

## Council Approves Directorate System For Registry, Bursary



**I**n a bid to enhance productivity and efficiency among administrative staff, Governing Council of the University has approved the Directorate system for Registry and Bursary Departments. Under the new arrangement, Units in the affected Departments will now be headed by Directors. -Reports Humphrey Ogu

More on p8

**Stop Press**

V-C leads  
delegation to meet  
SPDC MD.  
Details next week  
-Editor

# UNIPORT Weekly

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## V-C Inaugurates Garden City Choral Committee



*...Announces Chairs in Music, Drama*

By Humphrey Ogu

**P**reparatory to the forthcoming Garden Choral Festival scheduled for October 2011, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, has inaugurated a Committee to package the three-day Festival, disclosing plans to institute the *Rex Lawson Chair in Music* and *Hubert Ogunde*

*Chair in Drama.*

Performing the Inauguration Ceremony, Professor Ajienka, the emergent *Arts Village*, who recalled that the idea of He reiterated that the staging the Festival was Committee's terms of conceived during the last reference include amongst Christmas Concert, stated others: staging a world-class that "We want to celebrate the Choral Festival in Port Arts in this University. Many Harcourt and sourcing funds people are talented in the Arts to package the event. here, we want to afford them Responding, Chairman of the an enabling environment to achieve their full potentials",

announcing Professor Julie

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Cont'd on p6



## Orubite Lists Panacea For True Federalism In Nigeria

Story on p2

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## New DV-C Outlines Research Focus

Story on p3

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## Biochem Dept To Partner PSB On Phytomedicine

Story on p4



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## STAND UP FOR TEAM UNIPORT

UNIPORT Weekly

**A**t the just-concluded Nigerian Universities Games Association (NUGA) hosted by the University of Benin, heroic athletes representing the University of Port Harcourt, brushed aside all opposition to retain the first position they had sequestered to themselves in the last three editions of the Games. The University stood still for the conquerors last Monday as they touched down on Campus to a heroic welcome. The ecstatic celebration of the heroic exploits of Team UNIPORT by staff and students was clearly indicative of their milestone achievement in Benin and the uniting power of sports.

A visibly impressed Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajenka, announced a befitting reception for the victorious athletes at the 27<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony in June, disclosing that the spectacular feat would facilitate the University's plan to establish a Sports Institute. Principal Officers and other stakeholders took turns to eulogize the incomparable Gold Merchants who obliterated all opposition on their way with the force of energy to top the medals table at the Benin Games.

Team UNIPORT deserves to be celebrated, not only for the historic feat, but also for its consistency and Spartan discipline in a country where these rare attributes are either lacking or in very short supply. But there was a build-up to the commendable exploits of Team UNIPORT at successive NUGA Games. Before it finally monopolized the Games, the University had taken fifth position at the NUGA Games hosted by University of Lagos. It came second at Zaria, Maiduguri and Ibadan, consecutively, before hosting and topping the medals table in 2004. Since then, athletes from other Universities have been sentenced to the spectator stands at successive NUGA Games in deference to the overwhelming competitive prowess of Team UNIPORT.

The string of victories by Team UNIPORT would not have, however, been possible without rigorous training and team discipline exhibited by the athletes. The world-class sporting facilities put in place in 2004 under the visionary leadership of the visionary Professor Nimi Briggs, has immensely boosted sporting activities here. Despite perfunctory efforts at imitating us elsewhere, our innovative standard Olympic Myrtha Tech Water Filtration Swimming Pool remains the best in West Africa till date.

Yet another angle to the spectacular performance of Team UNIPORT in successive NUGA Games is the national and international exposure and total commitment to duty of the coaching crew headed by Dr. Ken Anugweje and Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Matthew Wegwu. The Sports Facilities Management Committee (SFMC), headed by Professor Mark Anikpo, also deserves commendation for meticulously preserving the University's sporting facilities since they were put in place. It is hoped that the Committee would use the rare opportunity of hosting some events of the forthcoming 17<sup>th</sup> National Sports Festival in the University by the Rivers State Government to upgrade existing facilities and attract new ones to maintain our prime position in sports amongst our peers.

The athletes engaged in very intense preparations that yielded impressive results at the Benin Games. Indications that Team

UNIPORT would be victorious emerged with an impressive performance at the zonal preliminaries hosted by Cross River State University of Technology (CRUTECH), Calabar it brushed all

opposition aside. Not only were the athletes' diet and lactic acid levels closely monitored by their Coaches, they even had to skip lunch to maximize their training for the battle of Benin!

While reveling in the ecstatic victory that has finally confirmed Team UNIPORT as undisputed quadruple NUGA champions, the 2011 Games were almost marred by the unsportsmanlike disposition of the host University and other bad losers, quite contrary to the spirit of keen competition. According to Dr. Anugweje, who is also NUGA President, the Games were suspended for one day as a precautionary measure against the inexplicable violence unleashed by the host University each time it failed to win a medal!

The host reportedly conspired with other envious teams to deny Team UNIPORT as many as 15 Gold medals on the flimsy excuse that athletes that won them did not gain admission into the University through the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board examination! We deeply regret the emergent 'do-or-die' attitude of some participants at NUGA Games, which were originally designed to unite youths in tertiary institutions through fair competition and comradeship. One of the beautiful things about NUGA is for athletes to win or lose gallantly in the true spirit of sportsmanship and still shake hands. Right from the Olympic Games that started in ancient Greece to modern sporting activities, athletes are usually propelled by the spirit of participation against the emergent ugly trend of winning at all costs and despicably undermining those that are ahead in the arena of competition.

It is our hope that Obafemi Awolowo University which is host of the 24<sup>th</sup> NUGA Games would not allow a repeat performance of the shameful antics by officials of University of Benin in their desperate bid to win at all cost which is quite antithetical to the true spirit of sporting competitions. The sad scenario was even worsened by the fact that the current Vice-Chancellor of Great UNIBEN was a former NUGA President! Nothing should be done to even remotely indicate that the best teams are no longer welcome at NUGA Games. That would defeat the purpose for which the Fiesta was instituted in the University system by its founders.

We commend Team UNIPORT for shrugging off the opposition on and off the pitch to still top the medals table with a princely 46 Gold, 16 Silver and 15 Bronze medals. The overall medals tally would have hit 61 if other teams did not conspire to deny Team UNIPORT a whopping 15 Gold medals, using a flimsy excuse that was outside the rules of NUGA. The golden athletes deserve more than a warm handshake.

Even in victory, UNIPORT Weekly advises Team UNIPORT and its handlers to strengthen identified areas of weakness with a view to extending this consistent dominance to national and international sporting scenes.

Let us all stand up for the worthy champions Team UNIPORT!

## Corrigendum

RE: UPTH Records Feat in Radical Prostatectomy

Our attention has been drawn to above the article that appeared on page 8 of Vol.4 (3), March 21-28, 2011 edition of UNIPORT Weekly. We wish to address the misrepresentation of facts in the said article.

Indeed, a team of Urologists under the auspices of Nigerian Association of Urological Surgeons (NAUS) and International Volunteers in

Urology (IVU) of USA, led by Dr Willie Underwood carried out the said operation. Urologists from UPTH assisted Dr. Underwood. The said operation actually took place in a private Hospital in Port Harcourt.

Editor's Note: We regret the error contained in a report filed from the Media Unit of the Teaching Hospital.

Prof N. Ekeh, Dr. N. Ekeke

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# Orubite Lists Panacea For True Federalism In Nigeria

By Otikor Samuel & Mercy Don-Baridam

Until Nigerians exchange their primordial ethnic consciousness with national consciousness and until its leaders exhibit a high degree of selflessness, honesty, sincerity and dedication to service, true Federalism would continue to elude the Country, resulting in gross underdevelopment and continued disunity.

This position was canvassed by renowned Educational Historian, Professor Anyamebo Okorosaye-Orubite, of the Faculty of Education in a Paper entitled: "Federalism and the Nigerian Nation-State", presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> Bi-Monthly Public Lecture of the Faculty of Humanities held at the Seminar Room last Wednesday.

The Guest Speaker recommended that power should not only be decentralized from the Federal level to the federating units to avoid over-centralization of developmental efforts in the Country, but States should also be empowered to control their own resources to give room for the practice of true Federalism, arguing that the current search for ethnic identity by minority groups was traceable to feelings of marginalization by dominant ethnic groups which threatens the interest of their ethnic groups and national unity.

Citing the work of Tamuno and other experts on the subject, Professor Okorosaye-Orubite defined Federalism as "That form of government where the component units of a political organization participate in sharing powers and functions in a cooperative manner,

though the combined forces of ethnic pluralism and cultural diversity, among others, tend to pull their people apart", regretting that Nigeria is not a true Federation since it continues to lack the application of true principles of the practice to justify such a claim.

Enumerating some of the challenges facing the Country as it grapples with the challenges of true Federalism, he submitted that, "The consensus is that ethnicity exists in Nigeria and had ever been a major inhibiting factor in the march towards national unity and integration", adding that disrespect for the Rule of Law mostly through selective obedience to Court orders contributes to making the principle of Federalism elusive in Nigeria.

Recalling Nigeria's development from pre-colonial to the present democratic setting, the Guest Lecturer pointed out that series of efforts to forge the Country into a single nation-state by British Colonialists, nationalist movements, military regimes and even the present transitional democratic system, have not yielded the desired results, calling for collective national consciousness to drive the process of development to the level attained by the so-called Asian Tigers and other developed nations that have perfected the Federal system by welding diverse ethnicities together to achieve enduring national unity and progress.

In his remark, Dean of the Faculty, Professor Ozo-Mekuri Ndimele, commended the Guest Lecturer for honouring the invitation. He described the 4<sup>th</sup> in the Series as special, as it



Prof Okorosaye-Orubite

was the first time a Speaker came from outside the Faculty. Professor Okorosaye-Orubite, according to the Dean, is an erudite Scholar whose clarity of thinking is of immense benefit to the University Community, urging him to continue in his efforts to advance the frontiers of human knowledge through more quality research.

The Dean recounted that previous Lectures had contributed positively to better understanding of issues raised, urging staff and students to always make themselves available to benefit from the free Seminar series which holds twice each month.

Participants at the Seminar included new Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Professor Roseline Konya, Professor Nolue Emenanjo, Professor Femi Shaka, Associate Dean, Dr Acho Akakuru and Professor Dennis Ekpo, amongst others.

# Experts List Ways To Battle Autism

By Ethel Wopara



Professor Princewill Stanley

Although there is yet no comprehensive treatment pattern for autism, a multi-disciplinary approach, including preventive measures achievable through early detection and intervention have been identified as the best management procedure of the disorder that is becoming a growing health concern amongst experts and Care-givers in the Country.

Making the disclosure last Wednesday following the celebration of World Autism Day, Consultant Neuro-Psychiatrist and Mental Health in the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH), Professor

Princewill Stanley, noted that proper antenatal care, immunization, supervised labour and delivery, adequate nutrition during childhood and a friendly home environment could also forestall occurrence of the disorder-especially in children.

Professor Stanley who further listed genetics, birth injuries resulting in brain damage, heavy metal poisoning and poor relationship between parents and children, as possible causes of autism, identified three major clinical manifestations of the disorder to include cognitive impairment, language difficulty, social and behavioural complications evident in restricted interest in activities, including treating close relatives as inanimate objects.

Disclosing that about 12 in every 1,000 children are affected by the condition in the Niger Delta, Professor Stanley said that male children are four times more susceptible to the condition than females. According to him, visible signs manifest within 30 months to four years of birth, with majority of them are affected by moderate to severe mental retardation and seizure disorders.

Professor Stanley noted that although autistic children are born normal, lack of babbling and pointing at objects, as forms of early communication as well as super sensitive response to low noise frequency at the age of twelve months, are the earliest signs of the condition. Recalling notable autistic personalities such as the famous Scientist, Albert Einstein, he noted that about 25 per cent of affected children eventually function independently with proper care and specialized education that make them productive members of society.

Corroborating Professor Stanley's view, a Consultant Pediatrician in the Neurologic Unit of University Port Teaching Hospital (UPTH), Dr. Angela Frank-Briggs, who

noted that treatment of autistic children, should be tailored towards meeting their needs and lessening stress for Care-givers, stressed the need to create awareness on early detection and intervention to make autism bearable for those living with it.

Emphasizing the importance of integrating autistic persons into society, Dr. Frank-Briggs urged Government to map out strategies to help them live meaningful lives. She noted that lack of special schools, inadequate health professionals, including pediatric neurologists, occupational psychiatrists, speech therapists and psychologists seriously hampers effective management of the condition in the Country.

The number of persons living with the disorder in Nigeria is not known, but experts estimate that about 12 in 1,000 persons currently suffer from the condition, making it a growing condition that can no longer be ignored by policy-makers at all levels of governance.



Dr. (Mrs) Frank-Briggs



**A**uthorities of the University of Port Harcourt have re-iterated their resolve to ensure that host communities benefit from the siting of the Institution on their land, assuring them of plans to introduce viable programmes that would empower their youths in a mutually-beneficial relationship.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Joseph Ajienka, made this assertion when the Community Development Committee (CDC) of Omuoduweze, Omuoku, Aluu paid him a Courtesy Visit in his office, penultimate Monday.

Professor Ajienka, who said that the authorities were discussing with the host communities on issues of mutual concern, assured them that "We are doing a lot to bring development to our host communities", adding that nothing develops a community like a University in their neighbourhood.

The Vice-Chancellor who informed the delegation that the University had set up a University/Host Communities Relationship Committee to organize mutually-beneficial programmes for all stakeholders, assured them that "Once they commence sitting, they will meet with you to discuss issues of mutual interest", soliciting their co-operation to achieve a secure neighbourhood for conducive academic activities and welfare of the Communities.

## V-C Assures Host Communities On Skills Acquisition

By Obinna Nwodin

Earlier in his address the CDC Chairman, Mr. Collins Amadi, who appealed to the authorities to consider their sons and daughters in admission and employment opportunities, as well as scholarship, expressed hope that Management would look inward to find lasting solution to issues that would further cement the excellent relationship between the host communities and the Institution.

Mr. Amadi appealed to the University to

expand the Aluu Park to instil order in the activities of commercial motorcyclists, as well as lend a voice in attracting government attention to Aluu Road.

Other members of the delegation were: Jeremiah Mbadiwe, Secretary; Mark Akobundu, Youth President; Christian Ogor, Treasurer; Godpower Amadi, Assistant Secretary; Richard Amadi, PRO II; Fynecountry Wokoma and Samuel Azunda.



V-C, Prof Ajienka (arrowed), Principal Officers and Omuoku CDC EXCO

## Biochem Dept To Partner PSB On *Phytomedicine*

By Mercy Don-Baridam

**T**he Department of Biochemistry says it is working out modalities to partner a sister Department, Plant Science and Biotechnology in the production of herbal medicine for the development of *Phytomedicine* recipe aimed at solving health problems in the Country.

Head of the Department, Professor Augustine Uwakwe, who disclosed this in an interview with



Prof. Augustine Uwakwe

UNIPORT Weekly in his Office last Monday, said that Biochemistry is not only crucial in the study of Medicine; it is also central to life in general, noting that students cannot successfully study Medicine without Biochemistry.

According to him, everything about life is Biochemistry, explaining that it deals solely with substances found in living things, investigates the chemical reactions that organisms use to obtain energy and their reactions in the process of building themselves. "It focuses on the food we eat and everything relating to health and what goes on in our environment", he added.

Professor Uwakwe described Biochemistry as a multi-disciplinary course, which deals with different areas as Medical, Pharmacological, Nutritional, Toxicological, Genetic Engineering including Biochemical Engineering, Environmental, and Enzymological Biochemistry.

"As a Biochemist, with special interest in Medical Biochemistry, I participated in the research by late Professor Gabriel Ekeke, which led to the production of the internationally endorsed wonder drug called *CIKLAVIT* developed for the management of *sickle cell anaemia*", he disclosed, pointing out that there are ongoing research activities for the control of diabetes, hypertension, malaria and other health-related conditions in the Department.

Professor Uwakwe who noted that Biochemistry could contribute to national development,

### -Prof Uwakwe

especially in the creation of job opportunities through establishment of small and medium-scale industries for mini-production of beverages, soap and detergents, said that with so many research findings, "The Department could function very well. We have all it takes in terms of facilities and also recipes to make the endeavour work", the HOD assured stakeholders.

"Over the years, we have tried to maintain standards in terms of facilities for both graduate and undergraduate research", he said, regretting that the Department is still in need of vital equipment to keep up with new trends in the study of Biochemistry. "As a result of the increase in student population, some of our equipment are now over utilized", he stated, appealing to Management of the University to provide the Department with new equipment, chemical reagents, and more laboratory staff to help run practical sessions for students.

Professor Uwakwe expressed satisfaction with the appointment of a renowned Biochemist, Professor Bene-Willie Abbey, as pioneer Deputy Vice-Chancellor, (Research and Development), stating that with the numerous research findings that are available, the Department is desirous to liaise with the new DVC, to benefit from quality research.

# New DV-C Outlines Research Focus

By Obinna Nwodin

## ...Advises Colleagues To Go Online

**I**n line with the vision of the present Administration to usher in a research-led institution, newly-appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Development), Professor Bene Willie-Abbey, has disclosed plans to properly coordinate various ongoing research activities in the University for the benefit of society.

Professor Willie-Abbey who dropped the hint in an exclusive interview with *UNIPORT weekly*, last Tuesday in her Office, disclosed that the achievement of an Entrepreneurial University would require proper harnessing of all research efforts from Faculties and Research Institutes to raise the profile of the University in the next five years. She also promised that quality research findings would, henceforth, be uploaded in the Internet to afford Scholars outside the University to know what is going on here, pointing out that one of the parameters applied by rating agencies in their ranking of Universities is presence of Lecturers' profile and publications on the Web.

The DV-C who stated that her office is charged with the responsibility of harnessing research activities in the Institution, said that she would focus on application of research

efforts to development, stressing that some ongoing research activities were not geared towards finding practical solutions to societal problems. "We want to be seen. We want to compete with older Universities and even overtake them. I will focus on surpassing institutions that currently pride themselves on quality research in and outside the Country", she said.

Professor Willie-Abbey who is the immediate past Dean, School of Graduate Studies, said that "If we are able to co-ordinate what we are doing and make

University/Industry relationship very strong, we will do very well in promoting research activities in this University", adding that from existing research activities, the University would come up with findings that could be of commercial value and relevance to society.

The new Deputy Vice-Chancellor said that to achieve the objectives of the Administration in creativity and innovation, the authorities would encourage inter-disciplinary research efforts, as well as ensure that researchers compete for external grants. She promised to organize *Research Fairs*, and reward Scholars who conduct quality research and publish same in reputable *Journals*.

Professor Willie-Abbey advised Lecturers who engage in research not to be discouraged by the frustrations occasioned by inadequate facilities, encouraging them to put in more efforts to attract research grants from external sources that would also attract equipment. She also advocated more focused and collaborative research, advising older academics to mentor the younger ones to ensure continuity when they retire from service.



Prof Bene Willie-Abbey, DVC R&D

## HOD Advises Policy-Makers On Teaching Of Chemistry

By Otikor Samuel

**T**o achieve proper understanding and effective teaching of Chemistry at the post-primary levels of education, Teachers of the subject should possess at least a First Degree in the core subject area, to enable them have full grasp of both theoretical and practical knowledge of the discipline, before acquiring professional teaching qualifications.

Head, Department of Pure & Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Professor Raphael Ngochindo, canvassed this position in an interview with *UNIPORT Weekly* in his office last Wednesday, stating that mere possession of the *Combined Honours* in Education and Chemistry does not adequately equip Teachers with all the requisite skills to give students in Secondary Schools the depth they require to develop sustained interest in the subject at higher levels.

Professor Ngochindo averred that requisite training at the First Degree level would prepare the Teacher to generate enthusiasm for the subject amongst students, thus, making learners to appreciate the value of the Course, stressing that Chemistry is important not only because of the central role it plays in science and technology, but also as a result of its vital place in human existence.

"Our food, clothes, furniture, drugs, building materials and fuel, are among products of the

chemical sciences", Professor Ngochindo disclosed, stating that Chemistry remains a powerful tool for the creation of a better future and also capable of leading humanity to doom when misdirected.

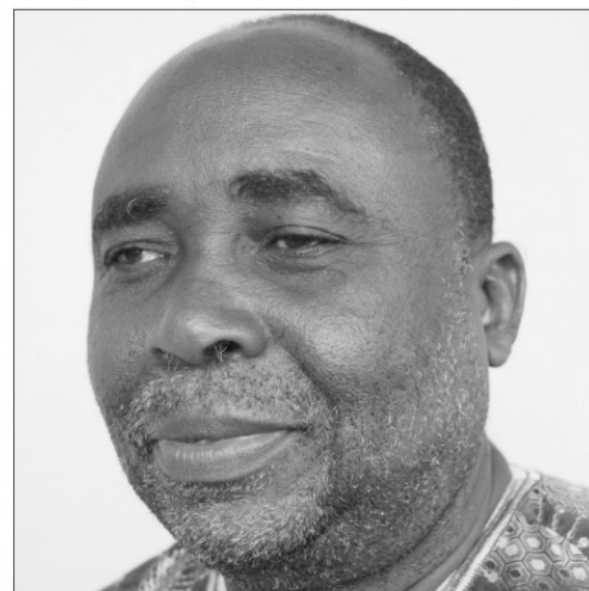
According to him, in recognition of the vital role of Chemistry in international development, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), has designated 2011 as the *International Year of Chemistry (IYC)* to engage young people, increase appreciation as well as stimulate enthusiasm for the subject in meeting the needs of humanity.

Professor Ngochindo disclosed that the Department has set up a Committee to work out modalities for the commemoration of the event which was approved by the United Nations, adding that the proposed celebration would offer another opportunity to Scholars of Pure and Industrial Chemistry to enlighten the University Community on the principles of the Course and how to apply them correctly for the benefit of learners and society at large.

The Head of Department, who commended Management of the University for updating Laboratory equipment, appealed for more

standard facilities, pointing out that poor facilities hampered the practical components of the Course, resulting in a dangerous trend known as *alternative to practicals*, which, according to him, does not equip learners with the requisite skills they require to graduate as Chemists.

He was optimistic that the forthcoming *IYC 2011* in the University would provide another opportunity to showcase the contributions of the Department to the development of Chemistry, noting that two recent Inaugural Lectures from the Department have taken a step in that direction.



Professor Raphael Ngochindo



Cont'd from p1

Committee, Professor Onyee Nwankpa, who thanked the Vice-Chancellor for finding Members of the Committee capable of organizing the event, explained that the first day of the Festival would hold in UNIPORT, while the rest of the fiesta would hold in Port Harcourt City, expressing hope that "This particular festival would become an annual event. In subsequent editions, we would include a programme to celebrate the legends of our time both living and the departed in addition to establishing a *Hall of Fame*".

Also speaking, a one-time General Manager of Nigeria Television Authority, (NTA), Mr Adiola Onyedibia, expressed delight for his inclusion on the Committee, noting that he has been participating in the making of some of the best products of the University right from the days of late distinguished Dramatist, Ola Rotimi. Mr Onyedibia who is better known for his successful adaptation of Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* on television, promised to do his best to ensure that the Committee succeeds in

## V-C Inaugurates Garden City Choral Committee

executing its mandate.

In his contribution, Professor Henry Bell-Gam of the Department of Theatre Arts, lauded the Vice-Chancellor for bringing Artists together to midwife the Committee and for sparing time to inaugurate it.

Other members of the Committee include Dean, Student Affairs Department, Dr Matthew Wegwu, Dr Tammy Allabo, Dr (Mrs) Bridget Nwanze, Mr Jones Ayuwo, Mrs Bridget Nzimiro, Messrs Sopriye Ibaniho, Adiola Onyedibia, Ayo

Pratt and Ikechi Ibeji. Dignitaries at the Inauguration include Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Bernard Efiuvwevwere, and out-going Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) Professor Tony Arinze amongst other Principal Officers.



V-C, Prof Ajenka (L), Committee Chair, Prof Nwankpa and Dr. Bridget Nwanze at the Inauguration

## DayCare Centre To Get Primary Classes September -Headmistress

### ...As Orange House Wins Sports Meet

By Mercy Don-Baridam

In a bold effort to achieve academic excellence and enhanced productivity at the *Gladys Cookey International DayCare and Nursery Centre*, new the Headmistress, Mrs. Veronica Ogbogbo, has disclosed plans to upgrade it to a Primary School this September, promising to introduce the same high standards she brought with her from Playpen Child Development Centre where she taught for several years.

The disclosure was made to *UNIPORT Weekly* in an interview last Wednesday in her office. Mrs Ogbogbo said that she would be delighted if the School is upgraded to adopt the Montessori Method of teaching, which has proved so critical in developing the minds of children as they prepare for Secondary education.

Said the Headmistress, "Before I took over in January, 2011, I noticed that the method of teaching I met here did not measure up to expected standard; so I started by organizing a Workshop for my Teachers on phonetics, which deals with how sounds are pronounced. I started from the *elementary sounds*. This is why pupils from Montessori schools such as *Playpen and Bereton* perform better than others.", Mrs Ogbogbo said, noting that "In

those schools, children start reading and pronouncing words phonetically from age three which is very commendable and of immense benefits to the at the next stage of education".

The Headmistress said that all the classes now study phonetics, stating that "The children now produce sounds phonetically and can effectively use pencil to scribble words". She assured the University Community that "With the introduction of phonetics to the Curriculum, Teachers are now able to inculcate same into the children and also prepare them to compete favourably with pupils in comparable institutions".

Meanwhile, *Orange House* emerged as overall champions of the 4th edition of the School's Inter-House Sports Competition with a total of 62 points. *Blue House* scored a total of 58 points; *White House* recorded 44 points, while defending champions, *Pink House* took 4th position.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ajenka, who was represented at the event by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development), Professor (Mrs) Bene Willie-Abbey, commended Management of the School for organizing the event, observing that it is not

easy to supervise children so effectively, stressing the importance of physical education to total body fitness".

She advised parents to ensure that their children receive the right education at an early stage of their lives, pointing out that parents and teachers have a duty to identify the talents of their children at an early stage with a view to guiding them towards successful future careers.

Several field and track events such as 100 Meters Race for boys and girls, *Indomie Race*, *Filling the Bottle*, *Cultural Dance and Picking the Ball* by different Houses also featured at the Fiesta. Trophies were later presented to victorious Houses.



Mrs. Veronica Ogbogbo  
Head Mistress, International Day Care Nursery School

# Notice Board

## APPOINTMENTS

### CENTRE FOR MALARIA RESEARCH & PHYTOMEDICINE

Professor (Mrs) Omotayo Ebong of the Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, has been appointed Director, Centre for Malaria Research and Phytomedicine, effective March 31, 2011 to March 31, 2013.

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Professor C. A. Nwauche of the Department of Haematology, Blood Transfusion & Immunology, has been appointed Assistant Director, Centre for Malaria Research and Phytomedicine, effective March 31, 2011 to March 31, 2013.

## HEADS OF DEPARTMENT PSYCHIATRY

Dr A. A. Essien, has been appointed Acting Head, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, effective from March 30, 2011 to March 30, 2013.

## GEOLOGY

Dr A. C. Tse, has been appointed Acting Head, Department of Geology, Faculty of Sciences, effective March 25, 2011 to March 24, 2013.

## CO-ORDINATOR HUMAN ANATOMY

Dr C. W. Paul of the Department of Human Anatomy, has been appointed Co-ordinator of the Department of Human Anatomy, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, effective March 31, 2011 to March 30, 2012

## PREVENTIVE & SOCIAL MEDICINE

Dr Tobin-West, has been appointed Co-ordinator of the Department of Preventive & Social Medicine, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences, effective March 31, 2011 to March 30, 2012.

## HAEMATOLOGY, BLOOD TRANSFUSION & IMMUNOLOGY

Dr E.E. Igbigbi, has been appointed Co-ordinator of the Department of Haematology, Blood Transfusion & Immunology College of Health Sciences, effective March 31, 2011 to March 30, 2012

## VISITING APPOINTMENT

Professor R.S.Okor has been appointed a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Technology, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences. The Appointment takes effect from date of assumption of duty.

## ANSTI CONFERENCE GRANT

The African Network of Scientific and Technological Institution, (ANSTI), invites academic staff who intend to participate in international conferences, as well as to present papers, to apply for grants. There is no deadline; however, grant applications must be submitted, at least, three months prior to the date of the Conference. *Contact: Director, Exchange and Linkage Programmes Unit*

## TEMPORARY LOCATION OF MUSIC DEPT IN DELTA PARK

The Temporary Office of the Department of Music (now occupying the former location of the Academic Planning Unit in Delta Park) has commenced full operation. *Contact: Professor Onyee Nwankpa*

## LEADS SCHOLAR FOR IPS

Dr. Makanjuola Oki, has been engaged as a National Universities Commission (NUC) LEADS Scholar for the Institute of Petroleum Studies (IPS). The Scholar is expected to organize workshops, develop and teach specialized Courses and undertake research projects. The engagement took effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2011.

## HSE ALERT!

### BE SAFETY CONSCIOUS:

SWITCH OFF ALL ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, INCLUDING WATER TAPS AT THE CLOSE OF WORK.

# 'This Is Sweet Victory'

## Team UNIPORT Highest Gold Medalist

By Ethel Wopara

The highest Gold medalist, at the just-concluded Nigerian Universities Games Association (NUGA), hosted by the University of Benin (UNIBEN), Miss Adaeze Igwe, has attributed the victory of Team UNIPORT to long training sessions, dedication and hard work, expressing gratitude to God for granting them top position over 38 other Universities that participated in the Games.

Miss Igwe, a Third Year Student in the Department of Human Kinetics and Physical Education, who gave a vivid account of their outing in Benin, while speaking to *UNIPORT Weekly* last Tuesday, said that the intensive training sessions started way back in October; long before the Games commenced last March.

The athlete who won four gold medals in 400 × 800m, 4×4m and 4×100m relay, revealed that personal determination to win and make the University proud, was her driving force during the Games, adding that total support from her Coaches and team-mates also motivated her to conquer all

opposition in Benin.

Promising better performance in the forthcoming West Africa Universities Games (WAUG) at University of Ilorin and the World Universities Games respectively, the golden lady maintained that the Institution's sporting facilities were of better standard compared to what was available in UNIBEN.

Also speaking, Team Captain, Fidelis Awusa, who disclosed that team work earned them the well-deserved victory, said that the high level of discipline, commitment and tolerance exhibited by the athletes during the Games in UNIBEN stood them out among other participants. Stressing that an unbeatable record of success has been set by the Team UNIPORT, Awusa, who promised that subsequent outings would bring greater victory, expressed gratitude to the University Management for supporting the Team before and during the Games. "With the unflinching support of the authorities and standard sporting facilities available in the University, we will continue to achieve impressive results", the Captain assured the University Community.



Fidelis Awusa, Captain, Team UNIPORT



Adaeze Igwe, won 4 Gold

# WEDDING STATUS

A newly-married Hubby saved his Wife's Number on his Cell phone in the first year of their marriage as: "My Life". After the first year, he changed it to: "My Wife". After the second year, he changed it to: "Home". After the fifth year, he changed it to: "Hitler"; and after ten years of marriage, he changed it to: "Wrong Number".



# CHS: Akani Assumes Office As Provost

## ...Promises To Carry Colleagues Along

By Humphrey Ogu

Following his victory in a keenly-contested election that was recently conducted for the Office of Provost, College of Health Sciences, Professor Chris Akani of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, has assumed office, promising to lift the College to greater heights by establishing an effective network that would create a conducive academic environment for staff and students to give of their very best.

Until his new elevation, Professor Akani was Dean, Faculty of Clinical Sciences; and Head, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology before assuming that position. The new helmsman succeeds Professor Blessing Didia, who recently concluded his tour of duty as Provost, leaving behind a strong legacy of accomplishments in the College.

Speaking to *UNIPORT Weekly* in his new office last Wednesday, Professor Akani, disclosed that "Topmost on my agenda is to see a College with fulfilled academic programmes; a College that would break new research grounds and also one that would produce graduates who meet the challenges of modern healthcare delivery, as well as international standards", noting that "We have remained consistently proud of our Medical graduates and we will strive to do better during my tenure as Provost".

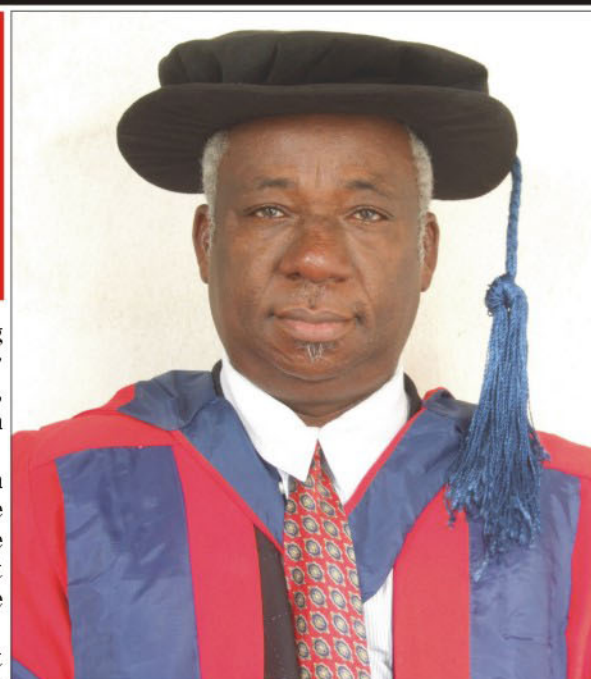
The new Provost disclosed that, "Plans are on the drawing board for the creation of new Faculties, Departments and programmes to meet the growing needs of young people who want to seek knowledge

in different areas of Medical Sciences", naming *Faculty of Allied Medical Sciences* and other graduate courses in *Sports Medicine and Surgery, Preventive and Social Medicine*, as some of such programmes envisaged in the College.

"We do hope that as we begin to collaborate with other Institutions and Agencies, we would introduce new programmes that would be presented to Senate for ratification", he said, adding that such emergent disciplines would enhance capacity-building in the College and project the University.

Professor Akani who observed that consistent changes in Medical practice calls for regular update of existing Curricula and expertise in the College said that the exorbitant cost of equipment needed for proper Medical education poses a huge challenge to Management, expressing satisfaction that "The present Administration in the University has shown serious commitment in the provision of essential equipment needed to run programmes in the College".

He pointed out that "There is need to improve technical and scientific capacity of staff in the College in particular and University in general, disclosing that the process could be accomplished internally. "It could also be achieved through collaborative training programmes with other institutions, within and outside the Country", Professor Akani said, assuring stakeholders in the College that "With my widely-acknowledged track record of experience, having served in different capacities in and outside the University, I hope to



**Professor Chris Akani**

address the challenges ahead with the co-operation of my colleagues and Management of the University".

The new Provost who noted that everybody in the College has a right to vote for a candidate of his or her choice, promised to carry staff and students along, expressing hope that "My colleagues who participated in the election would come under one umbrella as a happy College family as is usually the case". Professor Akani congratulated his colleagues who competed against him for the Office of Provost, promising that their wealth of experience would be sought in running the affairs of the College.

The in-coming Provost charged students admitted in the College to work very hard to justify their place in the scheme of things, warning that those of them who are unable to meet the high standards established in the College would fall by the wayside.

### Cont'd from p1

Registrar, Mrs Matilda Nnodim, who disclosed this while addressing the University of Port Harcourt Branch of Old Girls of Archdeacon Crowder Memorial Girls' School (ACMGS), Elelenwo, who paid her a Courtesy Visit recently, said reverting to the Directorate system was one of the issues that topped her agenda on assumption of office, expressing joy that it finally scaled through Council.

The visit which coincided with the Registrar's Birthday turned out to be a medley of emotions, reminisces and eulogies, as the Old Girls took turns to share fond memories of their time at ACMGS.

Responding to encomiums poured on her, Mrs Nnodim said, "I'm overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and kindness from you all", noting that products of ACMGS are known to be orderly and industrious owing to their training in the school. She thanked the group for coming together as a body, urging them to keep up the ideals of their *Alma Mater*.

"God being my helper, I will not disappoint myself, I will not disappoint you, I will not disappoint my ethnic group, State, or nation; above all, I will not disappoint God", she assured the group, soliciting their support, advice and prayers to enable her succeed. Her words: "If I tread dangerously call me to order. Don't hesitate to tell me when I dance out of tune".

Speaking earlier on behalf of the group, Professor Edith Elenwo, said that the decision to come together as a group followed Mrs Nnodim's appointment as Registrar, naming as Old Girls of ACMGS, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Development), Professor Bene Wille-Abbey, Vice-Chancellor's Wife, Mrs Mercy Ajenka, among other notable members of the University

community.

Professor Elenwo who congratulated the Registrar on her appointment and Birthday, pointed out that "The Registrar always made herself available for services in the University", attributing her appointment and career success to her fine qualities, coupled with the excellent training she received at ACMGS.

Presenting a Card to the Registrar, she said "It is not the size of the card; it is not the content of the Card, but the content of the hearts and the love which words cannot express that we present to you".

In her own contribution, Wife of the Vice-Chancellor, Mrs Mercy Ajenka, who recalled with nostalgia her encounter with the Registrar, who was then the Dining Hall Prefect, noted that Mrs Nnodim's

decision not to punish her for failing to take the complete cutleries to the Dining Hall as a reward for being truthful left a lasting impression on her.

Other members of the Association present at the event which featured cutting of Birthday Cake, included Professor Aduabobo Hart, Dr (Mrs) Nnenna Frank-Peterside, Mrs Felicia Jones-Ayuwo, Mrs Cecilia Amadi, and Justina Egeonu. The Association was at the event joined by Mrs Helen Owchonda-Wopara from Bursary Department and Mrs Veronica Otto, a friend of the University.



Registrar, Mrs Nnodim centre, UPWA President Mrs Ajenka (3rd from right) and other Old Girls of ACMGS