



Experts Tackle Threats To African Wetlands At UniPort Confab

Issues bordering on the growing threats to the existence of deltas and rivers across Africa were on the front burner during a three-day international conference that was jointly organized by four universities in the Niger Delta at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park, last week, reports *Otikor Samuel*.

More on p3

Side Bar

The Department of Anaesthesiology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, marked World Anaesthesia Day last Friday. Details next week ~Editor



UniPort Weekly

Vol. 25, Edition 251

October 19 - October 26, 2015

ISSN: 1522-2225

For Information and Enlightenment www.uniport.edu.ng

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

126th Inaugural Chinenye Raises Alarm Over Increasing Diabetes Burden, Clarifies Myths

By Obinna Nwodin

Diabetes Militus is on the increase and if proactive steps are not taken by policy-makers and healthcare experts, the disease may become a major health scare in Nigeria with high mortality rates. Again, contrary to the long-held misconception that diabetics should sentence themselves to only unripe plantain and beans as a means of

managing the debilitating disease, an Endocrinologist in the Department of Medicine, Professor Sunday Chinenye, has submitted that the position was not backed by any scientific proof and was therefore, condemnable, urging people living with the condition to eat family food in moderation and keep hospital appointments.

Professor Chinenye made the clarification while delivering the 126th Inaugural Lecture of the University at

the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last Thursday.

The Physician, whose Lecture was entitled: *Living with Diabetes in Nigeria: The Care, Cure and Prevention*, stated that "In the Nigerian setting, there is no scientific reason why our diabetic patients should be restricted to a diet of unripe plantain and beans. This is unacceptable and condemnable," pointing out that a

More on p6



Registry Day Holds Tomorrow



Story on p3

Experts Brainstorm On Vocational Education



Story on p4

Don Canvasses Foreign Policy Review



Story on p5

Igali Donates To Sports Institute



Story on p6



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

Pan-Eleme Congress Fetes Lale

By Williams Wodi

The most famous chapter in Niccolò Machiavelli's intriguing political treatise entitled *The Prince*, is the one in which he masterfully evaluates human freedom of action; arguing that fortune exercises great powers over humans and their actions. The bold and determined, according to the 14th century Florentine political philosopher, would always succeed far better than the indecisive fellow, who stirs into the vacancy of space and vacillates over what cause of action to take in pursuit of self-fulfilment.

Professor Ndowa Lale perfectly fits into Machiavelli's description of a man who exercised his freedom of action on an unprecedented scale. For a man, who discovered his talents from rustic rural isolation into the limelight of city life, Lale's meteoric rise to stardom is a lesson that is not taught in the best business schools. For a man who was born amongst despondent village folks in Agbeta, Eleme; most of who were covered in mud and mire, Lale's quantum leap to the pinnacle of his chosen career line is the stuff of blockbuster Hollywood movie.

Again, in the instructive words of Machiavelli, "Everyone sees what you appear to be, few experience what you really are... Common people are always impressed by appearance and results." Lale's mountainous achievements belie his physical outlook. This unarmed academic general has always appeared like an abstract manual amongst his own Eleme people, who pride themselves as the gateway of Nigeria's economy with justification.

A man who tries to abide by honest principles and conducts his affairs by law in place of brute force or intrigue, this acknowledged master of human relations could not have gone unnoticed for too long. He shows compassion, is personable and passionate, guileless, committed to good causes, wears his integrity on his sleeves and has an admirable reputation for a virtuous lifestyle within the limitations of mortal man.

Few gave him a fighting chance of becoming the eight Vice-Chancellor of the University of Port Harcourt, since he did not have godfathers in high places in the



V-C, Prof Lale (arrowed) flanked by Members of the Pan-Eleme Congress

expansive Eleme Civic Centre at Ogale, confirmed the erudite scholar as a man who is deeply rooted in his ancestral homestead; a local boy with global exposure. This prophet was certainly not a stranger amongst his people after all!

Chief Casca Ogosu, who chaired the event, described Lale as a self-made academic and a man of grim determination, who deserved all the applause he is harvesting on all fronts. "We should celebrate our own without imputing political motives into this rare blessing to Eleme Kingdom," Ogosu told Eleme people, in obvious response to a few self-serving text messages by some faceless elites that suggested that the reception was programmed to confer partisan advantage on Lale at a future political season. Twisted logic!

Honourable Philip Okparaji, who lost his job as Caretaker Chairman of Eleme Local Government Council on the eve of the reception, urged young people to follow Lale's example by engaging in worthy ventures that would place their kingdom on the global map. "Professor Lale has shown us the path to upholding our integrity and honour and we should strive to surpass his immense achievements with more determination and hard work," he told his people.

Taking a swipe at both the Federal Government and the ubiquitous Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) in a combustible presentation, Keynote Speaker, Dr. Peter Medee, called for speedy

added to the occasion when wise griot, Chief Collins Nkpe, reviewed a Calendar entirely documented in Eleme language and urged the youths to go back to their ancestral roots to discover their authentic identity. He admonished them in undiluted Eleme dialect to the admiration of guests.

In a toast that combined philosophical abstraction and traditional wisdom, pioneer Eleme academic, Professor Walter Olor, described Lale as "an enigma; a star whose destination cannot be easily predicted. As a self-propelled achiever, Lale has no godfather in Nigeria to fight his cause, yet he arrived at his preferred destination in style and so deserves to be celebrated as a worthy role-model." It was Professor Lale's Champaign moment!

The Vice-Chancellor, who soaked in all the lorry-load of tributes heaped on him by his people in a reflective mood, described the reception as "one of the happiest days of my life, especially weighed against the recent kidnapping of my second son in my own community." Waxing musical and pastoral at once, Lale urged young people to put their hand on the plough. "You must work hard to succeed in life. According to music maestro Barry Whyte, 'Whatever the mind can see is possible.' Frightened by farm work, I decided to be successful at academics by every means possible. Let me assure the young people that today's distractions were there in my days, but I decided to be serious with my studies with little regard to the lure of bright city lights. I urge Eleme youths to work as hard as others, dream big and be disciplined to achieve their goals." It was a polished performance that gave his hosts quite a lot to chew.

Then came the big moment for Professor Lale to be decorated by his people; his wife, Mrs. Joy Lale, Professor Raphael Ngochindo, Rev Friday Osaro-Nwolu, President of the National Union of Eleme Students, Mr. Sunday Chujor and Paramount Ruler of Eleme Kingdom, King (Dr.) Samuel Ejire, ONEH-EH ETELEME IX, took turns to decorate the eight Vice-Chancellor of the University of Port Harcourt, who shone like a thousand stars in a blaze of glory in the Saturday sun. Here is a man who did not submit to the ruling of chance in the conduct of his personal affairs. No wonder that his people regard him as an authentic hero who deserves all the songs of praise being composed in his honour!



V-C, Prof Lale with his wife, Mrs. Joy and Children

characteristic Nigerian style. After all, coming top of the chasing pack did not stop his traducers from pulling him down when he sought to occupy a similar position in the Rivers State University of Science and Technology. This time, his iron will and fortune propelled him to the top of his chosen career line.

On Saturday, October 10, the Pan-Eleme Congress, in concert with *INSIDE ELEME* newspaper, rolled out the red carpet and ancestral drums to receive Professor Lale in recognition of his relentless pursuit of academic excellence and a purposeful life that has brought him acclaim and exalted position in the academia. The grand reception which held at the

implementation of the illusive UNEP Report to remediate the degraded Ogoni environment. Calling for unity amongst the people to win their cause, the KAGOTE President pledged total commitment to total restoration of the land through speedy implementation of the UNEP Report.

In their separate addresses, the Pan-Eleme Congress and *INSIDE ELEME* newspaper, described Professor Lale as an erudite scholar who has brought immense pride to the kingdom. They further described him as a "very intelligent man who is eager to help others attain their dreams, an illustrious son and worthy ambassador who has projected the image of Eleme on the national stage." Local colour was

EDITORIAL BOARD

Prof Ndowa Lale	- Publisher	
Prof Eme Ekekwue	- Editorial Chair	
Dr. Austen Sado	- Editorial Adviser	
Williams Wodi	- Editor	
Obinna Nwodim	- Associate Editor	
Correspondents	Secretarial	Photography
Mercy Adeniji	Glady's Anadi (Mrs)	Headman Ali
Othor Samuel	Graphics	Mitchell Ekiyor
Humphrey Ogu	Chika King-James (Mrs)	
Ethel Tins-Johnson		

Call: 08033093371

Experts Tackle Threats To African Wetlands



A cross-section of participants

Cont'd from p1

The Conference, which aimed at proffering solutions to the increasing threats to the fragile ecosystems of African deltas and rivers, witnessed presentation of papers and plenary sessions at which experts and stakeholders shared their experiences and made valuable suggestions on how to return the impacted areas to their pristine state.

With the theme: *From Vulnerability to Sustainability*, the ground-breaking international conference which attracted stakeholders from the academia, industry and technical partners drawn from the United States, Europe and some African countries, was organized under the auspices of the Institute of Natural Resources, Environment and Sustainability (INRES).

The well-attended Conference had Vice-Chancellors of partnering institutions in the Niger Delta region in attendance. They were: Professor Bolaji Aluko of Federal University, Otuoke, Professor Humphrey Ogoni of Niger Delta University and Acting Vice-Chancellor of the Rivers State University of Science and Technology,

Professor Blessing Didia.

In his opening remarks, Chairman of the occasion and former Head of Service of the Federation, Professor Oladapo Afolabi, urged participants to chart new pathways to environmental sustainability of the impacted region to safeguard its diverse resources, stating that the future and well-being of the Niger Delta depended on the cross-fertilization of ideas and prompt action amongst policy-makers and experts to preserve the fragile ecosystems of the region.

Delivering the keynote address entitled: *Future of African Deltas and River Systems*, former Director-General of the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Dr. Bradford Brown, called for active involvement of stakeholders from Africa in line with the initiative of the International Council for Science-Sustainable Deltas 2015, charged with the responsibility of promoting international and regional cooperation amongst scientists, policy-makers and other stakeholders.

Welcoming the guests, host Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, who described deltas as among the most

productive and diverse ecosystems in the world, lamented the increasing threats to their continued existence, due to what he described as human activities which resulted in flash flooding, climate change, environmental pollution, degradation and adverse health conditions amongst inhabitants of the area.

"The international scientific community recently declared a 10-year Global Delta Sustainability Initiative to enhance coordinated and committed efforts in understanding deltas and improve their sustainable management. The idea of organizing this important Conference was initiated by the Institute of Natural Resources, Environment and Sustainability (INRES) of our University as an African regional contribution to this laudable international initiative," the Vice-Chancellor, who was represented by his Deputy in charge of Administration, Professor Anthony Ibe told the gathering, urging participants to come with solutions that would stem the degradation of African deltas and rivers.

In his address, Director of INRES, Professor Euvie Akpokodje, observed that "the situation in African deltas is compounded by the high prevalence of poverty and very fast population growth (half of the 2.4 billion increase in world population by 2050 will occur in sub-Saharan Africa where one in four persons are malnourished), which requires special consideration to transform them from vulnerability to sustainability," hoping that the Conference would proffer solutions that would help return deltas in Africa to their pristine state.

In their separate goodwill messages, Vice-Chancellors of the partnering institutions expressed readiness to contribute to research and scholarship that would create more awareness and orderly development of the Niger Delta.

Other technical partners that presented goodwill messages included the African Development Bank, Directorate of Technical Cooperation in Africa (DTCA), Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), South Africa, *Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar* (UCAD), Senegal, International University Network Cultural Biological Diversity (IUNCBD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Registry Day Holds Tomorrow

By Oikor Samuel

Arrangements have been concluded for the 4th Registry Day holding tomorrow, October 20, 2015 at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park. A statement dated October 6, 2015, and signed by Chairman, Publicity Sub-Committee, Gregory Udoakang, disclosed that dignitaries from within and outside the University are expected to grace the event.

The statement further disclosed that Employee Relation/Industrial Relations and Employee Engagement Manager of the Shell Petroleum Development Company, Mr. Steve Ojeh, would deliver the keynote address on the topic: *Aligning Productivity with Institutional Vision*, adding that Administrator of Greater Port Harcourt City Development Authority and Nigeria's former Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, Honourable Desmond Akawor, is expected to grace the occasion as Special Guest of Honour, while Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, would be Chairman and Chief Host.

"It would be recalled that the Registry Day celebration which debuted in 2012, is amongst the several innovations introduced by the outgoing Registrar, Mrs. Matilda Nnodim, to highlight the importance of the Registry Department in the operational structure of the University and in particular, give the Registry Department its pride of place in the University of Port Harcourt," the statement read in part, directing staff of the Registry Department to actively participate en masse at the event.



Mrs. Nnodim, Registrar

V-C Constitutes Direct Entry Committee, Appoints Agbagwa New QA/QC Boss

...As Fresh Law Students Resume Tomorrow

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, has constituted a three-man Committee to drive the immediate implementation of Direct Entry mode of admission into the University as approved by Senate of the University.

Headed by Professor Steve Okodudu of the Department of Sociology, other members of the Committee included Professor Samuel Arokoyu of the Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Professor Augustine Uwakwe of the Department of Biochemistry and Acting Director of the Centre for Higher Education Studies, Dr. Chineze Uche.

The letter of appointment personally signed by the Vice-Chancellor and made available to *UniPort Weekly*, indicated that the Committee would work out modalities for implementation of the Direct Entry as a mode of admission into the University. "The Committee is also expected to submit a report within one month on the extent of implementation of the process," the letter read in part. In a related development, the Vice-Chancellor has appointed Dr. Ikechukwu Agbagwa of the Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, as Acting Director of the Quality Assurance and Quality Control/SERVICOM and Feedback Focal Officer.

A letter conveying the appointment which was made available to this publication indicated that Dr. Agbagwa would be responsible to the Senate through the Vice-Chancellor in ensuring University-wide quality assurance and quality control processes in teaching and learning. "Drive the administration towards ISO Certification, monitor activities of the University-wide QA/QC Committee, coordinate all SERVICOM activities in the University, ensure efficient and effective quality service delivery, collation of proposals and handle complaints from the University community, and propose solutions for

improving efficiency in administration," the appointment letter read in part.

Meanwhile, registration and lectures for fresh students enrolled into the Diploma in Law Programme of the Faculty of Law for the 2015/16 Academic Session would commence on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at the Emerald Energy Institute Building along the East/West Road. A letter signed by the Registrar, Mrs. Matilda Nnodim, indicated that admitted students have only two weeks to complete payment of all necessary charges, failing which they would forfeit their admission.

It would be recalled that the Faculty mounted an all-inclusive orientation exercise for newly-admitted students as a build-up to actual commencement of lectures tomorrow. Dean of the Faculty, Professor Kaniye Ebeku, who presided over the orientation exercise, admonished the new entrants to take their studies seriously and abide by the rules and regulations governing their conduct as students of the University of Port Harcourt.



Prof Lale, V-C

Faculty Of Social Sciences Installs Onuchuku As New Dean

By Obinna Nwodin

Following the appointment of Professor Henry Alapiki as new Director of the University of Port Harcourt Foundation, his



Immediate past Dean, Prof Alapiki handing over to his successor, Prof Onuchuku

successor, Professor Okey Onuchuku was formally installed as the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences. His installation came barely two weeks after the Deanship election in the Faculty, at the Faculty Seminar Room amidst ceremony and fanfare.

Performing the handover of the instruments of authority to the new helmsman, Professor Alapiki, who expressed delight at the emergence of a new leader with the capacity to take it to greater heights, solicited for cooperation from staff and students to ensure that the Faculty took its proper place in the scheme of things.

He expressed gratitude to both staff and students for the support given to him while he was Dean, noting that the University borrowed from the Faculty's tradition of formal installation of new Deans. According to him, the formal handover ceremony was a significant tradition of the Faculty, stating that there was need to keep the flag flying.

In his remarks, the new Dean, Professor Okey Onuchuku, who thanked Faculty members for the

confidence reposed in him, assured them of his resolve to ensure that the Faculty attained greater heights. He used the opportunity to announce the appointment of Dr. Joel Umeduji of the Department of Geography and Environmental Management as Associate Dean of the Faculty. Other appointments made by the new Dean were: Dr. Soffiri Joah-Peterside of the Department of Sociology as Coordinator of Staff Seminar Series Committee, Dr. Allwell Ntiga of the Department of Geography and Environmental Management and Dr. Emma Wonah of the Department of Political and Administrative Studies as Assistant Coordinators. Dr. Eze Nwosu of the Department of Sociology is to serve as the Faculty Representative on the Faculty of Education Board, while Dr. Peter Medee of the Department of Economics will serve as Coordinator of the Faculty Office Allocation.

In their separate speeches, former Deans of the Faculty, Professors Willy Okowa and Charles Oyegun, Professors

Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja of the Department of Sociology and Eme Ekekwue of the Department of Political and Administrative Studies, who described Professor Onuchuku as a great academic, who is compassionate and committed to excellence, expressing confidence in his ability to make significant impact in the Faculty on his watch.

The event which featured the formal signing and exchange of the handover note between the outgoing and incoming Deans also featured the formal installation of Professor Onuchuku by robbing him in the Faculty Academic colours.

Experts in the history of education in Nigeria converged on the University of Port Harcourt last Tuesday to brainstorm on the evolution, growth, development, strength, weaknesses, challenges and opportunities that would enable them chart new practical and sustainable policies aimed at fast-tracking the country's developmental needs, using Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

Declaring open the 12th Annual National Conference of History of Education Society of Nigeria (HESN), held at the Eblimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park, from Tuesday, October 13 to Friday, October 15, 2015, with the theme: "Development of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Nigeria: The Journey so Far", Director of Special Duties, Professor Matthew Wegwu, who represented the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, commended organisers of the Conference for hosting the event in the Institution. "This Conference is in line with the new direction of the University as a centre of public discourse and we want the organisers to let the President know that the HESN is doing something great to advance the cause of education in Nigeria."

Professor Wegwu said that the future of the nation can be shaped by its past, urging the Society to take the lead in reviving Nigeria's crumbling educational sector. "For the nation to move forward, we must resurrect vocational and technical education and also convert some of the newly-completed schools to vocational schools that would equip our youths with hands-on skills that would drive self-employment," he said, believing that the current government of Rivers State would implement it.

Delivering the keynote address entitled: *Development of Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Nigeria*, Professor Bulama Obomana, who is a Lecturer in the University and Rector of the Federal Polytechnic, Ukanna in Akwa Ibom State, described the concept of time and change as real, submitting that so many nations of the world have taken steps to develop in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that are about to be replaced with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Highlighting the TVET reforms, Professor Obomana recalled that the 9-3-4 policy was approved by the National Council on Education (NCE) to be consistent with the MDG strategies and the National Economic Enhancement Development Strategies (NEEDS). "It was approved for the provision of technical knowledge and vocational skills necessary for agriculture, commerce and economic development.

Experts Brainstorm On Vocational Education

By Mercy Adeniji

You cannot talk about reforms in TVET without reforming the National Business and Technical Examination Board (NABTEB)," Professor Obomana said, listing the challenges of TVET as lack of political will by government, poor perception and qualification of TVET teachers, inadequate funding, poor incentives for teachers and administrators of the process, focus on the acquisition of certificate, instead of vocational and technical skills and lack of synergy between TVET institutions and the requirements of the labour market.

He called for appropriate financing, motivation of teachers and public-private partnership as moves that would get TVET to work in Nigeria.

Speaking earlier, Chairman of the occasion, Professor Abi Derfaka, who was represented by a Lecturer in the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies, Dr. Stanley Okoroafor, praised the Society for bringing the Conference to the University, urging participants to fashion out ways that would revive vocational education in Nigeria to curb the rising cases of unemployment and criminality amongst youths in the country.

Delivering his welcome address, National President of HESN, Dr. Ciroma Aminu, expressed gratitude to Management of the University and organisers of the Conference for accepting to host the event. "The

theme of the Conference is relevant in our lives, especially now that we are trying to chart a new course for our developmental strides. As Educational Historians, the Conference offers us a good opportunity to brainstorm on the evolution, growth, development, strength, weakness, challenges opportunities and options in charting new practical and sustainable policies that would fast-track the country's developmental needs, using the instrumentality of TVET countries such as South Korea, Malaysia and Taiwan, among others," Dr. Aminu said.

Also speaking, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Lawrence Igwe, who was represented by the Acting Head of Department of Educational Management and Planning, Dr. Nath Abraham, commended the organisers and authorities of the University for hosting the Conference, charging participants to fully explore the sub-themes of the Conference with a view to charting new vistas for vocational and technical education in Nigeria.

Highpoint of the Conference were paper presentations by Resource Persons and conferment of honorary awards on Director of the Centre for Innovation and Instructional Technology, Professor Ebi Bio Awotua-Efebo, Proprietress of Bereton Group of Schools, Mrs. Victoria Diete-Spiff and Proprietor of Ojims Group of Schools, Reverend Simeon Ojims.



Keynote Speaker Dr. Aminu (Centre), Senior Officials of the University and other awardees

Visiting Don Canvasses Foreign Policy Review

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

A visiting scholar from the Department of Political Science, University of Iorin, Dr. Hassan Saliu, has canvassed the need for urgent review of Nigeria's foreign policy until the country develops African tools of analysis that would enable her influence the structure of the international system.

Speaking during a Roundtable discussion organized by the Department of Political and Administrative Studies in the Faculty of Social Sciences, last Tuesday, Dr. Saliu, who spoke on *Nigeria and Her Wild Goose Chase in the Global System*, cited the Chinese and Japanese that have changed their realistic perceptions of the world as a confirmation of the relevance of their foreign policies.

"The constant adjustments that are necessary for success in foreign policies are not being displayed by some states, including Nigeria. It should be recognised that there is nothing wrong with the concept of foreign policy *per se*, but the environment propelling it," Dr. Saliu stated, adding that it could be pursued to facilitate economic development when adequately implemented.

The Don, who submitted that the robust foreign policy thrust, has so far aided the defence of the territorial integrity of Nigeria, which resulted in the eradication of colonialism and apartheid from the African continent, called on government to address the concerns of the international community about corruption and violence in the country. "Nigeria cannot address the worries of its bloated diplomatic missions in complete isolation of the knowledge about the location of the country in the global system and what national interests she should be pursuing to safeguard such interests," Dr. Saliu

emphasized.

Reiterating the need for the country to address the issues hampering her foreign policy pursuits, the



Visiting Don, Dr. Saliu (arrowed) flanked by Prof Ekeke (left), HoD, Prof Nna (right) and others

Guest Lecturer pointed out that Nigeria's foreign policy agenda should factor in the West African sub-region in its implementation. "There are hidden and unexplained benefits that can accrue to the nation from having a robust relationship with her neighbours in the West and Central African sub-regions," he stated, advising the Federal Government to explore such opportunities to the fullest.

In his address, Chairman of the event and Director of the Claude Ake School of Government, Professor Eme Ekeke, who stressed the need to convert knowledge to policy and action for the benefit of the citizenry, commended the Department for initiating

the first in the series of such discourses. "We are going back to the good old days when the Faculty of Social Sciences was established on a firm foundation of robust debates and contestable ideas that were mostly driven by the Department of Political and Administrative Studies," Professor

Ekeke stated, stressing the need for academics to bridge the gap through relevant research.

A visibly impressed Head of Department, Professor Johnson Nna, who disclosed that the Roundtable was part of his vision and mandate on assumption of office, promised that more of such series and conferences would be organized by the Department to sharpen the intellectual skills of staff and students of the Faculty.

Visiting scholar to the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Professor Vincent Idemvor, stressed the need for Social Scientists to drive development and change in the country.

As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agenda aimed at encouraging reading habit among students, the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) has donated books to the University to boost reading culture.

Receiving a representative of the Commission in the Committee Room, last Tuesday, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, expressed Management's gratitude to the NSE for making the donation to the University, promising that the books would be sent to the University Library to serve as reference research materials for staff and students.

"I think this is why every university struggles to admit talented students, who go on to become worthy alumni who are in a position to give back. It is because you are there that you were able to facilitate the process that led to this donation and that is why you are here to hand over the collection of books to us. We want you to kindly extend the depth of our gratitude to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. Oscar Onyema. I am sure that the books would give us some ideas on what the Capital Market is all about," the Vice-Chancellor said.

Presenting the books, Chief Executive Officer, Nigerian Stock Exchange, Mr. Onyema, who was

NSE Donates Books To UniPort

By Mercy Adeniji

represented by Mr. Tonye Graham-Okolo, said the donation was part of the Commission's Corporate Social Responsibility agenda.

"The Nigerian Stock Exchange supports laudable initiatives aimed at contributing to knowledge that would raise future leaders that would lift our nation to new heights. We are pleased to inform you of our Management's decision to donate 60 books to your prestigious institution. These books cover a wide range of topics which can facilitate research work, while some can be good sources of motivation for personal development. We believe the University community will find the books insightful and beneficial to their academic pursuit."

Mr. Onyema expressed satisfaction to be back to his *Alma Mater*, describing it as a great honour since his graduation in 1997. "My organization felt a need for universities to benefit from the Commission and the University of Port Harcourt had to be one of the early beneficiaries of the book donation," he disclosed,

promising that the gestures was the beginning of a new institutional relationship between the NSE and UniPort.

Expressing gratitude to the donor, University Librarian, Dr. Obiageli Nwodo, commended the Commission for the gesture, adding: "We are very proud of our Alumni, especially those of them who remember us wherever they go. We need them as much as they need us in a complementary relationship. We have a massive Library that can take anything you bring and we know our students would find the books useful for research purposes."

A check-list of books donated were: *Air Transportation in Nigeria: Strategies for 21st Century* by Diepiriye David Charles, Ndi Okereke Onyike, *Annual Review: The Nigerian Stock Exchange, A Review of Market Performance in 2008 and in the Outlook for 2009*, Martyn Yellow: *The Path of Honour* by Victor Kalu, *Capital Markets: African and Global* by Esosa Bob Osaze, *The Long*

Harmattan Season: Uche Nworah

Also present were Principal Officers of the University, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igho Joe, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Anthony Ibe, Registrar, Mrs. Matilda Nnodim, Bursar, Vitalis Aliezi, and Special Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor (SAVC), Mr. Kingsley Wogwu.



V-C, Prof Lale flanked by Mr. Graham-Okolo of NSE and Senior Officers of the University

Cont'd from p1

diabetic patient needed balanced diet, which contained all the essential nutrients in the right quantities and supervised exercises to effectively manage the condition. The Inaugural Lecturer, who called on the Federal Government to develop a policy framework towards the effective management of diabetes in Nigeria, submitted that "the policy should be aimed at meeting the yearnings and needs of people living with diabetes, and ensure that they are adequately catered for by ensuring that relevant diabetes care products, especially drugs are administered free of charge or, at least, subsidized for citizens afflicted by the condition."

The one-time Head of Department of Medicine in the Faculty of Clinical Sciences, who also said that diabetes affected every family and constituted a major strain on the nation's economy, also advised government to establish diabetes centres of excellence across the country, where people living with the condition would go to access world-class care before the situation becomes irreversible.

He proposed models for diabetes care in Nigeria, stressing that "the objectives of the model were to enable effective opportunistic screening for diabetes, diagnosis, treatment and follow up for patients, identify and prevent complications early, educate patients about lifestyle measures and specific treatment so that individuals can take responsibility for their own care in collaboration with health professionals." He further recommended that individuals afflicted with the condition, communities and healthcare professionals should join forces and resources to devise battle plans to contain diabetes, which he said was becoming a major health threat to the populace.

Chinenye Raises Alarm Over Diabetes Burden

urging government to take the lead in efforts aimed at scaling down the disease.

The Consultant Endocrinologist/Diabetologist at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH), also called on corporate organizations to devote a portion of their earnings towards helping the course of diabetes care in Nigeria as part of their corporate social responsibility, recommending that Foundations should be set up by wealthy individuals and public-spirited organizations towards creating the necessary awareness and management procedures of the disease.

Professor Chinenye, who stated that "diabetes occurs when there is an imbalance between the demand and production of the hormone insulin due to interplay of genetic and environmental factors," noted that the key problems in the emergence of diabetes were insufficient production of insulin, inability of body cells to use insulin properly and efficiently, leading to hyperglycaemia and ultimately diabetes, poor insulin production, as well as steady decline in the number of Beta-cells, resulting in elevated blood sugar that cause health complications.

The Inaugural Lecturer, who is current National President of the Diabetes Association of Nigeria (DAN), advised those living with the disease to live positively, as well as get the right information about diabetes and its management procedures, stressing the need for Nigerians to adhere to recommendations by qualified healthcare providers to contain the scourge that is responsible for increasing hospital attendance.

Professor Chinenye also stressed the need to monitor

regular parameters such as glucose, blood pressure, cholesterol, Body Mass Index (BMI), waist circumference, waist-to-hip ratio, as well as regular checks on the feet, eyes, kidneys, amongst others, for early warning signs, advising Care-givers to show more empathy to patients afflicted with condition, take into serious consideration their psychological needs and factor them into the overall care plan, while treating them holistically.

He also called on non-governmental organizations to form strong pressure groups to help push government towards developing and implementing a functional diabetes care policy for the country and also be actively involved in the development and implementation of such policies to ensure it trickles down to those affected by diabetes.

The Inaugural Lecturer, who decried a situation in which most diabetes care in Nigeria were carried out by Primary Health Care-givers, regretted that "20% of Nigerians living with diabetes never see the few Endocrinologists in the country to handle the ever-increasing number of people living with diabetes." He stated that "there was a compelling need to integrate diabetes care into our existing Primary Health Centres because 60% of our populace who live in rural areas patronize Public Health Centres."

Represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Anthony Ibe, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, who commended Professor Chinenye for simplifying the Lecture for the understanding of laymen, noted that he was able to enlighten the audience on the misconceptions about diabetes and effective management procedures. He called on Nigerians to cultivate the habit of regular checks of their blood sugar level for early detection of warning signs of diabetes. "We should also learn to live a healthy lifestyle through proper diet, exercise and early presentation at the hospital to prevent complications that may arise from late arrival in the hospital," Professor Ibe advised the audience.



Inaugural Lecturer (arrowed) flanked by Principal Officers, Provost and Deans before the Lecture

Igali Donates To Sports Institute, As Mgt Rewards Gold Medallist

By Otiakor Samuel

Efforts aimed at consolidating establishment of the Daniel Igali Wrestling Academy in the University's Sports Institute received a major boost with the donation of a quality light-weight wrestling mat by the benefactor, Dr. Daniel Igali on Thursday, October 8, 2015.

Receiving the donation on behalf of the University, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igbo Joe, who conveyed the gratitude of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale to the donor for his abiding interest in the University, showered praises on Igali for contributing towards enabling the Sports Institute to gain more international visibility.

Professor Joe, who reiterated Management's continued support for athletes to enable them effectively combine their studies with training and sporting activities, announced a scholarship award to a first year student of the Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, Mercy Genesis for winning a Gold Medal in Wrestling at the just-concluded All Africa Games in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo.

"I wish to announce that the University has decided to award Mercy Genesis scholarship for winning Gold Medal in wrestling at the last All Africa Games. With the honour she brought to the University and her country, Miss Genesis is not going to pay charges any longer as an Undergraduate student of the UniPort. We are grateful to her and to Igali for making this donation," he said, promising that the Management would make judicious use of the facility.

In his speech, Olympic Gold Medallist, Dr. Igali, who is also President of the Nigerian Wrestling Federation,

charged members of Team UniPort, who witnessed the brief hand-over ceremony to make judicious use of sporting facilities in the Institute to win more laurels for the University, disclosing that he was in his final year at the University of Jos when he became a World Champion in Wrestling.

The Bayelsan House Assembly Lawmaker, who recalled the challenges he encountered as a student athlete, appealed to Management to work out flexible academic calendar to enable athletes successfully combine their studies with sports. He commended the University, particularly Professor Ken Anugweje, for the numerous sporting exploits which motivated him to identify with UniPort.

"With this facility in place, I hope that the University would start to feature in wrestling competitions in university games," he remarked, expressing readiness to make more contributions to sports development in

the University.

Earlier, Director of the Sports Institute, Professor Anugweje, who expressed gratitude to Dr. Igali for accepting to run a wrestling academy in the Institute, announced a donation of Twenty-Five Thousand Naira to Dick Adibo, a second year student of Human Kinetics and Health Education, who won Bronze Medal at the All Africa Games.

Also speaking, Chairman of the Sports Complex Management Committee, Professor Matthew Wegwu, promised to jealously guard the facility to serve the purpose for which it was donated, while Director of Sports in Rivers State, Sir Daabu Harry, who conveyed the goodwill of the Rivers State Ministry of Sports, said the Ministry would be willing to partner the Institute on the use of the facility.

Highpoint of the brief ceremony was a mock contest on the new mat officiated by Dr. Igali.



R-L: R/S Director of Sports, Sir Harry, Director of Sports Institute, Prof Anugweje, Dr. Igali, Gold Medallist, Miss Genesis, DV-C, (Academic), Prof Joe, Bronze Medallist, Adibo and Chairman, Sports Mgt C'tee, Prof Wegwu

GUIDE POST

BRIEFS FROM OTHER VARSITIES

APPOINTMENT

Professor Okechukwu Onuchukwu, Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, appointed *Dean*, effective September 29, 2015.

Professor Onogobi Etebu, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, appointed *Dean*, effective September 28, 2015.

RESUMPTION FROM SABBATICAL LEAVE

Professor Love Akonye, Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, Faculty of Science, *Resumed Duty from Sabbatical Leave*, effective September 21, 2015.

RESUMPTION FROM STUDY LEAVE

Mr. Chukwuemeka Nwaobakata, Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, *Resumed Duty from Study Leave with Pay*, effective September 30, 2015.

REVIEW OF STATUS

Mrs. Mary Ig-Worlu, Donald Ekong Library elevated from *Librarian-in-Training to Librarian II*, effective August 25, 2015.

Dr. Eze Oghenemaywe, Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, elevated from *Lecturer II to Lecturer I*, effective August 21, 2014.

REVIEW OF APPOINTMENT

Mrs. Roselyn Efiuwewere, Examinations and Records Unit, Registry Department, granted review of Contract Appointment from *Senior Assistant Registrar to Principal Assistant Registrar*, effective September 18, 2015.

VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT

Mr. Peter Anyanda, Staff Development and Training Unit, Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), granted *Voluntary Retirement on Health grounds*, effective November 30, 2015.

TERMINATION OF APPOINTMENT

The appointment of **Mr. Tonye Jack** of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, has been terminated for holding *Two Full-Time jobs* at the Rivers State University of Science and Technology and the University of Port Harcourt, effective December 1, 2006.

DISMISSAL FROM SERVICE

Dr. Hyecent Ajie of the Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences has been *dismissed* from the services of the University, effective April 30, 2015.

EXCLUSION FROM POSITION OF AUTHORITY

Professor John Agberia of the Department of Fine Arts and Design, Faculty of Humanities, has been *barred* from holding any position of authority in the University for two years, effective January 21, 2015.

REPRIMAND FOR NEGLIGENCE OF DUTY

Mr. Emmanuel Dike Nwachukwu of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, Faculty of Humanities, has been *reprimanded* for negligence of duty for typing and printing examination questions paper in a business centre which ought to have been handled with strict confidentiality.

ONDO MEDICAL VARSITY TAKES OFF NOV

The Ondo State University of Medical Sciences will begin full academic activities next month, the emergent institution's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Friday Okonofua, disclosed last Monday. The V-C said the National Universities Commission (NUC) had granted the new UNIMED operational licence since April 2015 and that the new Medical University had recruited competent academic and non-academic staff to ensure a smooth take-off. The Vice-Chancellor, who noted that the University would offer Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses, including Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing, Physiotherapy and Biomedical Engineering, expressed hope of also establishing a multi-disciplinary Biomedical Research Institute that would be second to none in conducting applied research on the numerous health challenges in the country.

26 OBTAIN FIRST CLASS AT CRESENT VARSITY

Twenty-six students of Crescent University, Abeokuta, Ogun State, have been conferred with First Class degrees with Fagbohun Oyinkasola emerging as the Best Graduating Student (BGS). This came as the University honoured three notable Nigerians. They are: Chairman of Eleganza Group of Companies, Alhaji Razak Okoya, Executive Secretary/Chief Executive Officer, Muslim Ummah of South-West, Nigeria, Professor Dawud Noibi and a retired Permanent Secretary in the Lagos State Civil Service and Chairman of the University Parents' Forum, Otunba Fatai Olukoga. The Proprietor of the University, Prince Bola Ajibola, on the occasion, said the Institution was committed to producing persons of worthy character and deep academic knowledge. "We are happy to report that our inception degree programmes in Accounting, Economics, Mass Communication, Computer Science, Information and Communications

Technology, Chemistry, Biochemistry and Microbiology have full accreditation from the National Universities Commission (NUC).

BUHARI, MAHAMA FOR UNILORIN'S 40th ANNIVERSARY

President Muhammadu Buhari and Ghanaian President, John Mahama are expected at the 40th Anniversary Celebration and 31st Convocation Ceremony of the University of Ilorin (UNILORIN). In a statement, Head of the University's Corporate Affairs Directorate, Kunle Akogun said Mahama, who is also Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), will deliver the Anniversary Lecture on Friday, October 23, 2015. The date incidentally, serves as the University's Founders' Day. The title of the Lecture is "Africa's Agenda 2063: Ending Poverty and Ensuring Prosperity in Africa."

Akogun added that apart from the award of Prizes, First and Postgraduate degrees and Diplomas, other activities scheduled for the week-long event would include investiture of the University's Fifth Chancellor, His Royal Highness, Abdulmumini Kabir Usman, Emir of Katsina on Thursday, October 22, 2015.



Prof Julius Okojie, NUC Scribe

STOP PRESS

MDA Nominal Roll

The Federal Government of Nigeria has directed all staff of Federal Universities to provide their personal data on the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) Nominal Roles for the 2016 Budget year. A statement signed by the National Universities Commission (NUC), disclosed that the template for the exercise has been already uploaded for immediate completion online by staff. The NUC further directed all staff to visit the University of Port Harcourt Website to complete the template on or before the close of work on Wednesday, October 21, 2015, warning that those who fail to comply with the directive would have themselves to blame.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT
WEATHER OBSERVATORY

FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 – SATURDAY OCTOBER 24, 2015.

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (am) (pm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 18 OCT, 2015	29.0 23.0	83	NE	-	6:17 18:18	Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
MONDAY, 19 OCT, 2015	32.0 24.0	78	NE	2.9	6:17 18:17	Widely scattered thunder storms expected. Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
TUESDAY, 20 OCT, 2015	31.0 24.0	80	NE	52.8	6:17 18:17	A few thunder storms expected. Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
WEDNESDAY, 21 OCT, 2015	32.0 23.0	76	N	4.0	6:17 18:16	Thunder storms expected early in the day. Partly sunny day forecasted.
THURSDAY, 22 OCT, 2015	31.0 24.0	75	NE	7.9	6:17 18:16	Thunder storms expected early in the day. Partly sunny day anticipated.
FRIDAY, 23 OCT, 2015	31.0 24.0	73	NE	-	6:17 18:16	Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
SATURDAY, 24 OCT, 2015	32.0 23.0	75	NE	13.1	6:17 18:15	Thunder storms expected. Mostly cloudy day anticipated.

Dr. Gladys Emenike
Acting HoD

Dr. Prince Mmom
AG. Director, (CDRMS)

Maiden CELTRAS Annual Lecture

The Centre for Logistics and Transport Studies (CELTRAS) in the University held its maiden Lecture which centred on Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning and their potential application in Nigeria on Tuesday, October 6, 2015, at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park. The event which was preceded by a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, also provided an opportunity for officials of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) to accredit academic programmes offered by CELTRAS as a licensed training partner of the Institute. Pictorial highlights of the event as captured by MITCHELL EKIYOR are shown below:



Dr. David Maunder of the International Secretariat of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) in the United Kingdom, speaking during a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor



Director of CELTRAS, Prof Osi Akpoghonoh making a speech



Officials of CILT, Professor Akpoghonoh and Acting Director of Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies, Dr. Prince Mmon



Representative of the V-C and DV-C (Acad), Prof Igbo Joe, presenting University branded Surveniers to Dr. Maunder



Representative of the V-C and DV-C (Acad), Prof Joe, presenting University branded Surveniers to other members of CILT Nigeria and Port Harcourt



Dr. Maunder delivering his Lecture



Member of the University Governing Council, Prof Georgewill Owanari presenting a plaque to Dr. Maunder



A cross-section of participants at the event



Another section of participants



Group photograph of University and CILT officials