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PCN Inducts 72 UniPort Graduates Into Its Fold



A total of 72 graduates trained in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences have been inducted into the profession by the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria (PCN). The well-attended Oath-Taking event took place during the 5th Induction Ceremony which held at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park on Friday, January 27, 2017, reports *Officer Samuel*. *More on p3*

Side Bar 10th VALEDICTORY LECTURE

Professor Chidi Ibe of the Department of Geology, Faculty of Science, delivers the 10th Valedictory Lecture entitled: "Agricultural Practice in a Changing Climate: Beyond Information to Devotion" at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium tomorrow. Details next week. *-Editor*

V-C Commends CMRP On Mosquito Project At UPTH

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Dentistry Faculty Marks Day With Free Oral Test

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ASU Seeks Paradigm Shift For Africa's Dev

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V-C Commends UPWA On Developmental Strides

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New Governing Council To Meet Feb 9

...As Congregation Recalls Reps, To Elect Replacements Tomorrow

By Obinna Nwodin
and Williams Wodi

It is now set for the maiden meeting of the new Governing Council of the University of Port Harcourt that was inaugurated by the Minister of Education, Malam Adamu Adamu in Abuja on Wednesday, January 18, 2017. Also, the Congregation of the

University rose from the 63rd Meeting last Monday with a resolution that summarily recalled its two representatives from the Governing Council. Those recalled were: Professor Owanari Georgewill of the Department of Human Physiology and Mrs. Flora Iyagba of the Registry Department. On a motion moved by Professor Prince Mnom of the Department of Geography

and Environmental Management, Congregation also reduced the number of years its representatives can serve in Council from four to two years to enable other members have a shot at the two positions.

Inaugurating the new Governing Council members of the Universities of Port Harcourt and Obafemi Awolowo University,

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Climate Change Will Never Go Away, the Valedictory Lecture

By Humphrey Ogu

Farmers, policymakers, experts and other stakeholders in agricultural practice expecting an end to the adverse phenomenon known as climate change before filling the soil and planting their seeds will have to wait for eternity as climate change is here to stay.

Professor Chidi Ibe of the Department of Geology in the Faculty of Sciences, sounded the ominous warning while delivering the 10th Valedictory Lecture of the University entitled: *Agricultural Practice in a Changing Climate: Beyond Information to Devotion*, at the Ebitimi Baniga Auditorium on Tuesday, February 7, 2017.

Said he: "Climate change comes as a major additional layer of problems, putting a lot of pressure on traditional farming systems, food security, human health, safety and security."

Professor Ibe, who also spread his expansive academic tentacles to the Institute for Natural Resources, Environment and Sustainable Development (INRES), called for commitment in tackling the challenges of a changing climate that had continued to impact negatively on agriculture. He stressed the need for the implementation of defined policies that would entrench agricultural practices to combat the worst consequences of a changing climate on agriculture and its value chains.

The globally famous Professor of Oceanography, who was seconded to the University as a National Universities Commission LEADS Scholar, explained that: "The linkage of agricultural adaptation to changing climate is through changes from known (traditional) agricultural practices to different modes that afford coping mechanisms with regard to the impact, actual and expected, of climate change, while at the same time producing the expected improvements in yields."

"Changes in agricultural practices involving several factors, such as relative costs, resource availability, and the institutional arrangements, will help determine the ultimate outcome, with sector developmental policies likely to play a critical role. In the face of difficult-to-predict changes in weather patterns, scientists have successfully pioneered crops to cope with the increased variability. Thus, there are drought or flood-resistant plants, high salt tolerant crops and fish species, shorter growing season plants, heat tolerant livestock, pest repellent crops, among others. In addition, some of these produce higher yields than traditional varieties," he explained, calling for credible weather forecast to aid farming activities.

The Valedictory Lecture called on farmers to embrace new technologies as a way of coping with the challenges of a changing climate. His words: "Faced with the changing climate, farmers must embrace new technologies and particular higher yielding, disease-resistant crops/livestock, diverse weather-tolerant plants/livestock that will increase resilience and increase production and earnings," urging the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndawa Lale to consider strengthening the Institute of

Agricultural Research and Development (IARD) along the Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS) model to boost agricultural research and practice in the University.

Identifying crop and habitat diversity, including diversity in seed as adaptation measures under the changing climate, he pointed out that "crop diversification and genetic diversity help mitigate climate risks such as unpredictable dry spells and flash floods; a more mixed farming system can exploit crop-livestock synergies to increase livelihoods options and incomes, while enriching and buffering water and nutrient supplies, protecting soil and moderating microclimates."

Recounting his experience during his first visits to farms in rural America in the 1970s, Professor Ibe said: "I was struck by the 'love affair' between the farmers and their crops and livestock. The farmers seemed continually in 'seas' of their crops and 'converse' with their livestock as if to tell them consistently to higher yields. I took note of this Tender Loving Care on the part of the farmers towards their crops and animals. I contrasted that with the tedium and drudgery etched on the faces, not to talk of the constant gnashing of teeth of our rural farmers back home in Nigeria. I recall concluding then that love for the occupation, (more appropriately, vocation!) made the difference with regard to why their farmers laugh all the way to the bank, while ours are steeped, almost incurably, in poverty and deprivation."

"At the policy level, I took note of the love on the part of the

Decision Makers (Local, State and Federal) for American farmers, whose commitment guarantees national food security and ensures the availability of the raw materials that turn the wheels of their industries. This is a cocktail of love," he observed, emphasising that all that was needed to build a robust agricultural sector in Nigeria was love that went beyond mere infatuation to devotion for better result-oriented farming techniques.

Responding to the well-received lecture, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Lale, described it as an exciting combination of intellectuality at its highest level and a free concern that the ecstatic audience easily related to. He showered accolades on Professor Ibe for all he had done for the University and INRES, saying: "Sometimes, one wishes that very consummate experts such as Professor Ibe would remain in the system for as long as their feet and intellect could carry them."

"However, that is not possible, because under the statutes of the University, there is a set time to join and a time to disengage from the system. There is, indeed a time and season for everything that constitute human activities on earth. As an institution, we wish to express our profound gratitude to Professor Ibe for making a huge contribution to efforts aimed at internationalising the University and INRES here at home. We wish him the very best as he takes on other challenges in life," the Vice-Chancellor said.



10th Valedictory Lecturer, Prof Ibe flanked by V-C, Prof Lale, DV-C (Acad), Prof Hakeem Fawehinmi (left), DV-C (Admin), Prof Anthony Ibe and 7th V-C, Prof Joseph Ajenka

Following the commencement of academic activities for the 2016/2017 session in line with the approval of Senate of the University at its 427th Meeting, all Returning Students have been directed to commence their registration processes for the new academic session with immediate effect.

A statement dated January 24, 2017 and signed by the Registrar, Mrs. Dorcas Otto, outlined registration procedures that students must comply with to include payment of all approved charges at designated banks for the respective Faculties. They were also directed to print out

Registry Sets March 10 As Deadline For First Semester Registration

By Otiok Samuel

their Payment Receipt online and update the Fees Pass Book with the College Accountant or Finance Officer as may be applicable in the various Faculties and the College of Health Sciences.

The Registrar also directed the affected students as follows: "Contact your Head of Department and/or Academic Adviser to confirm the courses you should register. Register the courses online as advised by your Head of Department or Academic Adviser and print out the duly completed Course Registration Form. She further directed them to submit the online Payment Receipt and completed online Course Registration Form to their respective Heads of Department and College Secretary or Finance Officer."

"Registration as a student of the University of Port Harcourt will only be valid if the Online Course Registration Form is received by the student and accepted by the Head of Department," the Registrar emphasised, stating that registration exercise for the First Semester of the 2016/2017 academic session would end on Friday, March 10, 2017.

"I need to sound it loud and clear that only duly registered candidates will be considered as *bona fide* students of the University. In line with the decision of the Senate of the University, any student who fails to complete all the registration procedures within the period stipulated for registration will be deregistered for that session, and the maximum length of time allowed for the course of study would be enforced."

"*Bona fide* students, that is, those who have paid their approved charges up to the 2015/2016 session should check

their results online. Students who have not seen the results of the examinations in the courses they took in the previous session/semester should immediately report same in writing, stating the course, course title, semester and session in which the examinations were taken to their respective Heads of Department and forward a copy of such letter to the Provost/Dean of the College/Faculty/School for appropriate action," the statement further advised the affected students.

"For those who choose to pay their charges in two instalments, note that you can only register your First Semester Courses online now. You are, therefore, required to register your Second Semester Courses online and print out the Form within six (6) weeks of resumption for the Second Semester of the 2016/2017 session," the statement concluded. The Registrar wished all fresh and returning students success in the new academic session.

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Professor of History of Arts and Theory in the Department of Fine Arts and Design, Frank Ugiomoh, made these submissions as Guest Speaker at the 6th Founders' Day Lecture of the University of Port Harcourt at the Ebifimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park, last Monday. He called on university administrators and members of the Academic Staff Union of Universities to re-discover their statutory mandates of creating a robust knowledge economy that would strengthen the university system and benefit every citizen.

In the lecture entitled: *The Mandate of Theorising in the Post-Industrial Society of Universities in Nigeria and Matters Arising*, Professor Ugiomoh further submitted that universities afforded the world a robust knowledge economy that bettered the human condition. "As a result, disciplines have their mandates in specialised areas, and there is a great interface between theory and methodology in academics, which is the major objective for the establishment of universities." He recommended that theories should produce new and usable knowledge that would benefit researchers and

Ugiomoh Makes Case For Vibrant University System

advance the course of society.

Professor Ugiomoh stated that the university system remained strategic to the progress of nations and civilisations, frowning at the current method of regulating universities by the National Universities Commission (NUC) and other sundry regulatory agencies, as well as the contributions of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) in enhancing the quality and direction of university education in the country.

"The regulation of NUC that all disciplines must run a doctoral programme is an aberration. The leadership of universities must ask questions that if NUC says we should do it, how does it fulfil the objective of its establishment?" Professor Ugiomoh queried. He argued that it was time for ASUU to engage government in meaningful debate such as the

compelling need for government to introduce tuition fees in universities to attract only academically inclined students and fund the system without waiting for dwindling statutory allocations. "ASUU should hand off the business of school fees to be or not to be and explore ways of bringing money into the universities," he stated, adding that inadequate funding of universities had completely ushered in an inhospitable living and learning environment to develop the university environment and infrastructure.

Professor Ugiomoh, who is also the Yemisi Shyllon Professor of Fine Arts and Design, took a penetrating account of the university system, pointing out that university education as it was known today, was severely restricted to a few privileged individuals who functioned as clerics, adding that the conditions of learning in the university system and the interest they served directly conflicted with emerging and expanding demands that were required by a knowledge economy.

In his remarks, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Anthony Ibe, who chaired the event on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, commended the Founders' Day Guest Lecturer, Professor Ugiomoh, for what he described as an incisive presentation, adding that his suggestions were timely and should be taken seriously by the government regulatory agencies. "As controversial as the Lecture may have sounded to some people, we need to look again at the modalities for accreditation of programmes by regulatory bodies such as the NUC and professional organisations, while ASUU should be doing better than it is doing at the moment."



Dr V-C (Admin), Prof the (3rd right) flanked by Univ. Librarian, Dr Susan Umecoro, DV-C (Acad), Prof Hakeem Fawehinmi (right), Founders' Day Lecturer, Prof Ugiomoh, Registrar, Mrs. Dorcas Odo, Provost, CHS, Prof Christine Muto (left) and others after the Lecture

Following an outstanding stewardship, immediate past Coordinator of the ACIB/B.Sc. Linkage Programme, Dr. Ebele Ifionu, has described her tenure as a very successful one. She expressed gratitude to God for seeing her through a difficult assignment that challenged her managerial skills and intellect, but enriched her pool of experience for other challenges. Exchanging views on her tenure with a *UniPort Weekly* Correspondent on Monday, February 6, 2017, Dr. Ifionu recalled that she assumed office as ACIB/B.Sc. Linkage Programme Coordinator on January 23, 2015. "On assumption of office, I successfully concluded the first admission exercise for the set that graduated in December, 2016. On assumption of office, the first challenge I faced was that of inadequate working facilities such as lecture halls, chairs and tables, but I am glad to announce that at the end of my tenure, we were able to overcome these seemingly intractable challenges through some innovative strategies that I introduced. We also secured two lecture halls that now accommodate our students. The two facilities are the FAMS and the Department of Hospitality and Tourism Halls within the Faculty of Management Sciences complex. On her achievements, Dr. Ifionu revealed that she was able to purchase chairs for the lecture halls. "I also organised the first orientation exercise for the ACIB/B.Sc. Linkage Programme students. My predecessor suggested the introduction of an orientation exercise for the students and I ensured that we sustained such a laudable initiative aimed at giving the students a sense of direction and purpose. Under my watch, I was also able to get the students registered with the Chartered Institute of Bankers and I am happy to note that quite a number of them are now Associate Members of the ACIB Institute. "We now have an ACIB office in the new Faculty of Management Sciences extension building and the new Dean, Professor Barikisa Nwibe, has also promised to assist us to acquire more facilities that would support the programme, she told our Correspondent. Listing other achievements, Dr. Ifionu said that as part of the ACIB/B.Sc. Linkage Community Outreach

Ifionu Accounts For Stewardship As ACIB/B.Sc. Linkage Coordinator

...Assumes Office As Finance & Banking HoD

By Mercy Adeniji

Programme, they donated iron reading multi-purpose tables to the girls' hostel and iron hangers for spreading clothes for use in the male and female hostels in U.DSS. In a related development, Dr. Ifionu has been appointed Acting Head of the Department of Finance and Banking. Her tenure which began on January 24, this year, will terminate on January 23, 2019.

The new Acting HoD promised to bring her wealth of experience to bear on her new assignment, pledging to create an enabling environment for learning, where the fear of God would rule the hearts of staff and students of the Department in the discharge of their functions. "If they have the fear of God, it would guide them in the right direction and I would ensure that students graduate within the stipulated residency period by the Senate of the University. I will ensure that the policy on early submission of results is strictly adhered to in the Department," Dr. Ifionu promised.

She expressed gratitude to Management of the University for giving her the opportunity to serve as ACIB/B.Sc. Linkage programme Coordinator and also on her recent appointment as Acting Head of Department, appealing to her colleagues to be ready for more hard work on her watch. "I wish to appeal to staff and students of the Department to be dedicated and hardworking and I urge them to give me all the support they gave to my predecessor to enable me take the Department to greater heights. I also appeal to Management to start the linkage aspect of the programme to enable our students and staff

travel to other universities for their linkage programme.



Dr. Ifionu

Experts Advocate Regular Eye, Dental Checks At DAN Meeting

By Humphrey Ogu

Consultant Vitreoretinal Surgeon at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH), Dr Bassey Fiebai, has emphasised the need for regular eye checks amongst diabetics to prevent complications that could lead to blindness.

Addressing a cross-section of members and non-

members of the Diabetes Association of Nigeria (DAN) at the monthly meeting of the Rivers State Branch of DAN at the Lee Maeba Diabetes Centre, UPTH on Saturday, February 4, 2017, Dr. Fiebai, who spoke through a Senior Registrar in the Ophthalmology Department, Dr. Idanoye Ogolo, warned against neglect of regular eye and glucose checks.

Dr. Ogolo, who was joined by his colleague in screening the attendees for signs of eye defects, said that checking blood glucose alone was not enough in ascertaining the wellbeing of diabetics as they were vulnerable to blindness and other complications.

On his part, a lecturer in the Department of Preventive Dentistry in the Faculty of Dentistry, Dr. Nzuibe Ihechukwu, stressed the importance of routine oral check, saying that: "No matter what you do, without routine oral checks, your blood glucose cannot be controlled. People, who suffer from gum disease, for instance, cannot control their blood glucose."

Earlier in his welcome address, the Vice-Chairman of the Rivers State Branch of the Association, Dr. Hamilton Oporum, called on non-members of DAN to register with the Association, noting that "the Diabetes Association of Nigeria is not for diabetics alone, membership is open to everybody—including professionals from diverse

fields. We encourage people whose relatives are diabetics to join us to enable them learn how best to take care of such patients," adding that DAN was not just about checking blood sugar and blood pressures alone.

He stressed the need for the Association to collaborate with other organisations to achieve the purpose for which the body was set up. Dr. Oporum disclosed that one of the key ways of pursuing DAN's plans for the year was through total commitment to the vision of the organisation, calling on younger people to put themselves forward for elective positions in the State branch of DAN.

"For those who are already diabetics, it is important that we maintain our blood sugar level below 7.0 mmol. For those on medication, it is also important that we ensure that our blood sugar is controlled to ensure that it is neither too high, nor too low. If it is too low, it could lead to hypoglycaemic shock," he said.

Major highlight of the meeting included free blood pressure and eye checks, screening of blood glucose level, as well as a presentation of an anti-diabetic drug, *Panfor SR Metformin* by a Medical Representative of Mega Life Sciences, Igboawogan Erhieyoswen, National Secretary of DAN, Bernard Enyia, also made useful suggestions on how to move the State Branch of the Association to the next level.



Dr. Oporum

Odon Lists Measures To Bridge Industry-Academia Gaps At INRES Lecture

By Otiok Samuel

In a world where every person needs others to succeed, eminent researcher and Chief Executive Officer of Envirofly Consulting UK Limited, Dr. Akanimo Odon, has stressed the need to put in place proactive measures that would boost a tripartite relationship among the academia, industry and government.

Dr. Odon advanced the *triple helix* approach while delivering a lecture organised by the Institute of Natural Resources, Environment and Sustainable Development (INRES) at Conference Room 1 of the Animal and Environmental Biology building on Thursday,



Guest Lecturer, Dr. Odon (arrowed) flanked by Director, INRES, Prof Ndakwue (left), Dean of Sciences, Prof Gideon Obate and other participants

February 2, 2017. He submitted that the government and industry needed to support and encourage the

academia to engage in quality research and make public their findings if they must capitalise knowledge and grow along global best practices.

"Who starts bridging the gap? The person who needs to gain from a particular thing is the person who should seek to bridge the perceived gap. The government and industry rely on findings from the academia, just as those in the academia need to benefit from government policy thrust and expertise from the industry. The irony is that each one of them has a big ego, whereas, they actually want to benefit from one another. A Chief Executive Officer wants an Honorary Doctorate Degree from the University. A Professor feels fulfilled if he is made an industry consultant or appointed into a position of trust by the government; so, they all need one another," Dr. Odon insisted.

Odon, who is also the Africa Strategy Adviser to Lancaster University in the United Kingdom, therefore, called on all stakeholders to brace up to the enormous challenges ahead to ensure speedy growth in the polity, industry and the academia, respectively.

In his remarks, Director of the Institute, Professor Ben Ndakwue, described the Lecture as part of efforts aimed at tackling observed challenges in the polity that affect the academia. He disclosed that the Institute initiated the Special Lecture Series for researchers and graduate students to enable them brainstorm on how to tackle observed challenges in the system. He praised all the participants for honouring the invitation to grace the lecture series which featured an interactive session with the participants.

Stop Press Bala, UniPort Lecturer, Appointed NPC Federal Commissioner



Dr. Bala Jikan-Dauda

The Federal Government has appointed Dr. Haliru Bala of the Department of Management in the Faculty of Management Sciences as a Member of the National Population Commission (NPC) with headquarters in Abuja. Dr. Bala's appointment was contained in a letter dated February 1, 2017 and signed by Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Engineer Balauchi Lawal. A copy of the letter which was obtained by *UniPort Weekly*, stated that the appointment which took effect from Wednesday, February 1, 2017, would last for five years.

"I am pleased to inform you that the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari, CGF, has approved your appointment as a Member, National Population Commission for a term of five (5) years, following confirmation by the Senate in accordance with the provision of Section 154 (1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended," the appointment letter read in part.

The President congratulated Dr. Bala for the appointment, wishing him well as he joins other members of the Commission to grapple with the challenging task of giving the country accurate and reliable population figures.

Dr. Bala joined the services of the University of Port Harcourt on transfer on October 10, 2016. He obtained his Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Business Administration from the Obafemi Awolowo University in 2005 and 2008, respectively. Dr. Bala who is married with children, hails from Gwandu Emirate in Kebbi State.

428th Senate Meeting

Senate Approves Programme, Reverses Set On New Ex-Faculty Presidents Expulsion

By Obinna Nwodin

Senate of the University of Port Harcourt has approved the introduction of a new Bachelor of Science degree programme in Public Administration. The new programme is to be merged from the Department of Political and Administrative Studies in the Faculty of Social Sciences,

which currently offers Public Administration as Part-Time programme.

The approval was given following a presentation by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Hakeem Fawehinmi, based on a recommendation by the Senate Committee on Academic Programmes and Policies (SCAPP). Senate considered and approved the proposal at its 428th Meeting which



Senate in session

The importance of integrating the gravity and magnetic methods in petroleum exploration formed the main focus of the 9th Valedictory Lecture delivered by Professor Naamacha Ukaigwe of the Department of Geology in the Faculty of Science at the Ebitimi Baagbi Auditorium on Wednesday, February 1, 2017.

Delivering the well-attended lecture entitled, *The Other Five Per Cent: An Exercise in Geologic Psychology*, Professor Ukaigwe, identified gravity, magnetic and seismic as various geophysical methods used in petroleum exploration, explaining that: "In petroleum exploration, approximately 95 per cent of the dollar expenditures are devoted to the seismic method, and only about five per cent to gravity, magnetic and other methods that have made appearance in the field for a short time and usually have not lasted for long."

He argued that while the seismic method of exploration was very effective, it was more expensive than the other two methods which necessitated a paradigm shift in the petroleum exploration method. "To some extent, the disproportionate large expenditures for seismic work probably are from a lack of understanding and appreciation of the usefulness of other exploration methods," Professor Ukaigwe told the audience.

He pointed out that the geologic integration of gravity and magnetic data could be used to reduce risk at the two key stages of the exploration process, explaining further that: "Gravity and magnetic methods are equally effective in reducing risk at more local scale typified by the prospect belt. In cases in which the application of gravity and magnetic analysis negatively impact prospects viability, valuable exploration resources can be directed at finding different and, it is hoped more prospects."

The Valedictory Lecturer pointed out that "gravity and magnetic data can be used in many ways to solve different exploration problems, depending on the geologic setting and rock parameters. Although most geologists think of gravity and magnetic as tools to map structure, these data can be analysed to provide insights to other elements of petroleum exploration and production."

On his research experience, the Professor of Exploration Geophysics disclosed that his experience was primarily with precision-metal and copper exploration, tempered with training in economic geology of a wide variety of deposits and in a variety of geophysical exploration techniques. "My research focused primarily on use of potential fields for mineral exploration, but I highly recommend combining this information with Landsat, Induced Polarisation Data, Geochemistry with prior experience with remote sensing and a variety of electrical (electromagnetic) techniques," Professor Ukaigwe said.

He explained further: "Geophysics is an indispensable tool for geologists looking for and developing oil and gas fields. Because it lets us 'see' into the subsurface, geophysics allows petroleum geologists to build better images of the subsurface than is possible, using only surface geology and information from well bores."

Speaking further on the relationship between geophysicists and geologists, Professor Ukaigwe recalled that in the past, geophysicists were the domain of the geophysicists, and the geophysicists alone acquired, processed and interpreted

geophysical data, noting, however, that: "During the past two decades, the technology of geophysics exploded; at the same time, the petroleum industry has been forced to look for more and more subtle traps in more and more difficult terrains. This placed a tremendous burden on geophysicists, and they naturally looked up to their colleagues, the core geologists for relief."

Listing concept, content and context as the three major principles that guided his teaching experience, Professor Ukaigwe defined physics as the study of the physical phenomenon in nature, adding: "Concept: the application of Physics to the study of Earth's structure is Geophysics; Content and the application of Geophysics to the study of Earth's structure is as it harnesses mineral deposits to the benefits of mankind, is Exploration Geophysics Context."

Reflecting on his sojourn in the academy and life generally, Professor Ukaigwe expressed satisfaction with what he accomplished through the years. "Although teaching was not my primary choice for I have never dreamed of becoming a teacher, yet I have not regretted my having been identified with this profession for almost 40 years. I feel proud to be counted among the thousands of mentors whose main concern is to teach our students not only in theory, but more by example in the most important facts of life."

"There are still some challenges waiting around the corner—write more books in geophysics, visit places I have not reached before. But happily, I am not bound to take up any of them. That is one of the pleasures of being retired. In the meantime, I can take it easy and relax—enjoy all the many things that come my way, read as much as I like, dream as long as I care, see, admire, enjoy all the beautiful things around me, ignore little annoyances and irritants..." the retiring Professor of Exploration Geophysics said.

Speaking after the lecture, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) Professor Anthony Ike, who stood in for the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lake, praised the Valedictory Lecturer for his erudition and mentorship of younger academics over the years, expressing hope that Professor Ukaigwe would continue to impact on the academia even in his well-deserved retirement.

"There are two very important and happy days in the life of a professor; the first is the day he delivers an inaugural Lecture, during which he tells the world about his research trajectory and his journey in the academic life. The second is the day he delivers

hold on Wednesday, February 1, 2017. Professor Fawehinmi, who is also Chairman of SCAPP, stated that the programme, which was already being offered at the Part-Time level, had undergone the processes stipulated by the Senate for the emergence of a new academic programme. Senate, however, stood down another request for the demerging of a new programme in Industrial Arts in the Department of Fine Arts and Design, pending when some grey areas would have been sorted out to the satisfaction of Senate.

Considering the letters of appeal by 12 former Faculty Presidents who were summarily expelled for threatening the peace of the University in writing, Senate reversed itself and converted the expulsion into ratification for the entire 2016/2017 academic session. Senate observed that the said letters of appeal were mere prototype letters apparently dictated by academic "consultants" to which the expelled former Faculty Presidents merely affixed their names and signatures. Senate frowned at the fact the former Faculty Presidents failed to even opt up to established cases of gross conduct and also failed to expressly apologise for threatening peace in the University.

The highest academic policy-making body directed the students to submit new individual letters of appeal in their own handwritings, unreservedly apologising to the Senate of the University for threatening the peace of the University community and ensuring that the letters reached the Vice-Chancellor within one week of receipt of the directive from the Registrar.

Senate also received the report from the Committee on Allegation of Alteration of Degree Results in the Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, involving two senior academic staff, as presented by its Chairman, Professor Abdulrazzaq Kilani. Senate directed that the Committee should revisit its recommendations to properly fit the Terms of Reference given it.

Senate considered and approved the report on the Resource Verification Visitation to the College of Education, Warri in Delta State, which was presented by the Director of the University-wide Local Accreditation Committee, Professor Julius Ojagi.

Senate also approved recommendations from the Faculties of Humanities, Social Sciences, Science, Education, Engineering, Management Sciences, Agriculture, School of Science Laboratory Technology, as well as the College of Health Sciences, as presented by the various Deans and Provost.

9th Valedictory Lecture

Ukaigwe Advocates Gravity, Magnetic Methods in Petroleum Exploration

By Humphrey Ogu

his Valedictory Lecture which enables him or her to look back and reflect on what was accomplished in the academia and in the larger society," he said.

"A Valedictory Lecture offers a retiring academic an opportunity to bid his or her colleagues and the university farewell as another exciting chapter opens before the retiring academic. Today, is that second important day for Professor Ukaigwe and he has most creditably acquired himself in a manner we have come to expect of him, judging by his own high standards. We are all in agreement that Professor Ukaigwe broke his own record with this important Valedictory Lecture. We wish him well as he moves in another direction. It is our hope that he would keep in close touch with academia which will remain his natural habitat for the rest of his life. Professor Ukaigwe deserves to relax from the drudgery of daily routine and deadlines, having served out his time in the University in good health at the ripe age of 76. We wish him well," he added.



Prof Ukaigwe

Cont'd from Page 1

the College of Continuing Education at Nkpin-Oworukwu, where the Acting Director, Dr. Kilipoye Aaron, took the Council Members through the workings of the College. The entourage, thereafter, departed for the University of Port Harcourt Business School at China Warin Street, off Saint Abacha Road, Rumume. There, the outgoing Director, Professor Clifford Oforunwa, was on hand to explain the workings of the School to the delegation that included Principal Officers of the University. The tour afforded the new Council members an opportunity to see the state of facilities on ground at various locations in the University.

In a brief familiarisation meeting before the tour, the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the new Governing Council, Professor Mvedega Jibo, had congratulated his colleagues for their appointment and election into the highest policy-making body of the University. The Chairman expressed hope that the members would justify the confidence reposed in them by both the Federal Government and the University community.

"This is my first contact with the University of Port Harcourt and I must say that this is one of the most beautiful campuses I have been to in this country and believe that other members of Council would agree with this verdict. Judging from what I have seen so far, the physical environment is of high standard, while the staff are friendly and committed to their duty schedules. I wish to commend all those who have

contributed and continue to make valuable contributions in making the University of Port Harcourt what it is today. The task before us now as a Council is to contribute our own individual and collective quota to sustain the good work that is ongoing here and I am confident that members do appreciate the enormity of the task before all of us," the Pro-Chancellor said.

Earlier in his brief to the Pro-Chancellor and other members, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, expressed satisfaction with the composition of the new Council, disclosing that a statutory body known as Convocation would soon meet to elect a representative before the next sitting of Council.

"Let me welcome you all on behalf of the Staff and Students of this University and to assure you of our total cooperation as we join you to move the University to a higher pedestal of unparalleled infrastructural and academic development. The University has come a long way and I am very proud that the quality of men and women on this Council would make a huge difference as we work in concert to achieve the vision of the founding fathers. I also wish to say that a few of the problems we had in the immediate past were because of the refusal of some elements in the dissolved Council to support Management in the implementation of approved

policies and enforcement of discipline among students," the Vice-Chancellor said.

Also speaking, other External Members, Abaji Bello Duka representing the North-East, Chief Johnson Okafor (South-East), Hajija Lubabatu Ammani (North-West) and Mr. Joseph Fall (South-South), while the Deputy Director in charge of Management of Regulatory Agencies, Mr. Ulu Awa Arua represents the Federal Ministry of Education in Council as an Ex-Officio Member. Professor Lale pledged total commitment to the attainment of the lofty ideals for which the University was established in 1975.

Speaking on behalf of the Internal Members, Professor Henry Alapiki, restated their willingness to collaborate with their External colleagues to advance the cause of the University. "From all indications, members of this Council possess the shared passion to drive the vision and mission of the University and you can count on the Internal Members elected on the platforms of Senate and Congregation to support the right policy-thrust that would bring accelerated development to our beloved University.

"I have no doubt that UniPort would be taken in a new level under this Council and we will stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our External Colleagues as we collectively strive to place this University on the global map. We are ready to bond and work with you and you can be sure that the distinction between External and Internal Members of Council will not count for anything as we labour collectively to ensure that this body moves the University forward," Professor Alapiki pledged.

The extensive Bus Tour finally terminated at the Institute of Petroleum Studies Park, where the Director, Professor Dulu Appah, took time to explain the operational structure of the Institute, which awards a joint Master of Science degree in Petroleum Engineering and Project Management with the IFP School in Paris, France. The Institute also treated the delegation to a well-appointed lunch.

The Pro-Chancellor and his entourage had earlier made a brief stop-over at the Gladys Cooksey Resource Centre where they were received by the President of the University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA), Mrs. Joy Lale and her Executive. There was also another stop-over at the University Demonstration Secondary School (UDSS) along Aluu Road, where the entourage was received by the Board Chairman, Professor Samuel Nwilede, the Parent-Teacher Association led by Dr. Gospel Nkpe, Principal, Mr. Anelo Ogechi, Staff and Students of the school.



V-C, Prof Lale (right) explaining a point to Prof-Chancellor (2nd right) at the ODEI Centre

Congregation Elects Reps Into Governing Council, Other Statutory C'ttees

By Obinna Nwodin

Outgoing Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Professor Okocha Onuchuku and the Director of Personnel Affairs in the Registry Department, Dr. Dakora Charles-Granville, have been elected as Representatives of Congregation in the new Governing Council of the University.

The keenly-contested polls in the Governing Council and other statutory bodies of the University were the sole items on the agenda of the 64th Meeting of Congregation which held at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last Tuesday.

The well-attended meeting of Congregation, which was chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ndowa Lale, also served as a platform for the election of suitably qualified members of Congregation into other statutory Boards in the University. Those elected are: Dr. Uzoma Chima and Professor Frank Ugwimoh (Appointment and Promotions Committee (A&P) Academic), Dr. Godly Otto and Mr. Adickanle Sufalabo (Development Committee), Dr. Collins Wizar and Dr. Ofoimie Ndihlo (Housing Committee), while Dr. Faith Ken-Aminkpo and Mrs. Helen Oziiri-Mmecha (University Demonstration Primary School).

Other elected committee members included Dr. Allwell Ome-Egeonu (Senior Staff Disciplinary Committee), Mr. Timothy Amadi (Capital and Procurement Committee), Dr. Jones Ayawa and Dr. Fanny Anikpo (University Demonstration Secondary School), Dr. Vincent Wel and Mr. Godwin Ganece (UniPort Investment), Mr. Monday Nwidedha, (Junior Staff Committee), while Dr. Gospel Nkpe and Mr. Obinna Nwodin, were elected into the

University Press Board.

Sequel to the keenly-contested polls, the Vice-Chancellor had frowned at the gradual conversion of what should pass off as a routine exercise befitting a University environment into a reprehensible political theatre, warning that Management would no longer tolerate the printing of posters and other election materials that did not portray the University in good light.

"I am disappointed that people have started forming blocs and alliances in what should ordinarily pass off as a healthy contest in a civilised community of scholars and administrators who should set good examples for the rest of society. Some even went as far as mounting campaigns of calumny and sending divisive text messages just to be elected into office. Such distasteful tendencies will no longer be tolerated in future elections," Professor Lale told Congregation members, promising that new rules would be enacted to guide future elections in the University.

He showered praises on

the Registrar, Mrs Dorcas Otto and her staff for a seamless organisation that made the polls transparent for voters and contestants, advising election organisers in the country to contact the Registry Department to learn how to run credible elections.



Prof Onuchuku

Dr. Charles-Granville

GUIDE POST

Staff Evaluate Varsity At 6th Founders' Day Celebration

APPOINTMENT

Mr. Franklin Nwagwu, Works and Services Department, appointed *Acting Director of the Department*. The appointment which took effect from February 3, 2017, will last until further notice.

Dr. Oluwole Aladeji, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Faculty of Dentistry, College of Health Sciences, appointed *Acting Head of Department*. The two-year appointment which took immediate effect will terminate on January 29, 2019.

Dr. Oluwole Oluwalola, Department of Oral Pathology/Biology, Faculty of Dentistry, College of Health Sciences, re-appointed *Acting Head of Department*. The re-appointment which takes immediate effect will last until further notice.

Dr. Chinyere Ogburne, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Science, appointed *Associate Dean, School of Science Laboratory Technology (SSLT)*. The two-year appointment, which takes immediate effect, will terminate January 3, 2019. This supersedes our earlier publication of January 16-January 23, 2017.

STATUTORY RETIREMENT

Mrs. Gladys Sosny-Jonah, School of Basic Studies, proceeds on a three-months Pre-Retirement Leave, effective February 25, 2017, preparatory to his Statutory Retirement from Service as Chief Executive Officers on May 25, 2017.

Mr. Robinson Odoke, Campus Environmental Beautification and Sanitation (CEBAS) Unit, proceeds on a three-month Pre-Retirement Leave, effective March 27, 2017, preparatory to his Statutory Retirement from Service as Assistant Chief Environmental Officer on June 27, 2017.

RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENT

Prof. Abner Amek, Department of Human Anatomy, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, granted a one-year Renewal of Appointment as a Visiting Scholar, effective July 3, 2016 to July 2, 2017.

RESUMPTION FROM LEAVE

Prof. Ndubasi Eke, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, resumed duty from Leave of Absence after serving as Chief Medical Director of the Federal Medical Centre, Owerri, Imo State, effective October 27, 2016.

Dr. Rhoda Ogunbi-Osime, Department of Anaesthesiology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, resumed duty from Leave of Absence after serving as President, Nigerian Society of Anaesthesiology and also President, Africa Regional Section of the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists (WESA), effective October 5, 2016.

The University of Port Harcourt aims to be ranked amongst the best universities in Africa, renowned for its teaching, research, creativity and innovation. At the 2016 Founders' Day celebration, which held last Monday at the Ebithimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park, Correspondent, ETHEL TIMI-JOHNSON spoke with some staff on the level of attainment of the vision and mission of the University established in 1975.

PROFESSOR FEMI SHAKA, DEAN, HUMANITIES

I think that the University is gradually coming of age in the sense that if you look at both the graduate and postgraduate programmes, they are equally vibrant in their content and delivery. This is an indication of a fully mature institution that has an established cultural convention. Most Lecturers are now placing emphasis on research. This is an institution where research, learning

and community service impact positively

on the society. The Institute of Petroleum Studies is rated as the best in Africa and the University is highly reputed to have trained movie stars with a large percentage of Nollywood personalities coming from the Department of Theatre and Film Studies. These notable Alumni help to project the University on to the national and global scenes. The rating of a University is not necessarily the buildings, though these are important, but the quality of staff and their ability to recruit talented and creative students. Every Faculty in the University has the full complement of qualified academics and experienced administrators. It would be best for the government to allocate more funds for research and training to facilitate collaboration among academics.

PROFESSOR OLUFEMI ADESOPE, FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

The University is moving in the right direction. University of Port Harcourt ranked credibly in terms of research and public service. Very recently, some of our staff were listed among 800 Nigerian scientists according to Google Scholar Citation (GSC) and that is a visibility bounce for the University and everybody knows that one of the indicators of research is visibility. Thirteen, out of the 800 scientists ranked first in research influence. In 2016, the University ranked 6th in Nigeria based on research influence. 40 years after, the

University is still growing and there is hope for more achievements following the number of grants and fellowships being won by staff.

PROFESSOR FLORENCE NDUKA, AEB, FACULTY OF SCIENCE

For the few years I have spent in this University, I see an academic culture of a University that is trying to take its place in the global community of universities known for their culture of academic excellence. Efforts are in the right direction to deepen research, inculcate discipline in staff and get the students to understand that character and responsibility are major reasons they came to the University. There are major events that have taken place that point to the right direction as the University strives to attract relevant expertise, quality facilities to improve teaching and learning. It has also recorded giant strides in infrastructural development and commendable support for staff development. Despite the positive steps, there is still room for improvements, especially in the electricity situation, research facilities to encourage staff to work harder

to ensure that the University is numbered among those fulfilling their mandate of producing quality manpower for the nation.

MRS. GLORIA CHINDA, BASIC STUDIES OFFICER

The University has done so well since its establishment in 1975. Last year alone, the University produced 44 Readers and Professors. It is only a conducive environment for teaching, learning and research that can produce such number of professors and a good number of first class graduates. The large number of candidates seeking admission and applicants for job placements in the University are ample proof that the University is doing very well. We all need to work hard to move the University to where it should be in the years ahead.

RAPHHAEL AKWAOWO, V-C'S OFFICE

Sincerely speaking, the University could be ranked among the best. Second Generation universities in the country, since we are not in the category of first generation universities. We are in the forefront at the moment, especially with the expansion of facilities. The University has moved forward since its inception and we can see progress everywhere. I am confident that the administration will continue with its aggressive elemental strides in the years ahead.

Corrigendum

In our cover story in Edition 311, we erroneously referred to Professor Anele Ihekwa as Professor Anthony Ihekwa in the report of his election as a Senate Representative on the new Governing Council. The error is highly regretted.

Editor

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

WEATHER OBSERVATORY

WEATHER FORECAST FOR PORT HARCOURT AND SURROUNDING AREAS FOR SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12 - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2016.

DATE	TEMPERATURE (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUN/SE AND SET/SET (mm) (mm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2017	37.0 25.0	48	SSW		6:47 6:45	A mostly sunny day anticipated.
MONDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2017	36.0 23.0	47	SM		6:47 6:45	Morning clouds expected.
TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2017	36.0 25.0	46	SM		6:47 6:45	More sun than clouds anticipated.
WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2017	37.0 25.0	38	NNW		6:47 6:45	More sun than clouds anticipated.
THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2017	37.0 25.0	41	SW		6:47 6:45	More sun than clouds anticipated.
FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2017	37.0 25.0	40	SSW		6:47 6:45	A mix of sun and clouds predicted for the day.
SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2017	37.0 24.0	41	SSW		6:46 6:45	A mix of sun and clouds predicted for the day.

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

PROF. PRINCE C. MINOM
DIRECTOR,
(C.DRMMS)

2nd OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGIST GUEST LECTURE

Foremost Gynaecologist and pioneer staff of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH), Professor Celestine John, delivered the 2nd Obstetrics and Gynaecology Guest Lecture entitled: "Borrowing to Save Lives" at the UPTH Auditorium on Tuesday, November 1, 2016. Our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU**, captured the highlights.



Prof Celestine John delivering the Lecture



Former CMD, UPTH,
Dr. Uriah Etuwo making a speech



Provost, College of Health Sciences, Prof Christie Mato,
recalling her working relationship with Prof John



Dean, Faculty of Clinical Sciences,
Prof Samuel Uzoigwe speaking



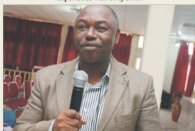
Prof Kanu Nkagineke recounting his
experience with Prof John



Former Dean, Fac of Clinical Studies, Prof John
Ikimalo recalling his association with Guest Speaker



Former Deputy Provost, CHS, Prof Owanari
Georgewill recalling his days with Prof John



Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, Prof Chifioke
Nwauche sharing his own experience



Dr Hope Bell-Gum speaking



Assistant Director Nursing Services,
Mrs Maggie Well, sharing her experience



HoD, O&G, Prof Henry Ugboma, speaking



Chairman, Planning Committee O&G Departmental
Guest Lecture Organising Committee, Dr. Ngozi
Orasulike, thanking guests



Prof John (7' right) flanked by Provost, CHS, Prof Mato
(right), Mrs Roma Amaoma-Jumbo, Profs Anele Ihekweaba,
Nwauche (left) and others