

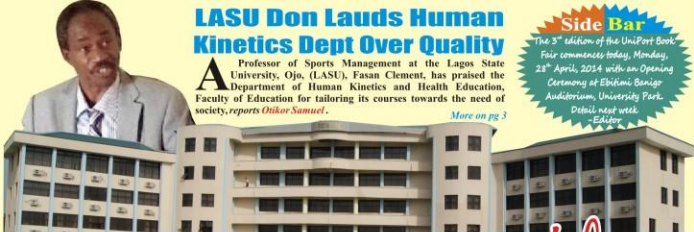
LASU Don Lauds Human Kinetics Dept Over Quality

A Professor of Sports Management at the Lagos State University, Ojo, (LASU), Fasan Clement, has praised the Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, Faculty of Education for tailoring its courses towards the need of society, reports *Onikar Samuel*.

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Side Bar

The 3rd edition of the UniPort Book Fair commences today, Monday, 28th April, 2014 with an Opening Ceremony at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, University Park. Detail next week -Editor



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Prof Cookey at 80

UniPort Endows Chair In Honour Of Prof Cookey

By Obinna Nwodin

Authorities of the University of Port Harcourt have announced the endowment of a Professorial Chair in History in honour of the 2nd Vice-Chancellor of the Institution, Professor Sylvanus Cookey.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, made the disclosure while speaking at the 80th Birthday Ceremony and formal inauguration of the Professor Sylvanus Cookey Chair in Malaria Studies in the University, held at the Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium, last Friday. Professor Ajienka, who extolled the leadership qualities of Professor Cookey as 2nd Vice-Chancellor, disclosed: "I have the permission of the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council to announce that one of the new buildings being constructed would be named after Professor Cookey. When you have a name like Professor Cookey around you, you will know that it would attract a lot of positive developments."

In his speech, Chairman of the occasion



and Obi of Onitsha, Igwe Nnaemeka Achebe, who described the University as unique, said that its achievements were as a result of the solid foundation laid by people like Professor Cookey. According

to him, the University is the industry for the development of human capacity and as a result it is the most fundamental institution for the development of a country.

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As Port
Harcourt
Becomes
World
Book
Capital...



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Improved Service-Delivery In UniPort

In recent times, the need for improved service-delivery by schedule officers in the University of Port Harcourt has become necessary. This is as a result of the towering profile of the Institution and the focus of the Professor Joseph Ajienka-led administration on quality control and academic excellence.

The current enlightenment and orientation carried out by the SERVICOM Unit, which is aimed at ensuring that all concerned are abreast with the rules of engagement and conform to them, is a step in the right direction. There is no doubt that efficient and effective service by staff would ensure that the objectives of the system are met. It is in this regard that the need for all staff to be on their toes to do their bit for the overall development of the system cannot be overemphasized.

Both teaching and non-teaching staff in the University have the duty to be responsive to their responsibilities. This is more important in the current era of globalization, where competition and the quest for excellence is the order of the day. Cutting-edge researches and inventions are what distinguish universities, all over the world. The University is established to train students both in character and learning to make them ready to tackle the social, economic and political challenges in the society.

There is a gainsaying that when any part of the system is found wanting, it affects the running of the entire system. To appreciate the need for improved service-delivery, it is imperative to point out that the vision of the University is to build a world-class university renowned for its innovation, creativity,

By Obinna Nwodin

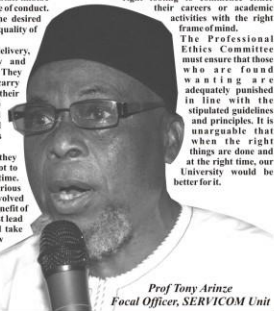
productivity and scholarship. This cannot be achieved without the right attitude to work by staff. As a matter of fact, it is important that staff imbibe the proper work ethics and the right code of conduct. When the right ethics are imbibed, the desired results would be achieved and the right quality of graduates produced.

In order to ensure improved service-delivery, staff must ensure that punctuality and regularity at work is treated with levity. They must always be at their duty posts to carry out their schedules. In carrying out their schedules, staff must ensure that they do them efficiently. Hard work and diligence make room for improved performance at workplace and it is imperative to imbibe them.

Teaching staff must always ensure that they are in class when they ought to so as not to give room for students to idle away their time. They must also take their researches serious as a true academic must be actively involved on problem-solving researches for the benefit of the society. It is important that they must lead by example as the students who would take over the mantle of leadership tomorrow are watching and it is what they see that they would take on. In achieving the overall objectives of the University, we must all be above-board in our dealings with colleagues and students.

The SERVICOM Unit must step up its activities by launching massive enlightenment and orientation for staff and admitted students. This would put them in the right footing to commence either their careers or academic activities with the right frame of mind.

The Professional Ethics Committee must ensure that those who are found wanting are adequately punished in line with the stipulated guidelines and principles. It is unarguable that when the right things are done and at the right time, our University would be better for it.



Prof Tony Arinze
Focal Officer, SERVICOM Unit

STUDENT WORLD

Enhancing Medical Values Of *Bucchozia Coriacea*

Bucchozia Coriacea, popularly known as 'wonderful kola', is a cure-all of sorts in tradi-medical practice in Africa. What are the active ingredients of this plant? Victor Olua a Final Year Student in the Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Chemical Sciences, College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CNAS), strives to answer that question in his research project. HUMPHREY OGU writes

Spurred by the need to harness the potentials of *Bucchozia Coriacea*—wonderful kola to enhance its medicinal utility to meet healthcare demands in Nigeria, Victor Olua decided to study the chemical components that make it possible to cure various diseases.

To achieve this feat, Olua, whose research project topic was: "Comparative Phytochemical Study of Various Local Formulation from *Bucchozia Coriacea*", said: "I came to understand that in Traditional Medicine, *Bucchozia Coriacea* or wonderful kola as it is commonly known, cures a lot of diseases. I decided to find out the active ingredients that make this possible. "I collected a methanolic extract,

a fermented opium extract of it and distilled samples at various temperatures—100, 200 and 300 degrees Celsius. Having done that, I find out that different formulations actually affect the phytochemical component of the kola as the fermented samples shows a reduced level of phytochemicals, while the distilled samples contain varied phytochemicals. That is to say, one could use distillation to isolate some of the phytochemical components of the kola," he pointed out. Olua observed that the knowledge acquired from the research could be used to isolate antioxidants such as flavonoid, in the treatment of diseases, especially free radicals, which could accumulate as a result of consumption of junk food, adding that "the fermented sample can be used in the treatment of diseases such as arteriosclerosis and hypertension due to substantial level of phytosterols, and that fermentation and distillation of the aqueous extracts of *Bucchozia coriacea* gave more of active ingredients than antioxidants.

He disclosed that the work has been presented at the 247th American Chemical Society national meeting, which is the largest Chemical Society in the world, and published on its website, commending his supervisor, Dr Eucharis Nwaichi for supervising, mentoring and exposing him to the world of scholarship.

"I cannot thank my supervisor enough for her input towards the success of my project. In the next ten years, I see myself leading a world-research team as a toxicologist in the areas of

environmental and medical biochemistry. My supervisor has already set a pace in that direction. I am happy to be one of her students and supervisees," the up-and-coming toxicologist stated, expressing gratitude to his lecturers, whose lectures made it possible for him to cope with his academics, while also engaging in extra-curricular activities, especially student politics. Professing his love for his chosen field of study, Olua noted: "I chose Biochemistry because of its versatile nature and would love to study the same course over and over again. I love to be called a Biochemist and so I would prefer to study the course anytime, any day," advising younger colleagues to always remember that academics is their primary aim of being in the University. On how he was able to combine his studies with student politics, Olua, who is the outgoing President of Nigerian Association of Science Students, describes politics as a game which he plays during the day, while tackling his academics at night, citing a favourite maxim as his as one of his guiding principle: "While men are asleep, great men are awake, while real great men are awake doing something."



Olua clas

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LASU Don Lauds Human Kinetics Dept

Professor Clement, who made the observation in a chat with *UniPort Weekly* shortly after assessing some Doctoral Candidates of the Department at the College of Graduate Studies (CGS) as External Examiner, expressed satisfaction with the quality of dissertations presented by Candidates, pointing out that both the courses in the Department and their research works were tailored towards solving societal problems.

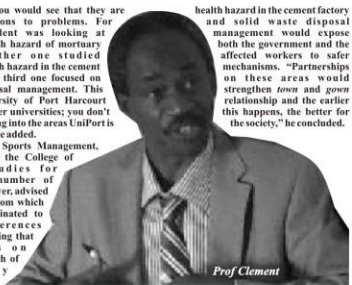
"I have seen the level of development in this University and the Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education in particular. I am quite impressed with them because they are not static, but dynamic. Their courses proffer solutions to societal problems, especially in Health Education in the areas of Community Health, Occupation Health and Safety Education," Clement, who had also lectured in the University of Lagos, said.

"I am told that the Department plans to introduce Rehabilitation Health to the existing programmes. When you look at some of these areas vis-à-vis the mastery in presentation by

the Candidates, you would see that they are proffering solutions to problems. For instance, a student was looking at occupational health hazard of mortuary workers. Another one studied occupational health hazard in the cement factory, while the third one focused on solid waste disposal management. This makes the University of Port Harcourt different from other universities; you don't see people venturing into the areas UniPort is going right now," he added.

The Professor of Sports Management, who also praised the College of Graduate Studies for introducing a number of innovations, however, advised the Department from which the research originated to organize conferences around them, stating that conferences on occupational health of mortuary attendants,

health hazard in the cement factory and solid waste disposal management would expose both the government and the affected workers to safer mechanisms. "Partnerships on these areas would strengthen town and gown relationship and the earlier this happens, the better for the society," he concluded.



Prof Clement

Theatre and Film Studies Dept Fetes Children At Easter

The Department of Theatre and Film Studies, under the auspices of her Children Theatre programme organized an Easter fanfare for children of staff of the University, at the CRAB, Delta Park campus, last Monday.

Speaking during the event, which had "Imparting Knowledge and Promoting Intellectual Development" as its theme, Acting Head, Department of Theatre and Film Studies, Dr Julie Umukoro, commended parents for bringing their children to the programme, stating that the University cannot be left behind concerning children activities and their performances, so the Department thought it wise to organize the event to entertain the children during the period.

Dr Umukoro, who was represented by the Coordinator, University of Port Harcourt Children Theatre Programme, Dr Faith Ken-Aminikpo, disclosed that the Children Theatre Programme (UCTP) is an arm of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies. "The

By Mercy Adeniji

programme runs every Saturday mornings between the hours of 9am-11am and 11am to 1:00pm on environmental sanitation days. The programme is for Children between the ages of 5-15. All we do is to educate and inculcate in them those difficult concepts they learn in school, away from the classroom," she said.

She further disclosed that the essence of the programme was to focus attention on the possible use of drama, creativity and improvisational role-play as a tool for imparting knowledge; development and enhancing skills training in the young child, bring up children to the limelight in a bid to remove shyness from them.

Dr Ken-Aminikpo observed that "We also discovered that children need to be groomed to fit into the larger society. It is worthy of note that every child possess some important qualities that could be explored and developed through proper guidance."

Speaking as Coordinator of the programme, Dr Ken-Aminikpo, recalled that due to some challenges, the programme was put on hold for some time and to revive it, they decided to organize the maiden edition. "We pray and believe that the programme would be sustained, we hope to hold this programme again for the children on 27th May, 2014 and also organize subsequent programmes during other festivities. Dr Ken-Aminikpo expressed gratitude to management of the University for the support given to them, appealing for more support to enable them use the programme to generate more funds for the university. She thanked parents for bringing their children, appealing to them to also come and register their wards with the sum of 1,000, which is renewable annually.

Expressing satisfaction with their sponsors, Dr Ken-Aminikpo thanked SilverBird Television, Indomie Instant Noodles, Coca-Cola Bottling Company and Etisalat for encouraging the Department and the programme.

In a sideline interview, some parents, Mrs Hadisat Fawehinmi and Mrs Ada Joy thanked the organizers for ensuring that the children have fun at such a day. They advised the organizers to sustain the programme, as well as make provision for both in-door and out-door events. "We thank the organizers, prior to this time, we usually took our children to town for other sight-seeing and to visit Media houses for their programmes, but with this new initiative, we welcome it and we congratulate them and pray that the programme is sustained".

Highlights of the event were performance by an Evangelical Dance Group, special rendition by little Cherish Wegwu, spelling bee and horse riding to thrill the children.



Coordinator, UniPort Children's Theatre Prog, Dr Ken-Aminikpo with some of the children on horse ride

Science Workshop, Engineering College Train Technologists



Director, Science & Engineering Workshop, Prof Etebu (arrowed) flanked by some Engineering Lecturers, the trainers and trainees

Technologists in the Faculty of Productions, Power Systems and Communication Engineering in the College of Engineering and their counterparts in the Science and Engineering Workshop, underwent a four-day intensive train-the-trainer session on autotronics, mechatronics, electronics and communications systems between Friday, 18th and Monday, 21st April, 2014.

Speaking with *UniPort Weekly* on the second day of the Workshop which held at the Science and Engineering Workshop, Choba Park campus, Director of the Centre, Professor Ogoebi Etebu, disclosed that the training aimed at equipping staff of the Science and Engineering Workshop and others from the Faculty of Productions, Power

By Otiakor Samuel
Systems and Communication Engineering on efficiency in handling hi-tech equipment which were provided by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) in conjunction with Skill 'G'. "We have had these equipment since 2008, but we couldn't use them and the equipment were lying fallow. This is the first time the equipment were opened and some of them had to be upgraded to the latest versions. The training is a collaboration between the Science and Engineering Workshop and four Departments in the College of Engineering. We want to train all technologists in the Faculty of Productions, Power Systems and Communication Engineering and Science and Engineering Workshop, who will in turn train youths of the host communities to acquire skills as a

community relations scheme of the University," Professor Etebu said.

The Director, who praised the participants, numbering over 50, for their commitment to the success of the Workshop when their colleagues had proceeded on the Easter Holidays, expressed

gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka and Provost, College of Engineering, Professor Dulu Appah for supporting activities of the Workshop.

Professor Etebu further commended some Final Year students of Mechanical Engineering for repairing a 60 KVA generating plant abandoned over six years ago as their final year project, lauding National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) for donating 10 sets of computer system to facilitate activities of the Workshop. "At the end of the Workshop, participants who score from 50 per cent and above were rewarded with Certificate of Participation," she said. Lecturers who attended the Workshop included Drs Tobin Briggs and Bourdillon Omijeh.

As Nigeria continues to experience upsurge in insecurity, particularly in the northern part of the country, a Professor of Sociology, Mark Anikpo has advocated the reduction in unemployment rate in order to curb the menace. Professor Anikpo gave the advice in an interview with *UniPort Weekly* in his office, last Wednesday According to him; this will help take away lot of idle minds who are ready tools for those who perpetuate these acts.

Anikpo, who also advised government to embark on a social

Anikpo Outlines Panacea To Insecurity Upsurge In Nigeria

By Obinna Nwodin

security scheme in which the unemployed would be entitled to some welfare package, no matter how small, advocated the need for political education of the citizenry, noting that a good political culture, particularly if imbued by the youths, would go a long way in addressing the situation.

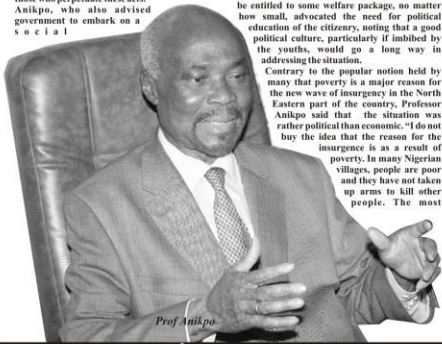
Contrary to the popular notion held by many that poverty is a major reason for the new wave of insurgency in the North Eastern part of the country, Professor Anikpo said that the situation was rather political than economic. "I do not buy the idea that the reason for the insurgency is as a result of poverty. In many Nigerian villages, people are poor and they have not taken up arms to kill other people. The most

obvious reason is the political motive behind it. This is because one begins to wonder the link between the upsurge in insecurity and the 2015 general elections," he pointed out, adding that "it is curious that as we get closer to the elections, the insurgency is increasing."

The Director of the Centre for Ethnic and Conflict Studies in the University also said that it was not true that the cause of the problem is religious. "To say that the problem is religious is ridiculous, because the most recent occurrence is not only on the churches. Moslems, Christians and everybody are being killed. The implication of what is happening is that the capture of political power is the root of it all. If the situation continues, it will lead to loss of confidence by the people in the present administration. It may also lead to more violence or even the desire by the electorate to change the government in the next elections."

On the ongoing National Conference, the former Deputy Vice-Chancellors (Administration) said that the problem with Nigeria is not a matter of talk and therefore the National Conference does not have the capacity to address the myriad of problems facing the country.

"The National Conference is not the panacea to our problems because even after they have talked, it will take somebody to implement the decisions. It is at the point of implementation that the problem exists, he stated" stressing that "there is already a rigid system that propels people in a certain direction which if not altered the situation in the country will not change."



Prof Anikpo

As a way of enhancing the efficient-running of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension and the Commercial and Research Unit of the Faculty of Agriculture Demonstration Farm, Agribusiness Enhance Project has donated a set of Computer, Laser Printer and Multimedia Projector to the Farm and Department.

Speaking with *UniPort Weekly* in his office last Tuesday, Project Leader, Agribusiness Enhance Project, Dr Olufermi Adesope, revealed that the gesture was part of efforts aimed at promoting research and academic activities in the Department.

"This was part of the project's contribution in furtherance of the sensitization and also to kick-start the entrepreneurial process in the Unit. We found out that the Commercial and Research Unit of the Demonstration Farm did not have any equipment to run the place, update their records or start any form of documentation and they needed to have a data base of what they do, so we felt the need to make this donations," he stated.

Dr Adesope explained that through the donation the unit would be able to teach students the practical components of Agribusiness, which is the business of agriculture, through proper collection and data keeping, adding that the Multimedia projector is aimed at teaching agricultural communication and journalism, which are significant courses in the Department.

"Five partners were involved in the Agribusiness Enhance Project which was: our lead Institution, Egerton University in Kenya, University of Port Harcourt in Nigeria, Gulu University in Uganda, Makerere University in Ethiopia and University of Copenhagen in Denmark, as a European associate partner. We also had other associate partners which include: Regional University's Forum for capacity building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) based in Uganda, Kenya National Federation for Agricultural Producers (KENFAP) and International Centre for Research oriented

Demo Farm, Agric Econs Dept Receive Donations

By Mercy Adeniji

development in Agriculture (IGRA)". According to him, these institutions helped to strengthen the concept notes and proposal when they were writing the proposal before they won the grant, adding that they were all together in Amsterdam in 2012.

Emphasizing on the theme of the Agribusiness Enhance Project titled: *Strengthening University Capacity to Enhance Competitiveness of Agribusiness in Eastern and West Africa*, Dr Adesope said the idea of the project is to improve the relevance of agricultural science teaching and outreach to the needs of agribusinesses, adding that in order for them to do this.

"We want to see how we can, through this Project, change the mindset of the stakeholders involved in Agribusiness and stakeholders in Agricultural science teaching and the learning process that is both the teachers

and the students and other stakeholders to see agriculture beyond teaching. To see agriculture as a business people can hold on to no longer at a subsistence, but at the commercial level", he disclosed.

"We are trying to create relevance for Agripreneurship component of agriculture and for us to do this effectively; we need to sensitize the University communities, the Faculties, which we have done between



January and February. What we want to do next is to embark on staff capacity building, so we hope to train about 70 Academic staff or thereabout and also identify and train the trainers and resource persons", he said, expressing optimism that the programme would commence on 6th May, 2014.

Dr Adesope

ASUU UniPort Re-Elects Okerengwo As Chairman

By Otokor Samuel

Professor Anthony Okerengwo of the Department of Haematology, College of Health Science, has been re-elected Chairman, Academic Staff



Prof Agu, Chairman ELECO

Union of Universities (ASUU), UniPort Chapter. Professor Okerengwo polled 190 votes out of the 255 eligible votes cast during the election at Ebitimi Banigo Auditorium penultimate Thursday. She defeated former Secretary General, Dr Ngozi Iheanacho, who got 65 votes.

Briefing *UniPort Weekly* in his office after the election, Chairman of the Electoral Committee, Professor Gabriel Agu, who described the process as transparent, said "It appeared to be one of the fairest and freest elections that had been organised here for a long time now. On the announcement of the result, the voters went into jubilation, praising the returned

chairman."

On the poor attendance for the election, Professor Agu said a total of 258 were accredited from 9:00 to 11:00am, for which three abstained from voting, stating that most of their colleagues were busy administering examinations to students.

The ELECO Chairman disclosed that contestants for the other positions were returned unopposed. The unopposed positions were filled by Dr Gospel Kpee (Vice-Chairman), Dr Adekola Ganiyu (Secretary), Dr Tochukwu Okonkwo (Assistant Secretary), Dr L.E.S. Kaegon (Financial Secretary), Mrs Juliet Alex-Nmeha (Treasurer) and Dr Festus Mhalisi (Welfare Officer).

STOP PRESS

University of Port Harcourt Investment Limited has called on all tenants carrying out businesses on Campus to pay their outstanding debts within a month notice, failure to pay at the stated period will attract the revocation of their tenancy.

Contact: Administrative Manager, Jonah Ode

UniPort Endows Chair In Honour Of Prof Cookey

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stressing that no degree of importance attached to the development of a university would be too much.

"You cannot overstate the significance of good institutions to deliver good education. Funding remains a continuous challenge to our universities," he stated advising that any university that is worth its salt should be financially self-dependent. The Monarch noted that Professor Cookey left a great legacy during his seven years as Vice-Chancellor of the University, advising the authorities to continue to grow in the right direction by striving for financial independence.

Also speaking, Director, Centre for Malaria Research and Phytomedicine in the University and Chair Occupant of the Sylvanus J.S. Cookey Professor of

Malaria Studies, Professor Omotayo Ebong, said that the event was organized to formally announce and inaugurate the Chair, as well as mark the 80th birthday of Professor Cookey. "It is the first dedicated event for an endowment in this University and it is most fitting that it fell on the day that the University joined the rest of the world to mark the World Malaria Day," she added.

Professor Ebong, who highlighted the contributions of the University in the fight against malaria, said that Professor Cookey's benevolence would help in sustaining the drive for excellence in malaria research in the University. She appealed to individuals and corporate bodies to invest in the campaign against malaria.

In his response, Professor Cookey thanked the

authorities of the University for honouring him in such a manner, pointing out that the essence of life was for the benefit of the society. He disclosed that his tenure as Vice-Chancellor was most challenging, yet the University remained dear to him.

Highlights of the event were presentation of lectures entitled: "Investing in Malaria" by Professor Wellington Oyibo of the University of Lagos and "Perspectives in Academic Mentoring" by Professor Yakubu Ocheu, Vice-Chancellor, Kwara State, performance by the UniPort Concert Chorus, presentation of gifts to the Celebrant, decoration of the Guest

Lecturers with the University of Port Harcourt muffled and cutting of the birthday cake by Professor Cookey. Other dignitaries present at the event were: King Dandison Jaja, Amanyanabo of Opobo; former Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Nimi Briggs, former Supreme Court Judge, Justice Adolphus Karibi-Whyte; Chairman Niger Delta Exploration and Production PLC, Mr Goodie Ibru, amongst others.



Prof Cookey, flanked by other dignitaries cutting the birthday cake

As Port Harcourt Becomes World Book Capital...

By Humphrey Ogu

At last, the ship of the World Book Capital has berthed in the city of Port Harcourt. In the next one year, the Garden City of Nigeria would remain home to and destination for the literati, academia, students and lovers of books from every corner of the globe. This provides a very rare opportunity for Nigerians, especially residents of Port Harcourt, to engender a renaissance of reading culture in the country. "Knowledge is power", so says a popular axiom. And over the centuries, book has remained a fundamental source of knowledge in all fields human endeavour—arts, science and technology, just name it. This is true of books in all forms—be it in hardcopy or electronic; it is also a truism that defies both historic and geographic boundaries. Again, most challenges governments have faced in different parts of the world have their solution stashed in some books somewhere in the universe. Climate change? Terrorism? Poverty? The answers are in some books somewhere.... Books can be described as a world of possibilities.

Whatever information that contributed to advancement of technology in the world today once existed in some books somewhere sometime. Similarly, the video films seen on the big screens also existed as screenplays. Globalisation may have been made possible by computers, but the truth is that books are instrumental to the emergent of Information and Communications Technology, including computers and suchlike devices. Through books, people get to learn the cultures of other lands. Apart from transmission of culture, books also function as bridges through which different generations are linked. In other words, it is through books that young people learn about their past. What's more! Information, education and entertainment are made possible and available via books. Poems, plays, novels, short stories, biographies fall in this category. Despite its pivotal role in transforming the world through development, books have not been accorded the attention it deserves from the generality of the Nigeria populace. Governments, corporate organisations and individuals alike have not lived up to expectations in encouraging the culture of reading in the country. It is generally believed that the reading culture in Nigeria has dwindled over the years. Same story is also told of the quality of education in Nigeria. Whether this assertion is true or not is a different kettle of fish.

However, it is an incontrovertible fact that reading and education have a symbiotic relationship.

As the world converges in the city of Port Harcourt to celebrate books, it behoves every well-meaning individuals and corporate bodies to exploit the opportunity provided by the year-long book festa to better the lots of society. Students, teachers, policymakers and the society at large are well placed to benefit maximally from the World Book Capital City 2014—Port Harcourt!

Students in the University of Port Harcourt are in good stead to reap bumper benefits from the new status of Port Harcourt as the World Book Capital City 2014. As I said elsewhere, Port Harcourt may be the World Book Capital City 2014; University of Port Harcourt remains the capital of the World Book Capital City 2014.

Looking for proof? Here it is: the University has a long-standing literary culture, besides co-hosting the Garden City Literary Festival or Port Harcourt Book Festival as it is now known. Again UniPort has, at different times, been home to some of the best known of critics of African literature. Professors Ola Rotimi, Gerald Moore, Ulli Beier Wilfred Fuser, Kay Williamson, Charles Nnoli, Chidi Maduka, Helen Chakwuma, Chidi Ikonne, Sunday Anozie, Chidi Amuta and lately Omolara

Ogundipe are some of the notable names associated with the University.

Again the oldest living African Writer, Dr Gabriel Okara; foremost novelist and playwright, Eluchi Amadi and leading short story writer and novelist, Ifeanyi Aniobe, are currently Writers-in-Residence in the University. These men of letters have made huge contributions to the development of African literature. UniPort also has a culture of training some of the finest writers in poets, novelists and playwrights, actors and actresses in Nigeria today.

Whether the subject is literature, science, medicine or engineering the time has come to accord books its very deserving status. Or else, the society would be worse off. As Ray Bradbury observes "You don't have to burn books to destroy a culture; just get a few people to stop reading them."

In recognition of the celebration of books and Port Harcourt as World Book Capital City 2014 this year's edition of UniPort Book Fair opens at the foyer of the Donald Ekong University Library on Monday, 28th April, 2014. This, perhaps, is just the first page of the year-long book to be read in UniPort, the capital of World Book Capital City. Watch out for more episodes!



A student using the Donald Ekong Library

GUIDEPOST

APPOINTMENT

Professor Samuel Ejorje, Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Infrastructure Systems Engineering, College of Engineering, appointed *Chair Occupant, Enoch George Professorial Chair in Geotechnical Engineering*. The appointment takes immediate effect.

Dr G.N. Ogbonna, Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Sciences, appointed *Assistant Director, University of Port Harcourt Business School*. The appointment which takes immediate effect will terminate on 8th April, 2016.

Professor K. A. Abo, Department of Pharmacognosy and Phytotherapy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, appointed *Director, Institute of Natural Medicine*, effective 7th April, 2014 to 8th April, 2016.

Dr E. J. Olotu, Department of Human Anatomy, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, appointed *Acting Head of Department*, effective 7th April, 2014 to 8th April, 2016.

RESUMPTION FROM SABBATICAL LEAVE

Dr Bernard Nnamdi, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities, resumed duty after one year *Sabbatical Leave*.

RENEWAL OF ADJUNCT APPOINTMENT

Professor L. A. Briggs, Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, Faculty of Education, granted *Renewal of Adjunct Appointment as Professor*, effective 26th March, 2014 to 25th March, 2015.

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Professor Francis Ukaigwe, Department of Geology, Faculty of Physical Science and Information Technology, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, granted *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 5th February, 2015 to 4th February, 2016.

CONVERSION

Dr Abu Onikoye, Department of Animal Science and Fisheries, Faculty of Agriculture converted from *Contract Appointment to Adjunct Senior Lecturer*, effective from date of assumption of duty.

COMPLETION OF PhD DEGREE PROGRAMME

Dr Nkemakolam Nwagwu, Department of Agricultural Sciences and Extension, Faculty of Agriculture, received an additional Doctoral degree in Agricultural Extension.

Dr John Chukwu, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, received an additional Doctoral degree in Pedo-Environmental Management Sciences.

REVIEW OF STATUS

Mr Ese Major, Department of Mechatronic Engineering, Faculty of Production, Power Systems and Communication Engineering, College of Engineering, promoted to *Lecturer II*, effective 29th January, 2014.

SUSPENSION FROM PROGRAMME

Prestige Udeji, (U2008/1825534), Department of Linguistics and Communication Studies, Faculty of Humanities suspended from the University for one academic session having found to be guilty of gross misconduct.

BRIEFS FROM OTHER VARSITIES

MSU Board Approves Appointment

The Michigan State University Board of Trustees has approved the appointment of June Pierce Youatt as MSU Provost and executive Vice-President for academic affairs.

The Board took the decision during its 22nd April Meeting. The Provost is the University's Chief Academic Officer, providing leadership for matters that affect academic programs, research and outreach involving Faculty students and staff, according to msutoday.msu.edu.

Youatt has served as MSU's Acting Provost since January, 2013. She also served as Associate Provost for Undergraduate education (2002-2006) and Senior Associate Provost (2006-2012). Youatt succeeds Kim Wilcox, who now serves as Chancellor of University of California, Riverside.



Supervising Minister of Education
Nyesom Wike

The appointment is with immediate effect.

Director Urges NUC To Prioritise Transport Studies

The Executive Director, Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport, Mr Francis Ehiguesue has called on the National Universities Commission to give priority to Transport and Logistics Studies in Nigerian Universities.

Ehiguesue, who made the call during an interview with News Agency of Nigeria in Lagos, stated that the Federal Government should reinforce transport and logistics to boost the economy. He attributed the transformation of the economy to the development of logistics and transport.

"People who keep deaf ears to logistics and transport do not know that only few courses in the university and few professions are more important than transport", he said, stating that transport has the potential of employing more people than any other sector of the economy.

He however decried the low level of indigenous participation in international shipping in spite of the cabotage law, recalling that the Federal Governments conception of Ports' concession in 2006 was a right step in the right direction.

Ehiguesue said there is a room for logistics and transport improvement, if Nigeria is to realise its vision of becoming one of the 20th largest economies in the year 2020.

SERVICOM CORNER

SERVICOM OFFICERS AT VARIOUS SERVICOM WINDOWS

OFFICER'S NAMES	SERVICOM WINDOW
Prof. G. O. Abu	College of Natural & Applied Sciences
Prof. (Mrs.) J. M. Ebong	Faculty of Education
Dr. I. S. Aprioku	Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences
Prof. I.C. Anochie	Faculty of Clinical Sciences
Dr. A. O. Akadiri	Faculty of Dentistry
Prof. O. A. R. Kilani	Faculty of Humanities
Prof. Steve Tamuno	Faculty of Social Sciences
Prof. D. Appah	College of Engineering
Dr. Emmanuel Ibanichuka	Faculty of Management Sciences
Dr. Ibisime Etela	Faculty of Agricultural Sciences
Dr. Ogbonna Okorie	Faculty of Pharmacy
Mr. Lucky Ajor	General Studies Unit
Dr. C. T. Ezirim	Health Centre
Dr. (Mrs.) S. N. Umecozor	Library
Mrs. D. O. Nsibigbo	College of Graduate Studies
Mrs. D. D. Ofo	Registry
Mrs. Helen Owhonda-Wopara	Bursary
Mrs. Gladys S. Amadi	School of Basic Studies

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT WEATHER OBSERVATORY

FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 27-SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014

DATE	TEMPERATURE HI (°C)	TEMPERATURE LO	HUMIDITY (%)	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNRISE AND SUNSET (mm)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 27 April, 2014	37.0	25.0	55	NE	8.0	6:21 6:38	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Partly sunny and warm day expected.
MONDAY, 28 April, 2014	35.0	26.0	66	NE	15.3	6:21 6:38	Thunderstorm expected. Partly sunny and warm day expected.
TUESDAY, 29 April, 2014	35.0	26.0	65	E	24.6	6:21 6:38	Heavy rain forecasted. Mostly cloudy and warm day expected.
WEDNESDAY 30 April, 2014	32.0	25.0	73	NE	2.6	6:21 6:38	Thunderstorm expected late in the day. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecasted.
THURSDAY, 1 May, 2014	34.0	25.0	74	E	-	6:20 6:38	Partly sunny and hot day forecasted.
FRIDAY, 2 May 2014	34.0	25.0	71	NE	5.6	6:20 6:38	Thunderstorm expected early in the day. More cloudy than sun expected.
SATURDAY, 3 May, 2014	34.0	25.0	71	N	-	6:20 6:38	More cloud than sun predicted. Day is expected to be warm.

SANDRA NWABUFO
OFFICER IN CHARGE

PROF SAMUEL AROKOYU
DIRECTOR, (CDRMD)

35TH Matriculation Ceremony

The 35th Matriculation Ceremony of the University held on Friday, 28th March, 2014, at the Convocation Arena. The event was preceded by an Orientation Exercise for the Fresh Students. A total of 5,459 students took the Matriculation Oath. Pictures show highlights of the Ceremony as captured by our Cameraman, **HEADMANALU**.



L-R: CSO, Lt Col Reginald Isiguzo, Prof Joyce Akaninwa, Dean, Student Affairs Unit, Prof Henry Bell-Gam, representing V-C, Prof Joseph Ajienka, Director, ELPU, Prof John Oluigbo, Mr Lawrence Decoy and Dr Sasan Umecvor



Registrar, Mr Matilda Nnodim addressing the students at the Orientation exercise



Drama/Dance performance by students of the Department of Theatre and Film Studies



V-C, Prof Joseph Ajienka, presenting his speech



Registrar, Mrs Naodim moderating the order of proceedings



A cross section of Provosts and Deans



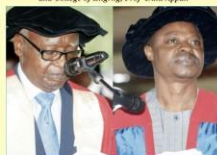
Provosts, CNAS, Prof Nnenna Frank-Peterside and College of Engrng, Prof Dulu Appah



Deputy Provost, CHS, Prof Owunari Georgewill and Dean Faculty of Humanities, Prof Ozo-mekuri Ndimele



Deans, Faculty of Management Science, Prof Ezema Kulu and Faculty of Agriculture, Prof Ehanem Wokoma



Deans, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Science, Prof Okeke Udeala and Faculty of Social Science, Prof Henry Alapiki



Dean, Faculty of Education, Prof Lawrence Igwe



A cross section of Matriculants taking the Oath



V-C leading the recession