

# UniPort Weekly

Vol. 27, Edition 280 June 6 - June 13, 2016

For Information and Enlightenment

ISSN:1522-2225

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

## UniPort, NOUN To Partner On Academic Exchange Programme

**V**ice-Chancellor of the National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), Professor Abdulla Adamu, has expressed delight over the quality of scholarship on offer in the University of Port Harcourt, even as he expressed the willingness of NOUN to partner the University in Theatre and Film Studies, reports

Obinna Nwodim

More on p3



## Side Bar RIVCASSON CONFERENCE

The Rivers State Chapter of the Counselling Association of Nigeria, (RIVCASSON) holds its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Chapter Conference at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium between Wednesday, June 8 and Friday June 10, 2016.

Details next week.

~Editor



UPWA Marks Maiden Children's Day in Style

Story on p2



V-C Inaugurates Committee On Staff Quarters Rehabilitation

Story on p3



Researchers Tackle Fish Production Business Challenges At AEB Seminar

Story on p5



UniPort ANUPA Ends Congress

Story on p6

## V-C Briefs Parents' Forum On State Of UniPort

Obinna Nwodim

**V**ice-Chancellor, Professor Ndawa Lale, has stressed the importance of carrying parents along in the administration of the University, pointing out, however, that the Parents' Forum set up by his administration was not constituted as a policy-making body or a statutory organ of the University. He also appealed to parents to closely monitor the activities of their children in the University to ensure that they did not fall under the wrong influence in their daily dealings, stressing that innocent students had been lured into unwholesome activities by their dubiously motivated peers with disastrous consequences for their future. Professor Lale gave the advice while briefing members of the University of Port Harcourt Parents' Forum on efforts made so far by the Administration to restore normalcy on Campus, following the violent students' protest of April 11, 2016 that resulted in loss of a student and widespread damage to property. The meeting, which held at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last Friday, witnessed a large turnout of parents. Professor Lale told the parents that Management had continued to engage different student groups such as the National Association of Nigerian

Students (NANS), elements of NANS Zone "B", and the suspended Students' Union Executive, Faculty Presidents and other sundry stakeholders with a view to restoring peace to the University. He said that each time Management met with the students, they tabled the same hard-line demands that led to the "no registration, no examinations" policy, adding that the students had at various times written to Management, giving stringent conditions that must be met before they would allow

Senate to reopen the University.

He read out three different letters from different groups, claiming to speak for students of the University, pointing out that such conflicting signals meant that Management would continuously review the situation on ground before recommending a definite resumption date to Senate for possible approval.

"Senate had decided that students must pay their charges before they can access the registration portal; Senate also

More on p6



Read UniPort Weekly online @ [www.uniport.edu.ng](http://www.uniport.edu.ng)

# UPWA Marks Maiden Children's Day In Style

By Mercy Adeniji

It was fun galore on Friday, May 27, 2016, as the University of Port Harcourt Women Association teamed up with the Art Gallery to celebrate this year's Children's Day. The event which began with a street carnival from the Convocation Arena, dined with a grand art exhibition and other activities at the expansive Sinye Lala Briggs Children's Park, University Park.

In her welcome address at the event that attracted children from within and outside the Campus, President of UPWA, Mrs. Joy Lale, expressed gratitude to the parents for bringing their children to the carnival, assuring them that it would be sustained to give children in the neighbourhood a sense of belonging, just like their counterpart elsewhere in the country.

"We are all excited to celebrate this day with our dear children. This celebration marks the first time we are formally celebrating our children in this University in line with the Federal Government's declaration of May 27 each year as Children's Day, and I am very grateful to all those who worked very hard to make the celebration a resounding success. These lovely children are worth celebrating, because they are wonderful gifts from God to us as parents. They are intelligent, serious-minded and focused and they deserve to be celebrated," the UPWA President said. "This year's Children's Day celebration is very remarkable as it is the first of its kind in UniPort and it is obvious that our children love what is happening here today. I can see that the children enthusiastically participated in all the activities we lined up for their entertainment and relaxation. It shows that our children are very talented and can excel in an enabling environment. Our hope is that it would get bigger and better in subsequent outings," Mrs. Lale promised the children.



UPWA President, Mrs. Lale (centre) with Ndaka (left), and Mrs. Hadisat Fawehinmi (right). Inset: A cross-section of the children

She charged parents who did not bring their children and wards to the maiden carnival to do so in subsequent editions, stating that the children could showcase their special gifts in participatory activities, rather than being glued to the television all day as a source of entertainment.

Also speaking, Professor Florence Ndaka commended the children for turning out en masse to grace the event, congratulating them on the 2016 Children's Day celebration. "You have made our day very wonderful and we rejoice with you on this special day that is solely dedicated to you. We thank our big mammy, wife of the Vice-Chancellor for making this day a reality for our dear children. We thank Dr. Faith Ken-Amaligbo and other members of UPWA for their contributions and support that resulted in this successful outing. We hope to see you all in the next Children's Day celebration in May,

2017," she told the gathering.

In a sideline interview, Theatre Coordinator for the 2016 Children's Day Carnival, Dr. Aminkpo, expressed gratitude to God for a calm weather and for the large turnout of children at the event. "We are very pleased to note that our children are very excited as they participated in the various activities we lined up for them, especially horse-riding. We appeal to UPWA to sustain the event to give our children in this area something to celebrate on a day like this one. Every child possesses unique qualities that can be developed through proper guidance and mentorship," the Coordinator said.

Highlights of the carnival included an art exhibition, cultural dance and a drama sketch entitled: "Spore the Rod and Spoil the Child", paper craft, painting and horse-riding, amongst other activities.

## STOP PRESS

### SUBMISSIONS OF V-C'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, has requested all Deans of Faculties, Heads of Department and Unit to forward information on their activities in the last one year to enable his office compile an *Annual Report* from July, 2015 to May, 2016.

A statement signed by the Special Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Kingsley Wogwu, and made available to *UniPort Weekly* requested that all submissions should be sent to the Vice-

### FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, has congratulated Professor Oamen Abumere of the Department of Physics, Faculty of Science on his conferment with a Fellowship Award by the Renewable and Alternative Energy Society of Nigeria (RAESON), during its Annual National and International Conference held at the Energy Centre, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State, from April 20-23, 2016.

Miss Justina Egeonu, Centre for Marine Pollution and Sea Food Safety, appointed Secretary to the Committee for the

January 2016. A re-computation of the outstanding money is being carried out to ascertain the total indebtedness of the affected employees. When concluded, the correct amount will finally be remitted into their RSAs.

Consequently, staff are advised to check with the Pensions and Welfare Office behind the Senate Building and also Notice Boards for more clarifications on the issue.

Contact: Mrs. Ime Ibanga, Pensions and Welfare Officer

## CORRIGENDUM

### RE: HEAD OF PETROLEUM ENGINEERING

In our 421st Senate Report in the last edition of *UniPort Weekly*, we erroneously announced that Dr. Chikwendo Ubani was appointed Acting Head of the Department of Petroleum Engineering. We have since confirmed that Dr. Ubani was appointed Assistant Director of the Centre for Petroleum Research. The error was as a result of an inexplicable mix up on the floor of Senate in respect of Dr. Ubani's actual designation. Dr. Boniface Orijini remains Acting Head of the Department of Petroleum Engineering. The error is regretted.

### ATTENTION: ALL STAFF ON RETIREMENT SAVINGS ACCOUNT

The National Pension Commission (PENCOM), has requested Pension Fund Administrators (PFAs) to refund excess contributions erroneously remitted to the Retirement Savings Account (RSAs) of some affected staff of the University of Port Harcourt. The affected staff were reportedly over-paid during the August and September 2015 monthly pension contributions remitted to their RSAs due to a system error.

In view of this development, the PFAs have been directed to refund to the Contributory Pension Account the whole contributions remitted into their account in the month of

## EDITORIAL BOARD

Prof Ndowa E. S. Lale	- Publisher	Photographer
Prof Eme Ekaka	- Editorial Chair	Headman Ali
Dr. Austin Sado	- Editorial Adviser	Michelle Ekyor
Williams Wodi	- Editor	
Obinna Newdim	- Associate Editor	
Correspondents		
Manny Adeniji	Secretariat	
Chidera Samuel	Chidera Samuel	
Harmonize Oka	Harmonize Oka	
Emel, Tina Johnson	Emel, Tina Johnson	
	Graphic	
	Chika King-James (Art)	

Call: 08033093371

# UniPort, NOUN To Partner On Academic Exchange Programme

Cont'd from Page 1

Professor Adams made the assertion when he paid a courtesy visit on the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, in his office last Thursday, stressing that his institution would partner the University to strengthen its Theatre and Film Studies programme at NOUN.

"We will set up a mutually beneficial relationship to both institutions which I believe would grow from strength to strength. It is an acknowledged fact that the University of Port Harcourt is a giant in Theatre Arts and Nollywood home video industry and we are desirous of tapping from your experience to enrich our own programme," the Vice-Chancellor told his hosts.

Professor Adams, who until his appointment as Vice-Chancellor of NOUN, was a staff of Bayero University, Kano, disclosed that Bayero University and University of Port Harcourt were already in

talks to commence an exchange programme in collaboration with the MacArthur Foundation of Chicago, adding that "now that I am at NOUN, we will make efforts to continue with this collaborative programme," he told the Vice-Chancellor.

Responding, Professor Lale expressed the willingness of the University of Port Harcourt to partner NOUN for the benefit of both institutions. "The establishment of the National Open University by the Federal Government was a good idea aimed at enabling more Nigerians to have access to quality university education without having to be in a formal learning environment. I wish to observe that despite the obvious constraints it faces in our peculiar operational environment, the University has so far discharged its mandate in a satisfactory manner and we are proud of what you have done since you became Vice-Chancellor there. Let me promise that we will do whatever that is in our capacity to support you in the discharge of your enormous mandate," the Vice-Chancellor assured his guest, who was accompanied by the Head of

Department of Theatre and Film Studies in UniPort, Professor Femi Shaka.

Earlier in an interview with a Correspondent of *UniPort Weekly*, Professor Adams, who flayed the negative perception of NOUN by some members of the public, said that such perceptions were largely predicated on ignorance. For instance, we have well-placed individuals in society who are either our students or graduates, including former President

Oluogben Obasanjo, who is our pioneer graduate. The negative perception of NOUN was rife about 15 years ago, but the situation has changed quite dramatically since then, as we have taken appropriate measures to restore public confidence in our activities.

"Before now, the appropriate technology to power the activities of the University was not there, but as we speak, we have highly improved and efficient technology for information and communication, as well as proper e-learning platform. We now have technologies that help us to deliver lectures to students wherever they are and this has enhanced the quality of our service delivery," the Vice-Chancellor told our Correspondent.

Professor Adams disclosed that the Institution currently had over 130,000 students scattered in 72 Study Centres all over the country. "Our mandate is to establish 774 Study Centres, which implies that we should have a Study Centre in each Local Government Area of the country to bring our activities close to the people at the grassroots. For instance, in Lagos alone, we have over 20,000 students. We are currently moving towards advocacy to sensitize the public about the benefits of NOUN and the need for the public to embrace this new mode of quality knowledge delivery to our growing clients," he disclosed.

The Vice-Chancellor who also said that the University had about 218 full-time Academic Staff in the various categories, pointed out that they were basically referred to as Course Developers because of the mode of study in the programme. "We are recruiting top quality Lecturers to beef up our areas of deficiency and the National Universities Commission (NUC) has granted full accreditation status to 24 of our courses, while the other 20 have been resource verified and awaiting the final verdict of the regulatory body," he disclosed.



V-C, Prof Lale (centre), flanked on the left by V-C, NOUN, Prof Adams and on the right, Prof Shaka

## V-C Inaugurates Committee On Staff Quarters Rehabilitation

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, has inaugurated a Taskforce on the Rehabilitation and Renovation of staff quarters. The Committee is saddled with the responsibility of undertaking essential renovation work on vacant staff quarters to enable new allottees promptly move into such quarters.

Inaugurating the Task force at the Vice-Chancellor's Committee Room last Thursday, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Administration, Professor Anthony Ibe, who performed the ceremony on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, urged members to pool their valuable experiences together to enable them meet the objectives for which the Committee was established by Management.

"It is expected that you will deliver a high quality job, while striving to save cost in the process in line with current realities. It should be obvious to you all that there is a reason for singling you out individually to serve on this very important Committee. We expect you to do things quite different from what we are used to, particularly in the area of saving cost for the University without compromising quality on job delivery as you discharge your onerous responsibilities. Let me on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, wish you good luck as you settle down to work," Professor Ibe told them. Responding on behalf of other members, Chairman of the Committee, Dr. Glory Amadi, lauded Management for appointing them to serve the



From left, DV-C (Admin), Prof Ibe, flanked by Senior Officers of the University and the newly-inaugurated Task force Committee

University in such capacity, promising that the Committee would adhere strictly to the Terms of Reference guiding its operations at all times.

"Let me on behalf of our members assure you that we would not disappoint Management in the discharge of our assignment. We will work as a team to deliver on our mandate and at the end of it all, it is our hope that Management would be proud to have appointed us to serve on this important Committee," he promised the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

Other Terms of Reference of the Committee included the provision of one room service quarters

attached directly to each apartment of the six terrace buildings in the staff quarters; to report to the Vice-Chancellor through the Housing Committee and to enhance proper supervision of its activities.

Other members of the Committee are Dr. Utibe Daniel, Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Amina Musa, Mr. Sunday Ajienkwa, Mr. John Akpila, Mr. Eyiyo Kosemami, Mr. Josi Agbara, Mr. Koronel Nerdam and Mr. Michael Ezebaraba, while the Housing Officer, Mr. Bikame Syder, will serve as Secretary.

# UniPort NNBS Graduate 56 Trainees

By Humphrey Ogu

**I**t was a happy moment for 56 lucky naval officers who graduated from the maiden edition of the Leadership and Management Course under the auspices of the Claude Ake School of Government, University of Port Harcourt on Friday, May 27, 2016. The three-month course ended with an elaborate ceremony at which certificates were awarded to the officers as a testimonial to their successful completion of the intensive programme.

The colourful graduation ceremony commenced with a thought-provoking lecture delivered by the Director of the Claude Ake School of Government in the University of Port Harcourt, Professor Ene Ekeke. Looking back at the chequered history of corruption and the damage it had done to the national psyche, Professor Ekeke submitted that for Nigeria to win the war against corruption, State and Local Governments, the Military, corporate bodies and individuals must join the Mohammedu Buhari-led Federal Government in its bid to eradicate the menace that has trampled national development since Independence.

Professor Ekeke, who spoke on the topic: *The Political Economy of Corruption in Nigeria*, to mark the end of the Nigerian Navy Leadership and Management Course at the Nigerian Navy Basic Training School (NNBS), Oron, warned that the battle against corruption must be embraced by all Nigerians, especially government at all levels if it is to attain the desired result.

Describing Political Economy as a way of looking at issues in a holistic manner, the Director declared: "President Buhari's method of fighting corruption can only yield limited results. All Governors from his ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) should replicate the anti-corruption crusade in their respective States if the war against corruption is to be recognised as a truly party business. Fighting corruption is not a one-man business. Despite the criticism that the fight is un-ended, I still believe that the President means well for the nation. The fight has to start from somewhere and such criticisms can only be justified if these affected were innocent of the corruption charges proffered against them."

Ekeke, who is also Occupant of the Claude Ake Professorial Chair of Political Economy in the



*Dignitaries and graduates after the ceremony*

University, stressed the need to establish anti-corruption crusade committees in the ministries, parastatals, the military and other governmental agencies to entrench the culture of transparency in Nigeria. He conceded that there was ample evidence of corruption in our homes, schools, churches and other sundry places, urging everyone to join in the fight to attain the desired result.

"Salaries of Senators should be slashed by 40 per cent and security votes should be removed from the Executive arm of Government. We should have a means of auditing our leaders," he recommended, warning that no arm of government should be allowed to operate without checks and balances in a proper democracy.

In his remark, Commandant of the NNBS, Oron, Commodore Peter Onaji, noted that "From its inception in 1956, the Nigerian Navy has continued to build development of its human resources as a key obligation for the performance of its constitutional roles towards enhancing national security and prosperity of the nation. The Leadership and Management Course is a classical example of how the Nigerian Navy prepares for the performance of its constitutional obligation to the nation."

The Commandant praised the Director and UniPort for the collaboration that resulted in the training received by his officers during the training exercise, admonishing them to put what they learnt into use on their retirement from the force.

Other dignitaries that graced the ceremony, which featured presentation of certificates were Commandant of the Nigerian Navy Finance and Logistics School, Owerri, Captain, Godwin Obahe and Unit Commander of Eleme Command of the Federal Road Safety Commission, Francis Ajanta. In his remarks, the Training Coordinator and Acting Deputy Commandant NNBS, Oye Akibansoni, who disclosed that 60 ratings were originally nominated for the training, which began with a Memorandum of Understanding between NNBS and UniPort on January 25, 2016, said that only 56 of them finally participated in the training.

Exchanging views with a UniPort Weekly Correspondent, three of the graduates, Master Warrant Officers, Oyelele Uche, Sylvester Tannuonoye and Mayiwa Akintola, commended the leadership of the Navy and the University of Port Harcourt for the joint initiative, calling for extension of the duration of the training period to enable trainees benefit maximally from the programme.

## Left A Good Legacy For RCS Dept ~ Prof Ejizu

By Mercy Adeniji

**I**mmediate past Head of the Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, Professor Christopher Ejizu, has expressed satisfaction with what was accomplished under his watch, disclosing that he left a good legacy that the younger academics should build on to position the Department for greater achievements. Exchanging views with a UniPort Weekly Correspondent in his office on Tuesday, May 31, 2016, Professor Ejizu described his tenure as a huge success, expressing gratitude to God and Management of the University for giving him the privilege to serve his Department, Faculty and the University as Head of Department for the second time.

"The first time I assumed office as Departmental Head, I was inexperienced as I had just been employed in the University and coming from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, I spent much of my time trying to fit into the new way of doing things here. During that period, I watched and worked with very young Deans such as Emeritus Professor Ebingerhi Araga, the late Professors Olu Rotimi and Kay Williamson.

"When I assumed office in May, 2014, I had to bring my cumulative experience to bear on the job and it paid off as most of the goals I set for the Department were achieved," he told our Correspondent. Professor Ejizu, who retired earlier as a senior lecturer in 2010, disclosed that one of the challenges he faced while in office was sourcing critically needed funds to run the Department. "It was very fortunate that my appointment as HOD for the second time came almost on the eve of the National Universities Commission's accreditation



*Prof Ejizu*

exercise in the Faculty of Humanities," he disclosed. "The University gave the Faculty and the various Departments the necessary funds to prepare for the accreditation exercise, which I saw as an opportunity to upgrade facilities in our Department. We utilised every kobo given to us for the purpose it was meant. For instance, we bought a 7 horse-power electricity generating plant, dug a borehole, furnished Professor's offices with tables and chairs and at the end of the day, the accreditation team was very pleased with us," he disclosed.

Professor Ejizu regretted that all his efforts resulted in only Interim Accreditation status for the Department,

blaming the development on lack of office and classroom space. "The last NUC accreditation visitation was so auspicious and we benefitted from it as a Department; we scored as very high in terms of academic content of our programme and the quality of our staff, even though we still lost out in terms of space," he disclosed, appealing to Management to do something about the Elechi Amadi Faculty of Humanities building to provide more space for staff and students.

The immediate past HOD, who doubled as Chairman of the University's Chapter of the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC), recalled how he had to hand over the position to another staff to enable him concentrate on his Departmental assignment. "My acceptance to assume the office of HOD for a second time was predicated on my resolve to leave a good legacy for younger academics to follow. It was based on a personal request by one of our retired colleagues, Professor Emmanuel Akana, who was desirous of having an older hand advise him the Department once more," Ejizu said. "My doors were always open as HOD and it would still be open to my successor, Professor Wellington Wotoghe-Wenka and my other colleagues. I enjoyed their friendship and cooperation and as leaders, we ensure that we run with the baton and this imagery of handing over the baton to the next athletes remained with me to the very end of my tenure. I am very happy that my mission is accomplished, following the vision I set for myself from the first day I was interviewed as a staff of the University. I can say that we produced a viable postgraduate programme and Certificate programmes for the Department and it is my hope that we would move to higher grounds.

# PIND Trains CCGS Students On Conflict Analysis

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

A Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) known as Partners for Peace in the Niger Delta (PIND), has ended a two-day training workshop for the public and students of the Centre for Conflict and Gender Studies (CCGS), University of Port Harcourt. The workshop held between Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2016 at the GRA axis of Port Harcourt.

Briefing a *UniPort Weekly Correspondent* on the outcome of the training programme, which held at the PIND Training Hall located at No. 6 Tombia Street, GRA, Port Harcourt, Acting Director of CCGS, Dr. Fidelis Allen, disclosed that the workshop equipped students of the Centre currently enrolled in the Master of Science Programme in Peace and Gender Studies with the necessary skills and tools for conflict analysis and research.

"We have noticed that most students generally lack depth in research methodology; so, the workshop afforded them an opportunity to meet and interact with experts who took them through *Conflict Analysis and Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methodologies* to

grounded in research methodologies, then the work of the Supervisor becomes easier," he disclosed.

Expressing delight that the students gained practical knowledge in rapid conflict analysis, Dr. Allen added that the knowledge they gained was

very beneficial to them, following the increase in the rate of conflicts that have negatively impacted the populace, especially in the Niger Delta.

"As scholars, we should be able to analyze conflicts and understand how to manage them; that is why the Centre for Conflict and Gender Studies is totally committed to building capacity in this critical area with a view to identifying and

managing crises flashpoints in the country. There is need to train professionals that are well-grounded in conflict analysis for policy intervention and purposes of scholarship," Dr. Allen told our Correspondent



Participants at the Workshop

enhance their efficiency in writing dissertations and other scholarly articles. We felt it was good to provide our students with an opportunity outside the University environment to interact with these experts, because when students are

# Researchers Tackle Fish Production Business Challenges At AEB Seminar

By Humphrey Ogu

How climate change affects fisher folks and the business of fish production in parts of the West African sub-region came to the fore at the seventh edition of the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology Seminar Series held at the Departmental Boardroom on Wednesday, June 1, 2016.

Delivering a lecture entitled: *Assessing the Socio-Economic Vulnerability of Small-Scale Coastal Fishers' Livelihood*, Dr. Ijeoma Vincent-Akpa, said that the objective of the study was to assess the perceptions of fisher folks on the effects of climate change on their livelihood. The stated purpose was to determine the vulnerability of fisher folks to climate change, assess the perceived awareness of climate change on their livelihood, and determine the constraints they face in their effort to make a living.

Citing a report by the Rome-based Food and Agricultural Organisation 2014, Dr. Vincent-Akpa noted that "Small scale fishers involve pre-harvest, harvest and post-harvest of fish undertaken by men and women engaged in full-time, part-time or seasonal fishery activities, using low technology and small amounts of capital and energy. Livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses; maintain its capabilities and assets, while not undermining the natural resource base."

She identified human skills, knowledge, natural resources, social networking with people, availability of funds, physical infrastructure such as a good transport system, electricity and security, as core assets that are conducive for livelihood. Dr.

Vincent-Akpa, observed that "disaster can be seen to impact on each of the five assets of livelihood, as well as changing the vulnerability context and policies, institutions and processes, adding that "Vulnerability varies based on the level of dependence on natural resources, socio-economic situations and institutional provisions available to fisher folks."

She noted that "Fishers with little assets to cope are inadvertently vulnerable to adverse effects of any change in climate or disasters. The greater the level of reliance on natural resources, the greater their vulnerability."

In his presentation, Dr. Gentile Komi, who spoke on the topic: *Aspects of the Biology and Population Dynamics of the Giant Tiger Prawns in the Andani River System, Niger Delta*, noted that the issue covered by his lecture would benefit fisher folks and other stakeholders in the business of fish production.

"There are ample opportunities for fisher folks, who are interested in prawns, especially tiger prawns in the Niger Delta. For now, I discovered that this species of fish is currently under exploited," he disclosed, adding that whether or not the prawns are killed by fisher folks, they would still

die naturally.

Regretting that after researchers obtain their results, they do not return to the field to share their findings because of paucity of funds, Komi called for adequate funding to enable researchers share the benefits of their studies with local inhabitants who usually help them in their field work.

Speaking after the presentations, new Acting Head of Department, Dr. Akinu Soyinka, described the seminar as an opportunity for staff and students to further deepen their knowledge on aspects of the specialisation at no extra cost. "As a biology teacher, you are not only expected to teach, but you are also expected to answer questions that may arise in the process. We are blessed with a plethora of experts who are willing to mentor younger academics," she said, expressing gratitude to Emeritus Professor Samuel Okiwela for his continued mentorship of younger academics in the Department and Faculty of Science.

The new Acting HOD also praised Professor Florence Nduka for initiating the seminar series and the likes of Professor Gideon Obute and others for always ensuring that each of the lectures in the series was successful and conducted along best global practice. She also expressed gratitude to Professor Stella Ibe, who retired some years back for her continued interest in the affairs of the Department.



Dr. Komi (9th from left), Dr. Soyinka, Prof. Okiwela, Dr. Vincent-Akpa and other participants after the workshop

# V-C Briefs Parents' Forum On State Of UniPort

Cont'd from Page 1

decided that students would have to pay for the damages they caused as a result of the April 11 protest. Each of them must also sign an undertaking to be of good conduct, preparatory to the final reopening of the University. We are, therefore, soliciting the understanding and support of the Parents' Forum to ensure that students comply with Senate's directive before normal academic activities can resume," the Vice-Chancellor told the parents, adding that when the level of damage was fully quantified, Senate would then decide on what each student would be made to pay as surcharge.

Professor Lae, who said that the University was facing very hard times, regretted that the cost of running normal municipal services was becoming increasingly prohibitive, assuring the parents, however, that Management would continue to strive hard to keep the University afloat within the limits of available resources. "With the current situation of things on ground, it has become even more imperative that we begin to do things in line with global best practice in the University of Port Harcourt. To the best of my knowledge, there is no University in the world, where



students are allowed to go to school without paying the approved charges and registering their courses before writing examinations.

"The wrong perception of the University of Port Harcourt as a place where students go to school on credit must come to an end in light of current realities. Mark you, the charges are not to be paid into my personal account; it is from such charges that we generate some revenue with which we keep the University running. The same students, who can endure weeks, if not months of power failure in their various homes, will go on rampage if there is no electricity for a few minutes on Campus. That is what we are up against as a Management and parents ought to understand our plight," the Vice-Chancellor told the gathering.

Earlier in his address, Interim Chairman of the Forum, Dr. Tony Chuku, who enumerated the contributions of the Forum since it was established, told members that the Executive had engaged the Management of the University on a regular basis to ensure peace and good governance of the University. "We have set up eight sub-Committees for the effective running of the Forum and we want to also ensure that only approved charges are collected from students. We shall set up a Community Relations Forum that would enable us to interface with the University's host communities and other stakeholders," Dr. Chuku told the Forum.

## UniPort ANUPA Ends Congress

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

The University of Port Harcourt Branch of the Association of Nigerian University Professional Administrators (ANUPA) held its maiden Congress at the Ebitimi Basigo Auditorium last Tuesday, with a charge to members to fully embrace the activities of the Association for enhanced productivity by administrators in the University.

Addressing members at the Congress, UniPort Branch Chairman of ANUPA, Mr. Roland Wabali, remarked that some members had benefitted from the Association's training programmes in other universities, including those mounted at Kogi State University and the Niger Delta University, Otuoke, regretting the inability of the Executive to hold regular meetings following their election. "We, however, apologise for our inability to hold regular meeting of ANUPA in this University; it was due to

circumstances beyond our control, but we promise to be up and doing from now on. All we need now is your total support to enable us discharge our statutory responsibilities to members of ANUPA in this Branch," the Chairman promised, calling on them to show more interest in the activities of the Association. Briefing staff on the accruing benefits as members of the professional body which comprises administrative staff of all cadres in the University, Wabali disclosed that the Association seeks to promote and advance professional and administrative knowledge of members, provide a forum for the discussion of current trends in higher education, stimulate training opportunities for members and monitor training programmes, amongst others.

"One of the aims of the Association is to maintain integrity in university administration and to serve as the main link with all university administrators," he disclosed, promising regular meetings and intensified

training programmes for members henceforth.

In her remarks, the Registrar, Mrs. Durcas Otto, who commended members for attending the maiden meeting of the Association in the University, described ANUPA as a body that is fully committed to training and building of professionalism of members for quality service delivery.

"The Executive should work towards incorporating training sessions into each meeting of ANUPA to ensure that members can gain something at each meeting. We have a lot to benefit from the wealth of knowledge of older and more experienced colleagues, some of who are almost due for their well-deserved retirement from service. Such experienced members can serve as trainers and facilitators of the proposed training sessions so that we can benefit from their valuable pool of experience while we still have them with us," the Registrar told the gathering.

Reiterating that the trainings would translate into enhanced service delivery in the University, the Mrs. Otto advised members to attend meetings regularly and give maximum support to the Executive of ANUPA to move the Association forward. "You stand to benefit a lot from a fully functional ANUPA in this Branch in terms of quality training and exchange of ideas amongst members of the Association. As much as possible, members should look forward to opportunities that would help them in carrying out your assignments in a professional manner," the Registrar said, advising the Executive to devise training programmes and other activities that would sustain the interest of members in the Association.

At the end of the deliberations, it was agreed that ANUPA meetings should be held on a quarterly basis, while the Executive could convene emergency meetings as may be required from time to time to address contingencies that may arise in-between regular meetings of the body.



## GUIDE POST

## APPOINTMENT

**Professor Benjamin Ndukwe**, Department of Plant Science and Biotechnology, Faculty of Science, appointed **Director, Institute of Natural Resources Environment and Sustainable Development (INRES)**. The appointment which takes effect from June 1, 2016 is for two years and will terminate on May 31, 2018.

**Dr. Solomon Larinde**, Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management, Faculty of Agriculture, appointed **Acting Head of Department**. The appointment which takes effect from June 18, 2016, is for two years and will terminate on June 17, 2018.

## CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT

**Dr. Chinenye Awujo**, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, Faculty of Education, granted **Confirmation of Appointment**, effective March 1, 2005 to retirement age.

**Miss Emem Oton**, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, granted **Confirmation of Appointment**, effective March 25, 2015 to retirement age.

**Dr. Aminanyanaba Asimica**, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, granted **Confirmation of Appointment**, effective October 2, 1999 to retirement age.

**Dr. Hamilton Oparum**, Department of Medical Biochemistry, College of Health Sciences, granted **Confirmation of Appointment** effective September 21, 1997 to retirement age.

**Dr. Daniel Awai**, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, Faculty of Education, granted **Confirmation of Appointment**, effective May 12, 2013 to retirement age.

## RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENT

**Professor Kalu Ogbureke**, Department of Oral Pathology and Oral Biology, Faculty of Dentistry, granted **Renewal of Contract Appointment as Visiting Professor**, effective January 28, 2016 to January 27, 2017.

**Professor Anthony Udez**, Department of Experimental Pharmacology/Clinical Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, granted **Renewal of Adjunct Appointment as Reader**, effective April 8, 2016 to April 7, 2017.

## STATUTORY RETIREMENT FROM SERVICE

**Dr. Lekia Nwikea**, Department of Educational Management, Faculty of Education is due for **Statutory Retirement from Service**, effective April 4, 2016.

## CHANGE OF NAME

**MRS. AUGUSTINA CHINENYE ADEKUNLE-SOFOLABO**. Former Miss Augustina Chinenye Odenyi of the Exams and Records Unit, now wishes to be known, called and addressed as **Mrs. Augustina Chinenye Adekunle-Sofolabo**. All documents bearing her former names remain valid.

## BRIEFS FROM OTHER VARSITIES

## KWARA VARSITY GRADUATES 1,099

A total of 1,099 graduands convoked on Saturday, June 4, 2016 at the Kwara State University (KWASU) Malele, Ilorin, Kwara State.

Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Abdulkasheem Na'Allah, who spoke in Malele, Moro Local Government Area at a pre-Convocation news conference, stated that Management was excited with the number of students that obtained a First Class. "We have 23 First Class graduands; this is over 100 per cent of what we had last year. This is an exceptional performance and it shows that our students and staff are committed to academic excellence." Professor Na'Allah disclosed that the University has strengthened its entrepreneurship and undergraduate research units in line with its mission of producing employment creatives and not job seekers. "In the next one year, we will be planning a journal for undergraduate researchers to share their ideas with the world. KWASU is also developing a solar farm to generate electricity for our Library for 24 hours," the Vice-Chancellor said.



Professor Abdulkasheem Na'Allah  
Vice-Chancellor, Kwara State University

Professor Olayinka gave the advice on Wednesday, June 2, 2016 while briefing reporters on the state of the institution in the last six months. According to him, paucity of funds was responsible for poor supply of electricity, water and other essential services, as well as the institution's inability to pay full salaries to workers.

The Vice-Chancellor, who lamented the sporadic student protests in the last six months over poor supply of water and electricity, revealed that the institution has been battling with N96 million shortfall in monthly salary subvention, totalling N790 million from December till date. He explained that the situation was a reflection of the financial crises confronting the government due to a drastic fall in oil prices in the international market, lamenting that the University's Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) has been inadequate in plugging the shortfall.

## OSHIOHOLE NAMES OKOSUN PRO-CHANCELLOR

Governor of Edo State, Adams Oshiomhole, has appointed Rt. Hon Thomas Okosun as Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council of Tayo Akpa University of Education, Ekiadolor. Okosun was a member of Edo State House of Assembly 1992-1993 and 1999-2003. He was Speaker, Edo State House of Assembly (1999-2000) during which time he was elected Chairman of the Conference of Speakers in Nigeria in 1999.

## UI V-C TELLS WORKERS NOT TO DESPAIR

Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan, Professor Idowu Olayinka, has charged workers, students and stakeholders not to despair in the face of the mounting financial crisis facing the institution.

## DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

## WEATHER OBSERVATORY

## WEATHER FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND SURROUNDING AREAS

FOR SUNDAY JUNE, 05 - SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2016.

DATE	TEMPERATURE (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (am) (pm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 05, JUNE, 2016	32.0 24.0	74	SW	35.1	6:19 6:02	Thunder storms expected accompanied with a partly sunny disposition.
MONDAY, 06, JUNE, 2016	31.0 25.0	79	SW	8.4	6:19 6:02	Thunder storms expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
TUESDAY 07, JUNE, 2016	35.0 25.0	68	SW	35.0	6:19 6:02	Thunder storms expected with a cloudy outlook for most of the day.
WEDNESDAY 08, JUNE, 2016	35.0 24.0	64	SW	-	6:19 6:02	Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
THURSDAY 09, JUNE, 2016	32.0 23.0	67	S	5.1	6:20 6:03	Thunder storms expected early in the day. Mostly cloudy day forecasted.
FRIDAY 10, JUNE, 2016	35.0 23.0	59	SSW	5.2	6:20 6:03	Thunder storms expected late in the day. Mostly sunny day forecasted.
SATURDAY 11, JUNE, 2016	35.0 24.0	65	SW	12	6:20 6:03	Thunder storms expected with a mostly cloudy outlook.

DR. V.E. WELI  
AG. DDO  
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY & ENV. MGT.

DR. PRINCE C. MMOM  
AG. DIRECTOR  
(CRODMS)

## V-C'S VISIT TO NDDC

**V**ice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, led Principal Officers and other officials of the University on a working visit to the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), on Tuesday, May 3, 2016. The delegation was received by Acting Managing Director of the Commission, Mrs. Ibim Seminitari. Pictures of the visit are shown below as recorded by our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU**



V-C, Prof Ndowa Lale (left) in a warm handshake with Acting MD of NDDC, Mrs. Ibim Seminitari



Mrs. Ibim Seminitari in a handshake with Dr-C (Adams), Prof Anthony Ike, while V-C and Registrar Mrs. Dorcas Otu look on



A cross-section of the UniPort delegation



The MD (left) and other officials of NDDC



An official of the Commission making a remark



V-C, Prof Lale, making his own remark



L-R: University Librarian, Dr. Susan Umecor, Bursar, Mr. Visilo Akiri, Prof Ike and Mrs. Otu



Mrs. Seminitari (standing), responding to the V-C's address



Prof Lale signing the Visitor's Register



Mrs. Seminitari handing over a gift item to the V-C



V-C handing over copies of UniPort Weekly to the Acting MD



Deputy Registrar, IPFR, Williams Wodi with the Acting MD, while Dr. Umecor looks on



A group photograph of Uniport and NDDC officials