they should stick to authentic African music and not just imitate alien styles.

Professor Nketia accepted an invitation to become a Visiting Professor to the Department of Music as part of his vision to mentor younger entrants into the music industry.

Issues aimed at drawing attention to the health hazards posed by poor environmental stewardship by oil multinationals on inhabitants of the Niger Delta due to their prolonged exposure to heavy toxins formed the main thrust of the Second International Conference of West African Society of Toxicology (WASOT), held at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, University of Port Harcourt, penultimate Thursday.

Delivering the Keynote Lecture at the opening of the Conference, a Chemical Pathologist from the University of Ibadan, Professor John Anetor, who spoke on the topic: "Potentials of Reproductive Toxicity in the Niger Delta Basin: Avoiding a Repeat of the Thalidomide Catastrophe", lamented that the Niger Delta region is worst hit in terms of atmospheric pollutants occasioned by unregulated exposure of the people to harmful chemicals arising from the exploration and exploitation of oil and gas by insensitive multinationals, who place profit over people. Professor Anetor, who also noted the presence of heavy toxic metals in sea foods such as crab, crayfish, lobster and fish, disclosed that the aquatic food accumulate mercury, cadmium and other pollutants which are capable of damaging seminiferous tubules, decaying the harmful effects of such chemicals to the reproductive system of inhabitants of the region.

Making recommendations to contain what could turn out to be an endemic health hazard to people in the region, the Keynote Speaker suggested a holistic epidemiologically-based study to address the subtle effects of various environmental contaminants on human reproductive health, stressing the need for further

2nd WASOT Conference

Stakeholders Brainstorm On Harmful Chemicals In N'Delta

By Otikor Samuel

research on the teratogenic effects of molecular and cellular basis of most toxic chemicals—especially those associated with oil and gas production in the Niger Delta.

"Concerted effort by the scientific and clinical communities is highly desirable to further address and determine whether these chemicals constitute future or occult adverse reproductive outcomes to guide limitation to chemical exposure," Professor Anetor added.

In his address, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who praised the organizers for their choice of the University for the Conference, observed that the theme: "Global Understanding of Chemicals in Health, Diseases and Economics," was capable of enlightening participants and the public on proper use of chemicals for both economic and health benefits.

"There is no doubt that the production of chemicals is profitable in medicine, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, agriculture and so many other industries. However, more often than not, the side effects of these chemicals on humans and the environment are poorly documented and little known by end-users and even some

experts in the field," Professor Ajenka, who was represented by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development), Professor Bene Willie-Abbey pointed out, charging scientists with common interest in research activities on the wellbeing of mankind to urgently proffer solutions to the scourge of mismanagement of chemicals.

Chairman of the occasion and Head of Service, Rivers State Civil Service, Mr Samuel Longjohn, who noted that, "Our environment in the Niger Delta has been grossly affected by oil exploration and gas flaring for many years, so much so that the air we breathe, the water bodies and land are all polluted," added that pollutants emitted from automobiles as a result of congestion of traffic also contribute in causing harm to the ecosystem and humans. Earlier in their separate speeches, Chairman, Local Organizing Committee, Dr Kingsley Patrick-Iwuanyanwu and President of WASOT, Professor Orish Orisakwe, disclosed that WASOT was set up to promote awareness and best practices in toxicology in sub-Saharan Africa to address the myriad of environmental health challenges in the continent, some of which include cancers, high infertility rate and sharp fall in life expectancy.



R-L: Dr. Henrietta Otokunefor, Dean, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Prof. Oleka Udeala, Keynote Speaker, Prof. Anetor, Head of Service R/S, Mr Longjohn, DV-C (R&D), Prof. Willie-Abbey, President, WASOT, Prof. Orisakwe, Provost, CGS, Prof. Konyia and others

392nd Senate Meeting

Senate Approves New College of Engineering

...Centres, Programmes, Too

By Obinna Nwodin

As the University continues to witness expansion of its academic activities in geometric proportions, Senate has approved the transformation of the former Faculty of Engineering into a College of Engineering with three new Faculties.

This landmark decision was taken at the 392nd Meeting of Senate held last Wednesday after an animated presentation by the Dean, Professor Samuel Ejezie. The new College consists of the *Faculties of Process and Energy Systems Engineering; Infrastructure Systems Engineering and Production, Power Systems and Communication Engineering*, respectively.

Following this development, the Faculty of Process and Energy Systems Engineering, will house the Departments of Chemical Engineering, Gas Engineering, Petroleum Engineering, Nuclear Engineering, as well as Petro-Chemical Engineering. The emergent Faculty of Infrastructure Systems Engineering will comprise the Departments of Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Structural/Geotechnical Engineering; Water Resources Engineering, Department of Highway and Transportation Engineering, while the Faculty of Production, Power Systems and Communication Engineering, will host the Departments of Mechanical Engineering, Electrical/Electronics Engineering, Mechatronic Engineering, Electronics and Computer Engineering and Agricultural Engineering, respectively.

Senate also approved establishment of the *Faculty of Allied Health Sciences in the College of Health Sciences*. It also approved establishment of the *Centre for Instructional Innovation Technology (CIIT)* as presented by the Dean, Faculty of Education, Professor Ebi Bio Awotua-Efebo, as well as the Centre for Gas Refining and Petrochemical programme in the Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS), as presented by the Dean, Graduate School of Engineering and Technology, Professor Adewale Dosunmu. The Centre is to run a Master's Degree programme in Gas Engineering and Petrochemicals.

A number of presentations were also made on the floor of Senate by affected Departments. Dean of Student Affairs, Professor Henry Bell-Gam, presented Reports of the Student Disciplinary Committee for deliberations. They included a report of an investigation into a case of alleged financial imbroglia involving the Student Union made against former President of the Union, Mr Rhino Owokire by some of his aggrieved colleagues. Senate directed that Mr Owokire should be compelled to refund the sum of N253,250 (Two Hundred

and Fifty-Three Thousand, Two Hundred and Fifty Naira), to the coffers of the Union, being money reportedly not accounted for by the erstwhile President.

Senate also directed that a letter of reprimand be written to Mr Owokire on its decision, while his NYSC Call-Up Letter should be withheld until the said money is refunded. The session also dealt with a case of alleged threat to life, involving Miss Odinakalu Rosemary and Miss Prestige Udeji, both 400 Level students of the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies in the Faculty of Humanities.

Senate also handled a report involving investigation of an alleged protest/disruption of the School of Science Laboratory Technology (SSLT) examinations, as well as investigation of alleged membership of a Secret Cult in the University involving some students.

The Report of the Panel on recent student crises on Campus was presented by the Committee Chairman, Professor Tony Arinze. Chairman of Senate, Professor Joseph Ajenka, cautioned that when such occurrences happen in future, staff and students should not jump to immediate conclusions, advising that everybody should be calm enough to have a clear perspective on a particular situation before drawing conclusions or taking positions that may reflect adversely on the University.

Other presentations considered and approved by Senate were: A Health, Safety, Environment and Security (HSE&S) Policy of the University as presented by Professor Enuvie Akpokodje; modalities for appointing

Distinguished Professors, Alumni and Fellows of the University, presented by Professor Tony Arinze; Administrative Policy and General Guidelines on Centres, Institutes and Endowed Chairs presented by Professor Enuvie Akpokodje; UNIPORT Research Management Policy presented by Professor Gideon Abu on behalf of the Director, Centre for Research Management, Professor Onyewuchi Akaranta, Strategic Research Plan presented by Professor Adewale Dosunmu; Intellectual Property Policy by Professor Samuel Ibadje, as well as Policy on Research Ethics by Professor Blessing Didia, on behalf of the Committee Chairman, Professor Osaretin Odi.

The University Senate also took a brief on the regularization of the ACIB/B.Sc Programmes presented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igbo Joe.

Senate also considered and approved results from the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences, Engineering, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Faculty of Management Sciences, College of Health Sciences, as well as the College of Graduate Studies.

Earlier Professor Ajenka, who thanked Provosts, Deans of Faculty and Heads of Department for working assiduously to ensure that Degree results were ready and approved in readiness for the 29th Convocation Ceremony that held on Saturday, 9th March, 2013, stated that the University would face accreditation exercises this month from the National Universities Commission (NUC), adding that the authorities were casting about for the huge sums of money required to meet the minimum accreditation requirements.

Highlight of the session was the decoration of a distinguished Alumnus and Vice-Chancellor Michael Okara University, Professor Hilary Edoga with the University Muffler by the Provost, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Professor Nnenna Frank-Paterside, following a brief citation by the Vice-chancellor, Professor Ajenka.



Senate in session

"Quality Of Nigerian Education Is Improving"

Despite the popular belief in some quarters that the quality of Education in Nigeria is on the decline, Professor Chinyerem Madumere-Obike of the Department of Educational Management has presented a dissenting view, arguing that on the contrary, there has been appreciable improvement in the quality of education.

Madumere-Obike, who made the observation while exchanging views with *UNIPORT Weekly*, last Monday, noted that with innovations made possible by emergent Information and Communication Technology (ICT), there has been remarkable improvements in the quality of products of the Nigerian educational system, citing availability of information on the Internet which is accessible to students at various levels of education to buttress her position.

The Professor of Educational Management said that

By Humphrey Ogu

the focus of education has changed from mere literacy and numeracy to skills acquisition. "These days, focus is shifting from the ability to read and write to vocational education. It is now about vocational and entrepreneurial education, which means that students should graduate from tertiary institutions with certain skills that would enable them establish themselves in whatever field they may choose. Even students at the secondary

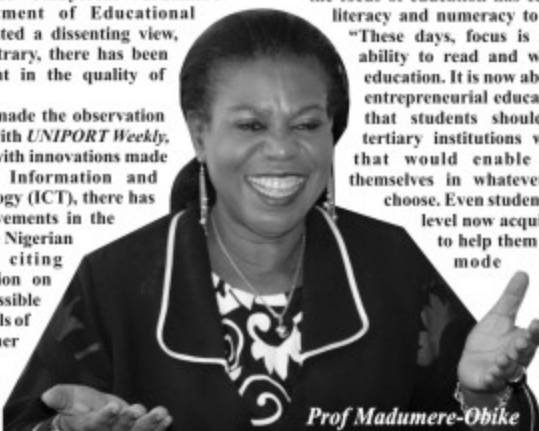
level now acquire computer skills to help them keep abreast with modern knowledge delivery techniques."

Madumere-Obike, who is the Associate Dean, Faculty of Education, cited lack of

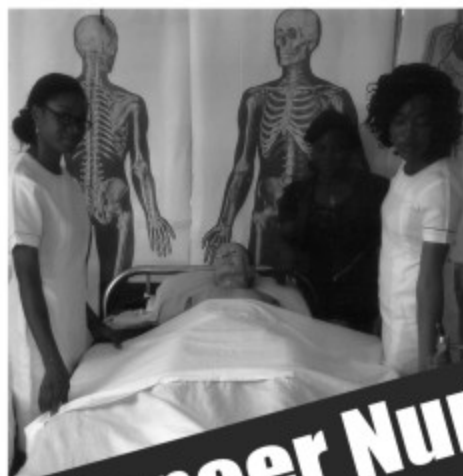
motivation of otherwise qualified teachers as a major obstacle to attaining optimum quality of education in the country, identifying inadequate learning facilities and environment as another. "Once good learning facilities and enabling environment are provided and teachers are properly motivated, improvements in the quality of the educational system would become evident," she noted.

On the qualification of teachers, she observed that some teachers are born, while others are made, advising that "those who are born teachers still need to be properly trained to enable them acquire requisite skills which include teaching methods, psychology of learning, classroom management, evaluation and assessment of learners and so on."

Professor Madumere-Obike argued that a good teacher should know his facts, be a person of integrity, be intelligent, consistent, patient, punctual, among other virtues, disclosing that she had been mentoring younger academics, especially in the area of writing papers. Madumere-Obike, whose major interest is Personnel Management in Education, said she is passionate about motivating teachers to put in their best.



Prof Madumere-Obike



By Ethel Timi-Johnson

ethics of the profession, which include oath-taking to abide by the ethics of the profession they are about to enter".

With a staff strength of 17 academic staff and two Adjunct Professors, Dr Robinson-Bassey said that the Department has trained the new Nurses in such a way that meets global benchmarks prescribed for practicing the profession in any part of the world. "The pioneer Nurses have gone through thorough training and clinical exposure



Pioneer Nursing Students Shine At Professional Exams ...As Dept Plans Maiden Induction

Eight years after the Department of Nursing was established in the Faculty of Clinical Sciences, all is now set for the Induction of pioneer Nurses, following their 100 per cent success rate in the last Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria professional examinations.

With full accreditation from the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN) and the National Universities Commission (NUC) in the kitty, Acting Head, Department of Nursing, Dr Grace Robinson-Bassey in a chat with *UNI-PORT Weekly*, last Thursday, noted that as a prerequisite for the planned Induction, the pioneer Nurses undertook three professional examinations that also qualified them to practise as Registered Nurses, Midwives and Public Health Nurses. "The Induction is intended to give them operational licenses to practise and to acquaint them with the

and
are now
ready to take on

any
challenge in the
profession wherever
they may find
themselves in and
outside the
country. Nursing is a
clinical-
oriented
programme
and the new
Nurses
underwent



Ag. HOD, Dr Robinson-Bassey

training in
Community
Nursing and Midwifery at
various Health Centres, including
the University of Port Harcourt Teaching
Hospital (UPTH) and the Neuropsychiatric
Hospital, Rumuigbo to sharpen their skills."

The Head of Department drew a clear distinction between university and the conventional School of Nursing training, pointing out that university nursing training equips beneficiaries with more clinical and academic training to contribute to the healthcare system on graduation.

On Patients-Nurse ratio in the country, Dr. Robinson-Bassey noted that contrary to the World Health Organization (WHO) recommended ratio of one Nurse to four Patients, the current situation in Nigeria is two Nurses to thirty Patients, a situation she attributes to lack of qualified manpower and conducive environment for training such category of paramedical health workers to run the system.



Pioneer Nursing Students and their Lecturers at practical sessions

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Leton Advocates Appropriate Technology Centre For National Dev

have a high level of expertise and proficiency in the subject area. We should take advantage of Appropriate Technology in the quest for our development," he observed.

"The idea of Appropriate Technology is that local people, struggling on a daily basis with their needs, understand those needs better than anyone else, and should therefore have a role in the technological innovations necessary to meet those needs," Leton, who is the Head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, explained, adding that the definition of Appropriate Technology is not stagnant, but flexible and changes with each situation.

"For instance, it is not appropriate to install solar modules in place with little sunshine, and a wind generator in an area with little or no wind. What is appropriate in a large urban location is very different from what is appropriate in a remote, isolated environment; one quality that remains constant, however, is taking care of things," he pointed out, disclosing that most of the works in Appropriate Technology took place in India, Brazil, United States of America and Britain.

Leton, who is a Public Health Engineer, explained that "conventional thinking in the areas of wastewater treatment and disposal, water treatment and supply, solid waste and building technology were replaced with simple and practical approach. Today, the benefits are utilised in both developed and developing countries".

Public Health Engineering, Professor Leton explained, is the application of engineering to serve



The Inaugural Lecturer, V-C, and some Professors before the Lecture

people primarily for the purpose of promoting a healthy living, stressing that "it is a branch of Engineering that is particularly important for the well-being of developing nations, where high death rate, especially among infants, are attributed to diseases caused by poor water quality, improper disposal of excreta and other wastes.

"Cholera, typhoid and diarrhoea can be significantly reduced by adequate water supply and sanitation, as can many other diseases. The role of water in the improvement of health is not limited to diseases transmitted through ingestion of water in food or drink. With adequate water supplies for bathing, washing of clothes and cooking utensils, preparation of foods and other hygienic purposes, significant control of diseases of the eyes, skin and those transmitted by diseases ecto-parasites, food-borne diseases and others, particularly those controlled by hand washing can be achieved," the Inaugural Lecturer noted.

Leton, who had carried out elaborate studies on water quality, distribution, drainage system, waste treatment and disposal, among others

in Nigeria, decried the alarming level of shortage of quality water, poor drainage and solid waste management in the country. "To reduce the risk of water-related diseases, waste water from buildings and industries are usually collected, isolated, treated on site or conveyed by sewers to treatment plants off-site," he said.

In his remarks, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who noted that Professor Leton was the first Inaugural Lecturer from the new College of Engineering, advised him to translate the result of his research and innovations into marketable products in line with the entrepreneurial direction of the University. The Vice-Chancellor also commended Engineering students, who turned out in their large numbers at the Lecture, urging future Inaugural Lecturers to emulate Professor Leton by inviting their students.

Meanwhile, Professor Israel Owate of the Department Physics has described the Lecture as a fantastic one, stating that "Professor Leton has made a lot of innovations and also simplified the Lecture to the understanding of experts and laymen alike."

Envoy Seeks Support For French Studies In UNI PORT

By Obinna Nwodin

Authorities of the University have pledged to partner the French Government in efforts aimed at developing the French Language in Nigeria for the advancement of cross-cultural contacts between the University and the Embassy of France.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who gave the assurance when the French Consul-General in Nigeria, Mr. Francois Sastourne, paid him a courtesy visit, last Monday, said that proficiency in other languages was an important tool for diplomacy, understanding and trade in a globalized economy.

Professor Ajenka, who was represented by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, said the fact that Nigeria is surrounded by Francophone countries should make the study of

French Language an important part of the curricular of Nigerian universities, stressing that the University of Port Harcourt attached much importance to the study of foreign Languages—especially French, which is spoken by most countries bordering Nigeria.

Professor Nduka disclosed that 40% of business transactions in Africa is carried out in the French Language, pointing out that ability to speak other languages will be an added advantage to individuals and institutions that seek broader exposure and informed interactions as national boundaries continue to give way to the march of globalization. He reiterated the willingness of authorities of the University to enter into more partnerships with the French Government to explore areas of mutual interest to both parties.

In his speech, the Consul-General, Mr Sastourne, who said that he was in the University to seek cooperation on

the study of the French Language, described it as an important strategy in strengthening bilateral relationships between and France.

Nigeria Also speaking, Counsellor for Cooperation and Culture in the Embassy of France, Patrick Perez, said that they had heard a lot about the University's giant strides in the study of French Language, adding that he was impressed with what he saw in the University. Mr. Perez described the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures as very robust in its approach to the subject, promising that the Embassy would do everything possible to assist the Staff and Students of the Department to deepen their study of the Language.

In his speech, the Head of Department, Professor Dennis Ekpo, who conducted the guests round facilities available for the study of the Language, expressed delight at what he described as the excellent institutional relationship between the University and Alliance Francaise, resulting in a long-standing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which he said had been of immense benefit to the Department. Also speaking, Professors Martin Bestman and Iheanachor Akakuru, expressed gratitude to the Envoy for his interest in the Department, assuring him that concerted efforts would continue to be made to advance study of the French language in the University. They said that the Department would be pleased to enter into new agreements with the Consulate to expand areas of mutual cooperation.

The Consul-General and his entourage were later taken to the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, where they interacted with students, as well as the Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS), to receive a brief on the activities of the TOTAL-sponsored Institute by the Director, Professor Mike Onyekonwu.

Also on the Consul-General's entourage were the Director, Alliance Francaise, Lagos, Christine Deuve and her counterpart in Port Harcourt, Helen Geneau-Okutue.



DV-C, (Admin) Prof Nduka and French Consul-General, Mr Sastourne in a chat

GUIDE POST

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT

Dr Chinedu Ogbuji, Department of Marketing, Faculty of Management Sciences, confirmed Staff, effective 2nd May, 2010.
Mr Prince Wachukwu, Department of Petroleum & Gas Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, confirmed Staff, effective 24th October, 2010.
Mr John Legbara, Department of Nursing, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, confirmed Staff, effective 11th October, 2010.
Mr Kenneth Achi, Library Department, confirmed Staff, effective 5th November, 2009.
Mrs Ngozi Ozmoya, Academic Affairs Department, confirmed Staff, effective 6th July, 2010.

PROMOTION

Mr Tom Ogbegbe, Institute of Agricultural Research and Development, promoted Field Overseer, effective 1st October, 2012.
Mrs Dorothy Osilem, Faculty of Agriculture, promoted Clerical Officer, effective 1st October, 2012.
Miss Joy Wegwu, Department of Microbiology, promoted Senior Clerical Officer, effective 1st October, 2012.
Mr Frederick Ozowhuor, Faculty of Education, promoted Clerical Officer, effective 1st October, 2012.
Mrs Blessing Okocha, Student Affairs Department, promoted Senior Porter, effective 1st October, 2012.

RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENT

Professor B.E Nwagwe, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities, granted Renewal of Part-Time Teaching Appointment, effective 1st January, 2013 to 31st December, 2013.
Professor Chukwunonye Ojinnaka, Department of Pure & Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Chemical Sciences, granted Renewal of Contract Appointment, effective 16th June, 2013 to 15th June, 2014.
Professor Martin Bestman, Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, granted Renewal of Contract Appointment, effective 8th April, 2013 to 7th April, 2014.
Dr I.C. Kosemani, Department of Curriculum Studies & Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, granted Renewal of Contract Appointment, effective 6th July, 2013 to 5th July, 2014.
Mr Chibuike Ogwumike, Department of Linguistics & Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, granted Renewal of Part-Time Teaching Appointment, effective 1st January, 2013 to 31st December, 2013.

STUDY LEAVE WITH PAY

Mrs Mercy Ajenka, Campus Environmental Beautification and Sanitation Unit, granted a two-year Study Leave with Pay in the University of Port Harcourt, effective March 2012 to March 2014.
Miss Faith E. Osegi, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, granted a one-year Study Leave with Pay to Imperial College, London, effective September, 2013 to September, 2014.
Mr Edward Membre, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, granted a three-year Study Leave with Pay to University of Newcastle Upon-Tyne, United Kingdom, effective April, 2013 to March, 2016.

CHANGE OF NAME

MRS CHIOMA ONUOHA. Former Miss Agatha Chioma Kamma of the University Demonstration Primary School, now wishes to be known, called and addressed as Mrs Agatha Chioma Onuoha. All documents bearing her former name remain valid.

STOP PRESS

ISSUANCE OF CALL-UP LETTERS

Student Affairs Department commenced issuance of Call-Up Letters to prospective Corps Members for the 2013 Batch 'A' Service Year on 1st March, 2013. All eligible graduates are advised to report at the Department with original and photocopy of their Success Letters, evidence of certified clearance from the Fee Payment Verification Committee and the University Identity Card to pick up their Letters.

POWER OUTAGE ON CAMPUS

Members of Staff, students and resident of the University are hereby notified that power supply on Campus would be interrupted due to the outage caused by the damage of four high tension poles belonging to the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) along the Emohua/Setraco axis of the East-West Road.
 Contact: Director of Works and Services

2ND UNIPOST BOOK FAIR

University Librarian, Dr Obiageli Nwodo, invites members of staff and students to the 2nd UNIPOST Book Fair to enrich their archives as reputable publishers and vendors would be displaying their books and equipment at affordable prices. The Fair would hold from 11th to 16th March, 2013 at the Donald Ekong Library Exhibition ground. Time is 7:00am to 6:00pm daily.

Green House Tops UDSS Sports Fiesta

2008, charging authorities of the School to strive towards making the competition an annual

By Otikor Samuel & Mercy Adeniji

Green House emerged overall winners in various track and field events at the 19th Inter-House Sports Competition of the University Demonstration Secondary School (UDSS), held penultimate Saturday at the Permanent Site of the School, just as a physically-challenged athlete, Abraham Amon of the winning House thrilled spectators at the event. He emerged second best performer in the high jump competition to the amazement of the spectators and co-competitors at the sports fiesta.

Green House got a total of 428 points to emerge winners, scoring a point ahead of Red House which came second. Blue and White Houses scored 395 and 359 points to occupy the third and fourth positions, respectively, while Purple House which came first in the March Past Parade took fifth position with 346 points. Yellow House amassed a total of 300 points to place last. Speaking as Chairman of the occasion, Associate Dean, Faculty of Education, Professor Chinyerem Madumere-Obike, who represented the Dean, Professor Ebi Bio Awotua-Efebo, commended the School for reviving the Inter-House Sports Competition which was last held in

event to strike a balance between academic and physical activities for the total well-being of students.

Principal of the School, Mr Ogechi Anele, who restated the commitment of the School Management to identify, develop and promote talents through regular competitions in games and sporting activities, expressed optimism that students from the School would win medals in continental and international sports competitions in the nearest future.

"Going down memory lane, UDSS had her maiden Inter-House Sports meet in March 1984, two years after its inception. But the last competition was held in 2008," the Principal recalled, appealing to well-meaning individuals to donate trophies and facilities to the School to assist in revitalizing sporting activities.

Chairman, Board of Governors of UDSS, Professor John Otaigbe, who took the Guest Salute, was represented by Professor Lucky Odokuma. Other dignitaries who graced the event include: Chairman, Board of Governors of UDPS, Dr Oforime Ndiho, Chairman, Parent-Teacher Association (UDSS), Mr Jones Ayuwo, Dr Gloria Amadi and Mrs Helen Owchonda-Wopara. Highlights of the event were presentation of trophies and prizes to winners.



Green House during the March Past parade. Inset: Rep of Chairman, BoG, Prof Odokuma handing the Trophy to rep of the House and Principal, Mr Anele

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT WEATHER OBSERVATORY WEATHER FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND SURROUNDING AREAS FOR SUNDAY MARCH, 3 - SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2013

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNSET AND SUNRISE (AM) (PM)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 03 MAR, 2013	35.0 25.6	61	NW	10.0	6:03 6:45	Strong thunderstorm expected. Day predicted to be partly cloudy and hot. Chance of rainfall is 80%.
MONDAY, 04 MAR, 2013	35.0 25.6	60	NW	10.0	6:02 6:45	Strong thunderstorm expected. More cloud than sun. Day expected to be hot. Possibility of rain is 84%.
TUESDAY 05 MAR, 2013	35.6 26.1	57	NW	7.0	6:02 6:45	A few thunderstorm expected. Decreasing cloudiness. Hot day anticipated.
WEDNESDAY 06 MAR, 2013	35.0 26.1	53	NW	-	6:02 6:45	More cloud than sun predicted. Day expected to be hot.
THURSDAY 07 MAR, 2013	33.0 26.1	60	NW	-	6:01 6:45	More cloud than sun predicted. Day expected to be hot.
FRIDAY 08 MAR, 2013	36.4 26.1	55	N	-	6:01 6:45	Day predicted to be partly sunny and hot.
SATURDAY 09 MAR, 2013	33.0 26.1	57	N	2.5	6:01 6:45	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Partly sunny and hot day forecasted.

VREMUDIA WEKPE
OFFICER-IN-CHARGE

PROF. SAMUEL B. AROKOYU
DIRECTOR, (CDRMS)

After Successful Selection Interview Council Confirms Aliezi Bursar

By Williams Wodi

Mr. Vitalis Aliezi's several years of dedicated and loyal services to the University of Port Harcourt has finally paid off following his confirmation as substantive Bursar by the Governing Council of the University at its pre-Convocation Meeting held on Friday, 8th February, 2013. Until his elevation to the exalted position of Bursar, Mr. Aliezi had acted in that capacity for about one year, during which period he left no one in doubt as to his capability to perform the onerous function of Bursar of the University.

The Governing Council subsequently confirmed Mr. Aliezi's appointment on 8th February, 2013, following his impressive performance at an interview it conducted for candidates, who applied for the position of Bursar of the University. A letter signed by the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council, Rev (Dr) Walter Eneji, read in part: "I am pleased to inform you that at its Meeting (Extra-Ordinary) held on Friday, 8th February, 2013, Council approved the recommendation of the Selection Board and appointed you Bursar of the University of Port Harcourt. This appointment which takes effect from 8th February, 2013 is for a period of five (5) years in the first instance".

The new Bursar, who takes over from Mr. Mark Roman, was formally a Deputy Bursar in charge of the Revenue Bureau Unit of the Vice-Chancellor's Office. He was appointed a Director, following introduction of the Directorate system in the Bursary and Registry Departments of the University as part of the present administration's bid to restructure the operational structure of the two Departments for proper staff motivation and enhanced productivity.

Mr. Aliezi, who joined the services of the University in 1984, as a Higher Executive Officer, served meritoriously in various units of the Bursary Department, before rising through the ranks to his current position as Bursar. He holds membership of numerous professional bodies and has attended



Aliezi

many conferences and workshops aimed at sharpening his skills on the job. The new Bursar has also served as a Member of many University Boards and Committees on account of his accumulated experiences on the job spanning over three decades. For instance, Mr. Aliezi's profile as a dedicated and accountable officer shone through when as a Level 8 Officer, he not only represented the then Bursar at

the University of Calabar (UNICAL), but also presented an accurate and well-applauded financial account of the Nigerian University Games which UNIPORT hosted in 1988. The new Bursar has worked in Government and the private sector, including as a classroom teacher, before joining the services of the University in 1984.

He is also reputed to have also displayed admirable shrewdness in handling financial matters at the Works and Services Department and College of Continuing Education as Finance Officer in the 1980s.

His superiors and subordinates agree that Mr. Aliezi has a clear and concise understanding of the workings of the Bursary Department and is credited with the training of a whole new generation of staff, who are now lined up to help him succeed as the new helmsman in the Department. He is a committed team-player, who carries everybody along in the line of duty. The new Bursar is reputed to be fair, but firm in his supervisory role and is widely known to champion staff welfare at all levels without fear or favour.

Reacting to his emergence as Bursar of the University, Professor Willie Okowa of the Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, described Mr. Aliezi as "a very honest, committed and dependable staff, who has rendered the University several years of loyal service that prepared him for the high responsibility now entrusted to his care. I have no doubt in my mind that Mr. Aliezi will most creditably discharge his mandate as Bursar of the University. He needs our individual and collective support to succeed on this onerous assignment. I congratulate him on this well-deserved appointment that is based on the merit of his services to the University".

A native of Elele in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State, Mr. Aliezi attended the famous County Grammar School, Ikwerre/Etche and obtained his Higher National Diploma from the Rivers State University of Science and Technology in Accountancy 1982 and another Degree from University of Port Harcourt. He is married with children.

Tree Planting Ceremony By Best Graduating Student (BGS)

Best Graduating Student (BGS) and Valedictorian, Miss Stella Ogbogo of the Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, Faculty of Education, Planted an Iroko Tree as part of activities that marked 29th Convocation Ceremony. Pix by our Camera Man, **HEADMANALU** captured high-points of the event.



V-C, Prof Joseph Ajenka, clicks a glass at a toast to the BGS, Miss Ogbogo



(L-R), Deputy V-C (Acad), Prof Igbo Joe, Registrar, Mrs. Mabel Nwodin, V-C, Prof Ajenka, Dean, Student Affairs Department, Prof Henry Rot-Gem, Dean, Chairman, Convocation Research Committee, Prof Gregory Anwar, Head, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, Dr. Betty Inobek, Dean, Faculty of Education, Prof Ed. Anwar-Efio, Special Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Kingsley Hugu, Director, Student Affairs Department, Mrs. Bridget Nwimere and Director, Academic Affairs, Mrs. Dorcas Oso, watch in admiration as BGS, Miss Ogbogo plants an Iroko tree



BGS, Miss Ogbogo flanked by Principal Officers of the University



Graduating Students of the Educational Psychology Department and the BGS, Miss Ogbogo pose for our camera.