



## UniPort To Get Divisional Police Hqtrs

A few months after the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, led a team of senior officers of the University on a visit to former Commissioner of Police in Rivers State, Mr Joseph Mbu, indications have emerged that a new Police Station is to be set up in the University to curb crime and deepen the institutional ties between the Nigeria Police and the University, reports *Obinna Nwodin*.

More on pg 3

### Side Bar

The Mountain of Fire and Miracle Ministries donated musical instruments to the Department of Music last Wednesday. Details Next Week -Editor



# UniPort Weekly

Vol. 18, No. 2

March 24 - March 31, 2014

ISSN: 1832-1841

For Information and Enlightenment

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

### How To Tackle Fuel Scarcity In Nigeria



Story on p2

### Music Dept Sings For Nimenibo



Story on p3

### Orji Donates 25 Computers To Alma Mater



Story on p4

### Nwaozuzu Proffers Solution To Fuel Scarcity



Story on p6

## George Endows Professorial Chair In Geotechnical Engineering

By Obinna Nwodin

The Public/Private Partnership drive of the University of Port

Harcourt has received another big boost with the endowment of a Ten (N10) Million Naira Professorial Chair in Geotechnical Engineering by foremost Geotechnical Engineer, Enoch George.

Making the endowment last Tuesday in the Vice-Chancellor's Committee Room, Engineer George, who expressed satisfaction that he was able to make the endowment a reality, said that it was his intention to make the Institution a one-stop Centre of Excellence in Geotechnical Engineering that would draw the attention of diverse clientele. "I want us to get to

a level that we can tell people that they should go to the University of Port Harcourt to get the best in Geotechnical Engineering," promising to do his own bit to realize the laudable objective.

In his speech, Vice-Chancellor,

Professor Joseph Ajenka, represented by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, expressed gratitude to Engineer George for the gesture, promising

Cont'd on p6



Read UniPort Weekly Online at [www.uniport.edu.ng](http://www.uniport.edu.ng)

Can't from last week

The addition of a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) or a hydro-cracker significantly increases the yield of higher-valued products like gasoline and diesel oil from a barrel of crude, allowing a refinery to process cheaper, heavier crude while producing an equivalent or greater volume of high-valued products.

No society has ever been greater than the products of its higher institutions of learning. Therefore, deep thought is required in the way Government relates to its educational institutions as "laboratory think tanks". The University of Port Harcourt is a Federal Government institution with a Centre for Gas, Refining & Petrochemicals, Institute of Petroleum Studies, training the first batch of pioneer M.Sc. students in Petroleum Refining & Petrochemicals, yet there is no coordination or linkage between one arm of the government and the other in terms of resources or consultancy.

Government's (PTDF) written obligation to fund students' tuition is yet to be redeemed, in spite of repeated requests.

With increasing unemployment rate in the country and hyper-connectivity empowering the young ones, Nigeria, between 2020-2030, is expected to surpass the United States of America in population growth according to Christine Lagarde, IMF, Dimbleby.

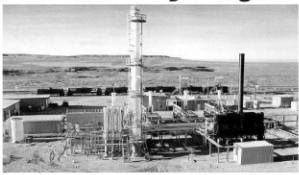
Seeking investments here and there is commendable; but it is not productive, if we do not have the work force, the manpower, to manage these sophisticated equipment and instruments. They are deliberately calibrated to be sophisticated to make it difficult to copy. Comparatively, it is akin to building a big hospital with all the medical devices without doctors and nurses, etc. to support your operation.

Technology plays a vital role in the systematic transformation of the production systems and capacities. Development will always depend on the internal innovative capacities of a society, for it is man

# How To Tackle Fuel Scarcity In Nigeria

rather than machine that creates development. Technology transfer, therefore, becomes a myth for non-productive nations, and a reality for the nations with new means of production, capital formation and technical knowledge. Sustained economic growth is then further ignited, accentuated and escalated by increasing technical wisdom.

To provide employment, we have to turn the 'illegal refineries' into 'legal refineries'. To make this to happen, we need to design a strategy and policy to set up Energy Bank to provide financing, taxable at low interest rate.



A refinery complex critical to fuel production

By Godwin Igwe

Sell crude oil to them at subsidized price, and collect taxes like every other business enterprise. If you legalize, then you stop bunkering because it becomes unprofitable for their sponsors. They will become proud "owners" of a business, hence supply of kerosene, petrol (gasoline), diesel, will be everywhere, satisfying the demand in the country. They already have the necessary raw production skills. We just need to provide guidance and training. The knowledge gap in distillation processes will be provided on appropriate standards, codes, specifications and catalysts.

This will in turn stop environmental pollution and degradation, because all the refining fractions currently poured in rivers (depriving us of safe and reliable drinking water) will be fully utilized in some other process plants. Stopping pollution is very important, because having money is no guarantee of good health. By providing jobs and reducing unemployment, the Federal

Government and 36 States would then have enough money to share.

We need to stay focused. We need to develop value systems that see service above self interest. The world is changing; those who were previously, hard men, now know when to be soft with their people. There is potential for growth, and we should not under-rate human ingenuity and innovation. So, the issue here is clear: a) Prioritize and test the idea of modular refineries; b) set up a Refining and Petrochemical Authority, and c) let illegal become legal. It is sound reasoning. It is practicable and great idea. It is value-adding. It generates employment. It is bold and shows leadership. It is self-reliance. It is demonstratively a true paradigm shift for development.

Professor Igwe is the Director, Centre for Gas, Refining & Petrochemicals, Institute of Petroleum Studies, University of Port Harcourt.

## 2014 Orientation Be Dedicated To Your Studies, V-C Tasks Fresh Students

Fresh students of the University of Port Harcourt have been advised to take their studies seriously in order to justify their admission into the Institution. Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, gave the advice during the 2013/2014 Orientation Exercise for newly-admitted Year One Students, last Thursday at the Convocation Arena, University Park.

Professor Ajienka, who was represented by the Dean of Student Affairs, Professor Henry Bell-Gam, congratulated the students on their success among the numerous candidates, who applied to study in the Institution, assuring them of a conducive environment for learning and recreation.

"We believe that the most important group in the University is the students and that is why we will do everything possible to ensure that you are

By Obinna Nwodin and Friday Marcus

comfortable while in the University," he stated. The Vice-Chancellor told them to be studious because their main reason for being admitted into the University was to study, adding that the authorities wished them a fruitful stay in the Institution.

Also speaking, Registrar, the Mrs Matilda Nwodin, who also congratulated the students on their admission into the University, charged them to be serious-minded in their academic pursuit. She advised them to always imbib the virtues of hard work and dedication, which will not only help them in their studies, but be an important virtue that would help them in their life's endeavours.

The one-day event featured addresses on various issues that bothered on students' welfare in the

University. They included: *The Bursary Services and Students Insurance Scheme* by the Bursar, Mr Vitalis Aloré represented by Mr Lawrence Decker; *The Use of the Library and e-Learning* by the University Librarian, Dr Obiageli Nwodo, represented by Dr Susan Umehoz; *The Role of Student Affairs Department in the Life of Students* by the Director, Students Affairs Department, Mrs Bridget Nzimiro; *The Student and Security* by the Chief Security Officer, Lt Colonel Reginald Ishiguzo (Rtd); *Dress/Moral Code* by the President, University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA), Mrs Mercy Ajienka; *Rules and Regulations Governing the Conduct of Students in Academic Matters* by the Director of Academic Affairs, Mrs Dorcas Otto; *Prize-winning Opportunities in the University* by Professor Joyce Akaniwor; *Benefits of Students Exchange Programmes* by the Director, Exchange and Linkages Programme Unit, Professor John Otuigbo; *Code of Conduct for Students, Examination Malpractice and Related Matters* by Chairman of Professional Ethics Committee, Professor Abdulrazzaq Kilani; *The Importance of Guidance and Counselling in the Life of a Student* by Mrs Loveth Jeremiah; *Services at the ICTC* by the Director, Information Communication Technology Centre (ICTC), Professor Anthony Ide, as well as the *Role of Students in Campus Cleanliness* by Acting Director, Campus Environmental, Beautification and Sanitation (CEBAS) Unit, Mr Okesie Ochuba.



A cross-section of the students at the Orientation

### EDITORIAL BOARD

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Prof Joseph Ajienka | - Publisher            |
| Prof Eme Ekeke      | - Editorial Chair      |
| Austen Sado         | - Editorial Adviser    |
| Williams Wodi       | - Editor               |
| Obinna Nwodin       | - Associate Editor     |
| Correspondents:     | Photography            |
| Mercy Adani         | Maria Anet (Nile)      |
| Obior Samuel        | Henrietta              |
| Humphrey Ogu        | Graphics               |
| Ewel King-James     | Mitchell Ekoyor        |
|                     | Chika King-James (Mrs) |
|                     | Ewel King-James        |

Call: 08033093371

Cont'd from p1

# UniPort To Get Divisional Police Hqtrs

This was the outcome of a familiarization visit by the Area Commander, Port Harcourt Metropolis of the Command, Mr Aliyu Garba, to the University,

last Wednesday. Speaking when he called on the Vice-Chancellor in his office, Mr. Garba, who is also an Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP), said that he was directed by the Commissioner of Police, Mr Johnson Ogunshakin, to visit the proposed site for the police station, noting that it was in furtherance of the communication between authorities of the University and the Command. He assured authorities of the University of continued cooperation of the Police in maintaining peace and security in the Institution and its environs. In his speech, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ajenka, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-

Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, said that the authorities were pleased that the efforts made to enhance security by establishing a Police Station closer to the University had become a reality with the visit by the Area Commander, which he said was important as a result of recent occurrences of crime in the area. "All of us—both the Police and University authorities—now appreciate the urgent need to establish a functional Police Post that would contribute to effective crime control. We are very thankful that it is coming at the right time because of the ugly experiences we have had in the recent past," he stated.

## SERVICOM CORNER

- Government work was seen as nobody's work
- Reappearance of missing file after "settling" someone.
- Files do not move without being pushed with inducement.
- Decision not made without undue external influence.
- Damaging effects on amount of trust people had in public service and service delivery.
- People short-changed in their expectations of the standard of service lost confidence in service delivery
- People short-changed in their expectation of the standard of service provided.
- Public lost confidence in service and if served at all, would be as a favour or at a price.
- People became so accustomed to the "Nigerian way of doing things that it became almost a norm."
- Civil servants go to work late, pay nonchalant attitude to work and leave office before closing.

The Federal Government observed, and correctly too, that Nigerians have been short-changed. Services were not serving people and public confidence was poor. Nigeria seems to be a country where everyone thinks government work is nobody's work. UNIPORT is not an exception in this regard.

Hence the creation of SERVICOM

Watch out for more details about SERVICOM!!!



Prof Nduka (arrowed), flanked to his right by Mr Garba and other Senior Officers of the University and the Police Team

## Music Dept Sings For Nimenibo ...Mounts Workshop on Music Broadcast

By Humphrey Ogu

It was dance galore at the University of Port Harcourt Arts Theatre—The CEAB, penultimate Wednesday, as family members of the late music enthusiast, Sir Clement Finle Nimenibo, were joined by well-wishers on the dance floor as captivating tunes kept oozing out of wind and percussion instruments of the Department of Music in honour of the great man. Speaking with *UniPort Weekly*, after the well-attended concert, the Head, Department of Music, Professor Onyee Nwankpa, who lauded the late Sir Nimenibo's musical prowess, disclosed that the family of the famous music collector endowed a Chair in Classical Music and Research, calling on other public-spirited individuals and corporate bodies to emulate the family's philanthropic disposition by endowing professorial chairs to aid research and development of scholarship in different genres of music.

On her part, widow of the late Sir Nimenibo, Lady

Hetty Nimenibo, expressed appreciation to the University, particularly the Department of Music, for the honour done the family, describing her late husband as a man who really loved music and dance to the admiration of his friends, family and associates. In his contribution, son of Nimenibo, said he was very delighted with the success of the inaugural concert in honour of his late father, saying: "I feel as if he is here with us."

Besides the Chair, it would be recalled that the Department also houses a *Museum of Classical Music Collections of Sir Clement Finle Nimenibo*.

In another development, the Department of Music has recorded another first by holding a workshop on Music Broadcasting, Presenting a paper titled: *Music in the Broadcast Industry*, at the Conference Room of the Department of Music, Delta Park, last Tuesday. Ngozi Igwilo a former staff of Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN), defined music as sound that is humanly organised, regular, rhythmic

and pleasing to the ear, noting that music is the life wire of Radio and Television.

Igwilo, who is a former student of Professor Nwankpa at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, observed that "in Nigeria today, about 75 per cent of broadcast material in the electronic media, describing broadcasting as a wireless dissemination of audio or audio-visual information and entertainment to a mass audience."

"Every music programme shall be tailored to suit target audience. Electronic media stations shall ensure that every music programme is produced so that quality is maintained and surveillance sustained to prevent obscene, immoral, defamatory, inciting and other unwanted materials," she pointed out.

Other topics covered by the workshop include: *Cultural Policy for Nigeria, Ethics and Styles of Music presentation, Formats in Music Presentation, and Documentary in Music*, which the facilitator said is not the same as music documentary.

Speaking earlier, Professor Nwankpa said that the workshop was held to educate students on current trends in the music industry, stating that "If we do not expose you to the developments in the field, we may not have done enough in training all-rounded graduates of music."

"We deemed it fit to bring professionals in the industry down here to train you in various aspects of music. That is why we went to Ibadan to bring one of us with a background in music and broadcasting to talk to us," the Head of Department told the students, listing music therapy, sound engineering and music broadcasting, among others, as necessary skills in in-depth training in music.

Also speaking, the co-ordinator of the programme, Rita Sunday-Kanu, commended the Head of Department in his drive to make the Department a centre of excellence in music in line the policy of the Professor Joseph Ajenka-led administration, advising the students to make the best use of the opportunity they have to attain great heights in music.



Members of the Nimenibo family and others at the concert

# Orji Donates 25 Computers To Alma Mater

By Obinna Nwodin

**F**ew weeks after he delivered the 3<sup>rd</sup> Founders' Day Lecture of the University of Port Harcourt, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Nigeria Sovereign Wealth Investment Authority (NSIA), Mr Uche Orji, has donated 25 units of desktop computers to the University in fulfillment of a promise he made at the event.

Presenting the items at the Vice-Chancellor's Committee Room, last Friday, Mr Orji who described the gesture as a little contribution to the growth and development of the his *Alma Mater*, said that foundations and endowments were critical to the development of any institution. He thanked authorities of the University for the Hospitality he enjoyed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Founders' Day Lecture held in February and promised to continue to identify with the development aspirations of the University.

Receiving the items, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who thanked Mr Orji for the gesture and also for associating with his *Alma Mater*, said that the items would be put together and named after him in the Department of Chemical Engineering. According to the Vice-Chancellor, the gesture would motivate other alumni to contribute meaningfully to the development of the University.



Orji (5<sup>th</sup> from right), V-C, Prof. Ajenka and other senior officers of the University

It would be recalled that Mr Uche Orji graduated from the Department of Chemical Engineering in the then Faculty of Engineering in 1990. He has since transformed from a Chemical Engineer to a world-class investment expert. Before he was appointed Managing Director/Chief Executive

Officer of the Nigeria Sovereign Wealth Investment Authority (NSIA), Mr Orji worked in executive positions in top international financial and investment firms such as J.P. Morgan and Company and former Union Bank of Switzerland.

**I**n a bid to expose pupils to the operations of the University system and motivate

them to strive for excellence, 55 pupils and three staff of Tendril Montessori School, Port Harcourt embarked on an educational tour to the University of Port Harcourt, penultimate Thursday.

Receiving the pupils at the Senate Building, Acting Director, Protocol and Logistics, Dr Sylvester Udoorah, charged the pupil to feel free and to look around the University and its facilities, hoping that someday, they would choose to write the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Examination (JAMB).

Dr Udoorah commended the School for choosing to visit University of Port Harcourt and wished Management of the School, Teachers and Pupils well, as they work hard to become university undergraduates. "On behalf of Management of University, we want to wish you well in your academics and we hope that if for whatever reason you find yourself in this University, as students, we would be glad to receive you and build your careers for national development".

In a sideline interview, a representative of the School, Miss Ruth Eluwa, thanked the University

## Tendril Montessori Pupils Visit UniPort

By Mercy Adeniji

for receiving the pupils, noting that the School decided to visit University of Port Harcourt, because it is a big Federal institution that has modern facilities for learning and recreation. She explained that the pupils were so inspired when they visited the various places, including the classrooms.

"The vision of Tendril Montessori School is to bring out God's deposit in every child, because we believe just like Montessori, that there is no child that is dull; every child is naturally gifted and it is that gift that we want to bring out from the children in order for them to fit into the society and make their own dream come to reality," she said.

In his contribution, a Senior Secondary pupil of the School, Solomon Anosike, described the outing as a wonderful experience, disclosing that they visited so many places on Campus, adding that they enjoyed themselves. He expressed optimism that by the grace of God, he would love to seek admission into the University when he is through with his secondary education.

Another pupil in the Junior Secondary class, Esther

Pepple, said she felt very excited to be a part of the excursion. "We had fun; we visited the

Basic Medical School, University Sports Complex and the swimming pool. I wish to read Medicine so I hope to be admitted into the University of Port Harcourt when the time comes."

## UniPort To Inaugurate NIM Chapter April 3

By Williams Wodi

**T**he University of Port Harcourt Chapter of the Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM) will be inaugurated on Thursday, April 3, 2014. The inauguration is the culmination of years of operating in the University without formal operational structures to direct NIM activities.

As part of the landmark event, there will also be a public lecture titled: *Effective Management as an Indispensable Tool in National development*.

The lecture is to be delivered by a past President of the Institute, Chief Lugard Alimiwu, who is also a distinguished International Motivational Speaker.

A statement jointly signed on behalf of the organizers by Dr Edwinah Amah, Justina Yakubu and Flora Iyagba, disclosed that the historic inauguration ceremony, scheduled for 10.00am at Ekhtini Banquet Auditorium, University Park, is expected to draw attendance from in and outside the University community.

The organizers invited sister professional bodies, the Unions, intending new members and the general public to grace the occasion at which the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka and other Principal Officers, are expected to attend the event as special guests.



Dr Ngozi Odu



Pupils of Tendril Montessori School during their visit to the University

Immediate past Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Ebi Bii Awotua- Efebo, has said that he governed by example and left behind a vibrant Faculty with love, mutual cooperation and enhanced productivity. Professor Efebo, who reviewed the performance of his four-year administration said: "On assumption of office, I set myself a target and I was able to achieve same with the assistance of wonderful colleagues and students in the Faculty I worked with during my tenure."

Professor Efebo, who is also Director of the Centre for Infrastructural Innovation Technology (CIIT), recalled that his tenure was a huge success, noting that he also succeeded through the grace of God and the prayers of his admirers.

"When I assumed duty as Dean, I made promises that I was going to be a strong voice for the Faculty and that I will support and raise the perception level of the Faculty of Education, because people perceived education as a second or third rate Faculty. Some people harboured such erroneous impression of the Faculty because of the way some of our colleagues and students presented themselves. So, I felt there was need for a rebranding and repackaging of the Faculty of Education, in and outside the University. I am so glad that with the assistance of past and present administrations, we were able to achieve our broad objectives and today, the Faculty has been rebranded and people look up to it for leadership in educational matters in the University," he recalled.

Speaking on his achievement as the immediate past Dean, Professor Efebo disclosed that during his tenure, the University set up a Centre for Gender Studies that focuses attention on issues affecting women and vulnerable groups. "I promised I was going to go online with our Faculty Journal known as *JED* and today, I am proud to say that *JED* is read on line all over the world. I put a lot of emphasis on Information Communication Technology (ICT). As a pioneer leader in ICT on Campus, I was in the computing service Unit

## I Led Education Faculty By Example ~Prof Efebo

By Mercy Adeniji

and since I believed so much in the power of ICT, I made sure that we developed the Faculty into a Centre of Excellence in teaching and learning. These are some of the things I achieved and more than this, I believe there was peace in the Faculty during my tenure," Professor Efebo said.

"During my tenure as Dean of the Faculty, we all acted as a family; we now have a staff canteen, a vibrant and robust Faculty welfare system, where each Academic staff pays in N1,000 every month to take care of the needs of staff of the Faculty, who were celebrating or mourning," the former Dean disclosed. Describing funding as a major challenge that he faced while in office, Professor Efebo disclosed that the University Management tried to support him, stating that the passion he had for the Faculty, he did not count the cost, rather went ahead and used his money to ensure that the needs of the Faculty were met.

On his relationship with staff and students, Professor Efebo disclosed that he governed the Faculty by example. "I believed in service to humanity; respect is reciprocal and when you complement people, they feel alright to come around you. People want a listening ear and when you give them your ear, they believe their problems would be solved. In the Faculty of Education, today, we speak with one voice; we consult widely on issues and our colleagues from other Faculties come around to learn from us."

On the election of his successor, the out-gone Dean, described Professor Lawrence Igwe as a team-player, who is ready to work and listen to people. "I have no



Prof Efebo

doubt that my successor is going to be a good listener. We would work together as a team to support him as he goes about the onerous business of running the Faculty."

Professor Efebo appealed to staff to continue to work with passion, love and zeal as a means of positioning the Faculty where it ought to be. "Let us build on what we are doing and impact on the lives of people around us, so that when people come around and see what we have done, they would marvel", he said.

## Anatomy Dept Holds Inaugural Brain Awareness Day

By Humphrey Ogu

The Department of Human Anatomy, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, joined the rest of the world to mark the 2014 edition of *Brain Awareness Week* on Thursday, March 13, 2014.

The event, which took place at the College of Health Sciences Auditorium, University Park, was chaired by the immediate past Provost of the College, Professor Blessing Didia, who is also of the Department of Human Anatomy.

Speaking as Chairman of the event, Professor Didia commended the initiator of the programme, Professor Amadi Ihunwo, for deeming it fit to mark the week in the Department, expressing hope that the celebration would be a University-wide event as from next year.

In his address, Professor Ihunwo, who is a Counsellor with the International Society of Neurochemistry (ISN), disclosed that the *Brain Awareness Week* (BAW) is an international campaign, co-ordinated by the Dana Alliance Initiative, explaining that "the Dana Alliance Initiative is a non-profit organisation of neuroscientists committed to advancing public

awareness of the progress and the promise of brain research."

He explained that the BAW was founded by the Dana Alliance Initiative in 1996 to co-ordinate the efforts of universities, hospitals, patient groups, government agencies, service organisations, professional associations, and schools from around the world in a weeklong celebration of the brain—usually held in the second week of March. "It is my desire that this event will kick-start formation of a Neuroscience Group and yearly BAW activities here at UniPort and UPTH," Professor Amadi said.

In Brain Awareness Week Proclamation, Provost, CHS, Professor Chris Akani, declared that "The College will henceforth give attention to research activities on the brain from basic to clinical sciences; the College will encourage public discussions on brain disorders that ravage our population, especially as observed from our University Teaching Hospital. The College will encourage Academic Associations involved in the promotion of strategies to understanding brain disorders. The College will encourage pursuit of applications for brain research funding both within the country and from international organisations involved in same."

The Provost, who made the proclamation through the Deputy Provost, Professor Owanari Georgewill, said: "I declare the College of Health Sciences, University of Port Harcourt a Brain Awareness Week Initiative Friendly institution."

Also speaking, the Head, Department of Neurology, Professor Arthur Onwuchekwa, who decried paucity of manpower in Neurology, described the event as a novelty. He stressed the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration in research to meet the healthcare demands of society.

Delivering a lecture titled: *Burden of Neurological Disorders from UPTH*, Dr Alagoma Iyagba of the Department of Medicine, gave an overview of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH) Neurological Services, from 1989 to 2014, listing common brain diseases encountered by neurologists in the hospital.

Also speaking, Acting Head, Department of Human Anatomy, Dr Chukwuogo Paul, noted that the brain is a very important organ, adding that knowing the health status of the brain is essential in determining the overall state of human health.

Highlight of the event was the naming of the brain in various Nigerian languages by the U2009 BSc Anatomy Class.



L-R: Profs Onwuchekwa, Georgewill, Didia, Drs Chinwo, Paul and Iyagba

# George Endows Professorial Chair In Geotechnical Engineering

the endowment, described Engineer George as a foremost

Cont'd from p1

that the University would justify the gesture. According to him, the endowment will encourage research in the College of Engineering, noting that the focus of the current administration is research-based.

He expressed happiness that there is much enthusiasm to encourage research activities in such a vital area of Engineering, assuring stakeholders that the University would make the best use of the endowment, as a means of

encouraging other public-spirited individuals and groups to follow Engineer George's good example.

Earlier in his remarks, former Dean of the defunct Faculty of Engineering, Professor Samuel Ejecio, who said that the endowment was not only significant, but an important milestone in the advancement of university-industry partnership, stated that the greatest challenge that the College of Engineering faced was the lack of research opportunities which stemmed from poor industry patronage. Professor Ejecio, who also facilitated

Geotechnical Engineer in Nigeria, who made the pathway for indigenous professionals in Geotechnical Engineering, particularly in the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC). Highlight of the event was the signing of a Deed of Trust between the University and the Donor. The Agreement further stipulated that after the initial N10 million Seed Trust Fund, the sum of Three Million Naira would be made available every year for the next five years for managing and maintaining the Chair.



Engr George (arrowed), flanked to his left by Prof Ndaka, Senior Officers of the University and members of his delegation

Following the continual scarcity of petroleum products in Nigeria, amidst huge oil and gas reserves, more and more academics from the University of Port Harcourt, have continued to proffer solutions to the perennial problem that has so far defied successive government policy thrusts.

First to make recommendations aimed at tackling the problem was the Director, Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals, Institute of Petroleum Studies, Professor Godwin Igwe, who recommended modular refineries as a solution to periodic fuel scarcity in the country.

This time, the lingering scarcity of the critical product has drawn the attention of Dr Chijioke Nwaozuzu of the Emerald Energy Institute for Petroleum and Energy Economics, Policy and Strategic Studies, who in addition to endorsing construction of modular refineries to solve the problem, also put forward his own recommendations aimed at speedily tackling the perennial problem, which he feared threatened the economy of the country if not speedily remedied.

Nwaozuzu, who is a Senior Lecturer at Emerald Energy Institute, regretted that the major challenge that must be first surmounted was to get the right calibre of persons in government with the right policy thrust. "You can articulate ideas and make suggestions, but until you are put in place to implement the ideas, they will remain paper tigers. Until government waves political considerations aside and focuses on purely economic considerations, we will continue to remain in this mess that also embarrasses the country on a large scale.

"Our newest refinery is 30 years old. We need to rehabilitate existing refineries and ensure that they work at optimal capacity to address the issue of increased fuel consumption. For a long time, Nigerian refineries have been left to rot under repeated policy summersaults. We have not had proper turn-around maintenance of all the four refineries in a very long time; yet, government hopes to avert fuel scarcity. We don't need to import petroleum products into this country, when it can be locally refined. It does not make sense to export crude oil and import refined products, which could be done right here," he said.

Nwaozuzu, who is Head of Academic programmes at the Institute, frowned at the Federal Government's plan to grant business mogul, Alkio Dangote licence

## Nwaozuzu Proffers Solution To Fuel Scarcity

By Humphrey Ogu

to establish a mega-refinery in the country, stating that such a move would result in more petroleum crises occasioned by monopoly of the product by individuals. "Petroleum is not the same as sugar or cement. Whoever controls production of petrol production can shut down the country at will," he warned, stressing that the political romance of today could turn sour tomorrow, thus plunging the country's economy into chaos.

"Privatisation is good, because state-owned

corporations hardly work in this part of the world. Our consciousness is still at the selfish level; we have disregard for the public good and maintenance to social facilities," Nwaozuzu conceded, citing Ajaokuta Steel Company and Elemo Petro-Chemical Company as public corporations, whose dwindling fortunes were turned around in the hands of private investors. He, however, argued that the case of petroleum is different as "private sector monopoly is far worse than the failure of public corporations."

Nwaozuzu, who is a well sought-after petroleum consultant, recommended the golden share formula in which up to 30 per cent would be in the hands of the public. "You cannot compare telecommunication to petroleum. The difference between telecoms and petroleum is that in the short run, the cost of making calls does not have impact on the prices of goods and services," he added.

On the way forward, Nwaozuzu advised the Federal Government to collaborate with one or two of the oil majors, with the government being the main operator," citing the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) as a good example of the kind of collaboration he hoped would work for the benefit of all stakeholders. He disclosed that there are foreign companies that are ready to partner the Federal Government in viable business dealings to tackle the problems associated with refining and efficient distribution of petroleum products in Nigeria, regretting that they are not given opportunities to do so.

He expressed fears that Government may not like the modular refinery option on the grounds that it would empower its owners both economically and politically.

Nwaozuzu, who was recently conferred with an Honorary Doctor of Science degree by the Victoria Global University, described crude oil as a finite product that needed to be fully exploited, explored and utilized for national development. He cited countries in the Middle East and other African countries that have recognized the expendable nature of crude oil and consequently gone ahead to properly manage their resources for the overall interest of their people.



Dr Nwaozuzu

## GUIDEPOST

## APPOINTMENTS

**Professor L.E. B. Igwe**, Department of Educational Management and Planning, appointed Dean, Faculty of Education. The appointment which is with effect from February 26, 2014 is for two years and will terminate on February 29, 2016.

**Professor I.M. Siminiyisi**, Department of Pharmacology, appointed Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences. The appointment which is with effect from February 24, 2014 is for two (2) years and will terminate on February 23, 2016.

**Dr (Mrs) M.P. Iwanda**, Department of Maths and Statistics, re-appointed Acting Head of Department of Mathematics and Statistics, effective January 13, 2014 to January 14, 2016.

**Dr Samuel Amaele**, Department of Educational Foundations and Management, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, appointed Adjunct Senior Lecturer in the Department of Educational Foundations, University of Port Harcourt for a period of one (1) year in the first instance, effective on assumption of duty.

**Dr Emmanuel Nwokolo**, Department of Animal Science and Fisheries offered *Contract Appointment* as Senior Lecturer in the Department of Animal Science and Fisheries, effective on assumption of duty.

**Mrs Margaret Obelobla Dan-Patrick**, Department of Nursing, College of Health Sciences, offered a One (1) year *Contract Appointment* as Lecturer I, effective February 1, 2014 to January 31, 2015.

## RESUMPTION OF DUTY

**Professor Onyemaechi Uduakwu**, Department of English Studies resumes duty after Sabbatical Leave.

**Ngozi, Nnamaka Chinedu**, Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, resumes duty after a nine (9) months *Study Leave* at Metal Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Science.

**Charles Ugwueze**, Department of Geology, resumes duty at the end of his one (1) year *Study Leave*.

**Orijio Onuoha G.**, Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, resumes duty after completing his Doctoral programme.

## REVIEW OF STATUS

**Dr Nnaya Nnam**, Department of Chemical Pathology, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, upgraded from Lecturer II to Lecturer I, effective December 6, 2012.

**Dr (Mrs) Obiora Judith Nkuru**, Department of Hospitality Management and Tourism, upgraded from the status of Lecturer II to Lecturer I, effective 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2014.

## STUDY LEAVE WITH PAY

**Dr Ougbale O. Edgar** of the Department of Computer Science has been granted One (1) year Post Doctoral leave with pay, effective February 1, 2014 to January 31, 2015.

**Miss Wicheonuwa Progress Ada** of the Examinations and Records Unit has been granted thirty (30) months study leave with pay to undertake a Confidential Secretary Course at the Rivers State Development Training School, Port Harcourt, effective February 10, 2014 to August 10, 2016.

**Miss Edgeware Ononimo**, Council Division, granted thirty (30) months Study Leave with pay to undertake a Confidential Secretary Course at the Rivers State Development Training School, Port Harcourt, effective February 10, 2014 to August 10, 2016.

**Miss Wicheonuwa Chika**, Department of Marketing, granted thirty (30) months Study Leave with pay to undertake a Confidential Secretary Course at the Rivers State Development Training School, Port Harcourt, effective February 10, 2014 to August 10, 2016.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT  
WEATHER OBSERVATORY

## FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 23-SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2014

| DATE                      | TEMPERATURE<br>HI<br>(°C) | TEMPERATURE<br>LO<br>(°C) | HUMIDITY<br>(%) | WIND<br>DIRECTION | RAIN<br>(mm) | SUNRISE<br>AND<br>SUNSET<br>(am, pm) | SUMMARY  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| SUNDAY 23<br>MAR. 2014    | 34.0                      | 25.0                      | 63              | NE                | 7.1          | 6:35 6:42                            | Thunder storms expected late in the day. More clouds than sun. Hot day expected.                     |
| MONDAY,<br>24 MAR. 2014   | 33.0                      | 26.0                      | 63              | NE                | 6.9          | 6:35 6:42                            | Thunder storms expected early in the day. Partly sunny and warm day forecasted.                      |
| TUESDAY<br>25 MAR. 2014   | 34.0                      | 26.0                      | 63              | NE                | 2.4          | 6:34 6:42                            | Thunder storms expected early in the day. Partly sunny and warm day forecasted.                      |
| WEDNESDAY<br>26 MAR. 2014 | 33.0                      | 25.0                      | 72              | N                 | 3.9          | 6:34 6:42                            | Thunder storms expected early in the day. A mixture of sun and clouds expected. Warm day forecasted. |
| THURSDAY<br>27 MAR. 2014  | 33.0                      | 25.0                      | 67              | NE                | -            | 6:33 6:42                            | Partly sunny and warm day forecasted.  |
| FRIDAY<br>28 MAR. 2014    | 33.0                      | 25.0                      | 70              | N                 | 6.1          | 6:33 6:41                            | Thunder storms expected early in the day. Partly sunny and warm day expected.                        |
| SATURDAY 29<br>MAR. 2014  | 33.0                      | 25.0                      | 67              | N                 | 5.7          | 6:32 6:41                            | Thunder storms expected early in the day. Partly sunny and warm day expected.                        |

SANDORA NIWABUFO  
OFFICER IN CHARGE

PROF SAMUEL AROKONY  
DIRECTOR, (CDRMS)

## NSChE Honours Kuye With Paper Contest



A group photograph of participants after the contest

By Mercy Adejini

In a bid to encourage students to go into quality research that would enhance the growth and development of society, the University of Port Harcourt branch of the Nigerian Society of Chemical Engineers (NSChE), has organised a maiden paper contest for the students in honour of their Lecturer, Professor Ayande Kuye.

Speaking with *UniPort Weekly* shortly after the event held at the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (ETF) Building, University Park, last Wednesday, Director, Centre for Nuclear Studies, Professor Kuye, disclosed that the students were driven by a passion to hold a paper contest in his honour, stating that the beauty of the contest was that it was thrown open to students at all levels in the University. "This is an academic environment and this is the type of thing we should be doing and encouraging. The topics presented are quite good and diverse in nature and I hope we would institutionalise it," Kuye said.

Expressing satisfaction for the honour done him through the contest, Professor Kuye disclosed that "there is a competition at the National level and from what I have seen here today, the first three winners would go and represent our University at the National level." He promised the students that he would meet with Management, Provosts and Deans of the Faculty on the modalities for the competition.

In his contribution, President of the student

body, Mr. Oluwaemeka Umerah, said the contest was the maiden edition of Professor Ayande Kuye Technical Paper Contest. "It is an innovation of the NSChE 2012/2013 Executive. We noticed that when students are told to do any paper research, they just go and copy from the Internet, paste and then edit, without doing proper research on the work to get facts that would aid the research. So we are starting this contest to imbibe the culture of research and presentation skills among the students. If the contest holds successfully this year as we envisage, we hope to hold subsequent editions in the years to come," Umerah disclosed.

Speaking on the topics presented by the students, he disclosed that the topics were in line with the theme of this year's Students' Week titled: *Environmental Sustainability: The Role of Chemical Engineers*, with a sub-theme: *Renewable Energy and Computer Engineering*.

Highlight of the contest was presentation of cash to the participants as a 300 level student, Miss Chioma Amarachi, emerged winner with a total of 85 points to take home a cash prize of ₦10,000, another student, Miss Ogechi Anih, emerged second with a cash prize of ₦7,000.00, while Onyinyechi Ogbonna, went home with a cash prize of ₦5,000.00. Other contestants, Ogwara Peter, Akujobi I. G, Dick Dienna, Uchenna Eze, Nwiyorun Richard and Edem Essien went home with ₦1,000.00 each.

## STOP PRESS

## 2013/2014 MATRICULATION CEREMONY

The 2013/2014 Matriculation Ceremony of the University of Port Harcourt holds this Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2014.

A statement signed to that effect by the Director, Academic Affairs, Mrs Dorcas Otto, on behalf of the Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim, stated that the ceremony which is mandatory for all registered First Year Students would commence at 9.00am prompt at the Convocation Arena, University Park.

## CHANGE OF NAME

Mrs Juliet Eleazer Ogbegbe. Former Miss Juliet Igbera of the Telecoms Unit, now wishes to be known, addressed and called. Mrs Juliet Eleazer Ogbegbe. All former documents remain valid.



## 2014-2019 Strategic Plan Workshop

A One-day sensitization workshop on the second Strategic Plan document of the University for the next five years was organised on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 by the University of Port Harcourt Foundation at the Emerald Energy Institute Auditorium. Pictures below show highlights of the event as captured by our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU**.



Participants registering for the Workshop, under the supervision of University of Port Harcourt Foundation staff



Dr Odu welcoming participants to the Workshop



Prof Adewale Dosunmu introducing the Syndicate session



Prof. Ben Ndakuku and Tammy Orsanboko, briefing participants during the Syndicate session



Prof Willie Abbey, Dir. Q&A Q/C, Prof Tony Arinze and Dir. SIWES, Prof Regina Oyele on the high table



Director CCE, Prof Steve Okoduwa, addressing participants at the end of the syndicate session



A member of the Committee, Prof. Henry Njoku, stressing a point, while participants listen



Dr Betty Iruloh (right) admiring some UniPort Souvenirs



L-R: Chairman, Strategic Plan Committee, Prof Mark Anikpo and Ag. Executive Director, University of Port Harcourt Foundation, Dr Ngoyi Odu in a chat



L-R: Dr Odu, DFC (Academic), Prof Igbo Jos, V-C, Prof Joseph Ajienka, Prof Ben Willie-Abbey and Prof Anikpo



A cross-section of participants



V-C, Prof Ajienka (4<sup>th</sup> from left) in a group photograph with members of the Committee