

Faracias, Others, Honour Kay Williamson At Maiden Legacy Lecture

...As Ndimale Clocks 50

It was a harvest of encomiums at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last Wednesday, as students and associates of linguistic matriarch, the late Professor Kay Williamson, converged at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium for the maiden Annual Kay Williamson Legacy Lecture. The well-attended occasion was also used to mark the 50th birthday anniversary of Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and acolyte of the widely-acknowledged Mother of Linguistics in Africa, reports *Humphrey Ogu*.

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Side Bar

A Memorial Concert was held in honour of Sir Clement Fimle Nimenibo at the University Arts Theatre — The CRAB last Wednesday. Details Next Week — Editor

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UniPort Gets Accolades For TETFund Utilization

By Obinna Nwodin

Supervising Minister of Education, Chief Nysom Wike and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Dr Musa Babayo have commended authorities of University of Port Harcourt for what they described as their effective utilization of funds drawn from the TETFund as part of the overall transformation agenda of the University system by the

Federal Government.

Wike spoke at a one day sensitization stakeholders' Town Hall Meeting during which nine tertiary institutions in the South-South zone gathered at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, to give account of their stewardship of TETFund allocations, last Monday. The Minister made the commendation as he reeled out the Federal Government's infusion of funds into the tertiary education system, through the TETFund,

which he said, stood at over 100 billion Naira since the inception of the Administration of Dr Goodluck Jonathan.

The Minister, who dismissed the erroneous impression that the Federal Government has not done much in the improvement of the educational sector, said that the Town Hall Meeting was aimed at acquainting stakeholders in the South-South zone on how funds accessed from TETFund have been utilized by tertiary institutions

Cont'd on p6



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As the scarcity of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) continues to bite harder on the Nigerian citizens, it has become necessary to seek new ways of tackling the perennial problem. It is high time Nigerian government resorts to modular refineries.

Modular mini-refineries, from simple diesel production units to more sophisticated cracking refineries, are increasingly becoming a flexible and cost-effective supply option for crude producers in remote regions. This is particularly true where there is a need to adapt rapidly to meet local demand. Relatively low capital cost, speed and ease of construction are key advantages of a modular mini-refinery. Two 30,000 barrels-per-day (bpd), units producing high octane unleaded gasoline, LPG, diesel, kerosene and fuel oil can be installed in an 18-month time window, with a budget of 150-200 million dollars. Modules from 4,000 bpd up to 30,000 bpd primary distillation capacity can be added together with debottlenecking to create a refinery of 100,000 bpd or more, should demand dictate.

The conditions required to make such an investment workable typically include a location in close proximity with access to crude supply; near to sizable markets with logistic advantages—decreases high distribution costs in remote regions; project finance on preferential terms from development credit agencies and almost certainly some government incentives to support regional development.

The overall economics or viability of a refinery depends on the interaction of three key elements: the choice of crude oil used or crude slate; the complexity of the refining equipment or refinery configuration; and the desired type and quality of products produced or product slate. Refineries can produce a wide range of products including: propane, butane, petrochemical feedstock, gasoline (naphtha specialties, aviation gasoline and motor gasoline), distillates (jet fuel, diesel, kerosene, and intermediate fuel oil), heavy fuel oil, lubricating oils, waxes, and asphalt. The last three products require a special refinery configuration and are not suitable for a modular mini-refinery.

Mini-refineries are typically available in units from 4,000 to 30,000 bpd. The different configurations

How To Tackle Fuel Scarcity In Nigeria



A refinery complex critical to fuel production

By Godwin Igwe

available for modular mini-refineries, with increasing degree of sophistication include atmospheric (topping unit), gasoline train, vacuum distillation (cracking), and hydrocracker units (full conversion). Modular units are pre-fabricated in workshop conditions and shipped to site for assembly. Quality and speed of construction are key advantages of this approach.

Refineries fall into three broad categories, the simplest is a topping plant, which consists only of a crude distillation unit and probably a catalytic reformer to provide gasoline. The next level of refining is called a

cracking refinery. This refinery takes the gasoil portion from the crude distillation unit (a stream heavier than diesel fuel, but lighter than Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) and breaks it down further into gasoline and distillate components using catalysts, high temperature and pressure. A more sophisticated modular mini-refinery can be configured in this way. The last level of refining is the coking refinery.

This refinery processes residual fuel, the heaviest material from the crude unit and thermally cracks it into lighter product in a "Coker" or a hydro-cracker.

To be Cont'd next week

All This Is Quite Immirimeous!

The awards dished out two weeks ago by President Goodluck Jonathan to many of our compatriots, dead and/or alive, got me thinking. Yes, I am aware that thinking is a dangerous activity, which is why most of us prefer to quit and think no more. But I think quitting is a bad idea.

And so, there I was thinking about the men and women who received the Centenary Awards, trying very hard to understand why nobody deserved awards on behalf of all those ethnic and religious champions who have caused so much trouble in the land. Where were they when real men and women stood up to be counted? My real disappointment that evening was that no awards were given to representatives of the peasants and fishermen, who have carried this country on their backs for the last hundred years while their leaders were plucking and eating bananas.

The one award I could not understand was to the late General San Abacha. Yes, he created States, but what about those allegations about missing monies and human rights abuses? I would have thought that naming streets and stadia after the man was already more than enough honour for the number of coups he announced when it was fashionable to do so. The little I know of him is so uncomplimentary that each time I drive down any road named after him, I feel like protesting by driving against the flow of traffic – and doing so in reverse, to boot.

His days as the ruler were very dark for this country, and not just because NEPA lines were down. Here was a man who could never see he was leading the nation into the abyss because he nearly always wore dark glasses, even at mid night! But here he was on display, in the company of people who, in my view, were more deserving – Michael Imoudu, Aminu Kano, Chike Obi, Ernest Ikoli, our own dear Claude Ake, and many others.

With the mention of the Ake name, I suddenly realized why Abacha made that list. You see, there really were two categories of honourees. In one category were those who honoured for what they did. That was where the Akes and Aminu Kanos came in. In another category were those honoured for what they did not do! That was

By Eme Ekekw

Abacha's group. Those in the first category would become role models for the youths now being transformed; those in the second category would have no such role. I derived this simple, logical explanation from a casual remark made long ago by the late Ake.

It was in 1992 or thereabouts and Professor Claude Ake had given a lecture to which he was invited by the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ). Ake felt that his performance fell below par (even though most of us

thought it had the vintage Ake quality). As he apologized to the audience, he said that those who thought he did a poor job of it should see it as an example of how not to give a lecture. The take home here is that our leaders should see an Abacha as a good example of how not to lead Nigeria. Q. E. D!

But there is also a more fundamental angle to it. At what point does my criticism of the Abachas of this world degenerate into envy and even questioning the whole notion of justice? Fact is that I saw only a short period of Abacha's public life. Granted that that period I saw was not flattering either for the man or for Nigeria, is it enough for me to determine that his whole life was evil? Suppose the national honour was genuinely the result of some good seed that he, in this or some earlier life, in private or public, had sown? Of course, he shall reap its fruits whenever they mature, regardless of what I think. Tough cookie, folks, that is the law! Indeed, there is the possibility that in nominating him some paw was shifted on the political chess board. But I do not know this for certain. And even if I did know it, could this not be the visible trigger for what indeed just had to be?

All this seems quite "immirimeous", which is another way of saying that there is more than meets the eye here. This I do know for sure: we all reap what we have sown. We have all seen good things happen to people we are convinced were bad, and vice versa. Fact is that we do not know where those people have been in this or other lives they have lived. So, maybe, it is not as "immirimeous" as it seems after all! We can muddy the waters with various kinds of scheming and subterfuge but, hey, it will all come out in the wash!



Late Abacha

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Faracclas, Others, Honour Kay Williamson At Maiden Legacy Lecture



V-C, Prof Ajenka (arrowed) and other members of the High Table at the event

Presenting a Lecture, titled: "Kay Williamson, *The Linguistic Prehistoric Africa and Beyond*", Professor Nicholas Faracclas of Universidad de Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, in Papua New Guinea, noted that "Professor Williamson's work played an important role in alerting us to the fact that an understanding of African history and culture is both central to adequate understanding of what has come to be called "Western" history and culture.

"Professor Williamson's oeuvre is cited not only in scholarly publications on African languages in general and Niger-Congo languages in particular, but also in cutting-edge work on World History, Critical Theory, and Critical Discourse Analysis applied to the construction of Western Civilisation. Because her strong commitment to academic research was matched by her unwavering commitment to

social justice, her legacy continues to have impact on the way we see the world," he added.

Faracclas, who was a research fellow under the tutelage of Professor Williamson, at the University of Port Harcourt in the early 1980s, also delivered another lecture titled: "Kay Williamson and the Question of African Agency in the Emergence of the Atlantic Creole", noting that an important part of Professor Williamson's legacy is her consistent commitment to re-centring Africans as linguistic and cultural agents in the Atlantic World and beyond."

Speaking as Chairman of the occasion, Emeritus Professor Ebegberi Alagoo, described Kay Williamson as a team-player, who worked with him in the Rivers Reader's Project, recalling that he met the renowned linguist at the University of Ibadan, before she

relocated to the Niger Delta to study and write the Practical Orthographies of the indigenous languages. He also thanked the University and other stakeholders for the honour done Williamson, whom he described as very deserving of the recognition she was getting posthumously.

In his remarks, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, recalled that his first encounter with Williamson was at Okrika, where she went on research, before meeting her again at University of Ibadan and then UniPort, stating that "those of us who crossed the paths of Professor Kay Williamson still have fond memories of her—especially her groundbreaking works in the Niger Delta. She should be celebrated because she was a blessing to this country."

Speaking through the Commissioner of Information, Markson Fefegha, the Secretary to the Bayelsa State Government, Professor Edmund Allison-Oguru, reaffirmed the State Government's resolve to support the Kay Williamson Chair in Linguistics which it instituted in her honour.

Earlier in his welcome address, Chair Occupant and Director, Kay Williamson Centre for Language and Communications, Professor Ozo-mekuri Ndimele, who listed the main objectives of the Centre, said: "The Centre is expected to play a leading role in all matters relating to communication and language in development in Africa. It will serve as the rallying point for African linguists and communication experts and a unique centre for the dissemination of new techniques in language and communication research."

Ndimele, thanked the Bayelsa State Government, Professors Ajenka, Faracclas, Alagoo and all those who, contributed to the success of the maiden Williamson legacy Lecture. He called for more collaborative supports, advising anyone who wished to collaborate with the centre to visit www.kaywilliamsoncentre.com for more information.

Others, who shared fond memories and paid glowing tributes to the Mother of Nigerian Linguistics, included Professor Molar Ogundipe of the Department of English Studies and Professor Philomena Ejele of Federal University Otuoke, Bayelsa State.

Day two of the four-day event was dedicated to a symposium marking the 50th birthday of Professor Ndimele. Departments in the Faculty exhibited their creative prowess and products, while more papers were also presented as part of the celebration of the great legacy of Professor Kay Williamson and her academic grandchild, Professor Ndimele.

UniPort To Partner Aberdeen Varsity On Offshore Technology

By Obinna Nwodin

Authorities of the University of Port Harcourt have expressed willingness to partner the University of Aberdeen, Scotland in the area of Offshore Technology.

This was the outcome of a meeting between officials of both institutions held penultimate week at the Vice-Chancellor's Committee room, University Park.

Addressing the visiting delegation, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who expressed willingness in partnering the UK institution, said that the University of Port Harcourt was strong in Petroleum Engineering, Petroleum Geosciences and other Oil and Gas-related disciplines, not only in Nigeria, but also Africa.

"We are interested in partnerships that would be mutually beneficial and we are open to collaborations in both teaching and research endeavours. An

opportunity to work with a reputable institution like Aberdeen in Offshore Technology will be a plus to us and also beneficial to you," he said.

In his speech, representative of the University of Aberdeen, Dr Alfred Akinsaya, who described his institution as the 5th oldest in the United Kingdom, said that the Institution has provided many years of teaching and research experience to students and scholars.

"Our Vice-Chancellor is keen at developing linkages and partnerships in sub-Saharan Africa. We have a strong Oil and Gas programme that would be of interest to the University of Port Harcourt, Dr Akinsaya said." He stated that Aberdeen has an office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Internationalization, pointing out that "our role is to encourage students to come to the University and to provide stronger partnerships with universities in Nigeria, Ghana and Uganda, amongst others."



Officials of both the Universities of Port Harcourt and Aberdeen after the meeting

White House Wins Gladys Cookey DayCare Sports Meet

White House emerged champions among the four houses that participated at the 5th Annual Inter-House Sports Competition of the Gladys Cookey International Daycare School, which took place at the School's premises, last Wednesday.

Declaring the competition open, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who commended the pupils for putting up such wonderful performances, described the event as a right start for the young competitors, who were very enthusiastic about participating in the annual event.

"Following the performances put up by the children, I could see future sports men and women among them", he said, expressing gratitude to the University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA) for organising the event for the children, teachers and parents of the pupil for teaching and encouraging the children to participate in sports. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igbo Joe, who represented the Vice-Chancellor at the competition, disclosed that sporting activities should be part of every school to encourage youngsters to be involved in Inter-House Sports, stressing that it was also desirable to invite their parents and guardians to be part of the event.

He appealed to organisers of the event to make provision for the best performing house and individual athletes, rather than presenting only trophies to them. "For some of the events, the organisers should talk to the Parent Teachers Association (PTA) to support the school with funds to encourage the winning house or individual athletes", stressing the need for more male staff in the School to ensure gender balance.

Speaking on the sideline, Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim, expressed gratitude to the organisers of the event for encouraging the children to go into sports. "As young as these children are, they still understand what competition is all about. Everyone tried to represent his or her house so well; I think this is the best way to begin identifying future stars. Another thing I observed is that at the



Victorious White House pupils in jubilant mood

By Mercy Adeniji

end of each event, both the person who emerged as the first or last, no matter the position, we still saw the children playing together, which shows the good spirit of sportsmanship, starting from such a tender age, which is very interesting".

Also speaking, President, University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA), Mrs Mercy Ajienka, congratulated the children and commended their parents for enrolling their wards in the School, describing this year's sports meet as better than other years. The UPWA President disclosed that more children are enrolling in the School, while the population of children is also on the increase as more of them continue to enrol in the nursery and primary section.

"We want to encourage the children to keep up the spirit of sportsmanship and this is what we are

trying to inculcate in them, from this early age", she said, recalling that someone once told her to take the names of the children who have done very well to the Director of Sports to groom and catch them young.

In her contribution, Secretary of the Association, Mrs Caroline Naabue, also thanked Management and the entire women for supporting the School, stating that she was very pleased with the performances put up by the children. "Every year, this School is having new innovations, and is now upgraded to a primary school and also runs a Montessori curriculum; we are encouraging more parents to enrol their wards in the School", she added.

Highlight of the event was a match past, track and field, picking the ball, filling the bottle, busting the balloon, relay race, three-legged race, catching the train and dressing to school.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has appealed to contractors handling jobs in the University to always strive to add value to their jobs to justify aggressive demand of the debts owed them by the Institution.

Professor Ajienka made the appeal while exchanging views with the Executive Committee of the Association of UniPort Registered Contractors at the Vice-Chancellor's Committee Room, last Friday.

The Vice-Chancellor disclosed that the Governing Council of the University had approved that some money be set aside to pay

V-C Tasks Contractors On Quality Job Delivery

By Obinna Nwodin

debts owed the contractors on a monthly basis to reduce the debt profile of the Institution.

"Our debts will be paid by instalment as we prioritize what we owe Contractors. Council is investigating the debt profile of the University to determine the extent and the quality of jobs being delivered by the Contractors. There will be a definite sequence of debts payment from 2011 to present," he stated, stressing that the authorities would not embark on any new project until all

outstanding debts were cleared. The Vice-Chancellor regretted that some Contractors did very shoddy jobs that did not last for six months, warning that the University would be compelled to blacklist such callous Contractors, who behaved as if they are not stakeholders in the affairs of the University.

In his speech, Chairman of the Association, Mr. Collins Amadi, who appealed to the authorities to pay the Contractors, said that most of the members have suffered untold hardship due to

non-payment for jobs done in the University. He promised to look into the quality of jobs done by members of his Association, stressing that it was morally wrong to do a shoddy job and expect to be paid.

Also speaking, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Nduka, said that if the authorities and Contractors continue in this manner of understanding, there would be more progress in the University and the community.



V-C, Prof Ajienka (arrowed) officials of the University and representatives of the contractors

As a way of educating stakeholders on the emerging Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS), the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation ended a consultation meeting in the University, penultimate Wednesday.

Speaking as Chairman at the event, which took place at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium; Pro-Chancellor of University ofuyo, Professor Kimse Okoko, noted that the meeting was important, because IPPIS has been a very nagging issue. Okoko, who is Chairman of Committee of Pro-Chancellors of Nigerian Universities, stressed the need for the scheme to be handled efficiently to avoid possible challenges that could confront University staff in the implementation process of the new policy.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, who welcomed guests to the University, expressed hope that the meeting would afford participants the opportunity of appraising and appreciating the working of the IPPIS Scheme, wishing the stakeholders fruitful deliberations.

In her presentation, IPPIS Co-ordinator, Mrs Nana Fatima Mede, who spoke on how the scheme works, disclosed that IPPIS scheme started in 2006 as one of the transformation projects of the Federal Government, with a pilot scheme. She cited an instance where out of 55,000 persons on a payroll, only 30,340 persons showed up for verification, attributing the development to the ghost-worker syndrome, which she said Government was determined to end.

UniPort Hosts IPPIS Workshop



V-C, UniPort, Prof Ajienka and V-C, Otuoke, Prof Aluko arriving for the Workshop

By Humphrey Ogu

Vice-Chancellor, Federal University, Otuoke, Professor Mobolaji Aluko, described IPPIS as wonderful, stating that efficiency is of utmost importance in the success of the scheme.

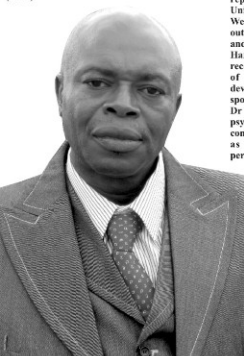
Others, who spoke at the event included

representatives of Soft Alliance and Resources Limited, a software provider, Kola Oladeji; Grand Central service provider, Osa Afe, amongst others, allaying fears of possible technical failures in the operations of the scheme. The meeting also featured an interactive session.

Amasiatu Elected To ISSP

By Mercy Adeniji

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the growth of health education in Nigeria, Sport Psychologist, Dr Athanasius Amasiatu of the Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education in the Faculty of Education, has been elected into the International Society of Sports Psychology (ISSP).



Dr Amasiatu

Briefing *UniPort Weekly* on the development of sports in Nigeria, Dr Amasiatu disclosed that his experience in sports psychology spans over 25 years as a practising sports psychologist with the Sport Institute of Rivers State Isaka, Port Harcourt.

"As a University sports psychologist, I am involved in the mental and psychological preparation of sports men and women, who represent the University at the Nigerian Universities Games Association (NUGA) and the West African Universities Games (WAUG). Our outstanding performances at successive NUGA and WAUG games have earned University of Port Harcourt global recognition, resulting in its recent selection by the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) for the development of a high performance centre in sports".

Dr Amasiatu stressed the need for a sports psychology before and after every sporting competition to keep the minds of athletes at rest, as well as encourage them to greater performances, explaining that the closet person outside the coach is the sports psychologist.

"There must be harmonious relationship between the coach, athletes and the sports psychologist. Most times, the psychologist is the custodian of the athletes' mindset, while the coach is usually involved in the skills and development of the athlete. These three work in concert to set the right goals to achieve excellent performances" he said. Congratulating *Team UniPort* for bringing joy once again to the University, Dr Amasiatu expressed gratitude to Management of the University for giving the coaching crew and psychologist all the support they needed to encourage the athletes to emerge victorious at the just-concluded NUGA games hosted by Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State.

STOP PRESS



Prof Cooley

COOKEY AT 80!

2nd Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sylvanus Cooley, will join the Octogenarian Class of 80 in April, 2014. Send in your tributes to this consummate historian and administrator to:

The Editor; Unique Accolades, C/O: IPPR Unit, Senate Building. Last date of submission is Friday, 21st March, 2014.

UniPort Gets Accolades For TETFund Utilization



Supervising Minister for Education, Chief Nyosom Wike (arrowed) flanked by V-C, Prof. Ajenka and officials of TETFund and Federal Ministry of Education

Ministry of Education, Dr. MacJahn Nwabiala, who said that the Meeting was the initiative of the Supervising Minister, stated that the Federal Government recognised the importance of education to the development of the society and that is why it has, through TETFund, committed huge funds to the development of

Cont'd from p1

since the inception of the present administration. Wike, who was visibly impressed with what he saw on ground during a Campus facility tour, said: "Quite frankly, the Vice-Chancellor of University of Port Harcourt is doing well. If the Vice-Chancellor is not doing well, he knows me well, I will tell him right to his face. I want to commend you for your efforts in the development of the University of Port Harcourt, which is my *Alma Mater* and the institution that produced the President of the Federal Republic."

He disclosed that "the exercise was not aimed at indicting anybody, scoring cheap political points or massaging anybody's ego, but to afford all stakeholders an opportunity to ascertain to what extent TETFund funds have been utilized in tertiary institutions across the country."

"Assuming we gave a particular University N5 billion, we want to know how such an institution has utilized the money for the interest of staff and students and to let everybody know that government is investing massively in education, contrary to widely-held opinion in some sections of the country not much is being done in that critical sector. It is a practical thing in the sense

that each Vice-Chancellor, Rector or Provost will tell us what he or she has done with the funds so far accessed from the TETFund," he stated.

In his address, the BoT Chairman of TETFund, Dr. Babayo, who also commended authorities of the University over the judicious application of funds made available to them, said that the event was to enable beneficiaries showcase the impact of TETFund intervention in their institutions over the years. He noted that it was the first time such a landmark event was taking place in the history of tertiary education in Nigeria and thanked the Supervising Minister for Education for the initiative, pointing out that the level of intervention seen so far was quite revolutionary.

"It is an indication that the University managers have keyed into the transformation agenda of President Jonathan's administration," he stated, adding that the challenge is for managers of the tertiary institutions to ensure that whatever is allocated to them is judiciously utilized to upgrade infrastructure and create an enabling learning environment." He encouraged the institutions to access the funds in order to enhance service-delivery, noting that it was critical for the survival and continued growth of the sector.

Also speaking, Permanent Secretary, Federal

education in the country. He said that the overall objective of the meeting was to enhance accountability in the use of public funds, as well as ascertaining their impact.

In his address, Acting Executive Secretary of TETFund, Malam Aliyu Na'aya, said that the Agency was established to provide sustainable intervention to the development of tertiary education in Nigeria, adding that the event is under the auspices of the transformation agenda of the present administration, which he said, placed high premium on human capacity building.

Earlier in his welcome address, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Port Harcourt, Professor Joseph Ajenka, who said that TETFund has made a huge difference in the infrastructural development of higher education in Nigeria, identified the non-payment of compensation on the land acquired by the Federal Government as a major challenge faced by the University in its effort to develop infrastructure.

The event which was highly interactive had heads of tertiary institutions in the geo-political zone take turns to acquaint stakeholders with projects embarked upon through the funds made available by TETFund to their institutions.

OPTIWELL
Wellbore
Stability
Management

Software developed by the Shell Aret-Adams Research Institute, University of Port Harcourt, also known as OPTIWELL Model 1.0, has successfully been used to model failure behavior of subsurface formations as a result of drilling operations. The new technology also prevents borehole collapse by predicting adequate drilling mud weight to maintain borehole stability.

A statement by Occupant of the Chair and OPTIWELL Developer, Professor Adewale Dosunmu, on behalf of the research team, described the revolutionary technique as so beneficial that "client operators are smiling home as a result of reduced drilling problems and resultant cost in efforts aimed at saving cost and the affected wells," adding that the procedure aims at saving entire field development budgets of oil prospecting companies.

Drilling of well, the statement further said, consumes about 60 per cent of entire field budget, making savings as very substantial. "Nigeria's fiscal regime is such that 60 per cent of business risk is borne by the country, the research team said, disclosing that OPTIWELL ensures that operations learning curve is consistently on the upward slope.

"With OPTIWELL Geo-mechanical analysis, formations are better known, as more information is gathered from previous wells, subsequent wells

OPTIWELL Software Passes Model Behaviour Test

By Williams Wodi

are better designed," the statement said.

It would be recalled that drilling operations usually encounter major setbacks as a result of instability in shales, while Non-Productive Time

(NPT) expended in solving problems associated with wellbore instability significantly go beyond drilling budget and still does not necessarily lead to desired solutions. Operators are compelled to engage in trial and error approaches and equipment damage that cost much money and time wasted in trial and error procedures.

OPTIWELL predicts the minimum pressure under which the well could collapse, because an optimal mud weight is predicted to prevent well collapse, with a better criteria for failure, while pre-drill planning procedure insures against tool failure incidents, thus saving the environment from radioactive contamination.

Professor Dosunmu disclosed that "OPTIWELL will result in improved profitability through reduction in well construction in Nigeria, human capacity building, increased local content participation, domestication of high level technology, and better environmental conservation through reduction in abandoned radioactive materials." The Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria (SPDC), has already endorsed the new OPTIWELL Software.

Benefits of the emergent software include reduced Non-Productive Time, increased savings from drilling time, reduced recurrent problems, improved operational performance and reliability and efficiency.



Prof Dosunmu

GUIDEPOST

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Professor Martinus Besman, Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, Faculty of Humanities, granted *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 8th April, 2014 to 7th April, 2015.

Professor Hyacinth Dike, Department of Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology, Faculty of Education granted *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 19th April, 2014 to 18th April, 2015.

Professor Reginald Moro, Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, granted *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 12th January, 2014 to 11th January, 2015.

Dr Philip Izegbo, University Library, granted *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 14th May, 2014 to 13th May, 2015.

Dr Vinola Fuhara, Department of Mental Health, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, granted *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 7th April, 2014 to 6th April, 2015.

REVIEW OF STATUS

Dr Tobin Maxwell, Department of Anaesthesiology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Lecturer I*, effective 15th March, 2013.

Nwabughachukwu Oreh, Department of Pharmaceutical Microbiology, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 26th January, 2013.

Dr Angela Oragwu, Department of Educational Management, Faculty of Education, promoted *Lecturer II*, effective 27th February, 2013.

PROMOTION

Dr Alege Briggs, Department of Anaesthesiology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2013.

Dr O.J. Egiebo, Department of Child Dental Health, Faculty of Dentistry, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2013.

Dr Patricia Ukaigbo, Department of Nursing, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2013.

Dr O.B. Braininoh, Department of Preventive and Social Medicine, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2013.

Dr A.N. Horsfall, Department of Nursing, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2013.

Dr Emeka Osunwoke, Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2013.

Dr Joy Olofin, Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, promoted *Senior Lecturer*, effective 1st October, 2013.

STUDY LEAVE

Mrs Colleen Clifford, Junior Staff Office, Registry Department, granted 30 months *Study Leave with Pay* to pursue a Confidential Secretary Course at the Rivers State Development Training, effective 10th February, 2014 to 10th August, 2016.

Mrs Roseline Oti, Library Department granted 30 months *Study Leave with Pay* to pursue a Confidential Secretary Course at the Establishment Training and Pension Bureau, Rivers State, Port Harcourt, effective 10th February, 2014 to 10th August, 2016.

V-C Tasks Artisan Cadre On Productivity



L-R: Dr Chinese Uche, Prof Ejorje, DV-C (Admin), Prof Ndaka and Inede

By Mercy Adeniji

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has charged staff of the Works and Services Department to put into practice the training they have received to enable them contribute to the development and growth of the University.

Professor Ajienka gave the charge while presenting certificates of attendance and performance to artisans in the various units of the Department at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, penultimate Thursday.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ethelbert Ndaka, who represented the Vice-Chancellor at the presentation ceremony, commended Chairman of the Staff Training and Development Unit (STADU) Committee, Professor Samuel Ejorje for encouraging staff to participate in the training.

"The training you have received is an important component of the artisan cadre and continuous professional development and it is very important that you appreciate the effort of the University Management in this respect. We were very careful in selecting members of the Committee and as you can see today, the first batch is receiving certificates of participation. This shows you the importance Management attaches to staff training; so I congratulate you and urge you to redouble efforts aimed at contributing to enhanced productivity," he said, stating that now that they have received the training, the next step is the character of individual staff and the quality of service they would render to the University.

"We must tell ourselves the truth; your character matters quite a lot. You must

appreciate your importance and ensure that your services are in demand. Your work as artisans is as important as the work of a Professor, because no category of staff is more important than the other and that is why we must appreciate what you do in the system. Again, no work is superior to the other and that is why we must work in harmony, which is the only way the system can grow." Professor Ajienka charged them to put the training they have received into action, stressing that it was the only way Management would evaluate their appreciation of the training they have undergone.

Also speaking, former Dean of the defunct Faculty of Engineering and Chairman of STADU Committee, Professor Ejorje, said as an Engineering Professor, he is in a better position to define who an artisan really is. "An Artisan constitutes the bedrock of the engineering profession. They also constitute the cornerstone of infrastructural development; in fact, Works and Services in any establishment derive technology from the artisanship workforce, so you are a very important team," he told the artisans.

Professor Ejorje disclosed that in the Engineering profession, "We have the engineering, technical and artisan cadre, stating that the artisan cadre is mentioned last, but it is the foundation and the base, as no engineer can work without the artisan. He expressed satisfaction with the training received by the artisans, noting that "this training is very important for two reasons; first, it is what we call in the engineering profession, continuous professional development, where you learn on the job and become exposed to training to improve yourselves on the job. The University attaches a lot of importance on your role; secondly, nobody wants to remain static; so there is need to grow in the profession and merit it. Having received this training, you should be able to also train others under you."

In his contribution, the Director, Works and Services Department, Mr Jubril Inede, expressed gratitude to Management of the University for organising the training for the artisans, recalling that when he first decided to initiate the training programme, there were obstacles, expressing gratitude to God, the Vice-Chancellor and Registrar for ensuring that the programme finally held.

Mr Inede also thanked the artisans for turning out en masse to grace the event, noting that he was excited by the fact that the artisans were also happy. Some of the participants, Mr Maruko Obinwo and Nuka Peter, expressed gratitude to Management of the University and Director of the Unit for organising the event, promising that they would put everything they have learnt into practice. Highlight of the event was the presentation of certificates to the 103 participants.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT WEATHER OBSERVATORY

FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 16-SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2014

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI LO (°C)	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (am) (pm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY 16 MAR, 2014	35.0 26.0	60	NE	9.5 6:38 6:43		Thunder storms expected late in the day. More clouds than sun. Hot day expected.
MONDAY, 17 MAR, 2014	34.0 26.0	61	N	- 6:38 6:43		More clouds than sun expected. Day anticipated being mostly warm.
TUESDAY 18 MAR, 2014	34.0 25.0	66	N	3.9 6:37 6:43		Thunder storms expected early in the day. Partly sunny and warm day forecasted.
WEDNESDAY 19 MAR, 2014	34.0 25.0	64	NE	2.8 6:37 6:43		Thunder storms expected early in the day. Mucous than clouds. Warm day forecasted.
THURSDAY 20 MAR, 2014	34.0 25.0	63	N	- 6:36 6:43		More clouds than sun expected. Warm day forecasted.
FRIDAY 21 MAR, 2014	34.0 25.0	61	N	2.4 6:36 6:43		Thunder storms expected early in the day. More clouds than sun expected. Hot day forecasted.
SATURDAY 22 MAR, 2014	34.0 25.0	63	N	- 6:35 6:42		Mostly cloudy and warm day expected.

SANDRA NWABUFO
OFFICER IN CHARGE

PROF SAMUEL AROKOWU
DIRECTOR, (CDRMS)

Public Lecture On "Genius Principle"

Professor of Thinking, William Maxwell of the University of Advancing Technology, Tempe, Arizona, delivered a lecture titled: "Genius Principle" at the University of Port Harcourt on Monday, February 17, 2014. Here are scenes from the event as captured by our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU**.



L-R: Prof Tony Arize, Guest Lecturer, Prof Maxwell, V-C, Prof Joseph Ajienka arriving for the Lecture



Prof Clifford Oforam, welcoming Prof Maxwell to the lecture, while Profs Ajienka and Arize look on



Fmr. President of Nigerian Bar Association, Barr. Onyege Okocha (SAN), exchanging pleasantries with Prof. Maxwell



L-R: former Students of Prof Maxwell, V-C Prof Ajienka, Barr. Okocha and V-C RSU-ST, Prof Barlowe Fakar, on the high table



Barr. Okocha giving a speech, while others listen



NBA President, Barr. Okey Wali, (SAN) another student of Prof Maxwell, giving a speech



Prof Maxwell delivering his Lecture on Genius Principle



Students of University Demonstration Primary and Secondary Schools participating in an experiment



Prof Bene Willie-Abies, decorating Prof Maxwell with the University Muffler



Prof Maxwell in a tie-up with V-C, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Prof Rosemarie Green Okeahiala and V-C, Prof Ajienka



A cross section of participants



Prof Ajienka (right) and former teacher, Prof Maxwell and Prof Oforam during the courtesy visit



A group photograph with Prof Maxwell, Prof Ajienka, Principal Officers and some staff of the University during the courtesy visit