



V-C Rewards Three NUDTAS Supervisors

Three Supervisors of award-winning Doctoral Dissertations from the University of Port Harcourt under the Nigerian Universities Doctoral Thesis Award Scheme (NUDTAS), have been rewarded with grants by the administration to encourage their future research work, report *Mercy Adeniji and Friday Marcus*.
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Side Bar

The Department of Theatre and Film Studies marked World Theatre Day with a *Lecture and Drama* last Thursday. Details Next week.
-Editor



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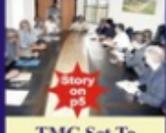
US Embassy Opens American Corner At Donald Ekong Library



Encomiums Trail Registrar At 55



New Student Union EXCO Takes Office



TMC Set To Commence Film Studies In UniPort



V-C Advises Fresh Students Against Unethical Conduct At 35th Matriculation

By *Obinna Nwodin*

Authorities of the University of Port Harcourt have advised newly admitted students to shun all unethical tendencies as they will not hesitate to invoke the relevant sections of the law against any student caught engaging in acts that are adjudged inconsistent with the terms of his or her admission into the University.
Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph

Ajienka, gave the warning, during the 35th Matriculation Ceremony of the University held at the Convocation Arena, last Friday. Professor Ajienka, who congratulated the Fresh Students for passing through the rigorous selection processes set by for admission into the University, advised them to apply themselves to their studies with uncommon dedication, if they hoped to excel in their chosen career and the larger society.

"At the end of your studies here, we want to reassemble in this Convocation Arena to declare you worthy in character and in learning. Always remember that character counts before excellence in learning. We want you to be better human beings; responsible and refined human beings, who live in the fear of the Almighty and have respect for your teachers and fellow students," he stated, adding that they should explore the

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US Embassy Opens American Corner At Donald Ekong Library

In a bid to strengthen institutional cooperation between the United States Embassy in Nigeria and the University of Port Harcourt, including the Niger Delta region in areas of research, proper exchange of information and dissemination of knowledge, the United States Consul-General, Mr. Jeffrey Hawkins Jr. has opened an expansive American Corner at the Donald Ekong Library, University Park.

Speaking during a brief ceremony held at 83rd Mini Bantjo Auditorium, last Thursday, before commissioning the spacious American Corner at the Donald Ekong Library, Hawkins said the University Community stood to gain easy access to current and reliable multimedia information about the United States through quality book collections, databases, internet and local programming that would benefit people leaving the area.

This space is poised to become a forum for research, information, and the exchange of ideas in a spot where which the study of the contemporary and historical relationship between the U.S. and Africa, especially our important relationship with Nigeria can flow. The possibilities are many, and they are exciting," the Consul-General pointed out, urging users to see the Corner as a small piece of America within the city of Port Harcourt, capable of playing a key role in expanding U.S. contacts with Nigeria.

Chief former U.S. Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, who once said that, "Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family," Mr Hawkins said the materials at the American Corner are a gift from the people of the United States of America to intended users of the facility to engage them on new ways of thinking and learning about his country.

"The American Corner, as part of the University of Port Harcourt, will serve as a haven of information and learning. It will be free and open to everyone—ordinary citizens, students, non-governmental organization representatives, business people, artisans, and government officials. Whether you hope to study at a U.S. university, do business with American companies, reach out to colleagues and counterparts in the U.S. for exchange of ideas and knowledge, or simply wish to learn more about America, you will be welcome here," the Consul-General said, promising that the Embassy would provide more resource materials aimed at deepening research, information and exchange of ideas through discussion groups, seminars and meetings with American and Nigerian specialists in history, entrepreneurship, journalism, gender, information technology, arts and human rights, amongst other areas that would be useful to Nigerian institutions in the region," the diplomat said.

Mr Hawkins, who recalled that the American Corner Port Harcourt, was originally hosted at the Centre for Advanced Social Science (CASS), along William Jubilo Street, Port

By Otiok Samuel

Harcourt, thanked the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajikanke, for facilitating the relocation of the Corner to the University. He also praised the pioneer Coordinator of the Corner, Mrs Blessing Ajikanke for her services; Uni-credit Librarian, Dr. Obibatoluwade and the Ulightful Alumni in the University, particularly, Professors Femi Shaka and Ebi Amakomere, for facilitating the relocation of the Corner to the University, which he said, would empower it to meet the goals of the research community in and outside UniPort. In his remarks, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ajikanke, described the American Corner as a very important resource centre that would afford staff, students and Ulightful Fellows direct access to valuable e-library resources, disclosing that: "It is an e-library, where researchers can access information of any type that the United States and the rest of the world. The fact that we now have an American Corner in this University means that there would be proper information flow that would be of immense assistance to our staff, students and other stakeholders. I believe that with time, it is going to be of great benefit to people travelling to America."

He particularly encouraged students to make good use of the Corner as it is capable of exposing them to topical issues in the world, providing it updates the bandwidth in the University to enable the Community gain unhindered access to the Internet.

Professor Ajikanke, who noted that the American Corner would be involved in cultural activities, including music, said:

"We have very vibrant Music and Theatre Arts/Tilm Departments in this University. They can play different genres of music—contemporary, classical, highlife and jazz. What we are trying to do is to encourage them to make a positive impact in the larger society. They can perform in any occasion; they can also go on a tour of different countries and participate in cultural events. You can imagine the quality of the American Alumni they played today."

In his address, Co-ordinator, Ulightful Alumni Association of Nigeria (FAANI), UniPort/Rivers State Chapter, Professor Femi Shaka, who praised the Vice-Chancellor for approving the proposal for setting up the American Corner when it was presented in Management in 2012, said the "Corner is a research Library with rich collections in every branch of human knowledge," adding that e-libraries and instructional materials such as video projects, documentaries and internet facilities are also available in the Corner to satisfy researcher's delight.

Goodwill messages were presented by former Vice-Chancellor of Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt, Professor Simeon Abiohinwa and University Librarian, Dr. Obinigbo Nwoodo.

American Corner, it would be noted, are partnerships with host country institutions that provide public programming space and support free core public diplomacy programmes: English Language learning, educational advising, alumni activities, cultural programs and information about the U.S. There are so far eleven American Corner in Nigeria.



US Consul-General, Mr Hawkins (with mic) cutting the tape, while V-C, Prof Ajikanke (second left), Univ Librarian, Dr Nwoodo and others watch on

Between Imagination And Regurgitation (1)

It is interesting to see how President Goodluck Jonathan's position on the National Conference appears to have evolved. In the first that he had with media gentlemen on assuming the office of President, he was asked if he supported the idea of a National Conference. He gave an answer that, at best, was a tentative yes: it was always better to dialogue and, in any case, Nigerians had never resorted to it just that. One waited in vain to hear a presidential commitment. Then last October, the President surprised some of his critics by announcing that there would be a National Dialogue. The rest is now history, with the inauguration of the Conference on Monday, March 17, 2014.



President Goodluck Jonathan

By Ene Ekekwe

at gimmick by a man looking for an issue on which he could run and win the presidency in 2015. Was the President surreptitiously beginning the campaign for the election he had not yet entered?

But to some, the October 1, 2014 announcement was a genuine move by the President to re-engage the country and leave a lasting legacy. Fresh from celebrating Nigeria's first 100 year, it is just possible that Mr. President genuinely wants the country to enter its second century with renewed confidence. But the jury will be out for a while on this, as things will begin to get clearer as the next three months unfold.

Motives are usually very difficult to judge and only the President can say categorically and sincerely what motivated his change of course on the National Conference. What we know for sure is that the nation's history has made unrepentant skeptics out of many Nigerians; many a leader has promised bread and delivered unqualified stone to the majority of the people. We have seen leaders who talk about laudable policies and intentions, but at the end of the day it turns out that the hunger to conquer and hold office, not some desire to serve and win the loyalty of the people, has been the motive force in most of what they did.

Nigeria's historical path has been strewn with many moments of hope that dissolved into disappointment; they have seen many conferences or dialogues that talked about moving the nation forward which only consolidated the status quo. Recall the several constitutional conferences of the 1950 that left the minority groups no better off than they were before they started, even though their fate in the national scheme of things was one of the major reasons those conferences

held. Then there was the Aburi Accord about which we recall living in denial. In the Wild War that followed, Biafra lost, but

Nigeria's victory turned out to be pyrrhic in the sense that the Generals promptly defeated the country by furnishing every opportunity for it to regenerate itself for development and self-determination. Between 1986 and 1998, Generals Ibrahim Babangida and Sani Abacha experimented and grubbingly pegged derivation first at 1.5% and later 3%; so much for fiscal federalism. This came General Olusegun Obasanjo's promise of constitutional reform. But as soon as the first steps were taken and they appeared to come against his alleged personal ambition for a third term in office, he jettisoned the idea with apologies to no one. And so, here we go again along the familiar road of a national dialogue.

Ekekwe is Chairman of UniPort Weekly Editorial Board.

To be cont'd next week

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V-C Rewards Three NUDTAS Supervisors



V-C, Prof. Ajienka (4' left in front row), flanked by Provost, CGS, Prof. Konyia (right), Registrar, Mrs. Nnodini, other Principal Officers, staff and grant recipients

Supervisor, Candidates and the University. "I want to say that we are happy that we have been given the opportunity to contribute to knowledge."

She recalled that the National Universities Commission (NUC) select the best thesis each year. "Last year, we tried, but we did not get anything at the defunct School of Graduate Studies and since then, we have been trying. This time, the College

took time to select good thesis in July, last year, after then, we did not hear anything from the National Universities Commission (NUC). Then towards the end of last year, we got a reply and we were given the research grant and were awarded best Thesis in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Sciences. We were very happy and at the end, we were invited to Abuja to receive the award which was a great ceremony, as plaques and certificates were presented and the Supervisors were also recognised".

Professor Konyia expressed gratitude to Management of the University for rewarding the Supervisors with grants and described the awards as a milestone achievement for the University.

Speaking on behalf grant recipients, Professor Okpokwasili from the College of Natural and Applied Arts, said: "We are very honoured and privileged to receive the research grant. We thank the University for thinking it wise to reward us and making the grants available to us. We thank Management and promise to use the money judiciously to mentor others."

On his part, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igho Joe, described the gesture as the first time the University was honouring recipients and Supervisors of such awards. He thanked Management for rewarding excellence and commended the Supervisors for promising to use the monies to continue to support other researchers. Also present were: Principal Officers and Deans in the College of Graduate Studies, Professors Adewale Dosunmu, Martin Ifeanchu, Gregory Awiri, Professor Vincent Idemoy and College Accountant, Mr Onyughel Alhal.

SERVICOM CORNER

Service failure is a universal phenomenon. In one way or the other, one must have been a victim. These observations informed the establishment of SERVICOM in all organs of the Nigerian system. The purpose is to provide an improved and effective/efficient service delivery, nationwide. The whole idea of SERVICOM is to sport areas of service failure, with a view to ensuring that service delivery is commensurate with investment. Watch out for more on SERVICOM!!

SERVICOM WORKSHOP

All Marshalls and Brigades of SERVICOM Unit are invited to a workshop slated for Tuesday, 8th April, 2014 at the International Students' Centre, along Aluu Drive, University Park. Time is 10:00am
Contact: Mrs Peace Stowe

Professors Gideon Okpokwasili, Onyemaechi Udomukwu and Martin Ifeanchu, were rewarded by the University with a cheque of two million naira each to encourage others to embark on quality and meaningful research supervision.

Presenting the cheques to the Supervisors at the Committee room, last Monday, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who was full of praises for the three Candidates they supervised, expressed gratitude to the Supervisors of the thesis for making the University proud.

"We are now breaking new grounds here in the University. Management looked at this feat and felt we should reward the supervisors through these token presentations. We also agreed to recommend one of the awardees for employment. We are giving these cheques to encourage our colleagues to do more and to take this spectacular feat to the wider area for greater recognition of both Supervisors and Candidates. Once you have entered the arena, it should be a way of stimulating others to follow your good example.

Professor Ajienka thanked Provost of the College of Graduate Studies, Professor Roseline Konyia, for making the funds available and Principal Officers and the Director, Quality Assurance and Quality Control, Professor Tony Arize, for making the observation in the right direction to ensure that the supervisors are recognised by the University. Reacting to the development, Provost of the College, Professor Konyia, also congratulated the Supervisors for committing themselves to quality research which has brought great honour to the

Encomiums Trail Registrar At 55

By Otiakor Samuel

Estimate staff of Registrar's Office joined by some of their colleagues in the Registry Department, staged a surprise celebration of the birth of a dogged administrator and Registrar of the University, Mrs. Matilda Nnodini, who turned 55, last Tuesday.

Though her original intention was to walk quietly into her office to treat mails begging for urgent attention, while observing the day in a low profile, the staff almost dashed her intention when they literally laid in wait for her at the entrance into the office to shower goodwill messages and gifts on her to her utter surprise. The Registrar, however, decided to lead a brief prayer session to praise God for her life in the past 55 years on planet earth.

The Registrar ensured that the session, which was graced by some Deputy Registrars, was very brief to enable the staff attend to official duties. It climaxed with the cutting of a Birthday Cake presented by Fidelity Bank Plc, led by the University of Port Harcourt Branch Leader, Vivienne Bucknor.

"This is a birthday I said I am not going to do anything about. I am low in the spirit, so I did not want to celebrate, but just render thanksgiving to God in my quiet corner of the world. You have turned this session into a joyous moment. Left for me, I should have

appreciated making it a low-key celebration, but you made the day a joyous moment for me. Birthdays mark an increase in the life of every human being. My wish is that every one of you will increase as we draw from the essence of God," the Registrar said, praising Fidelity Bank Plc and Diamond Bank for sharing in her

birthday celebration.

In their separate speeches, the Secretary, College of Graduate Studies (CGS), Dr Agatha Ataga and UniPort Branch Chairman, Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SNANU), Mr Bikunye Syder, congratulated the Registrar as she added five more years to her golden age, wishing her good health and wisdom to enable her continue to pilot the affairs of University. The staff were later treated to a sumptuous party in the Registrar's office at the close of work.



Registrar, Mrs Nnodini, (farrow), supported by Junior Staff Officer, Mrs Elizabeth Ndloshu, (right), Deputy Bursar, Mrs Helen Oshonda-Wopara, College Secretary, CGS, Dr Agatha (left) and others cutting the cake

MFM Donates Orchestra Instruments To UniPort

By Humphrey Ogu

The repertoire of the Department of Music received a boost on a primate Wednesday with a donation of some orchestral instruments by Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministry (MFM) at the New Theatre Arts Auditorium, University Park.

Welcoming guests to the presentation ceremony, the Head of Department of Music, Professor Oyoze Nwanjoku, who expressed gratitude to the donor, recalled that the Department has attracted notable musical scholars from within and outside the country, including Professor Emeritus Joseph Nketia, Professor Meki Nzewi, Professor Lu Ekweume, Professors Bryan Reynolds and Mark LeVine of the University of California, USA, Dr Nkolohot Nnamani of University of Cambridge and Dr Agatha Osa of University of Pittsburgh, adding that the Department now hosts three Professional Chairs.

Nwanjoku, who disclosed that the donations were facilitated by a lecturer in the Department, Dr Ade-Olivera Okonade, said the Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministry donated to the Department strings, wood wind, and brass instruments, listing 10 Violins, three Violas, one Cello, one Double Bass and two Flutes, one Oboe, two Clarinets, one Baritone Sax in the category, while brass instruments included: two Trumpets, two French Horns, two Trombones, one Euphonium, one Tuba and 14 musical stands as the instrument received from the Church, which expressed willingness to contribute to the development of music in the University.

Presenting the instruments, Senior Regional Overseer of MFM, South-South Region, Pastor Lawrence Oluisehinde, who said that it was an honour for him to represent the General Overseer, Pastor Daniel Oluokoya, in presenting the musical instruments to



Head, Music, Prof Nwanjoku (4' left), Senior Regional Overseer, MFM, Pastor Oluisehinde, Director, Special Duties, Prof Wegwa (5' and 6' left) and others in a group photograph

donated to UniPort, noted that "our General Overseer is a lover of music. He is ever ready to support the spread of music as a vehicle for the spreading of the gospel of Christ, in addition to teaching students and making people happy."

"I want to assure you that the collaboration has already started. I know that we shall be back here to make another donation. These instruments will be used for the physical, spiritual and mental development of students," Oluisehinde told the rest of the audience.

In his remarks, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, noted that although the University was established in 1975, the history of UniPort cannot be complete without mentioning the Department of Music. Professor Joseph Ajienka, who spoke through the Director Special Project in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Matthew Wegwa, noted that "although the Department of Music is just three years old, its performance could be likened to that of a thirty-year old department," lauding the Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministry for the gesture, even as he urged other public-spirited individuals and groups to emulate

the good gesture of the Ministry.

Also speaking, the Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Professor Ozo-mkuri Ndimele, thanked the donor for the donation, stating that it was in line with the new and good relationship canvassed by the Professor Ajienka-led administration. Ndimele, who was represented by the Associate Dean of the Faculty, Professor Abdulrasaq Kilani, described the Department of Music as the last sibling, who is believing like the oldest child, noting that "Music is not just a theoretical event, but one that combines theory and practice."

In her contribution, the Director, Institute of Arts and Culture, Professor Julie Okoh, expressed joy at the donations, stating that the instruments would boost performance in the Department which often collaborates with the Institute in musical performances.

Highlight of the event included musical interludes in which the Departmental Choir performed solos, choruses and orchestra to the admiration of the audience.

Following a successful election held on 5th March, 2014, Felix

Nwizwa, has been sworn in as President of the Students Union of the University of Port Harcourt. He will run the affairs of the Union for the next one year.

Speaking during the inauguration of the new Executive of the Student Affairs Conference Room, Choba Park, last Wednesday, Professor Ajienka lauded the students for conducting a peaceful election, appealing to them to continue to take their studies seriously.

Professor Ajienka, who was represented by the Director of Special Duties in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Matthew Wegwa, told the students that they have the full support of Management as they go about their legitimate duties. "Our Vice-Chancellor is particularly interested in the welfare of students. He also believes that injury to one is injury to all. He is against any form of intimidation of any student or denial of whatever is their legitimate entitlement. He also believes in fairness and fair play and the Vice-Chancellor's doors are always open through the office of the Dean of Student Affairs."

New Student Union EXCO Takes Office

By Mercy Adeniji

He further expressed gratitude to the Dean of Student Affairs and his team for carrying the students along and for ensuring that they conducted a peaceful election.

Also speaking, the Dean of Student Affairs, Professor Henry Bell-Gam commended the students for organizing a peaceful and credible election, stating that leadership is something that is very simple for those who understand its rudiments; the leader can make his charge simple or difficult, depending on his or her disposition to duty and how he relates to subordinates.

As a leader, it means your duty is to serve the people. You must have the quality to also serve, you should stop to congregate and most times, you need to play the fool, to congregate.

Professor Bell-Gam urged the new EXCO to emulate their predecessors in office. "We want you to be good leaders of the students; you must always investigate matters before you carry out any action. You are coming into a system where the most important person is the

student. It is your responsibility to make sure that what you do is for the benefit of the

students. It is a matter of constructive dialogue. I want to urge you to make sure that when you have problems, you should come and dialogue. Life is full of problems and conflict must arise, but when this happens, let us find a way to come to the table," the Dean said.

Recounting his experience, immediate past Interim Student President, Maxwell Nyaraba, expressed gratitude to Management of the University for giving him an opportunity to serve, stating that it was very challenging to lead UniPort students at a most difficult time.

"Today, it gives me joy that an handling ever successfully, despite the enormous challenges. I must appreciate my EXCO for standing by me throughout the difficult times. He appealed to his successors to see their offices as a means of securing the welfare of students," charging them to take their assignments very seriously if they hope to succeed in their onerous assignment.

In his acceptance speech, the incoming President, Nwizwa thanked Management for supporting the election, promising to do his best to ensure that the new Executive delivers on the great expectations of students. He appealed to Management to look into the needs of the students in the area of reduction of non-student charges, amongst other issues of importance to the students, assuring Management of the University of the willingness of his new Executive to work with it to take the Institution to greater heights.

Also speaking, past Student Union Presidents, Mr Chris Anwe and Hibus Owarakani, also led into the new EXCO to ensure they always carry the students along.

Other members of the new EXCO are: Obekle Woloma (Vice-President), Godspower Azunda (Secretary-General), Nwadarar Baridiso (Assistant Secretary-General), Umoh Isuru (Public Relations Officer), Adeduro Isiolawa (Director of Welfare), Eka Ernest (Financial Secretary), Pamela Amior (Treasurer), Christian Kaku (Director of Socials), Chibuzor Anyasuru (Chief Judge), Augustus Ukolon (Deputy Chief Judge), Blens Richard (DoS), Isoburima Adubo, (Deputy Speaker), Sunday Awaji-Ighana (Provost), Arlikwu Bright (Senate President).



Some of newly-inaugurated executive members of the Student Union

After several months of planning, the long-awaited film studies programme is set to commence in the University of Port Harcourt in earnest. This was the outcome of a visit on the Vice-Chancellor by the Management of Trend Media City and its technical partners led by Chairman of Udenna Group (TUG), Chief Usor Udenna, on Monday, Friday. Speaking at the event, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajlenka, expressed his willingness of his administration to commence the programme as soon as possible. "We are ready to start the programme. We are prepared to advertise and start the School at the Certificate level. As a result of this, we will need to agree on the teaching responsibility," he stated, promising that the School would be autonomous as the authorities were prepared to give it the best that film studies can offer. In his speech, Chairman of TUG, Chief Udenna, said that the idea was to set up a professional film institute to train professionals that would be equipped to conform to the changing trends in the industry. "Our choice of the University of Port Harcourt is on merit, this is because about 60% of Nollywood practitioners in Nigeria are products of the University. It is the first University in Nigeria to emphasize entrepreneurship through

TMC Set To Commence Film Studies In UniPort



V-C, Prof. Ajlenka (middle in front row) flanked by Chairman, TUG, Chief Udenna (right), DFC (Admin), Prof. Ndaka (left) and members of the delegation and staff of the University

By Obinna Nwoodin partnership with the industry," stressing that what was done so far is to formalize the partnership to enable the School to commence. In his speech, Vice-President of Whistling Woods International, one of the Technical Partners to TMC, Mr. Chaitanya Chinchikar, who gave a background of his organization, said that with the level of experience they have, they would be able to bring the needed professionalism in the training of modern professionals

in the film industry. He said that Whistling Woods International was rated one of the best eight film schools in the world by the Hollywood Reporters. Also speaking, Strategic Business Development Adviser of The Udenna Group, Mr. Philippe Vermaade, said that they were interested in contributing to building a knowledge economy through the industry. He said that the programme was aimed at identifying young creative talents and providing them with the environment to enable them to create value for society.

SIGNIS Elects Ihejirika African V-P in Rome



Dr. Ihejirika

By Otiok Samuel As a way of strengthening platforms for community service, immediate past Acting Head of Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Dr. Walter Ihejirika, has been elected Vice-President, SIGNIS-Africa, which also qualifies him for membership of the Governing Board of the prestigious organization. Briefing *UniPort Weekly* on arrival from the quadrennial Congress of SIGNIS in Rome, Italy, held between 25th February and 2nd March, 2014, Dr. Ihejirika disclosed that the theme of the Congress was, "Media for a Culture of Peace: Creating Images with the New Generation." SIGNIS, he explained, is the World Catholic Association for Communication, which is registered in Switzerland as a non-governmental organization aimed at engaging media professionals and supporting Catholic communicators with a view to promoting human dignity, justice and reconciliation.

"SIGNIS, brings together radio, television, cinema, video, media education, internet and new technology professionals from 140 countries. It is the only association recognized by the Vatican to represent the Catholic Church in the area of media and communication. It also has consultative status with

UNESCO, ECOSOC (United Nations in Geneva and New York) and the Council of Europe," the former Acting Head of Department further disclosed. He recalled that the Congress which had over 500 delegates from around the world featured series of events, including conferences, workshops and screenings, adding that discussion centred on social media, journalism, social marketing, cinema and spirituality, social documentaries, multimedia radio, communications training and media education. Dr. Ihejirika disclosed that President, Vatican Commission for Social Communication, Archbishop Claudio Celli, was the Keynote Speaker at the event. The election, which was a major highlight of the Congress, according to Dr. Ihejirika, took place at the Domus Pacis Hotel, Rome. The certificate of election dated 20th March, 2014 and signed by Assistant Secretary-General of SIGNIS, Ricardo Yanez, congratulated Dr. Ihejirika for his election. "I am pleased to present to you this Certificate confirming your election as the Vice-President of SIGNIS Africa. You will work with the President and other African Delegates in building up SIGNIS Africa. With this election, you also become a member of the Board of Directors of SIGNIS and will sit in Board Meetings," the letter read in part.

Anatomy Student Donates Study Aid To Dept

By Humphrey Ogu

As part of efforts aimed at enhancing teaching and learning the human anatomy, a Fourth Year Student in the Department of Human Anatomy, Obinna Eze, has produced and donated a study aid to his Department. Speaking with *UniPort Weekly* on the rationale behind the gesture, Eze said he decided to present the paintings to the Department to aid teaching of Human Anatomy in the Faculty. His words: "The painting portrays a dissection of human head and neck. It is based on routine dissection in the Department of Human Anatomy in UniPort, which could also have universal application."

The donor noted that major features shown in the paintings include: "Facial nerve branches as they emerge from parotid gland to be distributed on the

face; muscles of facial expression; and cutaneous branches of cervical plexus." Eze expressed hope that "the paintings will be the first of many of such illustrations intended to constitute a Human Anatomy Art Gallery as part of the innovations in the Department."

Responding, Acting Head of Department, Dr. Chukwuwagwu Paul, lauded the donor for his kind gesture, calling on other students to emulate him by contributing to the growth of the Department. He noted that the paintings would be very

useful in the Human Anatomy Art Gallery when set up, adding that such paintings would expose students to parts of the human body, thereby aiding the learning of Human Anatomy.



Ag. HoD, Anatomy, Dr. Paul (right) and Mr. Eze displaying the painting

V-C Advises Fresh Students Against Unethical Conduct At 35th Matriculation

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unique attributes and culture of the Institution to achieve greatness.

The Vice-Chancellor told them that "what you decide to make of this golden opportunity is entirely left to your individual capacities. This is a call to responsibility and it is our hope that you will not disappoint us, your parents and society."

he stated, adding that the *Matriculation Oath* should guide their conduct throughout their stay in the University.

"The *Matriculation Oath* you have taken spells out certain ethos and rules of intellectual engagement that must guide your behaviour in and outside the classroom at all times. Any society that operates without a proper Code of Conduct to guide its operations is doomed to anarchy. You are,

therefore, expected to obey the rules and regulations of the University and exhibit a high degree of personal discipline as a precondition to success in your studies and future career," he advised the Matriculants, adding that they should strive to attain excellence in sporting activities, which has become the hallmark of the University of Port Harcourt." The University hopes to produce future NUGA, National and WAUG champions from students taking the *Matriculation Oath* today as a way to retain our top position in sporting activities.

He also announced that the authorities have reintroduced the Dean's List and a Scholarship Scheme for the best students in the Unified Tertiary Matriculations Examination (UTME) and Post-Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examinations (P-UTME). He appealed to staff and older students to set good examples for the fresh students to follow. "We should teach and guide them to the very best of our abilities. We should teach them to know that only hard work and honest pay at the end of the day. There are no short cuts to success," he advised, urging the new students to work hard to earn their grade in the University with a view to meeting greater challenges outside the Institution. A total of 5,459 took the *Matriculation Oath*. The breakdown is as follows: Faculty of Humanities, 965; Faculty of Social Sciences, 641; College of Natural and Applied Sciences, 1,076; Faculty of Education, 1,998; College of Engineering, 261; Faculty of Management Sciences, 654; Faculty of Agriculture, 212; Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 109; College of Health Sciences, 230 and the School of Science Laboratory Technology, 213.



Jubilant matriculating students at the Convocation Arena

Senate Re-Elects Joe DV-C (Academic), Approves New Programmes

Senate of the University of Port Harcourt has unanimously re-elected Professor Igbo Joe Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Academic matters. In a unanimous decision after Professor John Agberia declined his nomination, Professor Joe was declared re-elected for another term in office.

Senate also approved establishment of a Master's Degree programme in Nuclear Engineering to be coordinated by the Centre for Nuclear Studies. It approved a Doctoral Degree programme in Electrical Engineering in the Faculty of Production, Power Systems and Communications, College of Engineering as presented by the Dean, Graduate School of Engineering Technology, Professor Adewale Dosunmu. These decisions were taken at its 397th Meeting held at the Senate Chambers, last Wednesday. It also approved the setting up of a Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) programme in Disability Studies and Communication Therapy for the Centre for Children Communication Disorders, as presented by the Provost, College of Graduate Studies, Professor Roseline Konyia.

Considering a Report from the Senate Committee on Academic Programmes and Policies (SCAPP) as presented by Professor Igbo Joe, Senate approved requesting establishment of a Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in the College of Engineering and the also establishment of the Department of Mechatronics. It also approved a proposal for splitting the Department of Animal Science and Fisheries into two separate departments. Also approved was the amended calendar for the Second Semester 2012/2013 Academic Session. The proposed new Academic Calendar for 2013/2014 Academic Session for Fresh Students is to be circulated to Provosts, Deans and Heads of Departments for their input. Also, the 10th Certificates Verification Report was presented by Chairman of the Committee, Professor Mike Monans. Suggestions were made that a separate Committee be set up to commence verification from Year One in order to reduce the burden on the Committee.

The Vice-Chancellor directed the Director, Information and Communication Technology Centre (ICTC), Professor Anthony Ibe and the Immediate Past Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Ebi Ibo Awonmbode

By Obinna Nwodim

Efeko to work together in order to set up a system to actualize the recommendations, adding that the services of the Service Provider should be sought.

Earlier, Professor Ajinka, had informed Senate that the University was one of those selected to benefit from a \$2 million grant from the Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) Company to build Engineering laboratories in six universities chosen from each of the geo-political zones in the country.

The Vice-Chancellor also presented a report on the Collegiate System as is currently being implemented in the University. According to him, the guidelines and past experiences were considered during the deliberations, motivating the Committee to recommend that the University should go the collegiate way. Senate decided a four-year single term for Provost of Colleges, while an implementation Committee is to be set up to look at the suggestions made and present a final position

to Senate for final decision.

Senate also approved the guidelines for Inaugural, Public and Valedictory Lectures and directed the Academic Office to commence scheduling Professors who are prepared to deliver Inaugural Lectures, in line with the new guidelines.

The apex academic regulatory body also approved guidelines for the preparation of results presented by the Director, Information and Communication Technology Centre, Professor Ibe.

Senate approved results of the pioneer set of the Master's Degree Students in the Institute of Engineering, Technology and Innovation Management (METI), in collaboration with the University of Pretoria, South Africa. Senate also considered requests for the engagement of External Examiners for various Departments, as well as results from the Faculties of Humanities, Social Sciences, Management Sciences, Agriculture, Colleges of Natural and Applied Sciences, Health Sciences, as well as College of Graduate Studies.



Senate in session, under DV-C Chair, Prof Joe

GUIDEPOST

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Professor I.P. Aleye-Wokoma, Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, Faculty of Biological Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, granted Renewal of Contract Appointment, effective October 21, 2013 to October 20, 2014.

Dr N. H. Ukoma, Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management, Faculty of Agriculture, granted Renewal of Adjunct Appointment, effective January 14, 2014 to January 13, 2015.

Dr Ekeke Chukwuagwe, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, granted Renewal of Contract Appointment, effective February 11, 2014 to February 10, 2015.

SABBATICAL LEAVE

Dr Ukoha Ukino, Department of Political and Administrative Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, granted a 12-month Sabbatical Leave to Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Programme (NSRP), effective January 13, 2014 to January, 14 2015.

STUDY LEAVE

Mrs Maryjane Efenini, Donald Ekong Library, granted Study Leave with Pay to undertake a Master's Degree Programme in Library and Information Science, at Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, effective January 6, 2014 to January 5, 2015.

Mrs Hope Nne Chuka, Dean's Office, Faculty of Humanities, granted Study Leave with Pay to pursue a Confidential Secretary Course at the Rivers State Development Training School, Port Harcourt, effective February 10, 2014 to August 10, 2016.

Mrs Sophia Wogu, Department of History and Diplomatic Studies, Faculty of Humanities, granted Study Leave with Pay to pursue a Confidential Secretary Course at the Rivers State Development Training School, Port Harcourt, effective February 10, 2014 to August 10, 2016.

Queen Ihanwo, Department of Curriculum Studies, Faculty of Education, granted Study Leave with Pay to undertake a Master's Degree Programme at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, USA, effective January 8, 2014 to June 5, 2015.

UDPS Marks World Oral Health Day



UDPS pupils marking World Oral Health Day

By Mercy Adeniji

As the world marked this year's World Oral Health Day with the theme: "Celebrating Healthy Smiles" penultimate week, the University Demonstration Primary School (UDPS), joined her counterparts all over the world to celebrate the day which is usually held on 20th March, every year.

Declaring open the event, the School Administrator, Dr Christiana Koseman, disclosed that the essence of the event is to highlight the benefits of a healthy mouth and its importance to everyone both old and young. To commemorate the day, the School invited Dental Surgeons and a Nurse to give oral health talk to the children.

"Prior to this time, the children from primaries one to six were made to write an essay on the care of the teeth, while the Kindergarten pupils were told to draw the teeth and brush.

The Administrator charged the children to always keep their mouth and teeth clean as a healthy mouth is a healthy body as some category of germs emanate from the mouth. She expressed gratitude to Health Service Centre in collaboration with GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Nigeria Limited and Dr Chikwa Ezirim's Non-governmental Organisation called Dietary Road of Preventing Cancer and Degenerative Disorder (*Drop Cancerc. DD*)

Foundation, for their assistance and support to the School in the successful celebration of the Oral Health Day.

Speaking on the theme: "Celebrating Healthy Smiles", a representative of GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Nigeria Limited, Dr Chikara Nwoke, disclosed that 20th March of every year is always marked as World Oral Health Day. WHOID offers the dental and oral health community the platform for action to reduce the global oral disease burden. Dr Nwoke charged the children to always use toothpaste containing fluoride in brushing their teeth to keep them clean and strong. "Remember that you need to brush your teeth twice daily, so your teeth can be strong. Always eat healthy, balanced meals and take fruits such as apple, water melon and banana, among other fruits. You are also to visit your Dentist, at least, once every year", he advised the children.

Assistant Director, Health Service, Dr Chinwe Ezirim and a Lecturer in the Faculty of Dentistry, Dr Olufemi Omiloto, disclosed that the best way to have a healthy smile is to take care of the teeth and the supporting structures. Corroborating the views of Dr Nwoke, they urged the children to wash their mouth and teeth each time they take food to avoid food particles lodging around the teeth. "Avoid sweets and sugary drinks; brush your teeth first thing in the morning and last thing at night," they advised the pupils.

Also speaking, a Dental Nurse, Dr. Rita Opara taught the children how to brush and how to position their brush while brushing, advising them to use peanut size paste in brushing in a circular motion so it would help to clean the plaque lined around the gum.

Highlight of the event was the presentation of prizes to the best essay writers as Miss Divine Iguzo emerged as overall best.

STOP PRESS

LOAD-SHEDDING IN SENATE BUILDING

Due to load increase in the consumption of power at the Senate Building, a new arrangement has been put in place to sustain the ageing 500KVA Perkins power generating plant, pending the purchase and installation of a new one. Director of Works and Services Department, Mr Jubrin Inede, in a notice to that effect dated 20th March, 2014 and signed by Mr Olalekan Komolafe, said the Department would, henceforth, embark on load-shedding when using the private plant, while all the offices would get power when electricity from the public supply is available. Mr Inede promised to revert to normal power supply once a new generator of higher capacity to power the entire Senate Building is available to the University.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT WEATHER OBSERVATORY

FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 30-SATURDAY, APRIL 05, 2014

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (mm) (gmt)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY 23 MAR 2014	35.0 25.0	50	NE	8.7	6:32 6:41	Thunder storms expected late in the day. Many clouds than sun. Hot day expected.
MONDAY, 24.MAR 2014	36.0 25.0	53	N	-	6:31 6:41	Partly sunny day. Extremely hot day anticipated
TUESDAY 25.MAR2014	33.0 25.0	41	NE	-	6:31 6:41	Many clouds than sun. Warm day expected.
WEDNESDAY 26 MARCH2014	34.0 25.0	48	N	4.7	6:31 6:41	Thunder storms expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecast.
THURSDAY 27. MAR 2014	33.0 25.0	50	N	7.3	6:30 6:40	Thunder storms expected early in the day. Partly sunny and warm day forecast.
FRIDAY 28.MAR 2014	34.0 25.0	50	NE	-	6:30 6:40	Partly sunny and warm day expected.
SATURDAY 2 8. MAR 2014	33.0 25.0	56	N	-	6:29 6:40	A mixture of sun and clouds expected. Warm day predicted.

SANDRA NIWAIBO
OFFICER IN CHARGE

PROF SAMUEL AROKOTU
DIRECTOR, (ICDRMD)

CHANGE OF NAME

MRS MARY WORDU. Former Miss Mary Eze of the Provost's Office, College of Health Sciences, now wishes to be known, addressed and called Mrs Mary Wordu. All former documents remain valid.

MRS ELIZABETH WACHUKWU. Former Miss Elizabeth Abraham, of the Provost's Office, College of Health Sciences, now wishes to be known, addressed and called Mrs Elizabeth Wachukwu. All former documents remain valid.

UniPort Presents NUGA Trophy To RSG

A delegation of Management, Senior Officers, Coaches and athletes of the all-conquering Team UniPort visited His Excellency, Governor Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi in Government House on 3rd March, 2014 to present the giant trophy won at the 24th edition of Nigeria University Games Association (NUGA) for the fifth consecutive time. Our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU** captured highlights of the event as shown below:



Chief of Staff, Government House, Chief Tony Okocha (left) welcoming V-C, Prof Joseph Ajienka and UniPort delegation to Government House, Port Harcourt



V-C (Admin), Prof Edehonor Nkaka (1st second row), Director, Special Duties, Prof Rigben, Cdn Librarian, Dr Oluwaluwa Nwadi (1st and 2nd left in front), CCE Director, Prof Steve Okunubi, Head Coach, Adeline Didiere and others stopping on Govt House



A cross-section of Rivers State Government and UniPort officials. Gov Amaechi and Prof Ajienka (5th and 6th right)



L-R: Registrar, Mrs Nwadin, DV-Cs (Acad), Prof Igbo Joe and (Admin), Prof Ndaka



V-C, Prof Ajienka (standing), Gov Amaechi (left) and DV-C (Admin), Prof Ndaka



Prof Ajienka (left) presenting the NUGA Trophy to Gov Amaechi



Gov Amaechi (standing) flanked by Prof Ajienka (right) and Secretary to the State Government, Mr George Feyil addressing UniPort delegation



Director of Sports, Dr Ken Anagwoye flanked by Unio. Librarian, Dr Nwadin (right) and Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nwadin (left)



A cross-section of UniPort delegation with Commissioner of Education, Alice Nemi Lawrence (arrowed)



The giant trophy



R-L: Director of Special Duties, Prof Rigben, Director of Sports, Dr Anagwoye, Cdn Librarian, Dr Nwadin, DV-C (Acad), Prof Igbo Joe, V-C, Prof Ajienka, DV-C (Admin), Prof Ndaka, Registrar, Mrs Nwadin and CCE Director, Prof Okunubi posing with the Trophy



A group picture of UniPort delegation with Gov Amaechi and top Government functionaries