



UNIPORT To Collaborate With Plymouth University On Oil And Gas Studies

As part of efforts aimed at strengthening capacity and improving quality of service delivery, authorities of the University and Plymouth University in the United Kingdom have expressed willingness to collaborate in areas of mutual benefit to both institutions, reports **Obinna Nwodin**.

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Side Bar

UNIPORT holds the 2012/2013 Matriculation this Friday 5th April, 2013. Details next week -Editor



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For Information and Enlightenment

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Fresh Students admitted for the 2012/2013 academic session have been advised to be disciplined, focused and abide by the rules and regulations governing their admission into the Institution in order to be truly found worthy both in character and learning at the end of their study.

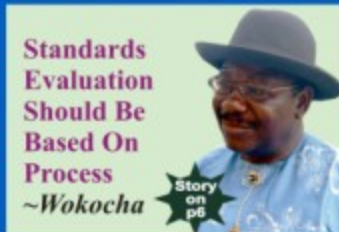
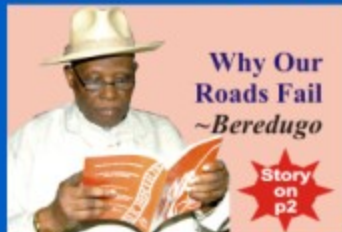
V-C, Others, Advise Fresh Students At Orientation Exercise

By Mercy Adeniji

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, gave the advice while addressing the fresh students during this year's Orientation exercise at the Convocation Arena, University Park, penultimate Thursday. He

told the new entrants that gaining admission into the University of Port Harcourt would afford them the opportunity to study so that in future they can be useful to themselves and the society. Professor Ajienka, who was represented by the Dean of Student Affairs Department, Professor Henry Bell-Gam, congratulated the students for gaining admission into the University, reminding them that First Class Students start to prepare at the onset of their

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Why Our Roads Fail ~Beredugo

One of the developmental challenges besetting parts of Nigeria, especially the Niger Delta region and the South East is lack of good road network. Professor Youpele Beredugo is a veteran Civil Engineer, who spoke to our Correspondent, HUMPHREY OGU, on this and other issues concerning the construction industry.

"Nigeria does not recognize the potentials in the utilization of engineering manpower. We seem to be looking outside for expertise that is available here in Nigeria. Most of the expatriates we engage come from temperate regions of the world and there is a tendency for them to impose what is suitable in their own environment on us," Professor Beredugo noted. Beredugo cited improper management of asphalt as the main reason for the collapse of roads in Nigeria, stating that when asphalt is laid hot, roads are bound to fail. "But in the Nigerian situation, asphalt is simply rolled over the roads and by the time such roads are put to use, they begin to fail. Now, there are different types of asphalt that can be laid cold to ensure the longevity of roads in this country," he disclosed. The veteran Engineer, who noted that engineering is a universal practice, said: "We have to adapt such practices to particular locations and even at particular times. We should task our Faculties of Engineering and Engineering organizations to develop the types of asphalt that are suitable to our weather condition if we hope to construct roads that would last. We should not just borrow blindly from other places. We should domesticate technology by copying and developing materials that are suitable for our own needs," he noted. On what is being done to reverse road failures, Beredugo regretted that "there is very little individuals like us can do, except to preach, and like the preacher, we are preaching to the already converted. Those, who do not believe in Jesus Christ don't go to Church; so when the Pastor preaches, he is preaching to those who already believe. That is the problem we face in Nigeria today; we don't have access to those holding political power and we need visionary leaders with political will to change the parlous situation in the critical

construction sector.

"We have the Council for Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN), which is doing its best, but there is a limit to what the body can achieve, because they do not award contracts," he explained, citing the example of the Indian Government which commissioned a small company that developed lifting equipment as a result of an embargo slammed on the country by the America during its border war with neighbouring Pakistan. Beredugo, who noted that the small company has since become a very big firm, said: "If our government can assemble a small group of experts, give them similar assignment in an enabling environment, they will be surprised at what Nigerians can achieve."

"I am one of those to admit dissatisfaction with facilities that are currently obtainable in the various Faculties of Engineering in Nigerian universities," the distinguished Engineer said, regretting that "the facilities are very poor; Lecturers are doing what they can with what is available, but we need a lot of improvements to take training of students to where we all want it to be, not only in terms of quantity, but also in the quality of equipment used in training Engineers. "When students graduate from the University, they are awarded the Bachelor of Engineering Degree; that is just an Engineering Degree. They are supposed to have a lot of backup knowledge of working in the Laboratory and it is when they go out to practise that the real engineering challenges start to emerge," he said.

Beredugo, who was once acted as Dean of the Faculty of Engineering in the University, however said: "Fortunately, in spite of the poor

facilities in the Universities, some of our graduates still manage to do well in practice. I feel proud when some of our Engineers, and Britain, excellently. It that we can do right who go to America perform simply shows better, given the environment."



Prof Beredugo

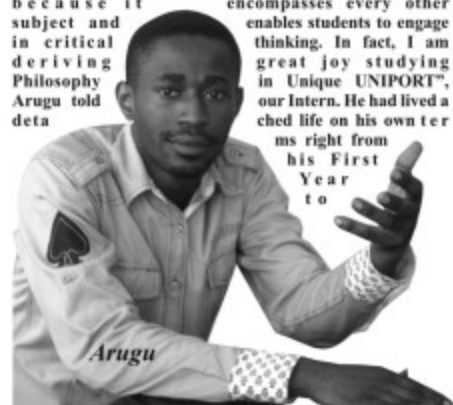
STUDENT WORLD

Integrity Is A Way Of Life ~Arugu

EVANS ARUGU, is a Final Year Student of the Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities, who operates on the slow lane of life as a preferred article of faith. He dislikes lies, loves integrity and strongly believes that for there to be trust and peace, people should value integrity, as well as learn to understand and respect individual differences. He spoke to our Intern, OGHENETJEJIRI ODUBU.

Evans Arugu is not your run-of-the-mill, everyday student. On first encounter, he exudes the mien of a Philosopher with the universal tool-kit to solve every problem facing humanity. Get a little closer and you come face-to-face with a man of iron will, who is very realistic about life and his role in it. For instance, when asked to explain his choice of University of Port Harcourt for Undergraduate studies, Arugu put it rather matter-of-factly: "My initial intention was not to study in UNIPORT, despite the fact that it is one of the very good Universities in Nigeria and West Africa. This was because I had wanted to study Law, but I did not want to go to Lagos or Calabar. When I did not gain admission to study Law at Niger Delta University in Bayelsa State, I decided to come to UNIPORT to study Philosophy".

To Arugu, his choice of Philosophy was based on his personal experiences in life and his love of the subject, which some students approach with a combination of trepidation and curiosity. "Despite the fact that Philosophy was not my first choice, I have come to love the subject because it encompasses every other subject and in critical deriving Philosophy Arugu told deta



Arugu

the Final Year, because he sees it as the only way to be at peace with himself. "My stay in UNIPORT has been good, although it has not been easy; but being a student of Philosophy, and approaching the subject as part of my daily experience has made my life different from others," he said. As a way of socializing, this lone ranger broke his own personal rule of solitude when he decided to join his colleagues from the Faculty of Humanities on a tour of Ghana last Semester. "I saw it as an opportunity to socialize with my mates, but then I found out that the life of a typical student in Ghana was not all that different from what I thought it was," he said, adding that the trip still turned out to be a good experience in the end.

On the difficulties he encounters as a student, Arugu said: "The main difficulty had always been time management. I am a voracious reader and I have never missed a class from my First Year," he revealed, disclosing further that there were times when a few unserious students, who did not study as much as he did appeared to score better grades. "Professor Inibong Udoldem is my favourite lecturer. He taught me in my First Year that before we can even study Philosophy, we should throw away our conceit and open up our minds to a new horizon of life and learning. That alone greatly influenced me and also helped me approach Philosophy as a way of life, rather than as a strictly academic subject."

On his Library habit, Arugu said: "I use the Library only when I want to embark upon major research, although some students attribute their success to regular use of the Library, I do not go there on a regular basis because some of the critical books in my subject area are currently not available in the University Library. Arugu, who believes that the method of teaching in the University could be improved in many areas, said: "Lecturers are trying their best, but there should be reciprocal relationships between them and students to bring out the very best in both parties." His favourite course is Ethics because he had always considered himself to be a moral agent, which corresponds with his acetic way of life.

On his perception of the dress code in the University, Arugu said: "The mode of dressing amongst some students in

UNIPORT is very terrible. This category of students does not know what it means to be fashionable," further advising them to adhere to the dress code of the University so as not to give room for sexual harassment.

On his opinion about the University's development, Arugu said: "I would not say that UNIPORT is developing optimally. We keep seeing office buildings, but we need more classrooms for students. Development is a process of social transformation in which individuals are positively affected. All I see are attributes of development and not development in itself." He also added that "UNIPORT is just beginning in comparison with some older Universities I have been to, but I strongly believe that we will compete with such institutions Nigeria and even in West Africa sooner than later."

On his opinion about Nigeria, his country, he said: "Nigeria is a beautiful country that has a problem of good governance. Although, our leaders have tried their best in the process of "nation-building", Nigerian Youths are still scared of what tomorrow holds for them. The Government should consider creating more job opportunities for the youths as a priority."

So when next you are in UNIPORT and you are looking for a morally inclined student, you can ask of EVANS ARUGU—Mr. Integrity.

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UNIORT To Partner Plymouth University

This was the outcome of a visit by representatives of Plymouth University to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, penultimate Tuesday.

Marketing and Recruitment Consultant (West Africa), Stuart Renin, who said that Plymouth University had a rich background in actualizing collaborative ventures, disclosed that his team was in the University to establish a long and sustainable relationship, adding that they hoped to identify the objectives, mission and strategic policies of the University of Port Harcourt by fashioning out areas of mutual partnership for immediate implementation. According to him, Plymouth University has abundant expertise in such specialized areas as Marine Engineering, Geology and Transport, as well as disciplines that support the oil and gas industry, hoping that the envisaged collaboration would bring about mutual benefits to both institutions. Mr Renin, who also disclosed that Plymouth has the biggest Marine Centre in the world, observed that UNIORT and his institution shared common features—an indication that both institutions could work together in specialized fields that are common features of their locations in the UK and Nigeria.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who welcomed the move to initiate a collaborative programme between the two institutions, assured the visiting delegation of his preparedness to midwife the project to the mutual satisfaction of both parties. "We have experience in running international collaborative programmes and I can assure you that this University will do everything possible to facilitate the realization of the partnership within the stipulated timeframe. We are

pleased to be associated with a reputable institution like Plymouth and our desire is that the Exchange and Linkages Unit of our University would work with you to actualize all the necessary protocols in respect of the project", the Vice-chancellor told his guests.

Director, Exchange and Linkages Unit, Professor John Otaigbe, said that both institutions have similar objectives, pointing out that the University would be pleased to have students with global perspectives on issues of mutual cooperation tabled for discussion at the exploratory meeting. He said that the collaboration, which would ensure capacity-building and exchange of

academic journals and manpower, would expose staff and students of both institutions to a wide spectrum of activities in their various areas of specialization.

Earlier, International Office Student Ambassador of Plymouth University, Nigerian born Chinwendu Elenwa, had said that the team was in the University to seek areas of mutual partnership, adding that it would be of great interest to collaborate with the University to achieve collaborative programmes in both institutions.

At the end of the meeting, both universities agreed to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to legally seal the pact on the emergent partnership.



From L-R: Mr Elenwa, Provost, College of Graduate Studies, Prof (Mrs) Roseline Konyu, Mr Renin, V-C, Prof Ajenka (arrowed), Director, Exchange and Linkages Unit, Prof John Otaigbe, D V-C, (Acad), Prof Igbo Joe, D V-C (Admin), Prof Ethelbert Ndaka

Committee Mobilizes Participants For UNIORT Research Fair

By Obinna Nwodin

As preparations for the Second UNIORT Research Fair and Conference gear up, the Organizing Committee has intensified efforts to mobilize internal and external participants for the 2013 edition of the Fair.

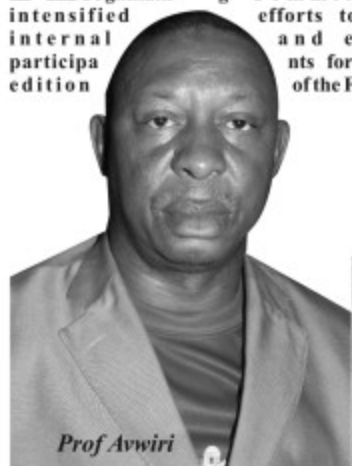
Speaking to *UNIORT Weekly*, Chairman of the Committee, Professor Gregory Awwir, and Chairman, Publications sub-Committee, Professor Samuel Arokoyu, said that organizers of the event are looking forward to participation from companies, manufacturers and investors to showcase their products. "We want to bring the end-users to meet researchers so that our research findings would not end up in publications for promotions, but could be transformed into products that can lead to national development", he stated, adding that "we have also sensitized sister institutions that have promised to showcase their research findings at the Fair".

Professor Awwir called on staff and students to participate in the forthcoming Research Fair by sending in

abstracts of their papers. According to him, accepted peer reviewed papers would be published in the maiden edition of the *International Journal of Research and Development*, adding that Centres, Institutes and Departments are encouraged to book their exhibition stands with the Committee Secretariat to enable them showcase their works at the exhibition.

On his part, Professor Arokoyu disclosed that over 70 abstracts have so far been received from within and outside the University, adding that there were encouraging responses from the Colleges of Natural and Applied Sciences, Engineering, Faculties of Agriculture, Social Sciences and Education. He advised intending participants, who have submitted abstracts to prepare their papers for presentation which would be done through power point. He also said that the Conference would afford staff and students, as well as the public a rare opportunity to interact and exchange ideas on the research work of their colleagues.

It would be recalled that the maiden edition of the UNIORT Research Fair took place from 17th to 19th April, 2012 with Faculty of Agriculture emerging overall winners.



Prof Awwir



Prof Arokoyu

Theatre Arts, History Depts, Get Donations From Alumni

By Humphrey Ogu

Barely three months after a popular comedian and Alumnus of the University, Michael Ogolo, donated a state-of-the-art photocopier to the Department of Theatre Arts, another Alumnus, Arthur Willie-Pepple, has also donated a 2.5 KVA power-generating plant to the same Department to tackle the challenge of poor electricity supply.

A letter signed by the Acting Head of Department, Dr Julie Umukoro, addressed to the donor and made available to *UNIORT Weekly*, acknowledged receipt of the latest donation, calling on other Alumni to imbibe the culture of giving back to their *Alma Mater* as a mark of appreciation for the training they received as students.

"The Department of Theatre Arts, acknowledges your generous donation of a brand new 2.9KVA gasoline power-generating set and on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, I thank you immensely for giving back to

your *Alma Mater*. May God Almighty reward and crown your effort with great success. Be assured that the generator will be put into good use to enhance training and learning in our Department," the commendation letter said in part.

In a related development, another Alumnus of the University, Malik Ikpokpo, has made a cash donation of N200, 000 to the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies from where he graduated.

A memo signed by the University Librarian, Dr Obiageli Nwodo stated that "the donation was meant for the purchase of history books during the 2nd UNIORT Book Fair," adding that the donation was facilitated by the Director, College of Continuing Education (CCE), Professor Steve Okodudu.



Ag HOD, Dr Umukoro (arrowed), flanked by staff of the Dept displaying the power-generating plant

Provost Advises Medical Students At PUMSA Health Week ...As FHUSA Wins Inter-Faculty Debate

Medical Students have been advised to prepare themselves to meet the onerous challenges of their profession if they hope to earn the trust and respect of the larger society. They have also been told to embrace emerging trends in the profession to enable them compete favourably with their counterparts in other parts of the world.

The Provost, who gave the advice at a lecture to mark the 2013 PUMSA Health Week at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, penultimate Tuesday, commended the students for initiating a medical outreach to sensitize their colleagues on how to prevent health problems peculiar to adolescents. Professor Akani, who commended the students for their commitment to their studies, reminded them that Students start at the onset of their programmes.

By Mercy Adeniji & Humphrey Ogu

The University has so much respect for the Medical School and so Medical Students need to work harder than other students to continue to earn such respect. Keep up the good habit and feel free to come to any member of staff or Dean of Students' Affairs, we are always willing to listen and counsel you as our children and wards," Professor Akani said, expressing joy that admission into the College would soon commence, following the lifting of suspension on the University's medical programme by the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN).

Delivering a paper titled: "Youth Health Promotion: The Paradigm Shift From Regret to Prevention" Director, Institute of Maternal and Child Health, Professor Nwadiuto Akani, said that if regrets have to be a thing of the past, all hands have to be on deck as everybody, adults, youths, politicians, community leaders, traditional rulers, professionals and non-professionals alike have a role to play in efforts aimed at containing the spread of preventable diseases.

She added, "If we have to achieve our goals, we need to adopt certain strategies and we need to create the awareness that youths are actually the people at risk; these youths need help to be protected from the ills of the society so they can actualize their dreams. We need to



Director, Institute of Maternal & Child Health, Prof. Akani, Dean Student Affairs, Prof. Bell-Gam, Provost, College of Health Sciences, Prof. Akani and Dr. Orazulike

do some training, research, network and go into collaboration with organizations, we need to communicate and be well informed and get vital information that can assist the young people. We need to advocate for those in politics, Government, Non-Governmental Organization and those with resources to establish facilities that would help the young people to be empowered".

In her Presentation titled: "Managing a Family and a Medical Career", a Consultant in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital, Dr. Ngozi Orazulike said, "the Family is the bedrock of any nation, where children are nurtured to grow up as responsible adults", stating that in the family, children add a whole new responsibility and selflessness to one's life.

Dr. Orazulike disclosed that to strike a balance with your career and family, as a student, you should choose a specialty that you have a passion for, stressing that "You need to marry your friend, think on your partner's career and ensure you always develop yourself in that area you are good at and never rest on your oars."

Earlier, President of PUMSA, David Briggs-Otto, said the Health Week is a 30 year-old tradition of the medical students, stating that, "Through this programme, we

hope to reawaken the interest in preventive health in the society, especially the communities around us. We hope to sensitize our host communities through our rally, seminar, Health Talk health, Awareness Campaign. We are the work force generation and the leaders of tomorrow, we have to live responsibly."

In his contribution, Dean, Students Affairs, Professor Henry Bellgam who also praised the association for the initiative to sensitize the students in the community, urged them to keep up the good work, charging other Faculties and Colleges to emulate the Medical students.

Responding on behalf of the Faculty of Humanities Students Association, after emerging winner in the Inter-Faculty Debate, which was part of the event, President of FHUSA, a student in the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies, Joseph Inyama said: "Humanities is the home of debate in University of Port Harcourt and plans are underway to hold our Melting Pot Intra-Department Debate as part of our week. He congratulated PUMSA for organizing such an event.

Highlight of the event was an inter-Faculty Debate with PUMSA versus Faculty of Humanities (FHUSA) titled: A Rise of Substance Abuse: The Fault of the Media or Health sector" as FHUSA won with 76 per cent against 74 Per cent scored by PUMSA.

UAC Holds Alumni Interactive Session With Bursary Staff

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

The University Advancement Centre (UAC), has initiated a Lunch-Time Meeting series to enlighten staff on the need to treat students with courtesy and friendship as some of such students may turn out to become very distinguished Alumni that may be very useful to the University on graduation.

Speaking at the Inaugural Meeting of the series with the Bursary Department last Thursday at the Governing Council Chambers, University Park, Acting Director of

the Centre, Dr. Ngozi Odu, who reminded staff that students would usually take away both positive and negative experiences from their Alma Mater, told participants that a friendly disposition would always motivate them to return to give back something to the Institution, while a hostile reception usually puts them off on graduation.

"While students are in School, they may look ordinary, but some of them graduate to become distinguished personalities, including Presidents, Governors, Legislators and Captains of Industry, who the University

can turn to for assistance", the Director said, stressing that it was important to encourage such successful Alumni to contribute to the development of the University based on the meaningful relationship they had as students. Dr. Odu, disclosed that the UAC would take the message of building a student-friendly University to every College, Faculty, Department, Institute and Unit to encourage staff to cultivate positive relationships in the line of duty.

Disclosing that Alumni are needed for the accelerated development and sustainability of their Alma-Mater, Dr. Odu cited the examples of Stanford and John Hopkins Universities and the University of Virginia, where successful Alumni make huge personal financial contributions to their Alma-Mater as a way of giving back something for the training they received as students.

"The University of Port Harcourt has benefitted immensely from the generosity of some Alumni, based on the excellent relationship they had with their teachers". She gave the example of the excellent relationship between Dr. Emmanuel Egbogah and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka and Dean of Graduate School of Engineering and Technology, Professor Adewale Dosunmu, both of who were his students at the University of Ibadan, admonishing staff to always endeavour to treat students well to encourage them to return to give back something to their Alma Mater on graduation.

In his contribution, the University Bursar, Mr. Vitalis Aliezi, commended the UAC for initiating the meeting, which he described as timely following his recent confirmation in that position. Encouraging staff of the Bursary Department to maintain the high standards for which the Department is known, Mr. Aliezi hoped that the Lunch-Time Meeting would sharpen the skills and knowledge of staff to enable them discharge their duty schedules more efficiently.

The meeting which recorded a large turn-out of Bursary staff, also served as an interactive session for them to discuss on-the-job challenges and chart a way forward for stakeholders in the affairs of the Department.



Cross-section of participants. Inset: (L-R) Deputy Bursar, Budget, Mrs. Helen Oshonda-Wapara, Bursar, Mr. Aliezi, UAC Director Dr. Odu



DV-C (Admin), Prof Nduka, presenting the trophy to the winner, Mr Makele



Mr Makele displaying his trophy



Mr Makele and Macfoy, in a congratulatory embrace



Mr Makele displaying his skills



Makele, the Umpire, Dr Okoye and Major Olusegun after the final challenge



DV-C (Admin) Prof Nduka (standing) flanked by Nye-Nwe-Ali Choba, Eze Okocha (right), Prof Didia, Director of Sports, Dr Ken Anugwoje (left) and Bursar, Mr Vitalis Alije

Principal Assistant Registrar in the Personnel (Academic) Office, Registry Department, Mr Kelsey Makele, fended off a very stiff challenge mounted by a determined major Olusegun Macfoy to emerge overall winner of the Second Snooker Challenge organized by the Snooker Board Section of the Senior Staff Club, Delta Park, penultimate Thursday.

Mr Makele beat his closest rival in the first two rounds of three games to cart home the 'gold trophy' in the competition which started early February with over 30 contestants, who equally eyed the coveted prize. Also, in a keenly contested game for the third position, Mr Emeka Abali defeated Dr John Yeseibo to emerge second runner-up. Major Olusegun and Mr Abali are both Associate Members of the Staff Club.

The high-profile contestants fell one-by-one. Check out the roll-call: Defending Champion, Dr Frank Okoye, Life Team Captain, Professor Blessing Didia, Professors Willy Okowa, Emmanuel Emasialu, Paul Iro and Don Anyanwu, Roland Wabali, Life Board Secretary, Friday Nwafor, Life Kola Sharer, Dr Kalu Wosu (*The Law*), Dr John Yeseibo, Robinson Odum, Patrick Agha and Chima Wokocha, are amongst other challengers who fell to the superior potting powers of the finalists.

The roll call of vanquished champions and pretenders to the throne is long indeed! As was

Makele Wins Snooker Challenge, As Choba Monarch Hails Organizers

By Otiakor Samuel & Williams Wodi

expected, only the titans survived to step on the hero's red carpet on the decisive day. At the end of a hard-fought competition, Kelsey Makele stood on the shoulders of all the defeated challengers to drink from the coveted trophy that was personally handed over to him by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ethelbert Nduka, who commended the gallant losers for their spirit of sportsmanship.

Speaking before commencement of the competition, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajiinka, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Nduka, described the Staff Club as an exciting place for relaxation and convergence of ideas amongst staff and their guests.

Makele beat his closest rival in the first two rounds of three games to cart home the 'gold trophy' in the competition which started early February with over 30 contestants, who equally eyed the coveted prize

The Vice-Chancellor, who redeemed his earlier promise of replacing the old Snooker Board, made a token donation to the Section to encourage members for organizing the competition, promising to continue in his support to the Staff Club to ensure that staff of the University make good use of their leisure time through recreation after a hard day's work.

Also speaking, Nye-Nwe-Ali Choba, Eze Raymond Okocha, who took the ceremonial first shot, revealed his initial distaste for the game of Snooker due to the negative activities of some of his subjects, who turned



Makele, Dr Okoye and Major Olusegun, Drs Yeseibo and Kalu Nwosu, Ovunda Ihunwo behind



Cross-section of Snooker Board members

it into an avenue for gabbling and other anti-social behaviours. The Royal Father, who also made an undisclosed donation to the Snooker Board, restated his commitment to the accelerated development of the University.

Life Team Captain of the Snooker Section, Professor Blessing Didia, who recalled that the maiden edition of the competition held in 2009, commended the Chief of Staff, Government House Services, Chief Tony Okocha, Professors John Ete-Efeotor, Israel Owate and Joyce Akaninwor, amongst other major sponsors for their interest in the development of sporting activities in the Senior Staff Club.

Professor Didia hoped that other sports would be pioneered by members of the Club to provide avenues for recreation and interaction in the University, promising that the Snooker Board would continue to act as a veritable platform for members and their spouses to unwind. The Chief of Staff was represented at the event by Dr Lawrence Chukwu, who promised that his boss would single-handedly sponsor the third edition of the Snooker Challenge. Highlights of the 2013 Snooker Challenge included presentation of awards to the winners and a dance session that marked successful completion of the event.

The colorful event was anchored by Life Master of Ceremony, Ovunda Ihunwo, under the watchful eyes of Life Team Manager, Professor Anyamebo Okoroyaye-Orubite.



Eze Okocha taking the kick-off shot



Prof Okowa taking a shot



Director, Personnel Affairs, Mr Wabali at the competition, Prof Anyanwu, standing behind

V-C, Others, Advise Fresh Students

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programmes, rather than leave till it became too late. He charged them to take their academic work seriously and always abide by the rules and regulations of the Institution by shunning societal ills, urging them to be God-fearing, security-conscious, honest and obedient.

In her welcome address, Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim, who was represented by the Director, Personnel Affairs, Mr Roland Wabali, commended the students, charging them to always imbibe the virtues of hard-work, honesty and commitment to their studies. Mr Wabali disclosed that "before any student is awarded a Certificate, such a student must be found worthy both in character and in learning", advising them to make their parents and guardians proud by working hard now to ensure they graduate in good grades.

Papers presented at the Orientation included: "Bursary Services and Student's Insurance Scheme" by the Bursar, Mr Vitalis Aliezi, who was represented by Chief Accountant, Student Account, Mr Lawrence Deeyor, "The Use of the Library by the University Librarian", Dr Obiageli Nwodo, "The Role of Student Affairs Department in the Life of Students", by the Dean, Student Affairs Department, "The Student and Security," by the Chief Security Officer (CSO), Lieutenant Col. Reginald Isiguzo (rtd), "Health Services to Students, by Dr Chinwe Ezirim, "Dress/Moral



A cross-section of the fresh students at the orientation

Code," by Wife of the Vice-Chancellor, Mrs Mercy Ajienka, "Rules and Regulations Governing the Conduct of Students in Academic Matters," by the Director, Academic Affairs, Mrs Dorcas Otto, "Prize Winning Opportunities in the University," by the Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, Professor Chukwudi Onyeaso, "Code of Conduct for Students, Examination Malpractice and Related Matters," by Professor Regina Ogali, "The Importance of Guidance and Counseling in the Life of a Student" by Dr Rosemary

Ekechukwu, "Services at the Information and Communication Technology Centre", by Director of the Centre, Professor Anthony Ibe, "Students Computer Ownership Scheme", by Mr Aribite Princewill, "The Role of Students in Campus Cleanliness," by the Acting Director, Campus Environment Beautification and Sanitation Unit (CEBAS) Mr Ochuba Okezie, respectively. Highlight of the exercise was a dance and drama presentation by the Theatre Arts Department and an interactive session.

Standard Evaluation Should Be Based On Process, Not Product ~Wokocha

Most of the debates on the Nigerian Educational system centre on whether or not the quality or "standards" (as it is called in some quarters) of education is falling. What is Teachers' Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN), doing to ensure quality control in the teaching profession? These and many more questions were put to Registrar/Chief Executive Secretary, TRCN, Professor Addison Wokocha by our Correspondent, HUMPHREY OGU and Intern, HENRIETTA OTONNAH.

Professor Wokocha does not believe that there is anything like "falling standard of education" in the country as many people claim; neither does he accept the popular notion that products of the Nigerian educational system are of low quality.

Though Professor Wokocha concedes that there are students, whose academic performances are not quite impressive, he argues that there are also

those, who perform excellently well by all measure of merit. He

blames the lacklustre performance of some students

on poor foundational knowledge, unqualified teachers and lack of basic learning

facilities in an enabling environment.

"The problem is that when people talk about poor academic performance,

they are looking at the products and not the process. Until we look at the process, we cannot get a good product. If students are admitted into a school that has no facilities and qualified teachers and you keep pushing them till they get to the final year of study; of course, you will get poor products. So, you must look at the entire process—the system," he points out.

"There must be qualified teachers and facilities before you can expect qualitative education; it is through sound and qualitative education that you can have qualitative products. That is what we are advocating," the TRCN Registrar says, stressing that it is the educational system that determines qualitative or poor products.

Is he satisfied with the quality of products of the Nigerian educational system? "The term quality is relative. When you talk about quality education, we are talking of an educational system that addresses societal problems," Wokocha points out, asking: "Are our Medical Doctors not treating patients who recover from their ailments?"

"Sometimes, when people go abroad for treatment, it is not the fault of medical practitioners back home; it is partly because government has not provided certain basic facilities for Doctors to work effectively. Under such a situation, one cannot blame the Doctors. A qualified teacher also needs requisite facilities and an enabling environment to function

optimally. Similarly, one cannot teach or study engineering without the appropriate equipment," Wokocha explains.

He laments that "our problem in this country is that we worry that children are unable to write and speak good English; but education cannot be equated with the ability to write and speak English. Education must be professionally relevant to one's environment, self-improvement and social development," adding: "There must be proper examination and pupils must do well before they can move to the next class as was the case in the past."

Does the TRCN Registrar believe in the assertion that some teachers are born? "There is no such thing. Are Medical Doctors born? Teaching is a profession and one of the conditions of being a professional is that there is rigorous training. So, no one is born a Teacher or a Medical Doctor. You acquire knowledge through education and training," he explains.

Wokocha, warns that "Until citizens recognize the subsisting legislation on teaching qualification and stop employing quacks, the problem of unqualified teachers in the system would continue," expressing joy that some of such quacks have started to adjust. "Many unqualified teachers have gone on to acquire such qualifications to make them eligible to teach," he adds.

He discloses that TRCN has been sensitizing the public on the need to have only qualified teachers in the system, adding: "I have applied to the Minister of Justice for a fiat to start prosecuting unqualified teachers in the system. It is going to be a gradual process because we lack facilities to handle all the defaulters at same time.

Bemoaning lawlessness in Nigeria, he advocates the appointment of professional teachers as Ministers; Commissioners in charge of Ministries of Education, just as only qualified Lawyers and Medical Doctors handle their respective Ministries.



Prof Wokocha

GUIDE POST

BRIEFS FROM OTHER VARSITIES

RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENT

Dr Vinolia Fubara, Department of Neuropsychiatry, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Science, granted *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 7th April, 2013.

REVIEW OF STATUS

Dr Tobinson Briggs, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering granted *Review of Status from Lecturer II to Lecturer I*, effective 26th January, 2013.

Dr Daniel Awai, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, Faculty of Education, granted *Review of Status from Assistant Lecturer to Lecturer II*, effective 8th August, 2012.

Mr Uduma Idika, Department of Marketing, Faculty of Management Sciences, granted *Review of Status from Assistant Lecturer to Lecturer II*, effective 14th November, 2012.

ASSUMPTION OF DUTY

Professor Alexis Monsi, assumes duty in the Department of Animal Science and Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture, effective 3rd December, 2012 to 2nd December, 2013. *This supersedes our earlier publication on Professor Monsi's Appointment.

SABBATICAL APPOINTMENT

Professor Bernard Efiuvwevwere, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Biological Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, granted *Sabbatical Leave* to the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun, Delta State.

Dr Tamunonim A. Ngerebo-A, granted *Sabbatical Appointment* in the Department of Finance and Banking, Faculty of Management Sciences.

APPOINTMENT

Dr A. C. Tse, Department of Geology, Faculty of Physical Sciences and Information Technology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, *reappointed, Head of Department*, effective 25th March, 2013.

STOP PRESS

POWER SUPPLY

The University Community is hereby informed that due to epileptic public power supply by the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), the Works and Services Department has announced that the University Community is now powered from local power plants for administrative purposes during office hours, while residential areas and hostels would be similarly supplied at appropriate periods in the evenings. The ongoing rationing of electricity supply, according to the Director of Works and Services, Mr Jubrin Inede, would continue, pending when PHCN would improve electricity supply to the University.

BAN ON BIRTHDAY PARTIES, RELIGIOUS WORSHIP

Management of the University has banned the celebration of birthday and religious worships during official hours. This directive was contained in a memo signed by the Director, Personnel Affairs, on behalf of the Registrar and made available to *UNIPOST Weekly*.

"It has been observed that some members of staff usually conduct religious worships and birthday parties in their offices during official hours, thereby disturbing other members in the performance of their official duties," the memo read in part.

"Henceforth, the holding of religious devotional services and birthday parties in the offices during official hours is hereby banned. These could hold before or after official hours that is before 8:00 am or after 4:00 pm" the Memo added, warning that any member of staff found contravening this ban will be sanctioned.

SOCIAL SCIENCES ROUNDTABLE

The Faculty of Social Sciences invites the general public to its 2nd Roundtable at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, at 11:30am, on Thursday, 4th April, 2013. The Conference, which has "From Resource Curse to Resource Blessing: the Role of NEITI", as its theme, would be facilitated by the Chairman, Board of the Niger Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI), Mr Ledum Mittee.

UNICAL SACKS FIVE, DEMOTES 10 LECTURERS

The authorities of the University of Calabar (UNICAL), have dismissed five teaching staff and demoted 10 others for various offences, including alleged cases of plagiarism, financial fraud and publication of articles in fake and cloned Journals. A release

from Secretary to the Governing Council and Registrar, Dr Julia Omang and made available by the Public Relations Officer, Mr Effiong Eyo, said the action was necessary to check further cases of academic dishonesty in the University.

UNILORIN V - C DECRIES MORTALITY RATE

Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin, Kwara State, Professor AbdulGaniyu Ambali, has expressed concern over an alarming rate of maternal mortality in the country, calling on the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) to step up efforts at arresting the situation.

MOUA V-C GETS KUDOS AT 2ND ANNIVERSARY

Stakeholders in the affairs of Micahel Okpara University of Agriculture (MOUA), have praised the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Hilary Edeoga for his exemplary leadership which translated in numerous landmark projects. They spoke at the second

anniversary celebration of Professor Edeoga as Vice-Chancellor of the University.

WOMEN ENROLMENT DRIVES DEMAND FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION

The Ministry of Higher Education in Saudi Arabia claims that there has been a sharp growth in university enrollment largely because of an increase in the income levels of Saudi families and greater interest among women to pursue tertiary education.

World Bank figures suggest that the per capita income in Saudi Arabia climbed to SR 81,200 in 2011. A recent report of the Ministry for the 2011 academic year points out that university admissions have recorded an impressive growth rate of 10.3 percent annually. Although the income levels have increased, most of the academic institutions have offered "free" education.

The report also highlights that the number of young women seeking university degrees has also grown at a fast pace. During 2011,

women accounted for more than half of the total enrolled students at these institutions of higher learning. Their enrollment has improved significantly because of a "positive shift in the social stance toward women's education, women are getting more encouragement and new opportunities for education". The number of women enrolled in different university degree programs in the Kingdom is estimated at 523,583.

Humanities and Arts majors remained the most popular among women, with around 209,000 women enrolled in these programs. Further, about 98,000 women chose to study Social Sciences, Business Management and Law. Technical subjects, like Engineering and Industrial Production courses, remained on the lower end of spectrum as only 9,000 women enrolled in these courses.

-Compiled by Otikor Samuel

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT OBSERVATORY

FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH, 31 - SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2013

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (AM) (PM)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 31 MAR, 2013	35.0 26.0	59	NE	-	6:31 6:41	Day expected to be partly cloudy and hot.
MONDAY, 01 APR 2013	35.0 26.0	60	NE	5.0	6:31 6:41	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. More cloud than sun. Day predicted to be hot. Chance of rainfall is high.
TUESDAY 02 APR, 2013	34.0 26.0	61	NE	18.7	6:31 6:40	Thunderstorm and partly sunny and hot day expected.
WEDNESDAY 03 APR, 2013	33.0 26.0	64	NE	2.8	6:30 6:40	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Partly sunny and warm day expected.
THURSDAY 04 APR, 2013	34.0 25.0	58	NE	4.0	6:30 6:40	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy and warm day predicted.
FRIDAY 05 APR, 2013	33.0 25.0	62	NE	18.9	6:29 6:40	Thunderstorm expected early in the day. Day expected to be mostly sunny and warm.
SATURDAY 06 APR, 2013	34.0 25.0	49	N	-	6:29 6:40	Day expected to be partly cloudy and warm. Possibility of rainfall is slim.

VREMUDIA WEKPE
OFFICER-IN-CHARGE

PROF SAMUEL AROKOYU
DIRECTOR, (CDRMS)

Senate Education Committee Visit

Chairman, Senate Committee on Education, Senator Uche Chukwumerije led other members of the Committee on a fact-finding tour to the University on 7th March, 2013. Ace Cameraman, Headman Alu was on hand to capture high-points of the visit.



Vice-Chancellor, Prof Joseph Ajenka, welcoming Chairman of the Committee, Senator Chukwumerije



Senator Chukwumerije signing the Visitor's Register



Professor Ajenka addressing the Distinguished Senators



Senator Chukwumerije and former Governor of Plateau State, Senator Joshua Dariye



V-C, Principal and Senior Officers of the University and members of the C'tee at the Governing Council Chambers



Senators Dariye, Babayo Gamawa and Pius Ewherido



Senators Sonni Ogbuaji and Atiku Abubakar Bagudu



Prof Ajenka in a chat with Senator Chukwumerije



Bursar, Mr Vitalis Aliezi exchanging views with Senator Dariye



Sen Chukwumerije exchanging pleasantries with Director, IPS, Prof Mike Onyekonwu, while V-C, Prof Ajenka and DV-C (Admin), Prof Ethelbert Nduka look on



Prof Ajenka and the Senators at a project site



The Senators and Senior Officers of the University inspecting projects



Group photograph of the Senators, Committee Clerk, their Deputies and Senior Officers of the University