

UniPort Weekly

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UniPort To Partner General Electric On Transport Studies

The authorities of the University of Port Harcourt and General Electric have commenced negotiations that would hopefully culminate in the establishment of a graduate programme in Transport Studies in the University. To prepare for the new partnership, plans have been concluded to transform the Centre for Logistics and Transport Studies (CELTRAS) in the Faculty of Social Sciences into a full-fledged Institute, reports *Obinna Nwodin*.

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Side Bar 61ST HSN CONFAB

The University of Port Harcourt in concert with Ignatius Ajuru University of Education will host the 61st Conference of the Historical Society of Nigeria (HSN) between October 9 and 13, 2016 at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium. Theme of the Conference is: Nigeria Counts: Issues of National Rebirth.

Details Next Week

~Editor

134th Inaugural

Personal Discipline, Not Jailing Corrupt Officials Will Bring Change To Nigeria ~Ndu

By Obinna Nwodin

As the Federal Government continues to evolve policies and actions aimed at fighting the menace of corruption in the country, Professor of Political Philosophy, Emenike Ndu, has argued that the battle against corruption will not be won by arresting and sentencing a few people to prison terms. On the contrary, it is only when the mindset of the average Nigerian changes that the country can effectively tackle the cankerworm that has been militating against national development.

He dropped the hint while delivering the 134th Inaugural Lecture of the University to a packed audience at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last Thursday.

Professor Ndu, whose Lecture was entitled, *Live Body, Dead Soul: The Anatomy of Discipline, Corruption and Leadership*, stated: "Given the lack of discipline and endemic corruption, the prognosis for Nigeria is dim and its future bleak. When the cataclysmic occurrences which have already begun will intensify and come to a head, the Almighty God in His mercy and for the sake of the remnants will lead those who hold the reins of power away from the paths of false statesmanship and politics onto the paths of philosophy and truth."

He berated the trending view that the problem with Nigeria was that of leadership, pointing out that "the leadership of any country does not grow on a tree from which it can be plucked, nor can it be imported into the country from outside, unless the country is under colonialism." The Inaugural Lecturer who established a direct relationship between the law and the state, described the law as the substance of the

state. According to him, if the society is undisciplined and corrupt, it will correspondingly produce undisciplined and corrupt leaders as has been the case with Nigeria. "If the society is disciplined and upright, it will produce leaders of the same colour," Ndu said, pointing out that Nigeria was not different from any other country in the world where citizens subject themselves to law

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GES Unit Fetes
Orunaboka



V-C Lays Foundation
Stone For Sandwich Hostel



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STADU Ends Training
For Administrative Staff



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NAEMS Awards
Scholarship To Fresher



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GES Unit Fetes Orunaboka On Stewardship

By Otiakor Samuel

Following what was described as an outstanding stewardship during his two-year tenure as Director of the General Studies Unit, Staff and Coordinators of the Unit have honoured Professor Tamunobelema Orunaboka for leaving the Unit better than he met it.

In a get-together organised by the Unit on Thursday, September 22, 2016, Acting Director, Dr. Jonah Nwogu, disclosed that staff of the Unit were satisfied with the achievements of his predecessor in office which necessitated the event to commend him for the good legacy he left behind. "It is very important to let a good leader know that he has done very well and that those who worked with him appreciate his good works as a way of spurring him to do better in future endeavours. Professor Orunaboka has transformed the GES Unit and we are committed to continuing from where he stopped so that the Unit can grow and deliver better services to the growing clients," Dr. Nwogu said.

The Unit presented a Midea Refrigerator to the immediate past Director as a show of appreciation for the good legacy he left behind and the fraternal relationship he engendered among Staff and Coordinators of the GES programme.

In his response, a visibly enthused Professor Orunaboka, once again, commended staff of the Unit for acknowledging his modest contributions when he served as Director, expressing total support for efforts aimed at strengthening the Unit to embrace best operational practice.

"I am very happy for the recognition accorded me by the staff I left behind. The normal Nigerian syndrome is for an erstwhile leader to be bad-mouthed by those he left behind. There are people who would never appreciate what others do, no matter the effort such leaders may put in place. There were times we had to leave the examination

halls at 10:00pm just to ensure that the last candidate left the hall before we close. So,

recognising the modest effort we made together on my watch is a step in the right direction and I wish to express gratitude to my successor for commencing on a good note.

"I need not remind Dr. Nwogu that he would face an uphill task as he settles down to grapple with the onerous duty schedule ahead of him and I wish him well. I am happy that Mr. Kunle Sofoloba is here,

because he is another hardworking staff that will continue to contribute immensely to the success of the Unit. Once again, I charge you to do better than I did while in office and you should continue to support my successor," Professor Orunaboka told the staff.



Acting Director, Dr. Nwogu (right) handing over a gift item to his predecessor, Prof Orunaboka

Stop Press

C'ttee On Alleged Fund Misappropriation

Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, Professor Regina Ogali, has been appointed to Chair an "Investigation Committee on Alleged Misappropriation of Students Union Fund." Her appointment letter dated September 20, 2016 and personally signed by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, said the Committee was empaneled to determine the veracity of an alleged misappropriation as contained in an originating petition by some aggrieved members of the Students' Union.

The Committee was also charged with the responsibility of identifying the culprits and the sum of money involved, and to work out appropriate modalities for the smooth operation of Students' Union activities in the University, including disbursement of funds and to make appropriate recommendations to Management.

The Committee is expected to submit its Report to the Vice-Chancellor within three weeks from the date of its inauguration. Other members of the Committee are: Professor Chinedu Chukuegu, Drs. Ikechukwu Agbagwa and Gladys Worlu.

ENACTUS Launches Android App For UniPort Students

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

An entrepreneurship student organisation in the University, ENACTUS has launched a new application for students that would be usable on android devices in collaboration with Campus Hub.

The event which held at the Ebitimi Banjo Auditorium on Wednesday, September 14, 2016, witnessed the formal introduction of the new application known as Campus Hub which is the brainchild of three students of the University, who are also members of ENACTUS namely, David Agbamoro, a Fourth Year Student of the Department of Accounting in the Faculty of Management Sciences, George Adowei and Chibuzor Mordi, both of the Department of Geology and Mining Technology in the Faculty of Science.

In their separate addresses, Agbamoro and Adowei, disclosed that the new application would enhance accessibility of the students to the University environment, and such features as education with access to academic materials on various disciplines such as roomie which helps users in finding a roommate with ease, online shopping, business, schedule and Lifestyle, news update platforms, amongst others. "This application was developed to facilitate the entire learning curve for students in addition to enhancing their social life on Campus", the duo said, as they illustrated the use of the new app at the launch.

Team Leader of ENACTUS in UniPort, Chinoonso Erondu, who spoke extensively on the activities of the student organisation on Campus, called on interested persons to join the digital group to reap unlimited online

exposure and benefits. "In addition to embarking on community outreach programmes, our leadership and career initiatives create meaningful opportunities for cross-generational learning and exchange, as well as placement of students and alumni in companies in search of emergent talents that we incubate at ENACTUS," he stated.

Commending the students for developing the android application, one of the Faculty Advisers of ENACTUS and a Lecturer in the Department of Sociology in the Faculty of Social Sciences, Dr. Steve Wordu, expressed excitement at the creative abilities of the younger generation, hoping that some of them would develop software and business ideas that can transform them into global brand ambassadors. "The creative abilities of young people are limitless and it is very important for them to seek veritable platforms that would enable them achieve their dreams. We are here to support them turn their dream into reality," he said at the occasion.



A group photograph of ENACTUS members

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UniPort To Partner General Electric On Transport Studies

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This cheering development was the outcome of exploratory talks between a delegation from the Institute led by Mr. Rori Balogun and Management of the University at the Vice-Chancellor's Committee Room, last Thursday. Explaining the proposed partnership at the meeting, Mr. Balogun who is Regional Learning Leader in sub-Saharan Africa of General Electrical (GE), disclosed that the company which is a global market leader in infrastructure development, will help build capacity in transport and logistics, including local and globally benchmarked skills. He expressed the willingness of his organisation to partner the University in training programmes that would support the industry which he said would be patterned along the Institute of Petroleum Studies model. "We understand that IPS is structured in such a way that its model has worked and that is how we hope to grow the proposed partnership with CELTRAS. We also wish to understand the objectives of the Centre for Logistics and Transport Studies and its flexibilities to enable us

determine where we fit into the whole thing," Mr. Balogun told his host. Responding, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) Professor Anthony Ibe, who represented the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale at the occasion, commended the organisation for showing interest in partnering the University. "I wish to assure you that the administration would be willing to enter into such a collaborative venture aimed at strengthening transport studies in a country that currently lacks a functional mass transit system. Let me also inform you that the IPS model you referred to is a very capital intensive venture that is heavily funded by the TOTAL/NNPC joint venture and we are hopeful that GE would give

the necessary support that would make the partnership succeed," Professor Ibe said. Earlier in his remarks, Director of CELTRAS, Professor Osi Akpogomeh, explained that the Centre was established in 2012 to provide skills and knowledge in transport and logistics studies. Professor Akpogomeh also disclosed that the Centre currently had collaborations with organisations such as the Federal Road Safety Commission, Nigeria Shippers' Council, Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), as well as a private organisation, Delta Marine Company, amongst other like-minded organisations aimed at broadening its activities.



DV-C (Admin), Prof Ibe (3rd from left), Mr. Balogun (seated 3rd), Principal and Senior Officers of the University after the visit

V-C Commends Sandwich Students At Hostel Foundation Stone-Laying Ceremony

By Williams Wodi

It was a carnival atmosphere on Thursday, September 22, 2016, as over three thousand students on the University's Sandwich programme literally shut down their classes to participate in a parade of cultures from across the country.

The latest Cultural Day celebration was the second in the series aimed at affording the Sandwich Students a veritable platform to socialise and carve out an academic identity for themselves in the University community. Major highlights of the event were the foundation-laying ceremony for a mega-hostel to be solely dedicated to the Sandwich Students, who are currently compelled to squat with regular students for the duration of their programme, and a colourful of masquerade dance, ethnic attire and traditional music.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, whose address was read at the occasion by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Administration, Professor Anthony Ibe, praised the students for organising themselves into a formidable platform to help the University, promising that the authorities would support

the completion of the project.

"The foundation stone-laying ceremony is a historic event that is commendable because the students involved are driven by a desire to contribute their own quota to the accelerated development of their beloved *alma mater* and they deserve to be encouraged to realise this important project. I am particularly pleased that the students were able to mobilise themselves to raise money for this project for which the University Management remains grateful to them. I am also happy that the Sandwich Students are very mature men and women who have not constituted themselves into a hindrance to the smooth running of the programme," the Vice-Chancellor said at the occasion that attracted guests from other Faculties. Promising that his administration would continue to be sensitive to the genuine aspirations of all students of the University, Professor Lale advised them to be law-abiding and committed to academic excellence. "In furtherance of our regular engagement with various stakeholders and as part of efforts aimed at creating open communication channels between Management and students, we promise to respond to the needs of all categories of students, including those on the Post-NCE

Sandwich Degree programme," he assured them. Welcoming guests to the occasion, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Lawrence Igwe, commended the Vice-Chancellor for approving the NNDIC Hostel as temporary accommodation for the Sandwich Students, in addition to the supply of three thousand mattresses. He commended the students for contributing to the development of their *alma mater*, promising that the Faculty would continue to ensure that they received quality education that would prepare them to give their best to the teaching profession on graduation.

Also speaking, Coordinator of the Post-NCE programme, Dr. Gospel Kpee, recalled that the programme was approved by Senate of the University in 1985 to afford non-graduate teachers an opportunity to acquire requisite skills that would prepare them for quality service delivery. He added that the population of the students had exploded from a modest 245 enrolment at the inception of the programme to peak subscription in the 1990s.

Recalling the innovations he introduced to uplift the Post-NCE programme, Dr. Kpee called for the construction of a building to be dedicated to the Sandwich programme after thirty-one years of squatting in the Faculty of Education.

"The absence of dedicated classrooms and lecture halls militates against enrolment of new students into the Post-NCE Sandwich programme and we also wish to appeal for the prompt release of results by other Departments that service the Post-NCE programme to enable our students plan their future career lines. We also wish to appeal that the programme should not be run alongside the regular programmes of the University to enable our students have enough facilities to study," Dr. Kpee pleaded with Management.

He also called for the restructuring of the Post-NCE programme and appointment of a substantive Director and two assistants for effective coordination of the programme.

Earlier in his welcome address, outgoing President of the Sandwich Students Association, Mr. Orubu Iniabietony, commended the Vice-Chancellor for identifying with his group, promising that Sandwich Students would not disappoint the University.

He also made a passionate appeal to the authorities to reduce the fees and other charges paid by Sandwich Students to enable them continue with the programme. Mr. Iniabietony also reinforced the call by the Coordinator for dedicated hostels and lecture halls for the students to enhance learning in a conducive environment.



DV-C (Admin), Prof Ibe laying the foundation stone while Registrar, Mrs. Otto, Dean, Faculty of Education, Prof Igwe (right), Ag. Dean, Student Affairs, Dr. Otu Ekpenyong, Coordinator, Post-NCE, Dr. Kpee and others watch in admiration

Nigerian's Educational Sector At 56

What Stakeholders Want

As Nigeria revels in its 56th Independence Anniversary, stakeholders are in a chorus of agreement that the country's educational sector is in dire need of global benchmarks that even some less-endowed nations take for granted. Editor, WILLIAMS WODI, anchored the views of respondents as collated by Correspondents.

PROLOGUE

Just as Nigeria celebrated its 56th Independence Anniversary last Saturday, UNESCO gave the country's educational sector a damning verdict: 'Universal Basic Education can only be attained in 30%'. The prompt rebuttal by the Minister of Education, Adamu Adamu that the feat could be achieved in 2030 was generally viewed as a belated face-saving device that did not fool discerning stakeholders in the sector.

With a plethora of talents and so much money to throw around, Nigeria's educational system has reason to be in a parlous state. Several golden moments have been misused through a combination of policy somersaults and outright mediocrity. Inexcusable instability, pursuit of pecuniary interest and feel-good talk have combined with other factors to undermine Nigeria's once glorious educational system.

The good news is that this country still has prodigious capacity to relevant its currently comatose educational sector and turn the corner for good. We need to focus on quality control and quality assurance by improving performance content through bringing knowledgeable people from the spectator stand into the main arena. Investing youths with 21st century competencies would require focus, consistency and well thought-through policies that are deliberate, consistent, systematic and pragmatic to reverse our self-inflicted institutional confusion.

The puerile belief that throwing money at education would solve the problem has demonstrably failed in much of the last 56 years. It is sad to say that previous efforts at educational reform merely filled the deep pockets of a few ministry bureaucrats, who must now be called to account for their distasteful stewardship to bring relief to the sector. Government at all levels must initiate urgent stop-gap measures before elaborate reforms that would bring back the gold standards we all crave for in this critical sector. To place the matter in proper context, we also sampled opinion from some stakeholders that are presented below:

DR. JOEL UMEHURJI
Associate Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences

I would not say we have not made some improvements in the educational sector, but more still needs to be done to lift it to where we all want it to be, especially in the area of infrastructure with regards to what is available overseas. The Government should replicate what we see outside here and ensure that the system is working effectively to enable administrators and academics deliver quality education to our children, who currently prefer other countries to Nigeria. We are in dire need of more infrastructure and teaching aids to complement classroom theory with practice. We can accomplish all that with right policy thrust, better funding and political will to do the needful in the educational sector.

JOE AYOTAMUNO

Chief Accountant, Bursary Dept

In those days, things were relatively easier and education was qualitative and affordable. Schools then were of very high standards and even admission was strictly based on merit. These days, we have too many schools with compromised standards. The challenge is on how to enforce standards. Compared to what is obtainable now, you didn't need an extra skill or

professional membership affiliation to secure a job on graduation from the University in those days. We are trying against all odds, but we need to have confidence in the system and to strive hard to bring our educational system to international standards to enable graduates from Nigerian universities to compete with the best elsewhere.

MRS. ROSELYN EFUWERE
PAR, Registry Dept

We all know the problems facing the educational system today. It is not moving forward because of various policies that are not properly conceived and implemented by policy makers. There are frequent changes that tend to disrupt the system. The question is: what can be done to improve the educational sector. The world is going digital and I think that Information Technology should be incorporated into the system to prepare our graduates to face new challenges. Globally, the *Flipped Classroom* is in vogue and this system should be introduced in Nigeria to pave way for interactive learning that can improve the educational system.

DR. CHIMONYA ONYIA

Senior Lecturer, Dept of Sociology

Nigeria's educational sector has grown over the past 56 years. However, we do have a lot of challenges especially in the tertiary institutions, chief of which is lack of modern facilities such as updated libraries and other basic infrastructure such as computer-aided learning environment in a digital age. It is regrettable that Nigeria is lagging behind in Information and Communication Technology (ICT); despite the parlous situation in which we find ourselves at 56, we still have good brains. We are, however, need to do far more to compete with the advanced countries that still invest huge funds in their educational sector. Government should invest more funds to enable us compete globally, because the world is not waiting for Nigeria.

DR. CHINWOKE IFEANYI-GBI
Dept of Agro-Econs/Extension, Faculty of Agriculture

I don't think we are where we planned to be at Independence, despite the fact that we have achieved some commendable milestones in the educational sector. Still, we are nowhere near where we are supposed to. This is not because we lack the requisite human resources, but the lack of an enabling environment and the right infrastructure are major institutional factors militating against quality service delivery in the educational sector. Nigerian academics are doing well internationally, but they lack the basic infrastructure and

proper funding to give their best to the system that is hindered by poor policy thrust and political interference. Still, with determination and consistency, we will arrive where we wish to be.

PROF. MATTHEW WEGWU, Dept of Biochemistry, Faculty of Science

It would be uncharitable to say that Nigeria has not recorded giant strides in the educational sector. Nigerian scholars continue to play leading roles in quality research and development. We may not be satisfied with where we are, but we have not done too badly as some critics seem to imply. Yes, we need far better investment in education than is currently the case, but we are not too far from the much-touted 'global standards' of education. The curriculum is not as outdated as some people claim and our teachers are not the worst in the world. I agree that we need better funding of the educational sector and effective monitoring and evaluation system that should reward diligent staff. TEITFund and other intervention agencies should redouble their efforts to position the educational sector where we all want it to be.

MIR. ROLAND WABALI, Director, Council Affairs, Registry Dept

When I took up employment in this University, academics from all over the world were on ground to lecture and engage in quality research. Today, the culture of academic inbreeding has affected the quality of education. Expatriates no longer come here and we teach ourselves without an opportunity to compare notes with foreign faculty members. We have not fared well in my opinion. The curriculum content may be good, but what can students and lecturers achieve in empty laboratories, outdated library stock and poor digital resources? The result is that Nigerian youths are trooping abroad for quality education that we are not able to provide at home. We need better funding and commitment to quality education.

SAMUEL JUSTICE, Year Three, LCS

Basically, Nigeria's educational system is not developed compared to what is obtainable internationally. Much effort needs to be put in place to lift the educational system. Yes, some private universities have done well, but the regulatory agencies of the Federal Government still needs to checkmate them to ensure that they deliver what is advertised and do not continue to exploit their clients. It is shameful that profit-minded proprietors from Europe and neighbouring African countries now flock to Nigeria to advertise their institutions as if we have no universities

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Senate of the University rose from its 42nd Meeting last Wednesday with a resolution to recall all its representatives on the dissolved Governing Council. Additionally, members elected to represent Senate members on the Governing Council will henceforth be eligible to serve only a non-renewable two-year tenure.

The latest development was contingent on what was described as the inability of some of its members to adequately represent the interest of Senate on the Governing Council. Some Senate members who contributed to the debate, frowned at a situation in which some representatives colluded with people with pecuniary interest to undermine the overall interest of the University they were elected to protect.

Also, in a bid to address rising cases of plagiarism by some dubiously motivated students that wish to graduate without subjecting themselves to original research work, Senate has decided to set up a Special Committee to look into such cases and recommend appropriate disciplinary measures against culprits. This decision was taken following a presentation by Acting Director of the Intellectual Property Technology Transfer Office (IPTTO), Dr. Tobin Briggs.

In the presentation, Dr. Briggs categorised cases of plagiarism into three, stating that some students deployed antics meant to beat the process. "Some unscrupulous students have formed the habit of manipulating the *PlagScan* software by introducing special characters and encryptions aimed at beating the system. They unconsciously copy these from other institutions and special reports from specialised organisations, as well as those who score 50 per cent plagiarism result and above," praying that appropriate sanctions be invoked against the culprits as a deterrent to other students. Senate also decided that when the Special Committee is set up, the Report from the IPTTO be sent to it for consideration.

Senate also took a presentation on the unbundling of cases of plagiarism earlier handed by the Students' Disciplinary Committee (SDC) at its 42nd Meeting. Senate subsequently directed that these students caught carrying out an unauthorised pre-test at the IPTTO should be allowed to make formal presentation of their works, but should be sanctioned appropriately if they failed in the second bid. Senate also decided that Departments that were yet to submit their results should do so not later than the end of September, 2016, while mop-up results from the Faculty of Social Sciences should be tabled before Senate not later than Wednesday, October 5, 2016. It was also stipulated that failure to present the mop-up result from the Faculty would mean that Senate would no longer entertain such results

Senate Recalls Reps From Governing Council, Goes Tough On Plagiarism

By Obinna Nwodin

again.

Senate also considered and approved the 20th Report of the Certificate Verification Committee (CVC) as presented by its Chairman, Professor Mike Monanu, as well as a presentation on a case of alteration of results in the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies (LCS) as presented by Chairman of the Ethics Committee, Professor Frank Ugonmoh.

Senate also took a presentation on Fee Collection and Management presented by Professor Andrew Ekefimi of the Department of Philosophy. It decided that the Service Provider, CINFORES, should continue with its services and that only students who pay their charges would have their names published as *bona fide* students of the University. It also decided that only the results of students who have paid their charges would be released, and those indebted to the University shall forfeit their results.

Earlier in his opening remarks, the Chairman of Senate, Professor Ndowa Lale, had welcomed 7th Vice-Chancellor,

Professor Joseph Ajenka back to the University after his year-long Sabbatical Leave at the University of Abuja, as well as former Chairman of Research and Development Committee, Professor Bene Willie Abhey. He frowned at a situation in which some Directors, Deans and Heads of Department fail to attend statutory meetings, encouraging such senior academics to make themselves available in order to provide the necessary leadership that would improve service delivery in the University.

Professor Lale also informed members of Senate that when Lecture Time-Tables are allocated, there should be a clear demarcation between Part-Time and Full-Time programme to enable staff benefit from a flexible study schedule.

Senate also considered and approved results from the Faculties of Humanities, Social Sciences, Science, Education, Engineering, Management Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Agriculture, College of Health Sciences, as well as the School of Graduate Studies. The apex academic regulatory body also ratified results as executive approved by the Vice-Chancellor, as well as an External Examiner for the Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals (CGRP).



Senate in session

Syder Re-Emerges UniPort SSANU Branch Chairman

By Otokor Samuel

Chairman of the University of Port Harcourt Branch of the Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SSANU), Mr. Bkume Syder, has been re-elected to serve another four year term. He was re-elected at a heavily attended A JOINT Branch Quadrennial Congress and Elections held at the Auditorium of the Basic Studies Unit, University Park last Tuesday.

Announcing the result of the election into various offices monitored by our Correspondent, Chairman of the Electoral Committee, Dr. Mile Ngeh, disclosed that out of the 669 Senior Staff accredited for the exercise, Mr. Syder polled a total of 311 votes to emerge winner over his closest challenger, Mr. Ovunda Marcus who polled 227 votes. Incoming Vice-Chairman, Mr. Bero Chakwura, polled 359 votes to also return to office. Mrs. Otani Akabum won the position of Secretary-General with 233 votes.

Mr. John Nwajioke emerged as new Treasurer of the Union

with 313 votes, while Franklin Isiah was elected Financial Secretary with a total of 365 votes. Mr. Peter Edozien obtained 223 votes to secure the position of Public Relations Officer. Mrs. Elizabeth Amadi emerged as Assistant Secretary with a total of 395 votes. For the position of Women Leader, Mrs. Elizabeth Akani got the shot with 244 votes. Mr. Peter Ezi polled 418 votes to secure the position of Ex-Officio member, while Francis Nwagwu was elected Trustee of the Branch with a total of 234 votes.

SSANU's National Vice-President (East), Dr. Leku Adur, who led other national and zonal officers of the Association to observe the election, inaugurated the new Executive Council, charging those elected to discharge their duties in line with the extant rules governing the Association.

"I charge you to see your victory as an opportunity to serve, rather than seeing it as an avenue to lord it over the rank and file of SSANU members in this Branch. You must listen to those who are leading and ensure that you democratise all decision-making processes to carry everybody along in the

scheme of things," the National Vice-President admonished them.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Syder reiterated his commitment to the welfare of SSANU members in the University. "I want to thank all members of SSANU for giving us their mandate to run the Association for the next four years, including those who did not vote for us. Let me on behalf of the new Executive Council restate our readiness to serve you by promoting our collective welfare," the re-elected Chairman said.

Preserving the account of his stewardship in the first four years which commenced in 2012, Mr. Syder listed refurbishing of the SSANU Secretariat at Delta Park, procurement of a fifteen-seater Toyota Hiace Bus, settlement of debt owed the UniPort Branch of Non-Academic Staff Union (NASU), introduction of a Savings and Loans Scheme and upward review of welfare benefits due members, as some of his achievements in office.

"It is my hope that the focus of the Union in this Branch would be geared towards continued robust representation of members' interest through constructive engagement with Management, the building of a befitting permanent secretariat complex, staff conversation as first option of recruitment, consolidation of the SSANU-UniPort Welfare and Savings Scheme, loan facilities for members at 10% simple interest rate repayable over two years, quarterly presentation of accounts as enshrined in the recently amended SSANU Constitution and sustenance of the Union's End-of-Year Get-Together and Christmas Package, among other incentives," Mr. Syder said.

A joint delegation from the National, Zonal and Branch Secretariats of the Association had earlier paid a courtesy visit on the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, during which he urged the Union to conduct successful elections that would conform to global best practice devoid of acrimony.

Other members of the delegation that went on the courtesy visit included: Solomon Alfa (National Vice-President, North), Dr. Ekanem Ekanem (National Internal Auditor), Ken Njoku (Zonal Treasurer, East), Mrs. Tari Angaye (Zonal Women Leader), Waleruchi Ehere (Zonal Secretary) and immediate past Branch Ex-Officer, Mr. Abel Ejiwosho.



ELECO Chairman, Dr. Ngeh (with microphone) announcing the results. Inset: Mr. Syder taking Oath of Office

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Ndu Calls For Discipline To Change Nigeria

and order.

Professor Ndu, who was a one-time Acting Head of the Department of Political and Administrative Studies in the Faculty of Sciences, defined discipline as the "sativation of individuals, of the society, and of the state which creates and makes order possible in the society and the state," warning that individuals must embrace internal and external disciplines if they hoped to become better citizens and dependable nation-builders.

The Inaugural Lecturer stated that "corruption is not only a matter of stealing money from the coffers of the State, or collecting bribes which lead a great many to think of corruption only in relation to politicians and the police," pointing out that every act of indiscipline which has money as an end also represented an act of corruption that must be challenged. Professor Ndu also highlighted the upsurge of ethnic nationalities in the past four or five decades, the chaotic traffic situation in most cities, the reckless use of sirens and bullhorns as abnormalities that should be curbed to restore the country to orderly conduct.

"We are faced with a situation in which high profile murders go unresolved, a situation where the Executive routinely disobeys judicial orders, carrying on as if the judiciary does not exist and where we find men of letters who make every attempt to rationalize the irrational even when the constitution has been violated, a situation where the judiciary flip-flops on issues with scant regard for judicial precedents; a situation where sensitive and strategic positions in government, business, commerce, industry and even in institutions of education are made on the basis of ethnic affiliations, a situation where a lecturer accepts to teach a course, appears in class twice or thrice in a whole semester and then sets an examination paper which cannot be answered from the lecture notes, a situation where importers commission producers in foreign countries to produce inferior goods which they the importers present and sell to their

Prof Ndu (4th from right), V-C, Prof Lale and other Professors before the Lecture

unsuspecting countrymen as the real McCoy at the price of the real thing," amongst others, as empirical facts that every facet of Nigeria's social life is in accord with the definition of corruption.

On his contribution to knowledge as a political theorist, the Inaugural Lecturer posited that he developed the concept of discipline as a social and political category. "My point has been that discipline is a *sine qua non* for the success of any social enterprise. As a political category, I have divided discipline into internal and external disciplines. When discipline is internal, it is the property of the individual citizen, and it is that quality of character which leads us to define a person as self-governed, self-regulated, self-restrained, cooperative, self-disciplined and other such adjectives which describe a well-adjusted and law-abiding citizen," he said, arguing that discipline is external when it is the property of the community which is organised in political terms as the State.

The Inaugural Lecturer averred that both internal and external disciplines which work together to ensure social control are needed to strengthen cordiality, rulership and the art of governance, reminding his audience that Plato conceived society and other social organisations on the principles of reciprocal satisfaction of social and economic needs.

"One point that needs to be stressed is Plato's teaching

with regard to the Ideal and Reality. Many, especially the uninitiated, and there are lots and lots of them, including many who claim to specialize in political theory, fail to understand Plato's profound teaching. Plato produced three forms of the State. The first and the absolute best was in the Republic. The second and second best form of the State occurs in the Statesman. The third and third best which is in fact closest to the contemporary state systems in Europe he produced in the Laws," Professor Ndu submitted.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, commended the Inaugural Lecturer for his incisive presentation, describing him as a man who combined several qualities in his professional life. "Professor Ndu did not just address us as a consummate political philosopher, he also spoke as clergyman with such an impressive oratory to hold the attention of his audience. In a society where many things have gone wrong, it is heartening to know that there are still voices that point to the right way of doing things in this country. The Inaugural Lecturer intrepidly combined political theory with ecclesiastical examples with finesse," Professor Lale told the ecstatic audience that included the Inaugural Lecturer's younger brother and former Chief Judge of Rivers State, Justice Iche Ndu, amongst other heavyweights that graced the occasion.

STADU Ends Training For Administrative Staff

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

The Staff Training and Development Unit (STADU) in the Registry Department has ended a one-day training programme put together for middle-level administrative staff of the University, with a charge for them to be receptive to new ideas and develop team spirit to make impact in a new work environment. Speaking at the training which held on Wednesday, 21 September, 2016, at the Basic Studies Unit Auditorium, University Park, representative of the Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Administration, Professor Anthony Ibe, who reiterated the importance of the training exercise, commended the Registrar, Mrs.

Dorcas Otto, for the innovation, urging her to sustain the training initiative aimed at retooling staff for quality service delivery in the years ahead.

"Refresher courses enhance our efficiency and performance on the job and today's training session on communication is a very important exercise that should be taken seriously. As administrative staff, I urge you to acquire effective communication skills to avoid being misunderstood which results in costly errors. So I implore all participants to make the best of this training opportunity afforded them by the Registry Department to improve their skills on the job," the representative of the Vice-Chancellor stressed, lauding STADU for living up to its mandate of mounting regular staff training

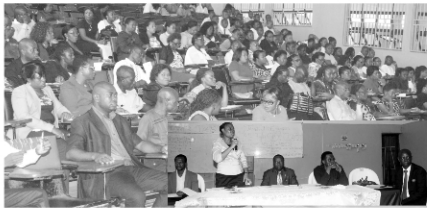
sessions in line with best global practice.

In her address, the Registrar, Mrs. Otto, noted that the training programme was initiated to equip the administrative staff with effective communication skills that would enable them contribute their quota to the development of the University. "What we stand to gain from the workshop would help us to do our work better, add value to ourselves and the system. I wish to remind us all that learning is a life-long process and I urge you never to outgrow learning as the best way to remain relevant in the line of duty," she remarked.

In their separate contributions, erstwhile Registrar, Mr. Meshiah Onyiah and the Staff Training Officer, Dr. Fidelis Ike-Jahka, commended the Registrar for leaving up to her promise of ensuring continuous training of administrative and technical staff to give of their best to the system. "I wish to commend the participants for embracing the programme and we hope that what they pick up from this workshop would be brought to bear in the performance of their duties. Another programme would soon be scheduled for administrative and technical staff in the higher-level cadre as part of the promise. I urge staff at all levels to be open-minded and receptive to new ideas," Dr. Ike-Jahka stated.

In his presentation entitled, *Grab the Wheel and Drive a Change: Hard Skills Versus Soft Skills in an Entrepreneurial University*, a language expert and Lecturer in the Department of English Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Mr. Eze Ihekwe, emphasized the need for administrative and technical staff to polish their skills to enable them become efficient in line with the vision of the Institution as an Entrepreneurial University. Stating a clear difference between hard skills and soft skills, the Resource Person noted that the principles of effective official correspondence centre on such time-tested principles as: Keeping It Short, Simple, Clear and Straightforward (KISS-CS), he said, stressing the importance of the acronym for effective composition relating to official correspondences.

Another presentation on *Personal Money Management in a Recessed Economy* was presented by Dr. Solomon Egbu.



A cross-section of participants at the training. Inset: Registrar, Mrs. Otto (standing) flanked by DV-C (Admin), Prof Ibe, former Registrar, Mr. Onyiah and STADU Officer, Dr. Jahka (right)

GUIDE POST

APPOINTMENT

Professor Barisua Nwinea, Department of Finance and Banking, Faculty of Management Sciences, appointed *Dean of Faculty*. The two-year appointment which takes effect from October 25, 2016, will terminate on October 24, 2018.

Professor Samuel Nwidede, Department of Educational Management and Planning, Faculty of Education, appointed *Board Chairman, University Demonstration Secondary School*. The two-year appointment which takes immediate effect will terminate on September 15, 2018. Other members of the Board are: Professors Lawrence Igwe, Chinyerem Madumere-Odike; Drs. Rowland Uhinmwangho, Sunday Osaat, Gospel Kpee; Messrs Roland Wahali, Samuel Ogbughu, Ogechi Anlele, Akonome Otuga and Mrs. Helen Owahonda-Wopara.

Professor Ifeanyi Nzeri, Department of Adult and Non-Formal Education, Faculty of Education, appointed *Director, Centre for Nomadic Education*. The two-year appointment which takes immediate effect will terminate on September 4, 2018.

Dr. Michael Ezimah, Department of Adult and Non-Formal Education, Faculty of Education, appointed *Acting Head of the Department*. The two-year appointment which takes immediate effect will terminate on September 4, 2018.

Dr. Tamunomima Jamabo, Department of Educational Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, Faculty of Education, appointed *Acting Head of the Department*. The two-year appointment which takes immediate effect will terminate on September 15, 2018.

Dr. Dakuu Peterside, Director General, Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), appointed *Board Chairman, Centre for Logistics and Transport Studies*. Other members of the Board are: Professors Osi Akpogomeh, Regina Ogali, Okuekhoku Onuechuku, Henry Alapiki; Dr. Austin Odili, Messrs S.M. Ishaya, Senibo George, Kayode Olanigun, Paul Ndiibe, Aminu Yusuf and Mrs. L.O. Osibude.

RESUMPTION FROM SABBATICAL LEAVE

Professor Joseph Ajenka, Department of Petroleum Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, resumed duty after *Sabbatical Leave* at the University of Abuja, effective September 2, 2016.

Dr. Aniefiok Udondu, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, resumed duty after *Sabbatical Leave* at the University of Uyo, effective July 19, 2016.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Professor Martinus Ifeanchi, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, proceeded on a one-year *Leave of Absence* to serve as *Acting Rector*, Abia State Polytechnic, Aba, Abia State, effective June 1, 2016 to May 30, 2017.

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT

Dr. Igila Allison, Department of Chemical Pathology, College of Health Sciences, granted *Confirmation of Appointment*, effective November 19, 2014.

Dr. Ochuks Otukunfor, Department of Chemical Pathology, College of Health Sciences, granted *Confirmation of Appointment*, effective November 19, 2014.

What Stakeholders Want

Cont'd from Page 4

here. Government should develop our schools to the standards obtainable in Europe and stop such exploitative tendencies. Our personnel too have to put in their best on the jobs. The educational system needs an all-round revolution to save it. Let only passionate professionals run the educational system.

ZITANWABUEZE, Year Three, Dept of Econ

I can say that we are not enforcing the standard of education in this country, considering our status as a developing nation. I think we are trying, but the Federal Government needs to look into the system, especially in universities where most students come just to acquire certificates and do not care about acquiring knowledge.

The Lecturers are not helping matters as most of them want students to quote them verbatim during examinations, thereby discouraging personal discovery which is the essence of research. I think the Lecturers should stop this "give-me-what-I-give-you" syndrome, so that students can go into personal research that can improve their knowledge. The Government should also invest in e-learning in order to further research.



DR. GLORYAMADI, Institute of Education

One fundamental landmark in higher education is the institutionalization of entrepreneurship on the curriculum. With such innovation, several societal maladies like

unemployment, underemployment and poverty among graduates would be generally addressed. Another major landmark is the implementation of the policy on university autonomy, which has granted a reasonable level of independence in the running of universities. I hope that these measures would strengthen Nigeria's educational system.



DR. VINCENTELLI, Department of Sociology

Right from Independence till date, Nigeria has made tremendous progress in her educational sector, judging by the increase in the number of candidates seeking admission into higher institutions. More Nigerians now have PhDs and we have more professors in various disciplines, locally and internationally. In addition, more universities have been established, while more Nigerians now have an opportunity to get higher education compared to those days. My worry is that the curricular should reflect the current developmental challenges in the country.

The need to produce employable graduates and the availability of jobs are key to making our educational system viable.



Vox Pop by Obinna Nwodin, Olikor Samuel, Ebeli Timi-Johnson and Udochi Oniweke (Interns)

Educational Mgt Students' Association Awards Scholarship To Fresher

By Olikor Samuel

A fresh student in the Department of Educational Management (Political Science Option), Godwin Nduwe, won the Best Prize which earned him the payment of charges for the 2016/2017 academic session at the maiden quiz competition which was part of the Orientation exercise for First Year Students of the Department.

The exercise was organised under the auspices of the UniPort Chapter of the National Association of Educational Management Students (NAEMS) on Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at the Lecture Hall II Auditorium, Choba Park.

Speaking to our Correspondent on the development, President of the local Chapter of NAEMS, Mr. Lucky Nwanyanwu, said the quiz competition was built into the Orientation exercise to better acquaint their younger colleagues on the dos and don'ts in both Department and the University, as well as expose them to a culture of academic excellence.

"My Executive thought of doing something novel. The Orientation exercise was intended to introduce the Year One students to the new environment which most of them

had not been exposed to before now. We also wanted the new students to know that they are here basically to study ahead of any other activity. That was why we added a quiz competition to the Orientation exercise this session and I am pleased to note that the move paid off. To encourage the students to know that hard-work pays, we attached a monetary prize to the quiz. The amount is N45,000.00 which is the school charge for the next academic session. We will hand over the money to the Department to pay fees for the winner to ensure that the intended purpose is

achieved," the President said.

In his speech, Acting Head of Department, Dr. Nath Abraham, congratulated the Branch Executive of NAEMS for the innovation, describing the exercise as a product of good thinking that should be sustained by successive Executive.

"I want to congratulate the Executive led by Lucky Nwanyanwu for its focus in coming up with the excellent idea of growing along with their younger colleagues in this Department. Some leaders would have thought of squandering the money which their fellow students contributed as dues. I wish to let you know that the Department is very proud to identify with the current Executive and it is our hope that you would keep it up for other Departmental Associations to emulate," the Acting Head of Department said.

Nwanze who won the Best Prize scored 45 points; the second position went to Greg Nwalozie of the Economics Option. He scored 38 points, while Lemmy Likou of the Accounting Option scored 10 points. The Geography Option did not enter for the competition. Major highlights of the exercise included cutting of cake, music rendition and dance drama by upcoming artists from the Department.



UniPort NAEMS President, Mr. Nwanyanwu (2nd from left) and Beneficiary, Nduwe (right)

Visit To UniPort Police Base

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale led other Principal Officers to the Nigeria Police Base near the University of Port Harcourt for a security meeting with the Operational Commander, CSP Ben Igwe on August 12, 2016. Our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU** captured major highlights of the visit as shown below:



Chief Security Officer, Lt. Col. Reginald Isiguzo (rtd) leading the V-C, Prof Lale and other Principal and Senior Officers into the Base



V-C, Prof. Lale flanked by DV-Cs Admin, Prof. Anthony Ibe (left), Academic, Prof. Hakeem Fawehinmi (right), Registrar, Mrs. Dorcas Otto and others



The Base Commander, CSP Ben Igwe having handshake with the V-C



CSO, Lt. Col. Isiguzo (rtd) introducing the UniPort delegation to CSP Igwe



The Base Commander and V-C during close door session



Mr. Igwe in his office



The Commander addressing his Guests



V-C taking some notes



V-C, Prof Lale, DV-C (Admin), Prof Ibe and Registrar, Mrs. Otto



V-C and his Deputy in charge of Administration



Some of the officers of the Nigeria Police and UniPort



V-C, Prof Lale (2nd left) flanked by Unibs. Librarian, Dr. Susan Umehozor, DV-C (Acad), Prof Fawehinmi (left), Base Commander, Mr. Igwe, Registrar, Mrs. Otto and DV-C (Admin), Prof Ibe



A group photograph of Principal and Senior officers of the University and men of the Nigeria Police