V-C Inaugurates 40th Anniversary C'ttee
...Sets Tone In Inaugural Speech

Preparatory to the celebration of landmark projects that define the uniqueness of the University of Port Harcourt since its establishment by the Federal Government in 1975, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has formally inaugurated a 14-member 40th Anniversary Celebration Committee to commemorate the milestone event next year with relevant programmes and activities, reports Otkor Samuel.

More on p3

Side Bar
UniPort distributes 50 infrared thermometers to monitor temperature of staff, students and visitors to the University. Details next week.

~Editor

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UDSS Sensitizes Students On Ebola

Experts Brainstorm On Pedagogy At NAEMT Confab

Artsville To Revive Live Theatre In PH

Euphoria Grips Pioneer Law Students

111th Inaugural Fawehinmi Simplifies Surgical Procedures In Negroid Models

By Humphrey Ogu

Professor Hakeem Fawehinmi of the Department of Human Anatomy in the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, has in various collaborative research efforts tackled challenges faced by surgeons in operating on patients, including production of Negroid Gross Anatomical Models. Delivering the 111th Inaugural Lecture titled: “Different Tailors for the Same People; the Same Surgeon for Different People”, at the Ebibiti Banigo Auditorium, last Thursday, Fawehinmi described Anatomical Modelling as the production of three-dimensional representation of the human body, using design from different materials, explaining that the values derived from many years of research would be more meaningful when applied in the reconstruction of standardised Negroid humans.

Fawehinmi, who pointed out that “The concept was brought to the fore due to difficulties encountered in obtaining and preserving cadavers and the attendant Cont’d on p6

Read UniPort Weekly Online at www.uniport.edu.ng
Feature

Igwe To Lead Panel On Refining At Int’l Expo

By Humphrey Oga

In recognition of his towering knowledge of issues concerning refining and the downstream petroleum sector, Director of the Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals, Institute of Petroleum Studies of the University of Port Harcourt, Professor Godwin Igwe, has been invited to lead a panel discussion at the 8th Oil Trading Logistics (OTL) Africa Downstream Expo.

A letter signed by Chairman, OTL Africa Downstream, Emeka Akabogu, and addressed to Professor Igwe, a copy of which was made available to UniPort Weekly, read in part: “You are requested to lead discussions with other Panelists at the session focusing on Refining the Barrel: Prospects, Costs and Financing. This invitation is predicated on your significant knowledge and experience in this area.”

“We are pleased to invite you to be part of this year’s distinguished speakers, made up of public and private sector chief executives, key industry decision makers and professionals,” the letter further stated, adding that the theme for this year’s edition of the gathering was scheduled to hold at the Oriental Hotel, Lagos from 28 to 30th October, 2014, is: The Future of Petroleum Products Supply.

“Widely acknowledged as the continent’s most important downstream petroleum event, the conference continues to draw distinguished speakers from global markets, who address issues and set agenda for the downstream petroleum business operators each year,” the letter stated.

Prof Igwe

UDSS Sensitizes Students On Ebola

By Otitok Samuel

In continuation of its awareness campaign to prevent possible spread of the dreaded Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), which was effectively tackled following its outbreak in the country last July, the Management of University Demonstration Secondary School (UDSS) sensitized staff and students of the School on resumption for the 2014/2015 academic session.

Making a presentation on preventive measures against the disease during Morning Devotion at the Permanent Site of the School, last Monday, a Consultant at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH) and Lecturer in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Dr. Solomon Nyeche, advised the students to observe preventive measures to protect themselves, warning that Ebola which presently had no known curative vaccine attacks the immune system of its victims and kills them faster.

Dr. Nyeche, who listed high fever, headache, sore throat and weakness of the body as possible symptoms of the deadly disease, cautioned the students against having contacts with dead birds and animals and gravely ill persons. “Students with any of the symptoms I have listed should be reported to the appropriate School authorities for prompt medical attention,” he said, admonishing them to imbibe the practice of regular hand washing with soap and running water and avoid body contact, especially with sweating students.

“Wash your hands and use sanitizer regularly, avoid dead animals, eat only properly cooked meat and restrict travelling to Ebola-prone countries,” the Guest Speaker advised the students, adding that regular enlightenment programmes would drum the anti-Ebola measures home.

In his contribution, Chairman of the Board of Governors of UDSS, Professor John Ikimalo, also dwelt on preventive measures to ensure that the School was safe to impart knowledge to students, promising to make a copy of the Lecture available to all the classes to enable students access basic information about the scourge to enable them protect themselves from it.

The Principal, Mr. Ogechi Anele, who disclosed that Management mounted a screening post at the entrance to the School with an infrared thermometer and sanitizer, described the arrangement as a preventive measure preparatory to the arrival of boarding students into the halls of residence.

“Anybody that will come into UDSS must be properly screened and sanitized until the Federal Government certifies that the disease has been finally phased out from other West Africa countries. Even if almost all the students returned with their personal hand sanitizers, we still have cartons of sanitizers in the office and we will open more taps for regular hand washing. We will mount awareness posters and banners and continue to do all that is within human limits to prevent the disease from rearing its ugly head in this School, but above all, we pray that UDSS will not experience any case of Ebola,” the Principal said.

Editorial Board

Call: 08033039371
In his Inaugural Speech titled: Unique UniPort @ 40 (1975-2015): Making Unique UniPort more Unique, presented at the Vice-Chancellor’s Committee Room, last Monday, Professor Ajienka tasked Committee members to work out appropriate modalities to celebrate some of the landmark achievements of the University, which he categorized into plans, people, projects and publications—otherwise known as the 4Ps.

“We are celebrating the uniqueness of a unique University in forty years, so you should identify 40 Unique Alumni, 40 Unique Teachers, 40 Unique Art Stars, 40 Unique Sportsmen and Women, 40 Unique Benefactors/Honorary Degree Awarded and 40 Unique Stakeholders for the commemoration,” the Vice-Chancellor charged the Committee, stressing the need to ensure that every activity revolves around40 as a symbolic figure.

Professor Ajienka further tasked the Committee to avail itself the opportunity of the celebration to generate funds to enable the University undertake iconic projects on Campus. The pyramid of donations, he suggested, should range from N40 to N400 million, while the older generation are immigrants to the amazing wonders of the digital revolution that has changed the way knowledge is delivered and received.

Awotuse-Elfebo, who is the immediate past Dean, Faculty of Education, urged participants to take advantage of the Conference to transform their approach to teaching and application of emergent technological devices to change their lives, expressing gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for supporting the NAEMT Conference in the University.

Delivering thought-provoking Keynote Address, pioneer Vice-Chancellor of the National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), Professor Olugbemiro Jegede, said that future growth of the country lies in the education that uses appropriate technology, adding that Nigeria needs to produce graduates with broad-based knowledge for the new knowledge society.

The former Secretary-General, Association of African Universities (AAU) recommended a good mix of old and young academics, where the older staff would serve as mentors and role models to the younger ones to achieve organisational goals, advising NAEMT members not to be afraid of learning new techniques of delivering knowledge.

Jegede, who currently serves as the Secretary to Kogi State Government, advocated effective use of the e-learning platform, communication technology, network of libraries, virtual institutions and laboratories, educational practices, social media, instructional research and communication, projected that Google plus, Twitter, Facebook and other social media would be the dominant means of instruction in the near future irrespective of the preference of teachers.

He noted that learning with technology must begin with educating the teachers, pointing out that teachers must have an open mind if they hope to catch up with their students, who are very much at home with application of the new technologies, including the social media to their everyday life and learning services to good effect.

Also speaking, Dean, Faculty of Education, Professor Lawrence Igwe, who expressed hope that the Conference would expose participants to better ways of applying new technologies in tackling problems in pedagogy, wished the delegates fruitful deliberations.

Earlier in his opening remarks, President of NAEMT, Professor Moses Iyang-Abia, who highlighted the importance of technology in the teaching and learning process, regretted that “in Nigeria and most African countries, e-technology seems to be a mirage in the area of education,” stressing the need to embrace modern technologies to give products of Nigerian educational system a competitive edge in the new global knowledge economy that is dependent on application of ideas in place of abundant material resources that previously constituted the wealth of nations.

The event, which ended last Friday, featured presentation of over 70 papers, plenary sessions and workshops.
Nigeria Is Still Not Ebola-Free

By Williams Wonidi

de spite the gloating by top Government officials over the apparent end of the dreaded Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in Nigeria, a Clinical Pharmacist and disease tracking expert, Professor Vincent Idemeyer, has warned that it was too early in the day for the country to celebrate the success of the battle against Ebola or play politics with the epidemic.

"We need to be very humble about the modest achievements recorded in the fight against the virus and focus more on the lessons we learnt from the outbreak. We also need to focus future efforts on how to improve on the daunting challenges encountered in the process of battling the virus," Professor Idemeyer told a UniPort Weekly Correspondent last Monday, pointing out that it was premature for anyone to brag about bringing an end to the virus that has no known cure or vaccine to contain it anywhere in the world at the moment.

He said that every case of the disease so far was merely investigational and not curative, adding that science had progressed far beyond the era of trial and error. Nobody can investigate a disease without knowing its pathogenesis which is the basis for formulating a cure that can be clearly defined and reliable," he said, advising those making claims and counter claims about wonder cure for the disease to follow laid-down scientific avenues for making such claims in order not to appear ridiculous to the rest of the world.

"Managing viral hemorrhagic fever is a very difficult thing to do because the virus is very contagious and can kill its victim within twenty-one days of being infected. We need specialized Centres with well-trained personnel to handle it," he said, disclosing that the last reported case of Ebola was on September 1, 2014.

Conceding that the country could be said to be doing fine at the moment in terms of containing Ebola, Prof. Idemeyer reminded policy-makers that Nigeria remained very porous to cross-border movements that portended grave dangers for countries in the West African sub-Region. As long as the epidemic remained prevalent in some West African countries, Prof. Idemeyer warned, nobody has the right to gloat over banning Ebola from Nigeria as it could very easily re-emerge in the country with devastating consequences.

"We should not celebrate too early because it has been projected that the West African sub-Region alone may record a million people exposed to the Ebola virus by January 31, 2015. To move from one country to another West Africa country is like going next door and that is why the scenario is very scary indeed," Prof. Idemeyer told our Correspondent, stressing that the country needed to be very proactive, rather than being reactive as appeared to currently be the case in the battle against the epidemic.

"We must be prepared at all times because if we record just ten cases of Ebola infection at a stretch, we do not seem to have enough isolation rooms with separate facilities and the requisite expertise to handle such a contingency. We need to train paramedical staff who understand what is required to deal with the situation in an efficient manner," the expert warned, calling on relevant Government agencies to intensify awareness of the disease among the populace.

Calling for proper disposal of Ebola waste and mailing of specimen to well-equipped reference laboratories to prevent its spread in the community, Professor Idemeyer said that every case of Ebola should be treated as a new research which would enable experts learn more about how to contain the virus. "What have we done with those who recovered in terms of using them to embark on more research to prevent the spread of the virus, and do we have a functional blood bank for the convalescence plasma receiving blood from people that survive from the disease?" Professor Idemeyer queried, advising that there should be proper monitoring of all entry points into the country to reduce the looming possibility of another unforeseen outbreak of the disease in Nigeria.

To prepare for possible future outbreak of the Ebola virus, Professor Idemeyer advised the Federal Government to establish functional Centres and Units to treat infectious diseases, regretting that there was currently no Infectious Diseases Hospital (IDH) in the country to take care of such a scary contingency if and when it arose. He also frowned at the careless manner in which hospital waste was being indiscriminately disposed of in the country, describing waste management as a specialty that required competent personnel and a centralized place where it can be appropriately disposed of with future threat to the community.

After undergoing an intensive training programme organized by the Rivers State Fire Service in collaboration with the Staff Training and Development Unit (STADU) of the University of Port Harcourt, 21 Firemen from the Fire Service Unit of the University have received the Fireman Certificate of Competence (FCC).

Issuing the Certificates last Tuesday at the STADU Training Room inside the Basic Studies Building at the University Park, representative of the Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Ndukam, congratulated the personnel on their achievement, stressing the importance of training as a means of improving performance on the job. He noted that the skills enhance productivity of staff while enabling them to keep abreast of modern trends in their areas of specialization.

Professor Ndukam commended the Training Unit for initiating the programmes that he hoped would move the University to greater heights.

Disclosing that the goal of the STADU Committee is to make the University a state-of-the-art training facility, its 21 UniPort Firemen Get Certificates Of Competence

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

Chairman, Professor Samuel Ejezie, commended the Firemen for performing creditably well during the training and earning certificates in recognition of their hard work.

He noted that the Unit would move the training to other service arms of the University to facilitate improved and prompt service delivery. The training you have received would make you confident as master of the job. It is, therefore, your individual and collective responsibility to live up to expectation by justifying the training you have received from the University," he told them.

Junior Staff Officer, Mrs. Elizabeth Ndukam, who represented the Registrar, Mrs. Matilda Nnodim, reiterated the need for more training opportunities for staff. "Training enables staff to appreciate and do things differently as they strive to add value to the system," she remarked, congratulating the Firemen for the successful completion of the exercise.

Acting Head of the Fire Service Unit, Livinus Wall, who stressed the need for continuous training of Fire Fighters, pointed out that the knowledge and certificates acquired during the exercise would serve as motivation to the beneficiaries to put in their very best in the line of duty. He thanked the Vice-Chancellor for affording the Unit the training opportunity, promising to justify the confidence reposed in the Fire Fighting personnel. "We promise to do our very best by exhibiting much dexterity in fighting fire outbreaks on Campus to justify the huge amount spent on the training programme," he promised.

Training Officer, Fidelis Ikechika-Jahka, and other members of the Committee, Drs. Ikechuku Agbogba and Victory Dienye, tasked the Firemen on the need to put the knowledge they acquired into practice to enrich the system and enjoy personal satisfaction on the job.
Onuchukwu Gives Facelift To Economics Dept

By Otokor Samuel

and hands-on training that would stand them out amongst the very best anywhere in the world. Some of the software installed for training included STATA, EVIEWS, SPSS and GRELIT, the HoD disclosed.

On his motivation for carrying out the projects, Onuchukwu disclosed that he wanted to leave enduring legacies behind by making the Department highly competitive in delivering basic theoretical and practical knowledge in the discipline, both in and beyond Nigeria, promising to continue his drive for assistance from public-spirited individuals and groups to transform the Department into a first choice destination for the very best brains.

“Faced with dwindling statutory allocations, the best way to grow is to reach out to public-spirited individuals and groups willing to give back to the society.”

If you go to the offices of our Professors now, you would notice that they are furnished by public-spirited individuals and groups we reached out for assistance, rather than waiting for the University. It is all about harvesting the goodwill we have accumulated over the years through the students we trained and other contacts for functional partnerships that can lift our Department to deliver on its core mandate to students and faculty. I have understanding with the rest of the Faculty to use our Laboratory and you can see that power supply is always available here not from the public source, but from our own internal power generating plant,” he said, disclosing that his Department currently has a status and staff of about 25 teaching staff, including seven professors.

On Lecturer-Student contact hours outside statutory lecture periods, Professor Onuchukwu rated his Department above 70%, stating that he has equally ensured that the Lecturers pay proper attention to the needs of the students as much as is practicable, blaming inadequate accommodation on Campus for the reduction in contact hours between Lecturers and Students.

Artsville To Revive Live Theatre Culture In Port Harcourt

By Humphrey Ogu

Director of the Institute of Arts and Culture in the University of Port Harcourt, Professor Julie Okoh, has said that the Institute, also known as Artsville, was poised to revive the dying culture of going to the theatre for relaxation in the Garden City that was once reputed for its thriving arts and cultural life.

Speaking at the end of a well-attended performance of a stage adaptation of Elechi Amadi’s epic novel, The Great Ponds at the Atlantic Hall of Hotel Presidential, Port Harcourt, penultimate Sunday, Okoh, reiterated the commitment of the Artville to reviving the comatose culture of theatre going as a means of relaxation and entertainment in the city of Port Harcourt, calling on public-spirited individuals and corporate bodies for support and sponsorship to realise the dream.

“The Institute has been featuring prominently in the Port Harcourt World Book Capital (PHWBC) project through drama performances at the regular Book-of-the-Month event that has become so popular with residents and visitors to the city of Port Harcourt. Due to popular demand, we have just staged Elechi Amadi’s novel, The Great Ponds as adapted by Dr. Edward Imo of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, UniPort and directed by Dan Kpodo of the Artsville,” she disclosed, promising that the Artsville could offer more to theatre goers with more support of its programmes.

“I hope the audience enjoyed the performance which is our own contribution to keeping the city alive as part of the celebration of Port Harcourt as World Book Capital 2014. The Institute of Arts and Culture is committed to staging monthly dramas shows for the entertainment of residents of Port Harcourt and other cities in Nigeria. We, therefore, solicit support and partnership to enable us actualise our dream of reviving the theatre culture in the country,” she pleaded, announcing plans to stage Igbo Ewe: Childhood, written by Adiola Onyedibia at the same venue on 2 November, 2014. Onyedibia, who is currently of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, was the producer of the television adaptation of Chinua Achebe’s epic novel: Things Fall Apart in the 1980s.

“Also speaking after the performance, 5th Vice-Chancellor of the University, Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs, who lauded Dr. Elechi Amadi for his fertile imagination in crafting the story that formed the basis of the play, also commended the Director of the Institute, the cast and crew for pulling off what he described as a very captivating stage adaptation of the novel.

He observed that the Department of Theatre and Film Studies is one of the most vibrant sections of the University, recalling how he used to go to the University Arts Theatre—The CRAB, to watch plays in those good old days.

The former Vice-Chancellor extolled the dexterity of students of UniPort in acting. “The message the play conveyed to all of us is that human beings must live together despite their inherent tendency to disagree; but in doing so, they must find ways and means of resolving their differences through mutual dialogue in the spirit of give-and-take, rather than killing one another to express such disagreements that is characteristic of lesser animals,” he advised, promising that he would attend future editions of the drama series as a mark of encouragement to the organisers.

“A writer’s greatest moment is a moment like this. You have all contributed to the development of literature and drama by the stage adaptation of the novel and professional interpretation of the script. You have also contributed to the growth of literature by coming to watch the stage performance of my novel,” Elechi Amadi, who is a Writer-In-Residence in the university, told the appreciative audience with visible satisfaction.

On his part, Professor Emmanuel Emeasu of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, who described the performance as rich and artistically satisfying, said: “It gives us hope that live theatre can, once again, be resuscitated in Port Harcourt and other parts of the country, despite what we are all passing through. It is a reflection of the fact that life can return to normal under the most trying circumstances. The adaptation is a loud statement that our creative energies can be developed. Edward Imo, who adapted the play and Daniel Kpodo, who directed it, are my academic sons, who I think so highly of. Shows like this have a way of bridging the gulf between town and gown,” he said, urging the cast to work on the elevation of its members to enable the audience enjoy future performances more.

A visibly elated Julia Jacks of Moni Pulo Limited, described the show as “well-acted drama,” adding that the audience was able to “connect with the message conveyed by the drama. Of particular interest was the fact that the story is still relevant to contemporary society, despite being set in the past,” she said, commending the cast and crew for an excellent job that captivated the audience.

Also speaking, Director of the play, Kpodo who commended the cast members for their commitment and accepting to act the play free-of-charge, lamented the paucity of funds for staging plays, lending his voice to the appeal for individual and corporate support to enable the Artsville sustain regular production of plays for the pleasure and entertainment of the drama-loving public.
overcrowding in dissecting rooms, variations present in cadaveric specimen and the need to learn layout to recreate common surgical operations,” said “The methodology involved a collaborative research between the Departments of Human Anatomy and Fine Arts and Design of the University of Port Harcourt, using a combination of clinical and studio approaches in the production of Negroid models of various body parts for use by staff and students in the Health and Biological Sciences.”

The Inaugural Lecturer, who called for the establishment of an Anatomical Modelling Studio in the University of Port Harcourt, to aid production of standardised three-dimensional and cross-sectional working Negroid Anatomical Models, said that “Having in mind the racial variations that exist in human anthropometry, we commenced a purposeful search for an alternative method of teaching Gross Anatomy in our medical schools to complement cadaver,” disclosing that the anatomical modelling resulting from the research was successful as it is of the kind in Africa.

The Inaugural Lecturer, who was the immediate past Dean of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, also recommended the establishment of a Clinical Anthropometry Laboratory that will index body and photogrammetric measurements formulation of a Standardised Anthropometric Reference Manual” for Nigerians, to be accessed by Clinicians to guide medical procedures in Nigeria. Fawehinmi, noted that surgical training is universal, with foreign values used as the standard most times, adding that “There is currently a dearth of sufficient data on reference values for the use of Anthropometry and Photogrammetry as surgical assessment methods in Nigeria. Further research should establish additional surgical reference values for the major ethnic groups in Nigeria, using standard anthropometric protocol as we have done.”

He submitted that Human Anatomy “studies the form and structure of the human body from the sub-microscopic to the macroscopic levels, and the regularities of its development,” adding that “Human Anatomy is the language of Physical Anthropology which has been a useful tool in the study of various branches of Anatomy, particularly Comparative Anatomy. Physical Anthropology involves the study of the physical variation of man and relies on external measurements of the human body, particularly the skeleton, for description, analysis and classification of fossils and human populations. Anthropometry is a branch of Physical Anthropology that deals with the systematised measurements of external dimensions of the human body and skeleton,” he explained. Fawehinmi, who observed that “Anthropometry is often viewed as the basic tool of Physical Anthropology, but has found usefulness in Forensic Medical Sciences and Surgery,” said: “No two individuals are exactly alike in all their measurable traits, and these undergo changes to varying degrees from birth to death, and in health and disease, stressing importance of the “establishment of an Institute for Forensic Science for Port Harcourt, where a databank of ethnic specific forensic anthropometric values can be accessed for Coroner’s inquest.”

Disclosing his involvement in a research in the Anthropometry of Sickle Cell Anaemia (SCA) under the auspices of the Sickle Cell Research and Awareness Group (SCRG), as a way of providing additional information for better clinical management and eventual wellbeing of such patients, Fawehinmi called on the University to “endorse a Professorial Chair in Sickle Cell Anaemia in honour of late Professor Gabriel Ekeke with active partnership from Neimeth Pharmaceutical Plc, to further research in sickle cell haemoglobinopathy, for their management and ultimate discovery of a cure or its extermination.”

The Inaugural Lecturer noted that “an accurate and thorough facial analysis is needed for the formulation of a treatment plan in the reconstructive, dental and aesthetic surgical procedures,” disclosing that in partnership with other researchers, he had been able to design a software tool to simplify the analysis of facial parameters. He described Facial Analysis as the detailed examination of facial features, using standard anatomical landmarks, pointing out that “it gives the dimension and spatial correspondence between definable points.”

“With some software designed for 2D Photogrammetry which can be conveniently used in clinical and research settings in urban and rural areas, the method involves direct capturing of 2D photographic images of the face taken from a digital camera under illumination and analysing the facial parameters with the aid of standard anatomical landmarks,” he explained, adding that the result generated were in a suitable format that could be exported to spreadsheets and databases.

Commenting on the Lecture, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajaekwa, speaking through the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, lauded the Inaugural Lecturer for expanding the frontiers of human knowledge in the specialisation and for enlightening the public on the growing relevance of forensic science for crime prevention in the country. He expressed joy that Professor Fawehinmi’s research effort has attracted attention and prizes at research fairs all over the world and for them to utilise their collaborative endeavours to attract funding from donor agencies.

STOP PRESS NEW GOOGLE STUDENT AMBASSADORS

A Fifth Year student of the Department of Mechanical Engineering in the College of Engineering and a First Class Year student of the Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Physical Science and Information Technology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Joshua Josha, has been appointed as a Google Ambassador for the 2014/15 academic session. A statement dated 13th October, 2014, issued from the office of the Staff Adviser and signed by David Ekpah, disclosed that ‘Joshua Josha’ has won the 2014/15 Google Ambassadorship and will be touring the University to discuss his experience and guide students in the use of Google products.

As P’Harcourt Book Festival Kicks Off Today

As the 7th edition of the Port Harcourt Book Festival, formerly known as Garden City Literary Festival commences today, expectations are high that the event would further cement the place of Port Harcourt as the undisputed centre of arts and culture in the country. The 7th edition of the annual book festival is taking place in 2014, a year when the Garden City of Nigeria is enjoying the royal privilege and status of the World Book Capital. From September 2008, when the festival, which now occupies a prominent place in the literary calendar of Port Harcourt had its first opening ceremony in the University of Port Harcourt, literary enthusiasts and lovers of the arts have continued to look forward with eager anticipation to a bigger and better festival every year. And the organisers have never disappointed them on any measure of merit. The 2014 edition promises to assuage the thirst of book lovers, who are expected to converge in the Garden City.

Although in the past, facilitators of the festival had come from within and outside the country to do what they know best. The 7th PHBF comes with great expectations on all sides. As the reigning book capital, the world will converge in the Garden City to celebrate books, creativity and engage in exchange of ideas.

As usual, the University of Port Harcourt will play a very important role in the festival, which would begin on Monday, 26th October, 2014 and end on Saturday, 25th October, 2014. In the past editions, the Department of English Studies had co-ordinated symposia, while their counterparts in the Department of Theatre and Films Studies and the Institute of Arts Culture provide entertainment through stage performance of select plays.

For instance, the Department of English Studies, University of Port Harcourt is expected to facilitate a symposium on the Life and Works of Ken Saro-Wiwa titled: “Literature and Legacy”, among other events. That would certainly be a spectacle to look forward to as organisers open the doors for the opening ceremony of the 7th edition of the famous Port Harcourt Book Festival, it is our hope that this year’s event will surpass previous editions in its depth and in its will to come to the World Book Capital. 2014. Welcome to PHBF 2014.
GUIDEPOST

PROMOTION
Dr. Doris Uchenna, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted to the rank of Professor of Internal Medicine, effective 19th October, 2011.

APPOINTMENT
Professor Gilbert Adaghor, Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, appointed Head of Department. The two-year appointment which takes immediate effect terminates on 14th October, 2016.

Dr. Fidelis Alagba, Department of Political & Administrative Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, appointed Assistant Director, Centre for Ethnic and Conflict Studies (CENTECS). The two-year appointment which takes immediate effect terminates on 14th October, 2016.

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT
Dr. R. A. Ejimofo, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Production, Power Systems Communication Engineering, College of Engineering, granted Renewal of Contract Appointment, effective 3rd February, 2015 to 2nd February, 2016.

REVIEW OF STATUS
Miss Joy Okerere, Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Chemical Science, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, elevated from Graduate Assistant to Assistant Lecturer, effective 21st August, 2014.

STUDY LEAVE
Mr. Umore Aselomi, Internal Audit Department, granted a 13-month Study Leave without Pay to enable him undertake a Master's Degree in Accounting at the Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, Scotland, United Kingdom, effective 30th September, 2014 to 30th October, 2015.

Mr. Akuro Bi-Akpo, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Production, Power Systems and Communication Engineering, College of Engineering, granted a one-year Extension of Study Leave Appointment, effective 10th October, 2014 to 29th October, 2015.

70th DOCTORAL SEMINAR PRESENTATION
The 70th edition of the Doctoral Seminar Presentation by scheduled Candidates holds at the Seminar Room, College of Graduate Studies (CGS) on Thursday, 23rd October, 2014. Time is 10:00am. Affected Departments and Faculties are advised to inform their Candidates to attend the Seminar presentation.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT
WEATHER OBSERVATORY
FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 TO SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2014

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<td>7.0</td>
<td>6:17 18:16</td>
<td>Thunderstorm expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day anticipated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY, 24 OCT, 2014</td>
<td>31.0 23.0</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>6:17 18:17</td>
<td>Widely scattered thunderstorm expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day predicted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SATURDAY, 25 OCT, 2014</td>
<td>30.0 24.0</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>6:16 18:15</td>
<td>Thunderstorm expected. More cloud than sun forecasted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stop Press
3rd Registry Day

The 3rd Registry Day celebration holds on Wednesday, 29th October, 2014 at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium. Time is 10:00am. All Registry Staff are advised to participate actively in the event.

Contact: Chairman, Planning Committee, Mrs Dorcas Otto

Miss Idris
Ledua
Jacob
Ms Iheanacho
Gift

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Presentation Of Oil Theft Research Report

Professor Ben Naanen of the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies and Mr. Patrick Tolani of the UK-based Redeemers Relief Agency International (RAIN) presented their research titled: “Private Gain, Public Disaster” on Tuesday, September 30, 2014. Our Cameraman, HEADMAN ALU, captured highlights of the event as shown below.