

NNPC Staff Donates Prostate Cancer Equipment To UNIORT

A Public-spirited staff of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Dr Soala Ariweriokuma, has made a donation of two sets of prostate cancer screening equipment to the University for screening of male staff and other beneficiaries. The equipment which also has capacity to screen the dreaded Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Hepatitis, reports *Williams Wodl*

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Side Bar

UNIORT holds its 28th Convocation Ceremony this Saturday. Watch out -Editor

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Research Fair

Science And Technology Crucial To National Development ~NOTAP DG

By Obinna Nwodin

As the country makes frantic efforts towards joining the league of 20 most industrialized economies by 2020, policy-makers have been advised to adopt proactive measures towards the development of Science,

Technology and Innovation if Nigeria stands any chance of achieving the stated goal. Director-General/Chief Executive Officer, National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), Dr. Umar Bindir, gave the advice while speaking as Guest Lecturer at the

opening ceremony of the 1st Annual University of Port Harcourt Research Fair, last Wednesday at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium. Dr. Bindir, whose Lecture was titled: "Research and Development for Sustainable National Development", said that for Nigeria

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Policy On Programme Duration Contributes To Better Harvest In SGS

~Konya

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Again, Dept Of Educational Psychology Tops 1" Class List

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V-C Tasks New ASUU EXCO On Industrial Harmony



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Senate Approves Honorary Degree Award

...V-C Announces More Projects



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As the School of Graduate Studies prepares to present 98 Doctoral candidates this Saturday at the 28th Convocation, an improvement on the last ceremony, which had 79 graduates, the policy regulating Graduate Students from overstaying on programmes seems to be paying off. This was the view expressed by Dean of the School, Professor Roseline Konya, while chatting with this Correspondent in her office penultimate Thursday.

Professor Konya, who attributed the innovation in the School to her resolve to consolidate on the success story of her predecessors, disclosed that there is also an improvement in prompt payment of fees by graduate students, unlike what obtained in the past, when most students shelved payment of fees until completion of their programmes, while some did not bother to pay up at all.

A release obtained by *UNI-PORT Weekly*, shows that the 98 Doctoral candidates cut across the seven Faculties, with Science producing the highest number of 33 Graduates. The Faculties of Education produced 22, Social Sciences 16, while Management Sciences produced 12, Humanities 10 and Engineering 4, while one candidate is to graduate from the Basic Medical Sciences. Similarly, a total of 496 Graduands would also be



Prof Konya, Dean, SGS

awarded Master's Degrees in diverse disciplines. A breakdown of the figure shows that the Faculty of Science has the highest number with 145 graduate students. Faculty of Education has a total of 119, Social Sciences 84, Management Sciences 71, Humanities 47, Basic Medical Sciences 17 and Engineering 13.

Policy On Programme Duration Ups Harvest In SGS ~Konya

By Otikor Samuel

Also, 1093 students would be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in various disciplines in the School. Faculty of Management Sciences has a total of 393, Education 361, Social Sciences 205, Science 82, Engineering 26, Basic Medical Sciences 20, while Humanities produced 11 Graduates.

13th West African University Games

UNILORIN 2012 MEDALS TABLE

| Position | Institution Name | Gold | Silver | Bronze |
|----------|---|------|--------|--------|
| 1 | University of Port Harcourt, Port Harcourt Rivers State | 48 | 26 | 19 |
| 2 | University of Benin, Benin, Edo State | 9 | 5 | 9 |
| 3 | Benson Idahosa University, Benin, Edo State | 8 | 7 | 4 |
| 4 | University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos State | 6 | 12 | 6 |
| 5 | Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| 6 | Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Kaduna State | 6 | 1 | 13 |
| 7 | University of Calabar, Calabar, Cross River State | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 8 | University of Abomey Calavi Cotonou | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 9 | Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 10 | University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Kwara | 3 | 5 | 17 |
| 11 | University of Ghana, Legon | 3 | 5 | 11 |
| 12 | Lagos State University, Ojo, Lagos | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| 13 | University of Education, Winneba | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 14 | Universite Cheick Anta Diop Daka | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 15 | University of Abuja, Abuja | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 16 | Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Edo | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 17 | Bayero University Kano | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 18 | University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| 19 | Federal University of Technology, Minna, Niger State | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 20 | Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 21 | Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nasarawa State | 1 | 1 | 0 |

| | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|
| 22 | Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 22 | Modibo Adama University of Technology, Yola | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 24 | University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast | 0 | 5 | 6 |
| 25 | University of Nigeria Nsukka, Enugu State | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| 26 | Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti | 0 | 3 | 8 |
| 27 | Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye, Ogun State | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| 28 | Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| 29 | Cross River University of Technology, Calabar | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 30 | Ladoke Akintola University of Tech, Ogbomoso | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| 31 | Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Anambra | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| 32 | Universite Du Ouagadougou | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 32 | Universite de KOUDOUGOU | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 34 | University of Jos, Plateau State | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 35 | Universite Du Parako | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 35 | Kano University of Science and Technology, Wudil | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 35 | University of Agriculture, Makurdi | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 38 | University of Maiduguri, Maiduguri | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 39 | Michael Okpara University of Agriculture | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 39 | Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida University, Lapai | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 39 | Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 42 | Universite Polytechnique de Bobo D | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 42 | Kwara State University, Ilorin | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 42 | Adamawa State University, Mubi | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 42 | Benue State University, Makurdi | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 42 | Enugu State University of Science and Technology | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 42 | Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Imo State | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 42 | Institute Des Sciences | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 42 | Kaduna State University, Kaduna | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 42 | Rivers State University of Science and Technology | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 42 | University of Freetown | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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The Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, which recorded the highest number of First Class at the 27th Convocation, has done it again. Come Saturday, the Department, which also produced the Best Graduating Student (BGS) at the last Convocation, though conceding the BGS crown to Faculty of Social Science this year, will be parading four First Class Graduands.

Speaking with *UNIPOINT Weekly*, Acting Head of Department, Dr Peter Kpolovie, who said that they ensured that students in the Department learn better than their counterparts elsewhere, disclosed that there would have been more First Class if not for the two-month strike action embarked upon by the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), which made processing of results impossible within the stipulated time-line by Senate of the University.

Kpolovie, observed that some Departments may be unable to compute the results of up to 10 per cent of those who are supposed to graduate in the U/2007 set, adding that "it is with great pleasure that we produced four First Class Graduands this year. First Class is not like water that you just fetch and drink. It is only meant for exceptional students, not only for those who are gifted exceptionally, but those who also put in the requisite effort to make such grade from day one in the University." Distinction, he added, is for those who have worked dedicatedly, pursuing only academic issues and leaving out the uncountable side-attractions that tend to make students forget that they are in school for serious business, stating that, "to make such a grade, a student must be made to believe that the Lecturers are also serious."

Again, Dept Of Educational Psychology Tops 1st Class List

By Humphrey Ogu



Dr Kpolovie

Kpolovie, who stated that males and females are equally gifted, explained that "there is nothing like gender disparity in measuring intelligence quotient. Nature is even, it's never biased. It has

bequeathed blessing evenly. Males and females are equally intelligent and can perform at the same level of intellectual intensity."

He regretted that the Nigerian educational system has not incorporated intelligent testing, which he said, determines suitability of candidates for various programme up till now. According to him, people are admitted into Nigerian universities without the university knowing their levels of intelligence. Disclosing that he has developed and standardized a test known as *Culture Fair Intelligence Test* for use in Nigeria since 2002, Dr Kpolovie bemoaned the unwillingness of policy-makers to adopt results of research findings, which are published in *Journals* allowed to rot away in bookshelves.

"Any person who needs to know his or her intelligence quotient accurately and reliably can come and take the test," he said, revealing that results from that test have shown that there is no significant difference between males and females in respect to intelligence."

"That hundred persons are equally intelligent does not mean that they will make the same grade in the University, because excellence in academics has two factors. You have ability, what the person can do; then, the other one is effort. Academic success and success in life are functions of ability and effort. Ability plus efforts equals success", Kpolovie said.

"Where an individual has the ability but fails to put in the required effort, ability will not take him to where he is supposed to be. In the same vein, where a person puts in effort, but does not have the ability, he will still not get to where those who have both ability and effort can reach," he added.

First Class Is A Special Feat In Engineering -Dean

By Mercy Don-Baridam

Engineering as a profession is different from other disciplines in the University or any other University in the country. The training process involved in the preparation for University education in the profession, which involves technical subjects such as Further Mathematics and Technical Drawing, is more tasking and intense which requires higher intelligence quotient than other disciplines.

Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Professor Samuel Ejazie dropped this hint while speaking with *UNIPOINT Weekly* in his office, last Tuesday, stressing that the process of training certified Engineers takes a lot of effort to enable them meet global standards.

Professor Ejazie explained that any person who is engineering-bound must be classified as *primus inter pares*, disclosing that students of the Faculty of Engineering earn their degrees through persistent discipline and hard work. "To train a First Class in Engineering is a special feat; it is not wait-and-take and not an off-the-shelf commodity. First Class in Engineering is earned, not "produced". Our brilliant students earn their classes of degree either First Class or Second Class Upper Division. We just don't produce First Class; our students earn it the hard way" he said, adding that there is no room for error in awarding First Class to Engineering graduates.

According to the Dean, Engineering these days is becoming more complex, stating that as days roll by, Engineering keeps evolving from simplistic to complex processes such that structures to be constructed are also becoming more complex. Observing that the training process in the Engineering profession requires more stringent qualities which mean that students are expected to be sounder and hard working than their colleagues in other disciplines, Ejazie emphasized, stating that hard work remains the only key to securing top grades in Engineering programmes.

The former Head, Department of Civil and Environmental

Engineering, expressed hope that with the way the Faculty is going, the number of students who would earn First Class in future would increase in geometric proportions, adding that he no longer expects any student to graduate in the Third Class category. The least we expect henceforth would be the Second Class Lower Division, the Dean said.

He explained that right now, the Faculty has succeeded in reforming the student body to now have a sense of belonging to face their seriously concentrate on their studies, adding that the Faculty is not admitting just any candidate. "This time, we stick to our carrying-capacity and those who meet our stringent requirements are very sound both in the classroom and paid or self-employment on graduation".

Professor Ejazie expressed satisfaction with the response received from students on the call for hard work, noting that once advice is given, they take it whole-heartedly. "The key thrust of my Deanship is to reposition the Faculty to become number one and students have given us their whole-hearted support. We are working together as partners in efforts aimed at producing quality graduates; students are our key partners in repositioning the University," he said.

Advising the outgoing students, Professor Ejazie said "You are passing into a different phase of life to a more challenging phase from where you were solely dependent on other people, to a place where you would become independent and so you should expect more challenges and when these challenges come, you must mobilize all the potentials in you to face them squarely". He said that the training given to the students has some potentials embedded in it for tackling challenges in life in the outside world.

The Dean appealed to the incoming students to beware of distractions in order not to be carried away by frivolous activities that could compromise their education, advising students who are ambitious to obtain the First Class Degree to begin their quest in the first year of admission into the University.



Prof Ejazie



V-C, Prof. Ajienka (arrowed), flanked by ASUU Chairman, Prof. Okerengwo to his left, some Principal Officers and Union EXCO

V-C Tasks New ASUU EXCO On Industrial Harmony

By Obinna Nwodin

Authorities of the University of Port Harcourt have challenged Unions on Campus to work towards finding solutions to their welfare and growth of the University. Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, gave the advice when newly-elected officers of the University of Port Harcourt Branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) paid him a courtesy visit in his office, last Tuesday.

Professor Ajienka said that this was imperative because "All of us belong to this University and some of us have spent a better part of our lives here. We should be seen to be working for the interest of the Institution", reassuring all stakeholders that he had always maintained an open door administration in his leadership style. "I have nothing to hide. I ensure that issues are put on the table and discussed frankly. We have accepted to render service to the University and as long as it is selfless, it will attract the grace of the Almighty", he stated.

Professor Ajienka expressed optimism that as the first woman to lead ASUU in the University, the new Chairman would do well, assuring the new Executive of the willingness of the authorities to work with it to advance the cause of the University and staff welfare.

New Chairman of the Union, Professor Antonia Okerengwo, pledged the willingness of her Executive to work with Management for the accelerated development of the University. "Trade Unionism is all about welfare of members. It is not about confrontation, but constructive criticism as long as Management engages Unions in a proper line of communication", she said, appealing that Management should ensure free flow of information to facilitate harmony and welfare of staff in the University.

In his remark, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igbo Joe, thanked the Union for pledging cooperation, reminding it that "we all have a common purpose to make the University grow and that the Administration was ready to work with the Unions in the interest of the system".

Also present were: Dr Gospel Kpee, Vice-Chairman, Dr Ngozi Iheanacho, Secretary and Dr. Festus Mbalisi, Welfare Officer.

Stage Adaptation Of Elechi Amadi's *The Concubine*

By Humphrey Ogu

Recently, the University Community was thrilled by the stage adaptation of Elechi Amadi's first and very popular novel, *The Concubine*, when it was staged at the CRAB last February. The original novel, which could be considered a tragic work in literary parlance reincarnated as comedy at Theatre. That is if snatches of laughter in literary works define what is comic. But in the work under review, it came in large doses.

Fascinated by the success and applause that the play elicited from the audience and the Novelist himself, I thought it wise to bring to your reading delight the story behind the success of the performance.

The brain behind the drama adaptation and Lecturer in the Department of Theatre Arts, Edward Imo, said he was motivated to adapt the novel by his desire to bring the work

place at Hotel Presidential last December, was a huge success in terms of patronage, disclosing Nollywood Star and UNIPORT Alumnus, Francis Duru acted as Ekwume, before it was staged at the CRAB as one of the Senate Performances.

According to him, one of the benefits of staging the play before that some suggestions made by audience would improve quality work.

He that the challenge in the process capture chapter classic



Imo



Ihunwo

to a wider audience, irrespective of whether they have read the novel or not.

His words: "Basically, my motivation is largely drawn from the need to celebrate a classic work, the need to celebrate Elechi Amadi's creative ingenuity as deposited in *The Concubine*. As a novel, *The Concubine* readership had a span in history and so products of the present educational system in the country only hear about the novel from the lips of the older generation. And so, I felt that the young students should also have a feel of his creative import and I felt that the dramatic medium is the best way to express it because of its liveliness and immediacy of the Theatre, which usually elicits audience participation.

Imo, who played the role of a narrator in the stage adaptation, said he found in the novel a wonderful piece of drama and decided to put it on stage which gives it regularity in performance, as well as a wider audience, adding that plans are afoot to take it to press as a book of play.

He said that the first performance of the play which took

novel in one-hour and 20 minutes, which is the standard entertainment time. "No matter how long a drama is, it should not span beyond that time," Imo said, adding that the code-mixing used in the play were flavours introduced in furtherance of his artistic licence.

Corroborating Imo's word, another Lecturer in the Department, who directed the play, Mr. Ovuunda Ihunwo, recalled that "the novel spans through a long period, and if followed religiously, would span about five to six hours. So what I did was to point out the highpoints of the novel that would effectively relate the story," adding that he also advised the adaptor on the area of changing sets which could pose great challenges by introducing the role of the character of a narrator to bridge the scenes and allow for passage of time.

Ihunwo, who played the role of Ekweume, said that "In dramaturgy, we have poetic licence; we also have artistic licence to do certain things, especially when it comes to adaptation. We just have to employ some techniques, not to distort the central message, but to help the adaptor drive home his point." He called for supports from public-spirited individuals to enable experts in the Department continue to stage impressive performances.

Other cast in the play included, Mr. Friday Nwafor, a Lecturer in the Department who doubled as Agwotumbe, the Dibia and Wokekoro as well as students, who played Ihuoma, Emenike, Ahurole and so on.

"In theatre, when we teach students, we also involve them in practice, without talking about seniority or discrimination between lecturers and students. This makes for easy assimilation. We act together," Mr. Imo explained, charging the University Community to expect more from them.



Elechi Amadi & some members of the cast

Emergency Meeting

Senate Approves Honorary Degree Award ...As V-C Announces More Projects

By Obinna Nwodin



Senate in session

Senate has approved the conferment of Honorary Doctorate Degrees on three distinguished Nigerians. They are: Mr. Egbert Imomoh, Chairman of Afren Energy Services, Mr. Atedo Peterside, Chair

man, STANBIC-IBTC Plc and Dr. Alex Otti, Managing Director, Diamond Bank Plc. Senate gave unanimous approval after the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, presented the names of nominees on the floor of Senate at an Emergency Meeting held last Wednesday. The Vice-Chancellor said that the Governing Council had approved the nominations.

He also announced that the Investiture of Emeritus Professors which Senate had earlier approved would hold this Wednesday at the Senate Chambers, appealing to members to attend, as well as the Convocation Lecture scheduled to hold this Thursday.

Professor Ajienka also disclosed receipt of funds for the construction and furnishing of a Faculty of Social Sciences building to the tune of N1.2 Billion, adding that the gesture was facilitated by a distinguished Alumnus of the University. He also used the occasion to thank the Honourable Minister of State for Education, Chief Nyesom Wike, for his commitment to the development of his *Alma Mater*, noting that it was the responsibility of Management to ensure that these projects were realized within the shortest possible timeline.

Professor Ajienka announced the appointment of Professor Adewale Dosunmu as Dean of the School of Advanced Engineering Technology (SAET) and Professor Anthony Ataga as Dean, School of Science Laboratory Technology (SSLT). He also announced the appointment of Mr. Vitalis Aliezi as Acting Bursar following the end of tenure of Mr. Mark Roman last March.

The Vice-Chancellor also informed Senate about the sad demise of Professor Reginald Nwankwoala of the Department of Pharmacology in the Faculty of Basic Medical Science. A minute silence was observed in his honour.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igbo Joe briefed Senate on activities marking the 28th Convocation which began with a Media Briefing by the Vice-Chancellor, last Friday.

He appealed to Members of Senate to participate actively in the various events lined up for the Convocation Ceremony.

We Are Doing Well -Dean, Humanities ...HOD Theatre Arts Praises Students

By Mercy Don-Baridam

Students of the Faculty of Humanities have been charged to take their studies seriously if they hope to become productive citizens in the society. Dean of the Faculty, Professor Ozo-Mekuri Ndimele, gave the advice while exchanging views with *UNI-PORT Weekly* in his office, last Tuesday, stating that "to be the best in any career line you choose, you must be hard working, because hard work pays in the long run".

The Dean observed that with the new policy of admitting students now in full swing, the Faculty now produces graduates who emerge in top grades, noting that before now, every course offered by students counted in their computation of their Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA). He disclosed that due to the new policy direction, the Faculty is now encouraged to work even harder as could be measured in the performance of students, adding that "the Faculty is doing very well and the students have made us proud".

Expressing satisfaction over the excellent academic record set by students of the Faculty, the Dean stated that "The joy of every teacher is to see that his or her students do well and we are glad about this development, because for years now, we did not record such achievement in our Departments", observing that the introduction of Post Unified-Tertiary Matriculation Examination (PUTME) screening exercise has contributed to the bountiful harvest through the admission of quality candidates.

"The Faculty's expectation of First Class graduands is for them to come back to the classroom. The classroom is meant for good brains; students who make First Class should come back and impart knowledge to other students", urging them to take their academic pursuit to the next level without shying away from the classroom.

In his contribution, Head, Department of Theatre Arts, Professor Henry Bell-Gam disclosed that the success of students is attributable to hard work on the part of their Lecturers and the students. "Our Lecturers motivate the student by encouraging them to work hard, while the students in turn, are creative and also ready to give of their very best. They have distinguished themselves as disciplined with good character which has earned them success", he said.

Professor Bell-Gam, who regretted that the society has shown laughable ignorance of what Theatre Art is about, explained that it is the mirror of society, which x-rays the negative effects of human actions, pointing out that it cuts across all disciplines, and helps in moulding the society by pointing to a better way to live.

He explained that the Department is organising a *Homecoming Programme* for its celebrated Alumni to see what they left behind and determine areas in which they can assist the Department grow better, adding that he also hopes to start a *Production Theatre Programme* to help generate funds for the University on monthly basis.

The Head of Department stated that as a way of inculcating good morals in the students in line with the philosophy of the University, the Department would be holding a meeting with the incoming students to avail them the opportunity to meet their Lecturers and air their views on issues of concern to them.



Prof Ndimele

Prof Bell-Gam

Science And Technology Crucial To Development ~NOTAP DG



From (L-R), Guest Speaker, Dr Bindir, DV-C Admin. Prof Eibehert Nibaka, V-C, Prof Ajenka, Chairman's representative, Engr Ezeanikwe, DV-C Academic, Prof Igbo Joe and DV-C, R&D, Prof Willie-Abbey, at the event



Plants exhibited at the Fair

Cont'd from p1

to attain the needed development, there was need to integrate Science, Technology and Innovation to form a synergy for the technological advancement that would transform the country, pointing out that Nigeria has huge potentials with its size and population.

According to him, although, Nigeria has what it takes to be the giant of Africa, it has not been able to utilize the abundant human and material resources at her disposal to achieve the status, due to policy inconsistency. He said that lack of encouragement for young Nigerians, who are intellectually endowed with knowledge of invention that would help solve specific problems has brought about a situation where innovation has gone extinct, citing the *Brain Drain* syndrome as a case in point. He lamented that the country does not have a policy that encourages and promotes creativity and innovation.

The Director-General noted that the quest to attain the much touted Vision 20:2020 will be a mirage if conscious efforts are not made to develop Science and Technology, stressing that countries such as China, Malaysia, Indonesia and Venezuela which have emerged as industrialized nations were focused on key strategic development objectives. He advised that for Vision 20:2020 to be realized, government should take up each objective annually, appraising achievable milestones at the end of each year, adding that by so doing, it would achieve a lot within the time-frame.

Dr. Bindir stated that for Science and Technology to be meaningful in our context, the Industry and Universities must collaborate to achieve mutual goals, noting that in the developed world, Science and Technology are inseparable pair. He commended the policy objective of the present administration in the development of Science, Technology and Innovation.

In his remark, Chairman of the occasion, Group General Manager, Research and Development, Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Engineer Nelson Oyudo, who commended the giant strides recorded in the University said, that the transformation is a result of the uncompromising stance of the authorities on standards. Engineer Oyudo, who was represented by Engineer Basil Ezeanikwe, said that the University has succeeded in integrating the community and industry into its activities. He said that NNPC will not be tired of partnering the Institution in accelerating the development of the country.

In his Address, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, said that the event was a dream come true, pointing out that the University is on a mission to become an Entrepreneurial University. Professor Ajenka said that the focus of the University is to become a research-intensive graduate school, noting that last year, the foundation was laid by creating awareness and provision of some academic structures and infrastructure. "Thereafter, we started the building of a research-driven Entrepreneurial University", he stated.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the authorities were setting up Committees made up of national and international industry experts and scholars to conduct Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), evaluate locally relevant and internationally recognised, research as well as assess capacities and capabilities of research teams.

He said that establishment of the new Office of Deputy



V-C, Prof Ajenka and Director, Technology Park, Prof Henry Njoku, at the Exhibition

Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development), is in keeping with international best practice in university academic culture, adding that it would help the University to manage research efficiently and improve accountability to grant-making agencies. The Vice-Chancellor thanked NOTAP for establishing an IPPTO office in the University and solicited the collaboration of NOTAP to grow research and development in Nigerian universities.

Earlier in her address, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Development, Professor Bene Willie-Abbey, said that the University is gradually transforming from a traditional University to an Entrepreneurial University by working to become more enterprising and entrepreneurial activities, stressing that the vision of the Vice-Chancellor in striving towards an Entrepreneurial University has taken off in full swing.

The event was also used to present the *University of Port Harcourt Draft Strategic Research Plan 2011-2016*. Another highlight of the event was the cutting of the Exhibition Tape which featured exhibitions from various Research Centres, Faculties and Departments in the University.

Stop Press

UNIORT Alumni Homecoming Holds April 27

The University of Port Harcourt Alumni Association in conjunction with the University, invites the public to an *Alumni Homecoming* event as part of the 28th Convocation of the University. The event billed to be chaired by the Executive Chairman, Nigeria Atomic Energy Commission, Dr Franklin Osaisai, is scheduled for this Friday, 27th April, 2012. It would commence with a guided tour of the Campus, to be followed by a Lecture titled: "*Leadership and Governance*," to be delivered by an *Alumnus*, Professor Nimi Wariboko, who resides in the United States. The Homecoming event will be rounded off

with the launch of a state-of-the-art *Alumni Centre* to house the Exams and Records and Alumni Secretariat.

The President, His Excellency, Dr Goodluck Jonathan is expected to be the Special Guest of Honour; Rivers State Governor, Rt. Hon Chibuike Amaechi is Guest of Honour; Minister of State for Education, Chief Nyesom Wike, is Special Guest, while High Chief Olu Benson Lulu-Briggs is Chief Launcher. Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka and Mr Sampson Ngerebara, UNIORT Chapter President of the Association are Chief Host and Co-Host, respectively.



V-C, Prof Ajenka, in a handshake with Engr Ezeanikwe

GUIDEPOST

APPOINTMENT

Professor Adewale Dosunmu, Department of Petroleum & Gas Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, appointed *Dean*, School of Advanced Engineering Technology, effective 16th April, 2012 and terminates on 15th April, 2014.

Dr Gabriel Okara, appointed *Writer-In-Residence* in the Faculty of Humanities and Institute of Arts and Culture, effective 16th April, 2012.

Dr Marshall Eneajor, Department of Fine Arts & Design, Faculty of Humanities, appointed *Acting Head* of Department, effective 3rd May, 2012 and terminates on 2nd May, 2014.

Dr Chidi Omordu, Faculty of Education, appointed *Member*, Degree Results Verification Committee (DRVC). The appointment which takes immediate effect, is until further notice.

Mr Okechukwu Adizua, Faculty of Science, appointed *Member*, Degree Results Verification Committee (DRVC). The appointment which takes immediate effect, is until further notice.

Mr A.O. Sofolabo, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, appointed *Member*, Degree Results Verification Committee (DRVC). The appointment which takes immediate effect, is until further notice.

ASSUMPTION OF DUTY

Dr Joseph Omoankhanlen, assumed duty as *Lecturer I* in the Department of Management, Faculty of Management Sciences, effective 7th February, 2012.

Mr Richard Kadana, assumed duty as *Contract Staff* in the Department of Petroleum & Gas Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, effective 11th April, 2012 and terminates 10th April, 2013.

UNESCO/POLAND JOINT FELLOWSHIP

The Nigerian National Commission for UNESCO (NATCOM), on the UNESCO/Poland co-sponsored Fellowship Programme Engineering Cycle 2012, calls for application for a six-month programme in 17 fields of Science, Technology and Engineering at the AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow, Poland. Interested candidates should visit UNESCO website or http://www.unesco.org/new/en/venice/about-this-office/single-view/news/call_for_applications_unescopoland_co-sponsored_fellowship_s_programme_cycle_2012_engineering_deadline_15_may_2012.

Candidates are further advised to forward their forms to mamaidoh@yahoo.com on or before 30th April, 2012 for submission before the 15th May deadline.

FREE EXERCISE BOOKS

The University is expected to benefit from a donation of 3,000 Exercise Books by *Lestat Entertainment*, organizers of Rap Attack Music. The free books, which would be delivered on 27th April, 2012 and sponsored by ONWARD NIG PLC, is part of a gesture aimed at promoting entertainment, as well as encourage three students of the University, who qualified for the final contest in the audition of Rap Music.

SGS PUBLIC LECTURES SERIES

The School of Graduate Studies (SGS) invites the University Community to the 7th Public Lecture Series titled: "Nigerian Transformational Development Programmes: The Ivory Towers, Where art thou? Are there opportunities to pick? to be delivered by former Head of Service of the Federation, Professor Oladapo Afolabi on Tuesday, 8th May, 2012 at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium. Time is 11:00am.

Contact: Mrs Agatha Ataga, Graduate Studies Officer

SAFETY ALERT

- Security is everybody's business.
- Report all strange faces to the Security Department.
- Don't touch strange objects. Be Vigilant!

BRIEFS FROM OTHER VARSITIES

UNIABUJA EMBROILS IN MULTIPLE CRISIS

As the ministerial task team on University of Abuja was yet to settle down to implement its mandate of working out modalities of meeting a six-month deadline for the accreditation of three suspended Faculties, the UNIABUJA Branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), has added a new twist to the problem with its demand for the removal of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor James Adelabu.

The Faculties that require urgent accreditation, according to the Terms of Reference are: Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Engineering. The task team, is expected to among other things, meet with professional regulatory bodies such as the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN), the Veterinary Council of Nigeria (VCN) and the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN).

PETROLEUM

VARSITY ORDERS STUDENTS TO RESUME

The new management of the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Ughomoro, Delta State, has directed its students to resume immediately. Final Year students were also urged to get prepared for their terminal examination, which they aborted owing to non-accreditation of some courses.

In an emergency meeting of Senate of the Institution, Final Year Students were asked to return to Campus as measures are in place to address thorny issues relating to the growth of the School which was upgraded to University status by the administration of former President Olusegun Obasanjo.

DELSU MATRICULATES 7,463

A total of 7,463 fresh students took the *Matriculation Oath* at the Matriculation Ceremony of Delta State University, DELSU, Abraka last weekend. Vice-Chancellor, Professor Eric Arubayi, who recalled that the University was established in 1992 by the first Executive Governor of the State, Felix Ibru, advised the students to display good conduct to enable them achieve the primary purpose of being in the Institution, informing them that any students, who conducts him/herself in a manner that is at variance with the rules and regulations of the Institution would be sanctioned accordingly.

MALAYSIAN STUDENTS TO GAIN FREE ACCESS TO JOIN PARTIES, BUT NOT ON CAMPUS

by Honey Vindee & Yohana Sharma

Bills to amend long standing laws banning students from joining political parties were tabled in Malaysia's parliament penultimate week, with student groups and opposition parties saying that restrictive university laws should be repealed not amended. Higher Education Minister, Khaled Nordin on Monday, 9th April, 2012, tabled amendments to three laws including the 'notorious' Section 15 of the Universities and University Colleges Act, or UUCA (also known by its Malaysian acronym AUKU), as well as the Private Higher Education and Education Institutions Acts.

The amendments would allow students to join a political party, which is currently forbidden in the country.

However, the right to join political parties will only apply off-campus, to avoid undue influence of political parties on campuses and politicisation of universities, the Ministry has said.

Student organisations have said the amendments are cosmetic and do not go far enough to restore their constitutional rights. This is because political activities will continue to be forbidden at universities, including the right of students to stand for election or hold any posts in student societies, organisations or groups on campus. The issues raised are about student autonomy and freedom and not just membership of political parties, according to Solidariti Mahasiswa Malaysia, or SMM, an umbrella group of Malaysian student organisations.

Culled from World University News

-Compiled by Otiok Samuel

PASSAGE

The University announces the passage of *Barinaadua Deebom-Nwike* on Thursday, 22nd March, 2012. Until his death, he was an Administrative Officer in the Academic Office (Registry Department). His remains were laid to rest last Saturday at his home town, Lumene-Bangha, Khana Local Government Area, Rivers State. May his soul rest in peace.



Late Mr. Deebom-Nwike

NNPC Staff Donates Prostate Cancer Equipment To UNIPORT



Dr. Ariweriokuma, handing over some of the equipment to V-C, Prof. Ajienka

Cont'd from p1

would be installed at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH) to make them easily accessible to a wider clientele in line with the vision of the donor.

Dr. Ariweriokuma, who was accompanied by his wife, Sabinah and Project Consultant, Mr Amos James, said he was motivated to make the donation in recognition of the fact that "prostate cancer is silently killing productive men in their early 50s and above. The idea behind the gesture by my family is to enable health personnel deploy the

equipment for early diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer in men to allow them enjoy their lives better than many of them are doing at the moment", pointing out that early detection of the silent killer would save lives through its prevention. Prostate cancer is currently the second biggest killer disease amongst men in their 50s.

In addition to the equipment, the donor also announced that operational chemicals were included in the package to enable the Hospital put the equipment to use

immediately, disclosing that more of such chemicals would be made available every January to facilitate the screening process in the University and its environs. According to Dr. Ariweriokuma, plans have also been concluded for the Consultant to train the personnel that would handle the equipment, hoping that the University and its environs would benefit from the donation once it becomes fully operational. He disclosed that the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, reviewed a book he wrote on the oil and gas industry, a gesture that prompted him to donate some of the proceeds to social causes, including the

money invested in purchasing the equipment given to the University.

Receiving the equipment, a visibly delighted Vice-Chancellor, said that "it is something of joy to see people who were once associated with the University returning to give back something for the benefit of those they left behind", disclosing that the donor had made valuable contributions as a former staff of the University. "I am very pleased to note that he has maintained this valuable relationship with the University where he still has most of his best friends", adding that Western nations enjoy good health largely on account of their capacity for early diagnosis and treatment of potentially life-threatening ailments that kill many people in Africa.

Professor Ajienka, who commended the good example of Dr. Ariweriokuma to other public-spirited individuals and groups towards the public good, observed that such acts of philanthropy would necessarily attract the grace of the Almighty, expressing gratitude to the donor for his kind gesture aimed at saving lives in the University. He reiterated his call on industry players to bring their vast pool of experience to the University in a cross-fertilization of ideas that would be mutually-beneficial to both parties and the larger society.

Also speaking, Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Professor Chris Akani, observed that "most people in privileged positions hardly remember their past associations in their future dealings. Such persons simply cultivate new associations to suit their enhanced status", expressing gratitude to Dr. Ariweriokuma for remaining in touch with the University, despite parting ways with it many years ago. He disclosed that the College had concluded plans to commence a lecture series on prostate cancer aimed at improving awareness of the killer disease amongst men in their 50s and above.

Communication scholars and eminent personalities, including teaching and non-teaching staff of the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, thronged the International Students' Centre for a two-day Conference in honour of an accomplished Journalism teacher and mentor, Professor Sylvanus Ekwelie, who disengaged from contract appointment after meritorious services to the University and propagating media theories spanning over three decades.

Professor Ekwelie, who was contracted by the University to coordinate the Communication Studies component of the Postgraduate programme of the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies upon his retirement from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN) in 2001, succeeded in producing eight Doctoral and several Master's Degree holders with Dr. Chris Ochoyogor as his first PhD beneficiary in the Department.

The former Dean of Arts at UNN, with over 33 articles in learned Journals and more than eight chapters in mass communication books, according to the Acting Head of Department, Dr. Walter Ihejirika, contributed immensely to the growth of the Communication Studies component, which was why the Department honoured him to mark his formal disengagement from active academic work.

In his remark, Chairman of the occasion and Dean, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Professor Oleka Udeala, described Professor Ekwelie as an accomplished academic, who distinguished himself in championing the growth of the subject, pointing out that a man literally leaves again when in his life time, he is honoured for his selfless services to humanity.

Responding, Professor Ekwelie, who thanked staff and



Emenanjo, Utomi, Okonkwo, Udeala, Ekwelie (standing), Ihejirika, others

Utomi, Okonkwo, Others, Present Papers

By Otiok Samuel

students for marking his formal disengagement with a Conference and book presentation, expressed hope that products of the Department would soon take over the media environment that does not condone mediocrity.

With the main theme as "Advocacy Journalism for National Development," eminent scholars presented Lead Papers at the Conference. In his presentation, Professor Pat Utomi of Lagos Business School, who spoke on "Critical Journalism and Development," identified inadequate training, free entry, economic structure and partisanship of media practitioners, as well as competing ethnic nationality groups as parts of institutional deficiencies in the growth of Nigerian media practice. Professor Utomi further

attributed inefficiency in the system to lack of tools for analysis, advocating the urgent need to boost the Journalism profession by shifting from the usual soft style of reporting to rational discourse which entails in-depth evaluation of critical issues.

"Journalists should be trained in specific critical areas to get full knowledge so that they would not be easily swayed by experts in such areas," he added, saying that news-makers could easily assert themselves as superiors when journalists are seen as subservient to them.

The Guest Speaker, who advised Journalists against shying away from ethics of the profession, regretted a situation where some persons set up media establishments with the primary target of meeting their economic needs, oblivious of the fact that it is a serious profession that mirrors societal ills with a view of making it a better place.

Professors Claude Okonkwo, Nole Emenanjo amongst other academics presented Papers, while Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Professor Ozo-Mekuri Ndimele, Deputy Speaker, Rivers State House of Assembly, Mr Leyi Kwame, represented by David Amusa, Acting Head, Department of Mass Communication, Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Dr. Godwin Okon presented goodwill messages.

The presentation of a book titled: *Style in Media Production: Essays in Honour of S.A. Ekwelie*, was a major highlight of the event.