

Talent is cheaper than table salt. What separates the talented individual from a successful one is a lot of hard work.
STEPHEN KING

2016 Founders' Day Lecture

Professor Onyewuchi Akaranta of the Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry delivered the 2016 Founders' Day Lecture at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium on Wednesday, February 10, 2016. Our Cameraman, MITCHELLE EBI-EKIVOR captured scenes from the event as displayed below:



V.C. Prof. Nduka Lado, making his opening remarks, flanked on the left by HOD, Health Prof. (left) and on the right by HOD, Education Prof. (right) to the V.C. Prof. Nduka Lado



Prof. Austin Coakley reading the citation to Prof. Onyewuchi Akaranta



Prof. Akaranta delivering the Lecture



Prof. Akaranta handing over a copy of the lecture to the V.C. Prof. Lado



A group of women making a point at the lecture



Crowd sections of guests at the lecture



Guests seated at a table during the event



V.C. Prof. Lado (standing) Principal Officers and the Lecturer, Prof. Akaranta



Immediate past V.C. Prof. Joseph Ajemba at the Lecture



Emerita Prof. Ebiogboji Allagoo



V.C. Prof. Lado making his closing remarks



A group photograph of staff after the Lecture

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



Korean Envoy Pledges Support For Nigeria

South Korean Ambassador to Nigeria, Park Hye-Ok, has renewed his country's support for the sustained development of Nigeria, noting that the South Korean embassy is committed to supporting the Nigerian federal administration in building a better Nigeria. Making a presentation during the 2016 Inauguration Ceremony of the United States Auditorium of Lagos, March 4, 2016, the *Reporters Humphrey Ojo*



Side Bar

The Department of Music, Faculty of Humanities, held the 3rd St. Clare's Feast Memorial Concert and Lecture on Saturday, March 12, 2016. *Dr. Oluwole Odejinrin*

Serve INEC With Integrity, V-C Advises UniPort Staff

Staff of the University recruited by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) as Ad-Hoc to assist in the conduct of the rerun election scheduled for Saturday, March 19, 2016 in the State, have been advised to serve the Commission with commitment and integrity so as not to bring the image and reputation of the University into disrepute. Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nduka Lado, who gave the stern warning last Monday at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, while addressing the 300 staff, who made the list which he personally signed and forwarded to INEC, vowed to deal decisively with any staff of the University found to have compromised his or her integrity by manipulating election results to favour any political party during the rerun election. The warning, according to the Vice-Chancellor, became



imperative following the allegation by Governor Nyesom Wike that two staff of University, Dr. Oluwole Odejinrin and Dr. Gift Wuraola, colluded with a chiefdom and candidate of the All Progressive Congress (APC), Dr. David George to compromise names of persons that would favour the All Progressive Congress (APC) as Ad-Hoc staff of INEC. The Vice-Chancellor, who stated his own side of the story during the stakeholders' meeting he convened, which was also attended by selected media organisations, explained that his choice of the Acting Dean of Student Affairs Department, Dr. Ekepenyung, to compile the names of prospective Ad-Hoc staff of INEC was in response to a request from the Commission. "Government Agencies insist each other in the implementation of certain policy thrusts of Government at all levels. No Government Agency has the right to refuse a genuine statutory request by another Government



Diversifying Nigeria's Economy Through Songhai, RSSDA MoU

By *Obinna Nwodin*

That the Nigerian state has come to its senses on the economic front is no longer news. The real question is whether we still remain today in a state that is the epitome of the nation's economic fortunes. This is not because the state has been a host to various economic crises but because in the ongoing process for the diversification of the economy, we have been slow to respond.

Various economic theories have alluded to the possibility that it is a dangerous position to depend on a single product for our existence. This is what economic diversification in Nigeria has done for us over the decades. The discovery of oil and the petroleum that came with it relegated a vital area of the economy such as agriculture to the background. The economy is increasingly being led by the black gold without considering the future consequences of depending on a single resource. This is where it has brought us. Our current government should focus on diversifying the economy so that it is not so heavily dependent on a single resource. It is important to diversify the economy so that it is not so heavily dependent on a single resource. It is important to diversify the economy so that it is not so heavily dependent on a single resource.



West Lake Leading Officers of the University during the faculty induction of Songhai Farm

with economic development. Also, the essential roles of the state in the development of the country, through the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of State Services (Ministry of State Services) are also important. When the Faculty of Agriculture, Professor Geoffrey Nwagwu, Faculty Director of the Centre, visited the campus of the University, he emphasized the importance of both agriculture and the state in the development of the country. He also emphasized the importance of both agriculture and the state in the development of the country. He also emphasized the importance of both agriculture and the state in the development of the country.

Partnership with innovation and science that are geared towards providing agricultural solutions would be a key to the success and growth of the country. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nwagwu, also emphasized the importance of both agriculture and the state in the development of the country. He also emphasized the importance of both agriculture and the state in the development of the country. He also emphasized the importance of both agriculture and the state in the development of the country.

West Lake Farm has been a success story for the University. It has provided a platform for the faculty to engage in research and innovation. The farm has also provided a platform for the faculty to engage in research and innovation. The farm has also provided a platform for the faculty to engage in research and innovation.

STUDENT WORLD

Noble Amadi's area of interest is Plant Ecology. His research on the use of Citrus and Polyphol to induce Phytoremediation of Heavy Metals and Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Acid and Calcareous Polluted Soil aims to evaluate the hyper-accumulation potentials of the plants by inducing them with anti-toxic agents to enhance their biomass. These plants accumulate high volumes of heavy metal and helps to clean up the environment, but they are affected by such factors as low biomass, slow growth, shallow root system and poor diurnal metabolism. His research proposes the addition of acidulants and anti-toxic agents such as NPK fertilizers, organic and plasma peels to change the morphology of the plants. The orange and plasma peels because of their citric acid and potassium contents are preferred to ethylenediamineacetic acid (EDTA). EDTA is a chelating agent that enhances heavy metal uptake in plant shoots. It serves the same function with the orange and plasma peels, he said, adding that orange and plant peels could be recycled for such purposes. Explaining part of his motivation to undertake the research work, Amadi pointed out that the developmental drive for West Africa countries is to become industrialized and advanced but takes a toll on their ecosystems which causes heavy metal pollution—especially in urban areas. The critical issue is that Nigeria is not prepared towards controlling her environment and there is

Phyto-remediation Can Improve Polluted Soil ~Amadi

Noble Amadi obtained his First degree in Plant Science and Biotechnology (Environmental Plant Science option) and a Master of Science in Plant Ecology from the Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, Faculty of Science. He is currently a Doctoral Candidate in the same Department. He spoke to Correspondent, THEL TIM-JOHNSON on Phyto-remediation of polluting.

a complete lack of data on the nature and extent of metal pollution produced by mainly anthropogenic activities such as gas flaring," he stressed. He explained that the study also strives to evaluate the hyper-accumulation potentials of *Moringa oleifera* and *Polyphol longifolia* in the pot experiment, using heavy metal contaminated soil. This research work is expected among other objectives, to review the ability of polyphol plants and other vegetables to enhance phyto-remediation for the development of higher biomass and low-growth plant species to help solve the challenges inherent in hyper-accumulator plant species. This system has hampered the commercial use of phyto-remediation," Amadi highlighted. "Phyto-remediation is preferable to the conventional remediation method such as excavation, landfill, chemical immobilization, soil washing and electro-kinetics, which destroy micro-organisms in the soil and soil nutrients as well as the texture and structure of the soil," he pointed out, adding that phyto-remediation protects plant nutrients, the root system and also pertains the natural flora and fauna.



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GUIDEPOST

APPOINTMENT
Dr. Luke Nwagwu, former Lecturer, Appointment of Lecturer/Asst. Professor in the Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, effective January 1, 2016 to January 31, 2016.

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT/ APPOINTMENT
Dr. Moses Ogunniyi, Appointment of Lecturer/Asst. Professor in the Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, effective January 1, 2016 to January 31, 2016.

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We Will Enforce High Standards For Programmes Affiliated To UniPort-Osuji

By *Humphrey Ogu*

Newly-appointed Director of Local Affiliates, Professor Julius Osoji, has reaffirmed his Centre's resolve to ensure that institutions affiliated to the University maintain the highest quality of their programmes. This is to ensure that approved standards are not compromised by the proprietors of such institutions, irrespective of their locations in the country. Exchanging views on his mandate with *CampusMetro* in his office last Tuesday, Osoji said that he is committed to strengthening existing affiliations and ensuring that affiliates institute strictly adhere to the content and delivery of academic programmes as specified by Senate of the University, promising to carry out routine monitoring of all such affiliate programmes. "In issues that approved academic benchmarks are not compromised, all the affiliate institutions are directed to complete self-study forms in line with the directive by the National Universities Commission (NUC). Once they complete such forms, the Academic Planning Unit of

the University usually evaluates their claims to ensure that they meet the minimum benchmarks specified by the NUC and UniPort. This important procedure has to be completed by each affiliate institution before seeking Senate approval to its programmes," the Director explained, adding that once an affiliation is approved by Senate of the University, the next step would be to establish a contract that would define the terms and conditions of the affiliation. Osoji, who disclosed that affiliation are programme-based, further explained that the University must offer all programmes for which affiliations are sought. "The main role of the University is to directly supervise full implementation of the specified academic content of affiliate programmes that must reflect the quality and content of what obtains in the originating Departments in the University. The Academic Planning Unit plays a very crucial role in ensuring that the minimum benchmarks specified by both UniPort and NUC are met by these seeking affiliation with us," he said after a session. "As a strategy to keep academic activities in the affiliate institutes alive, we hope to arrange public lectures to be periodically delivered by Lecturers to be drawn from the University," the Director disclosed, promising a more proactive participation of the Centre in monitoring the framework for affiliate programmes. "We need to establish a data bank of institutions affiliated to UniPort at the Centre. We don't need to waste in such data and resources to access information on affiliate institutions. I shall contact the Academic Planning Unit to obtain full disclosure of affiliate programmes for easy reference and verification of claims," he said. Osoji, who also doubles as Chairman of the University-wide Local Accreditation Committee, disclosed plans to achieve full accreditation in 2017 for 32 programmes run by the University that currently have interim accreditation status. "Initially, the responsibility of the Accreditation Committee was more or less limited to Undergraduate programmes, but at recent times, the NUC has extended accreditation exercises to Postgraduate programmes, thus, widening our mandate," he pointed out. "Members of the Committee have agreed to meet every two weeks, but at the moment, we meet, at least, once a week because of pressures on us to secure accreditation for some programmes with interim status. We have decided that all Deans and Heads of Department should provide us with the results of previous accreditation exercises to guide the Committee in planning its programmes." Osoji noted that major factors responsible for denial of accreditation include staffing, physical facilities and libraries, suggesting that late preparations had sidelined against securing full accreditation for some of the programmes.



Prof. Osoji

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT WEATHER OBSERVATORY FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 13 - SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2016.

DATE	TEMPERATURE (C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	WIND VELOCITY (km/h)	SEA STATE	GENERAL WEATHER	REMARKS
SUNDAY, MARCH 13	24 - 28	85	SW	15	1-2	Partly cloudy	Thunderstorm squalls with rain, lightning and hail
MONDAY, MARCH 14	24 - 28	85	SW	15	1-2	Partly cloudy	Thunderstorm squalls with rain, lightning and hail
TUESDAY, MARCH 15	24 - 28	85	SW	15	1-2	Partly cloudy	Thunderstorm squalls with rain, lightning and hail
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16	24 - 28	85	SW	15	1-2	Partly cloudy	Thunderstorm squalls with rain, lightning and hail
THURSDAY, MARCH 17	24 - 28	85	SW	15	1-2	Partly cloudy	Thunderstorm squalls with rain, lightning and hail
FRIDAY, MARCH 18	24 - 28	85	SW	15	1-2	Partly cloudy	Thunderstorm squalls with rain, lightning and hail
SATURDAY, MARCH 19	24 - 28	85	SW	15	1-2	Partly cloudy	Thunderstorm squalls with rain, lightning and hail

Dr. Julius Osoji
Acting Head

Dr. Julius Osoji
AG. Director, I.D.A.M.S

UniPort, RSSDA Set Up Partnership Steering Committees

By *Odinna Nwadin*

Both UniPort and the RSSDA have established steering committees to coordinate the implementation of their respective projects. UniPort's steering committee will be headed by Prof. Lateef Akande, while the RSSDA's steering committee will be headed by Prof. Lateef Akande.

The committees will oversee the implementation of the projects. UniPort's steering committee will be headed by Prof. Lateef Akande, while the RSSDA's steering committee will be headed by Prof. Lateef Akande.



VC, Prof. Lateef Akande (far left), flanked by Executive Director RSSDA, Mr. Peggins and other Senior Officers of the University and RSSDA

Mr. Lawrence Peggins, who expressed appreciation for the support of the University, stated that the partnership between UniPort and the RSSDA is a significant step towards the development of the country's infrastructure.

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INRES Students Speak On Programme



L.R. Eka, Jobe and Mrs. Owanabara

INRES (Institutional Resource and Environmental Studies) is a programme that aims to provide students with a holistic view of the environment and its impact on society.

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Mgt Explains Contributory Pension Scheme Administration To ASUU

By *Odinna Nwadin*

VC, Prof. Lateef Akande, explained that the contributory pension scheme is a significant step towards the development of the country's infrastructure.

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VC, Prof. Lateef Akande (Centre front row) ASUU EXCO and others

Senate To Pull Out Ten Professors April 27

By *Odinna Nwadin*

The University's Senate is expected to pull out ten professors on April 27, 2016, as a result of their involvement in the contributory pension scheme.

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Ufualo, Okoh, Arize, Ayefogh, Okoi



Okoro, Ezeasi, Danbor, Isum, Ugorji