



Music Dept Celebrates Harcourt Whyte's Legacy

It was another musical festival of sorts as the Department of Music again rolled out a variety of spectacular performances in celebration of music legend, Sir Ikoli Harcourt Whyte, who turned his solitary moments at Uzuokali, Abia State into a blessing for humanity with his gospel compositions and teachings reports *Otikor Samuel*

More on p3

Side Bar

Professor B.E Nwagwu of the Department of Philosophy delivers the 86th Inaugural Lecture this Thursday. Watch out for details -Editor



UNI^{PORT} Weekly

Vol. 9, No. 5

May 28 - June 4, 2012

ISSN: 2780-2945

For Information and Enlightenment

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

V-C, Others, Task Experts On Speech Disorders
Story on p2

TOTAL Lays Foundation Stone For IPS Phase II
Story on p4



UNI^{PORT}, PAX Herbal Clinic, Sign MOU
Story on p5



Provost, Others, Get NIMSA Award
Story on p6



Alex Ibru Legacy Lecture Series

Darah Advocates Better Deal For Niger Delta

...As Academics, Associates, Stand For Ibru

By Humphrey Ogu

At the maiden edition of Alex Ibru Legacy Lecture Series organized by the University of Port Harcourt held last Tuesday, former Chairman of the Editorial Board of *The Guardian*, Professor Godini

Gabriel Darah, has called for the amendment of Sections 44(3) and 162 (2) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as a way to ameliorate the suffering of the peoples of the Niger Delta and secure their future. Professor Darah, who was Guest Lecturer at the event which had

"The Vision after the Man" as its theme, made the recommendation while delivering a Lecture titled: "Natural Resources and the Quest for Justice: The Future of Niger Delta" at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park.

"The transformation of the social

Cont'd on p6



Read UNI^{PORT} Weekly Online at www.uniport.edu.ng

Child Communication Disorders

V-C, Others, Task Experts On Remedial Measures

By Mercy Don-Baridam

The plight of children with early communication and cognitive disorders and possible remedial measures aimed at giving them succour came to the fore at a three-day Conference on the subject under the auspices of the Centre for Children Developmental and Communication Disorders in the University of Port Harcourt. At the event which formed part of the First Alex Ibru Legacy Lecture organized by the Alex Ibru Chair in communication, language experts and paediatricians focused on the plight of children with communication disorders in the Niger Delta region and the country at large.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, gave the charge while declaring open the 1st UNIPORT Children Disability Week, with the theme: *Early Childhood - What can go Wrong?* which held at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium last Wednesday, stressing that "Every civilization is rated by the way it treats the weakest segments of its population. We owe ourselves a duty to invest more time, energy, resources and love on children with special needs".

He added that there is need to train special Caregivers to address the peculiar needs of children with communication and cognitive disorder in line with the vision of building a gentler and kinder and more humane society. Professor Ajenka, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, disclosed that every child is born with special talents and abilities that must be fully developed to transform him or her into a useful and productive member of society.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, the plight of children with communication disorder is worsened by the day without prompt remedial measures to enable them live normal life, advocating dispensing with superstitious beliefs that communication and cognitive disorders in children are punishments inflicted by the devil. Professor Ajenka called on parents and guardians to desist from such obnoxious and cruel practice by providing an enabling atmosphere for such children to develop their God-given potentials as there are abilities in their disabilities.

He commended the Keynote Speaker, Professor Kanu Nkanginieme of the College of Health Sciences, the Alex Ibru Chair Occupant, Professor Shirley Yul-Ifoke and other participants for organizing such an event in honour of a great man as Dr Alex Ibru, who dedicated himself to a life of distinguished service to society

through engaging in good causes, especially uplifting the downtrodden in society.

Keynote Speaker, Professor Nkanginieme, who is of the Department of Paediatrics, noted that communication and cognitive disorders can be prevented if people learn how to eat well, trust more and communicate better.

Professor Nkanginieme observed that in the 21st century, there has been a global shift in health talk and action from individual to community, from clinical medicine to disease prevention, challenging Nigerians, educators, policy formulators, linguists, doctors, psychologists and sociologists, who have the interest of children at heart to begin to think, talk and act positively to strengthen communities rather than continue to worship individuals.

According to him, it has been his desire to share his thoughts on child development, communication and human social evolution and also speculate on where we have gone wrong as a people, lamenting that our child mortality indices has remained very high, where Nigerian adults thoughtlessly spend Government money for medical check-ups abroad and have no value for human life.

Professor Nkanginieme stressed the need to sensitize the youths to learn, shift attention from biologic to social evolution of man, look at organic developmental communication disorders of man, stressing the need to invest resources for youth development to enhance the children's future and guarantee our own eternity. The Paediatrician's lecture also covered such factors as food, trust, communication, characteristics and challenges of the developing child.

In his remark, former Vice-Chancellor, Professor Don Baridam, who chaired the event, expressed gratitude to the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies and the Occupant of the Alex Ibru Chair, Professor Shirley Yul-Ifoke for organizing the Congress on a regular basis since 2006.

Professor Baridam noted that the theme of this year's Congress was very timely, stating that the early life of an individual is a signpost which gives hope that the future of the child would be better or worse. He commended the Keynote Speaker for his mastery of the subject-matter of childhood disorders, describing him as the best expert to address such a topic.

In her speech, Convener and Director of the Centre, Professor Yul-Ifoke advocated the need for collaboration from all disciplines, disclosing that "It has been documented and talked about that there is no known one single treatment for some cases of developmental



Prof Nduka, DV-C (Admin)

communication disorders. It is equally known that the most effective approach is multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary approach to the problem".

She commended the Children's Developmental Centre, Lagos (CDC) for partnering the Centre over the years and Paediatricians from the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH) for their valuable input.

The event featured paper presentations from different speakers and drama presentations by the Children's Developmental Centre, Lagos, by Dr Yinka Akindayomi. Highlight of the event was a special drama presentation by children from University Demonstration Primary School and Tim Visual Special Academy, Port Harcourt.



Mrs Matilda Nnodim, Registrar

ICTC To Train Staff, Students, On Internet Use

...As Ofurum Heads Unit To Market Varsity

By Otikor Samuel

For the benefit of staff and students who are yet to fully grasp the knowledge of emergent technologies in information storage and retrieval systems, as well as efficiency in use of the Internet, the Staff Training & Development Unit (STDU) in conjunction with Information and Communication Technology Centre (ICTC) has concluded arrangements for a two-day Awareness/Sensitization programme holding between Tuesday, 5th and Wednesday, 6th June, 2012. A Memo signed by Mr David Amadi and made available to *UNIPORT Weekly*, said the Workshop would train staff and students on areas such as Internet username/password, e-mail address, online document sharing and collaboration, simple network connectivity, trouble-shooting techniques and procedures for reporting faults to the networking units.

The first session slated for teaching and non-teaching staff on Tuesday, 5th June, 2012 at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium would hold at 10:00am, while students would take their turn on Wednesday, 6th June, 2012 at the same venue.

In another development, Dr Clifford Ofurum, has been appointed Coordinator, Marketing and Communication Unit in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor. A letter which conveyed the appointment and signed by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, said the appointment takes immediate effect, listing the *Terms of Reference* of the Committee to include liaising with different organs of the University to effectively sell and market activities of the University to the outside world. Other members of the team are: Professor Ben Ndukwe, Dr C.N. Ogbuji, Miss Lucy Oruene and Mr Ikechi Ibeji.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Prof Joseph Ajenka	- Publisher	
Dr Emekwe	- Editorial Chair	
Austen Sado	- Editorial Adviser	
Otikor Samuel	- Editor	
Obinna Nwodin	- Associate Editor	
Correspondents:	Secretary:	Photography:
Mercy Don-Baridam	Gladys Amadi (Mrs)	Headman Alu
Otikor Samuel		Michelle Ekiyor
Humphrey Ogu	Graphics:	
Ethel Tins-Johnson	Chika King-James (Mrs)	

Call: 08033093371



V-C, Prof. Ajenka (arrowed), some Principal Officers of the University, guests and members of UNIPORT Concert Chorus

Cont'd from p1

Music Dept Celebrates Harcourt Whyte's Legacy Achinivu Set To Activate Chair

The event was a celebration of 107 years of Ikoli Harcourt Whyte, held on

Friday, 18th and Saturday, 19th May, 2012 at the Department of Music in Delta Park in honour of the great composer and music maestro, as well as preacher, teacher and conductor, who demonstrated ability in disability in spite of his peculiar circumstance.

Speaking as Special Guest, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, disclosed that the University would immortalize the late Harcourt Whyte by staging annual choral festivals to celebrate him, adding that recordings and documenting songs and autobiography of the music legend would be major activities of the Sir Harcourt Whyte Chair in Choral Music, which his Administration instituted to celebrate music with a view to transforming the University into a centre of excellence in music. The Chair is occupied by Dr Kanu Achinivu, an associate of the late Harcourt Whyte, who he commissioned to propagate his music to the world before he died in 1977 in a ghastly motor accident that put an abrupt end to a brilliant musical career.

Professor Ajenka, who expressed optimism that the world would come to appreciate the late composer better by the time full activities commence on the Chair, commended Dr Achinivu for accepting the offer to bring his knowledge to bare in documenting, recording, translating and transcribing works of the choral music icon.

In his address, Head, Department of Music, Professor Onyee Nwankpa, said the event was put together to celebrate 107

years of late Ikoli Harcourt Whyte, who was born in Abonnema, Akuku Toru Local Government Area, Rivers State in 1905 and died as a result of a fatal motor accident on 19th May, 1977.

"All over the world, great artists are celebrated and Societies are set up and named after them to celebrate their works. We have societies associated with such composers as Bach, Handel, Mozart, Beethoven, Wagner and Tchaikovsky, to mention a few. For instance, *Bach-Gesellschaft*, a German society founded in 1850, had the objective of publishing a complete critical and chronological edition of J.S. Bach's works," Professor Nwankpa observed, expressing gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor that a similar effort is now put in place by the University to immortalize Sir Harcourt Whyte.

The Head of Department thanked the Vice-Chancellor for instituting the Sir Ikoli Harcourt Whyte Chair in Choral Music as a fallout of impressive performances staged at the maiden edition of Garden City Choral Festival organized by the Department last December with the theme: *Restoring Hope through Choral Music: The Odyssey of Ikoli Harcourt Whyte*.

In an interview with *UNIPORT Weekly*, Occupant of the Chair, Dr Achinivu, who wrote his *Doctoral Thesis* on the works of the great legend and has been severally described as a faithful follower of late Harcourt Whyte, expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for given him the opportunity to commence actualization of the dream of his musical mentor and inspiration.

"Harcourt Whyte left about 300 pieces of music. He sent a message to me before he died instructing me to ensure that his music is arranged in staff notations for the world to hear. He sent this message after he had met my people and asked them to allow me study music which was on my mind. He told my people that probably through me the world would hear about him and his words were prophetic. However, I presented only 50 pieces of his music in my *Doctoral dissertation*. I have been inhibited by funds in my effort to document the rest, but if funds are made available for the Chair, we will document, record, translate and transcribe all the 300 pieces," Dr Achinivu said, describing the songs of Harcourt Whyte as perfect reflection of African musical composition.

The retired Music Lecturer, who formed the *Achinivu-Harcourt Whyte Chorale* at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, which partially featured on Independence Day celebration in 1981, however, expressed disappointment with the Federal Ministry of Culture that had cancelled the dance drama on Harcourt Whyte, which he collaborated with late Professor Ola Rotimi to stage at the event, calling on public-spirited individuals and groups to show interest in promoting indigenous works.

The UNIPORT Concert Chorus performed the music of Harcourt Whyte at the occasion. Also present were: DV-C (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, Emeritus Professor Emmanuel Anosike, Professor Ayegebaemi Spiff, Rev Kelechi Francis of Our Saviour's Chapel and family of the late musical legend.

4th Faculty Of Science Lecture Series

Varsities Can Make Returns To Govt Through Applied Research ~Willie-Abbey

By Humphrey Ogu

If properly harnessed, the Faculty of Science has the potential to drive research that would not only solve problems in the University, but also fast track fulfilment of the Entrepreneurial dream of the present Administration and also create an enabling environment for the University to start making financial returns to government.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development), Professor Bene Willie-Abbey, made the observation while delivering the Fourth Quarterly Research/Lecture Series of Faculty of Science, titled: *"Imperative of Entrepreneurial University: The Contribution of Science Faculty"* at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium penultimate Wednesday. She said that the University could generate revenue through research products and even lend money to government in future.

"There is so much pressure on traditional universities to change their roles. University degree is no longer a voucher for gaining white collar job. There should be policy redesign. It is now mandatory for universities to be enterprising. Countries in Europe, America and Asia have all joined in the transformation into research institutions," Willie-Abbey pointed out, regretting that only South Africa and Egypt have joined the race in Africa.

She disclosed that the University "built a pilot Paint Plant that manufacture high quality paints and other chemicals. Our research focus is on substitution of imported raw materials with our local materials. Our research is multidisciplinary; students would have hands-on experience in paint-making and

other product manufacturing. *Academy Colour* is the name of our paint," she said, stating that henceforth only the product would be allowed on Campus for painting of buildings.

According to her, plans are on to develop a bakery for the production of cassava flour bread, disclosing that the Faculty of Agriculture has a mushroom production unit which would be upgraded to produce mushroom for export. She called for collaborative research, stating that it is the way to go in today's world.

Also speaking, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who noted that the Faculty of Science is very critical in the University's research efforts, said that many of those occupying important positions are from the Faculty. Professor Ajenka, assured stakeholders of his willingness to ensure that the point system was changed to encourage collaborative research if well presented to the appropriate organs of the University.

The Vice-Chancellor, who disclosed that through partnership with industry, student and staff have opportunity to carry out research in standard industry laboratories, urged Professor Willie-Abbey to replicate the Lecture in other Faculties, adding that they all have roles to play in the realization of the University's Entrepreneurial dream.

In his contribution, Emeritus Professor Emmanuel Anosike, who faulted the reward system in which research Lecturers are promoted based on

researches, said that such a system negates the spirit of collaborative research. "Those of us who have become professors are now able to do collaborative research because you don't depend on that for promotion. All over the world, research is done by teams, but our system forces scientists to research individually for the sole purpose of promotion, thus producing research that gather dust on the shelves."

He decried lack of infrastructure to facilitate research, stressing the need to focus on translation of research into finished products. Citing Bill Gates of the Microsoft fame and the father of Apple Computer, Steve Jobs, as great scientists, who gave so much to the world and became the world's richest men, he said that at various times, Anosike challenge young researchers in the University to think of innovations they can bequeath to humanity rather than personal gains.



Prof Willie-Abbey, DV-C (R&D)



Mrs Ofili-Okonkwo
laying foundation
stone

TOTAL Lays Foundation Stone For IPS Phase II ...As Ofili-Okonkwo Succeeds Addeh

By Mercy Don-Baridam and Williams Wodi

It was all smiles and back-slapping last Tuesday as the long anticipated foundation-laying ceremony for the second phase of the Institute of Petroleum Studies building was laid in grand style at the IPS Park along East-West Road. With the turning of sod ceremony now completed, the Institute's plans to become the foremost centre of excellence in hydrocarbon studies and project development is now within reach.

Speaking at the foundation-laying ceremony, a visibly delighted Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka said, "With the foundation now laid for the commencement of Phase II of the IPS building, I am sure we would be able to realize the vision of the Institute which is not only to teach students, but also to produce world-class graduates, who are capable of solving complex industry problems through quality research in properly-equipped laboratories and also accommodate other programmes that are relevant to the growth of the Institute and University of Port Harcourt. I have strong belief in the ability of students and instructors at IPS to widen the frontiers of knowledge and with the completion of this important project, the Institute is set to place Nigeria on the global map in petroleum and gas studies and petroleum economics in the nearest future".

Professor Ajenka commended TOTAL and its joint operating partners, including the IFP School in Paris, France, for a worthy partnership with the University that has resulted in the establishment of a world-class Institute that has become a reference point in oil and gas studies in the Gulf of Guinea and beyond, expressing gratitude to them for keeping faith with the project.

Speaking earlier, Director of the Institute, Professor Mike Onyekonwu, had disclosed that "IPS is the pride of the University which has come a long way and we are now getting reports that other agencies have started to emulate us by attempting to establish similar Institutes in other universities. This University would continue to ensure that IPS continues to tower over and above all other institutions of its kind in the country and elsewhere" he said, assuring the joint partners that the standards already set in the Institute would be difficult to meet, let alone being surpassed elsewhere.

He expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ajenka, immediate past Chairman of the Board of Governors, Engineer John Addeh and his successor, Mrs. Edith Ofili-Okonkwo for setting the pace in realizing the laudable vision of the Institute, hailing them as worthy pioneers who would always be remembered for their uncommon commitment to the

success of the IPS model. He also paid glowing tribute to Engineers Emmanuel Chiejina and Anthony Abolarin for their commendable pioneering efforts and total support that resulted in establishment of the Institute, assuring them that their effort would always be remembered in the University of Port Harcourt.

Also speaking, outgoing Chairman of the Board, Engineer Addeh, thanked members of the Board and staff of the Institute for supporting him while in office. Addeh who described IPS as a major success story of

Committee Recommends Establishment Of A/L Programme In UNIPORT

By Obinna Nwodin

In a bid to accommodate new levels of study in the University, the Committee on Establishment of Advanced Level/High School Certificate Programme under the College of Continuing Education has submitted its Report to the Vice-Chancellor.

Handing over the Report, Chairman of the Committee, Dr. Ngozi Odu, said that the initiative was not only timely, but a worthy intervention that would offer a bridging gap for candidates in the South-East and South-South regions of the country, recommending that the University should commence the process of acquiring or leasing a property in a suitable area within Port Harcourt for early take-off of the programme in September, 2013. The Committee also advised the University to restructure its degree programmes in order to accommodate products of the proposed Advanced level programme.

Receiving the Report, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, said that the authorities were thinking ahead to ensure that programmes offered in the University were streamlined to meet the changing times. He thanked members of the Committee for accepting to serve, believing that they have what it takes to produce quality Report.

Earlier in his remarks, Director of the College of Continuing Education (CCE), Professor Steve Okodudu, lauded the vision of the Vice-Chancellor in being futuristic in his strategic plan to raise the quality of programmes in the University, assuring him of the preparedness of the College to key into the plan to achieve the Administration's Entrepreneurial vision.

Also Speaking, a Member of the Committee, Professor Greg Kemjika, who commended the Vice-Chancellor for the initiative, thanked him for appointing them to serve the University, hoping that the recommendations contained in the Report would help to lift the academic tone of the University.

TOTAL aimed at internationalizing oil and gas training at home assured the University that his successor would sustain the laudable project. In her remark, new Executive General Manager in charge of Special Duties, TOTAL, Mrs. Edith Ofili-Okonkwo, expressed gratitude to the Board for the opportunity to serve, assuring all stakeholders of her commitment to ensuring that IPS is taken to greater heights on her watch. "To succeed, I would strive very hard to perfect the commendable job that my predecessors have done. If we are committed we would move this Institute to greater heights and make it the envy of similar institutes anywhere in the world," she noted.

Also speaking, General Manager of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Port Harcourt Refinery Alesa-Elene, Engineer Anthony Ogbuigwe said, "If our country had institutes like IPS, such institutions and the nation would be better placed to incubate workable ideas", commending Management of the Institute and University of Port Harcourt for making a huge success of the IPS concept that is now being copied by other universities in the country.

In his contribution, Executive General Manager, Corporate Services of TOTAL, Engineer Vincent Nnadi, had congratulated the Contractor that won the project, Icy Blitzcon Limited, Mr. Ikwuka Ojukwu, for winning the first and second phases of the project after contending with 40 other contractors that also bid for the project, charging him to complete the work within the stipulated timeline. He also advised the Contractor to deliver a very high-quality job that would match the high standards already established in IPS.

Mr. Nnadi, explained that Phase II of the project would complement Phase I of the which was completed in 2003, stating that this phase of the building would comprise of a 357-itter auditorium, four laboratories and Lecturer rooms and three Lecture halls, while the rest would constitute the ancillary components of the project.

Also Present at the ceremony were: Deputy Director IPS, Dr. Joel Ogbonna, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Professor Samuel Ejele, two of his predecessors, Professors Ify Nwaogazie and John Okoli, Professor Bosa Okoli, Acting Director of the University Advancement Centre, Dr. Ngozi Odu and Acting Head, Department of Gas and Petroleum Engineering, Dr. Sunday Ikensikimama, among others.

It would be recalled that the Committee was inaugurated on 11th October 2011 to work out modalities for the commencement of an Advanced Level/ HSC Programmes for the University of Port Harcourt International Secondary School, advise on possible affiliation of the programme with international examining bodies and educational institutions and hostel accommodation for potential students of the emergent programme, as well as any other issue that may be relevant for the effective take-off of the programme.

Other members of the Committee are: Professor Henry Njoku, Professor Achior Akakuru, Mr. Dafua Sharp-Akashu, Dr. Hyacinth Ajie, Dr. Chinelo Ugwu, Mr. Godson Ideozu, while Mr. Ejima Okechukwu served as Secretary.



Committee Chairman, Dr Odu handing over the
Report to V-C, Prof Ajenka

In a bid to foster good health among staff and students, the Port Harcourt University Medical and Dental Students Association (PUMDSA), has conducted free medical checkups as part of activities marking the 2012 Health Week of the Association.

Briefing *UNIPORT Weekly* on the programme of activities, Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee, Obinna Ikouwa, explained that the Week, which kicked off with a Thanksgiving Service at *Our Saviour's Chapel*, featured rally, medical outreach, Dinner and Awards Night, amongst others. Ikouwa, who noted that the medical outreach covered examination for body mass index (BMI), blood pressure, blood group, random blood sugar, dental check, disclosed that patients were counselled appropriately and where necessary, advised to see medical doctors for proper treatment.

"We counsel them on the need to see our senior colleagues so that their health matters would be sorted out earlier. When they go to the hospital, the prognosis will be better than when they present their cases late," he said, disclosing that the Association liaised with the National Blood Transfusion Service (NBTS) to facilitate blood donation. He disclosed that students donated 48 pounds of blood.

Also speaking, PUMDSA Vice-President and Director of Fundraising, PUMDSA Health Week 2012, Adaobi Oforde, said that "we had wanted to do a rapid diagnostic test for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), but we could not due to financial constraints. We also planned to distribute Long Lasting Insecticide-Treated Mosquito Nets, and free drugs, but we could not, because we were financially handicapped."

She expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajiienka and other well-meaning individuals, who contributed financially and otherwise to ensure the success of the programme, soliciting their supports in future events.

Other members of the team included, Head of Logistics, Gabriel Pekun and a member of Logistics Sub-Committee, Ebubechi Ibegbula, who noted that planning the programme and still attend lectures was a major challenge to the trainee doctors.

PUMDSA Health Week 2012

Staff, Students, Enjoy Free Medical Tests

By Humphrey Ogu



A scene at the free medical tests

UNIPORT Signs MoU With PAX Herbal Clinic

By Obinna Nwodin

Efforts aimed at tapping into the full potentials of herbal medicine received renewed impetus when authorities of the University of Port Harcourt signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with an indigenous herbal laboratory, PAX Herbal Clinic and Research Laboratories to collaborate in joint research projects. The Agreement is expected to result in

courses in herbal therapies and healthcare, establish joint research programs in herbal therapies and healthcare that would be of benefit to the Federal Government of Nigeria in areas related to application of science and technology as well as execute and conclude projects mutually agreed upon by both institutions.

The parties also agreed to cooperate on review of the curriculum on alternative medicine to be taught Undergraduate Pharmacy students in UNIPORT, exchange of herbal therapies and healthcare literature produced by either or both parties, as well as exchange materials on topical research undertaken by researchers from both institutions, share knowledge and expertise in herbal therapies and healthcare and operate through establishment of a *Bio Shop* for display and sale of PAX Herbal products in the University of Port Harcourt, as well as organize conferences, seminars and symposia of mutual interest to both institutions.

Professor Ajiienka, who commended management of the Clinic for developing the country's abundant herbal medicine, expressed the determination of researchers in the University to partner it in the production of quality remedies to tackle emergent diseases that appear to resist western medicines, assuring Father Adodo of total cooperation in the full implementation of the terms of the Agreement.

Father Adodo, who is Director of the globally-renowned PAX Herbal Clinic, was in the University to deliver a well-received public titled: *Tackling the Global Health burden: The Role of African Herbal Medicine*, at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, warned orthodox medical practitioners against continued indifference to the potency of traditional African medicine in modern healthcare delivery, noting that staying on the sideline and complaining about so-called quackery in the profession would not solve the problem of fully integrating both practices to achieve the health needs of Nigerians and also tap its huge foreign exchange potentials of traditional medicine as the Indians and Chinese are currently doing.



V-C, Prof Ajiienka exchanging copy of the MoU with Director, PAX Herbal Clinic, Dr Adodo

collaboration in quality herbal medicine research and development between the consenting parties. The event which took place penultimate Tuesday at the Vice-Chancellor's Committee Room sealed a partnership pact between the two organizations on mutually beneficial terms in pursuit of the programme.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajiienka, and Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim, who was represented by Director, Personnel Matters, Mr. Roland Wabali, signed on behalf of the University, while Director, PAX Herbal Clinic, Rev. Fr. Anselm Adodo signed for the famous herbal institution located in Ewu, Edo State.

Under the Agreement, both organizations agreed to exchange research and academic staff for purposes of training, research, teaching and presentation of special

Expert Calls For Partnership In Local Ceramics Production

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

In a move aimed at consolidating efforts by the National Gallery of Art to boost visual arts in the country, a renowned ceramist in the University, Dr Edem Peters, has called on industrialists to partner Ceramists in the production of earthenware which could enhance local content, stating that such partnership would assist in the fabrication of traditional pots, tiles, sanitary and dinner wares, electrical insulators, furnaces and kilns, engine parts and computer chips, amongst other ceramic tools that are useful to man.

Speaking to *UNIPORT Weekly* penultimate Thursday after a zonal exhibition tagged: "Waves of Breakthrough: A Solo Ceramics Exhibition," held in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State last December, Dr Peters, who enumerated the benefits of patronizing local producers, said such partnership would lead to refinement of the products as well as boost the economy of Nigeria.

The Exhibitor, who pointed out that materials for ceramics production could be sourced locally with less financial obligation, noted that the exhibition was aimed at enlightening the populace, especially the youths on the gains of entrepreneurship. "We have the materials in surplus, all that is needed is the interest," he said, adding that with time more industries would use ceramics for technical and architectural designs.

Peters, who noted that ceramics enjoys high patronage in and outside the country, disclosed that traditional earthenware are medicinal, citing clay pots used for water storage as rich in calcium and contribute significantly to refreshing the body tissues. "Clay pots glazed or designed are still rich in minerals", he said.



Dr Peters

Darah Advocates Better Deal For Niger Delta

Cont'd from p1

conditions of adults and children in the Niger Delta cannot be achieved unless and until some fundamental laws and policies are changed. The changes in the laws of resource ownership and exploitation will enable all the federating units to earn the revenue they need to fund their development. These changes are imperative for the Niger Delta because it has been exploited for over forty years," he pointed out.

"Section 44(3) of the 1999 Constitution should be amended to vest ownership and exploitation of natural resources on the federating units. This change would encourage healthy competition in economic and social development. From the enhanced income that the units will get, they will contribute a percentage to the central government to run essential national services. As an interim measure, Section 162 (2) of the Constitution should be amended such that the derivation will increase from 13% to 50%," Darah, who is of the Department of English and Literary Studies, Delta State University, Abraka, said.

The Don, who also called for the amendment of the Land Use and National Inland Waterways Authority Act, said that "to facilitate the growth of the oil economy in the host communities, the administrative head offices of the multinational oil companies and the NNPC should be relocated to the Niger Delta Region where they have their exploration operations," recommending tuition-free education with free meals and subsidised transport scheme as incentives for children from the Niger Delta to have access to education.

In his Address, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who recalled that the late Dr Alex Ibru endowed a Professorial Chair in Communications Studies, during the 20th Convocation of the University in 2003, with a take-off grant of ₦25m, which was promptly redeemed, regretted that the activities of the Chair commenced several years after its establishment.

"The Alex Ibru Legacy Lecture Series will not only be an annual exercise, but his valued endowment will be adequately utilized for the benefit of children with communication and cognate disorders in the country, particularly in the Niger Delta Region," the Vice-Chancellor promised.

He described Dr Ibru as "a great achiever and philanthropist per excellence; a man who took journalism in the country to its zenith with establishment of the famous *Guardian Newspaper*



V-C, Prof Ajienka (4th from right), widow of late Dr Ibru, Lady Maiden, other members of the family and Principal Officers of the University after the lecture

group, the widely-acknowledged flagship of Nigerian journalism; a doyen of the hospitality industry, a highly respected statesman, supporter of good causes and exemplary family man, who refused to draw attention to himself during his lifetime."

Also speaking, Wife of late Dr Alex Ibru, Lady Maiden Ibru, who shared with the audience her experience with her late husband, said that if Nigeria is blessed with six of such a fine gentleman as Alex Ibru the country would be better off, advising students to work hard and make honesty and discipline their watch words.

Highlights of the event included a courtesy visit on the Vice-Chancellor by the Ibru family

accompanied by associates such as the Managing Director/Editor-in-Chief of *Guardian Newspapers*, Emeka Izeze, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Debo Adesina, Chief Operating Officer, Dr Alex Thomopolus, Executive Directors, Toke and Tive Alex-Ibru, as well as Chairman Editorial Board of *The Punch Newspapers*, Segun Adediran and Professor Kofi Duncan. There was also a moving tribute on Alex Ibru by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ajienka interspersed with musical interlude by UNIPORT Concert Chorus. Others include a presentation of plaque to Lady Ibru by the Isoko/Urhobo Community in the University, and a playlet by UNIPORT Theatre, amongst others.

Provost, Others, Get NIMSA Award

By Otiakor Samuel

In keeping to its annual ritual of rewarding professional excellence, the Nigerian Medical Students Association (NIMSA), has honoured five former members, who are now eminent academics and administrators in the University.

Those honoured are: Provost, College of Health Sciences, Professor Chris Akani, Dean, Clinical

Sciences, Professor John Ikimalo, former President of NIMSA and Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, Professor Hakeem Fawehinmi, Professors Chijioke Nwauche and Princewill Stanley. Professors Akani and Ikimalo were conferred with the *Award for Excellent Services*, Professors Nwauche and Stanley received *Award for Academic Excellence*, while Fawehinmi got *Award for Meritorious Service*.

Speaking at the event which held on Friday, 11th May, 2012 at the College Conference Room, Ofirima Complex, University Park, Chairman of the occasion and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development), Professor Bene Willie-Abbey, congratulated the students for rewarding performance, stating that the College has been in the forefront in delivering quality service to students and the University at large. The DV-C encouraged the students to continue in the gesture of appreciating those who contribute positively to their advancement in life, pointing out that such disposition is capable of paving the way for them in future.

Earlier in his welcome remark, NIMSA Director on Privileges and Awards, Ibeh Daniel, who congratulated the recipients for their contributions to the growth of the medical profession and humanity, disclosed that presentation of awards to deserving persons is an annual event aimed at celebrating members, ex-members and personalities who distinguished themselves in the growth of the profession.

Professor Akani, who spoke on behalf of the recipients, thanked leadership of NIMSA for the gesture, stating that the recognition would spur them to optimize efforts aimed at uplifting the profession. He assured the students that the recipients would treasure the award, pledging to continue to support NIMSA to realize its vision of promoting quality health care services, as well as fostering ethics of the medical profession.



Award recipients: Profs Ikimalo, Akani, Fawehinmi and Nwauche with DV-C (R&D), Willie-Abbey (arrowed)

GUIDEPOST

PROMOTION

Dr Vudunenma Orji, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, College of Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Dr Gracia Eke, Department of Paediatrics, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Dr Cecil Maduforo, Department of Radiology, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Dr Ofonime Ndioho, Department of Curriculum Studies & Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Dr G.W. Orluwene, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance & Counselling, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Dr Chinelo Ugwu, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance & Counselling, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Dr C.J. Chujor, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance & Counselling, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Dr John Obineche, Department of Religious & Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Dr Olutayo Adedokun, Department of Crop & Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Dr Franklin Tane, Department of Plant Science & Biotechnology, Faculty of Science, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Dr Samuel Meziebo, Department of Curriculum Studies & Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mr Francis Nzerem, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Faculty of Science, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mr Oluyemisi Naga, Department of Forestry & Wildlife Management, Faculty of Agriculture, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mrs Ifeyinwa Chijioke-Nwauche, Department of Clinical Pharmacy & Management, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mr Chima Wokocha, Department of Crop & Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Nelson Ogbogu, Department of Electrical/Electronic Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mr Etarabong Akpan, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mrs Nkechi Bature-Uzor, Department of Theatre Arts, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mrs Perpetua Asiegbu, Department of English Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Ijeoma Opara, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance & Counselling, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mr John Chukwumatu, Department of Crop & Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mr Sunday Sam, Department of Plant Science & Biotechnology, Faculty of Science, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mrs Gladys Amadi, Information, Publications & Public Relations Unit, Office of the Vice-Chancellor, promoted *Personal Secretary III*, effective 1st October, 2011.

Mrs Christiana Baridam, Information, Publications & Public Relations Unit, Office of the Vice-Chancellor, promoted *Senior Protocol Attendant*, effective 1st October, 2011.

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT

Dr Augustus Elenwo, Department of Animal Science & Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture, confirmed *Teaching Staff*, effective 7th June, 2007.

Dr Adedapo Aiyelaja, Department of Forestry & Wildlife Management, Faculty of Agriculture, confirmed *Teaching Staff*, effective 28th February, 2008.

Dr Godwin Omokhua, Department of Forestry & Wildlife Management, Faculty of Agriculture, confirmed *Teaching Staff*, effective 1st March, 2008.

Dr Philemon Okoro, Department of Surgery, College of Health Sciences, confirmed *Teaching Staff*, effective 4th February, 2010.

Dr Rosemary Ogu, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, College of Health Sciences, confirmed *Teaching Staff*, effective 2nd February, 2011.

Dr J.D. Ojule, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, College of Health Sciences, confirmed *Teaching Staff*, effective 17th February, 2011.

Mrs Nwanne Felix-Emeribe, Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, confirmed *Teaching Staff*, effective 8th May, 2000.

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

UNILAG APPOINTS ACTING V-C

An Acting Vice-Chancellor has been appointed for the University of Lagos (UNILAG), Lagos State, following the death of its 10th Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tokunbo Sofoluwe on Saturday, 12th May, 2012. The new Acting Vice-Chancellor is Professor Rahman Bello, who until his elevation was Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Management Services). Professor Bello would act as Vice-Chancellor pending the ratification of his appointment by the Governing Council.

FUTA GETS NEW V-C

A new Vice-Chancellor has emerged for the Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA), Ondo State. He is Professor Adebisi Daramola, who was appointed sixth Vice-Chancellor of the University. His appointment followed approval by the Governing Council.

ASUU HAILS FG ON NEW RETIREMENT AGE

The Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) has lauded President Goodluck Jonathan for signing into law the new retirement age for university workers, describing it as a step in the right direction, as well as a turning point in history of education in the country. ASUU President, Professor Ukachukwu Awuzie, thanked all stakeholders for the roles they played in ensuring implementation of FGN/ASUU agreement.

ABU V-C URGES SENIOR ACADEMICS TO MENTOR YOUNGER ONES

Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria, Kaduna State, Professor Abdullahi Mustapha, has enjoined professors to mentor younger academics with a view to promoting sound academic culture,

emphasizing the need to transmit worthy legacy for the advancement of education in the country. Professor Mustapha, made the remark after the 31st Senate Meeting of the University which approved the promotion of 17 Associate Professors to Professors and 25 Senior Lecturers to Readers.

-Compiled by Otiakor Samuel

Stop Press

33RD MATRICULATION CEREMONY

The 33rd Matriculation Ceremony of First Year Students for the 2011/2012 Academic Session holds this Thursday, 31st May, 2012 at the Convocation Arena, University Park. Time is 9:00am. Matriculants are required to print out copies of the *Matriculation Pledge* online, to be signed after taking the Oath at the Convocation Arena and returned to their Faculty Officer after the ceremony.

Regular students are further advised to pay N2,000 at the U&C Microfinance Bank, Choba Park, for hiring of gowns. On return of the gowns in good condition before 8th June, 2012, the Bank would refund N1,000 to the Matriculants, who are also advised against taking photographs inside the Arena during the event. Matriculants are expected to be seated not later than 8:30 am.

Contact: Mrs Dorcas Otto, Director, Academic Affairs.



Hon Minister of Science & Technology, Prof Ita Ewa delivering the Lecture



Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nsofin, presents a plaque to the Convocation Lecturer, while DV-C (Admin), Prof Ethelbert Ndaka watches on



Prof Ewa being decorated with the University of Port Harcourt Muffler by the V-C, Prof Ajienka



DV-C (Academic), Prof Igbo Joe welcomes the Hon Minister to the Lecture

28th Convocation Lecture

As part of events marking the 28th Convocation Ceremony, the Convocation Lecture was delivered by the Honourable Minister of Science & Technology, Prof Okon Ita Ewa. Pictures show different scene from the Lecture

Pix: Headman Alu



Hon Minister Prof Ewa and Chairman of the Occasion, Dr Tehpah



The Convocation Lecturer, Prof Ewa hands over a copy of the Lecture to V-C, Prof Joseph Ajienka, while Chairman, NDDC, Dr Tarilah Tehpah watches on



Convocation Lecturer, Prof Ewa in a warm handshake with Chairman of the occasion, Dr Tarilah Tehpah



The Convocation Lecturer showing appreciation by waving after being decorated with the customized University of Port Harcourt Muffler



Dr Emmanuel Eghogah, Prof Ewa, Dr Tehpah, V-C, Prof Ajienka, University Librarian, Dr Obiageli Nwodo and senior officers of the University



The Convocation Lecturer being led to the venue of the Exhibition by the V-C, Prof Ajienka



The Hon Minister cutting the tape at the Exhibition Tape, while V-C and other guests watch on



Curator, Dr Bridget Nwanze conducting guests round the Exhibition Gallery