



V-C Commends Entomological Society On Successful Confab

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, has commended the Entomological Society of Nigeria for the successful hosting of its 44th Scientific and Annual Conference held in Bayelsa State between 7th and 10th October, 2013, reports *Mercy Adeniji*.

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Side Bar

The Centre For Logistics and Transport Studies (CELTRAS) has announced sale of application forms for its Graduate programmes. Details next week -Editor



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Writers-in-Residence Take Possession Of Offices ...As V-C Gets Accolades For Initiative

By Humphrey Ogu

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, has continued to receive accolades for his uncommon commitment to the development of arts and culture in the University. This followed the commissioning of the offices of three Writers-in-Residence in the University at the old Administrative Building, Delta Park, last Monday.

In his opening remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, represented by Director of the Institute of Arts and Culture, Professor Julie Okoh, expressed delight that the Writer-in-Residence programme, which is a major part of the Arts Village, has finally commenced, despite the seeming delay in the allocation of functional offices to the famous Writers appointed to the Chairs over a year ago.

"I am full of joy that we have gathered here today to formally usher these Writers-in-Residence into their new offices. It is our hope that they would now settle down to play that role the way they know best. I believe that we still have a lot to learn from these great Writers, who have dedicated all their lives to promoting creative writing all



Amadi

Aniebo

Okara

over the world. As I have often said, it is only the art of the people that endures when everything else is gone. As a University, we would continue to promote the arts as a means of preserving our identity as people. Let me also thank the

Writers-in-Residence for accepting their appointments, which would bring great honour and attention to this University," Professor Okoh quoted the Vice-Chancellor as saying.

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Former Vice-Chancellor of Delta State University, Abraka, Delta State (2004—2009), Professor Okpako Enaohwo, has been conferred with the prestigious Fellowship of the Personnel Management Institute of Nigeria (PMIN) on account of his numerous contributions to the development of human and material resources in the public sector.

The certificate of conferment jointly signed by President and Registrar of the Institute and dated 2nd August, 2013, said that the former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) in the University of Port Harcourt, satisfied all the prescribed requirements to qualify him for the Award of the Institute, which was Chartered by Decree No. 58 of 1992.

An Educational Futurologist, Professor Enaohwo served and is still serving the University of Port Harcourt in diverse capacities and exudes the profile of an elder statesman on Campus and amongst his Urhobo compatriots.

He was Head of Department of Educational Management and Director, College of Continuing Education (CCE) in UniPort. He was once also Provost of the College of Education, Agbor in Delta State.

In 1999, Professor Enaohwo was appointed Chairman of the Visitation Panel to Federal College of Education (Technical) Gusau, Zamfara State. This seasoned academic was a Visiting Professor to the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada and External Examiner to the University of Zimbabwe. The new Fellow was also External Examiner to University of Benin, Ahmadu Bello University, amongst others.

A Member of the International Society for Educational Planning, Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration and Member of the Organizing

Personnel Institute Confers Fellowship On Enaohwo

Committee of the International Visitation Programme in

Educational Administration (IIP'82), Enaohwo is cited in *Marqui's Who's Who* and the *International Directory of Distinguished Leadership* for his outstanding services to critical educational sector and national development. The foremost Educationist was conferred with the *International Socrates Award Laureate, Oxford, United Kingdom in 2009. He is a Member of The Club Rectors of Europe, a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International* and a Past President of the humanitarian Club.

A Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Education (FNAE) and a Member of the Nigerian

Institute of Management (NIM), Professor Enaohwo continues to teach and supervise student research at all levels. He has been a full Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria (CIPM) since 2003. Enaohwo is a Human Resource Consultant to the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and is currently engaged in research on Gender and Human Capital-related issues at the University of Port Harcourt.

The new Fellow is a Member of the Board of the Nigerian National Merit Award (NNMA) and has authored over ninety publications to his credit. Born in 1950 in Delta State, Enaohwo is a pioneer staff of the University of Port Harcourt and a product of the Universities of Ibadan, Nigeria and Wales, in the United Kingdom.

By Williams Wodi



Prof Enaohwo

UniPort Student Leader Emerges NANS Senate President

Newly-elected President of the Senate of the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS), Mr. Maxwell Nyanabo, has paid a courtesy visit on the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, with a request for assistance from the Administration to set up a functional Secretariat in the University.

Briefing the Vice-Chancellor on the election that brought him to the exalted office, penultimate week, the new NANS Senate President disclosed that an emergency meeting of the body in UniPort, impeached his predecessor based on a grave allegation against which he was apparently unable to defend himself before a duly constituted Disciplinary Committee set up for the purpose.

Mr. Nyanabo, who is also the Student Union President of UniPort, told the

By Williams Wodi

Chancellor that he emerged Senate President following a competitive electoral process involving aspirants from other universities, requested the authorities to organize a reception to mark his historic victory at the poll and also serve as a mark of recognition of his new position in national Student Union politics.

Receiving the new Senate President, Professor Ajenka congratulated him for achieving the landmark feat, promising that the Administration would continue to work in concert with well-intentioned student leaders to promote robust unionism that is directed to positive ends.

"In this University, we insist on dealing with our students through the Dean of the Student Affairs Department. I, therefore, advise that NANS should always deal with the duly accredited Student Union of each university to ensure that there is no confusion in the order of reporting and responding to your legitimate concerns as a body. People call me everyday claiming to be this and that officer in NANS," the Vice-Chancellor told the new Senate President, who was accompanied

visit by other officers of NANS.

Expressing displeasure over the existence of what he described as "several NANS with conflicting motives and pecuniary interests," Professor Ajenka advised Nigerian students to refrain from engaging in partisan politics as a way of maintaining their neutrality and credibility as a body.

"Let me also advise students to address politicians with utmost decorum and respect that they deserve as elected and appointed national leaders. You must be very careful in your utterances because students are not politicians. See the positions you are currently privileged to occupy in the Union as a learning ground for future leadership roles to your fatherland. The President of the Federal Republic, Dr Goodluck Jonathan, Governors, Legislators, Religious Leaders and Captains of Industry—all played significant leadership roles in the Students Union at some point in this University—and have brought immense pride to their *Alma Mater* and country in their current positions", he reminded them.

Urging Nigerian Students to resist the temptation of being used by unpatriotic elements to foment trouble in the country, which he said was passing through a very difficult phase of national development, the Vice-Chancellor appealed to students to show maturity at all times as they seek relevance through unionism, without contributing to heating up the polity.

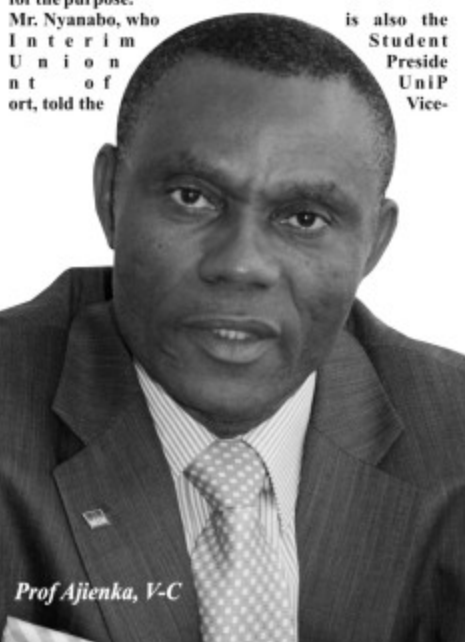
Also present at the event was the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka.

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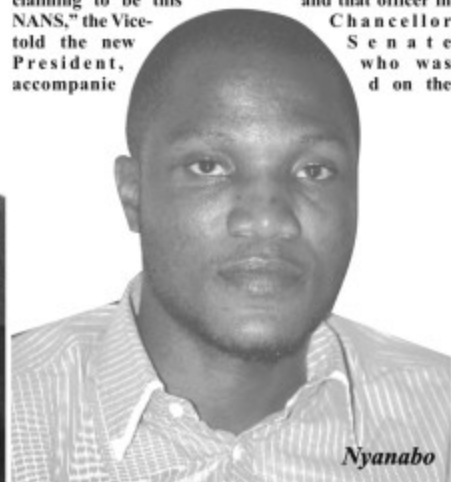
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Prof Ajenka, V-C



Nyanabo

V-C Commends Entomological Society Confab

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Professor Ajienka, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka made the commendation when he received a delegation led by Professor Odidika Umeozor on a courtesy visit to the University last Friday to express gratitude to the authorities for facilitating aspects of the Yenagoa gathering.

The Vice-Chancellor said: "I congratulate you for successfully organising the conference, despite the challenges in our University system as a result of the ongoing strike by the national body of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU). I also know that the conference was a very enlightening one. Entomology is an area we can tap into since the University is now in its fourth phase of its development, which is geared towards entrepreneurship anchored on capitalization of knowledge for national development.

"Entomology is no longer all about insects and their life cycle; it is now expanding to other areas, as people are now commercializing the findings of Scientists. We hope that our experts will go beyond mere research and go into the aspect of commercializing insects for the benefit of mankind. So we should be able to maximize every aspect of such studies," he added.

Professor Ajienka expressed gratitude to the Guest Speaker, Dr Angela Laws, who was accompanied by her husband, Mr Eric Laws, for finding time to visit the country and the University, stating that the area of specialization of Mr Laws, which is *Autism* is a specialization would be beneficial to the University's Centre for Child Communication Disorders Unit under Professor Shirley Yul-Ifole. "We can collaborate with you on this important aspect, since we have identified the devastating



DV-C (Admin), Prof Nduka (4th from right) flanked by Registrar, Mrs Nnodim (2nd from left), Dr (Mrs) Laws (3rd right), her spouse, Mr Laws (1st left), Prof Umeozor and Dr Noutcha (2nd and 1st right)

impact of Autism on our society", the Vice-Chancellor noted.

Speaking earlier, Leader of the delegation, Professor Umeozor thanked Management of the University for supporting the conference, which he described as hugely successful. "We came to thank Management for approving funds for the conference. We thank the University for providing our delegates with accommodation and security escorts to facilitate our movement".

Professor Umeozor disclosed that the Entomological Society of Nigeria holds its conference annually in October. "The Theme for this year's conference was *Insect Taxonomy: Curatorial Challenges to Entomological Practices in Nigeria*", the conference covered areas of interest, which are about insects and their effects on humans and the environment; the importance of insects in the ecosystem services which include pollination of

crops decomposition and the nutrient cycle.

He stated that over two billion people worldwide eat insects on regular bases, advocating the need for regular consumption of insects as it has high nutritional value to the body.

In her contribution, Registrar of the University, Mrs Matilda Nnodim, appealed to Mr. Laws to collaborate to collaborate with the Centre for Communication and Child Disorders to tackle the communication disorders among children.

Also speaking, Dr Angela Laws of Notre Dame University, France, who commended Management for finding time to receive them, despite the short notice and tight schedule, lauded the hospitality extended to her team, soliciting continued partnership with the University. Also present at the visit was Dr Aline Noutcha of the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, Faculty Biological Sciences of UniPort.

Finomo's Presentation On N'Delta Gets Rave Reviews in America

By Otikor Samuel

Lecture delivered by Dr Julia Finomo, a specialist in Environmental Ethics at three different institutions in the United States of America, has continued to receive encomiums from participants. Dr Finomo, who lectures at the Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, presented the Lecture at Greensboro College, Guilford College and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, all in North Carolina, United States of

America, last month.

In the Lecture titled: "*Cost-Benefit Analysis of Oil Drilling in the Niger Delta: An Ethical Perspective*," Finomo acknowledged that though oil exploration in the region was raking in huge foreign exchange to country and impacting positively on some inhabitants of the areas, she regretted that the multinational companies were not conforming to international best practices with regards to devastating impact of their activities on communities in which they operate.

She also censured the Federal Government on what she described as playing the Ostrich with stringent environmental laws and policies that are never implemented by relevant government agencies, resulting not only in incalculable environmental devastation, but also short-changing inhabitants of the Niger Delta region where crude oil is explored and exploited to develop other parts of the country.

Her approach towards charting a way forward for the mainstay of Nigeria's economy, was described as unprejudiced and all-embracing, thereby, attracting commendation from the participants, particularly the Rev. Michael McFarland Center for Religion and Culture, Holy Cross College, Worcester, Massachusetts, that facilitated the trip.

"It was a special opportunity for our Faculty, students and staff to hear your first-hand account of the environmental degradation in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. Many in the audience were unaware of the situation in the Niger Delta and found your presentation enlightening and your passion inspirational. Your focus on the ethical analyses of oil

drilling practices in the Niger Delta was a nice match for our mission as a Centre for Religion, Ethics and Culture," acknowledged the Centre Director, Thomas Landy.

"A rare display of razor-sharp intellect in applying the subject of ethics in dissecting the eco-cost analysis of oil spillage in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria, Finomo, you are a proven and emerging environmental ethics expert that every lover of environmental sustainability must watch out for. Finomo, at this level of scholarship, we speak of what we see and not what we heard. My appraisal is based on your presentation that I have watched. Please, accept it. You have worked hard for it," wrote Oluju Ukpa in a letter obtained by *UniPort Weekly*.

Professor Victor Archibong of the Department of Political Science and Legal Administration at Greensboro College also praised Dr Finomo, saying: "Your presentation was thought-provoking and shows your knowledge and passion for the subject-matter. My students couldn't believe that such an environmental degradation is going on in Nigeria, but because you made a compelling case as to why the situation had to change, many of them are now opting to write their term papers on that topic. They want to research the topic further. Again, thank you for sharing your knowledge with us."

Relieving her experience, Dr Finomo, expressed satisfaction with the positive reaction that greeted her presentation. "I felt very excited and fulfilled at the reactions from participants during and after the presentations. The joy of every Lecturer is the positive response he/she gets from the audience and the impact of his/her contribution to the body of knowledge and I was thrilled by the positive reactions I got," she said.



Dr Finomo

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) has announced its scholarship scheme for the 2014/2015 academic session.

PTDF is a parastatal of the Ministry of Petroleum Resources established by Decree 25 of 1973 for purposes of development, promotion and implementation of petroleum technology and manpower needs through research and training of Nigerians to attain the country's Local Content Initiative.

PTDF made this known in a statement dated Tuesday, 8th October, 2013, which disclosed that the Fund's scholarship website will be open between 2nd October, 2013 for 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 applicants. "The website is open to all applicants for the 2013/2014 academic session that experienced difficulties uploading relevant documents through the online application procedure to attach and submit their document," the statement said, adding that those who successfully applied and uploaded their documents need not apply again."

The Management of PTDF disclosed that the Fund is also inviting applications from suitably qualified candidates for the Master of Science (MSc) and Doctoral scholarships. A combined aptitude test will be conducted for both the 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 MSc

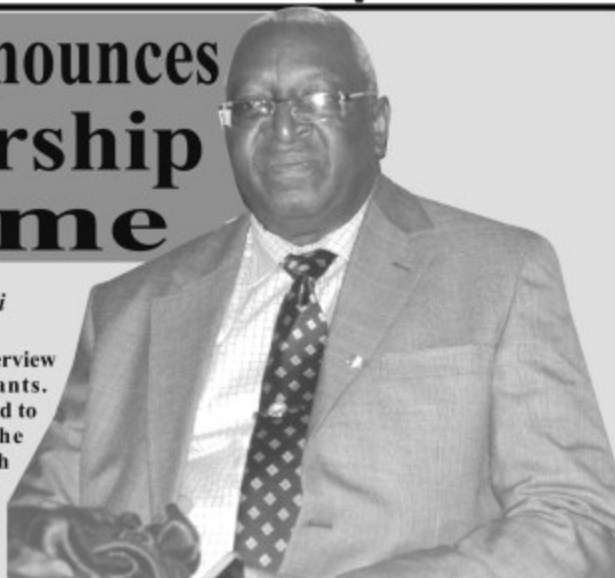
PTDF Announces Scholarship Scheme

By Mercy Adeniji

applicants, as well as oral interview sessions for PhD applicants. Scholarships would be awarded to candidates, who meet the selection requirements for both the 2013/2014/15 sessions in September, 2014.

The statement further stated that the application forms could be accessed online, using ATM cards or through purchase of a scratch card from designated main branches of First Bank of Nigeria Plc in all the States of the Federation and the FCT, upon payment of a non-refundable sum of One Hundred Thousand Naira (N100, 000.00) only. Instructions on how to access the form online are clearly stated on the backside of the cards.

Interested applicants are advised to log on to



Dr Oluwale Oluleye, Executive Secretary, PTDF

www.ptdf.gov.ng and follow the instructions.

Selection will be based on performance in the aptitude test and oral interview. Candidates, whose disciplines are not related to the listed subject areas, need not apply.

IPS To Mark 10th Anniversary Nov 25

By Humphrey Ogu

As the Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS) clocks 10 this November, Chairman Anniversary Planning Committee, Professor Godwin Igwe, has assured stakeholders of a very grand and memorable ceremony.

Briefing *UniPort Weekly* on the eagerly-anticipated event, Igwe, who is Director of the Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals (CGRP), disclosed that the Anniversary would commence on 25th November and climax on

Saturday, 30th November, adding that a Media Briefing has been billed for Monday, 28th October, 2013, at the Conference Room, IPS Park.

"IPS is celebrating 10 years of continuous improvement in manpower training and

local content development; within the last 10 years, we have been able to expand to include eight new Centres," he noted, explaining that the Institute is a collaborative efforts of the University of Port Harcourt, the famous IFP School in Paris, France and TOTAL/NNPC Joint Venture.

He listed the Centre for Occupational Health, Safety and Environment (COHSE), Offshore Technology Institute (OTI), Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals (CGRP), Centre for Petroleum Geosciences (CPG), Institute of Engineering Management and Innovation (METI), Emerald Energy Institute for Petroleum and Energy Economics, Policy and Strategic Studies and Centre for Advanced Petroleum Research as some of the new units under ever-expanding umbrella of the Institute.

"With the emergent Centres under the Institute delivering effective programme in support of the much talked-about Nigerian Local Content Development (LCD), and human capital need for the oil and gas industry, it is evident that we

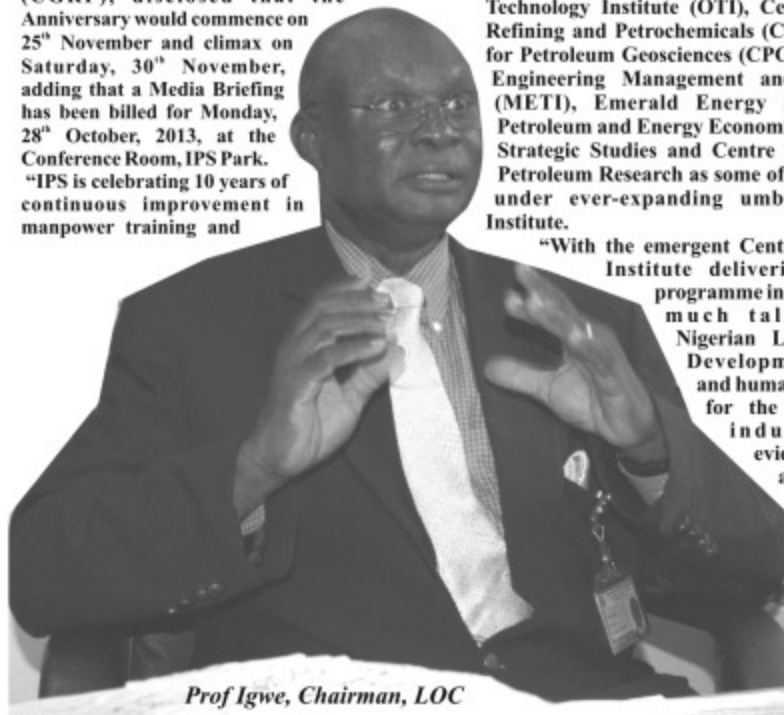
are growing in leaps and bounds. That is why we are preparing to celebrate our tenth anniversary in grand style.

"We are celebrating professionalism, internationalisation at home and collaboration with reputable institutes and centres abroad, as well as harvesting of our own timbers and building their future with uncommon zeal. We think we have something worth crowing about this time and we intend to make it big. There has been a lot of progress in the last 10 years," Igwe explained, calling on stakeholders to join in the move to celebrate the rise and rise of IPS.

"Everywhere, people describe us as a worthy role model in the hydrocarbon industry. We are a model of what quality education should be, because of the partnerships we have with industry and the quality of our graduate students," he said, adding that the anniversary would bring together people from all over the world, including employers, who would be coming to recruit graduates of IPS, representatives of TOTAL and IFP School. It would also be a reunion of the pioneer class and graduates of the Institute, who would also grace the epoch-making event.

As a Chemical Engineer, who has reached the apex of his career, both in industry and academia in Nigeria and abroad, Igwe observed that what is happening at IPS is commendable "because our students are well-coached by experienced researchers, who have experience in both industry and the academia. I can tell you as a person, who had lived in different parts of the world, that what we are seeing here is very exemplary and unique to this University.

The Chairman, Organizing Committee for the celebration, expressed pleasure that all members of the Committee have pledged to ensure a successful celebration, stating that the IPS success story should serve as a good example for everyone in the oil and gas education to emulate. Because of the linkages with industry and reputable international institution, IPS also provides examples for other universities to guarantee employment for their students on graduation.



Prof Igwe, Chairman, LOC

Just months after Dr Eucharia Nwaichi of the Department of Biochemistry in the Faculty of Chemical Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences received the prestigious L'Oreal Award for innovation in scientific research in Paris, France, another Lecturer in the Department of Human Physiology, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, Dr. Fortune Amah-Tariah, has been conferred with the Fellowship of the same Paris-based organization for Women in Science, this time in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The award was conferred on Dr. Amah-Tariah towards the completion of her Doctoral Degree in the same Department in UniPort. The Candidate will be jointly supervised by Professors Datonye Dapper and Antonia Okerengwo, both of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences.

Exchanging views with Correspondent of *UniPort Weekly*, a visibly-delighted Head of Department, Professor Arthur Nwafor, said that Dr. Amah-Tariah's research centred on "deepening human understanding of the involvement of environmentally-associated pollution in the Niger Delta region on immunological factors in pre-eclampsia and other pregnancy-related complications such as diabetes, hypertension and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), amongst women in Port Harcourt, Nigeria."

It is hoped that such a groundbreaking study would build new intercontinental collaborations and

Amah-Tariah, Another UniPort Lecturer Wins L'Oreal Award

By Williams Wodi

academic contacts amongst scholars in the field and enhance the image of the University of Port Harcourt on a global scale.

Dr Amah-Tariah, who is a Medical Doctor, received the award alongside nine other awardees from Africa, following a very keen competitive process. After receiving the award on 25th September, 2013, she and other recipients of the prestigious award gave series of media interviews in South Africa and also made oral presentation of their works to the Award Committee in Johannesburg. She was the only Nigerian scholar to win the coveted award this year, which is the first in the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences and second in the University.

Professor Nwafor also disclosed that the study would improve scientific knowledge on the dangerous

condition that results in the deaths of expectant mothers in Africa every year, appealing to authorities of the University for speedy completion of work on the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences building to create a conducive environment for research and learning amongst staff and students.



Dr Amah-Tariah

Prof Nwafor,
HOD Human Physiology

Kriston Proposes Partnership On Campus Housing Scheme

Kriston Lally EPC Nigeria Limited, a consortium of 12 construction companies, has indicated interest to partner the University in the provision of affordable housing units for staff under the aegis of the UniPort Staff Housing Home Ownership Scheme.

Making a formal presentation of the proposed project to the Home Ownership Implementation Committee, last Friday at the Vice-Chancellor's

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

Committee Room, Managing Director, Mustapha Madawaki, promised that the company would ensure a timely completion of the project prototype when a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is eventually signed between the University and the company.

"The company is committed to partnering public

and private sectors in the provision of affordable housing units across the country," Madawaki disclosed, adding that the gated estates would also be furnished with supporting infrastructure, including electricity and water supply, functional sewage and drainage systems, perimeter fencing and appropriate gates. He noted that ancillary facilities such as places of worship, day-care centres and schools, community centres, fuel stations, maintenance workshops and green parks would also be provided in the proposed housing estate.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, who represented the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, described the proposed partnership as ideal and timely, giving the rising demand for accommodation in the University by staff, promising Management's speedy consideration of the company's proposal.

Director of the College of Continuing Education (CCE), Professor Steve Okodudu and the Committee Chairman and Legal Officer, Mr Eric Aboneni, also commended the housing project proposal by the construction company, urging speedy implementation of the eagerly anticipated estate project.



DV-C (Admin), Prof Nduka (centre), members of Home Ownership Committee and Kriston Lally group during the presentation

Basic Studies Unit Announces Pre-Degree Form Sale

By Otikor Samuel

The School of Basic Studies has commenced sale of application forms for the 2013/2014 Pre-Degree programme in the Colleges of Engineering, Health Sciences, Natural and Applied Sciences; Faculties of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Social Sciences (Geography and Environmental Studies), and Certificate Programmes in the Faculties of Humanities and Education.

A Memo signed by the Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim, and obtained by *UniPort Weekly*, last week, stated that the programme which is open to applicants with a minimum of five credits in the Senior School Certificate Examination (SSCE), General Certificate Examination (GCE) conducted by the West African Examination Council (WAEC) and National Examination Council (NECO), respectively and other relevant certificates,

should be accessed online from 30th September to Friday, 15th November, 2013, when the portal would be short down.

Prospective candidates were further informed that admission into the various programme options would be contingent on candidates passing the Computer-Based Test (CBT) scheduled to commence between Monday, 25th to Friday, 29th November, 2013 at the Information and Communication Technology Centre (ICTC) Building, University Park.

"All candidates wishing to transit to the Degree programme, must in addition to the obtaining the required five credits in the desired field of study, pass the prescribed pre-Degree examinations; have the appropriate Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) subject combination and must have the national minimum score in the 2014/2015 UTME," the Registrar pointed out.

Prospective candidates are advised to log on to the University website at: www.uniport.edu.ng



Mrs Nnodim, Registrar

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Writers-in-Residence Take Possession Of Offices

Responding, the three Writers-in-Residence, Elechi Amadi, Ifeanyi Aniebo and Gabriel Okara, lauded the Vice-Chancellor for initiating the process, thanking him for blazing the trail in Nigeria by appointing them to the exalted position and providing an enabling environment for them to carry out their roles of mentoring budding writers, in addition to contributing to a robust arts life in the Institution.

Thanking the Vice-Chancellor and the authorities for their support for the arts and also for finding them worthy of such appointment, Dr Amadi also congratulated the University for being the first in the country to appoint Writers-in-Residence, saying: "This is the moment we have been waiting for, for quite some time now and we shall do our very best to justify the existence of the programme."

In his response, Aniebo said: "I am grateful to be one of the beneficiaries of this largesse and I thank the University for the opportunity given me to serve as a Writer-in-Resident in the Institution, where I put in several years of service as a Lecturer in the Department of English Studies. I shall not disappoint the University." On his part, Dr Okara said: "I affirm what my colleagues have said and I am grateful to be among the pioneer Writers-in-Residence, being the very first in the country. I am happy to be one of the pioneer Occupants of the office and I promise that my colleague and I will not disappoint the University that has found us worthy of this important and historic appointment."

Other Writers, who extolled the Vice-Chancellor's support for the arts, especially literature, at the event were: Paul Nalley, Miesoinuma Minima, and the Chairman of the Rivers State branch of the Association of Nigerian Authors (ANA), Obinna Nwodin, recalling that Professor Ajenka's phenomenal passion for the



Director, Artsville, Prof Okoh (middle) flanked by Elechi Amadi (right) and a staff of Artsville (left)

growth of literature in the country predated his assumption of office as Vice-Chancellor.

They commended him for his enthusiasm for the arts, expressing hope that the commencement of the programme would reposition the University and the State on the world literary map, especially with the designation of Port Harcourt as the World Book Capital for 2014.

Also there to witness the historic event were notable literary scholar, Seiyifa Koroye; famous Actor, Producer and Lecturer in the Department of Theatre Arts, Mr

Adela Onyedibia and Wife of Elechi Amadi, Dr Preye Amadi, Deputy Registrar (Information), Williams Wodi, who noted that UniPort has now entered the fourth phase of its development with its entrepreneurial vision under the present Administration, commending the Vice-Chancellor for strengthening the academic programmes of the Institution to the admiration of discerning observers. Others present were staff of the Artsville and Lucy Oruene of the University Advancement Centre, among other literary enthusiasts.

UniPort Robust Literary Culture

As the 6th Port Harcourt Book Festival (formerly Garden City Literary Festival) kicks off today, HUMPHREY OGU of our Literary Desk looks at the place of UniPort in the Nigerian Literary landscape.

For several decades now, University of Port Harcourt has indubitably remained a major stakeholder in literature and the arts generally. The University has, at different times, been home to some of the best known of critics of African literature. Professors Ola Rotimi, Gerald Moore, Ulli Beier, Winifred Feuser, Kay Williamson, Charles Nnolim, Chidi Maduka, Helen Chukwuma, Chidi Ikonne, Sunday Anozie, Chidi Amuta and lately Omolara Ogundipe are some of the notable names associated with the University.

Others included the oldest living African Writer, Dr Gabriel Okara, foremost novelist and playwright, Elechi Amadi and leading short story writer and novelist, Ifeanyi Aniebo, three of who are currently Writers-in-Residence in the University. These men of letters have made huge contributions to the development of African literature.

The University has also produced younger creative writers such as Ebinyo Oghowei, Nengi Ilagha, Obari Gomba, Ifeanyi Ajaegbo, Uche Peter Umez, Barine Ngaage, Sophia Obi-Apoko, Margaret Nutsukpo and Juliet Francis. Some of the names listed here have either won important international literary prizes or made the shortlist of the prestigious Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas Prize for Literature, which is the richest literary prize on the continent of Africa at various times.

For instance, Oghowei, who took an MPhil in African Literature from UniPort, was on the shortlist in 2005, 2009 and 2013, while Ilagha, who obtained a BA in English Studies, also made it in 2009. Again, Gomba, who received his higher degrees from UniPort, where he currently teaches in the Department of English Studies, also made the list this year. Current postgraduate students in the Department and multiple

award-winning writers, Umez and Ajaegbo, have also been nominated for the coveted prize, with the former in 2006 and 2011 and the latter in 2012.

In dramatic literature, UniPort has remained a leading institution for training dramatists, actors, actresses and indeed in arts and entertainment. Director, Institute of Arts and Culture, Professor Julie Okoh, has not only continued to churn out stage and screenplays, but also younger playwrights and performing artists, including ace comedian, Julius Agwu, who has recently taken to musi-comedy and writing, not forgetting Michael Ogholosingha and Michael Ogolo.

This robust literary culture has been sustained by a literature-loving Vice-Chancellor, who has never ceased to receive accolades from authors, literary critics, actors and film producers. Or what can one say of a professional Petroleum Engineer, who established an Institute of Arts and Culture, appointed Writers-in-Residences and University Poet and Curator? As Director, Institute of Petroleum Studies, Professor Ajenka co-sponsored the celebration of Elechi Amadi in 2008.

That same year, the ship of what is now known as the Port Harcourt Book Festival berthed in UniPort, with such literary icons as the Nobel Laureate, Professor Wole Soyinka, Elechi Amadi, Gabriel Okara, Kofi Awoonor, Okey Ndiye, and the literature-loving governor of Rivers State, Chibuike Amaechi, amongst other literary enthusiasts aboard.

On a sombre note, "Death has made war upon our house". It is quite regrettably to ask: "What is the wailing for? Somebody is dead. It is Awoonor himself. (Songs of Sorrow)

Since 2008, many literary icons have visited UniPort. On the list are Professors Olu Obafemi, Femi Osofisan, and Akachi Ezigbo, Karen King-Aribisala. The list also includes younger writers such as Helon Habila, and Adaobi Nwaubani, Chimeka Garricks, Igoni Barrett, Kaine Agary, amongst others. It has been six years of robust literature in UniPort.

Welcome to UniPort, co-host of the Port Harcourt Book Festival. Port Harcourt may be the World Book Capital; but UniPort remains the epicentre of the city and by extension the capital of the World Book Capital. That's my view. Welcome folks!



A group of participants at the 2010 GCLF. Wole Soyinka is fourth from left followed by V-C, Prof Joseph Ajenka

GUIDE POST

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Professor Oleka Udeala, Department of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Technology, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences granted, *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 1st February, 2014 to 31st January, 2015.

ASSUMPTION OF DUTY

Dr Priye Iyalla-Amadi, assumes duty in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, effective 2nd October, 2013 to 1st October, 2014.

Dr A.B. Allison, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 1st September, 2014 to 31st August, 2015.

Professor Gideon Abu, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Biological Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, granted *Sabbatical Leave*, effective 2nd September, 2013 to 1st September, 2014.

Professor E.N. Onyeike, Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Chemical Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, granted *Sabbatical Leave*, effective 14th October, 2013 to 13th October, 2014.

REVIEW OF STATUS

Dr Zelda Efe-Omojerwe, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, promoted from Assistant Lecturer to Lecturer II, effective 12th July, 2013.

STOP PRESS

PH BOOK FESTIVAL 2013

The Port Harcourt Book Festival (PHBF) formerly known as *Garden City Literary Festival* announces this year's festival to be jointly hosted with the University between Monday, 21st and 26th October, 2013. A letter dated 5th July, 2013, addressed to the Vice-Chancellor and signed by the Festival Director, Mrs Koko Kalango, disclosed that the University would oversee the Opening Ceremony, where the Department of English Studies and a Troupe from the Institute of Arts and Culture would coordinate an academic symposium and stage performances, amongst other events.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT OBSERVATORY

FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER, 13 - SATURDAY, OCTOBER, 19, 2013

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (am) (pm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 20 Oct, 2013	32.0 25.0	71	N	14.2	6:17 6:16	Thunderstorm expected. Breaks of sun anticipated late. Warm day predicted.
MONDAY, 21 Oct, 2013	30.0 24.0	76	E	17.4	6:17 6:16	Strong Thunderstorm expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecasted.
TUESDAY, 22 Oct, 2013	32.0 25.0	71	NE	10.7	6:17 6:16	A few Thunderstorm expected. Day predicted being mostly cloudy and warm.
WEDNESDAY, 23 Oct, 2013	32.0 24.0	70	NE	9.6	6:17 6:16	Thunderstorm expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecasted.
THURSDAY, 24 Oct, 2013	32.0 23.0	76	E	5.8	6:16 6:15	Thunderstorm expected early in the day. Partly sunny and warm day is expected.
FRIDAY 25 Oct, 2013	32.0 23.0	79	NE	4.9	6:16 6:15	Widely scattered thunderstorm expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day predicted.
SATURDAY, 26 Oct, 2013	32.0 23.0	77	N	5.0	6:16 6:15	Thunderstorm expected early. more clouds than sun day predicted being mostly warm.

SANDRA NWABUFO
OFFICER IN CHARGE

PROF SAMUEL AROKOYU
DIRECTOR, (CDRMDS)

BRIEFS FROM OTHER VARSITIES

CALEB HOLDS THIRD CONVOCATION OCTOBER 19

Caleb University, Imota, Lagos State will on Saturday, October 19th hold its third Convocation Ceremony. The event which is slated for 10.00am at the University's multipurpose hall will feature 157 graduands drawn from the 13 degree programmes in the three Colleges of the University.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ayodeji Olukoku, stated this during a Media Briefing to herald the Convocation, disclosing that the activities will commence on Thursday with a Church service and a pre-Convocation luncheon on Friday. He said that First Class Degrees would be awarded to three of the graduands, second class (Upper Division) to 42 of them, 70 Second Class (Lower Division) and 32 Third Class.

NEW STUDENTS TO GET TABLETS

All new students of the University of Ilorin (UNILORIN) will each have a PC tablet to boost the Institution's ICT drive and enhance e-communication between them and their lecturers. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor AbdulGaniyu Ambali broke the news last Wednesday, while answering questions on special UNILORIN 89.3

FM live interview programme, titled: "Talk to the Vice-Chancellor", to mark his one year in office.

Professor Ambali said, "We hope to start a new era with those coming in because we have to empower them to face the challenges of the ICT world."

All the curriculum and courseware will be on the tablets so that you have the whole classroom in your hand".

He charged the students to be focused, stating that his administration is committed to providing comfortable environment for them with adequate accommodation and facilities on Campus.

ASUU STRIKE: BSU TO ADMIT WITHOUT POST-UTME

The Benue State University (BSU) may offer

admission to undergraduates without conducting the post-Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) tests as the screening has been cancelled.

The Public Relations Officer of the University, Mr Tse Vanger, disclosed that Registrar of the University, Dr Timothy Utile, has directed candidates, who applied to the BSU to submit their documents, stating that "There will be no written post-UTME exercise, but credentials of candidates submitted will be screened and authenticated by the University". Vanger said the decision was taken to meet the October 30 deadline by the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB) as deadline for conclusion of all admissions.

PASSAGE

MR LOVEDAY BIIRA

The death has been announced of Mr Loveday Biira, a Staff with the Central Instruments Laboratory (CIL) of the University. He was aged 49.

Late Mr Biira was buried in his home town Opu-oko Town in Khana Local Government Area of Rivers State on Saturday, 19th October, 2013.



Late Mr Biira

O.B. Lulu-Briggs Chair Roundtable

The O.B. Lulu-Briggs Chair in Petroleum Geosciences held a one-day Round Table on: "Petroleum Exploration, Development and Production." The Roundtable, which attracted participants from all over the world, held at Hotel Presidential on Tuesday, 24th September, 2013. Pictures below by our Cameraman, **WILLIAMS WODI**, show scenes from the event.



V-C, Prof Joseph Ajenka chatting with former V-C, Emeritus Prof Nimi Briggs



Chief (Mrs) Senye Lulu-Briggs flanked by V-C, (left) Emeritus Prof Briggs and other participants



Prof Ajenka (right) with DV-C (R&D) Prof Bene Willie Abbey



L-R: Chief (Mrs) Lulu-Briggs, V-C and DV-C (R&D)



R-L: Dr Eme Ekekwe, Paul Wihbey and a guest



Engineer Ubani Nkanginmie, Ikechi Ibeji and MC of the occasion



Profs Dulu Appah, Enuvie Akpokodje, Dr Francis Baker and Prof Abi Derefuka



V-C, interacting with media men



Emeritus Prof Briggs, Profs Ekine and Michael Oti



Profs Adewale Dosunmu and Appah



Profs Levi Amajor, Oti and Dr Njoku



L-R: Engineer Pedro Egbe, Dr Njoku and a guest



Prof Frank Ugiomoh, flanked by Deputy Registrar (Information), Williams Wodi (left) and Dr Chima Wokocha