



## Pro-Chancellor Commissions NIM Lounge In UniPort

**P**ro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council of the University, Engineer Gesi Asamaoewi, has stressed the importance of the Nigeria Institute of Management in achieving the programmes and objectives of the administration, reports Obinna Nwodin.

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## Side Bar

We welcome our esteemed readers back from Christmas and New Year holidays. Happy 2015!

~Editor

# UniPort Weekly

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**A**s work resumed in the University last Monday, following the Christmas and New Year holidays, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has reiterated his commitment to improved staff welfare as a motivation for them to give their best to the system.

Speaking with *UniPort Weekly* in his office last Wednesday, Professor Ajienka said that all categories of staff are important in

## V-C Restates Commitment To Staff Welfare In 2015

By Humphrey Ogu and Williams Wodi  
the University's bid to attain greater heights in the New Year, promising more

training packages to deserving staff in the New Year to acquaint them with emerging trends in their specialisations.

Identifying staff welfare as one of the priority areas of his administration, the Vice-Chancellor promised to ensure that most staff are accommodated on Campus to save them the cost of commuting to the University from a long distance where they are exposed to security threats, high transportation cost and rent. He also recalled that deserving staff got promoted as at when due, while others who met the stipulated criteria were interviewed and converted under his watch.

Professor Ajienka, who noted that staff welfare, can only improve with more concerted effort, said: "It is only when staff are motivated that they can enjoy their job and put in their best for the University to meet its developmental goals. Staff must upgrade their skills and knowledge base to enable them provide quality service in line with current

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# New Guidelines for Staff Training Underway

## ...As Accreditation Team Praises Physiology Dept

By Otiakor Samuel

**V**ice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has restated the commitment of the administration to initiate more staff training and development programmes that would strengthen the institutional capacity of the system to deliver quality services to stakeholders in 2015 and beyond.

Professor Ajienka, who made the commitment at an *Exit Meeting* with the Accreditation Team to the Department of Human Physiology in the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, last December, disclosed that a new guideline for staff training to be supervised by the Ministry of Education under the NEEDS Assessment was underway. He stated that when the scheme is fully operational, teaching staff would benefit more from Postgraduate programmes than short-course training that would equip them to add value to the system, while non-teaching staff would be trained locally and outside the country on modern trends in administration. The Vice-Chancellor praised the Accreditation Panel for not only painstakingly evaluating all areas within its mandate, but for also making important observations that would lead to optimal delivery of programmes offered in the Department of Human Physiology. "We want to thank the team members for the intensity of work they carried out in this short period, particularly on the very useful



V-C, Prof Ajienka (3<sup>rd</sup> right) flanked by Leader of the Team, Prof Ighoroje, Provost, CHS, Prof Chris Akani, Univ Librarian, Dr Obiageli Nwodo (left), other Team members and some Senior Officers of the University

suggestions they offered towards a better way of running the Department. We want to concentrate on experimental work for effective acquisition of hands-on skills by staff and students; and we promise to commit ourselves to improving on what we have on ground by taking your suggestions seriously and implementing them to the letter for the benefit of our students who deserve the very best," the Vice-Chancellor assured the Panel. Earlier, Leader of the Team, Professor Abhor Ighoroje, observed that "the philosophy and objectives of the programme are clearly defined and conform to those in the minimum academic standards laid down by the National Universities Commission and provides adequate direction to staff and students," commending the curriculum as adequate for Undergraduate studies in Human Physiology. The Team also praised the current carrying-capacity of the Department, expressing happiness that all students in the programme met the basic admission requirements

stipulated by regulatory agencies, in addition to a favourable staff-students ratio.

"The course evaluation standards of tests and examinations are up-to-date and the Library has adequate number of books for reference purposes. We congratulate the University Librarian for doing extremely well at the Library, especially the e-Library section," the Accreditation Panel submitted, acknowledging that the Library for Neurobiology is more developed than elsewhere in the Nigerian university system. The Panel, however, recommended that the Neurophysiology section which is more strategic to Undergraduate students of any Human Physiology Department should be improved to give students a better option.

Other members of the Team were: Professor Asim Eno of the University of Calabar, Professor Ali Dikko of Bayero University, Kano and Dr. Ayinla Ajani of the NUC, Abuja Office.

## CDRMDS Outlines Disaster Mgt Guidelines

By Ethel Timi-Johnson

**A**s part of efforts aimed at preventing possible fire outbreaks in the current post-harvest season, Acting Director of the Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies (CDRMDS), Dr. Prince Mmom, has warned against indiscriminate burning of materials and use of explosives and combustibles that are capable of causing fire outbreaks.

Briefing *UniPort Weekly* last Monday, Dr. Mmom, who stressed the need to alert the Fire Service Unit early in case of fire outbreak, decried the use of poor quality kerosene, storage of fuel in jerry cans within the neighbourhood and switching on electrical appliances when not in use.

"As we pass through the harmattan period, residential areas and offices are easily prone to fire outbreaks that could threaten lives and property on a massive scale. Residents and visitors to the University should take adequate precautionary measures to avert possible fire disasters. People should refrain from indiscriminate bush burning that could engulf buildings and destroy vegetation in and around the University," the Acting Director warned. Describing CDRMDS as a National Emergency

Management Agency (NEMA) centre for risk management studies for the South-South zone, the Director noted that the target is to transform it into a centre of excellence in generating data for managing disaster risks in the Niger Delta and the country at large.

"The Centre is currently running a professional Master's degree programme in Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies with plans to commence Postgraduate Diploma and Doctoral programmes in the 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 academic sessions, respectively," he disclosed, adding that the Centre is also planning a Roundtable that would focus on the management of local disaster risks and an international conference on building capacity to handle local disaster risks management in Africa in the first quarter of this year.



Dr. Mmom

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Pro-Chancellor, Engr Asamaoewi (arrowed), flanked on his right by NIM President, Dr Uwaga, V-C, Prof Ajienka and other officers and Fellows of NIM

## Pro-Chancellor Commissions NIM Lounge

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Engineer Asamaoewi made the assertion while commissioning a VIP Lounge built and furnished by the University of Port Harcourt Chapter of the Institute at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last December.

The Pro-Chancellor, who was full of praises for the initiative, challenged members of the newly-inaugurated Chapter to ensure that all administrative staff of the University imbued the values of hard work and prompt service delivery at minimum cost to the administration. Describing NIM membership as a very serious matter, the Chairman of Council charged the new members to add value chain through quality service delivery to the growing clientele of the Institution to justify their membership of the Institute.

"Most of the things that go wrong in the society are as a result of poor management by ill-equipped personnel and that is why every administrator should be duty bound to give his or her very best to keep the system afloat. The time has come for professional managers to take their proper position in the scheme of things," the

Pro-Chancellor told the Chapter members, promising more support for NIM to enable it continue the good work of raising core professional managers that would deliver quality services within the stipulated timeline.

In his address, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who commended the NIM members for the laudable initiative, stated that the move to inaugurate the Chapter in the University was a sign of commitment to the development of the University. He called on other professional bodies to emulate the NIM example in the promotion of developmental strides in the University, promising that the administration would support the Chapter to achieve the objectives for which it was inaugurated by the national body.

Also speaking, National President of the Nigeria Institute of Management, Dr. Nelson Uwaga, who commended the Chapter for its accelerated growth within its short lifespan, advised other Chapters to emulate the laudable example of the newly-inaugurated UniPort Chapter.

In a keynote address, 5<sup>th</sup> Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Nimi Briggs, who described a

manager as one who gets things accomplished in an efficiently within available resources, recommended that every manager should be interested in capacity building to ensure quality service delivery to stakeholders. "A successful manager must plan, set objectives, measure actions, motivate workers and develop skills, if he or she hopes to succeed in the knowledge economy of today," Professor Briggs submitted.

Earlier in her welcome address, Chairman of the Chapter, Mrs. Flora Iyagba, who thanked all those who contributed to the actualization of the project, said that it was the Chapter's way of giving back to the University community. She promised that the Chapter would work tirelessly to ensure quality service delivery in the University, urging all administrative staff and public-spirited groups to contribute towards the accelerated growth of NIM in UniPort.

The event featured recognitions and service awards to individuals who have distinguished themselves for their support for the Chapter, as well as the realization of the VIP Lounge project. The Pro-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor were among personalities honoured for their services to the Chapter at the impressive event that attracted members from other Chapters of the Institute.

As it is customary with Faculties of Law in universities around the world, staff and students of the newly-established Faculty of Law in the University of Port Harcourt dined and wined with movers and shakers of the University on Friday, December 19, 2014, to mark the end of the year.

Speaking as Chairman of the occasion, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who recalled that Dean of the Faculty, Professor Kaniye Ebeku, was already the Dean of Law at the University of Calabar, when he was approached to establish the Faculty of Law in UniPort, said that given the calibre of scholars recruited to run the affairs of the new Faculty, the University was properly positioned to run one of the best Faculties of Law in the country.

"We look forward to a vibrant Law Faculty that would bring people from the industry to train our students as we have successfully done in the

## Law Faculty Ends 2014 With Get-Together

By Humphrey Ogu

Institute of Petroleum studies. We would like to welcome our pioneer students and staff for making history today with this well-appointed get-together. People have been looking forward to this important Faculty for a long time. The University is very happy that we finally have a Faculty of Law and it is our hope that this Faculty will make the University proud by the exemplary way it conducts its affairs. On behalf of the Senate and Management, we congratulate you and wish you the very best in the years ahead," the Vice-Chancellor told staff and students of the Faculty. Welcoming guests to the gathering, the Dean, Professor Ebeku, who praised the Vice-

Chancellor for his unwavering support for the Faculty, said: "Those who were able to gain admission should count themselves lucky to be pioneer students of the Faculty of Law of the University of Port Harcourt. Our Vice-Chancellor will go down in history as the one that make it possible for the University to actualise the dream to have a Law programme. He is a Vice-Chancellor that never interferes with the running of Departments and Faculties. As pioneer Dean of the Faculty, he gave me a free hand to do whatever it would take to ensure the smooth-running of the Faculty on a sound footing."

The Dean, who noted that the Vice-Chancellor deserves the highest recognition for funding this get-together, explained that the idea of the event was to provide a forum for staff and students to interact informally and socially after a momentous year of intense academic activities.

"We are going to consolidate on the gains of this year and we are ready to face accreditation of our programmes by the National Universities Commission at any moment of their choosing," he promised.

Others who spoke at the event, which featured comedy, dance and drama sketches by students of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies, directed by Mrs. Grace John-Ogbonnaya, included Professor Lucky Worika, a Lecturer in the Department, who charged the students on good conduct and President of the UniPort Chapter of the Law Students Association of Nigeria (LAWSAN), Markson Mgbonu.

It would be recalled that the long-awaited Law Faculty of the University commenced last year with a Diploma programme that is expected to fertilize the ground for the formal take-off of the Bachelor of Laws (LLB) programme this year.



V-C, Prof Ajienka (right) and Dean of Law, Prof Ebeku

## Artsville Thrills Varsity Community With Nativity Drama

By Humphrey Ogu

**I**t was entertainment galore at the Convocation Arena on Monday, December 22, 2014, as the Institute of Arts and Culture, held the audience spell-bound for hours with comedy, dance and the dramatic re-enactment of the epic Nativity of Jesus Christ.

The medley of performances climaxed with the performance of a biblical play on the birth of Jesus Christ, entitled: *The Nativity of Christ*, written by Director of the Institute, Professor Julie Okoh and directed by Sunday Edum of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies.

Speaking on the Christmas performance, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, commended the Institute for providing quality entertainment to the University community throughout the year, urging the University community and the general public to be very careful in the way they celebrate Christmas.

"As you celebrate the 2014 Christmas, do not forget the reason for the season. The sacrifice of Christ should not be lost on us as we revel in other activities that have the capacity to divert our attention from the true significance of the Yuletide," the Vice-Chancellor advised the

gathering, wishing everyone in the University a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Dignitaries, who attended the performance included: Emeritus Professor Ebiegberi Alagoa, Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs, Head of the Department of Music, Professor Onyee

Nwankpa, and Professors Iniobong Udoidem, Boniface Nwigwe, amongst other senior academic and administrative staff.

In a related development, the Department of Music in the Faculty of Humanities also feted the University community with a Christmas variety show that featured music, dance and drama at the Arts Village Quadrangle to mark the end of 2014.



*A scene from the Nativity Drama*

**F**ollowing what he described as an impressive performance by the Emerald Energy Institute (EEI) in completing its graduate programme within the statutory residency period, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has tasked Graduate Schools running programmes under the College of Graduate Studies to ensure that students complete their programmes within the stipulated timeframe.

## V-C Tasks Graduate Schools On Students' Residency Period At EEI Dinner

By Olu...

# Staff, Students Look Forward To 2015

Following resumption of normal activities in the University, staff and students are full of eager anticipation for the New Year. Correspondent, ETHEL TIMI-JOHNSON, who spoke to some of them, now reports:



Ochuba

Ekanem

Siba

Omu

Idogun

Orlu

There is always an atmosphere of eager anticipation when people roll-over into a New Year. Everything that went wrong in the lives of people is usually blamed on the outgoing year, while everybody expects that an invisible force would descend from the clouds to fix everything that was messed up by the old year and make everybody feel high.

Nobody has actually explained why hopes are usually high for great things in the New Year, but a New Year brings new anxieties and uncertainties; some expectations too. If you ask people why they expect new things to happen to them in the New Year, most of them draw blank.

The worries of the New Year are really pervasive indeed on all fronts. Check out the *wehala* list that is looming in the horizon for 2015: tumbling oil prices, *Boko Haram* and looming retrenchment from the public service. The checklist is endless, but it is faith in the future that keeps us alive as reflected in the responses below:

## Mr. Okezie Ochuba

### Director, Campus Environmental Beautification and Sanitation Unit (CEBAS)

The holiday was quiet and enjoyable. I want to thank the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who made it possible for us to smile home with some goodies after a long period of wait and expectation. Being an election year, I pray that better leaders will emerge this year and that the New Year would be better than 2014.

## Mr. Ekanem Ekanem

### UniPort Chapter Secretary, Nigeria Institute of Management (NIM)

The end of year 2014 brought excitement to staff as Management surprised us with last minute gifts which we never really expected. It is my desire that 2015 would be a much better year for staff and students. I am expecting that every day of the New Year would be brighter for us.

## Miss Flora Siba

### Library Department

The holiday was very fine. Christmas was full of fun and jubilation. This year, we are expecting the emergence of a new Vice-Chancellor that would take the University to higher grounds; a leadership that will improve on staff welfare.

## Rhoda Omu

### Library Department

I enjoyed the Christmas holiday. In 2015, I pray for good health for all staff of the University so that we can contribute effectively to the advancement of the

University. I also pray against distractions for staff so that we can remain focused this New Year. I pray for a good leader, who will motivate staff to work harder in 2015 and beyond.

## Ejiro Idogun

### Final Year Student, Department of Plant Science and Biotech, Faculty of Biological Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences.

I stayed back in the University during the holiday period to enable me wrap up my academic work; so it was not fun as usual for me. I worked on my laboratory practical as part of my final year thesis work. I pray that things would be better in the

University this year. I also pray that there would be enough time for studies and examinations. I pray for adequate supply of electricity in the University to enable us work in the Laboratory.

## Mathew Orlu

### First Year Student, Industrial Chemistry and Petrochemical Technology

I enjoyed the holiday very much. This year, I expect a calm atmosphere in the University that will be conducive for learning and teaching. This year, I hope to improve in my academics through studying hard and learning well and I also pray for a worthy successor to the incumbent Vice-Chancellor, whose tenure would end this year.

## UniPort At 40

Established in 1975 as a College of the University of Lagos, the University of Port Harcourt has truly come of age. Beginning from January 26, 2015, the University is rolling out the drums to celebrate 40 unbroken years of academic excellence and engagement with society. The table below is a guide to the celebration that would climax with a grand finale as part of the 30<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony in June.

### TIME TABLE FOR THE CELEBRATION

S/NO.	NAMES	MONTH & YEAR	WEEK	DAYS
1.	Dentistry	January 2015	4 <sup>th</sup>	Mon., 26 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb.
2.	Student Union	February 2015	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mon., 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Sun., 8 <sup>th</sup>
3.	Humanities	"	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mon., 9 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 15 <sup>th</sup>
4.	Social Sciences	"	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mon., 16 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 22 <sup>nd</sup>
5.	College of Science	"	4 <sup>th</sup>	Mon., 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Sun., 1 <sup>st</sup> mar.
6.	College of Engineering	March 2015	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mon., 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Sun., 8 <sup>th</sup>
7.	Management Sciences	"	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mon., 9 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 15 <sup>th</sup>
8.	College of Health Sciences	"	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mon., 16 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 22 <sup>nd</sup>
9.	Pharmacy	"	4 <sup>th</sup>	Mon., 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Sun., 29 <sup>th</sup>
10.	"	April 2015	"	Mon., 30 <sup>th</sup> - Mar., 5 <sup>th</sup> Apr.
11.	Agric.	"	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mon., 6 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 12 <sup>th</sup>
12.	Education	"	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mon., 13 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 19 <sup>th</sup>
13.	Law	"	4 <sup>th</sup>	Mon., 20 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 26 <sup>th</sup>
14.	College of Graduate Studies	May 2015	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mon., 27 <sup>th</sup> Apr. - Sun., 3 <sup>rd</sup> May
15.	Registry	"	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mon., 4 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 10 <sup>th</sup>
16.	Bursary	"	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mon., 11 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 17 <sup>th</sup>
17.	Library	"	4 <sup>th</sup>	Mon., 18 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 24 <sup>th</sup>
18.	ONE WEEK BREAK			Mon., 25 <sup>th</sup> - Sun., 31 <sup>st</sup> May.
19.	Central Committee Celebration	June 2015	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mon., 1 <sup>st</sup> - Sun., 7 <sup>th</sup>

PROFESSOR TONY ARINZE  
CHAIRMAN, CENTRAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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# Ajienka Restates Commitment To Staff Welfare

realities," adding that "my message to the staff this year is that we should jealously guard our achievements in the last 40 years. Everybody's effort will contribute in lifting the image of the University to enviable heights."

"This year is very significant for the University as it marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of UniPort in 1975. We will like to celebrate intellectual harvest and express gratitude to the Creator because the University has made tremendous progress in the last 40 years. Today, we have over thirty thousand students, five thousand staff and close to 250 Professors," he stated.

"As a second generation University, we have made significant impact on society. Alumni of the University continue to occupy the commanding heights of the political, economic and social arena, which has in turn rubbed off positively on the image of the University. The President of the Federal Republic, Governors, Legislators, Ministers, Captains of Industry and Academics have distinguished themselves in national service and abroad," the Vice-Chancellor observed, stating that such distinguished Alumni deserve to be celebrated as worthy role models for students to emulate. Ajienka, who noted that the University had long passed the adolescent stage of development, expressed delight that every Faculty has someone to look up to as a role model, citing the likes of Emeritus Professors Ebegberri Alagosa, Professor Nimi Wariboko, the late Professors Claude Ake and Ikenna Nizimiro as academic giants that left huge footprints in the University. He stressed the need to sustain the tempo and also surpass their outstanding achievements that raised the profile of UniPort.

"The University is making tremendous progress in teaching, research and community service. For instance, we won a major grant from the World Bank that has enabled us to establish an African Centre of Excellence in Offshore Chemicals Research. We are also a Centre of Excellence in Sports and Petroleum Engineering. We have made tremendous contributions to the development of the Nigerian home movie industry—*Nollywood*," he observed, disclosing that plans are afoot to build a befitting Theatre and Opera House in the University to spice up cultural life on Campus.

The Vice-Chancellor noted that with the standards set by the Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS), it was now generally accepted that postgraduate programmes can be completed within the stipulated residency period. "This fact has repeatedly been demonstrated by centres and institutes under IPS and we expect that Lecturers will work hard to ensure that graduate students complete their programmes within the stipulated duration. This will reduce all the logistical nightmares associated with allowing programmes to drag on until students lose interest in them; it will also attract more foreign students and raise more revenue for the University and project Supervisors. Students' perception of their Lecturers and programmes are usually a measure of how well a university is doing abroad and it is important that staff are committed to their job schedule," Professor Ajienka



V-C, Prof Ajienka during the interview with UniPort Weekly Editor, Williams Wodi (right) and Correspondent, Humphrey Ogu

advised.

On some of the strides so far recorded by his administration in the bid to reposition the University, the Vice-Chancellor, who made reference to the massive infrastructural development, cited the purchase of the University of Port Harcourt Liaison Office in Lagos and the Abuja Liaison Office acquired through the effort of some distinguished Alumni, including the purchase of a choice property by the College of Continuing Education that now houses the University of Port Harcourt Business School.

Conceding that the University still faced challenges in terms of funding, office and classroom spaces, the Vice-Chancellor acknowledged the efforts made by his predecessors in infrastructural development, expressing hope that with the completion of ongoing projects, such infrastructural deficiencies would be a thing of the past in the nearest future.

"The paucity of office and classroom spaces was as a result of the rapid expansion of the University far beyond its carrying capacity within a very short space of time. But we are confident that when most of the ongoing projects are completed, this problem will be a thing of the past in this University," he stressed, advising Contractors to keep to the timeline specified in their contract.

"In the next three years or so, we would have adequately addressed the dire infrastructural deficits facing the University and we would then focus on the core mandate of the University, which are teaching and research," Professor Ajienka said, listing TETFund, Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG), Rivers and Bayelsa State Governments, Central Bank of Nigeria and friends of the University as some benefactors of ongoing projects in the University.

"Every Vice-Chancellor has worked towards developing the University. Right from the tenure of Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs, who turned the tide of development and international linkages, the University

has been very lucky. With Professor Don Baridam, we witnessed a lot of infrastructural development. From 2010 till now, we have witnessed a harvest of infrastructure that would improve our institutional capacity to deliver quality service to students and other stakeholders in the affairs of the University," he stated.

Ajienka, who noted that partnerships is critical to the intellectual development of the University, said that many of such linkages have been forged with industry and professional bodies, as well as academic institutions abroad. He disclosed that plans were afoot to establish a new partnership with the University of Loughborough in the United Kingdom which has expertise in Sports Technology.

Emphasising the need for every Department to identify with relevant industry and professional bodies, the Vice-Chancellor said, "If every Department identifies the industry they train for, then it would enhance the reputation of academics in such Departments and also be of immense benefit to the University. Every Lecturer must be recognised by relevant industries because the emphasis in today's knowledge economy is in education for sustainable development."

"Every scholar must engage in scholarly activities that are globally recognised and locally relevant. Scholarship is all about mentorship and academics must be known in the local industry. In the knowledge economy, it is about what we can attract from the industry," he explained, stressing the importance of patenting and developing research products that can solve societal problems.

"When you conduct a research and publish the result, you create gaps. To fill such gaps, you must patent and develop your product for use. Research is of no use if it is not useful to society. Instead of the publish-or-perish refrain, we should be talking about patent, publish and capitalisation knowledge. That is the way to go in a knowledge economy," Ajienka noted, wishing all staff and students a Happy New Year.

## Ajienka Lads OSC BOT On Environment, Xmas Concert

By Humphrey Ogu

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has commended the Management of Our Saviour's Chapel (OSC), Protestant Chaplaincy, (Interdenominational) for a well-organised Christmas Concert, exemplary conduct and maintenance of a lush lawn in the University.

The Vice-Chancellor, who made the observation when members of the OSC Board of Trustees paid him a courtesy visit to wish him a Merry Christmas and

present him with Christmas Card, thanked them for the gesture, stating that the University community needed the Church as a place to seek spiritual refuge, especially in times of distress.

Receiving the Card presented to him on behalf of the Church by Women's Representative in the Chapel Management Council (CMC), Professor Ebi Amakuru, Professor Ajienka said: "I want to thank you for all you have been doing to uplift our University through spiritual revival of staff and students who worship in your Chaplaincy. Our Saviour's Chapel

premises remains the most beautiful part of this Campus. You are taking good care of the environment and I honestly thank you for what you are doing. I also want to commend you for the high quality Christmas Concert you organised at the Chapel."

The Vice-Chancellor noted that "we can develop music to greater heights in this University with the high impact performance I witnessed. We have a Professor of music who has contributed immensely to raising the quality of music in the Chapel and I want to thank you again for that quality concert you put up to the delight of the audience. Those who missed that epic performance missed something great."

Chairman of the BOT and Chaplain of OSC, the Reverend Saturday Ntete, who expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for his support for the Chaplaincy, stressed the importance of the spiritual wellbeing of staff and students of the University. Rev. Ntete, who is also Chairman of the Chapel Management Committee (CMC), prayed for the growth of the University in the New Year, promising that OSC will always be ready to work with the authorities to achieve the full potentials of the University.

Other members of the Chaplaincy on the delegation were Professors Regina Ogali, Ndowa Lake and Ebi Amakuru, Drs. Andrew Obafemi, Jones Ayuwu and Mr. Kalu Okonwu.



V-C, Prof Ajienka (centre) flanked by Registrar, Mrs Maillida Nsindin and OSC Chaplain, Canon Ntete and other members of the BOT

# GUIDEPOST

## APPOINTMENT

**Professor Oyenwuyi Akaranta**, Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Chemical Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, appointed *Director, Science Institute*. The appointment which takes immediate effect is until further notice.

**Professor Matthew Wegwa**, Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Chemical Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, appointed *Chair Occupant, Bene Willie Abbey Professorial Chair of Nutrition and Environmental Biochemistry*. The appointment which takes immediate effect is until further notice.

**Dr. Chinese Uche**, Faculty of Education, reappointed *Acting Director, Centre for Higher Education Studies*. The re-appointment which takes retrospective effect from 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2014, is until further notice.

**Dr. E.A. Ibanichuka**, Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Sciences, appointed *Associate Dean*, effective 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 to the end of tenure of the current Dean of the Faculty.

**Dr. Chukwunye Okereke**, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, appointed *Acting Head of Department*, effective 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 to 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2016.

**Dr. Juliana Asodikpe**, Faculty of Education, appointed *Coordinator, Ash Grove Academy, College of Continuing Education*. The appointment which takes retrospective effect from 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2014, is until further notice.

## PROMOTION

**Dr. Esther Owelake**, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

**Dr. Chris Ochoagor**, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

**Dr. Obiageli Obiang**, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

**Dr. Bechukwu Abigwe**, Department of Plant Science & Biotechnology, Faculty of Biological Science, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, promoted *Reader*, effective 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2012.

**Dr. Clement Asadu**, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

**Dr. Kavarachi Innocent**, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

**Mr. Salem Ejebe**, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

**Mrs. Titilayo Osuagwu**, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

**Mrs. Eunice Osuagwu**, Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

# Ake School of Government Gets Governing, Advisory Boards

By Obinna Nwodin

In a bid to properly direct activities of the new Claude Ake School of Government to achieve the lofty objectives for which it was set up, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, inaugurated the Board of Directors and Advisory Board of the School, last December. Performing the Inaugurations at the Vice-Chancellor's Committee Room, Professor Ajienka, said that it was the resolve of the Administration to do something different in honour of the late distinguished Political Economist and globally-acclaimed Thinker.

"As a University, we thought we should do something in honour of late Professor Claude Ake on a grand scale and that was why we went into partnership with the Board of the Centre for Advanced Social Sciences (CASS) to train people in the business of governance. The Governing Board is to direct the School on Policy Development in order to achieve the objectives for which it was set up. We want you to give quality leadership to the School. Let it be one of the best things to happen in the University and the South-South region, particularly in service delivery", he stated. The Vice-Chancellor expressed hope that members of the emergent Boards drawn from distinguished professionals would swing into action to bring their wealth of experience to bear on their new positions.

In his acceptance speech, Chairman of the Advisory Board, Professor Okey Ibeanu of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, thanked the Vice-Chancellor and Management of the University for the decision to immortalize late Professor Claude Ake, who he described as an academic giant, pointing out that Professor Ajienka has once more shown himself as a visionary administrator with an uncommon quest for

academic excellence.

"The establishment of the Claude Ake School of Government shows that you are not only a Vice-Chancellor, but a visionary leader who has an eye on history. We will work very hard to give positive direction to the School in line with your vision for establishing it," he promised.

In his remarks, Director of the School, Professor Eme Ekekwé, thanked the Vice-Chancellor for the opportunity given them to serve, expressing hope that with the composition of the two Boards, the team would work towards the full realization of the vision of both the School and University of Port Harcourt.

Other members of the Governing Board are: Mr. Ledum Mitee, Chairman, Board of the Nigerian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI); Professor Eme Ekekwé; Professor Adele Jinadu, Past Executive Director of CASS; Mr. Grant Orughani, Managing Director GEOTEX Resources Nigeria, Dr. Richard Ofuru, retired Permanent Secretary in the Rivers State Ministry of Education.

Members of Advisory Board are: Sir Alli Oruemeke, Executive Chairman, Rivers State Basic Education Board; Dr. Sofiri Peterside, Deputy Director, Claude Ake School of Government, Barrister Franklin Ajinwa, Head of Personnel Management, Port Harcourt City Local Government; Mr. Sofiri Bobo Brown, past President of the Nigeria Institute of Public Relations; Mr. Valentine Igniwar, Country Resident Consultant, Samuelson BV Professional Services; Prince Reks Edward, Managing Director of Danvan Nigeria Ltd; Mr. Charles Ajayi-Khiran, Leadership and High Productivity Coach, London; Professor Samuel Iboje, University of Port Harcourt, as well as Madam V. Young-Harry, Initiator, Grassroots Empowerment Centre, Port Harcourt.



V-C, Prof Ajienka, (arrowed) flanked on his right by Prof Ibeanu and his left by DV-C (Admin), Prof Ethelbert Nduka and other members of the Boards

## Stop Press

### Rex Lawson Chair Holds Confab Jan 22

The Cardinal Rex Jim Lawson Chair in Highlife Music announces the maiden Rex Jim Lawson International Highlife Music Conference holding between Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2015. With the theme: "Highlife Music in West Africa: Retrospect and Prospects," the Conference is expected to provide a platform for cross-fertilization of ideas and sharing of experiences on African music and culture. It will feature seasoned academics and researchers, performing musicians and bands, media and non-governmental organizations, and lovers of Highlife music from all over the world.

### Resumption for Second Semester

Following the resumption from Christmas/New Year break, the University of Port Harcourt hereby announces the continuation of academic activities for the Second Semester for the 2013/2014 academic session. A statement by the Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim, disclosed that lectures commenced on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> January, and would end on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2015. A one-week revision would hold between 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January, while Student Union Week featuring cultural activities and professional exhibitions is slated for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> February. Second Semester examinations would hold between 9<sup>th</sup> February and 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2015. The statement directed the students to vacate their hostels from Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, warning them against staying in the hostels beyond Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2015.

## STOP PRESS

### CGS 75<sup>TH</sup> DOCTORAL SEMINAR PRESENTATION

The College of Graduate Studies (CGS) announces the 75<sup>th</sup> edition of the Doctoral Seminar presentation this Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 at the Seminar Room of the College. Time is 10:00am. Departments and Faculties are advised to convey the information to their affected students.

Contact: College Secretary, Dr Agatha Ataga.



## Commissioning of NIM Project

Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council, Engineer Gesi Asamaoewei, commissioned a modern VIP Lounge donated by the UniPort Chapter of the Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM) on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2014. Pictures below show highlights of the event as captured by our Cameraman, **HEADMANALU**:



National President, NIM, Dr. Nelson Uwagwa (left) welcoming Pro-Chancellor, Engr. Asamaoewei, to the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium



National Treasurer, NIM, Mr. Grant Orugbani (right) and Registrar, Federal University, Otuoke, Sir David Suowari



A cross-section of dignitaries on the high table



NIM members saying the Institute's prayer



Chairman, NIM, UniPort, Mrs. Flora Iyagba, welcoming guests to the event



S<sup>th</sup> Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Prof Nimi Briggs, delivering a Keynote Address



National President, NIM, Dr. Uwagwa and Mr. Orugbani



Fellow of the Institute, Dr. Ngezi Odu making a presentation to V-C, Prof Joseph Ajenka



Pro-Chancellor cutting the tape to the entrance of the VIP Lounge



Engr. Asamaoewei reading the marble inscription on the wall



Pro-Chancellor, V-C, some national officers, Fellows, UniPort Chapter EXCO and members of NIM after the commissioning



National President, NIM, Dr. Uwagwa, some Fellows and UniPort Chapter EXCO after unveiling the NIM signpost