



Pro-Chancellor Commends Naanen, Tolani, On Oil Theft Research

Professor Ben Naanen of the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies and Mr. Patrick Tolani of the United Kingdom-based Redeemers' Relief Agency (RAIN), have made a public presentation of their research report on oil theft in the Niger Delta as a way of checking the ugly trend, reports *Humphrey Ogo*. [More on p1](#)

Side Bar

Seings Loko-Briggs Children's Park, fond Staff Children as part of Nigeria's 54th Independence Celebration last Wednesday.

Details next week.
~Editor



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Group Rewards Computer Science HGS



Story on p2

We Need Service Delivery Assessment



UniPort Opens Tenders For More TETFund Projects



Artville Stages Purple Ribbons



PCN Inducts 27 UniPort-Trained Pharmacists ...As V-C Unveils UniPort-Made Sanitizer

By *Odinor Samuel*

A total of 27 new Pharmacists trained by the University of Port Harcourt have been inducted into the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria (PCN) at the 2nd Oath Taking/Induction Ceremony of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences held at the Ekibini Baniga Auditorium, penultimate Friday. Presenting the graduates to the Council, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, congratulated them for meeting the

stringent requirements specified by Senate of the University for award of the Bachelor of Pharmacy degree which qualified them to obtain the provisional license of the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria for the next 12 months.

"Let me hasten to add that a substantial investment in both human and material resources has been made in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and more is still required. The effort made in the acquisitions of teaching and research facilities has placed the

Faculty on a very sound foundation," the Vice-Chancellor said, charging the new inductees to be worthy ambassadors of the University by striving towards the ideals of diligence and excellence in service delivery to humanity, as well as ensure that the best industry practices are maintained at all times.

In his Keynote Address titled: *Pharmaceutical Care: A Paradigm Shift*, Professor Azuka Opara of the University of Benin, who pointed

Cont'd on p6



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PUMSA President Pledges Improved Outreach Services

By Oluke Samuel

Less than three months into his tenure, President of Port Harcourt University Medical Students' Association (PUMSA), Dennis Okorie, has promised to remain committed to the tradition of the association in providing free medical services to both the University and host communities through outreach programmes.

Okorie, who made the disclosure in an interview with this Correspondent in a recent interview, stated that the outreach programmes of PUMSA had continued to attract goodwill to the association, citing it as a reason why his administration would improve on it to reach out to more. He also promised to extend the medical outreach programmes to Secondary Schools on a resumption from the First Semester holidays.

"As part of my electrifying campaign, I promised to reintegrate attention among medical students, improve their welfare and continue to raise the bar in academic and sporting activities," the new President said.

He disclosed that the association participated in the 'Nigeria Medical Students Games' competition hosted by Imo State University between 26th and 28th August, 2014, promising to increase awareness and organise more sporting and social events to keep the students physically fit for rigorous academic activities in the College of Health Sciences.

"On resumption for the Second Semester, PUMSA will embark on interdepartmental medical education to create awareness of the medical needs of students of the University," he further disclosed, seeking more support from Management of the University and the College of Health Sciences to enable his team actualise its vision.

Okorie, however, commended the Present, College of Health Sciences, Professor Chris Akud, Professors John Ekanaka, Nelson Ikemba, Princewill Stanley and Hakeem Fawehinmi, for their valuable assistance in PUMSA. "I am equally grateful to staff advisors and PUMSA members who are making sacrifices to ensure that the Association achieves its collective goal," he told our Correspondent.



Okorie

3rd Registry Day For October 29

By Oluwa Nwadin

The 3rd Registry Day Celebration of the University has been scheduled for Wednesday, 29th October 2014, with a one-time Acting Registrar of the University and current Registrar of Federal University, Otuoka, Mr. David Soweri, as Guest Speaker.

This was the outcome of the inaugural meeting of the Planning Committee of the annual event chaired by the Director of Academic Affairs, Mr. Bassey Oke, which held last Tuesday. Former Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University, Emeritus Professor Emmanuel Anosike, is expected to chair the occasion, which would take place at Ekimbi Banjo Auditorium, University Park.

Other members of the Committee which has already commenced preparations towards organising a befitting celebration of the 2014 edition of the event are: Mrs. Mita Ngoh, Faculty of Engineering; Mr.

Beloma Nimegoka, Faculty of Management Sciences; Mrs. Elizabeth Ndichio, Junior Staff Officer; Mrs. Merry Nwaghara of the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration); Mr. Okechukwu Oke, Staff Training and Development Unit (STADU); Mr. Bassey Oke, Physical Planning and Development Unit; Mr. Oluwa Nwadin, Information, Publications and Public Relations (IPPR) Unit; Mr. Weylwe Chukwu, Department of Oral Pathology; Mrs. Chinyere Chibwagwa, Academic Affairs Office, while Mrs. Blessing Igwe is to serve as Secretary.

It would be recalled that the Registry Day Celebration which was introduced in 2012, through the initiative of the current Registrar, Mrs. Mita Nwadin, is designed as a veritable platform for staff to reflect on the importance and contribution of the Registry Department in achievement of the overall objectives of the University, while also affording them an opportunity to unwind away from work.



Mrs. Nwadin, Registrar

Group Rewards Computer Science BGS

By Ethel Tami-Johnson

As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), the Computer Warehouse Group (CWS) has rewarded the Best Graduating Student (BGS) in the Department of Computer Science, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Maa Abacha, with a new high-end Dell Laptop. It is part of the company's University Excellence Reward Scheme aimed at selecting and rewarding subordinates in Nigeria and other African countries.

Making the presentation predominantly Thursday at the College Auditorium, the company's Regional Manager in-charge of the East, Ghana Adenwale, who noted that the provision of quality education to the young population of young Africans would curb vice on the continent, stressing his organisation's willingness to partner educational institutions, public-spirited groups and individuals with a common vision aimed at achieving quality education on the continent.

"CWS also has an Academy which was started in 2008 to assist fresh graduates become corporate citizens through professional training and hands-on exercises. We have graduated over 200 graduates who are making

credible impact in reputable organisations," Adenwale said, adding that the scheme would encourage academic excellence among the students.

Responding, Acting Head, Department of Computer Science, Dr. Chibberly Ugwu lauded CWS for the initiative which he said would spur students to attain greater academic feats. Declaring his Department's readiness to work with the group, especially in the area of professional training and industrial attachment for students and staff, Dr. Ugwu said the proposal was in line with the current resolution in Information Technology (IT) around the world, because the new knowledge society is IT-driven, there is a need for partnership in this regard so that our Department

would also contribute effectively to the development of software," he added, describing the reward to the BGS as the first of its kind in the Department. The Acting Head appealed to other public-spirited individuals and groups to come to the aid of the Computer Science Department to enable it train graduates with globally bench-marked skills.

In her own contribution, the beneficiary, Mita Okechukwu, thanked the company for rewarding hard work and academic excellence, attributing her success to the good training she received from the Department and University. "You have clearly demonstrated that hard work pays and I promise not to disappoint you," she assured the donors.

Present, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Professor Nwenna Frank-Periwé, one-time Head of Department of Computer Science, Professor Frank Nwaghara and immediate past Acting Head of Department, Dr. Prince Angha, congratulated the Best Graduating Student for working hard to attract the reward from the company, which they described as a mark of honour to the Department. The trio who pleaded with the company to sustain the initiative which they said would serve as motivation to other students, pleaded for more partnerships from other public-spirited individuals and organisations.



Regional Manager, CWS, Mr. Adenwale presenting Dell Laptop to BGS, Mrs. Okechukwu

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Cont'd from p1

Speaking at the presentation of the report (titled: "Private Gains, Public Disasters: Social Consequences of Illegal Oil Bunkering and Artisanal Refining in the Niger Delta," at the United Nations Auditorium, last Tuesday, Pro-Chancellor of the University of Port Harcourt, Engineer Gani Asomugwu, who chaired the event, commended the authors for making what he described as "a major contribution aimed at enlightening stakeholders on the challenges and huge cost of oil theft in the country, which has become a problem that requires urgent action on a global scale to stop."

The Chairman of Council, who recalled a time when Nigeria's economy was solely powered by revenue from agricultural produce, commended the heavy reliance on petrol-dollar to the detriment of the country's traditional economic base, even after 54 years of Independence. He praised authors of the report for drawing attention to a matter that had the capacity to ruin Nigeria's economy, calling on all stakeholders to join forces to combat the scourge, which he said was costing the country so much in lost revenue that could be ploughed into financing national development.

In the authors' remarks on behalf of Isiani, Professor Nnamani, who disclosed that Nigeria loses almost \$600 per annum to oil theft, representing 6.25 per cent of Nigeria's total export value, noted that illegal bunkering and artisanal refining have economic, environmental, political impacts, amongst others, calling for community-based surveillance of oil pipelines, policy review, establishment of a special judicial mechanism and speedy prosecution of culprits to contain further oil theft in the Niger Delta.

Nnamani, who is a Trustee of the Niger Delta Environment and Relief Foundation (NIDEREF), noted that Nigeria recorded the highest level of oil theft in the world, derailing the high level of health risks arising from oil pollution in the Niger Delta. "We need to do a comprehensive health impact assessment of polluted sites in the Niger Delta," he stressed, regretting that the much-talked about UNEP Report only focused on surface pollution to the detriment of other underlying

Pro-Chancellor Commends Research Team On Oil Theft



Pro-Chancellor, Engr Asomugwu (2nd right) flanked by Prof Nnamani (1st left) Mr Isiani and former Registrar, Mr Mesiah Onyiah (2nd and 1st right)

factors that make life a living hell in the Niger Delta region.

The report concluded that oil theft and artisanal refining in the Niger Delta are rooted in socio-economic factors that have been at play in the region since oil was discovered in the mid-1950s. It also blamed oil bunkering on the crass neglect of the area by the International Oil Corporations (IOCs), making the inhabitants to develop anti-establishmentarian tendencies. Describing illegal bunkering and pipeline vandalism as forms of resistance to continued exploitation and neglect by successive governments, the report pointed out that such tendencies represent the peoples' reaction to their dire economic circumstances in the midst of plenty.

Calling for a synergy between policy pronouncements and their outcome to address poverty in the Niger Delta, the report, however, noted that "not all those involved in illegal bunkering are driven by poverty. The people who

steal the larger quantity of oil for export are mainly motivated by imperatives of capital accumulation." It recommended a new community-based pipeline surveillance initiative in place of the current private contractor surveillance system.

The event, which drew participants from multinational oil companies, Non-Governmental Organizations, National Coalition on Gas Flaring and Oil Spill in the Niger Delta, government ministries and parastatals, Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR), amongst others, also had representatives of the Joint Military Task Force (JTF), the Nigerian Police, Nigerian Civil Defence and Safety Corps, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), amongst others in attendance. A major highlight of the event was distribution of five copies of the report to participants aimed at creating broader awareness of the content of the report.

We Need Periodic Service Delivery Assessment, Ajenka Tells SERVICOM

By Okeke Samuel

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, has praised a combined team of SERVICOM officials from the Presidency, National Universities Commission (NUC) and a Civil Society Organisation, Zam Zam Corruption Coalition, Abba for sharing their observations and recommendations with Management following a four-day assessment of the University.

Professor Ajenka, who made the commendation during an Exit Meeting with the group led by its Leader, Mrs. Ladi Akia at the Executive Room, post-luncheon Thursday, praised the visitors for not only making observations, but also for recommending measures to tackle some of the identified challenges.

"From time to time, this type of assessment is important as a reminder or wake-up call to keep the administration on its toes; so I wish to thank you very much for sharing with us some of your findings, most of which we had to use the necessary machinery in place to address," the Vice-Chancellor assured the SERVICOM team.

Responding to the lengthy issue of non-payment of compensation raised by land owners when the team visited some of the University's host communities, Professor Ajenka disclosed that his administration had written severally to the Federal and Rivers State Governments, complaining about the unwholesome activities of land operators and the need to compensate the University's host communities for land which was acquired and gifted by the Rivers State government and handed over to the Federal Government for establishment of the University in 1975.

He remarked some of the steps his administration had initiated and strengthened to sustain mutually beneficial relationships between the University and its host communities, which included provision of employment and education opportunities and skills acquisition programmes, regretting that problems associated with land acquisition in Nigerian universities was worst in UniPort, where encroachment is right inside the Institution, rather than at its border.

The Vice-Chancellor, who disclosed plans to tackle the problem of post-growth supply in the

University through purchase of electricity from independent power providers, acknowledged the need to improve on street lighting around the Campus, pressing more training on service delivery for staff.

Earlier, Leader of the Team, Mrs. Akia, who had stated that the team was in the University to carry out a Service Audit aimed at assessing the impact of service delivery in the various offices of the University, including the host communities, commended the Vice-Chancellor and his team on what she described as their appreciable effort to deliver quality services to the University's numerous stakeholders, stating that with such real, service impact would be felt by those who interact with UniPort.

"There is huge reduction in staff activities on Campus going away for academic activities to thrive. Staff awareness on SERVICOM is encouraging and the University is clean. Orientation exercises go on regularly here even though not all students attend. The Registry is doing quite well in its service windows, while the Library complex and available facilities there are amazing, quite encompassing and we saw a number of students using the facilities in the Library. We quite appreciate the SERVICOM COORDINATOR in UniPort World, but the Corner would require more space to get the SERVICOM message out to the target audience," she remarked.

The SERVICOM team, who advocated for more directional signs to assist new donors locate places on Campus, suggested the use of dedicated lines to ensure regular electricity supply on Campus, adding that more conveniences and maintenance officers should be stationed around academic areas to assist mostly female students who reside off-campus.

"We noticed that UniPort periodically reviews its benchmarks with a view of bringing same in line with modern trends in other parts of the world," she added, noting that the draft report of the University's evaluation would be sent to NUC and the Presidency. In his remarks, Head Office of SERVICOM in UniPort, Professor Tony Arize, thanked the team for the visit which, according to him, also reinforced the call for effective service delivery to clients as propagated by his Unit, adding that the Unit would continue to monitor service compact through its officers in the Faculties and other service windows in the University.



V-C, Prof Ajenka presenting souvenir to Leader of the SERVICOM team, Mrs. Akia

UniPort Opens Tenders For More TETFund Projects

By Othman Samuel

Tender bidding was again opened for more projects funded by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) in the University of Port Harcourt. The projects which included proposed

construction of Academic Staff offices building for the Faculty of Law, Academic Staff offices building for Some Professor Jonathan Gendler Studies Centre and Human Anatomy building, were opened at the Council Chambers, inside the Senate Building, University Park, on Saturday Friday.



Management, professional bodies, unions and some Senior officers of the University at the exercise

Other projects were the procurement of Law Journals and State Laws, Electronic Legal Resources, Levin Nexis (Academic Law Library), West Law (Academic Law Library), New Plan Library Shelves and Docket Computer Inbuilt Core Processes. Declaring open the Tender bidding exercise, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration), Professor Ekechere Ndika, who stood in for the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajekola, reiterated the commitment of Management of the University to ensure that the process was always transparent and followed due process as stipulated in the Procurement Act and other relevant laws that govern such exercises.

He assured bidders that the University would continue to treat them fairly, commending the representative of the National Universities Commission, Mr. Ayo Bankole, Chairman of the University of Port Harcourt Branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities, Professor Anthony Okeogwu; Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities, Mr. Biko Solor; National Association of Academic Technologists, Mr. Andrew Ogbogbo and the Treasurer of Non-Academic Staff Union of Universities, Mr. George Nwobuwa for their attendance.

Also present were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Igbo Jeter; Registrar, Mrs. Matilda Nwankwo; Bursar, Mrs. Vitalis Adior; University Librarian, Dr. Obinna Nwodo; Dean, Faculty of Law, Professor Kanyi Ekeke; Procurement Officer, Mr. Philip Anadi and Director, Department of Physical Planning and Development, Mr. Collins Amehodike, amongst other senior officers of the University.

I Achieved My Vision As SGS Director ~Prof Amakoromo

By Mercy Adeniji

The immediate past Director of the School of General Studies, Professor Ebi Amakoromo, has expressed satisfaction over what she described as a successful tenure which came to an end last July.

Professor Amakoromo, who recalled her experience while in office, said she was able to achieve all that she set out to do in office. "When I assumed office in August, 2010, I started with the mindset that the job would be very challenging, but at the end of the day, I was able to think through the challenges and solve them to the satisfaction of all stakeholders. I actually enjoyed my tenure as Director of SGS," she told our Correspondent in an interview.

Speaking on the development of the School so far, the past Director revealed that the GES programme had been in existence since the inception of the University, stressing that its main focus was to drill students in communication skills and other broad-based foundational studies that would sharpen their thinking. "For instance, all First Year students are expected to take courses from the Unit, irrespective of their fields of study. The purpose is to ensure that students would have

broad knowledge of other courses, and not be limited to only their own areas of study. With these students graduate and go out to the larger society, they would be in a position to discuss intelligently with their peers from other institutions."

She explained that the School currently offers six GES courses, while the seventh GES course (Entrepreneurial Studies), is hosted in the different Departments in the University. Professor Amakoromo, who has just concluded her four-year tenure as Director of the Unit, described the job as a very tough one. "The School of General Studies is a pretty tough place to lead; this is because as a former Acting Head of the Department of Microbiology, I knew what was expected of me at any given time. But heading a Unit that handles courses that cut across all the Departments in the University is a much tougher challenge that requires proper planning, presence of mind, team spirit and easy-going leadership style. You can just imagine how that works out on daily basis for anyone in-charge of the School," she said.

Speaking on her achievements in office, Professor Amakoromo said that she set several targets which were achieved. "One was in terms of teaching of GES courses; I wanted the process to be more interesting since the classes were usually large. I

wanted a situation in which the courses would be delivered more effectively by Lecturers; and to achieve that target, we were able to provide public audio systems for each of the GES classes. Students were able to hear what the Lecturer was saying; this approach made the lectures more engaging for the students. I also wanted to receive results on time and to record fewer cases of missing results that had been a recurring issue in the School before I assumed office," she noted, explaining that she was able to actualise all targets she set for herself. It was during her tenure that the School was able to take over the printing of all GES Handbooks and also changed from the use of topical markers to Computer-Based Test (CBT), hoping that her successor would maintain the momentum.



Prof. Amakoromo

STOP PRESS

CGS ORIENTATION NOW FOR OCT 9

The College of Graduate Studies (CGS) has rescheduled her Orientation exercise for Fresh and Returning Graduate Students to Thursday, 9th October, 2014 at Ebifidi Baniga Auditorium, University Park. Time is 10:00am.

Contact: Dr. Agatha Ataga, College Secretary

UPWA WELCOME PARTY

The President, Executive and members of the University of Port Harcourt Women Association (UPWA) invite all new and intending members to a dinner/welcome party building on Thursday, 9th October, 2014 at the Senior Staff Club, Delta Park. Time is 3:00pm.

Contact: Dr. Celestina Harry, UPWA PRO

Parents, Inductees, Speak On 3rd Oath-Taking Ceremony

The healthcare sector received a major boost yesterday Friday with the induction of 27 UniPort-trained Pharmacists into the profession by the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria (PCN). In this interview, UniPort Weekly caught the views of some inductees and their parents on the historic oath-taking ceremony, reports MERCY ADENLU.

The Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences presented 27 new Pharmacists to the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria for induction into the profession on Friday, 24th September, 2014 at the Edith Bangs Auditorium, University Park. The atmosphere was gay as some parents and graduates expressed delight for being part of the historic event. A parent of one of the inductees, Mr. Sunday Basse, congratulated the students and expressed joy over the induction of his daughter, who he said has brought more smiles to his family. "My daughter is the last of four children who have successfully graduated, including two medical doctors. I am very happy and grateful to God for all he has done for me and I wish the University more strength as it continues to impart knowledge to students of this great school of learning."

Mother of the Best Graduating Pharmacist, Mrs. Rose Nwoko, who could not hide her delight, expressed satisfaction with the spectacular feat recorded by the success of her son, thanking Management of the University for giving students the opportunity to

actualize their dreams. She was, of course, referring to her son, Emmanuel Nwoko, who emerged the Inductee of the Induction ceremony.

Also speaking, Best Graduating Pharmacist (BGP), Nwoko said he felt very happy that his dream of emerging the BGP has finally come to pass. He expressed gratitude to his parents for affording him the privilege of being educated, expressing gratitude to Management for providing the students with a conducive environment to learn.

Another inductee, Princewill Lekki, said: "I feel so excited and it is, indeed, a great effort for my colleagues and I that we have finally concluded our studies in this great University, because studying Pharmacy has been very difficult, but I'm grateful to God that this phase of our lives is finally over," disclosing that he intended to specialise in Clinical Pharmacy. "My reason for choosing this profession was based on my concern for patients and the position to be of assistance to them," he said. He appealed to Management to assist in funding the Faculty in terms of providing more equipment and

reagents to enable staff and students embark upon their practical works more effectively. He expressed gratitude to his Dean, Professor Okeke Udoaka and Lecturers for mentoring them with so much interest and parental zeal.

Also speaking, Fakhakh Basse commended her Lecturers for mentoring the graduates and ensuring that their dream of becoming Pharmacists was achieved. She disclosed that the programme was really tough as there were trying moments, especially while awaiting results. "It was a rough road and a tough journey, but it was also very rewarding," she recalled, adding that she owed her success to God for His mercies and all those who supported her ambition to become a qualified Pharmacist.

In his contribution, Franklin Achua recalled his experience on the programme, explaining that although his journey through the Faculty of Pharmacy was tough, it was made possible by God. He expressed gratitude to Management of the University and his parents for giving him all the support and encouragement he needed to succeed in his career choice.



Mr. Basse

Mrs. Nwoko

Nwoko, BGP

Lekki

Basse

Achua

Learn from Instructors from Port Harcourt and its environs converged at the expansive Auditorium Hall of the Hotel Presidential, penultimate Sunday to celebrate Chinamanda Adenlu's *People Hibiscus* as Book-of-the-Month for September as part of the Port Harcourt World Book Capital monthly reading sessions.

Highlight of the well-attended event was an impressive stage performance of the novel, *People Hibiscus*, adapted by notable playwright and Director, Institute of Arts and Culture, Professor Jale Oluok and directed by the Artistic Director of the Institute, Dan Kipkoid to the admiration of the entire audience.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienika, said: "It was a very tragic play that focuses on domestic violence. I am sure this happens in real life and I hope that people would learn something from the play. The stage adaptation of Chinamanda's novel was very good. I am very happy that the Arts Village could perform at such high level to the admiration of the audience. My hope is that the Arts Village and Rainbow Book Club would redefine theatre life in the city of Port Harcourt and its environs."

Dr. Frife Iyale-Amadi and Vice-Secretary of the Association of Nigerian Authors (ANA) commended the crew for an impressive performance by the cast, describing it as a "masterful interpretation that can hardly be believed."

All the performance of the stage adaptation of the same award winning novel at the University Arts Theatre—The CREB earlier in the week, the audience also hailed the expertise of the cast and crew. (Bank Department of Theatre and Film Studies, Professor Frank Shuka, said: "It was a wonderful and commendable effort by a dedicated cast and crew. More power to their efforts."

Commenting on the interpretal interpretation of the play, distinguished literary critic, Professor Chidi Maduka described it as "a very important play adapted from the famous novel, *People Hibiscus*. The novel, itself creates the importance of passion as a sub of tragedy and lays emphasis on psychological realism rooted in the

By Humphrey Ogo

importance of life worse than it is, in order to alert members of the public against the dangers of domestic violence to discourage people—especially men from engaging in such an unjustifiably heinous crime.

Maduka, who observed that there are three ways of doing works of art—first "life as it is, life worse than it is and life as it should be," as ways of doing a tragic work that was followed in the adaptation, which he described as wonderful. "It is not easy to rewrite a novel and cast it in the mode of a play. What we saw on stage was a fantastic job done by wonderful actors and actresses. The scriptwriter, Jale Oluok, the cast and crew did a wonderful job," he added.

Speaking at the end of the show, Project Director, PWHBC, Mrs. Kadee Kalango, who headed the Artsville for adapting interpreting the Book-of-the-month and entertaining theatre goes every month, thanked the audience for identifying with the World Book Capital

Projects, promising that more of such plays would hold in Port Harcourt as part of the effort to revive arts and culture in the city.

She announced that the 1st edition of Port Harcourt Book Festival (PHBF) will hold from Mondays, 30th to Saturday, 25th October, 2014 with the theme, *Books: Windows to our World of Possibilities*. The forthcoming edition of the Festival would be special because it is holding in the Port Harcourt World Book Capital year.

According to the Festival Director, the focus of this year's Festival is the AFRICA 39 project—an initiative of United Kingdom-based Hay Festival, which holds in concert with the World Book Capital (WBC). Represented by Jay Amaka Okwagwu of Rainbow Book Club, Kalango invited students, parents, academics and other book lovers to fully participate in all events.

Other events include symposium, writers' workshop and interactive sessions with authors, book signing and special events for children.



A scene from the play

Cont'd from p1

PCN Inducts 27 UniPort-Trained Pharmacists

As that drug-related problems posed serious challenge all over the world, disclosed that the problems were, however, preventable with the right attitude from practitioners through quality pharmacy education, competency-based training and proper carrying over to patients. Speaking before formally inducting the graduates as members of the Pharmacists Council of Nigeria, new Registrar of the Council, Mr. Elijah Muhammad, who also congratulated them for completing the first phase of their pharmacy training, added that: "The training of Pharmacists statutorily required that upon graduation, after their formal entry point education, they should undergo a mandatory one-semester year Internship training programme under the supervision of a recognized and registered Pharmacist (a Preceptor) in an accredited Internship training facility. This is the second phase of pharmacy training."

The Registrar advised the new Pharmacists to get themselves properly acquainted with the code of ethics which prescribed professional and moral responsibilities to the patients and other care-givers in the health sector, stating that "strict compliance to the code of ethics is indispensable for practice of the pharmacy profession."

He used the opportunity to disclose his four-point agenda of repositioning the National Secretariat for effective service delivery, institutionalizing good



V.C., Prof. Ajienka (right) presenting award to the Best Graduating Student, Emmanuel Nwoko

pharmacy practice, transforming career professionals into intellectual practitioners and introducing new partnerships through patient right initiative, IT-driven pharmacy regulation, use of pharmacy emblem, research and development and periodic interactive sessions.

Earlier in his welcome address, Dean of the Faculty, Professor Okeke Udala, stated that the induction was a confirmation that the students had satisfied the stringent positions stipulated by PCN for the training of skilled Pharmacists, advising the new Inductees to continue to subject themselves to the regulations of PCN during and after their mandatory Internship training in approved outlets.

The Dean praised the Ajienka-led administration for its unflinching support aimed at placing the Faculty on a solid footing, commending Lecturers in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences for working assiduously towards the training of more Pharmacists aimed at enriching the health sector. Professor Udala, who used the opportunity of the ceremony to present UniPort-made Sanitizer to the Vice-Chancellor, disclosed that he worked in conjunction with Dr. Shyngul Brown to produce the product.

The motivation to produce the product, according to him came from a challenge from the Vice-Chancellor, following outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in the country. The Sanitizer was the contribution of the Faculty to the University Community aimed at preventing outbreak of the dreaded virus in the University. Professor Udala disclosed, promising that the Faculty would take on new challenges as proof of its readiness to contribute to the health needs of the University and Nigerians.

Highlights of the ceremony were presentation of operational banners to the new Pharmacists and Best Graduating Student, Emmanuel Nwoko, who also presented the Salutatory Speech on behalf of his Class, also known as the Great Services.

The Vice-Chancellor paid glowing tributes to their parents and University for the quality training he and his colleagues received in the UniPort. He also recalled the unfortunate passage of Miss Angela Ajienka, a colleague who passed to eternity in their fourth year in the programme.

The new Registrar, who had earlier led a delegation of visiting officials of PCN and Keynote Speaker on a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor and Principal Officers at the Vice-Chancellor's Committee Room, reminded the University of the need to secure full accreditation for the Faculty in place of its current Interim Accreditation status.



Dean, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Prof. Udala, presenting UniPort-made Sanitizer

Arinze, Akani, Head C'ttees On 40th Varsity Anniversary, Public Health School

By Okeke Samuel and
Ednel Tim-Johnson

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has appointed Focal Officer of SERVICOM and Director, Quality Assurance and Quality Control Unit, Professor Tony Arinze, Chairman of the Committee for the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the University, which was established in 1975.

A letter conveying the appointment dated 29th September, 2014 and signed by the Vice-Chancellor, named Professors John Enemagwem, Henry Njoku, Jelle Okoh, Drs Ngodi Odu, Edinwah Anah, William Wodi, Lt. Col. Reginald Igbozo (rtd), Mr. Emmanuel Amadi, Miss Obiele Wokoma and

representatives of the Registrar, Bursar and Director of Health Services Department, as

members of the Anniversary Committee. The Committee is vested with responsibility for organizing the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the University in February next year.

Similarly, the Vice-Chancellor, in a separate appointment letter dated 9th September, 2014, has appointed Professor Chris Akani as Chairman, Committee on Establishment of University of Port Harcourt School of Public Health.

Other members of the Committee are: Professors Okeke Udala, Hyacinth Dike, Clifford Oforiem, Ify Nwaogoré, Okuchukwu Onuchukwu, Drs Abigail Borsfield and Best Odinoshu.



GUIDEPOST

-- BRIEFS FROM OTHER VARSITIES --

APPOINTMENT

Professor E. J. Oleribe, Department of Finance and Banking, Faculty of Management Sciences, appointed **Dean of the Faculty**, effective 23rd October, 2014 to 24th October, 2016.

Dr. A. O. Odeyemi, Department of Human Kinetics and Health Education, Faculty of Education, appointed **Second Associate Dean, Student Affairs Department**. The appointment which takes immediate effect terminates on 16th September, 2016.

Dr. I. E. Jegbeke, Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Infrastructure Systems Engineering, College of Engineering, appointed **Acting Head of Department**. The appointment which takes immediate effect terminates on 19th September, 2016.

Mrs. Nkechi Barlasa-Mwa, Faculty of Law, appointed **Secretary, Committee for the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the University of Port Harcourt** in 2015.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Professor Edijk Jegbeke, Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Process and Energy Systems Engineering, College of Engineering, proceeds on *Leave of Absence* to take up appointment as **planner Rector of the Federal Polytechnic of Oil and Gas, Bony, Rivers State**.

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

Mrs. Temunoyeye Omosho, Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering, granted a one-year *Renewal of Contract Appointment*, effective 22nd February, 2015 to 21st February, 2016.

SABBATICAL APPOINTMENT

Professor Sunny Iyede, School of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, offered a one-year *Sabbatical Appointment* to the Centre for Petroleum Research and Training, effective on assumption of duty.

STUDY LEAVE

Mrs. Karolomonaye Jack, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, granted a two-year *Study Leave with Pay* to enable her pursue a Master's Degree programme in Soil Survey and Land Use Planning at the University of Ibadan, Oyo State.

Dr. Christopher Obiokun, Department of Anatomical Pathology, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, granted a six-month *Study Leave with Pay* to enable him undertake a Fellowship programme on Renal Pathology at the Brigham Women Hospital, Boston, United States of America.

NUC TO APPROVE MORE PRIVATE VARSITIES

The National Universities Commission (NEC) has announced the recommendation of nine more private universities for accreditation in the country. The approval will increase the number of universities in the country from the present 129 to 138. The Executive Secretary of the Commission, Professor Julius Okojie, who announced the development in Abuja, disclosed that the NEC had forwarded the names of the prospective universities mainly in the South-West geo-political zone to the Ministry of Education for consideration. He noted that the government was pleased with contributions of the private sector to the development of the nation's tertiary education system. Meanwhile, the Commission has expressed worry over the spate of a **w o r l d a t** Professorship title in the Nigerian University system. Okojie, who stated that the practice was creating room for spurious, disclosed that a fake Professor was recently apprehended by the Commission.



Mallam Ibrahim Shekarau
Education Minister

with Distinction in 2008. He is currently a Doctoral Research Candidate at Plymouth University, UK.

NIATO PARTNER UNIUOY

The Akoka Room Chapter of the Nigerian Institute of Architects (NIA), has expressed its willingness to partner the University of Iyo in research and academic programmes on built environment and orderly physical development projects. The Institute also promised to help the University attain full accreditation for the M.Sc. programme by the Architects' Registration Council of Nigeria (ARCON). The State Branch Chairman of the Institute urged the University Management to take into their own hand in architectural education, where ARCON in conjunction with the Nigerian Universities Commission (NEC) is converting Departments of Architecture into a full-fledged Faculty or Schools of Architecture to offer opportunity for architects to specialize in Landscape Architecture, Interior and Urban Design.

FUTA STUDENTS

OFF TO UNITED STATES

The second batch of beneficiaries of the collaboration between the Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA) and the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU), Tallahassee, USA departed for the States to complete their undergraduate programmes. The eight students would complete their programme at FAMU to earn FUTA certificate and would also be given FUTA's master's degree programme that would lead to the award of FAMU postgraduate certificates. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adediji Ibrahim, advised the departing FAMU Class of 2016 to be upright and honest on their studies to achieve excellence in academic pursuit.

SWISS VARSITY APPOINTS NIGERIAN DON

Switzerland University has appointed a Nigerian, George Olowu, as **Associate Professor in Strategic Management and Entrepreneurship**. He was recently appointed to teach graduate level students at the University of Business and International Studies (UBIS) in Geneva, Switzerland that offers both on-site and online higher education to a truly global student population in a global city. Olowu has been involved in institutional strategy and leadership and has been widely consulted for training and consulting by leading institutions and businesses, especially in Africa. He earned his MBA from Maastricht School of Management, Netherlands

SERVICOM CORNER

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These rules are:

- (1). Acknowledge the customer. e.g. "I'm glad to see you".
- (2). Actively listen. e.g. "Understand" or "Tell me more".
- (3). Respond with understanding—energize your sales and be positive. e.g. "I understand why you would feel that way..."
- (4). Commit to action and explain your plan. e.g. "I'm going to take care of this for you", or "I need more information to handle the matter".

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DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MGT WEATHER OBSERVATORY

FOR PORT HARCOURT AND ENVIRONS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 05-SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2014

DATE	TEMPERATURE BE	HUMIDITY LO	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN (mm)	SUNSHINE (hrs) - (hrs)	SUMMARY
SUNDAY, 05 OCT, 2014	28.0	24.0	SE	7.0	6:00 - 16:22	Thunderstorm expected. Day predicted being mostly cloudy and warm.
MONDAY, 06 OCT, 2014	32.0	24.0	SE	28.0	6:00 - 16:25	Strong thunderstorm expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecasted.
TUESDAY 07 OCT, 2014	30.0	23.0	NE	16.3	6:00 - 16:24	Few rain showers anticipated. Mostly cloudy and warm day predicted.
WEDNESDAY 08 OCT, 2014	30.0	23.0	SE	3.0	6:00 - 16:23	Thunderstorm expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day expected.
THURSDAY 09 OCT, 2014	28.0	23.0	NE	3.0	6:00 - 16:23	Thunderstorm expected early in the day. Mostly cloudy and warm day forecasted.
FRIDAY 10 OCT, 2014	29.0	23.0	E	4.5	6:00 - 16:28	Widely scattered thunderstorm expected. Mostly cloudy and warm day.
SATURDAY 11 OCT, 2014	29.0	23.0	SE	6.5	6:00 - 16:19	Thunderstorm expected early in the day. More cloud than rain expected.

DR-GRACE ENKINE
ACTING HOD

DR PRINCE NENKOE
AG. DIRECTOR

Workshop On Higher Education

*Educationists under the auspices of Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES) converged at the University of Port Harcourt on Thursday, 28th and Friday, 29th August, 2014, to brainstorm on ways of improving the quality of higher education. Our Cameraman, **HEADMAN ALU**, captured highlights of the events as shown below:*



Participants registering for the Conference



Dr. Bakare Charles-Gerrard (2nd right) and some staff at the conference



Prof. Joseph Akpana (represented by Dr. C. J. Akpan), Prof. Eshimoh Nkhalu welcoming guests at the event



Dean, Faculty of Education, Prof. Lawrence Iyem, addressing participants



Moderator Prof. Ag. Okoroafor, UCC, in Chimezie Ibe



Members of the High Table also for National and UniPort Authors



Dr. C. J. Akpan, Prof. Nkhalu in a chat with Dr. Olu Awonbi, who represented Minister of State for Education, Ban Joseph Wike



Prof. Josephine Iyem reading the citation on the Register of Speakers, Prof. Joel Nkhalu



Keynote Speaker, Prof. Nkhalu giving his Lecture



Dr. Awonbi in a conversation with Dean, Faculty of Education



L-R: Dr. Awonbi, Prof. Iyem, Dr. May Anagor and Dr. Olu Awonbi



Cross-section of participants



Another cross-section of participants



Prof. Sam Nwagbanyan giving vote of thanks