UniPort Installs 3rd Chancellor, Graduates 18, 363

The 30th Convocation Ceremony of the University kicks off this morning with a Media Briefing by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka at the Governing Council Chambers, report Obinna Nwodim and Williams Wodi.

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121st Inaugural
Okpani Charts Pathways To Reproductive Health Challenges In Nigeria

By Humphrey Ogu

Professor Anthony Okpani of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences in the College of Health Sciences, has advocated ways of enhancing the roles of the University and the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH) in service delivery, training and research in reproductive health. Delivering the 121st Inaugural Lecture entitled: Increase and Multiply: The Injunction, and the Human Response at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium on Thursday, May 28, 2015, Okpani noted that “the human response to the injunction is composed of basic healthcare delivery interventions with its adjuncts—improvements in obstetric protocols combined with socio-economic and scientific advancements.”

Okpani who commended the University of Port Harcourt and the Teaching Hospital for performing creditably in contributing their quotas to improved healthcare delivery, pointed out that they still needed to improve the logistics of delivery, training and research. He added that “aggressive attention to all details of the human response, continued collaboration between all stakeholders, and ensuring proper balance between basic interventions and those that appear to be modifications or excesses are keys to...”

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Following formal commencement of academic activities at the newly-established Department of Electronics/Computer Engineering in the College of Engineering, an impressive orientation ceremony to acquaint the pioneer students on the rudiments of the programmes held at the Chi Ikoku Seminar Room, Choba Park, on May 22, 2015. Giving an overview of the programme, Acting Head of Department, Dr. Joel Biebuma, disclosed that the new Department was established out of a felt need to provide academic and professional training in Electronics and Computer Engineering to students, who would be equipped to compete favourably with their counterparts anywhere in the world.

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

“As pioneer students, you are expected to be more industrious and committed to your studies. You have to remain focused and disciplined to succeed in a very competitive knowledge environment that has no room for mediocrity,” he advised the students, pledging full support system to assist them achieve their academic potentials.

Reiterating that the Curriculum was designed to guarantee wider employment opportunities for the students after graduation, Dr. Biebuma noted that the programme would also equip them with cutting edge professional skills geared towards the industrial development of the country. He described the orientation exercise as more than a general introduction of the students to the operational structure of the Department, disclosing that it sought to motivate them to cultivate the ‘can-do’ spirit that has resulted in great engineering feats.

Director of the Centre for Information and Telecommunication Engineering (CITE), Professor Monima Briggs and Pioneer Acting Head of the Department, Dr. Bourdillon Omijeh, presented papers on Telecommunication Engineering and Academic Excellence and Principles to Cultivate and Pitfalls to Avoid, respectively.

Ag HoD, Dr. Biebuma (arrowed), some staff and students of the new Department after the ceremony.

NIM Celebrates UniPort At 40 With Lecture

By Obinna Nwodim

As the current economic realities in Nigeria increasingly point to urgent diversification of the economy, an expert, Mr. Fidelis Nwaduwa, has advised individuals to develop adequate skills that would sharpen their capacity for entrepreneurship.

Mr. Nwaduwa gave the advice while speaking as a Guest Lecturer at an event organized by the University of Port Harcourt Chapter of the Nigeria Institute of Management (NIM), to mark the 40th Anniversary of the University, last Wednesday at the NIM Lounge, Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium.

Mr. Nwaduwa said that the only way to effectively fight poverty was to make a person who wants to be successful an effective producer, noting that such an individual has to acquire requisite entrepreneurial skills. According to him, an entrepreneur is one who has a reasonable understanding of his future client or the present his needs, adding that to become a successful entrepreneur, there was need to develop an appropriate human resource base.

The Guest Lecturer said that to develop a proper human resource base, a prospective entrepreneur needed to have knowledge that can be put into practice, with some level of culture and discipline, pointing out that “a successful entrepreneur would develop the habit of confronting the exigencies of an unstable business environment, while not losing faith.”

Nwaduwa, who is also Head of the Department of Computer Engineering, Rivers State College of Arts and Science, also said that a successful entrepreneur should imbibe what he described as the hedgehog concept. He noted that striving for excellence; passion and motivation were qualities that a good entrepreneur must imbibe. According to him, “no matter the level of skill an individual may have, if he lacks discipline, he cannot be successful as an entrepreneur.”

He posited that high-level education was not necessary for one to be a successful entrepreneur, pointing out that what was needed were the requisite skills to function effectively in business. He said that those who desire to be successful entrepreneurs must put their knowledge into practice to develop the requisite skills.

Nwaduwa, who highlighted eight skills of a successful entrepreneur, stated that resilience, focus, ability to invent, find and manage human resources, reception to learn and self-motivation and reliance were qualities needed to excel as an entrepreneur. Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, represented by Chairman, Research and Development, Professor Bene Willie Abbey, who commended NIM for putting up the programme said that the University has come a long way and was now at the entrepreneurial stage of its development. He said that with the current situation on ground, graduates must not be job seekers, but job creators and that was why the University has now taken the entrepreneurial posture. He encouraged the students to imbibe the habit of self discipline in order to excel in their endeavours. “Without discipline you cannot achieve anything,” he said, adding that it is the only way to make progress in life.

In his Speech, Chairman of the occasion and Director, Quality Assurance and Quality Control, Professor Tony Arinze, who expressed gladness that NIM was keying into the celebration of the University at 40, expressed hope that both students and members of NIM would benefit immensely from the Lecture.

In his remarks, Director, College of Continuing Education, Professor Steve Okodua, stressed the need for the environmental situation to be reckoned with in the discourse of entrepreneurship, adding that it would go a long way in putting the situation on ground and in the right perspective.

Also speaking, Professor Vincent Idemoyin of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, advised students to strive to seek knowledge, noting that the current world is now knowledge-based.

Earlier in her welcome address, Chairman of the Chapter, Mrs. Flora Iyagba, said that the event was part of its contributions to the University at 40 celebration, pointing out that as managers, we are here to help discover and develop our unique talents so that we can focus and work towards it to improve ourselves positively.” She advised participants to put the lessons from the Lecture into practice for the growth and development of the University.

The event was attended by both teaching and non teaching staff, as well as students from the Faculty of Management Sciences.
UniPort Installs 3rd Chancellor, Graduates 18, 363

*41 First Class *2,214 Diplomas *2,616 Masters *441 Ph.Ds

The University of Port Harcourt Chapter of the Nigerian Environmental Society (NES) marked the 2015 edition of World Environment Day (WED) with lectures and a rally on Thursday June 4 and Friday June 5, 2015 to draw attention to the dangers of environmental degradation. The theme for WED 2015 is Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with Care. Delivering a lecture entitled: Sustainable Consumption and Production, at the Conference Hall of the International Students’ Centre, Director of the Institute of Natural Resources, Environment and Sustainability (INRES), Professor Eunvie Akpokodje, warned against overstretching the finite resources of the earth, advising that “human beings must preserve the ability of the earth to keep reproducing by consuming available resources with utmost care, because if we don’t consume with care, there will be no place for future generations to live and pass on to the next generation. Such an unthinkable scenario would inevitably spell doom for all of us and our responsible way that they don’t destroy the ability of the earth to continue to produce for the coming generation.”

On his part, Grand Patron of the University of Port Harcourt Chapter of the NES and Acting, Director of the Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies, Dr. Prince Minom, whose lecture was entitled, Going Green Beyond Compliance: Sustainable Lifestyle, noted that many people leave their electric bulbs and other appliances on even when they are not in use, stressing the importance of energy-saving fluorescent bulbs and other environment-friendly accessories as a way of reducing human carbon footprints.

Delivering a lecture entitled: The Present Century Challenges, Professor Don Anyanwu of the Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, Faculty of Biological Sciences in the College of Natural and Applied Sciences, observed that “it is very important to note that all programmes aimed at alleviating environmental maladies will ultimately depend on how well we manage the environment and its resources on a global scale,” calling on participants to take the message of proper environmental stewardship to the larger society as a means of averting an impending catastrophe that has the capacity to consume mankind.

Others, who spoke at the event included the Secretary of Health, Safety, Environment and Security Committee in UniPort, Mr. Sampson Iwuoha, who gave highlights of the University’s HSE policy, while UniPort Chapter President of NES, Mr. James Okonowo, listed the benefits of engaging in environmental conservation by staff and students of the University.

Membership of NES is drawn from the Departments of Environmental Engineering, Geography and Environmental Management, Plant Science and Biotechnology, Animal and Environmental Biology, amongst others.
UniPort Lecturer Shares Fulbright Experience At Gender W’shop

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

A Lecturer in the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, Dr. Emily God’s Presence, has ended a Workshop for Women as a way of giving back to the University Community, following her successful completion of a Junior Fulbright Fellowship in the United States of America. The event held on May 20, 2015 at the Amatu Braide Lecture Hall, University Park.

Briefing UniPort Weekly on the outcome of the well- patronized gender parley, Dr. God’s Presence described the Being A Woman Workshop which had the theme: Beyond Boundaries, as an annual event that enables women to transcend societal limitations, adding that the idea was a motivated by her experiences as a Junior Fulbright Scholar at the Emory University, Atlanta, United States of America.

“We were advised to give back to our communities on our return to the country,” she told our Correspondent, adding that her research work on gender, film, and representation of women’s leadership roles in the Nigerian home movie industry, popularly known as Nollywood, also prompted the Workshop.

“The White House Project titled: GO RUN, which inspired women to vie for political positions, especially leadership positions, also inspired me to mount the Workshop, which attempted to sensitize women to the limitless possibilities that awaited them in the political arena,” she disclosed.

Reiterating that the Workshop provided a platform for women to share their experiences on a common platform and encourage others to make positive impact that would contribute to social development,” Dr. God’s Presence noted that the theme of the Workshop sought to encourage women to go beyond all forms of limitation to become useful members of the society—especially in the male-dominated political space.

Resource Persons at the event included Chairperson of the Rivers State Chapter of the Nigerian Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ), Mrs. Lilian Okonkwo, sub-Zonal Head, Retail Operations of Access Bank in Port Harcourt, Mrs. Ijeoma Obiwa, Head of Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, Professor Florence Nduka and Pastor Gloria Okodu.

V-C Praises ENACTUS On Community Service

By Oitier Samuel

larger society.

Miss Deevo, who disclosed that the evaluation competition also attracted the Director of Quality Assurance and Quality Control Unit in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tony Arinze and Head of the Protocol and Logistics Unit, Dr. Sylvester Udeosah, stated that the annual event provided a forum for the teams to showcase the impact of their outreach programmes, adding that the competition served as a viability test for projects that had impacted more on communities which would be selected to represent the Chapter in regional and national competitions.

“In addition to the community aspect of the programme, our leadership and career initiatives create meaningful opportunities for cross-generational learning and exchange, as well as placement of students and alumni in companies in search of emergent talents,” she said.

At the end of the competitions, On the Global team emerged overall best after securing the highest mark on all areas of assessment. Skills for Life took second position; Go Green got the third place, while Go Tech, Smoke It and Bio-Sand Filter came fourth, fifth and sixth, respectively.

A total of 133 guests, including 82 students, five staff, three Faculty Advisors, 39 ENACTUS members and four Alumni grazed the very impressive event.
Staff, Students Of Economics Dept Extol Moro

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

In addition to the Senate Valedictory Session organized by the University for six retiring professors from various Faculties, the Department of Economics in the Faculty of Social Sciences also organized a well-attended farewell event to honour one of its founding fathers, Professor Reginald Moro on May 22, 2015, at the Faculty building, University Park. Speaking on his career in the University, Chairman of the occasion elder statesman in the Department, Professor Willy Okowa, described Professor Moro as one of the pillars of Economics, when the University emerged on the premises of an emergent Trade School in Choba Park 40 years ago. Eulogising the virtues of his colleagues, Professor Okowa pleaded with Professor Moro to continually extend his goodwill to the Department even in retirement.

"You are still a part of us and we will still come to you for advice and guidance. Your valuable pool of experience cannot just be allowed to lie dormant because of your statutory retirement from the services of the University. You are welcome here any day," he said.

In his address, Head of Department, Professor Ijoma Kalu, who conveyed the Department’s gratitude to Professor Moro for over thirty years of unbroken quality services to the Department and University, reminded him that the Department would always consult him when the need arose, urging the retiring don to always see himself as part and parcel of the Department he founded.

Also speaking, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Professor Samuel Akokona, past Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Head of the Department of Economics, Professors Charles Oyegun and Okey Onuchukwu and Steve Tsumo, all took turns to eulogise their retiring senior colleague, who they described as a thoroughbred scholar committed to the welfare of staff and students.

Responding, a visibly elated Professor Moro, who was accompanied by his wife, Dr. Constance Moro, recounted that the Department kicked-off with only three academic staff. He lauded staff and students of the Department for the rapid growth and development it has recorded over the years.

"Now we have about nine professors and are still counting with many senior lecturers and upcoming academics, who I hope will sustain the legacy we have worked so hard to bequeath to them as I take my leave of you," he told the gathering, pledging his willingness to always identify with the Department even in retirement.

Enemugwem Occupies Cokey Chair

By Otokor Samuel

Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Professor of History, John Enemugwem, has been appointed occupant of the Samsun J.S. Cokey Chair in History. A statement dated May 13, 2015 and signed by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, said the appointment took immediate effect.

"As the Chair Occupant, you will be responsible to the Vice-Chancellor through the Chairman, Research and Development Board for the day-to-day administration of the Chair. This Professorial Chair should be used for Research and Development in History and for the promotion of the University. You are also expected to submit annual reports to the Vice-Chancellor on the programme and activities of the Chair," the statement read in part.

The Vice-Chancellor, who also congratulated Professor Enemugwem for the appointment, urged the Occupant to line up with the Chairman of Research and Development Board, Professor Bem Willie Abbey for the immediate take-off of activities of the Chair.

Art Gallery Celebrates UniPort At 40 With Juvenile Workshop

By Mercy Adeniji

The Art Gallery commemorated the landmark 40th anniversary of the University with a three-day Workshop and an Art Exhibition for children between the ages of four and 14. The event took place at the Ebhitimi Banjo Auditorium, University Park.

Speaking with a Correspondent of UniPort Weekly, the University Curator and organizer of the event, Professor Bridget Nwanze, said: "Celebrating UniPort at 40 is something that is worth doing and that was why the Art Gallery decided to also key into the celebration by involving children in an Art Workshop and Competition that brought out the best of their creative instinct. A lot of Faculties and Units have celebrated with students, some celebrated with staff but we decided to focus attention on the children, because they are the leaders of tomorrow."

Speaking on the essence of the Workshop and Exhibition, the University Curator disclosed that "the event took place from May 25 to 27, which coincided with the 2015 Children's Day. The Workshop attracted artists from outside Port Harcourt, who joined lecturers to teach the children about art. We tried to make the number four prominent because it symbolized UniPort at 40, since we do not yet have children who are 40 years old." Nwanze disclosed that the Art Gallery was already exploring the possibility of sustaining the event on a more regular basis to keep the children fully engaged in innovation and creativity. "Having started this workshop series, I hope that it would galvanize authorities of the University to create an enabling environment for children to practise and appreciate art, which is central to their overall development," she said.

Declaring the Workshop open, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, congratulated the Curator and her team for mounting the Children Workshop which enabled them explore, expand and develop their creativity and sense of self-expression through the arts. He commended the ecstatic pupils for showing interest in the arts, stating that "Art is necessary for life and present in every course the children any decide to read in future. I encourage you to start learning how to be an artist because somewhere along the line, you will need art. I am very pleased to note that you are starting quite early in life to appreciate and practice art."

Highlights of the event were an exhibition, tie and dye, painting and competition. The organizers selected the best works by the children at the end of the Workshop, while 10 consolation prizes were presented to winners. Professor Nwanze expressed gratitude to the Wife of the Vice-Chancellor, Mrs. Mercy Ajienka and Acting Executive Director of the University of Port Harcourt Foundation, Dr. Ngozi Odu, for supporting the programme.

Other members of the Committee were: Omekepe Osi, Anthonia Okogwu, Mrs. Amanda Okowa, Mrs. Ashley Stewart, Money Atakala, Scholar Wall and Godwill Onyeoho.
eventual success, especially with respect to reducing reproductive losses in developing countries."

He observed that “recent developments in society have brought about the need for addition of contraception, induced abortion, family planning, and assisted reproduction to the human response,” regretting that improvements in reproductive outcomes in developed countries are very noticeable, while maternal and perinatal deaths remain at a tolerable minimum.

The Inaugural Lecturer said that “the UniPort/UPTH Academic Community has the capacity to provide quality obstetric and neonatal service delivery,” explaining that “the fate of The UniPort/UPTH service delivery is unbooked emergencies from the South-South locality who are admitted with multiple complications of pregnancy, labour, and the puerperium. They task the personnel, logistics, including other resources of the hospital, resulting in unacceptable reproductive losses and complications among survivors."

Addressing practical intervention that will facilitate safe maternal and neonatal health can only be achieved in partnership with the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Nigeria (SOGON), the Paediatric Association of Nigeria, Federal and State Governments, Non-Governmental Agencies and the oil companies,” Okpani, who is a former Director of the Centre for Medical Research and Training submitted.

“The UniPort/UPTH Academic Community should prioritise its involvement in sustainable maternal and neonatal child health programmes and interventions already commenced by the United Nations Agencies, the World Health Organisation, and the Federal and State Governments,” he recommended, adding that “this will imply involvement in efforts aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) four and five in the South-South/South-East localities with translation into sustainable Development Goals.”

Okpani, stressed the need for UniPort to prioritise computer-based simulation mannequin learning systems and 24-hour molecular medicines laboratory equipment and related consumables, using the TETFund and PTDF. He recommended improved synergy between the two intervention agencies in planning rural postings in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Paediatrics to enable medical and nursing students accompany Resident Doctors and maximise their learning opportunities, advising that a forum should be created to facilitate speciality and sub-speciality training grants for Resident Doctors, who may wish to become lecturers on the completion of their Fellowship training.

The Inaugural Lecturer, who recommended that “UniPort should emphasise multi-author research and those that address current contemporary issues in the West African sub-Region,” said that during appraisals for promotion, emphasis should not only be on number of publications, but on their relevance to service delivery and training, number of citations and trends in respect to presence or absence of follow-up studies, adding that “appraisal in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and indeed other Departments in the Faculty of Clinical Sciences should include indices of service delivery, experience in training postgraduate residents and proven clinical competence.

Okpani, who is Chairman of the Research Ethics Committee, said that “Ethical appraisals of research proposals and completed works should be submitted to the anti-plagiarism database—Turinitit, adding that “Postgraduate degrees (M.Sc and Ph.D) in Reproductive Health should be commenced to complement the Residency Fellowship experience, which would in turn improve access to the TETFund, PTDF and other university-based research grants.”

Speaking through the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Administration, Professor Anthony Ibe, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, praised Professor Okpani for enlightening the public on how best to respond to the biblical injunction on reproductive, expressing hope that the Lecture would be of maximum benefit to the public.

UniPort HPC Hosts Top Sports Administrators, Athletes

By Otkor Samuel

Top sports administrators, including President of the Athletics Federation of Nigeria (AFN), Chief Solomon Ogbia, led the Executive Members of Region II of the Confederation of African Athletics (CAA), comprising Benin, Togo and Nigeria, Secretary-General of AFN, Bamiduro Olumide, Sports Director of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC), Mr. Titus Ayodele and a representative of the Nigeria Police Sports Unit, Mr. Thomas Abhrie, to the Main Bowl of the University of Port Harcourt Sports Complex on an inspection tour of the newly-established High Performance Centre (HPC) on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

The high-powered delegation, which was at the HPC to appraise the state of facilities after a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) last year to formally commence activities at the Centre, awarded the University full marks for installing state-of-the-art equipment at the Centre.

Newly-appointed Director of the Sports Institute, Dr. Ken Anugweje, who disclosed the cheering observation to our Correspondent, added that the team, however, encouraged the University to complete ongoing construction work on the guest house to provide more accommodation for visitors to the Centre, which he said was crucial to realizing the full potentials of the Centre.

The one-day tour, which also featured the 1st AFN Golden League Competition, had ace athletes such as Esu Brume, Divine Oduduru, Obinna Metuh, Kelechi Nwanaga and Chinazom Amadi in attendance. Thaddeus Thomas led other students of the University to win the events they participated in at the demonstration competition.

Other top athletes that graced the event were ex-Olympians, Yusuf All, Gabriel Okon and a host of national athletic coaches.

The event also featured the 3rd edition of the All-Comers Competition, which afforded coaches an opportunity to hunt for talents, in addition to assessing the performance of current athletes.
GUIDEPOST

PROFESSORIAL PROMOTION
Dr. Gloria Obuzor, Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Chemical Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, promoted Professor of Chemistry, effective April 4, 2012.

APPOINTMENT
Dr. V. O. Odigie, Department of Early Childhood and Primary Education, Faculty of Education, appointed Acting Head of Department. The appointment which is for a period of two years terminates on May 19, 2017.

SABBATICAL LEAVE
Professor Ethelbert Nduka, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Faculty of Physical Sciences and Information Technology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, proceeded on Sabbatical Leave to Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Abia State, effective April 27, 2015 to April 26, 2016.
Professor Victory Dience, Department of Educational Foundations, Faculty of Education, proceeded on Sabbatical Leave to Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni, Port Harcourt, effective April 22, 2015 to April 21, 2016.

RESUMPTION FROM SABBATICAL LEAVE
Dr. J. E. Umeadua, Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Faculty of Social Sciences, resumed from Sabbatical Leave, effective April 27, 2015 to April 26, 2016.

REVERSAL OF TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT
Mr. Matthias Nkuda, Department of Management, Faculty of Management Sciences, granted Reversal of Temporary Appointment to Contract Appointment, Letter of Temporary Appointment, dated December 23, 2013 is hereby withdrawn.

Dr. Chukwunoghe Ojide, Department of Educational Management, Faculty of Education, granted Reversal of Temporary Appointment to Contract Appointment, Letter of Temporary Appointment, dated December 23, 2013 is hereby withdrawn.

HIGHER DEGREE
Dr. Sonny Iniochiuba, Department of Physics, Faculty of Physical Science and Information Technology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, has successfully completed his Doctorate Degree programme and has earned his Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Geophysics.

TERMINATION OF APPOINTMENT
Following the report of the Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee (SSDC), the Governing Council of the University of Port Harcourt at its 149th Meeting held on April 30, 2015, has terminated the appointment of Mr. Tony Jack of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering for gross misconduct.

DISSIMISAL FROM SERVICE
Following the report of the Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee (SSDC), the Governing Council of the University of Port Harcourt at its 149th Meeting held on April 30, 2015, has dismissed Professor Gilbert Adogho and Dr. Hycenth Aje, both of the Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences from the services of the University for gross misconduct, effective April 30, 2015. Adogho was also demoted from the rank of a Professor to a Reader.

SCSN Donates To Dept Research Lab

By Mercy Adeniji

The Research Laboratory of the Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry was enriched last Tuesday, when the University of Port Harcourt Chapter of the Student Chemical Society of Nigeria (SCSN), donated 40 Laboratory Stools, three Chairs and a Signpost towards improving learning and enhance students’ concentration during practical sessions.

Receiving the rare donation at the Research Laboratory, Dean of the Faculty of Chemical Sciences in the College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Professor Eugene Onyeike, commended the students for their effort in ensuring that they did their practical work in a conducive environment.

“Our students have done very well by making this important donation to the Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry to replace the old ones in their Laboratory. It is a very laudable venture for which we thank the students for identifying with the effort the University and the Department are making to create an enabling learning environment,” the Dean said, urging other students in the Faculty and Departments to emulate the kind gesture.

Commending the effort of the students, Head of Department, Professor Raph Ndido thanked the students for donating to the Departmental Research Laboratory. “The Department appreciates the effort of the students because they seem to know where the problems are and decided to make the donation. You cannot be working in the Laboratory without being comfortable and if you are performing any experiment and your legs are tired, you will lose concentration and it can be very dangerous to lose concentration while working in the Laboratory. I applaud their effort in ensuring that practical sessions are performed with minimum stress with this donation. Professor Ngochindo appealed to teaching and non-teaching staff of the Faculty to also do their best by impacting knowledge that would enable the students compete favourably with their counterparts outside the University.”

Also speaking, President of the Association, Mr. Tamunokwelu Adafo, disclosed that the donation was made to ensure that experiments were performed in a comfortable environment. “We observed that during our practical classes, we sit on broken stools or without foams which make us restless, so we felt that we needed to make the donation to our Department, because we need absolute concentration to understand Chemistry.”

Mr. Adafo thanked Management of the University for giving the students the opportunity to participate in the mandatory Industrial Training programme, expressing gratitude to friends and well-wishers, who identified with him while he raised funds for the project.

Amended Academic Calendar

For 2014/15 Session
Examinations and Second Semester Lectures
Time-Table for Regular Programmes
- Monday, 15th June, 2015 to Friday, 3rd July, 2015
  First Semester Examinations
- Monday, 6th July, 2015 to Friday, 10th July, 2015
  First Semester Break
Second Semester 2014/2015 Session
- Monday, 13th July, 2015
  Lectures begin
- Wednesday, 22nd July, 2015
  Extra-ordinary Meeting of Senate to consider First Semester (2014/2015) Results

Note: Two weeks added to the old calendar.

Contact: Prof A.I. Joe
DV-C (Academic)
6,930 Candidates Take Matriculation Oath

A total of 6,930 newly-admitted students took the Matriculation Oath at the 36th Matriculation Ceremony of the University of Port Harcourt on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at the Convocation Arena. Pictures of the event as captured by HEADMAN ALU are shown below: