



Social Science Faculty Commissions Car Park

The Faculty of Social Sciences last Wednesday commissioned an expansive Car Park for staff and guests of the Faculty. The commendable project is part of ongoing efforts by the present leadership of the Faculty aimed at sanitizing parking of vehicles at the Faculty, reports *Ethel Timi-Johnson*.

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Side Bar

V-C, Prof Joseph Ajienka, addressed Year Two Students of the College of Continuing Education on fees payment last Friday. Details next week. -Editor

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Igali Donates Hilux Van To INRES

In keeping with his promise to donate a utility van to the Institute of Natural Resources, Environment and Sustainability (INRES), Chairman of the Board, Ambassador (Dr) Godknows Igali, has promptly redeemed the pledge by donating a brand new Toyota Hilux Van to ease the operations of the Institute.

Making the presentation on behalf of Dr Igali, who was unavoidably absent at the handing over ceremony, a member of the Board and NUC Distinguished Scholar in the Diaspora, Professor Chidi Ibe, who said that the gesture was in fulfilment of a pledge by Dr Igali at the

By Obinna Nwodin and Williams Wodi

inaugural meeting of the Board, thanked authorities of the University under the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, and the persuasive power of the Director of the Institute, Professor Enuvie Akpokodje, who he described as tenacious in his approach to achieving results.

Professor Ibe expressed hope that the Board under the capable Chairmanship of Dr Igali would attract more developmental projects to the University, stressing that the gesture marked the beginning of greater things to come

to the University. He reassured the Vice-Chancellor of the donor's total commitment to the growth and development of the University.

"Dr Igali asked me to commend the Vice-Chancellor for his illuminating and inspiring leadership style that has resulted in the accelerated development of the University. He has also requested that a parcel of land be made available to enable the Institute embark on the development of its own building", assuring the University that more good things would come from his appointment as Chairman of the Board of INRES.

Cont'd on p6



Inset: Igali



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NIAS Holds Maiden Professional Exam In UNIPORT

By Mercy Adeniji

Graduates of Animal Science have been enjoined to embrace the newly-introduced professional examination which is a prerequisite for induction into membership of the Nigerian Institute Animal Science (NIAS) by new entrants into the profession.

Speaking with *UNIPORT Weekly* on the sideline of the maiden professional examination of the body, last Tuesday, a Lecturer in Animal Science from the Asaba Campus of Delta State University, Abraka, Professor Ikenna Omeje, said that the Graduate Animal Science (GAS) examination would henceforth be conducted annually at different Centres in the country. "Each Centre would host students from different universities within a State. The maiden GAS examination took place at different Centres in the country where Animal Science is studied. Each Centre is supervised by a Registered Animal Scientist from the NIAS headquarters in Abuja", he disclosed.

Professor Omeje observed that to become full members of NIAS, prospective applicants must have five years post-graduation experience as a precondition to become Registered Animal Scientists. "Right now, we admit successful applicants as Graduate Animal Scientists, pending when they would meet all the requirements that would qualify them to be inducted into the Institute as *bona fide* members



Graduate Animal Scientists writing the professional examination at the UNIPORT Centre

with all the honours and privileges there unto attached".

"The new law that would hopefully come into effect next month is expected to make it difficult for anyone to practice livestock farming without seeking appropriate consultancy services from registered Animal Scientists," Omeje warned, pointing out that the new move was designed to bring sanity to the practice of Animal Science in Nigeria.

In her contribution, the Acting Head of Department of Animal Science and Fisheries, Dr Folasade Ajayi, disclosed that the "Nigerian Institute of Animal Scientist became a



Prof Omeje

Ag HOD, Dr Ajayi

professional body in 2007, with the aim of regulating the profession in the country, adding that a total of 13 students took the maiden examination at the University of Port Harcourt Centre.

STUDENT WORLD

No Instant Success In Creative Writing ~Ajaegbo, MA Student

Ifeanyi Ajaegbo is a rising star in the literary firmament, with an enviable portfolio of local and international awards. This distinguished Master's degree student in the Department of English Studies spoke to our Correspondent, HUMPHREY OGU, on a number of issues relating to creative writing and the reading culture in Nigeria, amongst others.

Ifeanyi Ajaegbo washed his hands early, and has since been dinning with elders on the decorated literary table. In the last one decade or so, Ajaegbo's literary works have either been on the shortlist of national and international literary prizes or emerged as winner.

Ajaegbo, who cut his creative writing teeth with a collection of poems titled: *Fire Dance* in 1993, won the coveted Commonwealth Short Stories Prize for the African Region in 2005, with a short story titled: "*Dead Man Walking*". The story was later published in a highly-acclaimed collection titled: *Dead Man Walking and Other Stories*. The collection won the prestigious Association of Nigerian Authors—ANA/Lantern Prize for Prose.

That's not all. In 2012, his maiden Novel, *Sarah House*,

published in South Africa, was on the shortlist of one of the most prestigious literary prizes in Africa; the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) Prize for Literature, which was won by Chika Unigwe, his friend and former colleague at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, where he received his undergraduate education. The same novel was also on the Commonwealth Book Prize for 2013.

"I started telling stories from childhood and decided to go for a course that would help me build up my story-telling ability and I was advised to go for Mass Communication," he disclosed, adding that he would have opted for Creative Writing if it were available as a degree programme in a Nigerian University at the time.

On whether Creative Writing could be taught in the classroom, Ajaegbo explained that the subject has two main components—the technical aspect which includes the rules of grammar and so on; while the creative *muse*—the interaction between the creative writer and his inspiration cannot necessarily be taught.

"That is why we have good and bad writers. Someone can write well in Good

English, grammatically speaking, but may still not be a good creative writer; while another person can write well in sub-standard English and still write well,"

citing Samuel Selvon's *Lonely Londoners*, as a work that enjoys wide readership, despite the unconventional language usage.

Ajaegbo, who is working on "Focalisation and Narration in *Ngugi wa Thiong'o's Wizard of the Crow*" in his MA programme, said: "I'm trying to show that it is not always easy to distinguish between seeing and speaking. I chose *Ngugi* because he has been screaming that African Literature should be written in African languages to capture its true African flavour."

The multiple award-winning author, who noted that Nigerian writers are doing well in literature, disclosed that the 2013 shortlist for the Commonwealth Prize had four African authors, out of which, three are Nigerians and the remaining one, a South African; while the 2013 Caine Prize for African Writing parades four Nigerian writers out of the five that made the list. Again, the only Nigerian out of the five Africans on the Caine Prize shortlist last year emerged as the winner.

On the view that Nigerians are no longer reading, Ajaegbo said: "There is an upsurge in readership. The only challenge is that economic hardship has made it difficult for people to have access to good books. In fact, Achebe's *There Was a Country* is sold on the street and it is being pirated every day.

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Ajaegbo

Cont'd from p1

Speaking during the Commissioning ceremony, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, who represented the Vice-Chancellor, described the project as a touching effort by the Faculty, which he commended to other Faculties as part of the overall efforts to develop the University. He lauded the creative and innovative efforts of the Dean, Professor Henry Alapiki, towards uplifting the Faculty. "I am glad to be associated with the achievements recorded in this Faculty so far. It is good to note that the promises made by the Dean in the course of his electioneering campaign are yielding bountiful fruits", he said.

Commending Alumni and graduate students of the Faculty for contributing towards the success of the project through self-help, Professor Nduka observed that universities all over the world are sustained through the efforts of dedicated Alumni and other stakeholders in their affairs. "This is a good case of university-private partnership that has immensely benefitted the Faculty of Social Sciences, and it is our hope that other Departments and Faculties will follow suit. It is good to for staff to cultivate good relationships with the students, who would eventually become Alumni on graduation and come to the aid of the University", he added.

Responding, the Dean, Professor Henry Alapiki, disclosed that the second phase of the project would be delivered within the next three weeks, while applauding the contributions of the Graduate and Part-Time students of the Faculty towards the timely completion of the first phase of the project. "This Car Park could be described as a joint venture. While the first phase is being designated for the exclusive use of staff and visitors, the second phase would be dedicated to our students, who are major stakeholders of the Faculty. With their efforts we would soon commission a set of classroom desks to enhance learning".

In their goodwill messages, Heads of the Departments of

Social Science Faculty Commissions Car Park



DV-C (Admin), Prof Nduka (inset) cutting the tape to commission the new Car Park, while Dean of Faculty, Prof Alapiki (left) staff and students watch on

Economics, Professor Okey Onuchukwu, Political and Administrative Studies, Dr Eme Ekekwue and Faculty Officer, Mrs Flora Iyagba, expressed gratitude for the support of staff and students towards the timely completion of the project.

Godwin Wobo and Quadrin Siki, who spoke on behalf

of other students, pledged continued support towards development projects in the Faculty. High-points of the ceremony was donations towards the completion of the second phase of the project and redeeming of pledges by staff and students of the Faculty, which is adjourned as the nearest Faculty in the University.

Respondents Seek Clean, Green Campus Environment

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) marked World Environment day on 5th June, 2013, with a call for better environmental stewardship. In this report OTIKOR SAMUEL and WILLIAMS WODI examine some harmful practices that endanger the health of Staff and Students on Campus.



Generators



Prof Ifeanchio

Faced with epileptic electricity supply from the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), most Nigerians have understandably resorted to alternative sources of power supply, some of which now pose grave health hazards in ways that were never contemplated at the outset. What is obvious today is that nobody contemplates setting up a business outlet or building personal houses without making plans for independent power sources. These days, PHCN is jokingly said to be on standby, while the almighty "I big Pass My Neighbour" has become the main source of power supply across the country, where we are used to talking about light in place of actually supply it to consumers.

The search for alternative power supply regrettably comes at a huge cost to both the living environment and health of individuals, who are compelled to inhale dangerous fumes from power generating plants that are indiscriminately installed at business centres and private homes as a necessity. The irony of the situation is that most of those exposed to the poor environmental practices do not even appear to be conscious of the grave health hazards posed through inhalation of dangerous fumes from power generating plants. It is sad that the practice of indiscriminate pollution of the environment is gradually creeping into the University Campus unchecked. When the Security Department moved to curb the practice, business operators understandably protested the exercise through negative media campaigns. Reacting to the trend, Professor Martins Ifeanchio of the Department of Sociology in the Faculty of Social

Sciences, who regretted that issues relating to Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) affect all sectors of human endeavour, decried the brazen violation of approved environmental regulations on Campus by business operators, who put profit over people in the line of duty.

He cited the crowded business centres as examples of areas that have presently defeated the awareness campaigns mounted by authorities of the University aimed at attaining safety, hygiene and proper environmental stewardship on Campus. Additionally, the operators also spill petroleum products in the environment without considering the implications on the health of staff and students.

"At various business centres in the University, we have a large number of people crowding themselves into very limited spaces with attendant health hazards. Unfortunately, the activities they engage in are usually powered by electricity generating sets that emit dangerous carbon monoxide which is hazardous to human health. But beyond such transactions are the poor hygiene and safety habits of the business centre operators on Campus. The lighting connections are bad and no provision is made to factor emergencies into their operations. Safety is not all about putting measures in place to contain fire outbreaks and other sundry contingencies; it also encompasses consumption of good food, potable drinking water and proper disposal of refuse," Professor Ifeanchio said.

Responding to questions posed by our Correspondent, most of the business centre operators claimed to be aware of HSE rules on Campus, regretting however, that they are compelled to resort to the use of power generating plants to mitigate the epileptic power supply from PHCN as a means of staying business. They, however, claimed to be mindful of the level of hygiene expected of service providers in a university environment, revealing that they prepare food with the same water provided for students by the University. They also claimed to properly dispose refuse generated in cellophanes provided by the Campus Environmental Beautification and Sanitation Unit (CEBAS).

"I see students as my own children, so I prepare their food the same way I cook for my family. We use aprons provided to us by the Coca Cola company and ensure that our environment is always kept clean," one of food Vendors said, urging authorities of the University to be more proactive in enforcing extant sanitation rules. Meanwhile, outgoing Acting Head of the Department of Preventive and Social Medicine (PSM), Dr Charles Tobin-West, has advised relevant Units of the University to ensure that electricity generating plants are not kept in poorly ventilated area due to the emission of carbon monoxide which is poisonous to humans. "Generators should be kept in airy places not in enclosures. Prolonged noise from the electricity generators is also hazardous to human health because it can lead to partial deafness," the expert said, advising government to work towards uninterrupted public power supply as a means of saving the environment and humans from avoidable pollutants.

Arokoyu Advises FG On Flood Management

By Obinna Nwodim



Prof Arokoyu

Following the devastating floods that ravaged parts of the country last year and the prediction by the Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET) of even more rains this year, Director of the Centre for Disaster and Risk Management (CDRM), Professor Samuel Arokoyu, has advised the Federal Government to build buffer dams as an effective measure to mitigate the effects of the impending flood disaster.

Arokoyu, who gave the advice in an interview with a *UNIPORT Weekly* Correspondent, penultimate Friday, said that this was necessary to re-direct the heavy water that would be released either from the Lado Dam in Cameroon or the excess flow of the River Niger. Observing that reports also from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicated that the severity and frequency of weather related disasters would be high due to extreme weather conditions, he advised "states and local governments to

adopt proactive measures by providing critical infrastructure needed to mitigate the effects on the people".

The Director said that the Centre has been working with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to create awareness on the effects of floods and how to avoid them, stressing that it has participated in national workshops in which papers were presented by the Director. "Last Year, the Centre collaborated with NEMA and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to carry out a post disaster needs assessment in which I coordinated the South-South region", he stated. According to him, "it is not proper to just fold our arms and expect that the floods will take care of itself. We are expecting much rain this year and we should ask ourselves, how do we take care of the situation?"

Professor Arokoyu regretted that most of the states in

Nigeria do not have State Emergency Management Agencies, although some have Ministries of Environment that coordinate the issue of floods and other environmental concerns, adding that the stakeholder's workshop is encouraging states to be proactive in the prevention of disasters, especially those associated with floods. "When you cannot prevent the disaster, you prepare for it. Disaster is very easy to manage. A simple form is to take people away from disaster. What you simply do is to manage the relationship between the disaster and the people", he stated.

On the process of constructing buffer dams, the Director said that "had the government commenced the construction of the dams since the last flood incident, by now the project would have reached an advanced stage", pointing out that "if we cannot handle the large scale dam, we can make little ones to direct water in order to reduce the effects on the citizenry". He also said that the redirection of water will also boost fishing activities in areas where the water would be channelled to.

Professor Arokoyu acknowledged the fact that taking people away from disaster prone areas is a complex issue as people are emotionally attached to areas where they have lived for a long time, also stated that the cost of resettlement is high. He said that it would be cost-effective to channel resources for resettlement of the vulnerable people into building dams.

The Professor of Geography stressed that disasters are becoming more frequent and severe, causing more damages on the environment. "Most of these disasters are caused by extreme weather events. Most common is flood, drought and storm". Professor Arokoyu quoting a renowned researcher, Crea, in his study said that almost 90% of all disasters; 99% of victims of disasters, and 80% of victims of death were weather related, advising that what individuals can do in the face of disaster is to prepare for it.

The University of Port Harcourt Student affiliate of the Nigerian Environmental Society (NES), joined the rest of the world to mark the 2013 World Environment Day at the International Students' Centre, last Thursday.

Delivering a paper on the 2013 theme of World Environment Day: "Think. Eat. Save", Professor Matthew Wegwu of the Department of Biochemistry, warned against external and internal wastage of food, explaining that external food waste refers to excess food remains after meal, while internal food waste is excess food consumed, despite the fact that the individual may not really be hungry. He warned that internal food waste does the body more harm than good, advising people to consume only the food their body needs.

Stressing the importance of balanced diet to the body, Professor Wegwu noted that "Studies indicate reduced cancer risk among persons who regularly consume fruits and vegetables; especially, cancer of the gastrointestinal tract, breast, lung and bladder. Reports indicate that some phytochemicals present in the fruits and vegetables block the cancer process.

"The nutritional and health benefits of food must be balanced against any food-related hazards," the Biochemist observed. "Restrains in our polluting activities is advised and clearly defined guidelines emanating from integrated research, management and policy-making are important criteria for effective protection of the aquatic environment and agricultural lands, including use of modern, highly-efficient harvesting, food processing, preservation and storage techniques and development of environment friendly,

NES Marks World Environment Day

By Humphrey Ogu

efficient packaging materials and transport systems for food distribution," he recommended.

In their separate contributions, Chairman, Rivers State branch of NES, Grand Patron of the Student affiliate of NES and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Dr Prince Mmom, Dr Herbert Stanley of the Department of Microbiology, Dr Bolaji Babatunde of the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, Deputy Manager, Operations, International Energy Services Limited, Candidus Obiajunwa and Esinwere Friday of the Federal Ministry of Environment, Port Harcourt, all emphasised the need for participants to commit themselves to protecting the environment to enhance healthy living and safety of lives.

Welcoming guests to the event which drew experts from the academia, industry and government ministries, President, student affiliate of NES, Olayinka Fasusi, said that the main objective of the Student Affiliate of the Society centred around promoting environmental awareness in the country, noting that "we have taken it as a culture to join the rest of the world to mark World Environment Day." He added that "our target is to be the best and most recognised student body to host this event in Nigeria."

NES Student Affiliate is the student arm of the society. Membership of the UNIPORT branch is drawn from

the Departments of Environmental Engineering, Geography and Environmental Management, Animal and Environmental Biology, Biochemistry and Microbiology, amongst others.

STOP PRESS

394th EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF SENATE

The 394th Extraordinary Meeting of the Senate of the University holds on Wednesday, 24th July, 2013 at the Senate Chambers, University Park. The main agenda for the meeting is to consider the 2012/2013 first Semester Results. Heads/Ag Heads of Departments are, therefore, requested to forward 20copies of the summary of relevant results to the Academic Officer on or before Monday, 15th July, 2013 for necessary action by the Senate Business Committee.

Contact: Director of Academic Affairs

CALLING BATCH 'B' CORPS MEMBERS

Prospective Corps Members for the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Batch 'B' 2013 Service Year are advised to obtain Call-Up Letters from their respective Departments, commencing from Friday, 21st June, 2013.

A Memo dated 14th June, 2013 and signed by the Director, Student Affairs Department, Mrs Bridget Nzimiro, directed the Prospective Corps Members to present original and photocopies of relevant documents, including Success Letters, Bank Tellers and Identity Cards as part of their documentation for mobilization. The Director further advised affected persons to present themselves for the exercise, warning that the Call-Up Letters will not be issued in proxy.



Guest Lecturer, Prof Wegwu (4th from right), flanked by President of NES Student Affiliate, Olayinka Fasusi and other Resource Persons and participants

In recognition of the monumental strides recorded by the University in sports competitions and development over the years, Director-General of the National Sports Commission, Hon Gbenga Elegbeleye, has expressed the willingness of the Commission to partner the University in further enhancing its capacity to retain its leading role in the sector.

Elegbeleye, who made the disclosure when he led a delegation from the Commission on a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, last Tuesday, commended him for his support and interest in the development of sports in Nigeria. He said that he was in the University to ascertain how the athletes sponsored by the Commission were faring, expressing delight with what he saw in Camp. "I have already been told of your interest in grassroots sports development and your collaboration with the Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN). What the AFN is doing here is the beginning of great things to come", he stated. He thanked the authorities for being good hosts to the athletes, expressing optimism that the athletes would bring honour to Nigeria at the next African Athletics Competition, Commonwealth Juniors Championship and the Olympic Games.

In his speech, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who described UNI-PORT as a Sports University said that "we want to develop a Sports School where research would be applied to sports for maximum results. He said that with the active involvement of Dr Ken Anugweje in sports development, the University is beginning to see a positive sign in sports development.

"What you have seen by way of our dominance at successive NUGA Games is a positive development in sports for this country", the Vice-Chancellor said, advising the NSC to think in the direction of developing sports according to best practices. "We are happy to

NSC Commends UNI-PORT's Sports Development Drive ...Pledges Partnership In Sports Medicine



From L-R: Mr Porbeni, Mr Olalekan, Mr Yakmut, V-C, Prof Ajenka, Hon Elegbeleye, Dr Anugweje, Mr Harry, Mr Olusegun and Mr Ebebele

By Obinna Nwodin

welcome you to our University. We are interested in sports and also in developing sports as a science", he told his guests, pledging to work with the new D-G to ensure that his tenure witnesses rapid development of sports, especially at the university level.

In his speech, the Rivers State Director of Sports, Mr Harvest Harry, said that the visit of the D-G was a clear indication of his willingness to take sports development to the next level, expressing optimism that the Commission would keep faith with a robust sports development programme in the country.

Earlier in his speech, Director of Sports in the University, Dr Ken Anugweje, said that the visit of the new D-G was his first official tour after his appointment, expressing optimism that the growing partnership between the University and various national and global sporting bodies would yield the desired fruit in no distant time.

Also present at the visit were: Mr Alhassan Yakmut, Director, Grassroots Sports Development, Mr Alabi Olalekan, Senior Statistician at the Commission, Mr Akinbola Olusegun, Zonal Co-ordinator, South-South Zone 2, Port Harcourt, Mr Brown Ebebele and Mr Seigha Porbeni, Camp Commandant and Supervisor, respectively, amongst others.

Bell-Gam To Coordinate State Deans Of S'Affairs C'ttee

By Humphrey Ogu

in parts of the country.

"By this Letter, you are cordially invited as the State Co-ordinator to ensure effective mobilisation of the target participants in your State to actively participate in the Retreat," part of the Letter read, stating that participation of all tertiary institutions in the exercise is mandatory as it is expected to build capacity and expose them to contemporary current trends and global best practices in proactive and preventive security measures aimed at enhancing the safety and wellbeing of students

and institutions.

The statement further stated that the Honourable Minister of Education would serve as Guest of Honour, while the Inspector-General of Police will serve as Special Guest of Honour, adding that the Executive Secretaries of the National Universities Commission (NUC), National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE) and National Board for Technical Education (NBTE), will serve as Heads of Session, while Resource Persons would be drawn from security agencies, as well as seasoned Administrators to maximise the benefits of the event to participants.

CGRP Ends Sale Of Application Form June 28

By Otikor Samuel

Sale of application form for admission into the Master of Science degree programme in Petroleum Refining & Petrochemical Engineering for the 2013/2014 academic session, will end on Friday, 28th June, 2013. The application form could be obtained either directly or online at the Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS) website after payment of the specified amount.

Director of the Institute, Professor Godwin Igwe, who made the disclosure in a release signed by the Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim and made available to *UNI-PORT Weekly*, said the Full-Time programme with 12 calendar months duration is flexible to accommodate industry workers through the modular and sandwich programme arrangement.

Professor Igwe further disclosed that the "programme is to provide graduates with broad-based training required for refining and processing of crude oil, produce competent and industry-ready Refining and Petrochemical Processing graduates that will be fully prepared to work in the oil and gas industry at local and international levels," adding that the programme which would be executed in various modules would feature Lecturers within and outside Nigerian universities and experts from the industry.

On prospects of the programme, the Director said that graduate students would be trained on energy types and role of fossil fuels in global energy mix, hydrocarbon chemistry and sequence of crude oil processing operations, including crude oil distillation, refinery equipment and flow sheet, as well as economic and

contractual aspects of the natural gas sector, amongst other related areas.

Candidates with a minimum of Second Class Honours (Upper Division in Chemical/Petroleum, Gas Engineering or related courses and industry/company workers with five years cognate refining experience with Second Class Honours (Lower Division) and a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.0 are eligible to apply at the IPS website: www.ipsng.org.



Prof Bell-Gam

The Dean of Student Affairs Department, Professor Henry Bell-Gam, has been appointed Co-ordinator of the newly-established Committee of Deans of Student Affairs in Tertiary Institutions in Rivers State. The appointment is preparatory to a proposed Retreat for tertiary institutions in the area, tagged: "Making Tertiary Institutions Safe for Students", billed for 17th to 21st June, 2013 at the University of Abuja.

A Letter signed by the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Youth and Student Matters, Mr. Jude Imagwe, and made available to *UNI-PORT Weekly*, stated that the Retreat would be organised by the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Youth and Student Matters in collaboration with Precise Concepts Services Limited and Committee of Deans of Student Affairs and Heads of Security of Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria. The aim of the initiative is to ensure a safe learning environment, as well as guarantee the safety and wellbeing of students in and around their institutions against the background of prevailing security challenges



Prof Igwe,
Director, CGRP

Igali Donates Hilux Van To INRES

Cont'd from p1

Responding, a visibly elated Vice-Chancellor, who described Dr Igali as an accomplished *Alumnus* in whom the University is very proud of, expressed gratitude to him for the donation, which he said would ease the operational difficulties in the Institute.

"Dr Igali cherishes his relationship with his *Alma Mater* and we are confident that with him, the Institute would grow to greater heights in line with our vision for establishing it", Professor Ajenka said, urging other Institutes to emulate the example of INRES in reaching out to public-spirited individuals and groups for assistance. He commended the Board for providing exemplary leadership to the Institute, hoping that it would achieve its core mandate given the quality leadership that is in charge of its affairs, both at the Administrative and Board levels.

The Vice-Chancellor observed that there were huge environmental challenges in the Niger Delta that would require the full attention of the Institute as it settles down to business, assuring the Board and Administration of full support from Management of the

University.

Also speaking, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Development, Professor Bene Willie-Abbey, who commended the leadership style of Professor Akpokodje, advised other Institutes to follow the footsteps of INRES in attracting facilities and funding to execute their activities, without necessarily depending on funding from the University. He advised the Director to maintain the zeal in order to achieve the objective for which the Institute was set up by the present Administration.

The Vice-Chancellor later took a test drive of the vehicle in company of Professor Ibe. Also present at the event were: the Director of Quality Assurance and Quality



V-C, Prof Ajenka test-running the new vehicle

Control in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tony Arinze; Member, INRES Implementation Committee, Dr Andrew Obafemi, Director of Personnel Affairs, Mr Roland Wabali and Chief Security Officer, Lt. Col. Reginald Isiguzo (rtd).

In a bid to enhance productivity and facilitate efficient service delivery at the University of Port Harcourt Printing Press, Acting Director, Dr Etiido Inyang has promised to upgrade facilities at the press to enable it favourably compete with its counterparts within and outside Rivers State.

Dr Inyang who made the promise in an interview with *UNIPOINT Weekly*, last Monday, stated that his overall target is to put in place a viable press that would become a one-stop University Press in the delivery of high quality print products and a hub for the publishing of academic journals and text books within Port Harcourt. "This management is poised to upgrade equipment at the University Press by replacing obsolete ones with industry standard press and a fully functional collating and finishing line to absorb the current work pressure and target the commercial market in Port Harcourt and its environs".

Dr Inyang, who is also a Graphic Designer, regretted that the Press was yet to attain its full operational

potential on account of some lapses that needed to be rectified for the smooth-running of the facility, disclosing that the Press now has a colour separation and two colour printing machines, which resulted to the success recorded in the in-house production of the last Convocation brochure. The Acting Director disclosed that the Press was able to produce a prototype four-in-one *UNIPOINT Subject Note Book* and hopes to do more with the right machines in place. "One of the fundamental things that we need to do is to get the University Press to generate a consistent character for all printed materials for the University

Inyang Outlines Vision For UNIPOINT Press

By Mercy Adeniji

with a view to generate revenue". Dr Inyang said, emphasizing that there are also a number of other things that the Press can do other than just printing examination booklets and Inaugural Lecture text.

"The press is currently into partnership with the Niger Delta University (NDU) Publishing Company and intends to partner Akwa Ibom State University on its General Studies material series", Dr Inyang revealed, adding that the facility still requires more equipment

for proper service delivery and expressed hope to enter into more partnerships with other Institutions.

"The success story so far recorded by the Press under my leadership has renewed our clients' confidence in our ability to deliver high quality services promptly; some of our clients, including the UNIPOINT Staff Cooperative Limited and the Micro-Finance Bank Choba are now willing to do business with the University Press. We hope to sustain the trend as part of our initiative to reposition the facility," he explained.

The Press, according to Dr Inyang, now handles printing jobs for the College of Continuing Education, (CCE) and the University Demonstration Secondary and Primary Schools respectively.



Some of the new machines at the Printing Press. Inset: Ag Director, Inyang

UNIPOINT Researcher Overcomes Poor Melon Yield

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

Respite has finally come to local farmers experiencing difficulty with *Primextra Gold* in the process of melon production. *Primextra Gold* is a commonly-used herbicide that is affordable and readily available to farmers in the market.

A Lecturer in the Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Dr Udensi Udensi in an experiment on the tolerance level of melon to the herbicide, randomly used by local farmers, who intercrop melon with maize, cassava and yam, disclosed that the herbicide adversely affects melon production because of wrong timing in terms of application and dosage. "From the findings, we discovered that wrong usage of the herbicide which contains two active ingredients, *Atrazine* and *Metolachlor*, adversely affects melon production and yield. Poor yield of melon and complaint by local farmers prompted this research".

"Melon can tolerate 0.25kg up to 0.35kg in the soil and if

the herbicide is applied, then melon can be planted between 10 to 12 days at a higher dose of about 1.5kg per hectare. This period is also the best time to plant maize because there would be decimal weed control for the maize and melon. There would be no injury to the melon, while weeds would be reduced amongst the growing corn", he added.

Dr Udensi, who noted that the use of the herbicide does not affect intercropping, said that the research findings show that *Primextra Gold* could be sprayed on maize without adversely affecting harvest. "Local farmers complain of this particular herbicide because they do not know the exact time to plant melon and the dosage to apply in the process. So the problem of poor melon yield has been corrected with this research", he noted.



Dr Udensi Udensi (in front) and some students in the farm

GUIDE POST

APPOINTMENT

Dr Chidiebere Ugwu, Department of Computer Science, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, appointed *Acting Head*, Department of Computer Science, effective 6th June, 2013 to 8th June, 2015.

Dr Peter Kpolovie, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, Faculty of Education, appointed *Acting Director, Academic Planning Unit*, Office of the Vice-Chancellor, effective 11th June, 2013.

SABBATICAL APPOINTMENT

Dr Priye E. Iyalla-Amadi, Department of French, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni, offered a one-year *Sabbatical Appointment* in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, effective on assumption of duty.

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Professor Chukwunonye Ojinnaka, Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Chemical Sciences, granted *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 16th June 2013 to 15th June, 2014.

CONVERSION TO TEACHING CADRE

Mr Alale Osaro, Department of Political and Administrative Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, converted to *Teaching Staff*, effective 19th March, 2013.

EXTENSION OF STAY AS LEADS SCHOLAR

Professor Vincent Idemyor, Department of Clinical Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, offered *Extension of Stay as NUC LEADS Scholar*, effective 1st July, 2013 to 30th June, 2014.

REVIEW OF STATUS

Mr John Ohimaimen, Department of Marketing, Faculty of Management Sciences, granted *Review of Status from Graduate Assistant to Lecturer II*, effective 6th June, 2012.

STOP PRESS

EMUSA CONGRATULATES ALIEZI

Staff of the University from Emohua in Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State under the auspices of Emohua University of Port Harcourt Staff Association (EMUSA), has felicitated with their son and brother, Mr Vitalis Aliezi on his elevation to the rank of substantive Bursar of the University. A Letter jointly signed by Chairman and Secretary of the body, Wosu Egbune and Benson Young, prayed God to grant the Bursar strength and enablement to effectively tackle the demanding task, just as the Association charged Mr Aliezi to continue to put in his best to justify the trust reposed in him by the appointing authorities.

UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT

APPROVED ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR 2012/2013 SESSION FOR REGULAR AND SANDWICH PROGRAMMES

FIRST SEMESTER

- 1.0 **Monday, 29th October, 2012 – Friday, 30th November, 2012**
Pre-resumption Registration (On-line) for Fresh Students
- 2.0 **Sunday, 2nd December, 2012 – Friday, 7th December, 2012**
 - (i) Fresh Students Arrive (3rd December, 2012)
 - (ii) Fresh Students Resume (contact with Student Affairs)
 - (iii) Returning Students Arrive (14th January, 2013)
 - (iv) Registration of Fresh Students (10th December, 2012–25th January, 2013) (Registry/College/Faculties etc.)
 - (v) Interactive session with Fresh Students
 - (vi) Registration of Returning Students (7th January, 2013–25th January, 2013)
 - (vii) Orientation for Fresh Students (14th February, 2013)
- 3.0 **Monday, 28th January, 2013 – Friday, 10th May, 2013**
 - (i) Lectures begin for Fresh Students (21st January, 2013)
 - (ii) Lectures begin for Returning Students (28th January, 2013)
 - (iii) Late Registration for All Students (End of Registration): 21st Jan–15th Feb., 2013
 - (iv) Convocation Ceremony (4th–9th February, 2013)
 - (v) Matriculation (5th April, 2013)
 - (vi) Easter Break (25th March, 2013–1st April, 2013)
 - (vii) Lectures Resume 2nd April, 2013
 - (viii) End of Lectures 10th May, 2013
- 4.0 **Monday, 13th May, 2013–Friday, 17th May, 2013**
Revision
- 5.0 **Monday, 20th May, 2013 – Friday, 7th June, 2013**
First Semester Examinations
- 6.0 **Monday, 10th June, 2013 – Friday, 14th June, 2013**
First Semester Break
- 7.0 **Wednesday, 26th June, 2013**
Extra-ordinary Meeting of Senate to consider First Semester 2012/2013 Results

SECOND SEMESTER 2012/2013 SESSION

- 8.0 **Saturday, 6th June, 2013**
 - (i) All Students Arrive
 - (ii) SIWES (June 2013 – February 2014)
- 9.0 **Monday, 17th June, 2013 – Friday, 6th September, 2013**
 - (i) Lectures Begin for All Students (17th June, 2013)
 - (ii) End of Lectures (6th September, 2013)
- 10.0 **Monday 9th September, 2013 – Saturday, 13th September, 2013**
Students Union Week. Cultural Activities/Professional Exhibitions
- 11.0 **Monday, 16th September, 2013 – Friday, 20th September, 2013**
Revision
- 12.0 **Monday, 23rd September, 2013 – Friday, 11th October, 2013**
Second Semester Examinations
- 13.0 **Wednesday, 30th October, 2013**
Extra-ordinary Meeting of Senate to consider Second Semester 2012/2013 Results
- 14.0 **Monday, 14th October, 2013 – Friday, 1st November, 2013**
2012/2013 Long Vacation (Regular students)

2012 SANDWICH PROGRAMME

- 1.0 **Monday, 29th July, 2013 – Friday, 2nd August, 2013**
 - (i) Fresh and Returning Students Arrive (29th July, 2013)
 - (ii) Students Resume (contact with Student Affairs)
 - (iii) Registration of Fresh and Returning Students
 - (iv) Orientation for Fresh Students.
- 2.0 **Monday, 5th August, 2013 – Friday, 27th September, 2013**
 - (i) Lectures Begin for All Students (5th August, 2013)
 - (ii) End of Lectures (27th September, 2013)
- 3.0 **Monday, 30th September, 2013 – Friday, 4th October, 2013**
Revision
- 4.0 **Monday, 7th October, 2013 – Friday, 11th October, 2013**
Examinations for All Sandwich Students
- 5.0 **Wednesday, 30th October, 2013**
Extra-ordinary meeting of Senate to consider Sandwich Programme 2012 Results

2013/2014 ACADEMIC SESSION WOULD COMMENCE ON SUNDAY, 15th NOVEMBER, 2013

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT OBSERVATORY

FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, JUNE, 16- SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2013

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (MM)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (AM) (PM)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 16, JUNE, 2013	32.024.0	72	NE	9.0	6:21 6:45	Strong thunder storms expected. Breaks of sun predicted. Day anticipated being warm.
MONDAY, 17, JUNE, 2013	32.025.0	73	NE	8.2	6:21:45	Thunder storms forecasted. Breaks of sun. Day expected being warm. Some rain is expected.
TUESDAY 18, JUNE, 2013	29.024.0	82	NE	20.7	6:21 6:45	Heavy rainfall expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecasted. Chance of rain is high.
WEDNESDAY 19, JUNE, 2013	29.023.0	69	NE	3.8	6:21:45	Thunder storms expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy and warm day anticipated.
THURSDAY 20, JUNE, 2013	29.0 23.0	71	NE	4.2	6:21:46	Widely scattered thunder storms expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day predicted.
FRIDAY 21, JUNE, 2013	29.023.0	76	NE	7.8	6:22:46	A few thunder storms expected. Day predicted being mostly cloudy and warm.
SATURDAY 22, JUNE, 2013	29.023.0	73	NE	8.4	6:22 6:46	A few thunder storms expected. Day predicted being mostly cloudy and warm. Some rain is expected.

VREMUDIA WEKPE
RESIDENT METEOROLOGIST

PROF SAMUEL AROKOYU
DIRECTOR, (CDRMS)

New Governing Council Inaugural Meeting

The new Governing Council of the University held its Inaugural Meeting penultimate week. The event was preceded by an interactive session with staff at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium. Pictures show highlights of the event as captured by our Cameraman, **HEADMANALU**.



V-C, Prof Joseph Ajiinka (right), welcoming the Pro-Chancellor, Engr Gesi Asamaoewei on arrival



Pro-Chancellor, Engr Asamaoewei, in a handshake with DV-C (R&D), Prof Bene Willie-Abbey



Registrar, Mr Matilda Nnodim, welcoming the Pro-Chancellor, while V-C, Prof Ajiinka looks on



Bursar, Mr Vitalis Aliezi, exchanging pleasantries with the Pro-Chancellor



Pro-Chancellor in a handshake with University Librarian, Dr Obiangeli Nwodo, while Prof Willie-Abbey watches



DV-C, (Academic), Prof Igbo Joe, explaining a point to the Pro-Chancellor, Engr Asamaoewei, while V-C, Prof Ajiinka and Bursar, Mr Aliezi watch



Pro-Chancellor, Engr Asamaoewei, welcoming Convocation Representative on the Governing Council, King Amalate Turner



Members of Council. From L-R: Barrister Okechukwu Ajunwa, Alhaji Muhammed Oyigie, King Turner, Prof Ogunari Georgevill



Pro-Chancellor in a handshake with Barrister Ajunwa, while Dr Nelson Olayinka and Mrs Olufunmilayo Brown watch in admiration



Council Chairman, Engr Asamaoewei (standing), addressing staff at the interactive session



Former DV-C (Admin) and Director, (ENTECS), Prof Mark Anikpo, making a speech



A cross-section of staff at the event



A group photograph of both internal and external members of the Governing Council