

## Scrap Research Centres That Do Not Generate Funds ~Adewoye

Research centres in universities must be viable and self-sustaining, rather than depending on subventions from the authorities; any research centre that does not generate money to the University is not productive and should be scrapped, reports **Obinna Nwodin**.

More on pg 3

### Side Bar

Institute of Arts and Culture honoured Prof Stella Ibe at Senate Performance held at The CRAB last Wednesday. Details next week -Editor

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Meet Usoroh, UNI PORT's Pioneer Chief Internal Auditor

Story on p2



UNI PORT, Fidelity Bank, Sign MoU To Develop A-Level School

Story on p3



Senate Re-Elects Nduka, Willie-Abbey As DV-Cs

Story on p5



College Of Engineering Elects Appah Pioneer Provost

Story on p7



## 104<sup>th</sup> Inaugural

## Joel Tasks Policy-Makers On Local Content Development

By Humphrey Ogu

Ways of harnessing abundant natural resources to boost local content development and attain better living standards for the Nigerian people from oilfield chemicals, without endangering their livelihood in the course of oil and gas production, formed the main thrust of the 104<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Lecture delivered at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last Thursday.

Delivering the Lecture titled: "Tapping the Untapped Wealth in our Backyard: Pathway to Local Content Development", Professor Ogbonna Joel of the Department of Petroleum and Gas Engineering, College of Engineering, drew attention to huge reserves of raw materials that are critical for the production of oilfield chemicals that remain largely untapped in the country.

"Studies from the Raw Materials Research and Development Commission, report that the Nigerian Mining Corporation, and other international industry accounts have established the existence of bentonite clay reserves of over 700 million tons in the country with the largest single deposit at

Afuzo in Edo state, holding 70-80 million tons," he pointed out.

Joel, who also reeled out a comprehensive statistics of the raw materials available in

different states of the Federation, regretted that "virtually none of the companies listed in the Directory as oilfield chemical

Cont'd on p6



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Pioneer CIA, Mr Usoroh (Centre), current CIA, Mr Boniface Woko (5<sup>th</sup> from right), immediate past CIA, Mr Emma Mbachu (5<sup>th</sup> from left) and other staff of Audit Unit

When Mr Ibong Usoroh, completed his degree programme in Accountancy at the prestigious Howard University in early 1980, little did he know that he was destined to join the services of the emergent University of Port Harcourt in December of the same year. While casting about for something to do as he looked forward to Christmas, Usoroh was literally accosted by two visiting pioneer Vice-Chancellors to join the service of their new institutions back in Nigeria. The Vice-Chancellor of University of Jos had sealed a pact with Usoroh to join him there. Or so he thought. He even paid for the man's trip back to Nigeria, hopefully on his way to Jos.

But Professor Donald Ekong, who was also on the same Federal Government recruitment team to America, literally hijacked Usoroh during a nocturnal visit to his residence in Washington, unknown to his complacent colleague from Jos, who thought he had the man.

That was how Mr Usoroh landed in the University in December, 1980 to assume duty as pioneer Chief Internal Auditor of the emergent University. Usoroh had a glorious career that included training of the next generation of Auditors of the University, before voluntarily drawing the curtain on his career in 1986 to the disappointment of his subordinates and

the developmental strides recorded since his retirement from the University as very fantastic, said: "I was lost for over three hours trying to locate the University and the new Senate building. I am marvelled at the rate of development recorded in the University since I left in 1986; but I am also worried about the chaotic traffic jam on the East/West road axis of the University, which has the potential to scuttle the good work that is going on in this University".

An elated Usoroh, who remarked that he was strict with his staff while serving as pioneer Auditor in the University, said: "No matter how hard I was on them at the time, they still listened to me because they were very eager to learn. Some of the pioneer staff who came under Usoroh's tutelage were Emmanuel Mbachu, who retired as the third Chief Internal Auditor, his successor, Mr Boniface Woko, Dr Paul Worlu and Mr Alalibo West. The only way to make subordinates learn fast is to put pressure on them", he added, describing the late Professor Ekong as a nice man and dutiful administrator, who laboured very hard to lay a very solid foundation for the new University.

# Meet Usoroh, UNIPORT's Pioneer Chief Internal Auditor

By Ethel Timi-Johnson & Williams Wodi



Mr Usoroh

## STOP PRESS

### NILA APPOINTS NAANEN, GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBER

The Federal Government has appointed Professor Ben Naanen of the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies, a Member of the Governing Council of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, Kofe Abayomi Street, Victoria Island, Lagos. A Letter conveying the appointment from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dated 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2012 and signed by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Martin Uhemobhi, disclosed that Professor Naanen's appointment took effect from 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2012, when the Council was inaugurated.

"I am pleased to inform you that, in the exercise of the powers conferred on him by the First Schedule, Section 1 of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs Act (CAP 311), His Excellency, Dr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, has graciously approved your appointment as a member of the newly-constituted Governing Council of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs," the statement added.

Professor Naanen is an experienced expert in International History with interest in Economic History. He was a former Secretary and President of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP) and a well-known human rights and environmental activist.

associates, who had come to respect his intrepid skills with figures and balancing the University's books. He relocated to the then thriving Oku Ibokun Paper Mill in his home State of Akwa Ibom where he served as Chief Internal Auditor.

Last Monday, however, Mr Usoroh made a triumphant return to the University to see the team he left behind after 27 years to the admiration of the pioneering staff of the Audit Unit and other erstwhile associates, who competed with each other for a handshake with the great pioneer. While in the University, Usoroh also lectured in the then Graduate School of Management as proof of his intellectual grounding in the Accounting profession where he is still revered as a great pioneer. Disclosing that the desire to be part of the pioneering effort of building a new University led him to accept the job offer in 1980, Usoroh added that he had garnered valuable administrative experience from the Nigeria Cement Factory, Nkalagu in Enugu State before travelling abroad for further studies.

Usoroh, who hails from Afah Abia town in Nsit-Ibom Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, recalled that "the late Professor Ekong lured me to the University of Port Harcourt to establish an Audit Unit. This was following my graduation from Howard and Morgan State Universities in America. There was nothing on ground when I arrived here and I had to write out *Audit Functions* and distributed same to staff as my own peculiar way of grooming them to understand the scope of the job. Fortunately, the pioneer staff were very committed and hardworking at the time and I am very impressed with what they have achieved since I left".

The pioneer Chief Internal Auditor, who described

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# Scrap Research Centres That Do Not Generate Funds ~Adewoye



Prof Adewoye, flanked by V-C, Prof Ajenka, Chairman, Research Fair C'ttee, Prof Awiri (right), Mrs Daniel Kalio, DV-C, (R&D), Prof Bene Willie-Abbey, and former Vice Chancellor, Emeritus Prof Briggs (left)

## Cont'd from p1

Former Director-General, National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure (NASENI), Professor Olusegun Adewoye, made the submission while delivering a lecture titled: "Science, Engineering Technology and Innovation for Fast-Tracked and Sustainable Development in a Globalized Economy", at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Research Fair and Conference of the University, held at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last Wednesday.

Professor Adewoye, who called for the declaration of a national emergency on science and technology development in the country, emphasized the need for the establishment of a Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education, stating that to achieve this monumental goal, science and technology should be fused with higher education. He stressed the importance of investing in the acquisition of technological knowledge that would enhance development, pointing out that knowledge is more important than the abundance of raw materials.

Adewoye, who is also a Professor of Materials at the African University of Science and Technology, stressed the importance of Nanotechnology, as well as the application of advanced manufacturing to agriculture and minerals, advising that governments to stop paying

lip service to technological development.

Blaming the challenges of science, technology and development in Nigeria on leadership, the Guest Lecturer noted that "our leaders do not know how to grow the economy and build a nation. If our leaders are proactive and initiate programmes and policies that would create jobs, there would be less conflict in our society and the country will develop."

In his address, Chairman of the occasion and Executive Director, Rivers State Sustainable Development Agency (RSSDA), Mr Noble Pepple, said that innovations and entrepreneurship are keys to national development stressing that the acknowledgement of this fact by the Federal Government explains establishment of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology and inclusion of entrepreneurial training in the school curriculum.

Mr Pepple, who was represented by the General Manager, Business Development and Job Creation, Mrs Blessing Daniel Kalio, said that "the era when universities are

dotted with glorified empty laboratories or laboratories with antiquated equipment should be over. Universities in developed countries invest heavily in research and ensure production of new products and services to address identified gaps in the nation."

In his remarks, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, said that there was abundance of potentials to make changes in the society. "Every challenge throws up an opportunity and once you seize the opportunity to bring about innovation, then you have done something" he noted, adding that "as a University, we have to be creative to find solutions that would bring about development. We need to work very hard to make research relevant for the benefit of the society."

Also speaking, former Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs challenged younger academics to rise up to the task of building a greater society, pointing out that nature has bestowed on the youths the ability to do great things for the benefit of society.

Earlier in his welcome address, Chairman of the Research Fair Organizing Committee, Professor Gregory Awiri, said that the Fair was organized to enable investors and the Industry meet with researchers and enhance



A scene at the Exhibition

networking so that research works of academics could be applied to the overall benefit of the society.

Goodwill messages were delivered by co-sponsors of the event, which featured exhibitions by the various Colleges, Faculties, Institutes, Centres, sister Institutions, organizations, as well as paper presentations.



V-C, Prof Ajenka, flanked by University Librarian, Dr Obiageli Nwodo (right), Executive Director, South, Fidelity, Mr Okonkwo (left), other top managers of the Bank, some Principal and senior Officers of the University

# UNIPORT, Fidelity Bank, Sign MoU To Develop A-Level School

As part of concerted efforts aimed at providing foundational knowledge to prospective candidates seeking admission into Nigerian universities, the authorities of the University have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Fidelity Bank Plc to establish an Advanced Level programme in the College of Continuing Education.

Speaking before signing the MoU penultimate Thursday in the Committee Room, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who praised Management of the Bank and the College for their dedication towards the realization of the project restated the commitment of his administration to ensuring its timely completion.

"We have identified the land and concluded all the legal aspects connected with the project and we are ready to

work on schedule and reasonable cost", the Vice-Chancellor said, adding that the A/L School would add value to the service chain delivery of the University.

Also speaking, Executive Director, South Directorate of Fidelity Bank Plc, Mr Nnamdi Okonkwo, who led other top Managers of the Bank to the visit, expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for the mutual relationship that exists between the Bank and the University, pledging the willingness of the Bank to sustain the relationship through effective service delivery and management of the A-Level School once it comes on stream.

Expressing joy over the signing of the MoU, Director of CCE, Professor Steve Okodudu, who reiterated the

commitment of the College to the completion and smooth operation of the project, thanked the Vice-Chancellor and the Bank for their untiring efforts aimed at actualizing the project, which he described as very dear to his heart.

Part of the obligations of the University, as agreed in the MoU is to provide and domicile funds for the project with Fidelity Bank Plc, while the Bank is to offer dedicated services through automated fees collection processes, payroll administration, as well as provision of other financial advisory services.

Others present at the signing ceremony were: Vivienne Bucnor, UNIPORT Branch Leader of Fidelity Bank Plc, Andrew Eghobamen and Joy Oramulu of NUKS Associates Ltd and Osagie Unuigbo of C-Options Ltd. The Executive Director, South Directorate, Mr Nnamdi Okonkwo, General Manager, South, Mr Charles Okoro and Regional Manager, Rivers South, Mrs Ebiti Sam-Yudo signed the MoU with authorities of the University represented by the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar and Director, CCE.

## Committee Brainstorms On Research Ethics

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

**A**s part of efforts aimed at ensuring competency and enhancing knowledge, the Research Ethics Committee organised the second in the series of its in-house training and online Research Ethics Course for members last Thursday at the Governing Council Chambers, University Park.

Chairman of the Committee, Professor Osaretin Odia, who made a presentation titled, *Research Ethics: An Overview*, explained that research information must be granted by competent persons, who are well informed on a voluntary basis about the risks, benefits, confidentiality and compensation as components of any research work. "Vulnerable groups like children and invalid persons cannot make informed decision and so should not be contacted for research purposes", he added.

Listing falsification, fabrication, cloning, plagiarism and gift authorship as misconducts in research, former Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Professor Blessing Didia, who spoke on *Responsibility*, noted that the primary procedure aimed at avoiding problems among individual researchers is communication, clarity and openness.

"A general rule is that an Author must have participated sufficiently in the work to take responsibility for its content and vouch for its validity", he said.

Professor Didia, who disclosed that ethics dictates a set of guidelines for research, added that appropriate credit should be given to deserving parties in a research work. "Authorship of materials for presentation to professional groups or for publication is linked not only to credit, but also to accountability", he pointed out, disclosing that the Committee is committed to ensuring originality of research work in the University amongst academics and students alike.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development), Professor Bene Willie-Abbey, who commended the Committee for holding regular meetings and training sessions to keep abreast of new developments in the conduct of research and reporting, tasked the Committee on the need to extend its training programmes to teaching staff and postgraduate students directly involved in research activities.



V-C, Prof Ajenka (4<sup>th</sup> from right), C'tee Chairman, Dr Ibanichuka, DV-C (Admin), Prof Ethelbert Nduka and other members of the C'tee

## UDPS Finance Review C'tee Seeks Proper Control Measures

By Mercy Adeniji

**T**he Committee set up to review the revenue generation and expenditure pattern of the University Demonstration Primary School (UDPS), submitted its report penultimate Friday with a call for control measures to check wastage in the management of resources.

Receiving the Report in the Committee Room, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka commended members of the Committee for a job well done, promising that Management would study the Report. He said: "We will study the Report with a view to implementing relevant recommendations. We also hope the findings will help us run the School well".

The Vice-Chancellor, who expressed satisfaction with the Report, praised members of the Committee, charging the Faculty of Education to continue to guide the University on programmes and how to run them effectively to improve the overall quality of education in the University.

Responding, Chairman of the Committee, Dr

Emmanuel Ibanichuka, apologised to the Vice-Chancellor for submitting the Report behind the stipulated timeframe, attributing it to some challenges they encountered in the course of gathering relevant information that formed the basis of the Report.

According to him, the essence of the assignment was to look into sources of income and how the funds were expended in the University Demonstration Primary School (UDPS). Regretting the absence of control processes in the expenditure pattern of development levies, Chairman of the Committee recommended that a control mechanism be put in place to ensure transparent utilization of funds with the assistance of the External Auditors to the School.

Dr Ibanichuka, who was a one-time Acting Head, Department of Accounting, disclosed that coming from an Accounting background, he was able to bring his expertise to bear on the job. He appealed to Management to appoint people with the right experience to head Committees that are relevant to their job specifications.

Other members of the Committee are; Dr Nkechi Okoli, Mrs Grace Udeala and Mrs Musa Amina.

## PUMSA Elects New EXCO, Donates To UNIPORT

By Humphrey Ogu & Otiakor Samuel

**T**he outgoing Executive of Port Harcourt University Medical Association (PUMSA), the umbrella body of students of Medicine and Surgery in the University, handed over the baton of leadership to a new Executive Council, with a charge for it to support the College of Health Sciences and the University.

Handing over the baton of leadership last Tuesday, outgoing President, David Briggs-Otto, who charged his successor, Onoche Lawrence Onoche, to sustain the very cordial relationship between the Association and the College Management, as well as between PUMSA and the Faculty of Clinical sciences, pledged continuous support to the University, even after graduation as a mark of appreciation for the quality training they received as students. The President, on behalf of the outgoing Executive, also donated N130, 000 to the University, which was realised as part of its

Alumni Fund Drive for the service year.

Speaking on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, Dean Faculty of Clinical Sciences, Professor John Ikimalo, urged members of the new Executive to emulate their predecessors, citing the free medical outreach to flood victims late last year and the donation it made to the University as gestures that are worthy of emulation.

Ikimalo, who also spoke in his own official capacity as Dean, advised the new leadership to seek and heed advice, expressing willingness to support the incoming Executive to succeed in its onerous assignment. He also urged students to take their medical training and career very seriously while they are in the University.

In his contribution, Provost, College of Health Sciences, Professor Chris Akani, represented by the Deputy Provost, Professor Owunari Georgewill, reminded the students that their primary focus on Campus is to study. His words: "Remember that the reason your parents sent you here is to study Medicine. That should be your primary focus. If you misplace your priority, we can't be friends anymore," adding that the Office of the Provost is always open to the Association to seek assistance and cooperation on issues of mutual interest.

In his acceptance speech, incoming President, Onoche, who thanked members of PUMSA for electing him, promised to keep the flag of the Association flying high by consolidating on the achievement of the outgoing Executive.

Other members of the new Executive include Ogechi Anusiem, Vice-President; Benjamin Obomanu, Secretary-General; Baribe Godspower, Assistant Secretary-General; Judith Mmonu, Financial Secretary; Henry Nwuke, Treasurer; Uchenna Ikeanyi; Director of Welfare; Austin Anyanwu, Director of Sports and Kenneth Etuk, Senate Speaker.

Highlight of the event was presentation of award to Professor Georgewill, former Executive Council and other deserving members of the Association, including winner of PUMSA Maiden Essay Competition, Chinonye Onyegbule.



Dean, Clinical Sciences, Prof Ikimalo (in suit) in a group photograph with past and present EXCO and some members of PUMSA

Senate of the University, at its 385<sup>th</sup> Meeting held last Wednesday in the hallowed Chambers, re-elected Professors Ethelbert Nduka and Bene Willie-Abbey as Deputy Vice-Chancellors (Administration) and (Research and Development), respectively. Senate also

## Senate Re-Elects Nduka, Willie-Abbey As DV-Cs ...As Ogali, Ikimalo, Awotua-Efebo, Ibe, Win Council Poll



V-C, Prof Ajenka

elected representatives into the newly-constituted Governing Council, as well as Boards and Committees of the University. Those elected into the Governing Council are: Professors Regina Ogali, John Ikimalo, Awotua-Efebo, and Anthony Ibe.

Others elected into statutory Boards and Committees are: Professors Josephine Ebong and Chinyerem Madumere-Obike, Anthony Ekine, Samuel Nwideduh and Dr O. K. Obunge, Appointments and Promotions Committee (SPATS); Professor Charity Okujagu, Development Committee; Professors Emmanuel Emesealu and Raphael Ngochindo, Consultancy, Research and Development Centre (CORDEC); Professor Joyce Akaninwor and Dr S. O. Oluwuo,

By Obinna Nwodin

Institute of Agricultural, Research and Development (IAR&D); Dr Betty Irulor and Dr Akaha Tse, University Demonstration Primary School (UDPS); Dr B.S. Ebuonwan and Professor Obi Kemjika, University Demonstration Secondary School (UDSS) Board; Professor Onyee Nwankpa and Dr Ate Okorobia, Delta Series Editorial Board (Arts); Professor G.O. Agu and Dr F.O. Ajayi, Delta Series Editorial Board (Science); Professors Israel Owate and Elizabeth Okeke, College of Graduate Studies Board; Professor Aduabobo Hart and Dr B. F. Nwine, Staff Housing Loan Scheme; Dr Francis Amieye and Dr Walter Ihejirika, Students Welfare Committee; Dr E.A.D. Alikor, University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH) Board; Dr Ate Okorobia, University Museum; Dr Godly Otto, College of Continuing Education (CCE) Board; Professor Nicholas Oforka and Dr C.G. Orluwene, Senate Committee on Examination Malpractices; Professors Francis Sikoki, D. I. Uchenna and Chijioke Nwauche, Honorary Degree Committee; Professors P.O. Nwanna-Nzenwuna and Enoch Nwachukwu, Publications Committee, while Professor Love Akonye was elected into the Senate Committee on Academic Policies and Programmes.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, had earlier informed Senate of the need to streamline the quality of Inaugural Lectures in the University. "We need to be sure of the quality of Inaugural Lectures we present in this University. We need to look at the misuse of presentation skills and contents of our Inaugural Lectures and establish guidelines for Professors delivering Inaugural and Valedictory Lectures so that they can gain global acceptance", he stated, naming Professor Michael Oti as head of a new Committee to work out new guidelines on future Inaugural and Public Lecture series. Other Members of the Committee are Professors Omolara Ogundipe, Mike Onyekonwu, Chukunonye Ojinnaka, Sylvanus Udoiem, Augustus Ghosi and Frank Ugiomoh. Professor Ajenka also informed Senate of a Circular from the Federal Government directing Managements to set up a SERVICOM Unit in every University, stressing that "we have a duty to offer quality service to our customers, who are the students we teach and all others that we interact with in the course of performing our duties. We have domiciled the SERVICOM Unit in the Office of the Director, Quality Assurance and Quality Control Unit", he informed Senate.

The Vice-Chancellor also warned Heads of Department against the practice of signing the monthly nominal roll for every staff, including those who absent themselves

from work, warning that sanctions would be applied against those who flout the rules.

Professor Ajenka also said that the authorities had observed that some Faculties in the College of Natural and Applied Sciences have stopped carrying out course work for the Doctoral programme, pointing out that mandatory course work was a Senate directive which must be applied across boards, failing which affected students would not be allowed to graduate.

The Vice-Chancellor also stressed the need for Heads of Department to forward reports from External Examiners at the end of each assessment, stressing that they were important records that would be useful for future accreditation exercises.

Professor Ajenka also frowned at the reported excesses of Class Captains, directing that no student should be allowed to impose him or herself on other students as Class Captain.

Senate also approved the Report of the Certificates Verification Committee for January-February, as 2013 presented by its Chairman, Professor Mike Monanu.

A letter from the National Universities Commission (NUC) on the abolition of the Pass Degree in Nigerian Universities was brought to the attention of Senate. The policy expectedly drew a lively debate from Senate Members, most of who felt that the NUC was attempting to hijack the statutory functions of University Senates.

Senate also considered a Paper by the Director of Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QAQC), Professor Tony Arinze, on the Criteria for Graduating Students titled: "The Abuse of Academic Freedom". The Vice-Chancellor directed Provosts and Deans to carefully study the presentation with a view to implementing the recommendations.

Senate also considered a presentation by the Dean, Faculty of Education, Professor Ebi Bio Awotua-Efebo on guidelines for the Award of Non-NUC Certificates and Diplomas. A Committee to be chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igbo Joe, was set up to harmonize the Guidelines through the incorporation of all similar programmes offered in the University. Other Members of the Committee are Professors Joseph Okoh, Ozo-mekuri Ndimele, Ebi Awotua Efebo and a representative of the Institute of Agricultural Research and Development (IAR&D).

Senate received a report on one Mr Yekini Ismaila on the grading of his examination results, as presented by the Provost, College of Health Sciences. It resolved to stand by the College decision on the matter.

Results were considered from the various Colleges and Faculties, as well as approval of External Examiners as represented by relevant Departments.

## Congregation Elects Council, Board Members, C'ttee Reps

...As V-C Charges Staff On Improved Productivity

By Obinna Nwodin & Mercy Adeniji

Congregation has elected Professor Owunari Georgewill and Mrs Dorcas Otto, as representatives to the newly-constituted Governing Council of the University. Professor Owunari is to represent the Teaching, while Mrs Otto is to represent the Non-Teaching Members of the Congregation.

Addressing members of the Congregation last Thursday at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, venue of the keenly-contested elections, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, thanked staff for the support given his administration since assumption of office, charging them to work assiduously for improved service delivery.

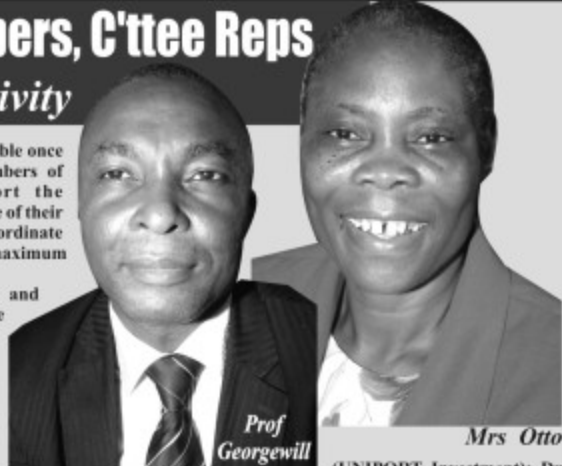
He said that it is only when every staff does what he or she is expected to do that the objectives of the University can be achieved, disclosing that introduction of the Collegiate and Directorate systems in the Registry and Bursary Departments, Technology Park, Arts Village, Quality Assurance and Quality Control Unit, SERVICOM and Procurement Units, were major highlights of his administration.

The Vice-Chancellor, who made a power-point presentation on a number of on-going projects in the University, expressed hope that more lecture halls and

office accommodation would be made available once the projects were completed, urging Members of Congregation to continue to support the administration through diligent performance of their duty schedules and proper supervision of subordinate staff to enable the University achieve maximum productivity.

Other Members elected in the Boards and Committees of the new Governing Council are Dr Sunday Osaat and Mr Samuel Ogbu (University Demonstration Secondary School, UDSS); Dr Faith Aminikpo and Mr Nigeria Nutee (University Demonstration Primary School, UDPS); Professor Frank Ugiomoh and Dr John Okpako (Appointment and Promotion Committee (A&PC) Academic); Mr Kelsey Makele and Mr Okike Nwagbo (Appointments and Promotions Committee (A&PC) SPATS); Mr Friday Nwafor and Mrs Philomena Ete-Efeotor (Housing Committee) and Dr Felicia Ayuwu (Capital/Procurement).

Others are Messrs Donald Nwikobe and Frank Ogali (Development Committee); Ekanem Ekanem and Monday Nwideduh (Junior Staff Committee (JSC) Non-Teaching); Boniface Woko and Ekanem Ekanem



Prof Georgewill

Mrs Otto

(UNIPORT Investment); Dr John Yesibo and Obinna Nwodin (University Printing Press), Boniface Woko and Joseph Nwachukwu (Housing Loan Scheme), Dr Kennedy Wariso, Dr Austin Abbah, Mrs Mary Uduokang and Dr Chituru Oluwene (Health and Medical Service Advisory Committee); Mr Aribite Princewill (Council Budget Monitoring Committee) and Ekanem Ekanem (Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee)

# Joel Tasks Policy-Makers On Local Content Development

Cont'd from p1

suppliers in Nigeria, actually source production chemicals or any of the raw materials from within the country."

The Inaugural Lecturer, who listed lack of synergy between the academia and the industry, lack of funding for research and development, poor quality products, lack of patronage for locally-made materials and poor communication network as obstacles to effective utilization of local raw materials and implementation of local content, noted that "one of the ways of creating jobs and actualising the local content initiative is to ensure that some of the chemicals needed in the oil industry are produced in the country," stressing that synergy among all the stakeholders and creation of an enabling environment is a panacea for content development of oil field chemicals in Nigeria.

Joel, who is a member of several reputable professional bodies and the African Representative of the National Registry of Environmental Professionals (NREP) USA, cited training and certification of environmental professionals, research in sustainable environmental management and pollution control as some of his major contributions to knowledge.

The Inaugural Lecturer has also made tremendous contributions in the areas of design and applications of oilfield fluid systems for drilling, cementing and production enhancement operations; oilfield chemicals development and applications, environmental research-related to management of the petroleum industry operations, amongst others.

In his remarks, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, noted that the Inaugural Lecturer is "not only prolific and versatile, he is also very practical," citing his numerous exploits and contributions to the oil and gas



Inaugural Lecturer (2nd left), V-C, Prof Ajienka (centre) and other Professors before the Lecture

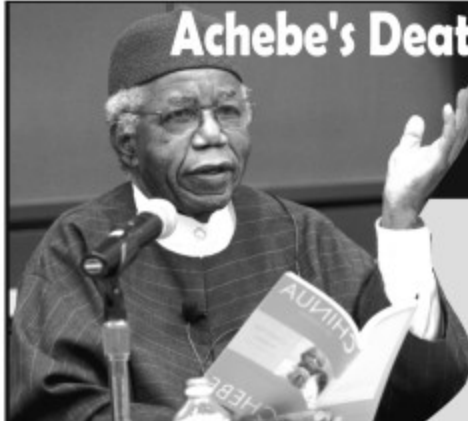
sector. "He has added a lot of value to the University and I have no regrets for inviting him to join the University in 2008," the Vice-Chancellor added, stressing the need for teamwork in research among academics, especially in Science and Engineering as a way of achieving local content.

"Given the many contributions Professor Joel has made to development of the oil and gas industry, it is time for multinationals corporations to begin to have confidence in the abundant capabilities of Nigerian academics," professor Ajienka observed. "Like me, the Inaugural

Lecturer obtained all his degrees from universities in Nigeria and has worked in top-flight multinational oil companies, where he gave a good account of himself. What the quality of his Inaugural Lecture proves is that Nigerians academics can do well in an enabling environment with the right kind of motivation", a visibly-elated Vice-Chancellor concluded.

Many of Professor Joel's industry partners attended the Lecture as a testimony to his practical approach to research and development spanning over one decade of teaching and research.

## Achebe's Death Will Not Diminish Creative Writing ~Nnolim



Late Prof Achebe

Despite the grief that greeted the demise of renowned novelist, Professor Chinua Achebe, noted literary critic and polemicist, Professor Charles Nnolim, does not believe that the sad end of the literary giant spells doom for Nigerian and African Literature.

"Achebe's death doesn't diminish writing, it doesn't diminish creativity, or talent; we only regret that a man of high level talent is dead as all men must die anyway, and that he lived a good life. Despite being crippled by an accident, he lived up to 82 years, which is a rip age in a country with an average life expectancy of 49," he says. "It is the end of an era. Achebe was the father of African Literature. Before him, there was nothing that was really worth discussing about African Literature; after him, many writers came out in the open to exhibit their creative skills. He begot several distinguished literary sons and daughters, including poor imitators. He was a man of principles," says Nnolim, who is famous for locating the source of Achebe's second novel: *Arrow of God*.

Professor Nnolim, who was a panel member for the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) Prize for Literature for six years, says: "Writing in Nigeria is a mighty business now. The amount of writing we received in the competition annually was tremendous, but that doesn't mean it is better because quantity is not quality."

While Chinua Achebe and his contemporaries kept flourishing in the art of creative writing to critical acclaim, Professor Charles Nnolim carved a niche for himself in literary criticism on the African continent. What does he think of the demise of the incomparable literary icon and its impact on African writing? Our Correspondent, HUMPHREY OGU, sought answers to these and other questions from the literary scavenger.

Vintage Nnolim!

On what he thinks of younger writers, the literary critic observes that "their major problem is self-publishing. Writers are no longer patient enough to wait for assessors or big publishers like Heinemann, African University Press and so on; they just rush to the next printer and make all kinds of mistakes," citing Achebe as a writer, whose works are devoid of errors because he employed the services of editors and good publishers.

Advising budding writers to be patient, Nnolim cites Chimamanda Adichie as a very talented writer, who could have ruined her awesome talent by not having good editors or publishers look at her work before rushing to press as has become the practice among budding writers in Nigeria today.

"Publishers may delay your work for a year or two. Those who don't want to wait even for the next three months rush to the next printer. Publishers also charge money now. That was not the case in the past. They were even giving advance for royalties to authors. These days, you do all the works yourself, hoping to generate money from launching of your work and recover your investment because some books are read by nobody on account of the numerous errors in them that are not good for younger readers. Some writers recover their printing money by inviting business tycoons to launch their work. When they recover their money, they pack them in the house and that is the end of the book," he explains.

"There are many talented writers in Nigeria. 80 per cent of African writers are Nigerians. Nigeria is in the forefront of African Literature. The only thing they need is a little patience and a little polishing," he says, stating that "I have always accused younger critics of being lazy. Criticism is a profession, and you have to be knowledgeable and have to be disciplined to be a good critic. You can't be a critic when you are not knowledgeable. Critics are not found everywhere."

Nnolim, whose other colleagues included Professors Michael Echeruo, Emmanuel Obichina, Abiola

Irele, and Dan Izevbye, notes that there is no Committee of Critics, like you have the Association of Nigerian Authors.

"I have not seen a conference or association of critics anywhere, even outside the country; I was in the US for 18 years. I was a critic there and it is an individualistic kind of calling and it is not a calling that you may say that is creative. A critic is like a brusher of a gentleman's shoes. So we are not celebrated anywhere," Nnolim, who is the only Nigerian Critic to have received National Honours, concludes.



Prof Nnolim

# GUIDE POST

## APPOINTMENT

**Dr N.A. Jamabo**, Department of Animal Science & Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture, appointed *Member*, Certificate Verification Committee. The appointment takes immediate effect.

**Mr F. E. Nzerem**, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Faculty of Physical Science & Information Technology, College of Natural & Applied Sciences, appointed *Member*, Certificate Verification Committee. The appointment takes immediate effect.

**Mr T.J. Okonkwo**, Department of Pharmaceutical & Medicinal Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, appointed *Member*, Certificate Verification Committee. The appointment takes immediate effect.

## ADJUNCT APPOINTMENT

**Prof Oamen Abumere**, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Physical Science & Information Technology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, granted Part-Time Appointment as *Adjunct Professor* for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Prof E.C. Ndaka**, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Physical Science & Information Technology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, granted Part-Time Appointment as *Adjunct Professor* for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Dr V.E. Ejiro**, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Physical Science & Information Technology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, granted Part-Time Appointment as *Adjunct Senior Lecturer* for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Dr E. E. Williams**, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Physical Science & Information Technology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, granted Part-Time Appointment as *Adjunct Senior Lecturer* for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

## REGULARIZATION OF APPOINTMENT

**Mr Emmanuel Asogwa**, Department of Human Kinetics & Health Education, Faculty of Education, granted *Regularization of Appointment* as Lecturer II, effective 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2010.

## RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

**Professor Benjamin Ehezue**, Department of Adult & Non-Formal Education, Faculty of Education, granted *Renewal of Appointment* for another one year, effective 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2014.

## CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

**Mr Kenneth Worlu**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mr Michael Anele**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mr Wenenda Woke**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Goodluck Chukwuka**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mr Obasi Ezemonye**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mr Ogbonda Ibeka**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Miss Caroline Nwoha**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mr Innocent Alikor**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mr Owen Ezeunwo**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mr Acho Orji**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mr Maxwell Ogundu**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mr Jeremiah Great**, offered *Contract Appointment* as a Cleaner/Messenger for one year, effective on assumption of duty.

# College Of Engineering Elects Appah Pioneer Provost

...Iyagba, Leton, Ndubuisi, Emerge Deans

By Otikor Samuel

A pioneer Provost has been elected for the new College of Engineering. He is Professor Dulu Appah of the former Department of Petroleum and Gas Engineering. Appah's election followed a keenly-contested election at the 186<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Meeting of the Faculty Board held on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2013 at the Chi Ikoku Auditorium.

Also elected were three Deans for the new Faculties of Process and Energy Systems Engineering, Infrastructural Systems Engineering and Production, Power Systems and Communication Engineering. The new Deans, who won election in the respective Faculties, are Professors Elijah Iyagba, Tambari Leton and Samuel Ndubuisi.

Congratulating the newly-elected Provost and Deans of the College, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who also confirmed their elections in separate letters, added that the two-year tenure for each of the newly-elected Academics, which took effect from 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2013 would terminate on 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2015. The Vice-Chancellor charged them to lay a solid foundation for the take-off of the new College to justify the confidence reposed in them by their colleagues, urging them to forge a strong symbiotic relationship with industry players to make research results from the new College marketable.

In his post-election interview with UNIPORT Weekly last

Wednesday, Professor Appah, who was the former Manager in charge of Planning, Research and Statistics in the Petroleum Technology and Development Fund (PTDF) and current Occupant of the Chi Ikoku Professorial Chair, pledged to bring his wealth of experience to bear on the new office, unfolding a tripartite focal point anchored on sound administrative structure, capacity building and provision of basic infrastructure to take the College to new heights.

In a swift move to match action with his electioneering promises, the new Provost revealed that he has set up an Advisory Committee to fine-tune developmental and sustainability plans with his team, while Committees on Collegiate System, Industry-Academia Partnership and Accreditation, respectively, would also come on stream to broaden the understanding of staff on the new system, facilitate mutual relationship with industry experts to boost research and make products of the College relevant in the market place, as well as ensure that it meets stipulated standards by relevant regulatory agencies.

Organizing annual lecture series, quarterly seminars, publication of quality Journals and exploring relative opportunities in the oil and gas sectors are some of the proposed measures aimed at attracting funding to the College and University, Professor Appah said. "We are working towards a situation where every Lecturer will be empowered to attract funding to the University. As an Engineering educator with keen interest in human capacity development, I will also partner our Alumni to attract a wide range of experiences to develop our College," the Provost added.

"The difference between Faculty and the collegiate system is not just the nomenclature; we have set up a Committee to draw up a blueprint on how we can strategically fit into and operate the new system. This is the time to show leadership and I am ready to transform the College within two years. I put myself up for the election; I know what it takes to deliver the right leadership and I am ready to go," Professor Appah said, stating that the deliverables could be assessed in his first 100 days and by the time he clocks one year in office.



Prof Appah



Prof Leton



Prof Iyagba

## DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT OBSERVATORY

### FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, APRIL, 28- SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2013

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (MM)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (AM) (PM)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 28 APR, 2013	34.0 24.0	63	NE	14.5	6:21 6:38	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy and hot day anticipated.
MONDAY, 29 APR, 2013	34.0 25.0	58	N	4.2	6:21 6:38	Widely scattered thunderstorm expected. More clouds than sun is anticipated. Day expected to be hot.
TUESDAY 30 APR, 2013	34.0 24.0	56	NE	2.0	6:21 6:38	Widely scattered thunderstorm expected. Day expected to be partly sunny and hot.
WEDNESDAY 01 MAY 2013	33.0 25.0	59	NE	12.1	6:20 6:38	Thunderstorm expected. Day predicted to be mostly cloudy and warm. The chance of rain is very high.
THURSDAY 02 MAY, 2013	34.0 24.0	57	NE	4.6	6:20 6:38	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. More clouds than sun predicted. Day expected to be warm.
FRIDAY 03 MAY, 2013	34.0 24.0	56	N	2.3	6:20 6:38	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Partly sunny and warm day predicted. Possibility of rain is slim.
SATURDAY 04 MAY, 2013	33.0 24.0	58	NE	3.1	6:20 6:38	Thunderstorm expected early in the day. Partly sunny and hot day forecasted.

VREMUDIA WEKPE  
OFFICER-IN-CHARGE

PROF SAMUEL AROKOYU  
DIRECTOR, (CDRMDS)

## STOP PRESS

### SIWES DAY

Director, Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) Unit, Professor Regina Ogali, invites the University Community, particularly relevant officers and prospective students of the 2012/2013 SIWES year to the Orientation/Industrial Relations Day holding tomorrow at the Convocation Arena, University Park. Time is 10:00am.

### 34<sup>th</sup> Matriculation Ceremony

The 34<sup>th</sup> Matriculation Ceremony of the University held on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2013 at the Convocation Arena. 4,380 Students took the Matriculation Oath. Our Correspondent, **OTIKOR SAMUEL**, who stood in for our Cameraman, captured highlights of the Ceremony as shown below:



Admissions Officer, Mr. Stephen Eke leading the procession into the Convocation Arena for the commencement of the Matriculation



DV-Cs (R&D), Prof Bene Willie-Abbey, (Acad), Prof Igbo Joe, (Admin), Prof Ethelbert Nduka and V-C, Prof Joseph Ajienka processing into the Convocation Arena



V-C, Prof Ajienka presenting his address



Director, Personnel Affairs, Mr. Roland Wabali, who represented the Registrar, Mrs. Matilda Nnodim, moderating the Order of Proceeding



Cross-section of Deans of Faculty and Provost of Colleges set to present their students



R-L: DV-Cs (Admin), Prof Nduka, (Acad), Prof Joe, Director (Personnel Affairs), Mr. Wabali, DV-C (R&D), Prof Willie-Abbey and Bursar, Mr. Vitalis Aliezi



Cross-section of Matriculants rise for UNIPORT Anthem



Dean, Faculty of Education, Prof Ebi Bio Awotua-Efebo



Provost, CHS, Prof Chris Akani



Dean, Social Sciences, Prof Henry Alapiki



Provost, CNAS, Prof Nnenna Frank-Peterside



Dean, Mgt Sciences, Prof Sylva Kalu



Former Dean, Engineering, Prof Samuel Ejezie



Dean, Agriculture, Prof Love Akonye



Dean, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Prof Oleka Udeala



Some of the Matriculants taking the Oath



V-C, Professor Ajienka, leading the recession after closing the event