As We Roll Over To 2016

I assumed office on Monday, July 13, 2015 as the eighth Vice-Chancellor of the University of Port Harcourt with abiding faith in what we can do together to achieve world class status. The odds were evidently weighed against me as I went round the Campus to sell my candidature and ideas on how best we could move the University to the next level.

More on p3

UniPort Weekly
Vol. 26, Edition 259
December 14 - December 21, 2015
ISSN: 1522-2225
For Information and Enlightenment www.uniport.edu.ng

128th Inaugural
Eneh Seeks Rights, Protection, Good Health Of Newborn

By Humphrey Ogu

Issues bordering on the protection of the rights of the newborn to good health and reduction of infant mortality formed the main thrust of the 128th Inaugural Lecture delivered by Professor Augusta Eneh of the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health in the Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, which held at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium last Thursday.

Delivering the Lecture entitled: “Ensuring the Divine Right of Every Child to a Healthy Start: Are We Fulfilling this Mandate?”, the Inaugural Lecturer cited what she referred to as the Newborn Bill of Rights as one of the ways of addressing the anomaly, stating that newborn babies have inalienable rights to “be born in as natural, loving and family-centred setting as possible with a knowledgeable, caring and conscientious birth attendant.”

Eneh, who observed that the newborn has a right to be born vaginally in the absence of absolute health necessity, and in the presence of his/her father and be held immediately after birth by mother and father in the absence of any contradictions, added that the newborn baby also have rights to “be breastfed on demand and be spared of any painful procedure that is not absolutely necessary for his/her health or wellbeing, be afforded necessary and appropriate treatment in the event of abnormality or illness, with all decisions being made with only the welfare of the child in mind,” amongst others.

Listing bonding, nutrition and quality healthcare as the most important needs of newborns that are often neglected, Eneh pointed out that “Breast milk is the Gold Standard. Breast milk is the best. Nothing that money can buy is as good for a baby as breastfeeding,” adding that breast milk is free such that even the poorest mother has milk for her baby.

“Owing to its large population and high rate of mortality, Nigeria ranks

More on p6

Read UniPort Weekly Online at www.uniport.edu.ng
Ex-Registrars Laud Faculty Officers

By Mercy Adeniji and Ethel Timi-Johnson

Immediate past Registrar of the University, Mrs. Matilda Nnodim has commended the Faculty Officers' Forum (FOF) for rendering quality services that have aided the growth of the University as the Registry Department grapples with the onerous responsibility of quality service delivery to stakeholders. Mrs. Nnodim, who made the commendation during an End-of-Year Get-Together organized for members of the Forum on Friday, December 4, 2015 at the Governing Council Chambers, expressed gratitude to the officers for holding the fort in their respective places of assignment, despite the demands of the job. She described the FOF as an excellent initiative that should be sustained by her successor, stating that she immensely appreciated the assistance the group rendered to her as a sitting Registrar. “Let this Forum continue to exist and flourish far beyond my tenure and let it draw support from the administration to sustain its activities. While in office, I resolved a lot of issues through this important Forum that is our eyes and ears in the various Faculties. Problems brought to this Forum were resolved to make the work a lot easier for the Registrar and I wish that the Forum will be stronger and more efficient in 2016,” the erstwhile Registrar told the gathering.

Speaking earlier, Chairman of the Forum and Director of Academic Affairs Department, Mrs. Dorcas Otto, expressed gratitude to God for His abundant mercies and for keeping the officers in good health to roll into another year. “We started this Faculty Officers’ Forum some years back and at the end of the year we usually come together to thank God for enabling us to perform our functions. We also appreciate ourselves for our modest accomplishments as we set the tone for the New Year,” she said, disclosing that the Forum meets on the first Friday of every month.

Mrs. Otto, said: “You know that Faculty Officers are the de facto ‘Registrars’ we see in the various Faculties and we have a responsibility to do all that is required of us to support the work of the Registrar. We are responsible to the Dean in carrying out our functions in the Faculties and Colleges, but we report to the Registrar in the performance of our various functions.”

In his contribution, one-time Registrar of the University, Mr. Messiah Onyige, commended the Faculty Officers for keeping the idea alive, urging them to always come up with something creative to assist the Registrar in the discharge of his or her difficult assignment. “My conception of this Forum is that it is a problem-solving platform and it is my hope that you will sustain the initiative. What I see today is better than my original idea and I have to give credit to Mrs. Otto for her dogged determination to get things done the proper way,” Mr. Onyige said.

Other officers present at the gathering included Mr. Gbeni Elukpe, Dr. Amos Odesanmi, Dr. Amoni Oze, Barimma Nkochi, Joke Sanni, Christiana Edwina, Dr. Mite Nghe, Joyce Obanu, Dr. Kate Onyige, Mr. Austin Igwe represented Mrs. Phulomena Etsu-Efoster, Miss Goodluck Uche represented Mrs. Virginai Nnane, Mr. Simeon Thompson represented Mr. Idelema Nimengoka, Mrs. Blessing Igwe represented Mrs. Christie Nwuru, while Mrs. Eronni Rodalyn represented Mrs. Joyce Tamuno. Other invited guests and former Faculty Officers in attendance were, Mrs. Flora Iyagba, Mrs. Elizabeth Njioho, Mr. David Anyanwu and Mr. Promise Simeon. Highlight of the event was the presentation of gifts to some distinguished officers and former Faculty Officers.

As We Proceed On Christmas Holidays

By Humphrey Ogu

In a matter of days from now, we shall be going on Christmas Holidays which is an annual ritual that most people look up to at this time of the year, even when they are not Christians. Experience has shown that most people spend recklessly during the Yuletide holidays and resume their normal business of living totally bankrupt. Marching into a New Year with a huge debt profile is not exactly how to begin a New Year. Some very superstitious persons usually blame their bankruptcy on the spirit of the season, suggesting that they have no power to control their expenditure.

This, at its best, is the figment of the imagination of those who peddle such hedonistic fable that is only fit for the marines.

Apart from the domestic economic disaster that befalls people at the twilight of a receding year and the dawn of a new one, there are other instances of reckless spending that cannot be explained away to any rational mind. There is also the issue of reckless driving which often leads to fatal road accidents and even sudden death. It, therefore, behooves every individual that wishes to march into 2016 in one piece and experience a Happy New Year to exercise extreme caution in this unrelenting climate of insecurity. Drunkenness is known to have a symbiotic relationship with reckless driving and other unwholesome acts that distract drivers.

As we bid 2015 goodbye, let us remember 2016; another year to be alive. We have more needs for spending in the New Year: house rent, school fees, household goods, amongst other expenditures that raise the blood pressure after the celebrations. My recipe is that we should live healthy, be safe and watch our pockets in these lean times. Do have a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year ahead all the same!

EDITORIAL BOARD

Prof Nomwa Late - Publisher
Prof Eme Ekeke - Editorial Chairman
Dr. Austen Sado - Editorial Adviser
Williams Wodi - Editor
Obinna Nwozidim - Associate Editor
Correspondents
Mercy Adeniji
Nicholas Samuel
Humphrey Ogu
Ethel Timi-Johnson

Secretariat: Gbaya Arochi (Mrs)
Headman Aluu
Aniichukwu Michael Ekiye
Gilla King-James (Mrs)

Call: 08033093371
I did not expect everybody on this expansive Campus to agree with my vision of how to move the University forward. Any of the other gentlemen who also ran for the office of VC at the time might have had their own brilliant ideas of how to run the University for the next five years. Unfortunately, however, only one of us was destined to occupy the position at a time and that successful candidate happened to be me.

Since 1975 when the Federal Government established the University, each of my seven predecessors in office had been expected to advance the causes of the University and the result is there for everybody to see. On assumption of office, I promised to build a ‘wholesome and prosperous University’ that is retailed to discharge its responsibilities of teaching, research and public service on a wholly new template. I knew that I was taking on an onerous task that would demand the very best that I can offer. In brazen myself for the job, I also told you that I am not a magician with the celestial powers to legislate everything into existence. I knew that working with the right people will make all the difference as we strive together to move the University forward.

Having served in the University system consecutively for an uninterrupted thirty-three years, I had a fair idea of what needed to be done to turn the corner for the Unique Uniport to take its deserving place in the global community of scholars that are united in their search for specialized knowledge that would advance the cause of humanity. I also had a clear idea of the amount of work that would be required to accomplish the Herculean task ahead of me as a leader. As you may have noticed, I am raising a new generation of leaders that would continue the arduous task of institution building, while tapping from the valuable experience of older citizens of this Campus.

Having been on the saddle for just five months, it is obvious that my administrative style has started to clearly manifest for those who support my policies and those on the fence that I am still working hard to bring to my side. The last group comprises my most implacable critics who have already made up their minds about me. To this segment, I only need to prove that my policies would serve the greater good of the University and hope that they will be convinced of my good intentions at the end of the day. One thing that is unique to the open system we run in the University, as is the case in the larger democratic setup, is that those you make happy today may turn out to be unhappy with you tomorrow. On this job, you learn to make friends or enemies purely on the basis of the decisions you make which are sometimes interpreted to reflect narrow pecuniary interests; but the beat must go on as one musician put it, The most important thing is to ensure that you make more friends than enemies in the line of duty. That is my goal!

Honest self-evaluation is a means of determining institutional progress or stagnation with a view to receiving performance feedback. Institutional goal attainment is usually facilitated by acceptable teamwork and clearly-defined monitoring and evaluation processes. In these five months, I have come to accept that the boundaries of performance are pushed by transparency, a fair and firm system of administration and an open communication process that allows all stakeholders to have the opportunity to make contributions to institutional growth without feeling alienated from the system.

As 2015 rolls away, I am proud of what we have so far accomplished and the unlimited possibilities that are ahead of us. I commend all staff and students who shared my vision of how to move Unique Uniport to greater glory and solicit your individual and collective support as we march into 2016 with renewed confidence in our ability to build the University of our dream.

I call on you to work even harder for greater goal attainment in the New Year. On my part, I totally commit myself to the service of the University through personal example, sacrifice and total commitment to the demands of the high office. I hold in trust for you. As Nelson Mandela once said, “A leader should not tell his subordinates to make any sacrifice he is not prepared to make himself.” I shall continue to lead by example.

The emergence of a new Registrar and University Librarian show how the University can renew itself in a most civilized manner without engaging in factions cleavages that undermine team spirit. I urge you to give the new Principal Officers your total support that would enable them to succeed in their new assignments.

I count on your continued support in 2016 and beyond and I hope you will stay safe and apply moderation in everything you do as you join your friends and family members to celebrate the festival. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

NDOYALALE, FAH, FESN
Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndoya Lale, has charged Graduate Students on the need to engage in quality research that would contribute to societal development, stressing that globally, student and alumni associations make meaningful contributions to the development of universities and the larger society.

Speaking during a courtesy call on him by the Interim Executive of the Graduate Students Association on Friday, November 27, 2015 by his Acting President, Mrs. Oton Basil, the Vice-Chancellor assured the Association of the University Management's total commitment to ensuring the welfare of students, including timely completion of their academic programmes.

In his address, the Acting President, Mrs. Basil, who briefed the Vice-Chancellor on the activities of the Association, solicited the support of the University Management to move it to greater heights. “We are seeking your support to make it a priority to uplift the affairs of the Association, including conducting election that would bring about the emergence of a new Executive that will take over from us,” Basil remarked.

Also speaking, Director of University of Port Harcourt Foundation (UPHF), Professor Henry Alapiki, stressed the need for the Association to develop a database that would capture the membership profile of the Association on a Faculty-wide basis. “You are an integral part of the University and the Foundation would like to collaborate with you as it strives to attain global visibility. You will eventually become Alumni of the University and it is my wish that you demonstrate high level responsibility and stakeholderism as worthy ambassadors of the University, your families and the nation,” Professor Alapiki added.

Secretary of the Graduate Students Association, Mr. Lewis Onyinye, Director of Business and Socials, Mr. Sylvanus Iheanacho, Treasurer and Mr. Rogers Baruirte, accompanied the Interim President to the Vice-Chancellor's office.

By Ethel Timi-Johnson
(with additional report from Chiemeche Ebiadieh Obiri)

V-C Tasks Graduate Students On Quality Research

The University of Port Harcourt (Unicha) Foundation (UPHF) has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation's Executive Director, Prof. Ndoya Lale, was cited as saying, “The University of Port Harcourt Foundation (UPHF) has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years. The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.”

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.

The Foundation has trained 16,000 youths in the last five years.
CONFIDENCE IGWE, PAR, STADU
I want to thank God for preserving our lives from January till the end of the year. I thank him for preserving members of staff, students and the University Management. I hope to spend the Christmas holiday with my family members and well-wishers. I am also wishing the University a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in advance and pray for the grace of God to enable me contribute to the development of the University in 2016.

BTOR-UE LEDEE, PERSONNEL SECRETARY II, COUNCIL UNIT
For me, Christmas is a moment of giving and sharing among loved ones and families. During festive periods such as Christmas, one can’t help but notice the passion and joy that are visible on people’s faces. I have seen this first-hand during my visits to various homes in Lagos. I have observed that family and friends come together to share meals, exchange gifts and spend time together. The atmosphere is filled with joy and love.

MRS. BARIKUI NWIKOBE, ADMIN OFFICER, SGS
As a Christian, I have to join other faithful to participate in most of the activities lined up for the end-of-year celebration such as Christmas Carol, Cross-Over Vigil and New Year Prayer Sessions, all aimed at expressing gratitude to God for sparing our lives and offering us the opportunity to live in 2016 in good health. My participation in these activities is to ensure a smooth transition into 2016 and also to commit the incoming year into God’s hand. To mark the season, I will take my children and other family members out to feel the pulse of the celebration; although it is going to be on a low profile in keeping with the lean economic times that we are currently facing in Nigeria. I don’t need to squander my little resources and then resume work in January totally broke.

MR. PETER NWUI, DRIVER, V-OFFICE
As a Christian, I believe that Christmas, which comes at the end of the year, should be a time to thank God and his servants for serving Him better in the New Year. The major activity I shall engage in during the Christmas Holidays is to go to the Deep Life National Decent Retreat, which will commence on Thursday, 24th and end on Sunday 27th December, 2015. I plan to take my family to the Retreat to experience the presence of God and hand ourselves to His protection in the New Year. After the Retreat, I will enjoy the holidays with my family and plan for 2016.

CASSANDRA ANDERSON, SSSL, TRADITIONALLY, Christmas is a religious holiday to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ amongst believers. It is a period to celebrate and reflect on the birth of Christ. The celebration of Christmas in Lagos with my cousins because I have never been there before. It would afford me an opportunity to see the street of Lagos. I think my 2015 Christmas will actually be fun because I have somewhere to go and enjoy my Christmas and New Year before I go back to School.

BLESSING MADEUOLSI, THIRD YEAR STUDENT, FACULTY OF ARMATURES AND MACROSCOPICAL SCIENCE.
Christmas is a time when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and His coming into the world. It would afford me an opportunity to join friends and family to mark the coming of Christ into the world. The birth of Christ brought hope to the world, and Christmas should remind us of the hope that we are saved as long as we believe in Him. My Christmas will be spent in Port Harcourt. I will go to Church, thank God for guiding me through 2015; I will later hang out with my friends, visit places of interest and have fun.

DAVID BARIEREKA, INTERIM PRESIDENT, STUDENTS’ UNION, FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Christmas means everything to me. Christ brought about the salvation that covers me. I see Christmas as symbolic of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ to save mankind. I intend to spend Christmas with my family, attend a Convention and travel to Calabar to see a lot of people.

CHIACHIVE, FINAL YEAR, SSSL
Christmas is a season to celebrate with loved ones and also a period set aside for families to take time off work and relax. I feel good whenever the season comes because it will afford me an opportunity to see some loved ones that I have not seen for a long time. However, I will be in Port Harcourt for me to prepare for the New Year. I intend spending this year’s Christmas with my family and friends. Indeed, it is a season every Christian has to take time off the hustle and bustle of daily living. So, Christmas goes far beyond the celebration of Christ’s birth to embrace other matters.

By Ethel Timi-Johnson and Intern, Chiemeaka Adindu
Barely 20 months after it was formally inaugurated, the University of Port Harcourt Chapter of the Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM) emerged winner of the Best Chapter Award administered by the parent body at the Federal Capital Territory. Making the disclosure to UniPort Weekly on Thursday, December 3, 2015, Chapter Chairman, Mrs. Flora Iyagba, noted that the award was presented at the just-concluded annual National Conference of the Association which held at the International Conference Centre, Abuja. “Out of 105 Chapters in the country that were evaluated for the award, UniPort Chapter emerged the overall best and carted away the coveted prize. This means that we have more work to do in addition to creating an impact in society,” she stated. The Chairman who described the UniPort Chapter of NIM as the youngest in the country, expressed delight at the award, promising to sustain the enviable legacy that earned it the award. “We wish to assure the national body of our resolve to remain worthy ambassadors of the professional body by keeping the flag flying even higher. We will continue the hard work and will not betray the confidence reposed on us,” Mrs. Iyagba told our Correspondent, adding that the young Chapter has grown its membership to about 600 persons within such a short timeframe. It would be recalled that the UniPort Chapter of NIM undertook the building and furnishing of a VIP lounge at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium that was donated to the University last December for hosting important dignitaries.

Chairman, NIM UniPort Chairman, Mrs. Iyagba, receiving the Award from National President of the Association, Dr. Nelson Uwaga, while others watch
Interns Speak On Experiences At IPPR

Four Interns of the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies in the Faculty of Marvellous Abel, Chiemeke Adinu, Cyndy Herbert and Rukky Orulu-Makele, who served their Internship Programme in the Information, Publications and Public Relations Unit of the University write on their experiences on the job:

Albert Einstein was right when he said: “The only source of knowledge is experience.” My colleagues and I experienced the techniques that result in the production of the University Weekly newspaper that commands widespread readership on Campus. This reflection would be incomplete without acknowledging the Editorial Board led by Professor Emeka Ekekwe and the Editor, Williams Wodi for their immense contributions in tutoring and mentoring me. Each staff of IPPR Unit contributed to the experience I have today, both in Journalism practice and in public service conduct and they deserve commendation for their professionalism and total commitment to duty. I will not forget the in-depth excursion class that exposed us to the processes involved in the print media at TND Printing Press on Friday, December 5, 2015. The Editor, who personally took us to the Press, joined us on a tour of the expansive facility that further enriched our understanding of how a newspaper is produced. As I end the programme, I also wish to plead with the Management of the University to ensure that the Internship programme of the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies is registered with the Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) office to enable graduates of the Department to be properly exposed to the practical aspects of the Journalism profession.

To my younger colleagues, my advice is: there is joy in serving your University with University Weekly. “Think Industrial Training, think IPPR Unit, think University Weekly.”

Cyndy Herbert

My Internship at the Information, Publications and Public Relations (IPPR) Unit of the University of Port Harcourt was a wonderful experience. I was opportune to work with skilled reporters which indeed contributed greatly throughout my stay and the experience will always stay with me. The IPPR Unit staff are the kind every student media Internship would be willing to associate due to their approachable manner in which they interacted with us. They were always on hand to guide us. This constituted the right editorial policy without sounding intimidating.

My experience in IPPR was a fruitful one because it offered me a rare opportunity to acquire hands-on training in journalism practice through the University Weekly medium. The Internship was a very unique opportunity for me because it took place in an academic environment that comprises professors and senior academics who evaluate everything we did. This situation called for extra caution in reporting and editing news items. Serving my Internship in the IPPR Unit also exposed me to the Public Service environment. My Editor, Williams Wodi, contributed a lot to enrich my Internship experience. He brought out the best in me through effective mentorship and diligent application of the rules of the journalism profession. He drilled me to understand the rudiments of practical journalism. Together with my colleagues, I had the opportunity to learn the Pre-Press, Press and Post-Press segments of newspaper publishing. We also learnt a lot from our facility visit to TND Press which took place on 4th December, 2015 and that was a memorable experience that I will cherish for a very long time.

Having an experience and moving to the next level is one thing about life, but IPPR is a place where an Intern would have an experience and would love to remain there. As they say: “experience is the best teacher.”

Rukky Orulu-Makele

Serving my Internship with warm-hearted professionals made every day special and worthwhile at the office, despite the stress and tension associated with production deadlines in a weekly publication. I walked into the newsroom of the IPPR Unit on 10th November, 2015, unaware of the daily challenges that an Internship reporter would face. A very welcoming and experienced group of professional staff blew my mind on arrival. The working environment was cool, well ventilated and accommodating; one of the best that an Internship student would definitely want to work in.

In the course of my training, I was exposed to various tasks in news reporting techniques and general compartmentalization in a public office. My work schedule, which included gathering information within the University for publication introduced me to the much-needed hands-on skills in journalism. As Interns, the four of us were each attached to experienced staff writers and editors. The Editor would thereafter write our reports, which they meticulously edited, making sure we took proper corrections which have undoubtedly sharpened my writing skills.

I covered several beats as part of the design by the Editor to ensure that we were kept on our toes at all times, as no Intern was allowed to idle away in the newsroom. As much as readers take newspaper for granted, I came to realise that even an experienced reporter can be frustrated by the challenges associated with the job and I was not short of such moments as we battled to meet weekly deadlines without closing time. Also, the art of public speaking was not left out, as we accompanied the Editor to numerous University assignments that required speaking skills that showed that a good journalist could combine excellent writing skills with the spoken word. During such assignments, I was also given the opportunity to visit the Office of the Vice Chancellor and report proceedings to readers of University Weekly.

My experience was capped when the Editor also took us on a facility visit to TND Press to get us properly acquainted with the processes involved in the production of a newspaper. I cannot but express great joy for the level of exposure I received in such a very short time at the University Weekly newspaper. I truly believe that this level of exposure and discipline instilled in me will serve me well in the journalism profession on graduation.

CHIMEKA ADINU

“Nothing ever becomes real till it is experienced,” says John Keats, and this was my case as I was opportune to acquire real life skill of what real Journalism entails out in the field. During my few weeks of Internship at the Information, Publications and Public Relations (IPPR) Unit of the Vice-Chancellor’s Office, University of Port Harcourt, I was acutely exposed to the rudiments of news gathering, writing and editing, as well as photожournalism. Every new day brought new ideas and challenges that set me on my toes throughout my stay in the Unit. My four-year cla classroom experience in the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies could be equated with the seven weeks of practical experience I had at the IPPR Unit as time rolled on very fast.
EnECH ADVOCATES FOR RIGHTS OF NEWBORN

Cont'd fom p1

highest in Africa, in terms of neonatal deaths, and second highest in terms of newborn deaths worldwide. Nigeria contributes about 8 percent of the world’s annual neonatal deaths and 15 percent of Africa’s neonatal deaths. Child survival programmes have focussed on diseases affecting children aged over one year and vaccine-preventable diseases. Safe motherhood programmes have focussed on the mother and her newborn,” the Inaugural Lecturer disclosed. Professor Ench noted that “Health systems in the high income countries emphasise and focus on quality care at birth; delivered through facility and community actions, focusing on the time of birth when most deaths occur and when most lives can be saved, and long-term disabilities averted. The health systems are responsive and health workers deliver high quality and timely skilled care.

“In Nigeria, skilled attendants at delivery rate is low and more than 60 percent of births occur outside health facilities, the quality of care at delivery is defective. This is the time when most deaths occur and when most lives can be saved, and long-term disabilities averted, through higher coverage of effective interventions,” she explained, adding that the strategy to reduce newborn mortality requires responsive health systems that are equipped with life-saving commodities and staffed with health workers who can deliver high quality and timely skilled care, including obstetric care for small and ill newborn babies.

PRINCEWILL IKPEKA, IPS BGS,

“I feel very happy and accomplished today, I wouldn’t say it was all by my effort that I got into the IPS and came this far. I think it is more of God’s grace, favour and mercy upon my life. Each day, I try my best to learn as much as I can and ask questions, participate in group discussions and remain open to new ideas. I was never tired of trying to know more. That was the secret of my success in the Institute.

“My advice to new students is that IPS will squeeze them and they will go through very challenging times. IPS has a way of making you feel there is nothing inside you before it brings out something in you once you face the wall. The Institute drills you until it gets the very best out of you and restores your self-confidence. Again, to our Professional Mentor, Engineer Ahmadu-Kida Musa, we say thank you, you are special and great.”

MISS TOSIN SALAKO, PRIZE WINNER

“As an MSc. graduate from the Institute of Petroleum Studies, I feel joyful and fulfilled to be one of the Inductees. I also feel something has been impacted into me during this one year in IPS. Having seasoned lecturers who taught us all we need to know is a milestone achievement that I would cherish for the rest of my life. Now, we are very much ready to get into the industry and exhibit what we have learnt. One major thing we were taught at IPS is to humble ourselves so that we can learn more and add to what we already know in our dealings. Our successors should work very hard by putting in their very best effort if they hope to make it through the Institute that has no respect for previous knowledge. Above all, they should put all they do in the hand of God and He will surely perfect it for them.”

Inaugural Lecturer, Prof Ench (arrowed) and other Professors before the Lecture

The Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS) which is an international postgraduate institute for the training of Petroleum Engineers had her 12th Induction/Anniversary Ceremony on Thursday, December 26, 2015. In this interview with Correspondent, MERCY ADENJII, some of the Inductees spoke on their experience in the Institute:

MISS CORINNE MEA,
PRIZE WINNER

IPS has really grounded us well in the area of leadership and how to exhibit team spirit. We were exposed to various know-hows in leadership and management skills that went far beyond Petroleum Engineering. I am from Claverdale and it was a good experience to spend one year in Nigeria. This one year, I have learnt a lot of things from the Institute and I now know plenty Nigerians I can relate to in my future career. After now, I would go over to the industry first and then see if I can enrol to complete my PhD programme as a final icing on my academic cake. This one year was not easy at all and my advice to our successors is that they should stay strong and remain focused on their studies as there is no room for error as a student of IPS. Whatever the circumstances, they should give their best, and in the end, they would reap the reward of their hard work.”
Enenajor Showcases Works At Arts Expo

By Obinna Nwodim

I was a week-long showcasing of creativity in the arts as Professor of Graphic Arts in the University, Marshall Enenajor, displayed a collection of artworks produced by him at the National Arts Gallery, University Park, last week. The event, which was tagged: The Thinker's Thoughts: Fine Jaggyaga, attracted art enthusiasts from within and outside the University community, including the 5th Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs.

Declaring the well-patronised exhibition open, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nidowale Lateef, represented by Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Professor John Enemogho, described the arts as an important discipline that is central to the human evolutionary process. The arts cut across all spheres of human endeavour. There is no profession that does not involve one art form or the other,” the Vice-Chancellor’s representative told the gathering, commending Professor Enenajor for his high level productivity in the visual arts.

Also speaking, pioneer Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Emeritus Professor Ebenezer Agbo, who also commended Professor Enenajor for exhibiting high quality designs that are of immense value, advised him to involve the private sector and major industry players in the promotion of innovation and creativity in the University.

In his speech, former Head of the Department of Fine Arts and Design, Professor John Agbem, expressed gratitude to the 5th Vice-Chancellor of the University, Emeritus Professor Briggs for his continued patronage of the arts, commending him for encouraging the arts in the University and for the role he played in building the National Arts Gallery in the University during his tenure.

Explaining his works to guests, Professor Enenajor said that as an exponent of straw art and the use of alternative medium in artistic expression in Nigeria, he was passionate about freely expressing himself based on everyday experiences. Enenajor added that the reason for the Expo was his “passion for the profession and the need to create a new art form that would be easily identified with the University community. It would serve as an encouragement to students of the Department seeking real mentorship in the use of alternative materials in artistic form.”

Earlier in his welcome address, Director of the Institute of Neger Delta Studies (INDS), Professor Abi Dzerefa, said that the Institute supported the exhibition as part of its objective to promote indigenous creativity. The Director said that plans were afoot to make the event part of the University’s annual academic calendar to bring it to the notice of a wider audience, disclosing that the exhibition which has a rich harvest of indigenous heritage would add value to the arts.

The over 50 works exhibited were in four main categories. They included Straw/Apply Arts, Full Straw Works, Solar Window Film (Tint) on Glass and Graffiti Frames.

---

**Change of Name**

**NEI, OKEJIE BARNABAS.** Former Mr. Kamalo, Okajie Barnabas, of the Department of Geology, Faculty of Science, now wishes to be known, called and addressed as NEI, OKANIE BARNABAS. All former documents bearing his former name remain valid. The University of Port Harcourt and the general public should take note.

**MRS. NEI, GIFT MBA.** Former Mrs. Kamalo, Gift Mba, of the Centre for Children with Developmental and Communication Disorders (CCDCD), now wishes to be known, called and addressed as MRS. NEI, OKANIE BARNABAS. All former documents bearing her former name remain valid. The University of Port Harcourt and the general public should take note.

**MRS. EKINEH RICHMOND DORATHY.** Former Miss Amadi-Ojodeli Dorathy, of the University of Port Harcourt Demonstration Secondary School (UDSS), now wishes to be known, called and addressed as MRS. EKINEH RICHMOND DORATHY. All former documents bearing her former name remain valid. The University of Port Harcourt and the general public should take note.

---

**Stop Press University Christmas Gift**

This is to inform all members of staff that the distribution of Christian Gift Items by the University will commence on Monday December 14th to Friday, December 18th, in the following order:

14th December, 2015: Humanities, Engineering, Basic Medical Sciences, Education, Works and Service, Management Sciences, Bursar's Office, Central Library, Health Services Department, School of Graduate Studies.

15th December, 2015: Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Science, Registrar’s Office, Student Affairs Department, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Social Sciences, UBRS, Vice-Chancellor’s Office, CIE.

16th, 17th and 18th December, 2015: All groups not attended to on their scheduled dates and resolution of other related issues. Collection Centre is the new Department of Animal and Environmental Biology Building (Opposite former CBN Library, now Laboratory for the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University Park).

---

**Decision of Senate on Proven Cases of Criminal Plagiarism by Graduate Students**

Following the compulsory anti-plagiarism test for Graduate Students’ Dissertations and Theses, there are now 19 identified cases. The Senate of the University has decided that plagiarism amounts to Examination Malpractice. After due deliberation on the matter, Senate has directed that in accordance with Section 9.3 of the School of Graduate Studies Brochure, any student in the School of Graduate Studies found guilty of Examination Malpractice of any description should be summarily expelled from his or her programme.

---

**86th Graduate Seminar**

Doctoral Candidates from the various Faculties and Departments are by this notice directed to attend the 86th School of Graduate Studies Doctoral Seminar presentation scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2015 at the Seminar Room of the School of Graduate Studies, University Park. Time is 10am.

Contact: Dr. Agatha Atuka, Graduate Studies Officer.
NANS Commends Lalle, Solicits Support For Anti-Cultism Campaign

By Otokor Samuel (with additional report from Rukky Uro-Makele: Intern)

other students who may wish to follow their bad example," Mr. Ufoma told the Vice-Chancellor. He presented Lalle with a giant-size congratulatory card on behalf of the Association to mark his appointment as eight Vice-Chancellor of UniPort. The student leader also used the opportunity to solicit support from Management of the University as the Association prepares to host a one-day sensitization workshop on the menace of cultism on Nigerian University campuses, stressing the need for all stakeholders to intensify awareness campaigns on effective security measures aimed at ensuring a peaceful atmosphere for academic activities. Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, who expressed gratitude to NANS for its new-found maturity aimed at resolving conflict flashpoints, praised the leadership on the manner it engaged the University on the sad demise of Miss Kecheki Precious.

"Let me commend the leadership of the Association for presenting me with a giant congratulatory card which I will cherish for evermore. I am delighted to be part of the University," the Vice-Chancellor promised that Management would deliberate on the issue and get back to the organizers, warning however, that: "Should your request be granted, please ensure that participants at the seminar will comport themselves within the limits of civility and the rules governing public gatherings on our Campus. Your idea of creating awareness on the evils of cultism is very noble and I believe that it will impact positively on participants and the University community."

In his remarks, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Anthony Ibe, thanked the leadership of the umbrella body of the Nigerian students for visiting the University on a friendly platform. He also commended the Association for recognizing the existing excellent relationship between Management and students on Professor Lalle's watch, hoping that the honour done him would spur the Vice-Chancellor to continue in his friendly disposition to students.

Principal Officers Fete Nwodo On Successful Tenure Completion, As V-C Tours Library

By Otokor Samuel (with additional report from Chiemeka Adinodu: Intern)

In line with the new tradition of honouring members who successfully serve out their tenure, Principal Officers of the University hosted Dr. Obiageli Nwodo to a farewell reception as the 4th University Librarian on Friday, December 4, 2015. The brief, but very symbolic ceremony which took place in the Vice-Chancellor's office, evoked sweet memories of the excellent services rendered by the former University Librarian, who in turn relished her maternal working relationship with her erstwhile colleagues in the last five years.

The dignified disengagement of Dr. Nwodo, commenced with an early morning visit to the Library where the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lalle, led other Principal Officers to inspect facilities, and also assessed the progress recorded within the five-year tenure of Dr. Nwodo, which was rounded off with a luncheon in town in honour of the departing University Librarian. Speaking during the inspection tour, the Vice-Chancellor who restated his commitment to the development of the Library stated that: "There will be no end to learning, so we need to continue equipping our Library with current journals and books to bring it at par with the very best in the world. We will do all that is within our resources to ensure that our Library continues to grow in line with global best practices and I am totally committed to ensuring that you get all the support that would be necessary to place our Library on top of the pack in the country."

On non-statutory and non-statutory charges due to the Donald Ekong Library, the Vice-Chancellor promised to ensure that monies accruing to the Library are deducted and used to service the Department to enable it meet its statutory obligations to students, staff and the reading public. He thanked staff of the Library Department for supporting the 4th University Librarian that visited the Library on my watch," she remarked, soliciting the support of the Professor Lalle-led administration to continue the upgrade of facilities in the Library as a means of sustaining the positive trend. "I am happy that I hosted your first official visit to the Library before exiting office. It was just right for you to see what we have on ground and how to better the Library for users before taking my leave from the office. We have subscribed to a number of electronic library resources which we renew periodically. The MacArthur Foundation of Chicago was initially funding our library e-resources, but it later withdrew such critical support which now means that we are sustaining the subscription on our own. So, we need funds to service our e-resources if we wish to remain globally competitive. We also need a dedicated staff to mount our Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) to reduce theft of Library resources," Dr. Nwodo told the Vice-Chancellor, expressing gratitude to him, her other colleagues in the Principal Officers Meeting and the Library for supporting her to succeed.

Some of the sections visited by the Vice-Chancellor and his team included the EL-Sevier e-learning Room, Server Room, Library Vendor and Reference Sections, including the General Area for some Facilities, as well as the emergent Department of Library and Information Science which temporarily operates from the Library complex.