

# Nursing Dept Gets Accreditation

**A**t last, the Department of Nursing in the College of Health Sciences, has received Provisional Accreditation for the Bachelor of Nursing Science (BNSc) programme which the University introduced seven years ago as part of its vision to grow requisite manpower for the nation's health sector

*reports Williams Wadli*

*More on p8*

## Side Bar

IPS holds 8th Anniversary,  
inducts students  
Wednesday, 30th November, 2011  
Watch out for details  
-Editor

# UNI<sup>PORT</sup> Weekly

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*For Information and Enlightenment*

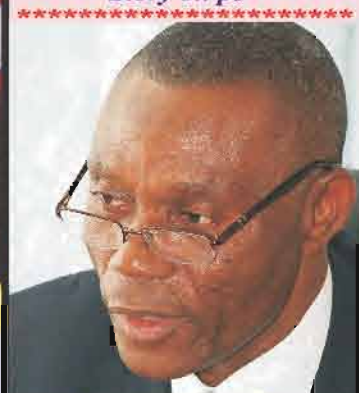
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## 82nd Inaugural



## Cisco Academy In UNI<sup>PORT</sup>

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## V-C Briefs Congregation On State Of Varsity

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## Unique UNI<sup>PORT</sup> Co-op Holds AGM

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# Time Mgt Critical To Productivity

*By Humphrey Ogu*

**P**roper time management has been identified as a very critical factor in the running of academic programmes, managing of educational institutions, as well as key to productivity in every field of human endeavour. An Economist of Education, Professor Josephine Ebong, made the observation while delivering the 82<sup>nd</sup> Inaugural Lecture at Ebitimi Banigo

Auditorium, last Thursday.

Professor Ebong, whose Lecture was titled: "Timing The Work, Watching the Time: The Key for Productivity", described time as "an all important tool that controls the productivity tempo of individuals, organizations and the society in general," noting that "the use of time has brought about successes and failures in the achievement of set goals. It is disturbing that this very important resource is not taken seriously by

## -Ebong

students, staff and the communities in general."

The Inaugural Lecturer, who is Professor of Educational Management, said that "Time is an economic phenomenon that cuts across all disciplines and occurs in every sphere of life," noting that "productivity output resulting from all investments made on education

*Cont'd on p6*



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**E**ducational items worth hundred thousands of naira have been donated to the Gladys Cookey Resource Centre by Engineer Adanze Ali (nee Nwanna-Nzewunwa). The items which included creative arts materials, books, modelling dough, crayons and colouring pencils, as well as a range of Montessori style learning aids, were donated in commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her late father and erudite Scholar, Professor Nwanna Nzewunwa.

Represented by her mother, Dr Oledinma Nwanna-Nzewunwa during the donation at the Centre, last Friday, Mrs Ali said that the items would assist in teaching and learning process at the University Daycare Centre and University Demonstration Primary School (UDPS), advising Management of the Schools to sustain efforts aimed at taking the Centre to greater heights.

Giving reasons for the donation, she said "I didn't have the luxury of attending the Daycare Centre as it wasn't running in



Some of the items donated to the Centre

## Adanze Donates To Gladys Cookey Centre

By Otikor Samuel

my time, but some of my siblings did. It is amazing that thirty years on, the Centre still thrives. I did, however, immensely enjoy the time I spent at UDPS."

Receiving the items, President of University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA), Mrs Mercy Ajienka, expressed gratitude to the donor for remembering the Centre, stating that the items would greatly assist teachers and pupils in the International Daycare

& Nursery School and UDPS in learning.

Mrs Ajienka, who recalled that some individuals and friends of the University have been assisting in making the Centre lively for foundational education, said that such kind gestures hold bright prospects for the future of the pupils as they would make teaching easy, encouraging other public-spirited individuals and groups to borrow a leaf from the donor.



Dr. Nwanna-Nzewunwa handing over some of the items to Mrs. Ajienka

## Anatomical Society Of Nigeria Confers Fellowship On Fawehinmi

By Williams Wodi

**F**oremost Medical Educator and Activist, Professor Hakeem Fawehinmi of the Department of Human Anatomy, College of Health Sciences, has been inducted into the Fellowship of the prestigious Anatomical Society of Nigeria (FASN). The Award which was conferred on Professor Fawehinmi at the 9<sup>th</sup> National



Prof Fawehinmi

Annual Scientific Conference of the Nigeria held at Ile-Ife, Osun State last September.

In a citation, the Society in the Certificate of recognition signed by its National President, Professor Blessing Didia, said the Award which is usually conferred on a select few, was in recognition of Professor Fawehinmi's numerous contributions towards the development and growth of Anatomy in Nigeria. The Award recipient, who was Head of Department in the University and Niger Delta University, was also an Honorary Research Fellow at the Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology of the University College, London in 2006.

Professor Fawehinmi who is also a Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland (FRAI), won the Distinguished Educational Leadership Award as Fellow, Institute of Industrial Administration of Nigeria in 2008. He was also Executive Secretary, Board of Trustee, Sickle Cell Research and Awareness Group (SCRAG) since 1996.

The new Fellow was also former Secretary-General and Member, National Executive Council (1999/2000) and later Vice-Chairman of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA), Rivers State Branch. He is currently Vice-President, Society of Experimental and Clinical Anatomists of

Nigeria (SECAN) and Associate Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, UNIPORT.

### Our Error

**Professor Love Akonye,**  
Department of  
Plant Science and  
Biotechnology,  
Faculty of Science,  
appointed Dean,  
Faculty of  
Agriculture. Our  
error in the last  
edition is regretted.  
Editor.



Prof Akonye

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# Cisco Academy In UNIPORT

## ...Microsoft, Oracle, Coming

By Humphrey Ogu

Following the untiring efforts of the outgoing Director of Information and Communication Technology Centre (ICTC), Professor Elijah Iyagba, in repositioning the Centre to provide critical ICT solutions and world-class IT training in its proposed School, the University has joined the league of institutions certified to run a Cisco Academy.

This was made known in a statement signed by Cisco Main Contact in the University, Mr Ekpah Daniel, addressed to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajiinka, and made available to *UNIPORT Weekly*.

Mr Daniel, who, alongside Mr Opi Wisdom, represented the University at the just-concluded Cisco Academic Profile Setup organized by the IT giant in conjunction with University of Jos, said that their

performances at the training now place the proposed School of ICTC among institutions around the world running such a remarkable programme.

According to the Statement, plans are underway to set up Microsoft and Oracle Academies, adding that "The Cisco Academy is to ensure that students have hands-on training on Routing and Switching a major networking components in IT advancement. The Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) is divided into four tracks. Training of CCNA1 and CCNA2 will commence this November, while CCNA3 and CCNA4 will begin next year.

Meanwhile, Professor Iyagba, who described Cisco as "The leading company in the manufacturing of networking equipment," said

that "You have to be Cisco certified to hold key positions in IT firms that deal in networking and communication. This Academy is a plus for

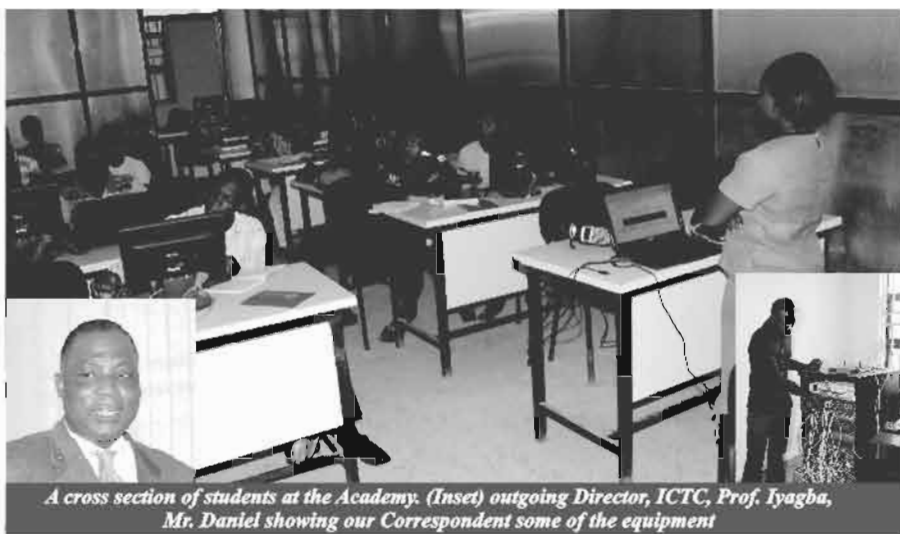
Academy will be bringing in revenues," he noted, disclosing that plans are underway to establish a full-fledged School of Information and Communication Technology in collaboration with College of Continuing Education (CCE). According to him, the School, which is the brainchild of the Vice-Chancellor, would have campuses outside the University.

Iyagba, who is now the Occupant of PTDF Chair in Gas Engineering, noted that although the refrain everywhere these days is on lack of jobs, yet there are people who are changing jobs by virtue of trainings by Cisco, Oracle and Microsoft Academies, calling on staff and students to avail themselves of the opportunities

offered by the Academy to boost their capacity in the IT world.

According to him, Cisco programmes elsewhere cost about N400, 000, while the one here would be reduced by about 25 per cent or more to enable students and staff benefit, adding that the programme is particularly crucial to ICTC staff, computer operators and related schedule officers of the University.

Meanwhile, as a way of creating awareness about the new academy, a promo is on to admit interested students and charge them moderately. Those who wish to enjoy the promo which ends early next year are advised to enrol in the programme now at much reduced rate between now and March, 2012.



A cross section of students at the Academy. (Inset) outgoing Director, ICTC, Prof. Iyagba, Mr. Daniel showing our Correspondent some of the equipment

the University because it would make it possible for staff and students to have a place where they can go and become Cisco certified."

He observed that the Academy would be of immense benefit to students of Electrical/Electronic Engineering and Computer Sciences by enhancing their career prospects, adding that it could also put students from other disciplines in good stead in the market place, especially in an ICT era. "One thing is basic here; once you pass through the Academy, you will acquire additional skills that will stand you out," the outgoing Director said.

"If properly funded, equipped and managed, the Cisco and similar international academies have the capacity of being a money spinner for the University. I foresee a time when the

## Pet & Gas Dept Fetes Retiring Staff

By Mercy Don-Baridam

In a bid to encourage excellence and commitment to work, the Department of Petroleum and Gas Engineering has rewarded one of its pioneer staff, Mr Abel Abalubu, for his dedication to duty and outstanding services rendered to the Department in his service years in the University.

Speaking at a send-off party held in his honour at the Conference Room of the Department, penultimate Thursday, Professor Dulu Appah, noted that Mr Abalubu deserved to be honoured for impacting positively on the lives of staff and students of the Department, urging him to continue to put in his best even as a community leader.

"Retirement means that a staff should go home and look after his compound. Mr Abalubu has been here with us and we found out that some people don't live till they retire; it is a thing of joy to retire healthy and on time. It is not easy to be old; it is a blessing to be old. You are a part of this family and we are part of you, feel free to come around; we still need your advice," he stated, charging him to look after his people in fairness so that the vices bedevilling

communities would not befall him on retirement.

Responding, Mr Abalubu expressed gratitude to the Department for honouring him, saying that "We have trained both graduates and undergraduates from this Department; without this Department, I would not have got to where I am today," pledging to be in touch with erstwhile colleagues even as he leaves the services of the University.

He appealed to Lecturers and staff to give the Acting Head of Department, Dr Sunday Ikiensikimama the necessary support he needs to pilot the affairs of the Department to greater height.

In his contribution, a Lecturer in the Department, Mr John Lander, lauded Abalubu and Mrs Ebi Uwajingba, who were pioneer staff for rendering selfless services to the

Department over the years. "Your ability to handle a situation on time makes a man", he observed.

Also speaking, former Acting Head of Department, Mr Richard Kadana said that he was pleased at the development, observing that not everyone retired the same way Mr Abalubu did. He expressed gratitude to his successor for the honour done to Abalubu, admonishing the retiree to continue to serve in other capacities and remember the staff he left behind as he takes his well-deserved rest from active service.



Prof Appah presenting a Plaque to Abalubu

**V**ice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has advised staff to prepare for the forthcoming Institutional Accreditation initiated by the National Universities Commission (NUC) in place of the former Programme Accreditation. Top enhanced the position of the University on the ranking table, staff would have to redouble their effort in quality service delivery to improve the image of the Institution and impress assessors from the apex regulatory body.

Professor Joseph Ajienka, gave the advice while addressing a meeting of Congregation last Thursday at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium.

He said that the Accreditation Exercise was different from the normal Programme Accreditation in which academic programmes were assessed, disclosing that areas of focus would be on teaching and learning, research capacity and capability, institutional effectiveness and efficiency, quality of Committee System, services such as hostels, sports and medical facilities, transparency in financial management, as well as stability of the system.

The Vice-Chancellor noted that it was needful that Congregation be briefed on the new development, appealing to staff to ensure that they played their roles in ensuring that the Institution was objectively accredited, thanking all who participated in the just-concluded Workshop on Quality Assurance.

The Vice-Chancellor stressed the need to reward diligent staff, assuring them that "by the next Convocation Ceremony we must recognize and encourage hardworking staff as part of efforts aimed at ensuring quality in service delivery".

On safety and security, Professor Ajienka advised staff to bear with measures introduced to ensure safety of lives and property, stressing that it was as a result of the subsisting security pressures on Campus. He advised any staff that has foreign visitors to notify the authorities so that adequate security measures could be taken

## V-C Briefs Congregation On State Of Varsity

By Obinna Nwodin

for the safety of such guests and also directed students who wished to invite personalities from outside the University to any event on Campus to route such invitations through their respective Deans. He also advised the University Community to be alert on fire safety, noting that incidents of fire outbreaks in the University have become frequent for comfort.

On staff identification, the Vice-Chancellor said that plans have been concluded to have biometric identification of both staff and students, adding that in the interim, Heads of Department should forward passport photographs of their staff to the Registrar for temporary Identity Cards.

He advised staff to put up positive attitude to work by being punctual, law abiding and

ensuring discipline in the University to attain enhanced productivity.

Professor Ajienka told members of Congregation that Management had not received any money from the Federal Government with respect to Hazard or any other allowance, assuring staff that when such money was received, he would not hesitate to pay. He advised the Unions to engage in proper dialogue before they disrupt the functions of staff who are members of other unions.

The Meeting which was interactive included presentations by the Director, Quality Assurance and Quality Control Unit, Professor Tony Arinze, Chief Security Officer, Mr Reginald Isiguzo, as well as Bursar, Mr. Mark Roman to address issues of Quality Control measures, security on Campus, as well as state of finances in the University, respectively.



V-C, Prof Ajienka, addressing Congregation

## FYCA 2011: Stakeholders Charge Students On Professional Conduct

By Humphrey Ogu

**A**s a prelude to their imminent graduation, Final Year Medical students were penultimate Tuesday charged to be committed to professional ethics and also learn from their senior colleagues if they wish to make the best of their career on leaving the University.

Speaking at the 2011 Final Year Class Activities (FYCA), Provost, College of Health Sciences, Professor Chris Akani, advised the students to abide by the approved professional conduct, follow the footsteps of their senior colleagues and lecturers and guard against the get-rich-quick syndrome that is currently plaguing

medical practice in the Country.

He noted that as would-be doctors, the students can still make money without cutting corners or compromising professional standards. "It is not that politics is not good; it is not that private practice is not good, but there is a level of maturity you need to successfully engage in such activities. Becoming a Consultant before aspiring for the House of Representatives or Senate will give you more confidence and advantage. If you have an unusual mental capacity as suggested by your name, *Xenios*, then there is nothing you can't achieve," he added.

In an address titled: "*Sharing Some Thoughts with my Professional Colleagues*", Special Guest of Honour, Senator Oloronimbe Mamora, who is also a Medical Doctor, stated that throughout his time in active politics he carried himself as an ambassador of his noble profession. "I see myself as a professional in politics as opposed to a professional politician. Wherever you find yourself after here, you should not be found wanting in your professional practice," he advised his upcoming colleagues.

Senator Mamora, who warned against compromising professionalism, reputation and integrity in practice, explained that "reputation is the result of what you do, what you say and what other people say about you."

"Under no circumstance should a Doctor subject himself or herself to the dictates of his or her patient regarding management of the

patient's ailment. If a Doctor does that, he may end up being disgraced or ridiculed. Patient management should be based on thorough professional assessment; prescribed medication and administration must be in accordance with professional ethics, lest the Doctor gets sanctioned for professional or criminal negligence," he warned.

Senator Mamora observed that "the recent high profile case of Dr Conrad Murray in the United States of America, who was unanimously found guilty by the Jury of the charge of involuntary manslaughter of pop star, Michael Jackson, should serve as a lesson to all Doctors," adding that "It was alleged that Dr Murray was driven by pecuniary motive and also known to have mixed extreme pleasure and professionalism," with disastrous consequence for him.

Delivering the Keynote Lecture titled: "*The Young Doctor, Family, Career and Entrepreneurship*", Consultant Physician and Nephrologist, Dr Hope Bell-Gam, said that "For those who believe that they have a calling to be Doctors, their expectations is that they may be the ones to discover the miracle cure for ailments that have so far defied scientific enquiry. They may be the new inventors and hope to be world acclaimed researchers."

"Those convinced that the earnings are high and would be adequate for their lifestyles, needless to state that they are in for a rude shock and disappointment. Unfortunately, the adage 'Big man, big trouble' breeds through Doctors, sadly in young and old! Living a good life and having improved family status from their earnings as salaried medical practitioners are intertwined with their economic trials and tribulations," she added.

Earlier in his commencing speech, FYCA Chairman, Williams Appah, who noted that "members of the Class have survived many shakings, triumphed above setbacks and crossed many hurdles to reach the final year," expressed gratitude to "the University, our Teaching Hospital, and our teachers, including senior colleagues and nurses, who have synchronized their energy to mould us into fine professionals ready to engage in humanitarian service."



Provost CHS, Prof Akani welcoming Senator Mamora to the event



# Unique UNIPORT Co-op Holds AGM

## ...Receives Praises From V-C

By Otikor Samuel

For sustaining its primary objective of promoting the Co-operative spirit amongst members, work for the improvement of members' living standard, as well as encourage development of investment and industrial skills, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, has commended the Unique UNIPORT Choba Staff Co-operative Investment and Credit Society Ltd, pointing out that the Society is inculcating a good sense of prudence and savings in its members.

Professor Ajenka, who made the commendation while declaring open the 2nd Annual General Meeting of the Society at the International Students' Centre last Wednesday, stressed the need for every staff to identify with Co-operative Societies on Campus. He stated that with the modalities in place, identifying with a Co-operative would assist one to easily access loans from financial institutions than when a staff individually seeks it.

Represented by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, the Vice-Chancellor commended the Management Committee of the Co-operative Society for its excellent managerial function. He also thanked the Director of Co-operatives, Rivers State, Mrs Ina Otu and the partnering financial institutions for their support.

Earlier in his address, President of the Co-operative, Dr Hycenth Ajie, recalled that former Vice-Chancellor, Professor Don Baridam, appointed a ten-member Management Committee on 14th November, 2006 to oversee the affairs of the Society with a view to ensuring that staff pull resources together ahead of retiring age, disclosing that with an initial membership of 18 in May 2008, membership grew to 659 at the end of October, 2011.

Dr Ajie, who further disclosed that monthly subscription and turnover rose to over N6 million and N25.9 million, respectively, said that there are plans to invest in projects such as Staff Residential Quarters, a Hotel Complex and Shopping Mall, regretting that an earlier arrangement to venture into inter-city transport scheme has been shelved due to what he described as risks associated with transport business.

The President announced

that Mr George Emagbene has replaced Mr Iyk Owuhuo as Acting General Manager of the Co-operative, while Miss Deborah Egbeka also assumed duty as Office Clerk, adding that in pursuit of its motto: "Retire without Tears," the Management Committee computed and paid all entitlements due two former members who retired from the services of the University, as well as paid to next of kin benefits of three members who unfortunately died before retirement.

"As at 31st October, 2011, over 419 members have benefited from our loan facilities. Loan repayment is ongoing as everything is done through source (Bursary). Default rate is below 10 per cent. The Bursary, especially Payroll has been very helpful in this regard," the President said, adding that more loans have been secured to meet the increasing demand by members.

In his speech, Director of Cooperatives, Rivers State, Mrs Otu, who pledged unflinching support for the Society, praised the Management Committee for doing an excellent job by prioritizing members' welfare, matters, charging the Committee and members to continue to take the Society to higher grounds.

Goodwill messages were presented by Unique UNIPORT Amiable Co-operative, Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SSANU), United Bank for Africa (UBA), Ecobank and Zion Co-operative, while the Financial Report/Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 2010 was audited by a Chartered Accounting firm, Soji Solomon & Co.



V-C (Admin), Prof Nduka in a handshake with President of the Co-operative, Dr. Ajie, while other guests look on

# DSA Unveils Package For Students

In a bid to improve on welfare and service delivery, the Dean, Student Affairs Department, Dr Matthew Wegwu, has disclosed plans to implement programmes and projects that would provide an enabling environment for students to study and recreate.

Wegwu, who also spoke on the achievements of the Department during the just-concluded 2010/2011 academic session, including allocation of bed spaces to students online which greatly reduced problems associated with

accommodation, commended the students for being of best behaviour and complying with stipulated rules and regulations. He revealed plans to provide insecticide-treated mosquito nets for the students and renovation of the *Aluta House* to be used as Secretariat for the Students Union Executive pending completion of the Students' Centre.

Disclosing collaboration with multi-national companies on scholarships for indigent

students, a visibly elated Dean noted that the Department successfully hosted the AISEC International Students' Conference involving students from higher Institutions across the globe. "It is on record that we have remained unbeatable champions of the Nigerian Universities Games Association (NUGA) games and West African Universities Games (WAUG)", he said, attributing the success story to the students and their resolve to make the University proud. Recalling the election and swearing-in of a new Student Union Executive, the introduction of *Work Study Scheme* for indigent students, simplified issuance of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Call-up Letters to prospective Corp Members and a successful co-hosting of the *Garden City Games* as major milestone achievements of the Department, Wegwu commended the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka for improving on municipal services in halls of residence.

On the recently held *Students' Week*, he noted that the Week which featured a Marathon race, Public Lecture on *Systemic Corruption* delivered by Professor Willy Okowa of the Department of Economics, Talk Show on Body Fitness, games competition, cultural carnival and a visit to the Motherless Babies Home, was rounded-up with a Thanksgiving Service at *Our Saviour's Chapel*, UNIPARK. Dr Wegwu promised that more social activities would be put in place to discourage anti-social behaviours among students, including organizing a *Talent Hunt Show* aimed at discovering new talents in sports and entertainment.



Dr. Wegwu

# Senate Meets Next Wednesday

By Humphrey Ogu

The 380<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Meeting of Senate holds at 10:00 a.m. at the Senate Chambers, University Park next Wednesday, December 7, 2011. This was contained in a statement



Mrs Matilda Nnodim, Registrar

signed by the Deputy Registrar (Academic), Mrs Dorcas Otto on behalf of the Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim and made available to *UNIPORT Weekly*.

The statement, which stated that consideration of 2010/2011 Second Semester Examination Results, would be the main issue at the Meeting, advised Heads and Acting Heads of Department to "submit electronic copies (on CD) along with 30 hard copies of the summary of results to reach the Academic Officer before close of work on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2011.

"All results should be saved on PDF (read only) format," it added, urging Senate members to note that electronic copies of submissions are mandatory and should reflect the recommendations and comments of the Senate Business Committee.

According to the statement, members of Senate who are yet to send in their *uniport.edu.ng* e-mail addresses to the Academic Office are reminded to do so before Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 to *academics@uniport.edu.ng*.

# SONTA Confers Award On Julie Okoh

By Otikor Samuel

In recognition of her contributions to development of the Arts in the Country, the Society of Nigeria Theatre Artists (SONTA), which is the apex professional Association for Theatre Lecturers and Theorists, has conferred the SONTA Life Time Achievement Award for the Year 2011 on Professor Julie Okoh of the Department of Theatre Arts, Faculty of Humanities.

The Award was bestowed on her by the National Executive Council of the Society at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria penultimate Thursday. "It is my instruction to convey to you the NEC decision to confer on you the highly distinguished SONTA Life Time Achievement Award for the year 2011," part of the statement read.

Professor Okoh, who is Director of the Arts Village in the University, received a Certificate and Plaque and commended the Executive of SONTA for conferring the Award on her. She promised that it would spur her to greater productivity.



Prof Okoh

# Time Mgt Critical To Productivity

*Cont'd from p1*

by family, government, and society is proportional to the efficiency of time management”.

Ebong identified poor planning, poor organization, paperwork, meetings and interruptions as the major time wasters, explaining that poor planning may be a result of not having everything needed to accomplish a particular task, while poor organization involves not having materials or tools accessible or well labelled, having no recognized procedure for giving out equipment, books or material, amongst others.

Ebong, who listed irrelevant phone calls and visits during office hours as examples of interruptions, lamented that “in recent years, strikes have been added to interruption to management of time. It occurs in all working institutions... In educational institutions, strikes have crippled teaching and learning at the Primary and Secondary School levels in different states of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

“Strikes have caused a lot of setback in the university calendar and meeting of national and international datelines. Students on exchange programmes cannot fit into the schedule of international institutions. The National Youth Service Corps Programme has to be rescheduled to meet the schedule of the universities. There is a backlog of courses not properly taught because of lack of time each semester,” she regretted, stressing that “during these strikes, man-hours and working days are lost with the attendant effect of stress on the workers, parents and society in general.

Ebong, who recommended Meeting Skills and time management as courses for people who aspire to leadership positions in any sector, said “In Education, every minute spent in unproductive meetings is potentially an opportunity lost for what could have been taught or learnt,” stating that “Productivity implies doing more with less, designates how efficiently a business uses its resources; how engineers and industrialists adopt new technology, machinery, equipment and measurements control for production. It involves

the relationship between input and output.”

In his closing Remark, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Aijenka, who described the Lecture as a course in time management, expressed hope that time management would be integrated into the GES Course component in the University to enable students learn how to manage time. “If you look at the way we manage time and use that as a basis for measuring civilization or maturity, then you will know that we are nowhere,” he stated.

The Vice-Chancellor, who decried rampant cases of age falsification in the University, said that he is looking forward to a time when experts in the Faculty of Education will offer guidance on how best to manage the University. “I expect that Faculty of Education will give us empirical evidence and expert advice on the merit and demerit of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations (UTME) Post-Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations (PUTME) and resolve the controversy arising from the controversy.

“The Faculty should also provide empirical

evidence on how Quality Assurance could be used in the development of the University. We expect them to follow performance of students who come through the Basic Studies programme and those who are coming through UTME and advise on which one is better than the other. We expect them to guide the University on the changing roles of the School of Basic Studies; they should begin to advise us on which direction the School should go to fulfil its mandate,” he advocated.

Commenting on the Lecture, Occupant of PTDF Chair in Gas Engineering Professor Elijah Iyagba, Head, Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, Professor Aduabobo Hart and Acting Head, Department of Adult, Non-Formal Education, Dr John Ihejirika and Dr Aline Noutcha of AEB, lauded the Lecturer for touching on issues that affect every staff and units in the University, expressing hope that knowledge gained from the Lecture will impact positively on the University system and bring about attitudinal change among stakeholders.



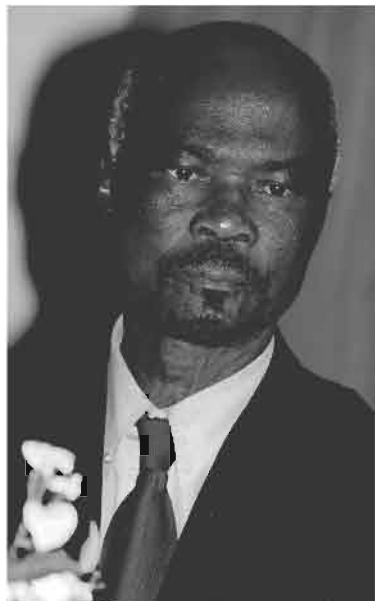
V-C, Prof Aijenka (3rd right), Inaugural Lecturer and other academics

## Sociology Confab:

## Experts Brainstorm On Crime Prevention

*By Mercy Don-Baridum*

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Nigerian Sociological Society (NSS) ended penultimate Tuesday with a call on stakeholders to rise to the challenges of nation-building by putting in place new measures to contain terrorism, armed robbery and other



Prof Anikpo, Director CENTECS

related anti-social vices that have created social insecurity in the country.

Director, Centre for Conflict and Ethnic Studies (CENTECS), Professor Mark Anikpo, made the call while declaring open the Conference titled: “Society and the Resurgence of Criminality in Nigeria,” organised by the Nigerian Sociological Society (NSS) at the Basic Studies Auditorium.

Professor Anikpo, who was Chairman of the event, expressed gratitude to the participants for their efforts in contributing towards research and development, stating that their contributions would go a long way to assist in devising new approaches to prevent crime.

Delivering the Keynote Address with the topic: “Rethinking Crime Prevention and Crime Control Approaches in Nigeria,” Professor Etaonibi Alemika, noted that the pervasiveness of criminal activities is one of the major problems threatening the security and development of the Country due to its growing negative socio-economic and political impact, stressing that the rising crime rate was gradually threatening the nation's security and development.

Professor Alemika, who was represented by the President NSS, Professor Victor Jike, observed that Nigeria cannot advance without developing and implementing policies and programmes that would tackle both the causes and effects of crime and insecurity in the Country.

“There is need to radically transform the Nigerian Police Force so that it can be the de jure and de facto primary internal security policing agency in the Country and also the need to provide resources for the private and civil society sectors to be mobilized to complement measures by the government for enhanced crime prevention and control in the country and also the need for effective multi-stakeholders collaboration to analyse problems and monitor crime prevention and control programmes cannot be over-stressed”.

Enumerating the challenges posed by crime in Nigeria, Professor Alemika explained that lack of adequate

structural capacity and framework such as economic and political policies, inadequate institutional capacity, and high-level of corruption with adverse effects on democratic governance and human right are the problems the country is currently facing, regretting that the country has not developed an effective framework for crime prevention, control and administration of justice.

“To achieve sustainable security of Nigerian citizens, our national security must be developed and a comprehensive and coordinated security sector reform should be undertaken”, the Keynote Speaker pointed out.

Speaking earlier, Professor Jike observed that “As sociologist, we must avoid the pitfalls of spurious interpretation of the relationship between variables because we are the social engineers and experts on social problems. We must speak Sociology to the problems that besiege us in Nigeria; we must be brave in this track that we find ourselves and speak from the standpoint of sound knowledge to rescue our society and promote national unity.

“We live in dire times and the facts of pervasive criminality in Nigeria are so staggering and compelling that we can no longer fold our hands either as academics, policy-makers or government functionaries; we must all be proactive to the terrorist onslaught which has placed Nigeria squarely under siege, we have a responsibility to protect the society”, the President submitted.

Professor Jike regretted that societal space which is ordinarily the domain of Sociologists, has been encroached upon by all kinds of professionals trying to proffer solutions to the menace of criminality, lamenting that Sociologists have stayed outside of the debate on how to fight crime in the society.

The event also featured a paper presented by a Representative of Delta State House of Assembly Speaker, Dr Kemi Emma and Professor Christian Ewhidjakpor. Other participants further discussed the sub-themes from different perspectives to drive home their points.

# GUIDEPOST

## SABBATICAL APPOINTMENT

Professor Ogbalu Ogugua, granted Sabbatical Appointment, to the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, Faculty of Science, tenable for one year.

### ASSUMPTION OF DUTY

Professor M. Bamikole, assumed duty as Visiting Professor in the Department of Animal Science and Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture, effective October 3, 2011 and terminates on October 2, 2012.

Professor S. B. Umoetok, assumed duty as Visiting Professor in the Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, effective October 17, 2011 and terminates October 16, 2012.

Dr E. F. Asawalam, assumed duty as Visiting Scholar in the Institute of Agricultural Research and Development, effective October 1, 2011 and terminate October 31, 2012.

## CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Dr S. E. Ofodile, granted one year Contract Appointment with the Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Science, effective September 5, 2011 and terminates September 4, 2012.

Dr Onyenoha Chukwumerije, granted one year Contract Appointment, with the Department of Pharmaceutical Medical Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, effective October 17, 2011 and terminates October 16, 2012.

Dr Tam-Jones Atuboyedia, granted one year Contract Appointment, with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, effective June 16, 2011 and terminates June 14, 2012.

## WORLD AIDS DAY

Fifteen Youths from UNIPORT Host Communities as well as Ten students each from the Senior classes in UDSS, Aluu, Federal Government College, Rumuokoro, Olobo Premier College, Rockbase International Secondary School, Choba and UISS, Mile 3 will participate in this year's World AIDS Day slated for Thursday, December 1, 2011 at International Students Centre, University Park.

Contact: The Coordinator, Youth Friendly Centre

## CONSULTATIVE MEETING FOR WORLD AIDS DAY

The Centre for Health and Development organises a Consultative Meeting and Capacity Building Workshop, titled: "It takes a Village to get to Zero" on Thursday, December 1, 2011 at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH) Conference room. Time 9:00 am.

Contact: Dr Seye Babatunde

### HSE ALERT!

BE SAFETY CONSCIOUS:

REPORT ALL STRANGE FACES TO THE SECURITY DEPARTMENT.

CALL: 08033180450 OR 08037097689

## Briefs From Other Varsities

### RSHA TO INVESTIGATE RSUST PG SCHOOL

The Rivers State House of Assembly (RSHA) through its Committee on Education is to investigate activities of the Postgraduate School of the Rivers State University of Science and Technology, following allegations that the School has not graduated students for three years. It was also alleged that the School has not offered admission for prospective candidates in two years, a situation which the Legislators observed could mar the future of education in the State if not properly checked.

### UNIUYO TO INTRODUCE SKILLS PROGRAMMES

Vice-Chancellor, University of Uyo, Professor Comfort Ekpo, has disclosed that the institution was working on modalities to equip its graduates with skills to make them self-employed on graduation, rather than roam the streets for non-existent white-collar jobs. Professor Ekpo made the disclosure during the presentation of certificates to 76 trainees of 2010/2011 UNIDO-HP Graduate Entrepreneurial Training Programme in Uyo.



Prof Ruqayyatu Ahmed Rufa'i  
Minister Of Education

### BELLS GRADUATES 251, PRODUCES 19 FIRST CLASS

Of the 251 students graduated at the third Convocation of Bells University of Technology, Ota in Ogun State, 19 made First Class, 90 came out with Second Class Upper, while 104 graduated with Second Class Lower Division. The rest 38 came out with Third Class.

A female student of the Department of Economics, Miss Jennifer Grant-Ezeronye emerged the Best Graduating Student with a Cumulative Grade Point Average of 4.87 on a five-point scale.

### CHILEAN VARSITIES FAIL TO COMPLY WITH BASIC TRANSPARENCY LAW

by Avery Cropp

According to a study recently released by the Consejo para la Transparencia, State Universities are not living up to the agreements outlined in the transparency law. The Ley de Transparencia, or transparency law, was put into place in Chile on August 11, 2008.

Its principal objective is to open the

information of public organizations to everyone in order to promote a closer state system, open new spaces for participation and better the accountability of public management.

Public interest surveys reported during the study showed that education is the second most popular sector of government that people was to know about behind health and wellness.

Of the 16 universities that were audited, an average of 20.6 per cent of them complied with transparency standards. The standards include publication on the corporate web page of each department of aspects like organic structure, compensation of its workers and performance audits of their budget.

The budget aspect was the one that received the worst evaluation overall, as no university had published it on their web pages.

The university with the highest rating of disclosure was Universidad Tecnológica Metropolitana (UTEM) with 59.53 per cent, followed by Universidad del Bío Bío and Universidad de Playa Ancha at 38.89 percent 36.4 percent respectively. The Universidad de Antofagasta was reported at only 6.9 percent compliance.

Alejandro Ferreiro, the president of the Consejo para la Transparencia, said there was much to be desired when it was compared to other institutions' compliance with the law.

"We cannot be satisfied because with respect to the same parameters, the organizations of the central administration of the state has completed 94 percent of their obligations of active transparency, while the state universities are only complying with 20 percent," Ferreiro told Universidad de Chile radio. According to Ferreiro, the study shows evidence about the difficulty for people to access information that would normally be considered relevant to people who want to figure out how the state universities operate.

The study reported that the claims presented for the transparency of universities has been four times higher than claims presented against other institutions.

The universities now have 10 days to turn in a work-plan that will permit them to meet all the obligations of the transparency law, should be reflected on their websites in 45 days.

-Compiled by Otikor Samuel



# Nursing Dept Gets Accreditation

*Cont'd from p1*

The cheering news was conveyed by the Dean, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, Professor John Ikimalo, while briefing the Vice-Chancellor at a Meeting with Final Year Students of Department of Nursing who called on him to seek clarification on the accreditation status of their programme, which they said had been long overdue.

Professor Ikimalo said the Provisional Accreditation granted the Programme by the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria would enable students enrolled into the Bachelor of Nursing Science to be eligible to write their professional examinations scheduled for May, 2012, expressing gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka and Provost, College of Health Sciences, Professor Chris Akani, for the concerted efforts they made to properly position the Department to discharge its statutory mandate of training world-class graduate Nurses to man the health sector.

Professor Ikimalo advised the Student-Nurses to always explore diplomatic channels for resolving their grievance, pointing out that as potential Care-givers in the health sector, Nurses are usually known for their sense of decorum and dedication to duty. He promised that the Faculty would do whatever is necessary to ensure that the students study in an enabling environment that would motivate them to graduate as world-class Nurses, urging them to always understand the various communication levels in the University.

In their presentation, the Students who spoke through their representatives listed such issues as block posting, hostel accommodation, inadequate classroom, certification by relevant professional bodies, as some of the criteria for accreditation by



*Prof Akani, Provost, CHS*

*Prof Ikimalo, Dean, Clinical Sciences*

the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria.

In his response, the Vice-Chancellor expressed delight over the high quality students that are attracted into the Department of Nursing, praising them for competing favourably with other students in the College of Health Sciences, Pharmacy and Engineering, amongst others highly-sought after programmes in the University.

Reminding the students that pioneers pass through

harsh experiences from which their successors benefit, Professor Ajienka urged them to accept the sacrifices they are making as part of their contribution to the development of Nursing as a viable course in the University. He advised them against taking the law into their own hands in seeking redress on issues concerning their welfare, pointing out that "dialogue is better than demonstrations in the resolution of felt grievances".

## Quality Assurance Workshop Fallout

# UNIPORT to Produce Quality Assurance Manual

*By Obinna Nwodin*

As part of efforts aimed at attaining quality in service delivery, as well as sustain its quest to be one of the best in Africa, authorities of the University of Port Harcourt organized a 2-Day Workshop on Quality Assurance and Control with a resolve to develop a manual on quality assurance and control that would guide and regulate activities of stakeholders in the system.

Declaring the event with theme, "Fostering Quality Assurance Culture at the University of Port Harcourt" open, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, reiterated the Administration's resolve to strengthen the needed quality in line with international best practices.

Professor Ajienka, who said that "as an Institution that seeks to do business with serious-minded people, we must assure them that we are quality compliant",

disclosed that it was the desire of his administration to be ISO-certified. He declared the workshop as an "Invaluable investment in capacity-building which would help staff at all levels to devise a functional system of achieving the desired level of quality in service delivery to our numerous stake holders, who are demanding better quality by the day". Our quality control measures should include proper policy monitoring, regular inspection and assessment, re-evaluation to identify necessary changes that may be required in the process of policy implementation", the Vice-Chancellor added.

He expressed optimism that the Workshop would re-define issues of Quality Assurance in the University by providing participants with the fundamentals of quality service delivery, hoping that participants would leave "the workshop with requisite skills on how to maximize productivity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century office setting that makes so much demand on the workforce and managers".

Earlier in his address, Director, Quality Assurance and Quality Control Unit, Professor Tony Arinze, said that the Workshop was important to drive the vision of the Institution to attain the needed quality in service delivery, stressing that the Unit was doing its best to achieve the objective for which it was set up.

Papers were presented on aspects of Quality Assurance and Control by the three Resource Persons: Professors Peter Okebukola and Chiedu Mafiana, and Dr Biodun Saliu. The Workshop also provided a template for the comprehensive review of the University's state of preparations for the forthcoming 2011 Institutional Accreditation scheduled to commence on December 1.

Speaking to *UNIPORT Weekly*, Director of Academic Planning and Control Unit, Professor Lawrence Igwe, said that the Workshop was the first of its kind in a long while, pointing out that participants benefitted immensely from it. He said that the impact cannot be assessed without taking into account the long-term gains, describing it as an event that touch on all spheres of the University.

Professor Igwe, who commended the authorities for attracting such high calibre resource persons, stressed that "the implication is that in everything we do from now, we should ensure that we are accountable for our actions".

Dean, Faculty of Management Sciences, Professor Sylva Kalu, described the Workshop as enriching, noting that awareness of quality assurance has been created in the University. He said that the mindset of participants has been stimulated towards achieving quality for a result-oriented service.

In his assessment, Professor Iheanyichukwu Nzeneri, said that "participants have now realized that there is quality assurance in everything we do and that it involves every staff and student from the Vice-Chancellor to the least staff". He described it as a very important Workshop that was enjoyed by all participants advising that the recommendations be fully implemented to attain high quality of service in the University.



*Okebukola*

*Mafiana*

*Arinze*