



Diète-Koki Comes Alive At Memorial Lecture

More than 20 years after his demise, former students and associates of late Professor Kenneth Diète-Koki convened to share fond memories and extol the legacy of the distinguished medical educator at a Memorial Lecture in his honour, reports **Humphrey Ogu**.

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Side Bar

The 404th Meeting (Extra Ordinary) of Senate holds this Wednesday at the Senate Chambers at 10.00am. Details next week. ~Editor



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V-C Hails World Bank Partnership On UniPort ACE

By Obinna Nwodin

The authorities of the University of Port Harcourt have pledged full commitment to the sustainable development of the World Bank/ African Centre of Excellence programme in Oilfield Chemicals Research in the Institution.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, gave the assurance when he received a World Bank/ACE Video team in his office, last Monday.

Professor Ajenka, who said that it was a thing of pride that the University was chosen amongst numerous tertiary institutions in Africa that applied for the programme, stated that "this designation is an important encouragement to us to put in our best, and that is why all relevant organs of the University are on board towards the development of the Centre along the lines prescribed by the World Bank."

He commended the pioneer Director of the

ACE, Professor Ogbonnah Joel, for his leadership and enthusiasm in striving towards the stated aims and objectives of the programme.

The Vice-Chancellor reiterated that apart

from training, the Centre also engages in research for the enhancement of drilling processes through local production of oilfield chemicals. "We need oilfield

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SCIENTIFIC INNOVATIONS

By DENISE GRADY

However bad you thought smoking was, it's even worse. A new study adds at least five diseases and 60,000 deaths a year to the toll taken by tobacco in the United States. Before the study, smoking was already blamed for nearly half a million deaths a year in this country from 21 diseases, including 12 types of cancer.

The new findings are based on health data from nearly a million people who were followed for 10 years. In addition to the well-known hazards of lung cancer, artery disease, heart attacks, chronic lung disease and stroke, the researchers found that smoking was linked to significantly increased risks of infection, kidney disease, intestinal disease caused by inadequate blood flow, and heart and lung ailments not previously attributed to tobacco.

Even though people are already barraged with messages about the dangers of smoking, researchers say it is important to let the public know that there is yet more bad news.

"The smoking epidemic is still ongoing, and there is a need to evaluate how smoking is hurting us as a society, to support clinicians and policy making in public health," said Brian D. Carter, an epidemiologist at the American Cancer Society and the first author of an article about the study, which appears in *The New England Journal of Medicine*. "It's not a done story."

In an editorial accompanying the article, Dr. Graham A. Colditz, from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, said the new findings showed that officials in the United States had substantially underestimated the effect smoking has on public health. He said smokers, particularly those who depend on Medicaid, had not been receiving enough help to quit.

About 42 million Americans smoke — 15 percent of



Smoking's Toll On Health Is Even Worse Than Previously Thought, A Study Finds

women and 21 percent of men — according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Research has shown that their death rates are two to three times higher than those of people who have never smoked, and that on average, they die more than a decade before nonsmokers. Smokers are more than 20 times as likely as nonsmokers to die of lung cancer. Poor people and those with less formal education are the most likely to smoke.

Mr. Carter said he had been inspired to dig deeper into the causes of death in smokers after taking an initial look at data from five large health surveys being conducted by other researchers. The participants were 421,378 men and 532,651 women 55 and older, including nearly 89,000 current smokers. As expected, death rates were higher among the smokers. But diseases known to be caused by tobacco accounted for only 83 percent of the excess deaths in people who smoked.

"I thought, 'Wow, that's really low,'" Mr. Carter said. "We have this huge cohort. Let's get into the weeds, cast a wide net and see what is killing smokers that we don't already know."

The research was paid for by the American Cancer Society, and Mr. Carter worked with scientists from four universities and the National Cancer Institute.

The study was observational, meaning that it looked at people's habits, like smoking, and noted statistical correlations between their behavior and their health. Correlation does not prove a cause-and-effect relationship, so this kind of research is not considered as strong as experiments in which participants are assigned at random to treatments or placebos and then compared. But people cannot ethically be instructed to smoke for a study, so a lot of the data on smoking's effects on people comes from observational studies.

Analyzing deaths among the participants from 2000



Dr. Abdu Bulama
Minister of Science and Technology

to 2011, the researchers found that compared with people who had never smoked, smokers were about twice as likely to die from infections, kidney disease, respiratory ailments not previously linked to tobacco, and hypertensive heart disease, in which high blood pressure leads to heart failure. Smokers were also six times more likely to die from a rare illness caused by insufficient blood flow to the intestines.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/12/health/smoking-health-toll-worse-than-previously-thought-study-says.html>

STUDENT WORLD

Jude Osimobi is a forward-looking scholar, who obtained a Master of Science degree from the famous Imperial College, London with a groundbreaking research work that elicited acclaim. The work was entitled: *Prediction of Net Sand Distribution in Deepwater Turbidity, Bonga*. He said the research was aimed at generating sand map of varying thicknesses that would enable him recommend placement of both production and injection wells. He carried out the study in Petroleum Geosciences and successfully obtained the Master's degree of Imperial College.

Determined to expand the frontiers of environmental and radiation studies, Osimobi enrolled for another

Osimobi Tackles Effects Of Radionuclide On Solid Mineral Producing Areas

Jude Osimobi, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Geophysics from Delta State University (DELSU), Abiraka, and two Master of Science degrees from Imperial College, London and the University of Port Harcourt. He is currently a Doctoral Candidate in the Department of Physics under the Graduate School of Natural, Applied and Medical Sciences, College of Graduate Studies. He spoke with our Correspondent, OTIKOR SAMUEL, on his research.

Master's degree in the Department of Physics in the University of Port Harcourt; this time, specializing in the Environmental/Radiation Option, where he assessed radionuclide concentration in depth profile in Udi and Ezegwu Local Government Areas of Enugu State.

The study which basically sought to establish the extent of radionuclide variation with depth found out that geology contributed more to the radioactivity thereby, resulting in irregularity of radionuclide concentration.

On his latest research which is an advanced study of his earlier work entitled: *Assessment of Radionuclide Concentration and Radiogenic Analysis of Soil, Sediments and Water in Solid Mineral Producing Areas of Enugu State, Nigeria*, Osimobi said the study sought to determine the radiation level in the environment as a result of solid mineral production in the State. The aim, according to him, was to ensure the safety of miners and residents of the environment with respect to the level of radionuclide exposure.

He disclosed that "there are numerous mining activities in the State and exposure to the minerals that contain radionuclide (uranium, radium and thorium) are the principal ones. So we want to know the level of safety of the people and the environment regarding mining activities, as well as reducing the radiological burden of the environment at large."

On the progress of the study, he responded: "I have been to the site to carry out the Background Ionizing Radiation (BIR). I was fortunate to receive positive responses and cooperation from governmental agencies and even the miners who took me to some of

the sites."

In his preliminary findings, Osimobi stated that: "The high BIR suggests the possibility of the presence of radionuclide sources in solid mineral producing areas of Enugu State, Nigeria. It is therefore recommended that control mechanism be adopted to safeguard the lives of members of the public that approach the area, as well as to protect the environment. There is a need to adopt careful radiological control measures in mining and mineral processing operations involving radioactive areas, in order to protect those involved and to meet acceptable dose limits. Exposure of workers to naturally occurring radioactive material continues to be an emerging industrial issue."

The researcher, who is being supervised by Professor Gregory Awiri, however, listed difficult terrain, fear of harm and desertion of some of the sites as part of the challenges and limitations of the study.



Osimobi

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Diete-Koki Comes Alive At Memorial Lecture



V-C, Prof Ajenku (arrowed) flanked by guests and sons of Diete-Koki displaying a painting of their late father

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Welcoming guests to the First Professor Kenneth Diete-Koki Memorial Lecture organised by the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences in the College of Health Sciences at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium on Thursday, February 12, 2015, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenku, congratulated the founding fathers of the University for attracting best brains such as Diete-Koki to the University of Port Harcourt at inception.

"We are happy that as we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the University, the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences initiated a programme to honour one of its outstanding teachers. It is even more heartening to know that the Faculty also thought it wise to invite its accomplished Alumni to be part of the celebration in this period when the University is marking 40 years of academic excellence.

"I challenge our outstanding Alumni who passed through the College to ensure that the legacy of one of their best teachers is kept alive for others to emulate. We need to work together to build a centre of excellence that everybody would be proud of." Professor Ajenku stated, charging the Alumni to continue to make the University proud in diverse fields.

Delivering a lecture entitled: "University-Industry Partnerships in Advancing Knowledge," a distinguished Alumnus of the Faculty, Dr. Kodjo Soroh, who described university as a universal problem solving centre, said that a university would become irrelevant the moment it stops solving problems. He said that "universities can increase their attractiveness to industry by making partnership with the industry a top priority and developing a core of academics who have industry experience."

He observed that industries were no longer interested in

making donations, but in investing in mutually-beneficial partnerships with universities. "R and D Managers view collaborations with universities and other academic institutions as beneficial only to the degree to which that collaboration advances the company towards its goals," pointing out that "University-industry collaborations usually comprise four components: research support, cooperative research, knowledge transfer and technology transfer." Soroh, who is the Nigeria/East African Region Medical Director of Pfizer Specialties Limited, stressed the need for the University to be known for something, stating that the University Management needed to assess the major academic strengths of the university and the core research competences of a company to identify promising opportunities for collaboration.

"Our University should, therefore, develop plans for long-term strategic partnership with the University's creativity and talent that will give rise to innovations that are marketable by industry and deliver benefits to society within five to 10 years," the Alumnus advised.

Also speaking, Chairman of the occasion and Executive Vice-President of Moni Pulo Nigeria Limited, Mrs. Seinye Lulu-Briggs, who was represented by Julia Jacks, restated her family's commitment to continual support for the University in its developmental drive, citing the O. B. Lulu-Briggs Health Centre and the Professional Chair in Petroleum Geosciences as evidence of the company's enduring institutional relationship with the University.

Earlier in their separate speeches, Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Professor Chris Akani and Dean of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, Professor Iyemba Similanyi, explained the role of Professor Diete-Koki in the development of a world-class Basic Medical programme in the University.

Others, who spoke passionately on the legacy of late Professor Diete-Koki, included Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs, Professors Blessing Didia, John Ogunranti, and Atuboyeda Obizianine. The event, which was attended by the Special Adviser to the President on Millennium Development Goals, Dr. Precious Ghenol, Commissioners of Health in Rivers and Bayelsa States respectively, Drs. Samson Parker and Ayibatonye Owel, as well as members of Professor Diete-Koki's family, also featured presentation of award to deserving Alumni of the College.

Rivers NUJ To Inaugurate UniPort Chapel Thursday

By Otokor Samuel

Arrangements have been concluded to inaugurate the University of Port Harcourt Chapel of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) this Thursday. The move is essentially aimed at building a symbiotic relationship between Lecturers and students of the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies and their counterparts in the field.

Chairman of the emergent UniPort Chapel, Dr. Aniefok Udouman, who made the disclosure when he led other members of the newly-elected Executive on a visit to the Editor of *UniPort Weekly*, Williams Wodi in his office, last Monday, revealed that the Chapel would be formally inaugurated by the leadership of the Rivers State Council of the NUJ at the Seminar Room of the Department on Thursday, 26th February, 2015.

Dr. Udouman stressed the need for the Editor and his crew to join the new UniPort Chapel of the Union to bring their practical experience in the publication of *UniPort Weekly* newspaper and *Unique UniPort* magazine to bear in the development of the Chapel, pointing out that the input of the IPPR Unit would serve as a valuable template that would lubricate the existing institutional relationship between the UniPort Chapel and other Chaps that make up the NUJ.

"We are here to partner your Unit to strengthen the new UniPort Chapel that will be inaugurated on February 26. The idea is to keep our colleagues in the field refreshed to fine-tune their professional practice. We hope to do this by engaging them in conferences and workshops that would be mutually beneficial. We are also at the verge of publishing a new *Journal of Media Practice and Research*, to be edited by the immediate past Acting Head of the Department, Dr. Walter Ikejiaka. So, we are doing all that is within our reach to partner the Rivers State Council of the Union to ensure

responsible media practice," Dr. Udouman said. Responding, the Editor, who expressed gratitude to the new Executive for the visit, described the founding of a UniPort Chapel of the NUJ as a novel idea in the University system geared towards bridging the theoretical and practical aspects of journalism.

"The inauguration of the UniPort Chapel would bring those of us in the academia closer to professionals in the field. On our part as a Unit, we promise to do whatever it would take to facilitate the inauguration of the Chapel and make it functional within the shortest possible timeframe. Bringing an NUJ Chapel to the University is a good pioneering effort that would hopefully be emulated by other tertiary institutions

that offer Mass Communication in the country.

"Be rest assured that qualified staff of the IPPR Unit will be encouraged to integrate themselves into the operational structure of the new Chapel in the University," Wodi, who is also Head of the Unit promised his guests, recalling the contribution of the Unit to the training of some students of the Department on Industrial attachment.

Other members of the new Executive on the entourage were: the Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Inauguration Committee, Dr. Christy Omegoi Secretary, Mr. Chukwuemeka Iroham; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Ebele Ire; Treasurer, Mrs. Titi Osagwu and Financial Secretary, Mr. Samuel Joshua.



Chairman, NUJ UniPort Chapel, Dr. Udouman (middle front row) flanked by Vice-Chairman, Dr. Omegoi, (1st left), Secretary, Mr. Iroham (right), Fin Sec, Mr. Joshua, Assist Sec, Mrs. Ire, Treasurer, Mrs. Osagwu and Editor, *UniPort Weekly*, Wodi (behind)

New IARD Director Poised To Reposition Institute

By Humphrey Ogu

Re positioning the University as a leading institution in agricultural research, training and information in Nigeria is one of the cardinal goals of the newly-appointed Acting Director of the Institute of Agricultural Research and Development (IARD), Dr. Babatunde Nuga. Exchanging views with a *UniPort Weekly* Correspondent in his office last Tuesday, Nuga disclosed plans to anchor his tenure on developing new techniques to improve crop variety, livestock production and natural resource management, international collaborations, professionalism, customer-focussed and result-orientated programmes.

"To achieve our goals, we would ensure that the Institute remains a key collaborator and active partner of national and international agricultural research systems with a view to bridging the gap between researchers and end-users, especially farmers," he promised, stressing that the new research focus should not only be driven by the quest to gain academic promotion, but aimed at tackling real-life problems that would benefit end-users.

The acting Director, who disclosed IARD's plan to initiate Small Plots Adaptive Techniques (SPAT), explained that the "technique is such that the trials will be demonstrated in the farmer's field, rather than in the laboratory. With such a practical approach, the farmer will witness the development of research and its results and he will then be in a position to compare the new technique and existing ones at his disposal and make an informed choice." He also revealed plans by the Institute to initiate a



Dr. Nuga

Farmers' Day in which real farmers and other stakeholders in agriculture would interact on a common platform to evaluate the new innovations, including ongoing researches and technologies developed by the Institute, adding that the move would be in line with the Professor Joseph Ajenka-led partnership initiative with the private sector. Nuga, who acknowledged what he described as the unlimited potentials for agricultural activities in the

Niger Delta, promised that IARD will contribute to stimulating sustainable rural economic growth through the development of new crop varieties and technologies in animal and fish production value addition, which will be anchored on processing and packaging to meet consumer needs.

The new Director said that the Institute plans to build a business incubation centre in collaboration with the Faculty of Agriculture, to provide a platform for start-up businesses in the sector. "Our graduates should be able to produce, package and market their own products given the right kind of operational environment. We will give them the necessary support by midwifing agro-enterprise in the Institute. We are collaborating with a partner known as Food Development Centre in Manitoba, Canada" he revealed, citing the Students' Entrepreneurship Competition of the Faculty of Agriculture as a good place to stimulate students' interest in commercial agriculture.

The former Head of Department of Crop and Soil Science, who is also in partnership with Manitoba Crop Diversification Centre on Ethnic Vegetable Project, disclosed that Nigerian vegetables were already growing in Canada through the partnership, promised to move the existing relationship to the next level.

Expressing gratitude to his predecessor, Dr. Bisi Etefe, for taking the Institute to its present status, Nuga said students admitted into short refresher courses would soon commence the programme to be domiciled in the College of Continuing Education (CCE). He listed lack of office space and well-equipped laboratory, inadequate land for research, absence of a project vehicle and poor funding, as major challenges facing the Institute.

Students Relive Examination Experience, Look Forward To Next Session

As students prepare to round-off their Second Semester Examination which started about a fortnight ago, *UniPort Weekly* Correspondent, ETHEL TIMI-JOHNSON, spoke to some of them on their experiences and plans for the coming session.

Raymond Wokoma, First Year, Dept. of History and Diplomatic Studies

Though the examination was tough, it went well. I participated in a lot of group studies and discussions with my colleagues. I promise to be much more serious with my academics.

Wokoma

in the coming session because I was not really impressed with my First Semester results. I am hoping that the Second Semester result will be much better. This has given me the zeal to be much more serious and I hope to make better grades in the next session.

Ibinabo Harry, Fourth Year, Dept. of Sociology

Following postponement of the initial commencement date for the examination, I had ample time to prepare myself.

Although one can never prepare adequately for an examination, especially in the Social Sciences, where measurement is not precise as it deals with the study of man and his interaction with the environment, I did my very best and I am expecting good results. Because I had ample time to prepare for the examination, my expectations are high and I have to ensure that I graduate with the best results.

Ether China, First Year, Dept. of Biochemistry

It was an awesome experience writing the Second Semester examination. I prepared adequately for the examination and I had enough time to study so I am expecting better results this time around, giving my level of commitment to my

studies. I am proud to be a *UniPort* student studying the course of my dream. I have plans to put in more effort that would enable me excel in my studies and graduate with excellent grades at the end of my stay here.

Paul Akachukwu, Third Year, Department of Management

The fact that examination time-table was made available to us two weeks before the commencement date afforded me enough time to prepare well for the exercise. If I have to rate my level of preparation for the examination, then it will be 80 per cent. I plan to take out time to rest adequately before resuming academic activities for my final year in the University.

Hill Prince, Final Year, Dept. of Geology

The examination was okay and I studied very well for it. In my Department, one must study very well to pass. In my personal evaluation, I think my preparation level was 70 per cent for the examination and I have plans to continue work on my Project research and Seminar presentation as my final countdown in the University.

Prince

Foreign Students Extol UniPort On Quality Education

Six students drawn from several African countries are currently undertaking a graduate programme in 'Natural Resources and Environmental Management' at the Institute of Natural Resources, Environment and Sustainable Development (INRES), University of Port Harcourt. In this interview with UniPort Weekly Correspondent, ETHEL TIMI-JOHNSON, the students spoke on their motivation for choosing the programme and anticipated benefits for them and their countries.



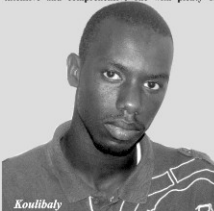
Karangwa

Ernest Karangwa from the National University of Rwanda

I made the right choice as this programme corresponds with my undergraduate studies in Soil Science and Environmental Management and my working experience at the Rwanda Natural Resources Authority. This programme will boost my career and enhance my efficiency in discharging my daily responsibilities in my place of work. I would describe staff and students of the University as friendly and welcoming. I am excited about discovering a new place and new people. It is an amazing experience. After the training, I will go back to my country as a competent professional, who will help my home government to achieve some of the goals related to this field of study. Unlike my former institution, the University of Port Harcourt has more Faculties and Departments.

Cheikh Koulibaly from Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal

I would describe the INRES programme as a very intensive and comprehensive one with plenty of



Koulibaly

lectures and assignments to attend to. I already have a Masters degree in West Africa Coast Management. This on-going programme in the University of Port Harcourt will enhance my knowledge of natural resources and enable me learn more of the Nigerian perspective on the subject matter. It will enable me do a comparative study of Senegal and Nigeria in terms of managing natural resources and environment. I am also interested in Water Resources in the Delta regions of Africa. I was very excited about the big welcome party and orientation programme put together by the Director with many guests in

attendance. I hope to use the knowledge acquired to help solve problems relating to Water Resources Management, using the Nigerian experience as a case study.

Samba Bajie, University of the Gambia

The courses are in line with my expectations. Lecturers are good and up to the task. The University of Port Harcourt is a good university and I have no regrets choosing to do a graduate programme at



Bajie

INRES. Before coming here, I heard a lot about this University and it didn't fall below my expectation on arrival. In terms of quality of programme, there is a good student-lecturer contact. Lectures are very interactive and I have been able to build self confidence. The programme will make me grounded in natural resources and environmental management. I will go back to my country a better informed person, who can contribute to guiding policies on natural resources and environmental management. I will help to impact knowledge to the younger generations on return to my country. My most exciting moments are spent in the classroom because of the interactive nature of the lectures.

Emebet Asgedew, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

I hope to benefit tremendously from the quality training offered by INRES. The quality of academic programmes offered in the University is highly commendable. There are plenty knowledgeable professors in this University and I hope to tap from their experience. The programme on Natural Resources and Environmental Management will motivate me to pursue higher studies on Climate



Asgedew

Change, because developing countries are suffering from the effects of climate change and environmental degradation. After my programme here, I hope to help my country tackle these problems with the new knowledge at my disposal.

Roseline Aba from University Felix Houphouët Boigny of Cote D'Ivoire

It is a good programme for African students. Lecturers are kind and willing to assist students in and out of the classroom. I hope to gain knowledge in environmental management and natural resources to assist Africa in natural resources management and climate change issues. The welcome party and orientation events were my happiest moments. I hope



Aba

to become a good manager of natural resources and environment on the successful completion of this programme. I am happy to have come here to study.

Joyce Kimani, Kenyatta University

The fact that the programme is a modular course with different Lecturers who have different backgrounds makes it multi-disciplinary in nature. The training would broaden my knowledge on the environment from different perspectives. I love this University because there is ample time to study without distraction. Now that my country has discovered oil and has been exposed to real life situations, I hope to go back as an experienced person, who can assist in solving emergent environmental problems, using Geographic Information System and Remote Sensing technology that I have been exposed to while here.



Kimani

V-C Hails World Bank Partnership On ACE

Cont'd from p1

chemicals in drilling, production, recovery and in this regard we need to conduct proper research on how we can maximize and boost local capacity that would lead to cutting the cost of imported chemicals. It is a very important aspect of our mandate to contribute to sustainable development of the country and the African continent," he stated.

Professor Ajenka said that due to the vast experience the Institution has in similar partnerships with the industry, authorities of the University did not hesitate to commence activities in the Centre even before funding came from the World Bank.

"So far, we have admitted over 50 doctoral degree candidates in the programme and we are pleased to disclose that in the forthcoming Conference of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), over 50

abstracts from the Centre have already been accepted. This is an important statement that attests to the quality of work done in this University," he stated, adding that "we are hopeful that in a few years to come, most of the tasks and targets set for the Centre would be achieved."

Also speaking, a member of the ACE Project Steering Committee, Professor Bene Willie Abbey, who said that the Centre has over 60 lecturers from both the University and industry, noted that the Centre has done impressively well in achieving its mandate. According to her, the Centre was able

to commence without hesitation due to the pool of experience the University had in partnering the industry over the years.

In his remarks representative of the National Universities Commission (NUC) World Bank ACE Video, Peter Tobris, said that the mission of the team was to carry out a documentary on the ACE programme with a view to ascertaining its progress, commending authorities of the University for their co-operation in the orderly implementation of the project.



V-C, Prof Ajenka (arrowed) flanked by senior officials of the University and the NUC World Bank ACE Video Team

In a bid to reduce the yawning digital divide that is meant to bring the University Community in tune with global trends, world leading online search engine, Google, has disclosed plans to organize what it described as a *Boot Camp* for students on Friday, February 27, 2015 at the International Students Centre, University Park. The initiative is expected to familiarize participants with new software applications and related packages that would enable them easily surf the Internet.

Exchanging views with a *UniPort Weekly* Correspondent on Monday, February 16, 2015, Google Student Ambassador, Joshua Joshua, who is a Second Year Student of the Department of Computer Science, disclosed that the online giant is ready to support students and lecturers with available apps to facilitate their functions.

Joshua recalled that since he took over the position of *Google Student Ambassador* from his predecessor, Mr. Kenkanma Oriti, he was able to

Google UniPort Unveils Boot Camp Initiative

By Mercy Adeniji

organize visitations to some secondary schools and Departments in the University to introduce the *Google apps* to them with impressive feedbacks.

Joshua stated that the *Google Online Marketing Challenge* (GOMC) is the latest event. "GOMC is in two phases; the first phase is the *Boot Camp*, where we tell students about the marketing challenge; while the second phase is the *AD Class*, where we teach participants what to do with the challenge. The *Boot Camp* is to hold on Friday, February 27, 2015, The *AD Class* would hold on Tuesday, March 17, 2015 and it would run for 6 days. The *Google Online Marketing Challenge* (GOMC) is known to have a significant impact on Students, Lecturers and Universities involved in the project. The challenge is also free and open to student teams regardless of their course major."

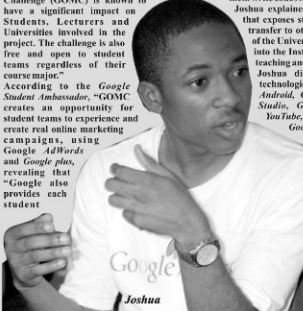
According to the *Google Student Ambassador*, "GOMC creates an opportunity for student teams to experience and create real online marketing campaigns, using *Google AdWords* and *Google plus*, revealing that "Google also provides each student

team with a free US\$250.00 *AdWords* advertising budget. Over 50,000 students and lecturers from about 100 countries have already participated in the programme in the last five years."

"We have awesome events such as the *UX Design*, *GOMC Boot Camp*, *Anita Borg Scholarship*, *Girls in Tech*, *Computer Science First Hackathon*. The aim of these initiatives is for participants to brainstorm on a common platform to find solutions to identified online problems. *Material Design* is all about teaching students the application while the *Android Students Club*, is a study club that would commence in April. We also have the *Google Summer of Code* which is a global programme that offers some stipends to the students to encourage them write codes for open source projects."

Joshua explained that Google organizes events that exposes students to skills which they can transfer to others, appealing to Management of the University to include some *Google apps* into the Institution's curriculum to enhance teaching and learning.

Joshua disclosed that Google has awesome technologies such as *Google Cloud Platform*, *Android*, *Google Maps*, *Blogger*, *Android Studio*, *Google APIs*, *Google Search*, *YouTube*, *Gmail*, *Google Glass*, *AdSense*, *Google Drive*, *Google Forms*, *Google Translate*, *Google Docs*, *Google Chrome*, *Google plus*, aimed at equipping staff, students and developers with the latest cutting edge technologies, stressing the need for interested persons to log onto the company's website at: <https://sites.google.com/site/studentuniport>, www.facebook.com/gscuniport, E-mail Googleambassador@uniport.edu.ng.



Joshua

STOP PRESS

LIFTING OF SUSPENSION

Rising from its 147th Meeting held on Wednesday, January 21, 2015, the Governing Council of the University has decided to lift the suspension from duty slammed on Professor John Agberia, Dr. Henry Asante and Mr. Ikechukwu Okoronkwo, all of the Department of Fine Arts and Design in the Faculty of Humanities.

A letter dated February 6, 2015 and signed by the Registrar and Secretary to Council, Mrs. Matilda Nnodim, said lifting of the suspension with effect from December 18, 2014, followed consideration of the 18th Report of the Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee on the issue.

Council directed Professor Agberia to relinquish his position as Chair Occupant and banned him from holding sensitive positions in the University for two years. Dr. Asante was demoted from the rank of Senior Lecturer to Lecturer I, while Mr. Okoronkwo will not be promoted to the next rank for two years. All disciplinary actions took effect from January 21, 2015.

GUIDEPOST

PROFESSORIAL PROMOTION

Dr. Gloria Obazor, Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Chemical Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, promoted to the rank of *Professor of Chemistry*, effective 25th July, 2012.

END OF CONTRACT

Professor R.S. Moro, Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, concluded *Five Years Contract Appointment*. The appointment spanned between 12th January, 2010 and 11th January, 2015.

Professor Samuel Ihedigbo, Department of Political & Administrative Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, concluded *Five Years Contract Appointment*. The appointment spanned between 16th April, 2010 and 15th April, 2015.

Professor E.S. Akama, Department of Religious & Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, concluded *Five Years Contract Appointment*. The appointment spanned between 16th May, 2010 and 15th May, 2015.

Professor Mark Anukwu, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, concluded *Five Years Contract Appointment*. The appointment spanned between 30th May, 2010 and 29th May, 2015.

PROMOTION

Dr. Samuel Meziebo, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Abiodun Arakoye, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Josephine Ankwue, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Cecilia Okoro, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Jacobson Nnina, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Tamasana Brown, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Abdulhali Salisu, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Chimezie Njoku, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Jerome Anyanwu, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Dr. Abraham Orji, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Ms. Dakoru Alfred, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Ms. Titi Nnabili, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Ms. Esther Fomsi, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2014.

Mrs. Eseroghene Aworji, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2014.

ENACTUS Mounts In-House Training For Members

By Mercy Adeniji

In response to Professor Joseph Aijenka's entrepreneurial vision for the University, the University of Port Harcourt Chapter of ENACTUS organized an in-house training programme on Saturday, January 31, 2015 at the Ofrima Lecture room, University Park.

Briefing UniPort Weekly on the programme, Team Leader of ENACTUS in the University, Precious Ejyere said the training was conceived out of the need to empower its members and students of the University in the acquisition of practical skills that would be useful on graduation.

"The training began in the afternoon and recorded not less than thirty students in attendance and it lasted for over three hours," he disclosed.

Ejyere expressed gratitude to Management of the University for affording the group an enabling environment to engage in such

entrepreneurial activities aimed at transforming UniPort into an Entrepreneurial University, in line with the present administration's vision. He further thanked the group's Human Resource Manager, Adeoke Olatunbosun and Facilitator, Amarachi Olei for accepting to drive the training session.

In her contribution, Facilitator of the training, Miss Olei, who is a Third Year student of the Department of Educational Management (Accounting Option), stressed the need for ENACTUS members to be acquainted with the requisite skills and knowledge that would enable them put what they have learnt into practice.

Miss Olei called on her colleagues to replicate by action the procedure of production, as she listed out the various ingredients required in making household items. Participants were trained on the procedures for making liquid soap, bleach and custard powder.



Team Leader, Ejyere (arrowed), members of ENACTUS and other participants

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT
WEATHER OBSERVATORY

FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22 – SATURDAY 28, 2015.

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI (°C)	TEMPERATURE LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (am) (pm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 22 FEB, 2015	34.0	24.0	70	NE	5.6	6:46 18:45	A few thunderstorms expected. Partly sunny day forecasted.
MONDAY, 23 FEB, 2015	32.0	23.0	70	E	2.1	6:45 18:45	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy day expected.
TUESDAY, 24 FEB, 2015	33.0	25.0	66	NE	5.6	6:45 18:45	Isolated thunder storm expected. Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
WEDNESDAY 25 FEB 2015	33.0	24.0	51	E	-	6:45 18:45	More sun than clouds anticipated.
THURSDAY, 26 FEB, 2015	33.0	23.0	67	N	7.5	6:45 18:45	A few thunderstorms expected. Partly cloudy day expected.
FRIDAY, 27 FEB, 2015	33.0	24.0	65	NE	4.2	6:44 18:45	Isolated thunderstorms expected. Partly sunny day anticipated.
SATURDAY, 28 FEB, 2015	34.0	24.0	65	NE	4.5	6:44 18:45	Thunderstorm expected early in the day. More sun than clouds

Dr Gladys Emenike
ACTING HoD

Dr Prince Mmoms
AG. Director, (CDRMDS)

SERVICOM CORNER

The overall objective of **SERVICOM Compliance Evaluation** is to ensure staff focused service delivery in the University of Port Harcourt. The specific objectives include identifying gaps in service delivery and making recommendations to the University authority to improve our customer satisfaction and accountability. Let us join hands to improve service in UniPort.

You can reach us via:
servicom@uniport.edu.ng;
08033400064, 07038650174,
08034211712, 08155303412

1st Rex Jim Lawson Int'l Highlife Music Conference

Cardinal Rex Jim Lawson Chair in Music organised a two-day International Highlife Music Conference at the Amatu Braide Lecture Hall from Wednesday, January 21 to Friday, January 23, 2015. Our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU** captured pictorial highlights of the event as shown below:



V-C, Prof Joseph Ajenka, welcoming guests



Chairman of the occasion, Emeritus Prof Ebegberi Alagosa, giving his opening remarks



HoD, Music, Prof Onyee Nwankpa, speaking



Keynote Speaker, Mr Benson Idonije, delivering his speech



Lead presenter, Prof Edmund John Collins, presenting his paper



Emeritus Prof Alagosa presents Grand Patron of Rex Jim Lawson Award to King (Prof) Theophilus Princewill, Amanyanabo of Kalabari's representative



DG, Rivers State Tourism Development Board, Dr Sam Dele receives an award of recognition as Patron of Rex Jim Lawson Chair in Music on behalf of Lt Gen Kenneth Minihaw



2nd V-C, Prof Sylvanus Cooley (1st from left) other guests & HoD, Music, Prof Nwankpa



L-R: Governing Council members: Dr Nelson Olaniji, Barrister Okechukwu Ajanwa, Barr (Mrs.) Joyce Brodrick-Bosimo and Alhaji Mohammed Onyigie



L-R: Prof Owanari Georgewill, a guest & rep of King Princewill, Chief O. Tom Big-Harry



Members of Rex Jim Lawson Memorial Band lead by Octogenarian Conga man, Chief Tony Odili performing some of the maestro's numbers. Inset: King Sunny Brown singing



King Sunny Brown and wife, Sotonyemie



Highlife maestro, Jerry Deemua performing with members of Rex Jim Lawson Memorial Band