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Editorial Suite

I nearly did not submit this page for publication because I had quite a lot on my mind and in my hands. Quite understandable though. It therefore was a last minute "shallow details", as the case may be. I am led to make this declaration and that is that ***lines are falling unto pleasant places to our FUTO, this administration and us, as members of this community.***

The optimism to deliver and carve a niche and the reputation for dominance even in the face of "stiff competitions" and challenges has become more visible. Beyond that though, doors are opening of their own accord and it has been "silent laughter", orchestrated by living the dream that has eventually become a huge reality. And if you ask me, the goodly heritage is manifesting.

And in this edition, my hands are full already like the others before it. It started with choosing the cover page headlines and stories were in deep competition to occupy the coveted space. The recent vista started with the Nigerian Communication's investment of "a whole" Twenty Million Naira to stimulate research on Information Communication Technology in our FUTO.

Not resting on her oars, Engr. Prof. Mrs. Gloria Chukwudebe again attracted

a Centre of Excellence. It was actually the second in two years to come to this administration, headed by the 7th Substantive Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze. What a great feat—a Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Procurement, Environment and Social Standards otherwise known as FUTO CE-SPESS.

Following the intervention of the Federal Government, the prolonged differences on boundary definition of who owns what between FUTO and her host communities may soon be resolved, kudos to the "Peace-maker" and Minister of State for Education, Hon. Emeka Nwajiuba. He took it upon himself to arrange what I tagged the gathering of the 3 C's — Minister Chukwuemeka Nwajiuba, Governor Chukwuemeka Ihedioha and Vice Chancellor Chukwuemeka Eze.

It was yet another Convocation ceremony, the 32nd actually, where sixty two hot brains bagged the coveted first class honors degrees, a leap from last year's forty two. Lines are indeed falling unto pleasant places...The young man who clinched the Best Graduating Student trophy; Mr. Somtochukwu Oguchienti said something in his valedictory speech which I found spectacular. He described their graduation as ***"a new chapter leading to the***

beginning of another race". I read beyond it and reminded myself for the umpteenth time that of a truth, life itself is a systematic race— some backed-up with certificates and skills and others, with character, behaviour and attitude. In all of this, we are the choice we make, heavenly and earthly.

The next time you meet with Mr. Vice Chancellor, the 7th actually, you may as well address him as Noble Prof. Francis C. Eze and that would be just perfect. This is because he has been exemplified into the Noble and infact the highest Degree of the Holy Cross Knighthood of St. John International. Archbishop AJV Obinna, the Catholic Metropolitan Archbishop of the Owerri Ecclesiastical Province reminded the Noble Brothers that ***"because you are still in the heavenly race, you must be near in exemplifying the work of our Lord Jesus Christ"***.

Did you know that FUTO has started the conversion of waste to wealth? You will be reading it and many others, in this package. For real, lines are falling unto pleasant places for our FUTO. Happy reading.

Uche, Bright-Nwelue



NIGERIAN COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

INVESTS N20M TO STIMULATE
RESEARCH ON ICT IN FUTO

John Nnabuihe/Uche, Bright-Nwelue

“For the first time in the Telecoms Industry, we are endowing Professorial Chairs on two important Universities in Nigeria, two great institutions that share NCC vision of leveraging on the huge potentials of ICT to address societal and developmental challenges through cutting edge research”.

When the Executive Vice Chairman of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), Prof. Umar Garba Danbatta made the above statement, he actually referred to the Federal University of Technology Owerri and Bayero University Kano which got richer by N20m each for the 2019/2020 academic year. It was on the occasion of endowment of Professorial Chairs at the two great institutions held on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at the NCC Head quarters, Maitama Abuja.

He expressed great pleasure for the privilege of witnessing what he described as ***an important event in the annals of telecommunications regulatory intervention, geared towards the socio/economic development of Nigeria.*** According to him, the Professorial Chair project, which made the two institutions richer by twenty million (N20m) each, was borne out of the need to provide academic support for ICT focused research and other emerging telecom industry issues that may confront Nigeria. He hoped it would open up vista of growth opportunities in the sector as well as enhance the quality of research, academic and professionals in the beneficiary universities.

Prof. Danbatta noted that promotion of ICT innovation and investment

opportunities are the best ways to improve the nation's ability to compete favourably in the global digital economy, the reason the NCC is investing resources and facilitating strategic collaboration and partnership with the academia in Nigeria.

He congratulated the Federal University of Technology Owerri and Bayero University Kano, for being the first two beneficiaries and urged them, as respected institutions, to deploy best-in-class human and material resources capable of delivering the objectives of the project and pointed out that the Commission will be encouraged to do more if the key objectives of the programme are achieved, for the benefit of the consumers, the industry, academia and the nation at large.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Director, Research and Development, NCC, Mr. Ephraim Nwokonnya, explained that the two institutions were carefully selected for the pilot stage of the project based on their expertise and recent achievements in research and innovations in the field of Science, Information, Communication and Technology. He pointed out

that it has become necessary to leverage on the rich body of knowledge and skills in the academia to unlock the potential for growth and innovations in the data service segment, new services and solutions for telecoms consumers.

The event witnessed the signing of Memorandum of Understanding for the endowment of Professorial Chair in Telecoms

Engineering between the Nigerian Communications Commission and the Federal University of Technology Owerri. FUTO was represented by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze. The Registrar Mr. John Nnabuihe accompanied the Vice Chancellor to the epoch-making event.

“TETFUND IS THE LIFELINE FOR UNIVERSITIES” – VC AT TETFUND OFFICIALS VISIT TO FUTO

Okwara, Obumneke Bede



▲ DVC Research, Development and Innovation Prof. Bede C. Anusionwu represented the Vice Chancellor

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze has asserted that the “Tertiary Education Trust Fund, TETFund is an interventionist agency that

has transformed to become the lifeline of Nigerian universities.” He was full of gratitude for all the benefits accruable to FUTO through the Tertiary Education Trust

Fund, which includes but not limited to infrastructural and human capacity development, sponsorship of conferences and research publications.

He made the assertion when officials of TETFund led by Mrs Victoria O. Ugbonna visited the Federal University of Technology, Owerri on Thursday, September 5, 2019. The visitors were received at the Vice-Chancellor's Conference Room.

Leader of the team, Mrs. Ugbonna in her speech, said the team was directed by the

Executive Secretary of Tetfund to carry out audit verification exercise in Universities including the Federal University of Technology, Owerri. She opined that the aforementioned exercise is a routine check while requesting for the availability of the University's records to enable them have a hitch free verification exercise.

She however, said that the verification exercise which has become increasingly necessary not only to ascertain the utilization of funds disbursed to the beneficiary institution and ensure transparency and accountability but also to determine that the beneficiary institution will continue to be eligible for the intervention.

In his response, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwemeka Eze, represented by the (DVC) (RDI), Prof. B.C Anusionwu, thanked the team for the visit and commended the Executive Secretary of

TetFund for timely disbursement of intervention funds to the University, promising the team unfettered access to the University's records to enable them carry out their duties effectively. He added without equivocation that Federal University of Technology, Owerri will continue to adhere strictly to TetFund guidelines, disclosing the University's readiness to make corrections where necessary.

Speaking at the exit meeting on Friday, September 6, 2019 also at the Vice-Chancellor's Conference Room, Mrs. Ugbonna commended the University on behalf of the Executive Secretary of TetFund for the warm reception and hospitality accorded them and for providing the necessary documents that made their job seamless. "Everything went well" she stated. She was full of gratitude to the Management for the help they rendered which she said aided them in concluding the exercise on time. According to her, the

cash books, statements of the financial position of the University, deductions and remittances of tax records were scrutinized.

"FUTO deserves commendation in the area of tax deductions and remittances. All payments made were in accordance with the received approvals and documents in contractor's files are well kept." Mrs. Ugbonna stated.

The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Eze in his remarks thanked the Team for the objective report and kind words about FUTO, which he stated has been adhering strictly to TETFund guidelines while its rules and regulations have been religiously followed to ensure that nothing would disrupt the flow of the fund to the University.

In attendance were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Prof. N.J. Okeudo, Desk Officer TETFund Engr. Dr. O.E. Onyelucheya and Mr. D.O. Amatobi Deputy Bursar Final Accounts, who represented the Bursar.

FUTO ATTRACTS ANOTHER CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

- Okwara, Obumneke Bede



It was jubilation galore when the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze announced the attraction of another Centre of Excellence to FUTO, the second in two years. He was briefing members of the 4th Estate of the Realm as part of activities marking the 32nd Convocation Ceremony of FUTO. The Vice Chancellor had stated that ***his administration through the Mantra, driving the culture of Excellence, had put in place innovative policies and initiatives aimed at improving teaching, learning and research. As a progressive institution, he said we have established Information Technology programmes, expanded Research Enterprise, attracted two World Bank sponsored Centres of Excellence and enriched our curricula with***

practicals and hands-on trainings to adequately equip our students for the future.

Prior to the event that heralded the second Centre of Excellence, precisely on Monday, August 19, 2019, a two-man delegate from the National Universities Commission and World Bank Prof. C. Mafiana and Mrs. Lulu Udoka, had visited Federal University of Technology, Owerri. In a meeting with the delegates which was held at the Senate Chamber of the University, Prof. Mafiana said their visit was necessitated by the proposal submitted by FUTO to the National Universities Commission and World Bank for the Establishment of a Centre of Excellence on ***Sustainable Procurement, Environment and Social Standards, FUTO CE-SPESS, in the University.*** He

thereafter requested the Centre Leader Engr. Prof. Mrs. Gloria Chukwudebe to make a presentation on the subject matter.

The Centre Leader in her presentation, stated that Federal University of Technology, Owerri had earlier expressed strong interest in hosting a Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Procurement, Environment and Social Standards to be named FUTO CE-SPESS. She noted that while Nigerian Universities are performing well on accreditation and attracting foreign students in various study areas, none of them offer dedicated degrees in the areas of Public Procurement, Environmental Standard and Social Standards adding that Nigeria lacks sustainable capacity building programmes in the above mentioned fields.

Besides corruption, she noted that there is a skill gap and lack of sufficiently competent and compliant professionals in the public and private sectors which has made intervention by National Universities Commission and World Bank, timely. Amongst numerous other advantages Prof. Mrs. Chukwudebe highlighted, the proposal will greatly enhance FUTO programmes and position the Institution to assist the Federal Government attain faster economic growth.

She also explained that the programme will include short certificate courses, advanced



▲ Cross section of delegates during the meeting at Senate Chambers

certificates, Post-Graduate Diplomas and Master Degrees in Sustainable Procurement, Environmental Sustainability and Social Standards. For each of the aforementioned fields, FUTO has developed innovative course titles and modules that will also support good governance, increase

transparency, competition, equal opportunity, sustainability and environmental and social standards, she pointed out. ***"FUTO has been performing excellently with grants. CE-SPESS FUTO would collaborate with national and international institutions in***

research, partner with the public and private sectors to embrace best practices to promote a sustainable development that does not jeopardize the environment", she said.

The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze thanked the delegates immensely for the visit and assured them that the grant will be judiciously utilized if approved.

Also present at the meeting were all the Principal Officers and members of the FUTO CE-SPESS.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MOVES TO RESOLVE FUTO AND HOST COMMUNITIES LAND DIFFERENCES

Uche, Bright-Nwelue/ Okwaranwaneri C. Chidubem



▲ Minister of State Education Hon. Emeka Nwajiuba making his presentation during the tripartite meeting

The prolonged differences on boundary definition between Federal University of Technology, Owerri and her host communities will soon become a thing of the past following the tripartite meeting of the Federal and State Governments, as well as FUTO. The meeting

commenced with a courtesy call on the Governor of Imo State Hon. Emeka Ihedioha by the Minister of State, Education Hon. Emeka Nwajiuba and FUTO Delegation on Friday October, 11, 2019 at the Government House Owerri. It was at the instance of Hon. Nwajiuba.

In his opening remark, the Minister stated that the visit was to dialogue and find a lasting solution to the problem of land encroachment at FUTO, adding that the Ministry was spurred and took interest in the assignment based on a letter it received in connection with the differences. He thanked the state government



Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha,
Governor of Imo State
addressing the delegates
during the stakeholders
meeting at the Government
House, Owerri ▶

for showing genuine commitment towards resolving the dispute which he recalled had lingered for many years. "The interest of the Federal Government in resolving the problem is geared towards ensuring unhindered and safe environment for free flow of academic activities in the Institution", he opined.

The land according to Hon. Nwajiuba was granted by the Imo State Government in 1982 and soon after he pointed out, there had existed problems that needed quick intervention for peace to be maintained in FUTO but regretted that it has taken too long to be resolved. He stated that the Ministry's interest in the matter is a renewed effort geared towards finding a lasting solution to the problem.

Speaking also, the Governor of Imo State, Hon. Emeka Ihedioha, said he was prepared to dialogue with the parties involved with all sense of

humility and pledged his commitment towards resolving the dispute. While expressing optimal hope that the discussions would yield positive result, the Governor added that his interest was based on the priority his administration has placed on education and assured that the State and Federal Governments were committed to promoting a peaceful and sustainable learning environment in FUTO.

He said that Imo is not a lawless State and pledged his resolve to maintain a cordial relationship with all sectors of the economy. He used the opportunity to thank President Muhammadu Buhari on behalf of people of the State for appointing Hon. Emeka Nwajiuba as a Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

During the closed-door meeting that followed immediately after, issues on the encroachment into FUTO land, agitations by the host

communities that had spanned several years and efforts towards resolving the imbroglio by the present administration in the University and others were tabled.

Making a presentation on behalf of the University, the 7th Substantive Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, recalled that the land mass required for approving the establishment of a University in Nigeria by the Federal Government when FUTO was founded thirty nine years ago, was four thousand hectares, making FUTO's land mass the smallest amongst all the Universities in the country.

Vice Chancellor Eze frowned on the fact that the Institution is presently occupying land belonging to only one autonomous community due to excessive encroachment adding that the encroachment has become so massive and horrifying to the extent that students share unfenced boundaries with tall buildings erected on encroached FUTO land, even side by side female hostels. He therefore, while thanking the Minister and Governor for their interventions, enjoined them to consider utmost in their resolve, the security of the University community particularly the students.

In his response, Governor Ihedioha promised a quick resolution to the problem by announcing the setting up of a working Committee, made up of the Vice Chancellor and Registrar on behalf of FUTO, the Senior Special Assistant to



▲ (middle), Governor Emeka Ihedioha, Hon. Emeka Nwajibu Minister of State Education, Pro-Chancellor Prof. John O. Offem, VC Prof. F.C Eze, Registrar Mr. John Nnabuihe and others

the Governor on Land Matters, a lawyer from the Office of the State Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, the State Commissioner for Education Prof. Viola Onwuliri and Chairman Owerri West Local Government Area.

Also present at the meeting were the Deputy Governor Rt. Hon. Engr. Gerald Irona, Barr. Ken Njemanze SAN, Commissioners and aides of the Governor. The Federal University of Technology Owerri delegation was led by the Pro Chancellor

and Chairman of the 11th Governing Council Prof. John O. Offem, including the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, the Registrar, Mr. John Nnabuihe, and Solicitor to FUTO Barr. Frank Ihemmadu.

“THE ROAD CONNECTING FUTO AND THE FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC NEKEDÉ IS IN MY PRIORITY LIST”

–GOVERNOR IHEDIOHA

Stella Ijegbula/Obumneke Bede Okwara

Governor of Imo State, Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha CON, has reiterated his administration's commitment to duty which he said he swore to on assumption of office. Uppermost in his priority list as he fully assumed office he assured, would be to upgrade the dilapidated road that leads to the two federal government-owned institutions in the State, the Federal University of Technology Owerri and Federal Polytechnic, Nekede. He gave the assurance on Thursday, July 4, 2019 at the Sam Mbakwe Conference Hall,

Government House Owerri, during a courtesy call on the Governor by the Council and

Management of the Federal University of Technology Owerri.



Governor Emeka Ihedioha and his deputy Engr. Gerald Irona during the courtesy visit ▼

The Governor, who described his administration as an enlightened one, pointedly stated that he will not compromise on quality even as he promised to look into the encroachment saga and insecurity in FUTO. He recalled that he collaborated with FUTO as Chief whip and later Deputy Speaker of House of Representatives respectively and promised his support towards finding a lasting solution to the issues raised and gleefully added, "We are partners in the FUTO project".



Pro-Chancellor FUTO, Prof. John Omni Offem making his remarks while the V.C Prof. F.C Eze and DVC Academic Prof. J.N Okeudo listen with keen interest

Earlier, the Pro Chancellor and Chairman of the 11th Governing Council of FUTO, Prof. John Omini Offem had congratulated the Governor on his election and pledged the support of the Council, Management, staff and students of the Institution to the Governor, stating their preparedness to join hands with him in his quest to deliver quality services to the people. The Pro-Chancellor went ahead to state that the visit was in keeping with the University's tradition of familiarizing with new leaders and chief executives in the State.

The Chairman acquainted him with the state of the University and highlighted some of its challenges which include land

encroachment, insecurity on campus and others, appealing to the Governor to help secure FUTO land. He also urged the Governor to use his good offices to attract a medical School to FUTO, adding that it does not conflict with her mandate as a University of Technology. In addition, Prof. Offem sought the governor's assistance in facilitating completion of abandoned donor projects on campus and prayed God to guide and protect him into undertaking the onerous task of governing Imo State.

The Pro-Chancellor was accompanied to the Government House by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, Deputy

Vice-Chancellors of Academic Prof. N. J. Okeudo, Administration Prof. J.S. Orebiyi, Research, Development and Innovation Prof. Bede C. Anusionwu, Registrar Mr. John U. Nnabuihe, Bursar Mrs. Helen Onuoha, University Librarian, Dr. Mrs. Chinwe V. Anunobi, Dr. C. B. Jiburum, Mr. Ben Bom Goong, Engr. Prof. G. I. Nwandikom, Prof. C. C. Eze, Prof. I. N. S. Dozie, Prof. C.C.Z. Akaolisa and Prince C. E. Njemanze. Also present were the State Deputy Governor, Rt. Hon. Gerald Irona, former Governor of Imo State Chief Ikedi Ohakim, Commissioners, members of the judiciary and other dignitaries.



▲ Governor Emeka Ihedioha (C) , Pro-Chancellor FUTO Prof. John O. Offem, VC Prof. F.C. Eze, Council members, Principal Officers and govt. officials

VICE-CHANCELLOR LEADS PRINCIPAL OFFICERS ON A VISIT TO IMO STATE CHIEF JUDGE - Chioma Ike



University in audience.

The Chief Judge, Hon. Justice Paschal Nnadi, in his response stated that he had craved for an opportunity to interact and exchange ideas with the Vice Chancellor over the period. Hon. Justice Nnadi was happy with the Vice-Chancellor's excellent achievements which he said he had observed, read and also heard from others and urged him not to relent in providing quality leadership that would transform the Institution.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze on Tuesday, May 15, 2019 paid a familiarization visit to the Chief Judge of Imo State, Hon. Paschal Obinna Nnadi at the Harcourt Chamber, Imo State High Court, Owerri.

encroachment, vandalism of university property by host communities, insecurity, stealing, cultism and cases of rape.

He noted that FUTO, over the years has been at her best in curbing the disturbances and challenges but added that it still required the assistance of the Chief Judge. Prof. Eze reminded him also that the institution is missing out on State Government's presence which included infrastructural development, dualization of FUTO road and other needs. He expressed gratitude with the way the Chief Judge received him and the Principal Officers of the

Speaking, Prof. Eze acknowledged the importance of the Judiciary as the third arm of government and said he deemed it necessary to visit and interact with him as the Chief Judge of the state. He briefed the Chief Judge about the many disturbances that FUTO has witnessed over the period like land

Justice Nnadi stressed that in carrying out his duties as the Chief Judge and head of the judicial system in Imo State, he has come across a lot of cases and that deciding student cases has been some of the most difficult to deal with. He however assured the Vice-Chancellor of his preparedness to help out with the disputes FUTO is involved in, within or outside the court.



▲ 4th from left, VC Prof. F.C Eze , Chief Judge Imo State, Hon. Paschal Nnadi in group photograph with other Principal Officers of FUTO during the visit

FUTO INAUGURATES ENVIRONMENTAL AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

■ Okwara, Obumneke Bede ■

To ensure cleanliness and proper management of waste within the Federal University of Technology Owerri and its host communities, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwumeka Eze inaugurated members of the Environmental and Waste Management Committee on Monday, May 20, 2019 at the Senate Chamber.

The mandate to the Committee by the Vice Chancellor during the inauguration include ensuring environmental cleanliness and proper waste management within the Campus and its environment basically in preparation for the forthcoming institution accreditation exercise. He had earlier described members of the Committee as professionals who he insisted, would assist the Management build on the successes already achieved on environmental cleanliness.

Prof. Eze therefore challenged them to come up with operational strategies and implementation plan, assuring that the University would provide them with financial assistance within the available resources. He congratulated them on their appointment and tasked them to ensure that the University emerged tops on environmental cleanliness, reminding them of the enormity of their tasks but noted that they have the requisite personnel to achieve the desired goal.

He also urged the Deans of Schools to monitor activities of hawkers within their various Schools as well as the head and staff of the University Staff School to do all they could to achieve a lasting environmental cleanliness within the school premises.

Members of the Environmental and Waste Management Committee are: Engr. Prof. Mrs. K.B.

Oyoh (Chairperson), Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze, Engr. Prof. J. C. Eze, Prof. C. C. Z. Akolisa, Prof. P.C. Obasi, Prof. J.N. Ogbulie, Prof. N.N. Oti, Engr. Prof. Mrs. G.N. Chukwudebe, Prof. J.I. Alinor, Prof, C.C. Ibe, Prof. I.C. Madufor, Prof. Mrs. C.A. Madu. Others are, Prof. Mrs. R.I. Okechukwu, Prof. Mrs. C.E. Ogukwe, Dr. J.K. Aguocha, Engr. R.E Okeke; Dr. Mrs. G.N. Okeudo, Dr. B.Q. Ochieze, Dr. Mrs. C.C. Nwachi, Dr. Mrs. S.I. Umeh, Dr. Mrs. Umunnakwe, Dr. Mrs. Jean Ogbonna, Mrs. Joy Iheonye, Mrs. Ofulume, Mrs. A.Q. Chukwu.

In a Vote of thanks, Chairperson of the Committee, Engr. Prof. Mrs. K.B. Oyoh, thanked the Vice Chancellor for their appointment. She pledged on behalf of other members of the Committee to give their utmost best in order to actualize the desired result.



“WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH IN FUTO”- NAOC AND NNPC
-Okwaranwaneri C. Chidubem

developing research that will be beneficial even to the international community. He thereafter requested the FUTO Team to present its proposal.

materials. Speaking on other benefits and values attached to recycling, Engr. Oyoh said *“we gather them, take them to the laboratories and turn them even to oil and diesel, among many other usages. Bitumen used for road construction can also be accessed from recycled wastes”*.

VC, Prof. F. C. Eze responding to the team leader's brief

The Research and Development Team of the Nigeria Agip Oil Company NAOC, and the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation NNPC on Monday, June 24, 2019 visited the Vice Chancellor, Federal University of Technology Owerri, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze. The visit was to discuss issues bordering on the proposal by FUTO to be involved in waste management and recycling project.

Presenting the proposal for the prospective project, the Director, Office of University Development OUD, Engr. Prof. Mrs. K. B. Oyoh said FUTO has the obligation and commitment to rid the Institution and its host communities of environmental pollution, being the reason for embarking on the waste management project, in the first instance.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze in his contribution, re-iterated that “FUTO has one of the best breads for waste management and environment. *We have departments that specialize on these fields. We are creating awareness for people to dispose their wastes at normal places.* FUTO towers above all other institutions in Nigeria when it comes to engineering”, he pointed out.

Speaking on behalf of the Team, Mr. Albert Ijuroe of NAOC thanked the Vice Chancellor for the opportunity they had to have him present during their workshop at Abuja. He said their mission was to help FUTO develop research to an enviable level, having known that the Institution is committed to

Prof. Oyoh noted that polymeric materials could be found all over the environment and that if collected and burnt, would create health hazards. She therefore stated that the world has moved on to the stage of finding lasting solution to environmental pollution. The project in addition to solving the problem, she said is also aimed at gathering together all polymeric within FUTO and its environs and converting them for the production of hangers, bags and so many other related

He stressed that the project when embarked on, would curb environmental pollution, increase energy supply as well as rebound the economic and financial benefits of the nation at large. The team was later taken round the laboratories and other places of need required for the proposed project. All the Principal Officers were present at the presentation.



▲ VC, Prof. F. C. Eze, other Principal Officers and the team in a group photograph after the visit

FUTO GRADUATES 2,848 AT ITS 32ND CONVOCATION CEREMONY

Kudos to the Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO) especially as it celebrated its 32nd Convocation Ceremony which produced 62 First Class Honours Degrees from different Schools of the University. The best graduating student, Oguchienti Somtochukwu Marcel of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering made a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 4.90 on a 5 point scale. The ceremony also featured the award of prizes, conferment of Higher Degrees and awards of Postgraduate Diplomas



▲ VC, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze reading his addressing during the press briefing marking the 32nd Convocation of FUTO.

PRESS BRIEFING

- Duruanyim Chikwado Stanley

Ahead of the 32nd Convocation Ceremony of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, the 7th Substantive Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze briefed the media intimating them on the successes recorded so far by the institution.

Addressing the media at the University's Senate Chamber Tuesday, December 3, 2019, Prof. Eze informed that a total of 2,848 graduates were produced by the University including Postgraduate degrees and Diplomas. He

announced that Mr. Oguchienti Somtochukwu Marcel of the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering emerged as the best graduating student for the class of 2018/2019 graduating students. He used the opportunity to congratulate the graduating students for the successful completion of their studies even as they become integral part of FUTO Alumni Association.

The Vice Chancellor averred that FUTO has evolved and remained an institution of repute in the advancement of Science, Engineering, Agriculture and Technology through production of high-level technical manpower based on the unique mandate and curriculum content the

University have championed. He added that they have maintained distinct academic programmes geared towards meeting the University strategic objectives.

Acquainting them of the success stories of his administration through his "Driving the Culture of Excellence" mantra, Prof. Eze noted that he has put into place innovative policies and initiatives that are aimed at improving teaching, learning and research. As a progressive institution he added, FUTO have established Information Technology programmes, Expanded Research enterprise, attracted two World sponsored Centres of Excellence and enriched the curricula with practicals and hands-on

training to adequately equip the students for the future.

He noted that stable academic calendar has been maintained in the last one year with more conducive and comfortable environment for the students and faculty members. Within the available resources at disposal, his administration has upgraded and expanded facilities to improve teaching, practicals and research. The programmes in the University according to him, have full accreditation from the National Universities Commission (NUC) and relevant professional bodies for some specialized programmes. The current administration he stated has maintained zero tolerance for all forms of misconduct while upholding the pedigree of excellence with the view of sustaining the reputation to ensure observance of Rules and Regulations. The relevant Staff and Students Disciplinary Committees remained highly effective in dealing with staff and students that indulge in any misconduct, he added.

On sexual harassment, the Vice Chancellor made it clear that they have developed a sexual harassment policy which is being considered by the Governing Council. He said, it became necessary following the recent national outcry on cases of sexual harassment as well as appropriate sanction for the same. He added that anti-plagiarism and University Research Policies have been developed and were equally awaiting approvals by the Senate and Council as to promote and maintain

academic standards and protect intellectual work and property.

The Vice Chancellor equally informed the media men that his administration has been committed to enhancing staff welfare and well-being through prompt payment of salaries, release of promotions to deserving staff as well as other welfare packages aimed at improving productivity.

On a cheerful note, Prof. Eze announced that FUTO was among the six (6) Federal Universities selected to host the World Bank sponsored Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Procurement, Environment and Social Standards Enhancement. The University's proposal according to him, was outstanding among other proposals that were assessed by the UNC Panels and the World Bank which gave them the honour to have project value worth over \$11 million. The Centre of Excellence when operational, would champion research and development of manpower in Procurement, Environment

and Social Standards he added. The Centre according to the Vice Chancellor came barely few months after the institution was selected as Africa Centre of Excellence in Future Energies and Electrochemical Systems (ACE-FUELS).

Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze used the opportunity to keep the newsmen abreast of some of his achievements in recent time which include; construction and furnishing of Academic Office Building for school of Information and Computing Technology, rehabilitation and furnishing of the ICTC Building, rehabilitation of toilet facilities for the school of Environmental Sciences, old School of Engineering and Engineering Technology (SEET), Hall of Excellence, 500-capacity Lecture Theater for School of Science. Others include; completion of School of Health Technology Building, Completion and furnishings of a one story Building donated by the National Information Technology just to mention but a few.



Conducting media men round the recycling plant within the University on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze informed the media men that the essence of establishing the plant was to convert wastes into saleable and useful products thereby improving the Internally Generated Revenue of the Institution. He stated that the Recycling Plant would work in partnership with the University Environment and Waste Management Committee, in collaboration with the Departments of Polymer and Textile Engineering and Materials and Metallurgical Engineering, with the aim to establish a mini recycling Center.

The Vice Chancellor who was visibly happy on the development further explained that polythene waste materials would be recycled into nylon bags, hangers, plastic cups and key holders adding that used table water/soft drinks plastic bottles will be shredded into flaks that would either be exported as raw materials or used for the production of rugs, pullovers, pens, pet bottles for chemicals as well as many other products while used papers will be shredded and recycled into toilet rolls and



▲ Some of the waste materials waiting to be recycled at the plant

packaging papers. While showing the processes the wastes undergo to produce the finished products inside the laboratory, the Vice Chancellor stated that biodegradable wastes are converted to manure for farming purposes while used metal materials are remolded into different metal sizes and shapes, using the foundry facility. In addition, broken bottles and glasses are crushed and used as additive in the manufacture of paints. He revealed to the newsmen that paints used in repainting the Senate Building in preparation for the 32nd Convocation ceremony were produced in the laboratory, using wastes collected from the University.

The 7th Substantive Vice Chancellor of FUTO, Prof. F.C. Eze noted, ***“the Committee on Environment and Waste Management has developed a proposal on generation of electricity from heterogeneous waste***

materials. The novel proposal is begging for funding. I therefore appeal to donor agencies and corporations to support the project to enable us achieve the first indigenous generation of electricity from waste materials”.

A senior lecturer in the Department of Polymer and Textile Engineering and a member of the Committee on Environmental Waste Management, Engr. Dr. Nnamdi Iheaturu while responding to questions from newsmen, hinted that separation of the wastes were done manually while hinting on their challenges which include waste collection with appeal to the University community to dump wastes in the designated waste bins provided all over the University.

ECUMENICAL SERVICE:

- Okwara, Obumneke Bede

Rev. Dr. O.O. Nnorom of All Saints Chapel FUTO has admonished the students and staff of Federal University of Technology Owerri to prepare for heavenly Convocation by giving their life to Jesus Christ.

He made the admonition at the Ecumenical Service for 32nd Convocation Ceremony of FUTO held on Wednesday 4th December, 2019 at Forestry and Wildlife technology Auditorum of the University.

In his homily, he advised that students and staff should obey and study God's words and associate with people of good character, people who despise evil and cherish excellence. According to the Clergy, practice your faith in Christ and let your good work shines. Rev. Nnorom said that the biblical Daniel is a man with an excellent spirit, knowledge and understanding, enjoining staff and students to exhibit excellence in all their activities and prayed for a joyful cum beautiful Convocation on 7th October, 2019.

He added that students should be found worthy in character and learning. He advised staff and students of FUTO to despise corruption which he said impedes



VC, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze addressing the congregation during the ecumenical service. ▼

development. According to him, ***"Your lifestyle should showcase excellence and good character"***. He said with men and women of excellence the University will be Institution of excellence.

In his speech, the Vice chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze thanked the Clergy for their prayers and support but called to mind the University's activities for the year and thanked God for what he is doing in FUTO. He said FUTO is achieving great results. While noting that the University has won several grants from Tetfund and expressed optimism that the

University shall win more from both public and private sector.

Prof. Eze advised that staff jettison their differences and work together for progress. ***"Let us agree even after disagreement"*** he stated. He noted that everybody is important that all are part of a whole. He announced that the Management has approved the Institution of Award Scheme to encourage hard work and productivity in the category of best publication, best innovative research products and outstanding staff. He said the



▲ Cross section of Principal Officers during the ecumenical service as part of programmes marking the 32nd Convocation.

award ceremony would be held soon to reward hard work and competency. He said his administration has continued to promote effective governance through observance of rule of law and ethics as well as financial probity.

In attendance were (DVC Acad.) Prof. N.J. Okeudo,

(DVC Admin.) Prof. J.S. Orebiyi, (DVC R.D.I) Prof. Bede Anusionwu, The Registrar, Mr. John Nnabuihe, Bursar Mrs. Helen Onuoha, University Librarian, Dr. Mrs. Chinwe Anunobi and others are:

Chaplain, All Saints Chapel FUTO - Rev. Dr. Gowin S.

Adaka.

Chaplain, St, Thomas Aquinas Catholic Chaplaincy FUTO – Rev. Fr. Dr. Jude C. Ike and Asst. Chaplain, St, Thomas Aquinas Catholic Chaplaincy FUTO – Rev. Fr. Anselem O. Amadi.

THE CONVOCATION LECTURE:

- Oluchi Izuegbu

A graduate of Federal University of Technology Owerri (FUTO), Engr. Prof. Ndubuisi Ekekwe delivered the 32nd Convocation Lecture of the University on Friday December 6, 2019. He was the first alumnus to deliver a Convocation Lecture in the history of the University.

Speaking on the theme ***“The Innovators-Unlocking the Abundance in Nations for the Rise of All”***, Prof. Ekekwe, a 1998 graduate of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, upheld that for Nigeria to grow beyond its present state, it has to shun much dependence on invention to innovations which is the brand of development globally.

He buttressed that Africa is confronted with daunting challenges of building a new generation of workforce and critically needed



infrastructure, to not just compete globally but also to prepare for its post –mineral era. ***“The continent needs to foster a climate of innovations and pursue sustainable growth despite evolving economic realities that strain national budgets. At regional and national levels, firms need to collaborate, improve, compete, develop specialized talents and spur innovation”***, the Lecturer added.

Prof. Ekekwe further stated that creating knowledge to drive development and growth has remained the

core that separates wealth and poverty, adding that knowledge can be indigenous or externally acquired but must be structured on pillars. According to him, innovation system built through knowledge typically goes beyond attracting multinational companies, establishing silos of high technology companies or entrepreneurial system, to one that is relevant, by understanding and providing for the needs of the local market.

He noted that Africa has to improve its educational

system, pointing out that the quality of education and training has created mismatches between the available jobs in the continent and potential employees. He also maintained that technical education is critical to improving the knowledge economy regime in the continent.

The Lecturer recommended that for the country to develop, it would work towards replacing the *“Adam Smith Economics with Umunneoma Economics”*. The Umunneoma Economics according to him, means shared prosperity, progress and the rise of all which implies abolition of unbounded inequality, pointing out that the Igbo Apprenticeship System pursues the rise of all, and not just a few. However he said, Africa requires a need-driven innovation strategy where investments in Research and Development should be targeted, measured and tied to improvement to welfare of citizens, stating that the strategy will evaluate priorities as some African countries like Ghana and Kenya invest in space programme when artisans and innovators struggle to get decent support for grassroots innovation development.

He further added that African stakeholders-governments, donors, universities and private sector firms need to collaborate to improve the competitiveness of innovation ecosystems by

working together through investments and sound policies, making the innovation systems more efficient and competitive. Governments may not necessarily need to establish new cities and technology villages to provide platforms for innovation if they can provide needed infrastructure from the already existing ones, he said. In his remarks, the Vice Chancellor and Chairman of the occasion Prof. Francis Chukwemeka Eze applauded the giant academic strides of the Alumnus, Prof Ndubuisi Ekekwe who he said has continued to make FUTO proud through his contributions to the development of the society at large.

Prof. Eze charged the students to emulate Prof. Ekekwe who passed through the same rigorous training to become a graduate of FUTO. He averred that FUTO will continue to uphold its educational standard with

the aim to produce best quality graduates that could compete with other graduates nationally and internationally.

Presenting the memento to the quest lecturer through the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) Prof. Ndukwe J. Okeudo, Prof. F.C Eze said that the lecturer touched the heart of Nigeria's problems while proffering solutions on how best to unlock the abundance of the country for the rise of all. He borrowed a leaf from the Lecturer when he stated that *“where we were and where we ought to be were based on innovations we were able to achieve. No innovation would be enough unless commercialized to effect positive change to the lives of ordinary citizens”*.

The Chairman, Lecture Series Committee and University Orator Prof. Babington Esonu read the citation on the Convocation Lecturer.

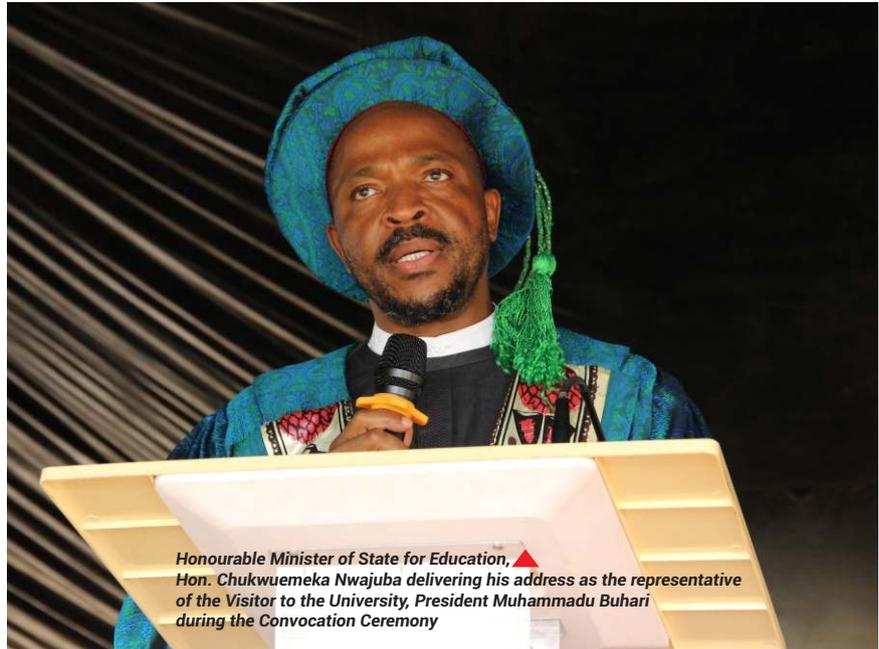


VISITOR'S ADDRESS:

- Nonso Opara

In an address presented by the Visitor to the Federal University of Technology, Owerri His Excellency, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari commended the 2019 FUTO graduating students who successfully completed their studies and were found worthy both in character and learning to be awarded the degrees of the University. He acknowledged their diligence, dedication and discipline which have earned them the award of the prestigious degrees and prizes in the various disciplines of the University.

The Visitor, represented by the Minister of State for Education, Hon. Chukwuemeka Nwajuba commended the Management and Staff of the University for their roles and contributions towards achieving success of the graduates and hoped that they would demonstrate in practical terms, the technical know-how, ideas and knowledge acquired during their academic apprenticeship in the



Honourable Minister of State for Education, Hon. Chukwuemeka Nwajuba delivering his address as the representative of the Visitor to the University, President Muhammadu Buhari during the Convocation Ceremony

University.

He added that the Federal Government recognizes the pivotal role tertiary institutions play in the production of high-level manpower for both the public and private sectors as well as undertaking researches that are germane for the advancement of the nation.

The Visitor mostly appreciated the contributions of Universities of Technology in the advancement of Technology, Science, Agriculture and Health in the country in general and specifically noted with satisfaction, the reputation and commendation which FUTO has earned for itself over time through the quality of its graduates who dominate the various industries in the country.

President Buhari advised the

University to pay more attention in grooming innovators and entrepreneurs without prejudice to the crucial and important roles of generating human capacities and brought to the fore, the challenges of graduate unemployment which demands urgent action from Managers of Tertiary Institutions. He called on all stakeholders to intensify efforts toward equipping graduates with problem-solving and innovative skills, in addition to their degree certificates to enable them a place in the ever-changing world, emphasizing that Nigeria looks up to tertiary institutions for solutions to the national problems as they are expected to produce graduates with knowledge, skill and values as well as undertake cutting edge research to address the contemporary societal challenges.

On the part of the Federal

Government, the President stated that it would continue to support the improvement of facilities in the Universities in order to create a conducive environment for development of future manpower needs. He made mention of the various interventions by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) and the release of revitalization fund to Federal Universities which have been instrumental in the rehabilitation of dilapidated facilities and development of new projects.

The President also used the medium to inform all that the Federal Government, through the ecological Fund Office, has approved the rehabilitation of erosion site on the Otamiri River Bank and the University footbridge. He added that the Tertiary Education Trust Fund has granted fresh approval for the construction of the Research and Technology Park and the Food Science and Technology (FST) Pilot Plant in the

University and urged the University to ensure effective supervision and execution of the project. He assured that government will continue to demonstrate commitment towards ensuring peaceful and stable academic activities through interface with unions and other stakeholders so that the country would achieve stable higher education.

According to him, the Federal Government alone cannot meet all the finance and infrastructural needs of Universities, adding that it was against the backdrop that he called on the University Management to seek fruitful partnerships and collaborations with industries as well as seeking sponsorships from philanthropists in uplifting facilities and infrastructures.

The visitor also used the opportunity to appeal to the host communities of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri to exhibit

greater cooperation with Management of the University so as to end the lingering boundary conflict, adding that, ***"The Federal Government is not weak in taking possession of the land that was legitimately acquired, but that as a responsible and engaging government, prefers to dialogue and engage with the stakeholders in reaching peaceful resolution of the conflict. I urge the host communities to see the siting of the University in their communities as a blessing and help partner with the University authority for its expansion and development"***.

In conclusion, President Muhammadu Buhari once more congratulated the 2019 graduating students and urged them to contribute to the development of the country by translating ideas and experiences gained from the University into tangible products of entrepreneurship.



▲ Cross section of graduands processing toward the Convocation ground.

PRO-CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS

DURUANYIM CHIKWADO STANLEY

The Pro-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Prof. John Omini Offem has expressed gratitude to the Governor of Imo State, His Excellency, Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha for awarding a contract for the rehabilitation of Naze Junction-Nekede-Ihiagwa-Obinze road after years of abandonment. He stated that the governor's gesture demonstrated friendly and favourable disposition as the access road would alleviate the sufferings encountered by staff, students and commuters that ply the road.

Prof. Offem in his address thanked President Mahammadu Buhari for his responsiveness to the needs of the University, especially in the provision of infrastructure, payment of staff salaries/allowances and overall development of the University. He acknowledged with immense gratitude, the kind response of the Ecological Fund Office for the rehabilitation of erosion sites at the Otamiri River Bank and the University Bridge as well as the approval for the construction of a Technology Park and other projects by TETFund.

He assured of the



Prof-Chancellor, Prof. John Omini Offem delivering his address

commitment of the 11th Governing Council for effective utilization of the resources while sustaining the highest academic standards in FUTO. He noted that for over 30 years, the institution has continuously and conscientiously produced high level of manpower in response to the need to produce experts that will champion the technological transformation of the country from being consumer oriented to production oriented.

The Pro-Chancellor used the opportunity to commend the management and staff of the University for holding forth the dreams of the founding fathers of the University adding that the 11th Governing Council has collaborated and supported the management in maintaining stable and progressive academic environment devoid of

students and staff unrest. The students of the institution according to him, have continued to bring pride and honour to the University through outstanding performance at different national and international competitions.

On the management of finances, the Pro-Chancellor noted that the University authority has been prudent in the management and disbursement of its meager resources with strict adherence to the Financial Regulations and Procurement laws. Commenting on the persistent boundary conflict and encroachment on the University land, Prof. Offem informed that the Council and Management have continued to interface with stakeholders including making entreaties to the Federal Government for intervention.

VICE CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS:

-OKWARANWANERI CALLISTUS

The Vice Chancellor, Federal University of Technology Owerri, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze while welcoming dignitaries, congratulated on behalf of the University Community, Mr. President and the Governor of Imo State, their Excellences Muhammadu Buhari and Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha for their victories at the court which confirmed their overwhelming endorsement at the 2019 Presidential and Gubernatorial polls.

He also rejoiced and felicitated with the class of 2019 graduates and salute their determination and dedication in meeting the vigorous trainings of the specialized university. As part of his duty and expectation to brief the Visitor and Stakeholders on the current developments in the University, the Vice Chancellor highlighted milestones of the University since the last Convocation in April 2019 in several areas.

He said that his administration in the quest for distinction in teaching and learning, focused attention on the use of online teaching tools and techniques and has conducted trainings to disseminate ideas to the



▼ Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze delivering his address during the Convocation ceremony

academic staff to be abreast with modern skills.

Prof. Eze added that the University's internal quality assurance measures had strongly confronted and checkmated corrupt tendencies in the University. He further stressed that the Management had recently submitted the Sexual Harassment Policy to the Governing Council for consideration and approval to checkmate incidents of sexual harassment. The anti-plagiarism ethical and the reviewed Research Policy he recalled are awaiting approvals by the Senate and Council as a means of promoting academic integrity and quality.

As a University that places high premium on staff development, the Institution administration has expanded its training strategy through in-service training for all categories of University staff by organizing in-house training for Technologists, Administrators, Accountants

and Drivers as well as orientation programmes for elected and appointed University functionaries in the last eleven months. Some academic staff benefited from the TETFund sponsored Academic Staff Training and Development Programme for masters and Ph.D degree both locally and overseas, he added.

The Vice Chancellor also commented on the challenges encumbering FUTO which include; lack of staff quarters, inadequate founding facilities, insufficient laboratory equipment, a standard stadium, delisting of some academic programmes, unstable public power supply, among other nagging issues. He also decried the recent diversion of traffic to the University's internal roads due to the collapse of the bridge that connects Ihiagwa and Obinze Communities and therefore called on the State Government for urgent intervention in the reconstruction of the collapsed

bridge to help alleviate difficulties faced by commuters that ply the route and ensure that the campus returns to its old ambience of peace and tranquility suitable for academic activities and research.

Prof Eze thanked in a special way, the Honourable Minister of State for Education, Hon. Chukwuemeka Nwajiuba for coming to their aid by facilitating the rehabilitation of the University's burnt ICTC building.

Meanwhile, the best graduating student, for the 2019/2020 academic season, Mr. Somtochukwu M. Oguchienti of Electrical and Electronics Engineering Department in his valedictory speech, gave special thanks to God Almighty for indeed making the day a marvelous one for him. He expressed gratitude to the University Management particularly, the Vice Chancellor whom he described as a world recognized scholar, a great leader, an achiever and a pace setter who he said has



▲ VC, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze in a close chat with the Governor of Imo State, Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha during the Convocation

remained humble and God fearing despite his exalted position.

Mr. Oguchienti added that every graduand at the occasion deserved recognition and very warm handshake for having finished well . . He further acknowledged the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE) for emerging the best Department in the entire

University. He did not forget to comment on the efforts of his parents, Sir and Lady M.I. Oguchienti for their sacrifice and selflessness in ensuring that he recorded success and finally extended his appreciation to MTN Nigeria and Petroleum Technology Development FUND (PTDF) whose Scholarship grants watered the roots of his success story.



▲ Heads of Departments during the Convocation Ceremony

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

- Duruanyim Chikwado Stanley

Happy with the new innovations the current Vice Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Prof. Francis Chukwueka Eze has brought into the system, the Governor of Imo State, Rt. Hon Emeka Ihedioha has indicated interest to partner with the institution with a view to explore more on the newly established recycling plant.

The governor expressed the interest at the 32nd Convocation ceremony of FUTO held on Saturday, 7th December, 2019. He stated that with the "Rebuild Imo" policy of his administration, every sector in the state would be viable as to help develop the state and restore its values and respect amongst the comity of states.

Governor Emekalhedioha who appreciated the Visitor to the University, President MuhammaduBuhari for his continued support for the institution assured that his administration will continue



Governor Emeka Ihedioha of Imo State speaking during the Convocation Ceremony.

to support FUTO in the areas deemed necessary while calling on every citizen of the state to be dutiful adding that, the state cannot grow or develop without the contributions of all and sundry.

He announced that he would set up an action committee in conjunction with FUTO to proffer solutions on how the recycling plant would be made more efficient and viable with a view to boosting the state economy. He added that with the new recycling plant, the State would be rid of every form of waste thereby, creating a conducive environment that everyone will be proud of.

Governor Emekalhedioha who used the occasion to call on the Federal Government to declare the road leading to the Federal

University of Technology Owerri and Federal Polytechnic, Nekede a Federal road, informed that his administration has awarded contract for the reconstruction of the road while maintaining his desire to make life better for every Imo citizen.

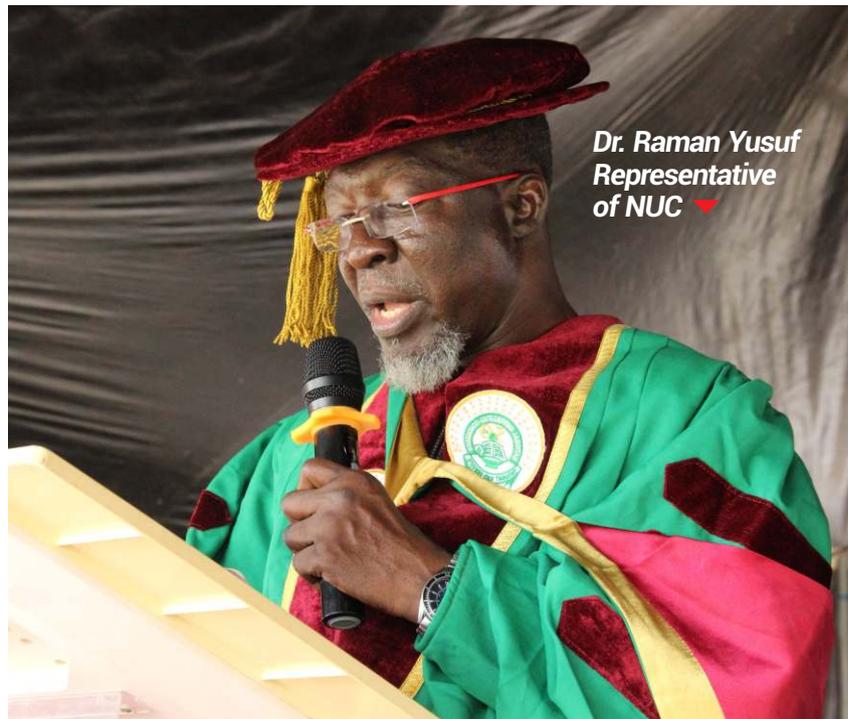
On the grandaunds, governor Ihedioha charged them to make judicious use of every knowledge they acquired while in the University and contribute their quota to the development of the state and the society at large. He used the opportunity to congratulate them and wished them well in their future endeavor.

NUC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S ADDRESS

- Chioma Ike

The NUC Executive Secretary who was represented by the Deputy Executive Secretary, Dr. Raman Yusuf congratulated the graduands, urging them to be good ambassadors of the university. He also commended them for their hardwork and discipline that earned them the degrees awarded to them. Dr. Yusuf also commended the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze and the management team for instilling in the university, the Culture of excellence.

He however stressed the need for overall revitalization of the Nigerian Universities to go beyond just equipping the students with academic skills but in addition, to equip them



Dr. Raman Yusuf
Representative
of NUC ▼

with entrepreneurial and critical thinking skills. He added that the NUC 2019 - 2023 Blueprint tagged 'Revitalization of University Education in Nigeria' will also ensure that SMEs are introduced into the students' curriculum.

He therefore charged FUTO Management to collaborate

with the organized Private sectors in addressing the identified skills gaps. By so doing he trusted the students will be adequately equipped to move into the society with full confidence to make greater impact to the society, and improve of the GDP of the nation at large.



VC CELEBRATES 3RD YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN A GRAND STYLE

Nonso Opara, Stella Ijebula, Dr. Obinna Ofozoba, Chinweuba Ekwemalor

Hurray! It was indeed an event that called for yet another celebration as the 7th Substantive Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Professor Francis Chukwuekema Eze, commemorated his third year in office.

The celebration started with a **THANKSGIVING MASS** at Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Chaplaincy (STACC) FUTO on Sunday June 16, 2019. Rev. Fr. Dr. Jude Onyeakazi in his homily stated that the occasion of the Vice-Chancellor's three

years in office coincided with the celebration of the Trinity Sunday, describing it as a square peg in a square hole. He described it as a sign that the Vice-Chancellor would go far in his headship of the institution.

He stated the difficulty in **comprehensively** understanding the mystery of the Trinity that is, the belief in One God, having three Persons- **Father, Son and Holy Spirit**. Making use of the example and synergy in the unity of God Almighty, he advised all Christians to unify

with one another in the unity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He harped on issues that promote peace and unity amongst staff, students and the congregation despite the diversities in culture and tradition.

He thanked God for the prevailing atmosphere of peace and serenity on campus and for all the successes recorded by the present administration. He commended the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Eze for his Trinitarian belief in the University, placing values on



▲ Rev. Fr. Wence Madu praying for the Vice Chancellor and well-wishers during the presentation of offertory



▲ VC, Prof. F.C. Eze and wife, Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze kneeling before the Altar for special prayers as offered by Rev. Fr. Wence Madu



▲ VC, wife, wife and other top Principal Officers of FUTO cutting the Anniversary cake.



▲ Center; VC, Prof. F.C. Eze, wife and Principal Officers with their wives after the Mass

the management, staff and students of the University.

In his response, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze was full of gratitude to God for His guidance and protection over him and his family since he assumed duties as the 7th Substantive Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, stating that it was only by the special grace of God that he clocked three years in office. He also thanked the Clergymen for their prayers which according to him had contributed to the peace his administration has continued to enjoy over the

period.

Prof. Eze used the opportunity to advise students to always refrain from 'Bet 9ja' syndrome because according to him, available reports indicate that many students engage in it and in the process mismanage their school fees. He categorically stated that any student that failed to pay his school fees would not be allowed to participate in any of the examinations. He would appreciate if staff would aim at contributing their quota in their various Schools, Departments and Units for greater achievements and

good of the University.

Other Officiating Priests who concelebrated the Mass include Rev. Fr. Anselem Amadi (Assistant Chaplain), Rev. Fr. Uzoma Godwin and Very Rev. Fr. Dr. Wence Madu (Rector, Imo State Polytechnic Umuagwo).

All the Principal Officers, some Deans, Directors, Heads of Departments, Heads of Units and Coordinators, staff and students joined the Vice Chancellor, his family and Management in the thanksgiving service.

THE PRESS BRIEFING:

In a press chat with members of the Fourth Estate of the Realm in commemoration of his third year in office, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze stated that the past three years had been a blend of experiences of accomplishments and challenges but stated that by the special grace of God and assistance from supportive and conscientious staff, the University was able to maintain steady academic calendar,

expanded and improved its infrastructural base, developed innovative programmes, attracted local and international attention, in addition to adhering to the core mandate of teaching, research and community service.

Referencing the technological-oriented nature of the University's mandate, the Vice-Chancellor said his

administration has paid reasonable attention to entrepreneurship and skill acquisition, and has developed innovative programmes which are in line with the information-driven world through the establishment of School of Computing and Information Technology (SCIT), which will groom the much needed manpower in the areas of Cyber security, Information

Technology and Software Engineering. This he said would maximize the avalanche of opportunities in the Information Communication Technology sector.

He did not mince words to inform the pressmen that academic, research and allied activities went smoothly in a peaceful and stable environment. According to



VC, Prof. F.C. Eze reading his address during the Press Conference as part of activities marking his 3rd Anniversary. ▼



▲ Registrar, Mr. John U. Nnabuihe, Correspondent Chairman, Imo State, Mr. Steve Uzoechi and Mr. Chidi Nkwopara of Vanguard Newspaper during the Press Conference

him, ***“the robust academic quality and reputation FUTO is known for has been maintained and strengthened”***. This he said is evident on the fact that none of the programmes accredited by the National Universities Commission within the reporting period was denied accreditation status which demonstrates Management's commitment to ensuring qualitative programmes for the University.

O n G E N E R A L ADMINISTRATION, Prof. Eze averred that his administration has ensured compliance to extant rules and regulations in the conduct of its affairs. He maintained that his open door policy and democratic leadership style with the University community including the staff/students unions and host communities were keys to the healthy coexistence and the industrial harmony experienced so far. In addition, he noted that the workforce forms part of his top priorities, hence, the timely release of staff entitlements and staff training and development programmes which made it possible for over three hundred

(300) staff to have benefitted from TETFund sponsorship for postgraduate programmes, conferences and workshops, locally and internationally. Similarly, he highlighted some achievements of his administration on students' welfare to include construction of modest recreational and sporting facilities, and maintaining good sanitary condition of the students' hostels.

Furthermore, the Vice-Chancellor restated his commitment to the improvement and provision of more infrastructures which has resulted in a number of buildings being rehabilitated while construction of new ones are ongoing which include amongst others, construction of academic staff building, volley ball court, Materials Research Laboratory and Ancillary work. Moreover, he also noted that adequate attention has been paid to procurement and installation of equipment for practical training of students and expansion of research activities.

The Vice-Chancellor announced that the University has maintained top position as the premier institution of academic excellence with the attraction of recognition in both local and international arena from the staff and students recent professional breakthroughs. Some of them are, the Selection of FUTO as Africa Centre of Excellence in Future Energies and Electrochemical Systems (ACE-FUELS) by World Bank, Endowment of a Professorial Chair by the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) worth ₦20 million naira per annum in the Department of Information Technology for two years and attraction of a research grant by Engr. Prof. (Mrs.) Gloria Chukwudebe worth 20,761 USD from IEEE Humanitarian Activities. Others include, attainment of first position by four 500 level students at the 17th edition of 2019 Petro Quiz competition held at Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife.

He said his administration has continued to improve on the aesthetic outlook of the

university through regular maintenance of green lawn/grasses, proper waste disposal and management which necessitated the recent constitution of Environmental Waste Management Committee to ensure cleanliness of the campus environment.

Nevertheless, Prof. Eze

declared that there are grounds yet uncovered as well as many challenges confronting the University which include, encroachment on FUTO land, hostile and uncooperative attitude of the host communities and lack of staff quarters. Other challenges he mentioned are insufficient power supply, inadequate library and laboratory facilities,

poor road networks and inadequate funding. He therefore appealed to all stakeholders to assist the University in sustaining the developmental drive to reposition FUTO as a world class University.

The Press Briefing was well attended by University functionaries.

THE 28TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The Highpoint of the anniversary celebration was when the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 addressed the 28th General Assembly by rolling out his achievements of the past three years in what was described as the State of the University Address, where he captured the full essence of his administration.

On Academic and Administrative matters, the Vice Chancellor stated that the University had continued to work assiduously in actualizing its academic calendar without disruptions, stressing that both academic and administrative activities had progressed smoothly in a peaceful and stable manner. He informed his audience that the new School of Computing and Information Technology (SCIT) has commenced with the hope to admitting the first set of students in the 2019/2020 academic session.



VC, Prof. F.C. Eze presenting his address during the General Assembly marking his 3rd Anniversary while other Principal Officers watch in admiration.

On Accreditation, Prof. Eze stated that the departments of Building Technology and Architecture which had interim accreditation status in 2016 were presented for full accreditation by the National Universities Commission in May, 2019 as preparations had also commenced for twelve other departments due for the October – November 2019 accreditation exercise. The University also conducted various statutory ceremonies in line with traditions of the University system-the 37th Matriculation Ceremony on March 12, 2019 where 5,601 fresh men/women were admitted and 2,927 graduands conferred with degrees at the 31st Convocation Ceremony held in April, 2019.

The University has continued to expand its Linkages, Collaborations and Partnership

programmes with foreign and local Universities, with the sole aim of developing joint research projects, staff and student exchange programmes such as the funding approved from the European Union for the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Project between the University of Split, Croatia and FUTO as well as the grant from the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), UK which is jointly undertaken by FUTO, University of Bath, UK and University of Witwatersrand South Africa. FUTO has also sealed affiliation with the Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy Enugu, he stated.

On Physical Infrastructures, the Vice Chancellor said that FUTO has continued to improve and expand its infrastructural base with completion of some capital projects and



▲ Some staff of the University during the General Assembly marking the 3rd Anniversary of Prof. Eze

commencement of new ones within the limits of internal resources and intervention from the federal government, noting that there are also projects which are on-going.

Prof. F.C. Eze Further stated that staff development and welfare remains one of the

cardinal objectives of his administration as the Management he explained, had maintained regular and prompt payment of salaries, payment of promotion arrears, release of promotion to deserving staff members and employment of spouses, children and relations of staff as well as the maiden

valedictory get-together for members of the University Senate who retired in 2018. Members of staff have also benefited from conferences, workshops and academic staff trainings and developments within the period, through TETFund sponsorship programmes.

VC'S INTERACTION WITH STUDENTS:

As part of the activities that marked his third year in office, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, interacted with students of the University who came out en mass to rub minds with the Vice Chancellor. Prof. Eze, who was elated by the outpour of love shown him by the students, described them as the best brains to be proud of while urging them to make their studies their priority. In order to encourage them, Prof. Eze said that the University will begin to celebrate FUTO students that have won laurels.

Prof. Eze however said that the Information and Communication Technology



▲ Cross section of the students during the interaction

Center ICTC, that was engulfed by fire has been refurbished. Wastes from hostels, the University and host communities are being recycled and converted by the University, into useful products the Vice Chancellor revealed and however advised them to undertake their Internship

there. Speaking on the issue of rape and kidnapping in the University, Prof. Eze adduced that the ban on motor-cyclists in the University was precipitated by constant rape and kidnap by the cyclists on FUTO students and expressed concern over the fact that

students still patronized the cyclists thereby making them prone to insecurity. He further said that one of the duties of the University is to protect and train them as management will not condone anybody that will harass and molest its student. The Vice Chancellor advised students to stop night movements or in the alternative, move in groups if they must go out in the night, assuring that the University management is making adequate arrangement to improve security on campus. He also informed students that Artificial Intelligence is taking over the world, the reason the University has introduced the School of Information and Communication Technology (SICT). The School, which he described as the School of the future he stated, has programmes in Cyber Security, Software Engineering, Forensic Science and Radiography Science. He also encouraged the students to take any problem they encounter daily on campus to the Dean Students Affairs Unit, promising that prompt attention would be given such problems. During the interactive session, the students presented some

pressing problems they encounter ranging from cattle rearing in the University, more Automated Teller Machine (ATM) centers, a good ambulance for the health services, more bunks and beds in the hostels, televisions in the hostel common rooms, among others.

Responding to the issues the students raised during the interactive session, the Vice Chancellor noted that cattle rearing is a national problem adding that lack of perimeter fencing round the University to prevent herdsmen from rearing cattle was being addressed by God's grace. He however added that the University has written and made complaints to military and security agencies as regards the incursion by herdsmen while the University security men are there to keep watchful eyes on them. He also said that a new ambulance has been approved for the Health Services Unit.

Prof. Eze informed the students that Ecobank has promised to provide more ATMs for the University. "No bank has agreed to establish a branch here in FUTO thus we have upgraded the FUTO Micro Finance bank to

operate like a commercial bank. We have also tried our best by building a volley ball court which was vandalized by the host communities but in no time, the stadium will be completed where students can hold their sporting activities".

Also responding to the irregular power supply at the NDDC Hostels and provision of bunks and beds, Prof. Eze said that soon the issue of light at the NDDC Hostel will be a thing of the past as he would find a permanent solution to it. "While the management is trying to make students comfortable and provide them with necessary facilities, they tend to sabotage the University. Some students steal, sell beds and televisions provided for them in the hostels and common rooms". He therefore called on the Hall Governors to identify and report crime or students that engage in the habit of stealing properties provided for their comfort. He also encouraged students to report lecturers that try to extort or harass them, to their Heads of Departments or tweet directly to him, assuring them that anyone found wanting in that regard would be penalized appropriately.



▲ VC Prof. F. C. Eze and wife Dr (Mrs) Egejuru Eze with other principal officers and SUG Executive

THE NOVELTY FOOTBALL MATCH

Okwara Obumneke Bede

It was entertainment at its apex when a novelty football match was played at the University pitch on Friday, June 21, 2019, to mark Vice Chancellor's third year in office. The football match was played between the Vice-Chancellor's Team (Red) and FUTO All Stars (Blue). The match ended two goals to one in favour of Vice Chancellor's Team, after a stiff competition.

The Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze

after the kick off to officially declare the match open, thanked the sponsor, Chief Barry Nwaigwe, Chief Executive Officer of Beesfield and Company for the sponsorship, praying the Almighty God to continue to enlarge his coast.

The Vice-Chancellor later made gift presentations to the players, officials, the referee and linesman for their active participation as well as for training the players.

The sponsor of the football match Chief Nwaigwe in his remark said his decision to sponsor the novelty football match was necessitated by

successes recorded by Prof. F. C. Eze in the past three years of his being in office as the 7th substantive Vice Chancellor as well as a mark of honour and appreciation of his administrative sagacity. He cited the serene and peaceful atmosphere that has enveloped the University adding that all forms of social vices have been reduced to the barest minimum. In addition, Chief Nwaigwe described the Vice-Chancellor's commitment to the ideals of the University as sine qua non.

FUTOWA President and wife of the Vice Chancellor Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Prof. N.J. Okeudo, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration Prof. J.S. Orebiyi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (R.D.I), Prof. Bede C. Anusionwu, the Registrar Mr. John U. Nnabuihe, the Bursar, Mrs. Helen Onuoha and University Librarian Dr. Mrs. Chinwe Anunobi, accompanied the Vice Chancellor to the football match.



▲ VC, Prof. F.C. Eze, kicking off the ball during the novelty football match to mark Vc's 3rd year in office.



▼ Vc's representative Prof. B C Anusionwu (DVC), (RDI) receiving the award

HULT PRIZE FOUNDATION HONOURS VICE-CHANCELLOR WITH SPONSOR'S AWARD

Chioma Ike

The Hult Foundation, FUTO Chapter, on Thursday, October 17 2019 paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwu'emeka Eze. The FUTO Campus Director, Mr Ibiam Chimezie in his' speech expressed profound gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for his exceptional support to the Foundation, following the sponsorship of the Hult Prize Foundation which earned him a Certificate of Sponsorship Award 2019 According to him, the financial support and words of encouragement received from the Vice-Chancellor helped them to excel. He stated that FUTO represented Nigerian at the international level in Dubai in 2016 and also at the regional level Abuja in 2019. Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research Development and Innovation, Prof B C Anusionwu commended the Hult Prize

Foundation for the Award. He enjoined the students to remain focused and avoid distracters that could make them lose their creativity. He urged them to come up with ideas that would help them improve the wellbeing of the nation as tomorrow's leaders. He also encouraged the students to identify their individual strengths and talents, enhance them so that by the time they leave the University their brains would have been programmed and developed to solve problems. The Vice Chancellor advised

them to keep him abreast of their programmes, stating that management appreciates such intellectual activities which make FUTO proud. The Hult Prize Foundation is a non-profit Organization dedicated to encouraging world's brightest business minds to compete in teams in order to solve global challenges with innovative ideas for sustainable start-up enterprises. It is an annual competition where the winners have the opportunity to turn their ideas into reality with a seed of funding of \$ 1 million USD.



VC in a group photograph with the Hult Foundation FUTO chapter

ECOLOGICAL FUND OFFICE HANDS OVER FUTO SITE TO CONTRACTOR TO CHECK ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

● Izuegbu Oluchi Sylvia ●



▼ Vice Chancellor, Prof. F.C. Eze addressing the team while the Deputy Director, Ecological Fund Office, Abuja, Engr. U.I. Nwachukwu listen

The Deputy Director, Ecological Fund Office Abuja Engr. U. I. Nwachukwu came to the Federal University of Technology Owerri on Thursday, July 2, 2019, to officially hand over the Otamiri Bridge FUTO site and other ecologically-challenged areas facing environmental degradation, to the contractor that will handle the project, City Central Group for commencement of work.

Earlier same day, the Deputy Director had led his team comprising the consultants, contractor and others on a courtesy call on the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze in his

office, to brief him on their visit.

During the meeting, the consultant Surds Engineering Services Limited represented by Engr. H. A. Musa, described the project as timely pointing out that the Otamiri Bridge footings have been washed down to about six meters in depth while erosion was already threatening parts of the road. Engr. Musa assured that the challenges will be corrected by creating a drainage channel, refilling of the eroded sites, stone-pitching, concreting and reinforcement of the piles etc. He however stated that the sand mining around the site was a major problem and should be stopped

immediately.

The Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze in his remark was happy with the intervention of the Ecological Fund Office in handling the project. He recalled the stiff competition from other institutions and organisations for the intervention and commended the consultants for doing a good job. He assured them of the University's competent professionals who will form a robust monitoring team and prayed that the project be completed in record time and according to specification.

Receiving the documents from the consultants, the contractor, City Central Group represented by Engr. Pius Okho, pledged to immediately move in to site and assured of timely delivery of a quality job to her Client, the Ecological Fund Office and the Federal University of Technology Owerri, FUTO, the beneficiary Institution.

Present at the handover ceremony were the Deputy Vice - Chancellor Administration Prof. J. S. Orebiyi, Deputy Vice Chancellor Research Development and Innovation Prof. B. C. Anusionwu, the Bursar Mrs. Helen Onuoha and acting Director Physical Planning and Development Unit, Engr. R.E. Okeke.



▼ Consultant to the project Engr. Musa conducting the Vice Chancellor, Prof. F. C. Eze round the construction site of the project



▲ Representative of the Vice Chancellor and Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, Prof. N.J. Okeudo addressing members of the NACC Owerri

NIGERIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SEEKS CERTIFICATE LEVEL COURSES COLLABORATION WITH FUTO

Izuegbu Oluchi Sylvia

The President of the Nigerian-American Chamber of Commerce, NACC Owerri, Mazi Felix Fon Oji led executive members of the Organisation on a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze on Friday, July 19, 2019 at the Vice-Chancellor's Conference Room.

Making a presentation titled "FUTO-NACC Owerri Joint Sustainability Education Innovation Programme", Mazi Oji explained that the world is on transition from high Carbon Fossil fuel economy to renewable energy, not because of the possible extinction of petroleum but because human activities have raised the effects of climate change, he said. Therefore the NACC he pointed out will like to collaborate with the Federal University of Technology Owerri as the foremost University of Technology in the country.

The collaboration Mazi Orji explained is towards the acquisition of certificate level courses in Green/Renewable Energy and Green Building Technology with Leadership in Energy and Environmental

Design (LEED) as well as professional accreditation credentials of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC).

According to him, it also aims to assist the students advance from areas with obsolete jobs that are no longer relevant, towards preparing them for green jobs in the emerging global green economy, noting that the students will apply the knowledge and skills of sustainability education to translate all forms of wastes generated on campus into renewable energy, bio fertilizer and bio cooking gas.

In his response, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, speaking through the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Prof. N.J. Okeudo, also explained that the University has been working on education innovation programmes with a solar farm and a technology in place, for the sole purpose of converting waste into gas as well as the Africa Centre of Excellence in Future Energies and Electrochemical Systems (ACEFUELS) which the

University attracted from the World Bank in 2018.

He accepted the fact that the collaboration will be beneficial to the University and urged the Chamber to draft a comprehensive proposal as soon as they could, which will hopefully lead to the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding in the near future.

Present at the courtesy visit were the Deputy Vice-Chancellors of Administration, Prof. J.S Orebiyi and Research Development and Innovation Prof. Bede .C. Anusionwu, the Registrar Mr. John U. Nnabuihe, Bursar Mrs Helen O. Onuoha and the University Librarian, Dr. Mrs. Chinwe V. Anunobi.



▲ President Nigerian-American Chamber of Commerce, Owerri, Mazi Felix Fon Oji making his presentation during the visit to the VC and Management

ATTIPG SEEKS RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH FUTO

Chinweuba Ekwemalor



▲ Prof. Kalu Diogu making his presentation

The Executive Vice President of University Relations, Research and Development at the Advance Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Group ATTIPG, Prof. Kalu Diogu on Tuesday August 6, 2019, came to FUTO to interact with the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis C. Eze. The interaction, which held at the Vice Chancellor's Conference Room, was to seek research collaboration with Federal University of Technology Owerri (FUTO), Owerri.

Prof. Diogu described the company as a Technology and Engineering Consulting and Contracting Company, duly incorporated in the State of Texas, USA and certified as a Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE). The Company according to him provides consulting and contracting services in engineering and technology in a variety of areas including energy and power,

healthcare, system optimization, and construction. He said FUTO was one of the Universities chosen in Africa for the research based on the fact that graduates from the University perform exceedingly well in the United States. He however added that ATTIPG is working with the National Institute of Health (NIH) and other establishments to achieve an International standard.

"Your University is highly regarded and your participation will greatly enhance this project. African Universities, FUTO inclusive, will take a leading role in managing various diseases that mostly emanate from Africa which will also add to FUTO's reputation, recognition,

reward and promote innovation as well as innovative work environment." he said. He added that the project is expected to fund a faculty member as the Principal Investigator (PI) with two graduates and undergraduate students from each of the selected Universities.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Prof. Ndukwe J. Okeudo, agreed with Prof. Diogu that FUTO graduates are rated highly in the United States and also represent the University adequately in competitions all over the world. He congratulated Prof. Diogu for being Nigeria's eye in the scientific sector in the States.

Prof. Eze said FUTO is doing well in mind blowing researches and assured that the collaboration when entered into would not be regretted. He stated that the advanced research as was being proposed, will be of great benefit to the University.



▲ DVC, Academic Prof. N.J. Ndukwe representative of the VC, Prof. F.C. Eze in a handshake with the Executive Vice President, University Relations, Research and Development, Prof. Kalu Diogu

ECOTECH TO PARTNER WITH FUTO

ON ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNICATION HUB

Okwaranwaneri C. Chidubem



The ECO Technology Hub and Multimedia Lounge, a communication and social providers firm has indicated interest to partner with the Federal University of Technology, Owerri for replication of her Multimedia and Technological Hub within the Institution's environment.

The firm through its leader, Reginald Hassan Richman while making presentations on the proposed programme to FUTO Management on Friday, September 20, 2019 at the Vice Chancellor's Conference Room said that the advantages attached to the services to be provided by the Hub are numerous and hoped that the Institution will reap from the bounties inherent in the partnership. He added that, unlike other cities within the country, Owerri lacks such facilities pointing out that should the Technical Hub be established, designers, web development and computer clubs would be

available to engage youths and reduce the activities of fraudulent activities in and around the campus.

Giving more insight on additional services to be rendered, Mr. Richman informed the Management that the Hub will also open an App for a digital on-line radio with a wide reach while the content of the radio will be controlled by the University one hundred percent. The firm will in addition, indulge in digitalization of television establishments adding that the Lounge has a licensed saver through which the on line radio will be regulated by the Nigeria Broadcasting Corporation while the oversight function will be undertaken by FUTO. On generation of contents and funds for the project, Mr. Richman said that the firm will generate the content while advertisements would serve as major avenues for raising funds.

In his response, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Development and Innovation, Prof. Bede Anusionwu who stood in for the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, said that the company's representatives were invited to present the project to management which should include FUTO's responsibilities and gains.

He however pointed out that the presentations were verbal, advising that all the terms should be clearly defined and stated in the proposal adding that sharing formula should also be contained therein and forwarded to the Vice-Chancellor.

Also present at the presentation were Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration Prof. J.S. Orebiyi, Registrar Mr. John U. Nnabuihe and the University Librarian, Dr. Mrs. Chinwe V. Anunobi.

EWMAC PRESENTS RECYCLING PROJECT PROPOSAL TO FUTERC

● Okwaranwaneri C. Chidubem ●



▲ DVC RDI, Prof. Bede Anusionwu representing the Vice Chancellor, addressing members of Environmental Waste Management Committee after the presentation

The Environmental Waste Management Committee EWMAC, Federal University of Technology, Owerri had on Monday, 6th September 2019 presented a proposal on waste recycling project to FUTO Technical Review Committee, FUTERC.

During the presentation, the leader of the team and Director Office of University Development Engr. Prof. Mrs. K.B. Oyoh, told the Technical Committee that the EWMAC deemed it necessary to embark on the project following the looming environmental hazard propelled by littering and burning of plastic materials which lead to air and water pollution. She added that the presentation was to allow the Technical Committee review the proposal before the scheduled visit to Abuja on

invitation, following the selection of the FUTO proposal by the Research Committee of Nigeria Agip Oil Company, NAOC.

Prof. Oyoh also explained that plastics being materials consisting of a wide range of synthetic or semi-synthetic organic compounds are malleable and could be moulded into solid objects in the likes of hangers, refuse packers, flower vases, garden bags, plastic buckets, chairs etc.

Commenting on the strength and equipment that are already available, she said that the University has to its advantage a wide range of existing laboratories and equipment for the processes which were locally fabricated. The equipment include; film extrusion, crushing, injection-

moulding, ball mill and agglomerating machines, all advantageous to the project, she noted.

“Sub-Saharan Africa has high percentage of improper waste management practices and this has posed a very grave environmental danger to native ecosystem, and recycling may just be the only ecologically friendly way of dealing with these plastic wastes”, Prof. Oyoh said.

Output from the recycling process she continued, does not terminate at the minor products alone but to higher length, adding that electricity could be generated from steam turbine, using the steam produced from the boiler and followed by ability to produce text coat paint, making use of ground bottles which makes its products shine brighter than others, including many other advantages, she stated.

Adding his voice, head of the Review Committee and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Development and Innovation Prof. Bede Anusionwu, who also represented the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeke Eze, commended the Committee for its efforts at ensuring that a free, healthy and friendly environment is established in order to get rid of pollution



▲ Representative of the V. C. DVC, RD&I, Prof, Bede Anusionwu with other Principal Officers in group photograph with members of EWMAC

within the University and its host communities.

He advised the Committee to add the expected amount to be generated, employment capacity which will contain the number of people to be employed as well as spice the proposal with pictures which

he pointed out would make the presentation livelier and interesting. He extolled the Committee for a wonderful presentation and hoped that it will make all necessary amendments.

It would be recalled that the Research and Development

Committee of Agip Oil and NNPC had earlier on June 24th 2019 visited FUTO on the same purpose, where a primary proposal was presented to them, followed by inspection of major points designated for the project in FUTO.



▲ Vice Chancellor, Prof. F.C. Eze making a speech before the commissioning

VICE-CHANCELLOR COMMISSIONS OFFICE BLOCK, SOHT

Uche, Bright-Nwelue

Another milestone in the infrastructural development of the University was recorded by the present administration, headed by the 7th Substantive Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, on Tuesday, August 20, 2019. It was on the occasion of the

official commissioning of Office Block, School of Health Technology, phase one. Speaking before the commissioning ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor expressed unreserved gratitude to God Almighty who made it possible for him to be the one that has taken over the edifice, going

by the lapse that occurred over the years. He recalled that he was a member of Council when the contract was awarded nine years ago and pointed out that the contract sum was varied two times before it was finally completed.

The Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, advised the staff and students that would be habiting the office building to handle the structure and its fittings very well as their personal belongings and hoped that the Dean would be able to reconstruct the porch and other parts of the building that are defaced.

In his address, the Director, Physical Planning and Development Unit Engr. R.E. Okeke, recalled that the project was awarded under the 2010 Federal Government Capital Appropriation, for a contract period of 24 weeks which would have been completed in January 2011. According to him, it was extended to 2019 after the initial contract sum was revised upwards.

Engr. Okeke as well expressed utmost gratitude to God for the individual efforts of the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis C. Eze and past Vice-Chancellors that spanned two administrations, for their

unquantifiable efforts in realizing the project. He also noted for emphasis, that landscaping of the surroundings was not included in the scope of work on phase one, pointing out that expectedly, it would be added in the next phase that may be handled with any other intervention, by the federal government.

The contractor, Messrs Dumaco Best Properties Limited in his remark explained that he had the problem of funding from the federal government and had to incur additional costs due to dollar rates that increased over the years. He thanked the Vice-Chancellor for making personal financial interventions to see that the project was eventually realized.

The Dean, School of Health Technology (SOTH) Prof. P.U. Agbasi in a vote of thanks said the Vice-Chancellor and Management needed special commendation for their effort without which the project

would still be an illusion. He opted, as part of the School's contribution, to undertake furnishing of some areas that were yet to be furnished.

In addition to the Office of the Dean, the building contains other offices, lecture rooms, lobbies and conveniences. As at the time of this report, the building was still being serviced from the epileptic public power supply. It is anticipated though, as this administration is wont to do, that the management would provide a generating set as an alternative power supply as well as complete the furnishing of the entire building.

The Deputy Vice Chancellors Administration Prof. J. S. Orebiyi and Research, Development and Innovation Prof. B.C. Anusionwu, representatives of the Bursar and University Librarian, Deputy Bursar Final Account Mr. D.O. Amataobi and Dr. Mrs. G. Umunnakwe and others were present at the commissioning.



▲ Vice Chancellor, Prof. F.C. Eze cutting the tape for the commissioning of School of Health Technology, Deans Office while Principal Officers and other staff watch in admiration

WAKE FOREST INSTITUTE USA PLEDGES SUPPORT TO DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

Stella Ijegbula



▲ Vice Chancellor, Prof. F.C. Eze reacting to issues as raised by the visitors led by Prof. Emmanuel Opara

A Professor of Regenerative Medicine Prof. Emmanuel C. Opara from the Wake Forest Institute United States of America has pledged his full and total support to the Department of Biomedical Technology and the University at large. He made the pledge when he paid a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze in company of Associate Prof. Adetola Adeshida on Wednesday, August 14, 2019.

Prof. Opara recalled visiting FUTO in 2018 for the inauguration of Tissue Engineering adding that since

then, the Department has continued to key in to the acceptable standards of the National Universities Commission. He encouraged the Department to also make possible collaborations in research with other universities at both the national and international levels in a bid to key in to the world class standard that is trending in the profession.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Eze in his response thanked them for visiting the University again and said that part of the policy thrust of his administration is to deepen research while maintaining that

FUTO is open to ideas on exchange programmes where staff could be sponsored abroad to further their education.

According to him, Management is striving to stabilize the School of Health, recalling that FUTO started some of the programmes in the School before other universities in the country. Prof. Eze thanked them for their visit and hoped to further cement the promising relationship that he envisaged would be of utmost benefit to the University and the country at large.

Also in attendance were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Prof. J.N. Okeudo, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration Prof. J.S. Orebiyi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Development and Innovation Prof. Bede Anusionwu, the Registrar Mr. J.U. Nnabuihe, Deputy Bursar Mr. D.O. Amatobi who represented the Bursar, the University Librarian, Dr. Mrs. Chinwe V. Anunobi, Dean of the School of Health Technology Prof. P.U. Agbasi and former Dean of SOHT, Rev. Sr. Prof. Evangeline Oparaocha.



▲ The VC Prof. F.C. Eze and Principal Officers with the team from Wake Forest Institute USA

DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY USA SEEKS PARTNERSHIP WITH FUTO

• Nonso Opara •

Research officials from Delaware State University, United States of America, took a trip to the Federal University of Technology Owerri on Friday, June 28, 2019 to meet with the Vice Chancellor Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze. They were the Head of Department, Human Ecology (Food Science & Biotechnology) of that University, Prof. Samuel Bisong and Prof. Peter Agbo. Purpose of their visit was to seek collaboration with FUTO, through the Department of Food Science and Technology.

Prof. Bisong in his remark thanked the Vice Chancellor for receiving them in audience and explained that nature originally provided the cure of various illnesses and diseases in the world through the use of herbs and medicinal plants but decried the rate of



VC, Prof. F.C. Eze addressing the team ▼

deforestation prevalent in the United States. He regretted that most of the plants which could have fought cancer and various other diseases have been thrown into oblivion due to the rate of civilization.

He therefore requested for a partnership with FUTO in order to harness the abundant medicinal plants inherent in Nigeria with the assistance and cooperation of the Department of Food Science and Technology FUTO. He assured that it would help eradicate the menace of the dreadful disease, cancer and the like in the world.

In his response, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze commended them for bringing the research services home to Nigeria. He assured them that the University has

enough qualified staff in the Department of Food Science who believe in themselves in demonstrating tactical skills needed for the research purposes.

He also expressed concern about the high fees charged to the participants for trainings in the States. He however thanked TETFund for its interventions adding that it would be a welcome development if the fees could be reduced so that some staff of the University would partake in training researches abroad.

All the Principal Officers of the University including Head of the Department of Food Science and Technology Prof. Mrs. N.C Ihediohanma and Dr. Chijioke Osuji, were present at the visit.

INTERNAL SECURITY:

FUTO GETS NEW POLICE POST

By Chioma Ike, Duruanyim C. Stanley

In his continued efforts to ensure a safety environment for both the students and the staff of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO), the 7th substantive Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze has built and handed over a one storey building to the Nigeria Police that would serve as Police Post within the University community.

Commissioning the Police Post, situated at the back gate on Monday, 2nd December, 2019, the Imo State Commissioner of Police, CP Rabiun Ladodo emphasised that the idea of the Vice Chancellor to venture into such commendable project was a clear indication that he attached much value to the lives of every student and staff of the university. He stated that the issue of security of lives and property remained a factor that should not be toyed with and said the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Eze through his actions has proved to be a worthy leader and father who value lives of others, especially those under his care as the father of the university.

CP Ladodo who was happy on the quality of work done and the speedy completion of the project, promised to post police officers to the station to



▶ CP Rabiun Ladodo cutting the tape at the commissioning of the Police Post

enhance the security of the University, the primary aim of embarking on the project by the Vice Chancellor.

Speaking also, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze stressed that the need to erect a befitting police post building for the University became necessary considering the spate of insecurity in the country. He added that the lives of the students and staff remained a priority hence, his administration would do anything within his power to safeguard all and sundry.

It will be recalled that the Imo State Commissioner of Police, CP Rabiun Ladodo had on September 3, 2019 visited the university to inspect the project where he gave express approval that culminated its completion. While on the inspection visit, CP Ladodo advised the Vice

Chancellor to engage vigilante groups from the host communities based on the fact that they were familiar with the environment. He equally added that both the community leaders and the traditional rulers including Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC) would be involved in the arrangement.

Reacting during the inspection visit, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Ndukwe J. Ekeudo, noted that FUTO is committed to ensuring a safe environment for her staff and students, hence, the need for the police post. He further added that the institution is currently enjoying a cordial relationship with the PCRC and other stakeholders while hoping that with the police post, FUTO would be adequately secured.

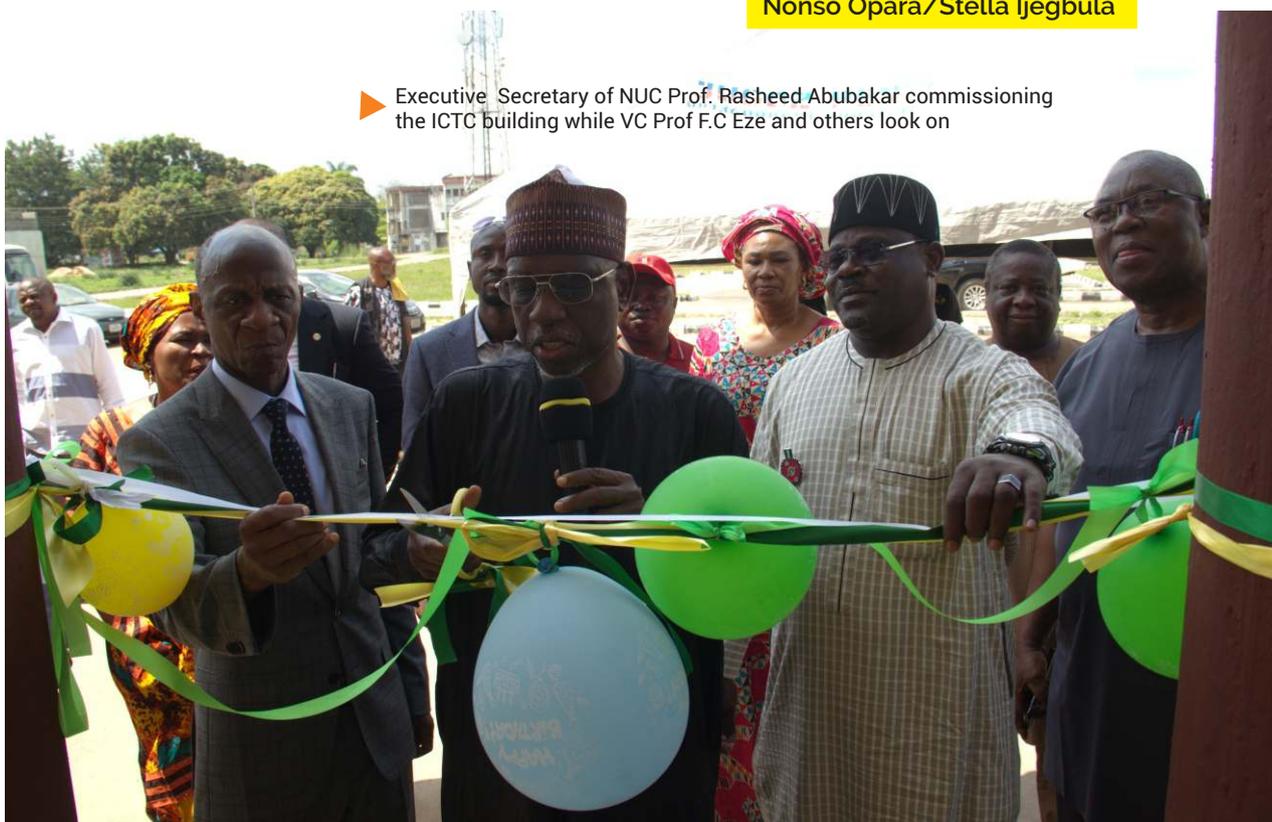


▶ VC Prof. F.C. Eze, CP Rabiun Ladodo and other principal officers in a group photograph

NUC AND TETFUND EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES VISIT FUTO, COMMISSION PROJECTS

Nonso Opara/Stella Ijgbula

▶ Executive Secretary of NUC Prof. Rasheed Abubakar commissioning the ICTC building while VC Prof F.C Eze and others look on



The Executive Secretaries of the National Universities Commission (NUC) and the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) Prof. Rasheed Abubakar and Prof. Suleiman Bogoro were at the Federal University of Technology, Owerri on Saturday, November 30, 2019, to commission new projects. Prof. Bogoro who commissioned the State of the art Technology Office for the Academic Staff of the School of Information and Communication Technology (SICT) disclosed that the project is a 2014 TETFund

Special Intervention. He noted that over the years, FUTO has continued to sustain good records in implementing TETFund Projects and therefore recognized it as the best tertiary institution in the entire South-East. This according to him was said to encourage FUTO to do more exploits adding that infrastructure is fundamental and encouraged the University to always anchor on justice as all facets of the society are in dire need of it. Meanwhile, the Executive Secretary, NUC Prof. Rasheed Abubakar commissioned the

newly renovated Information and Communication Technology Centre Building (ICTC) that was gutted by fire in 2017 due to some electrical malfunctioning. He stated that the (ICTC) Project was sponsored by TETFund through Disaster Recovery Support and the attention given to the project was a result of the place of ICT in the University, all to the benefit of FUTO, Nigeria and humanity. He however was optimistic that FUTO will continue to grow as the best in technology being a knowledge-based institution



▶ Executive Secretary of TETFUND © Prof.Suleiman Bogoro cutting the tape as he commissions the SICT building

while hoping that it would expand its frontiers to the international scene.

The Vice Chancellor in his response, thanked the Executive Secretaries for their kind comments about the University while assuring them that FUTO will continue to uphold the glory it has achieved over the years. He also commended the consultant and contractor Messrs Ugolanson for doing

what he described as a greater job and advised the Director and staff of ICTC to ensure that all electrical gadgets were switched off at close of work each day.

In company of the two Executive Secretaries were the Chairman, House of Representatives Committee on Tertiary Education Rt. Hon. Aminu Suleiman. The Management and Staff of the University who accompanied

the Vice-Chancellor to the commissioning were the Deputy Vice Chancellors Academic Prof. N.J. Okeudo, Administration Prof. J.S. Orebiyi, Research Development and Innovation Prof. B.C. Anusionwu, the Registrar Mrs. John U. Nnabuihe, the Director ICT Engr. Prof. Mike Ndinechi and the Acting Director Estate and Works Mr. M.C. Nwachukwu.



VC Prof. F.C Eze making a remark during the Commissioning of the Projects

FUTO GETS ONE BILLION NAIRA APPROVAL FOR CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY PARK

Okwara Bede Obumneke

The Vice Chancellor of Federal University of Technology Owerri Prof Francis Chukwuemeka Eze has revealed that the University has become one billion Naira richer with the approval from Tertiary Education Trust Fund (Tetfund) for construction of Research and Technology park as the pilot plant of the Department of Food Science Technology. He made the revelation at the Chancellor's/Alumni Cocktail Night held on Friday December 6, 2019 at Gold Crown hotel Owerri. Prof Eze expressed the University Community's appreciation to the Executive Secretary of Tetfund for rescinding the earlier cancellation of the project. He stated the potentials of the Technology Park which includes but not limited to unlocking massive

potentials and opportunities in industry-university relationship. Prof. Eze thanked the President of FUTO Alumni Association, Engr. Ndubuisi Chijioke for making the Association more visible while describing the Convocation Lecturer, Engr. Prof. Ndubuisi Ekeke as an alumnus of the University as a motivational speaker and advised graduands to make him their role model in order to inscribe the name of the university in the map of the world. Prof. Eze stated that the university does not compromise on admissions but admits the best of students. Urging the graduands to make integrity and hardwork their watchword, the Vice Chancellor said "If you are good you will be celebrated". He wished them success and enjoined

them to always remember their link with FUTO by ensuring their great FUTO remains the foremost University in the world. He charged them to be good ambassadors of the university by exhibiting excellence, integrity and honesty in all their endeavours.

Earlier, the President of Federal University of Technology Alumni/Alumnae Association Engr. Ndubuisi Chijioke said that the Association is set to unveil their Digital magazine which will be a quarterly online publication. He presented on behalf of the Association, scholarship awards to the best female and male 200 level students of the University.

In attendance were (DVC Academic) Prof N.J Ndukwe (DVC Admin) Prof IS Orebiyi, (DVC Research Development and Innovation) Prof Bede Anusionwu, the Registrar, Mr. John Nnabuihe, the Bursar Mrs Helen Onuoha, the Librarian Dr. Mrs. Chinwe Anunobi and Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze the Vice Chancellor's wife and the Director FUTO Farms Ltd.



▲ Representative of the Vice Chancellor, DVC, Academic, Prof. N.J. Okeudo addressing the team

FIGHTING CORRUPTION IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS -IMO ICPC BOSS **Nonso Opara**

On Monday, September 2, 2019, the Imo State Commissioner of the Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Barr. Udonsi Arua, visited the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze and Management of the university. In his remarks, the ICPC Commissioner captured the assurance of the Commission to Nigerians by stating that "fighting corruption is everybody's business as the Commission, amongst other duties, is charged with the responsibility to work with the National Universities Commission to close down illegal Universities and National Youth Service Corps Camps operating in Nigeria".

Briefing the Vice Chancellor on the reason for his visit, Barr. Arua explained that the Commission was established during the era of Mr. Olusegun Obasanjo as President of Nigeria, stating that its objective is to fight corruption

by adding up to the prevailing job of the Nigerian Police Force in keeping an eagle eye on corrupt practices and other related offences in the country.

In addition, the ICPC Imo State Commissioner gave the three-fold mandate of the Commission to include the Enforcement charged with the responsibility of prosecuting corrupt practices of offenders, the System Review Mandate which is the body that visits various institutions to know their operational techniques and give advice where necessary as well as the Education and Public Enlightenment that sensitizes people and organizes programmes for Legislators in the 774 Local Government Areas of the Federation.

He reiterated that the Commission cannot fight the corruption war alone, the reason behind establishing the Anti Corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU) spread across various

Universities and Secondary Schools in Nigeria. Barr. Arua who stated that corruption goes beyond embezzlement, laid emphasis on recovery of embezzled funds than prosecution because according to him, the embezzled funds could be used to fight prosecutors.

Represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Prof. Ndukwe J. Okeudo, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze considered the ICPC as partners in progress with the University, maintaining that the Commission ensures the judicious use of resources available to FUTO. Prof. Okeudo, the immediate past Chairman of ACTU FUTO, recalled the extensive support he received from the Management during his tenure and added that the probity of the Unit is the best amongst all the Universities he knows.

In a vote of thanks, the current Chairman of ACTU FUTO, Prof. F.N. Nnadi thanked the



Vice-Chancellor immensely for his support to the Unit and expressed the hope that the University would continue its support to ACTU activities in FUTO. He reiterated the University's zero tolerance for corruption and itemized the many programmes, system

review and enforcement processes to be followed strictly by the Unit.

In company of the Commissioner were officials of the Commission. Other Principal Officers of the University present were the

Deputy Vice-Chancellors Admin, Prof. J.S. Orebiyi and Research, Development and Innovation Prof. B. C. Anusionwu, the Registrar Mr. John Nnabuihe and representative of the Bursar, Deputy Bursar Final Account Mr. Desmond Amatobi.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT TEAM VISITS FUTO

Nonso Opara

A three-man team from the African Polling Institute led by Prof. Bade Falade, paid a visit to the Federal University of Technology, Owerri on August 26, 2019 to carry out the Needs Assessment Exercise for the Proposed Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standard (CE-SPESS). Prof. Falade stated that the Institute is a consultancy firm appointed by the World Bank and the National Universities Commission (NUC) to carry out the Needs Assessment for the proposed Centre. The



VC, Prof. F.C. Eze in a chart with the leader of the African Polling Institute, Prof. Bade Falade during the session at the Senate Chamber

Institute, which prides itself as an independent, non-profit and non-partisan public opinion think-tank he said, conducts opinion polls,

survey, social research and evaluation studies at the intersection of democracy, governance, economic conditions and public life.

He was emphatic that FUTO is amongst the six selected Universities in Nigeria to be recognized as Centres of Excellence adding that the main reason they visited was to interact with the Management, administer questionnaire and finally move round the facilities to check what has been proposed in conformity with the NUC laid down procedure.

Prof. Gloria Chukwudebe, the Dean, School of Information and Communication Technology (SICT), and a former Director, Public Procurement and Research Centre (PPRC) made a PowerPoint proposal on how the University intended to take procurement to the next level in conformity with the

developed world. The University also hoped to collaborate with national and international institutions on research, Prof. Chukwudebe maintained.

The team later took a facility tour to various offices in the University, including the Public Procurement & Research Centre (PPRC), Institute of Women, Gender and Development Studies (IWoGDS), Environmental Sciences (EVS) and the University Library. Prof. Falade, on behalf of the Team, expressed satisfaction with the level of infrastructures domiciled in the University. He described the exercise as a smooth one while thanking the University Management for making their job seamless. The Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze,

speaking through the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration Prof. J.S. Orebiyi, thanked the team for the detailed and honest assessment having noting that steps would be taken by Management towards doing all within its powers to ensure that the Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Procurement, Environment and Social Standards is established in FUTO.

Other Principal Officers present during the visit were the Deputy Vice-Chancellors Academic Prof. Ndukwe J. Okeudo, Admin, Prof. J.S. Orebiyi and that of Research, Development and Innovation Prof. Bede C. Anusionwu. In company of the team Leader were Prof. James Okunlola and Dr. Olu Akinragbe.



▲ Prof. Benny Imasogie making his speech during the courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor.



▲ VC Prof. F. C. Eze making a remark at the 59th independence anniversary celebration

“GROW FUTO AND NIGERIA” VC CHARGES AT 59TH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

Izuegbu Oluchi Sylvia

the executives and members to support the Management and added **“even when there is disagreement between the union and Management, it would be resolved amicably for the growth of the institution”.**

In a closing remark, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Eze thanked the FUTO community for their support to his administration since assumption of office and advised them to always seek clarification on issues bothering them, promising his readiness to give a listening ear to their suggestions in any way he can, for the growth of the university. There were toasts to the growth of FUTO, Imo state and Nigeria. Giving a vote of thanks, Professor I.C. Ndukwe, former Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration, thanked the Vice-Chancellor for the fatherly role to the staff, students and to the Administration and prayed for the good of FUTO and Nigeria at large.

The Federal University of Technology Owerri FUTO joined the rest of the country to celebrate Nigeria's 59th Independence on Tuesday October 1st 2019, at the Vice Chancellor's Lodge.

Speaking at the event, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwemeka Eze, accompanied by his wife, Dr. (Mrs.) Egejuru Eze and all the principal officers (Prof. N. J. Okeudo, Prof. J. S. Orebiyi, Prof. B. C. Anusionwu, Mr. J. U. Nnabuihe, Mrs. H. O. Onuoha, Dr. (Mrs.) Chinwe V. Anunobi - DVC Academic, DVC Administration, Research Development and Innovation, Registrar, Bursar, and the University Librarian respectively), said it was a special day to give thanks to God for the unity of Nigeria as a nation because many had predicted the disintegration of the Country amidst the various challenges she had encountered.

Fie identified leadership as the major problem facing the country and reinstated that lack of patriotism as well as corruption has hindered the growth of Nigeria as a country. Countries like India and China

are bedevilled by their challenges but they are developing steadily in spite of those challenges, he noted and said Nigeria could take a cue from such great examples.

Prof. Eze said that FUTO is plagued with its own problems but added that she is changing the dynamics of leadership environment. Fie stated that the development of the University is a collective effort and enjoined all hands to be on deck to grow the university in particular as well as the larger entity, Nigeria. During the interactive session, the Chairman of the Academic Staff Union of Universities, ASUU (FUTO) Dr. Christopher Echerobia, pledged on behalf of



Prof.F.C Eze and wife Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze exchanging pleasantries with the audience

NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION ACCREDITATION TEAMS VISIT FUTO

Nonso Opara, Chinweuba Ekwemalor, Oluchi Izuegbu, Okwara,
Obumneke Bede, Chioma Ike, Igbokwe Ebere and Ayobami Orebiyi



Accreditation is imperative in the University System to ensure a stronghold and avoid deterioration of any sort. So it was another season of

accreditations of the various Departments in the University. As part of its mandate of ensuring quality education capable of global competitiveness and

maintaining a well coordinated and productive University System that will guarantee quality and relevant education for national development, the National Universities Commission (NUC), as a regulatory body, between Friday May 2 and Tuesday, November 4, 2019 embarked on series of verifications, accreditations, and assessment of projects and facilities in various Departments of the Federal University of Technology Owerri. The Departments include:

Department of Architecture:

On Thursday, May 2, 2019, members of the National Universities Commission Accreditation Panel led by Prof. Masu'd Abdulkarim visited FUTO for the accreditation of the Department of Architecture. Speaking, Professor Masu'd thanked the Vice-Chancellor for the innovation he introduced and stated that all the negative reports against the Architectural programme in the institution have turned to positive reports going by

the standard of facilities they met on ground and said they were beyond the Bachelor of Technology Degree (B. Tech.). He therefore told the University to ***“prepare for introduction of post-graduate programmes in Architecture”***.

He explained that Architecture is multi-disciplinary and that the Department requires inter-disciplinary input and elaborate research with its

sister disciplines, describing as erroneous, the impression created in some quarters, that non-architectural graduates should not lecture in the Department.

He noted that since the University will soon commence post graduate programmes in Architecture, it has become pertinent for Management to encourage staff of the Department to join the professional body, emphasizing that it will enhance NUC accreditation.

Remarking, the Vice-Chancellor Professor Francis

Chukwuemeka Eze thanked the team leader for his comments and reinforced the importance of interdisciplinary research. He pointed out that Management has continued to lay emphasis on prompt release of semester results which he hoped will greatly improve shortly. ***“With the commencement of a post graduate programme, we hope to grow the Department into the School of Architecture. We want to make Architecture a Centre of Excellence in FUTO”***, assured the Vice Chancellor.

The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chukwuemeka Eze, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Prof. Ndukwe J. Okeudo, warmly welcomed the Panel to FUTO and noted that FUTO had intensified preparation for a seamless accreditation exercise. He expressed optimism that the architectural programme of the institution will enjoy full accreditation status and wished them a fruitful exercise.

In another development, the Department of Architecture received another accreditation team from the Architectural Registration Council of Nigeria, (ARCON) on Monday, August 5, 2019.

In his brief to the Vice-Chancellor, Chairman of the team, Arch. Omastone???? described ARCON as a corporate body charged with laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to regulate the training and practice of Architecture in Nigerian higher institutions. The reason for the visit he explained was to know how the profession is practiced in the University, especially with the incessant problems regarding collapse of buildings.

He further revealed that before the introduction of the discipline in Universities all over the world, the professionals and profession were only trained and practiced through mere apprenticeship. He however expressed concern over the frequent collapse of buildings in the 21st century, adding that

the visit will bring to the fore how intending Architects are being trained. The team he said would ensure that the students of Architecture would meet best practices in the profession and stand out amongst their equals within and outside the country.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Prof. Ndukwe J. Okeudo expressed gratitude over the visit especially as it guarantees surveying of the University's project work. He expressed the University and Management's determination to maintain NUC's acceptable standards concerning the profession both at the national and international scenes. He further stated that ARCON, being a stakeholder in the process of training professionals in Architecture, would not be shut out from the University.



▲ Vice Chancellor, Prof. F. C. Eze, other Principal Officers and the NUC team in a group photograph

Department of Mechatronics Engineering:

The National Universities Commission Resource Verification Team for the Department of Mechatronics Engineering came to FUTO on Monday, May 13, 2019 to harness the resource verification of the Department. But first, the Team paid a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, same day.

Speaking during the courtesy visit, the leader and immediate past Dean, Faculty of

Technology, Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife Osun State Professor Benny Imasogie, while stating the purpose of their visit, commended the Vice-Chancellor and the Head of the Department of Mechatronics Engineering, for establishing the Department at the under graduate level.

He described Mechatronics Engineers as smart people, capable of turning around the technological development and economic growth of the

country. Prof. Imasogie challenged students and lecturers of the Department to be code-writers who also possess the ability to interpret codes and machine languages adding that Mechatronics Engineering adds value to lives by improving life expectancy. The former Dean explained that their visit to the University for Resource Verification will be based on principles while assuring the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Eze of compliance with NUC procedures and rules.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze assured members of the Team of his Management's maximum co-operation and transparency towards the process while noting that the University had made adequate preparations within the limits of its resources. He promised that the University will focus more on the approved mandate as it expands its frontiers adding that quality is the watchword of FUTO.



Resource Verification of Students' Facilities:

As part of its duties to ensure good quality welfare package and comfortable environment for students in Nigerian tertiary institutions, a three-man team of the National Universities Commission NUC, paid a Resource Verification visit to the Federal University of

Technology, Owerri, Imo State on Monday, July 8, 2019, to verify the students' facilities.

The leader Prof. Zakari Mohammed in his remark, stated that FUTO is lucky to be among the Universities selected by the NUC to be assessed because of her

numerous achievements and for being a role model to other Universities. He listed ten key areas to be assessed which include Counselling and Human Resource Development Centre; Health Services; accommodation; Entrepreneurship Study Centre; Sporting and

recreational facilities; General University Sanitation & Landscape; Admissions, Examinations & Results; Communication Support for Indigent & Brilliant Students and Registration of Students. He therefore solicited the cooperation and support of Management for a smooth and successful verification exercise.

Speaking through the Deputy Vice Chancellor Administration Prof. J. S. Orebiyi, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze commended NUC for selecting FUTO for the assessment and verification exercise. He assured the team that despite the harsh economic state of the country and other monetary challenges, FUTO has been in the fore-front of Institutions that cater for her students tremendously. His explanation, "FUTO has a well equipped clinic, a functional Counselling Unit, and an established Entrepreneurship Centre. On accommodation, more than 80% of the students who need accommodation are adequately taken care of, with two new hostels almost completed". He revealed that the FUTO Women Association, FUTOWA is also building a new hostel for female students. On sanitation he continued, FUTO has a Committee on Sanitation and Waste Management. The Vice Chancellor went ahead and assured the NUC Team of a free flow of information already existing between the students and Management, with communication facilities that ensure a feedback mechanism

from students, one of them being the twitter handle whereby the students assess and give feedback on their lecturers. The students' comments are analyzed and handled accordingly, he added. On examinations and results, Professor Eze stated that FUTO is near perfection because semester results are promptly published six weeks after each examination. He pointed out that FUTO is set on the right track of achieving perfection in all the areas mentioned.

At the end of the verification exercise, the Team leader, Professor Mohammed expressed satisfaction over the success of the exercise and the maximum cooperation they received from the University Management. He said his team was highly impressed with the Health Services Unit which he observed *"is run more like a hospital than a clinic"*.

He also commended the Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies CES, for the hand-made accessories that were displayed and described the Centre as well-equipped and fantastic. He however expressed concern over the encroachment on FUTO land which negatively affects sports facilities and called on the Vice Chancellor to take a harder action to ensure the recovery of the land. He also urged the Quality Assurance Unit to adequately ensure that every Unit in the university discharged its duties appropriately.

He commended the Library's

contemporary services, urging the Management to ensure a 24 - hour power supply to the Library, by installing a solar energy power source through the TETFund. He concluded by saying that NUC is satisfied with what they saw on ground.

Reacting to some of the observations made by the NUC Team, The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze said that the Director, Physical Planning and Development Unit has already been mandated to ensure that every new structure in the University is physically challenged compliant and old buildings modified to suit them. On the issue of land encroachment, the Vice Chancellor noted that FUTO has explored many options to recover its land to no avail, and pointed out that management will continue to use the option of dialogue until the land is finally returned to the Institution.

The Vice Chancellor also said that the CES will be relocated to a bigger building, revealing that a philanthropist has indicated interest to erect a building to that effect. On power supply for the Library, Prof. Eze regretted that the 18 - hour out of 24 - hour daily power supply promised FUTO by the Power Holding Corporation of Nigeria has not been fulfilled. Management he said will therefore seek other ways to install a solar energy source of power for the Library. He expressed optimism that with their findings, more resources will be allotted FUTO, to facilitate the solution to some of the issues raised.

Present at the meeting were the Deputy Vice Chancellors Academic Prof. N. J. Okeudo, Administration J. S. Orebiyi, and Research Development

and Innovation Prof. B. C. Anusionwu, the Registrar Mr. John U. Nnabuihe, Bursar Mrs. Helen O. Onuoha, Dr. Mrs. Chinwe V. Anunobi, the Director Academic Planning

Prof. I. S. Iwueze, Director Physical Planning and Development Engr. R. E. Okeke, Dean Student Affairs Professor J. N. Alinno and others.

Departments of Physics and Chemistry:

The National Universities Commission Accreditation team, led by Professor Abara E. Abara also visited the Federal University of Technology, Owerri on October 7, 2019 for the accreditation of Physics and Chemistry Departments. They first paid a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze in his Conference Room.

In a brief interactive meeting that preceded the accreditation, the team leader Prof. Abara who spoke first, expressed satisfaction with the warm reception accorded them by the University and pointed out that their mission

in Federal University of Technology, Owerri was solely for the accreditation of Physics and Chemistry Departments, noting the University's familiarity with the exercise.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze in his response welcomed the team to the University and highlighted the importance of accreditation panels to Universities which he noted are not limited to sustenance of quality education in the country, opined that FUTO takes great pride in the quality of human resources at her disposal adding that the University's Management is

presently expanding on many frontiers.

To appreciate the level of work done by the University's Management as regards expansion of Departments, the Vice Chancellor encouraged the team to visit old classes as well as the new classes of the Departments.

In attendance were the Deputy Vice-Chancellors Academic Prof. N.J. Okeudo, that of Administration Prof. Julius S. Orebiyi, the Registrar Mr. John U. Nnabuihe, Bursar's representative Miss Ifeoma Mgbenu the Deputy Bursar Expenditure and the University Librarian Dr. Mrs. Chinwe Anunobi.



Departments of Geology and Computer Science:

Members of the National Universities Commission Accreditation Teams for the

Departments of Computer Science and Geology Departments paid a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor

Federal University of Technology Owerri, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze on Tuesday October 8, 2019 at the

Vice Chancellor's Conference Room.

During the visit, Prof. Salahu Junaidu who spoke on behalf of the two teams said that the purpose of their visit was to accredit some of the programmes in Geology and Computer Science to meet up with NUC standard, advice management accordingly and

report back to the Commission. Prof. Junaidu thanked the Vice Chancellor for the wonderful reception and hoped for a successful accreditation.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor Research, Development and Innovation Professor Bede C. Anusionwu, the Vice Chancellor's representative, assured the teams of

Management's maximum cooperation while stating that the University made lots of improvement in academic, infrastructure and programmes to be in tandem with National Universities Commission standards and also improve on certain areas that needed improvement.



Departments of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering (MME) & Statistics:

The National Universities Commission Accreditation Team visited FUTO on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 to verify the Departments of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering and Statistics. Prior to the exercise, the team paid a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze in his Conference room.

Making his remarks, the Leader, Prof. B. T. Nwafo stated that the team did not come to FUTO to victimize any of the Departments but to ensure that they operate

regulatory standards. He also commended the Vice Chancellor and his Management team for the ambient environment, urging them to keep it up.

Responding, the Vice Chancellor assured the team of his Management's maximum cooperation during the exercise and agreed with the team that it is an exercise aimed at improving the quality of teaching and learning adding that FUTO is a brand name that will continue to improve. He was also optimistic that the exercise will end in good fate.

The programme curricular, admission procedures, Disciplinary Committees, academic staff qualifications, physical facilities, external examiners' qualifications, course evaluation, staff development, library, among other areas inspected were up to standard and highly commendable.

Present at the meeting were all the Principal officers and Heads of the two Departments.

School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (SAAT) and Department of Chemical Engineering:

Two teams from the National Universities Commission, led by Professors David Ogunniyi and G. I. Nwaka visited the Federal University of Technology Owerri for the Accreditation of the Chemical Engineering Department and the School of Agricultural and Agricultural Engineering (SAAT) on Tuesday, November 2019.

Speaking during a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, the spokesman of the teams, Professor David Ogunniyi said that no Institution can have everything, the reason

Accreditation Exercise affords the exchange of knowledge amongst Universities. The team, he said, was to evaluate the University based on the NUC guidelines and minimum benchmark in fairness and to the best of their knowledge.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze said the University is confident the accreditation will be hitch-free adding that the University has always maintained the standards. He assured them of the cooperation of the Management, staff and students of the University.

After the Accreditation exercise, the Chemical Engineering team led by Prof Ogunniyi said they found standard textbooks and journals, impressive marking scheme and good curriculum. He noted that the Chemical Engineering Department has a spacious environment.

He particularly commended the local fabrication of many Unit operations in use.

Present at the meetings were the principal officers of the University.

MODERATOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISITS FUTO

Nonso Opara

Prelate and Moderator General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria His Eminence Nzie N. Eke, led clergymen from Imo and Abia States on a visit to the Vice Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology Owerri, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, on Thursday June 20, 2019. They were received at the Vice Chancellor's Conference Room.

His Eminence started by commending the Vice Chancellor for maintaining peace and harmony amongst

staff and students of the institution, providing a conducive atmosphere for learning and research as well as the role the University is

playing in the educational sector which he said is evident by the notable men and women who are captains of industries in Nigeria and



VC, Prof. F.C. Eze in a handshake with the Prelate of the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria, His Eminence Nzie N. Eke when the later visited the former at the Senate Chamber

beyond. His Eminence went down memory lane to recall activities of the Presbyterian Church in Nigeria since 1846, describing FUTO as one of the places the church would like to establish her strong hold.

The Vice Chancellor in his response thanked the Prelate for the visit and also for the kind words on him, his administration and the University. He informed His Eminence that the University's primary function is to mould talents in Science and Engineering and award degrees to students who have been found worthy in character and learning reminding him that the Church has the role of character moulding to play in the lives of the students.

Prof. Eze also used the forum to encourage Chaplains of the

three churches on campus to give due attention to the relationships and the company the students keep and more so their spirituality as they need to be counseled as well as given inspirational talks for their spiritual growth. He decried the seclusion of some groups who segregate against the worship of God and enjoy to be seen as atheists and cultists, believing that there is no God. For such people the Vice Chancellor added, such people run to the same God they rejected through the clergy, when they encounter problems.

On the issue of establishing their chapel in the University, he described the Church as one adding that all Christians anchor their faith in God as well as belief in Jesus Christ as the Saviour and only begotten Son of God. He therefore

advised that Presbyterian Church could join the All Saints Chapel domiciled in the University and work in synergy with them in a bid to continue to attain the desired goal by which it was established.

All the Principal Officers, the Deputy Vice Chancellors Academic Prof. N.J. Okeudo, Administration Prof. J.S. Orebiyi, and that of Research, Development and Innovation Prof. B.C. Anusionwu, the Registrar Mr. John Nnabuihe, the Bursar, Mrs. Helen O. Onuoha and the University Librarian, Dr. Mrs. Chinwe Anunobi as well as Chaplain of All Saints Chapel FUTO Rev. Dr. Godwin Adaka.



▲ VC, Prof. F.C. Eze, Principal Officers, the Prelate and other members of the Church in a group photograph during the visit

VICE-CHANCELLOR PAYS PHENOMENAL VISIT TO PRE-DEGREE STUDENTS

■ Chioma Ike ■

On Wednesday, May 8, 2019, the 7TH substantive Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, paid a phenomenal visit to the Pre-Degree Unit where he also held an interactive session with the students.

In her welcome address, the Coordinator of the Unit, Prof. Mrs. Cynthia E. Ogukwe, thanked the Vice-Chancellor for making out time to visit them, pointing out that it was the first time a Vice-Chancellor would be visiting the Unit in the history of the University. She recalled that the Vice Chancellor was the first Coordinator of the Pre-Degree Unit and commended him for the high standard of integrity and diligence he set up and which she said subsequent Coordinators have continued to build on.

Prof. Ogukwe presented the 459 Pre-Degree students admitted into the 2018/2019 programme, using the opportunity to appreciate the lecturers and staff of the Unit who according to her, worked hard to ensure that only the best students were selected into the undergraduate programme of the University. She recalled that the Unit has over the years produced many First Class and Second Class(Hon) Upper Division graduates and expressed profound gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for his ceaseless support to the Unit.

The Vice-Chancellor in his address also recalled that the University which was established with the mission to run practical and result oriented programmes, exists to transform the nation's economy from consumer-oriented to production-oriented status with a strong technological foundation. He reminded the students that they owe it a duty to themselves and their parents/guardians to study hard and make good grades in their semester as well as JAMB examinations, assuring them that 15% of the admission quota is assigned to the Pre-Degree candidates.

The Vice-Chancellor Francis Eze did not fail to advise the students to be focused on their studies, shun cultism, armed robbery, drunkenness, violence, prostitution, drug addiction and other social vices, prompting them to handle the University facilities with care, adhere to policies and pay their school fees online, the only thing he stated, that would ensure their eligibility for admission into any of the University undergraduate programmes.

Highlight of the visit was the presentation of Award of Diligence to the Vice Chancellor as well as other past Coordinators, Prof. Israel Ndukwe, Prof. P.C. Obasi, Prof. S. I. Okorundu and Dr. Emmanuel Mbamalu.

The Dean, School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology Prof. P. C. Obasi, on behalf of the award recipients, thanked the Coordinator for initiating the interactive session and award presentation that recognized the sacrifices the past Coordinators made during their tenures. He expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis Eze for appointing Prof. Mrs. Ogukwe as Coordinator, advising the students to desist from cohabitation which he stated had ruined students and will continue to ruin more students if they did not desist from the abominable act.

The Personal Assistant to the President Students Union Government, Mr. Charles Efuku in a vote of thanks on behalf of the students, expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for visiting them and for the advices which he promised will not fall on rocky soil.

Principal Officers that accompanied the Vice Chancellor to the Pre Degree Unit were Professors J. S. Orebiyi Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration and B. C. Anusionwu Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Development and Innovation, the Registrar Mr. John U. Nnabuihe and Dr. Mrs. Chinwe V. Anunobi, the University Librarian.

MOST BEAUTIFUL QUEEN IN NIGERIA VISITS THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

■ Okwara, Obumneke Bede ■

The 'Most Beautiful Queen in Nigeria', Miss Anita Ossai visited the Vice-Chancellor FUTO Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze and members of Management on Friday, May 3, 2019. The Queen was received at the Vice Chancellor's Conference Room.

Speaking, Queen Ossai thanked the Vice-chancellor for granting her audience in spite of his busy schedule. She commended him also for his numerous achievements in the education sector which she noted has been reverberating even beyond Imo State. She emphasized that it was on account of his achievements that she had come to seek partnership with the University on how to reduce the rate of maternal and infant mortality, teenage pregnancy, rape and such related issues against women and girls, amongst other.

The Queen who visited with her

Special Assistant, Mr. Gabriel Toby and Personal Assistant Miss Comfort Ejukwa expressed willingness to organize a one day outreach for pregnant women in the Vice Chancellor's community or any other location of his choice and sought financial support to enable her organize a successful outreach.

Prof. Eze, while welcoming the Queen to FUTO, congratulated her for winning the title and encouraged her to continue to educate people in the rural areas in order to reduce unwanted pregnancies and all such vices. He also assured her of Management's preparedness



VC, PROF. F.C. EZE in a handshake with the most beautiful queen in Nigeria Miss Anita Ossai during the visit

to work with her for positive impact on the people, particularly in the rural areas and wished her a peaceful stay in Owerri as well as a fruitful and successful tenure as Most Beautiful Queen in Nigeria.

In attendance were the Deputy Vice Chancellors Academic, Administration and Research, Development and Innovation Prof. N.J. Okeudo, Prof. J.S. Orebiyi and Prof. B.C. Anusionwu.

COFICON HONOURS
SIXTH SUBSTANTIVE VICE-CHANCELLOR
 Stella Ijebula

University of Technology, Owerri, Professor Chigozie Cyril Asiabaka was honoured with the "Distinguished Academic Leadership Award" by the Convention for Intellectual Co-operation of Nigeria COFICON, on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at the Senate Chamber, FUTO.

In his remark at the occasion, Chairman of COFICON and former Pro-Chancellor of FUTO Prof. Chiweyite Ejike



described Prof. Asiabaka as “a son in whom we are well pleased” adding that the award was in recognition of his outstanding leadership qualities and contributions to the advancement and development of education in Nigeria and the world at large.

Receiving the award, Professor Asiabaka, an academic guru who had hitherto garnered many awards, said he was humbled by the decision of the Convention to honour him with the distinguished award, coming when he was no longer occupying any position. He thanked the Chairman and members for their ingenuity in giving him the recognition.

The Vice-Chancellor Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze who spoke through the Deputy

Vice-Chancellor Administration Prof. J.S. Orebiyi, said the honour was well deserving of Professor Asiabaka, for being honoured when he was no longer in office. The Vice Chancellor congratulated him and described it as an award he should be proud of, adding that the footprints he left behind will always speak for him.

In a vote of thanks, the immediate past Vice-Chancellor of Enugu State University of Technology (ESUT) Professor Ikechukwu J. Chidobem commended the Vice-Chancellor Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze and his Management team for the support they accorded the Convention in hosting the award ceremony despite the fact that Professor C.C. Asiabaka was no longer in office. He also appreciated all

members of COFICON for finding time to attend in spite of their busy schedules.

The Association, made up of seasoned academic teachers who are determined to reform and improve academic and intellectual capacity building in Nigeria, was established in 2006.

Principal Officers of the University who attended the occasion were the Registrar, Mr. John U. Nnabuihe, Deputy Bursar Final Account Mr. D.O. Amatobi who represented the Bursar. Dr. Mrs. G.C. Umunnakwe represented the University Librarian. Some Deans, Directors, HODs, Coordinators and Heads of Units as well as past SUG Presidents led by Comrade Bishop Godson Okereke, NANS ZONE B President was also in attendance.



FUTO HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT PERFORMS ITS FIRST SUBCUTANEOUS MASTECTOMY OPERATION

Okwara Obumneke Bede



The Federal University of Technology, Owerri successfully carried out its first subcutaneous mastectomy operation at the Health Services Department on Wednesday, November 27, 2019.

The Director of Health Services Department, Dr. J.K. Aguocha who carried out the surgery which lasted over two hours, expressed delight that the surgery was successful. He said that gynaecomastia ailment, which is enlargement of male breast to the size of a developed female breast could be bilateral when it involves two breasts or unilateral when it involves one breast. He mentioned causes of gynaecomastia ailment to include hormonal imbalance like testicular condition resulting from poor development of the testis or secondary testicular disease which leads to low level of testosterone. He however stated that sometimes there are no known causes which is

referred to as idiopathic. Dr. Aguocha stated that chronic liver diseases resulting from poor metabolism of estrogen could also be a cause of gynaecomastia ailment. Other causes include, chrome 4 medical condition, low testosterone and high estrogen among others.

Dr. Aguocha noted Health Services Department's readiness and preparedness to undertake major surgeries in

the near future saying that with modern equipment, facilities and competent staff at their disposal, the sky would be their starting point. He thanked the 7th Substantive Vice Chancellor of Federal University of Technology Owerri, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze and the Management team for equipping the health Services Department with state of the art equipment and facilities.



▼ The director of health services
Dr. J.K. Aguocha performing the surgery

“YOU HAVE DONE SO MUCH TO IMPROVE OUR UNIT” -COORDINATOR NURSING UNIT TO VC

Okwaranwaneri C. Chidubem

The Coordinator, Nursing Unit, Health Services FUTO, Dr. Mrs. S.N. Okereke, has said that the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze has done so much for the improvement of the Unit in addition to providing them with all their needs. She also highlighted the kind and humble manner the Vice Chancellor accommodates people and urged him to continue to exhibit the perfect mien which she observed to be a natural phenomenon. The nurses were received in audience with the Vice Chancellor and Management on Friday, May 31, 2019 at the Vice Chancellor's Conference Room.

Dr. Mrs. Okereke went ahead to thank the Vice Chancellor for approving uniform allowances for them and pleaded for its arrears as well as a teaching allowance to cover the teachings they carried out on students of Biomedical and Public Health Departments on Hygiene, Eating Menu and Routine.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eze in his response commended the nurses for the good services they offer the University and host communities. He reminded them that there were other units that requested for uniform allowance but that Management approved their request because Nursing Unit does not have many

staff.

Prof. Eze did not approve the Unit's request for teaching allowance on the grounds that such benefits are not enshrined in the scheme of service. "To whom much is given, much is expected. You are paid handsomely and should add more efforts in carrying out your duties by giving adequate attention to your patients. You attend to young people and as image makers, you should always maintain a cheerful disposition to ensure that you do not scare people away by your attitudes", the Vice-Chancellor added.



“NIGERIA ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT 40% OF GLOBAL PREVALENCE OF RIVER BLINDNESS” -34TH INAUGURAL LECTURER Chioma Ike



Prof. I.N.S. DOZIE ▲
Delivering his Lecture

Human Onchocerciasis, commonly known as River Blindness is one of the most chronic parasitic diseases that afflict millions of people in the tropical and sub-tropical zones including Imo State. Professor of Microbiology, Prof. Ikechukwu Nosike Simplicious Dozie who stated this while delivering the 34th Inaugural Lecture of the Federal University of Technology FUTO, Owerri on Wednesday, June 26, 2019, explained that a study carried out by renowned Microbiologists in the Imo River Basin led to the above findings revealing that the most irreversible complication of the disease is blindness.

In the lecture titled “Microorganisms, Microbial Products and Chronic Disabling Diseases of Humans-New Insights”, Prof. Dozie stated that Nigeria accounts for about 40% of global prevalence of the disease since she is the most endemic country in the world. From his studies on microorganisms and their products, he revealed that diseases of grave public health and socio-economic significance include, Onchocerciasis (river blindness), Schistosomiasis (b i h e r z i a s i s), Dracuncubiasis (guinea worm), Loiasis, Human I m m u n o d e f i c i e n c y virus/Acquired Immune

Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS), Malaria, Cryptosporidiosis, etc.

He explained that the ecology, pathogenity and physiology of kerathophobic fungus in the environment are some of the important factors accountable for the increase of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in Nigeria. NCDs are diseases that are not caused by transmittable agents. He noted sadly though, that they are silent and progresses for long without symptoms, giving instances with cancer, diabetes, obesity, hypertension and others, adding that they are mainly caused by unhealthy diets, excessive use of alcohol, irregular physical exercise, stress and smoking, pointing out that they could also be referred to as “lifestyle diseases”.

The river blindness infection according to Prof. Dozie, is caused by a filarial nematode worm and transmitted by bites from 'black flies' noting that the infection is estimated to have infected 17.7 million people with about 270,000 blind, 500,000 severely visually impaired and over 6.5 million suffering from



FUTO Vice-Chancellor Prof. F.C Eze making a remark during the Lecture

management and good knowledge of family history of diseases. He thereafter encouraged staff to observe annual medical check, thirty to forty minutes exercise at least three to four times a week as well as embarking on a 5-minute per hour break during work or meetings, recommending in addition the establishment of an equipped laboratory for basic molecular biology studies and a viable animal house in FUTO.

severe itching or dermatitis.

The Lecturer disclosed that the intensity of the infection varies amongst communities in the upper Imo River basin than the middle Imo River basin increasing with age range and affecting people on man-water professions (like fishing, farming, hunting) more, due to their frequent exposure to the disease vectors which bite more from the lower region of the human body.

On total control or elimination of onchocerciasis in the Imo River Basin, the university don called on relevant agencies to ensure the sustenance of the Community Directed Treatment (CDT) with Ivermectin strategy and the development of a safe macrofilaricide that is active against the adult worm to complement Ivermectin. He also advised that people need to be educated on the importance of healthy lifestyle, stress

The 34th Inaugural lecturer enjoined staff of FUTO to support the Vice Chancellor Prof. Eze in his quest to make FUTO greater through hard work, adding that reward and promotions come only through hard work. He admonished them to shun gossip which he noted only destroys the good will of the Vice Chancellor and referred to Romans 9:16 as his favourite Bible verse.



Vice-Chancellor Prof. F.C Eze, his wife Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze in a group photograph with others after the Inaugural Lecture

In his opening and closing remarks as Chairman of the event, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Francis Eze, described the title of the lecture as topical as it exposed a vital aspect of healthy living. He reminded his audience that "The whole concept of health is technologically driven, the reason the School of Health Technology was set up. FUTO joined the world to collaborate with World Health Organisation on

health missions, the reason we are requesting for a Medical School in FUTO". He hoped that the National Universities Commission will approve the request, or at least upgrade the Federal Medical Centre Owerri, to a Teaching Hospital and affiliate it to FUTO.

Prof. Francis Eze thanked the Lecturer for his wonderful presentation and exceptional support and loyalty to his administration, describing him as an

embodiment of humility and gave a tacit approval to his request for a Biomolecular laboratory to be set up in the School of Health Technology.

Highlights of the inaugural lecture included the presentation of the University Memento to the Lecturer, his decoration as the 34th Inaugural Lecturer in the new laureate gown and admitting him into the fold of Inaugural Laureates of FUTO.

PROF. NNENNA OTI SPEAKS ON 'MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT: A SOIL SCIENTIST'S SEARCH FOR ANSWERS' AT FUTO'S 35TH INAUGURAL LECTURE

Izuegbu Oluchi Sylvia



"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. Genesis 2:15. This is the sole duty of man on earth. Caring for our environment is a divine mandate".
y The Chairman Committee of Deans and the Dean of the

School of Post Graduate school stated the above as the 35th Inaugural Lecturer of the Federal University of Technology Owerri, on Wednesday September 18, 2019 at the Hall of Excellence, FUTO.
The graduate of Soil Science

from University of Nigeria Nsukka described Soil Science as the study of soil as a natural resource on the surface of the earth including soil formation, classification and mapping, etc and fertility properties of soil in relation to its use and management.
Speaking further on soil science and food production, Prof. Oti said the United Nations estimates that the global population will be 9.1 billion by the year 2050, requiring at least a 70% increase in production to meet food demand. "The biggest challenge of the future would be how to produce sufficient food to feed Nigerians, minimize all forms of soil degradation,



maintain soil health and guarantee high quality food for human wellbeing and health", she noted.

Several researchers the Lecturer said, have reported the link between soil quality, community health and high incidence of birth defects, goitre, diabetes, cancer and mental health, pointing out that soils can be a source of toxic levels of heavy metals and trace elements which undermine human health. She recalled that in 2015, The Soil Science Society of America highlighted development of new drugs from soil organisms and enhanced understanding of the role of soil in deactivation of harmful pathogens, from wastes and contamination of portable water sources, as areas which link soils to human health.

She therefore recommended that the dynamics of erosion-

induced yield decline is environment and crop specific. The Ultisols of tropical Africa are very fragile and sensitive to degradation by erosion and stated that strict soil conservation guidelines should be in place to prevent the onset of erosion on farmers' fields. She also pointed out that continuous use of large doses of fertilizer and waste products could lead to the accumulation of toxic levels of heavy metal which are injurious to human health and wellbeing.

She rather advised that fertilizers should be used with caution. Emphasis in Soil Science should shift from managing soil resources to merely increasing crop yields, characterization and mapping soils, to food quality, human health, climate change, environmental protection,

ecosystem services and alternative energy production. As the shift happens, Soil Science should be domiciled in faculties of Natural and Environmental Sciences, she suggested.

Earlier in his opening remarks, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Prof. Ndukwe J. Okeudo said the Inaugural Lectures are important events in the University where a professor, who must have contributed significantly to the advancement of knowledge in a specialized field, gives answers to pertinent questions in his field while pointing the way forward. He invited all to listen to Prof. Nnenna Oti, whom he described as she a cerebral researcher and worthy scholar.

The Lecture attracted an array of dignitaries and the University community which the University Orator, Prof Babington Esonu, who also read the Lecturer's citation, said was vintage the first class intellectual, an Anti-Corruption activist and Good Governance crusader. In his closing remarks the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eze thanked the 35th Inaugural Lecturer for a wonderful performance true to her calling and urged her to aim for greater heights.



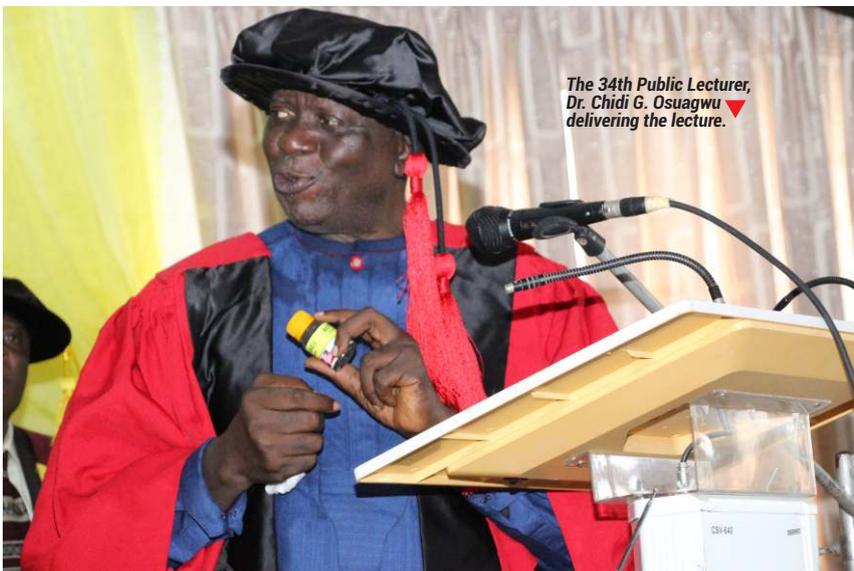
The Dean of the School of Basic Medical Sciences and a member of the Lecture Series Committee, Prof.

Agwu Nkwa Amadi while giving the vote of thanks, said the Vice chancellor was most supportive in making

the day most memorable and expressed gratitude to all who graced the occasion.

”MAKE PEACE WITH YAM AND PALM OIL” -34TH PUBLIC LECTURER OF FUTO

Chinweuba
Ekwemalor



The 34th Public Lecturer, Dr. Chidi G. Osuagwu delivering the lecture.

said nutritional essence of people's diet can be summarized in terms of their food-inherent bioactive chemical functions. Yam and Oil-Palm he also said are the two crops that define the food culture of Forest West Africa as well as its agricultural area known as Yam or Palm belt while the diet is Yam Palm Diet Type. He therefore advised his audience to **“make peace with yam and palm oil.”**

The 34th Public Lecture of the Federal University of Technology was held on Wednesday July 17, 2019. Venue was the Hall of Excellence and the Lecture titled **“Characterization of Forest West African Diet Type and Management of Modernization Diet Related Disease”**. It was delivered by

Dr. Chidi G. Osuagwu, a pioneer Head of Department of Biomedical Technology, Federal University of Technology Owerri and a visiting Prof. in the Department of Biochemistry, Gregory University, Uturu, Abia State Nigeria.

Dr. Osuagwu in the lecture

He however pointed out the structures and known metabolic activities of isolated chemical functional essences such as dioscorin in yam and tocotrienols in palm oil, suggesting that they are the best potential treatments to the disease caused by their dietary abandonment. He further explained that food is usually organic substances



▲ DVC, Academic, Prof. N.J. Okeudo making his speech during the 34th Public Lecture

from other organisms by which living things extract energy to power themselves and structural elements for the building up and maintenance of their bodies. ***“Living things vary and as their environments vary, their foods vary. For any people, their food and how it is prepared and consumed is their diet”, he stated.***

Dr. Osuagwu, a renowned international consultant also stated that the metabolic transformation of Tyrosine, depending on the path way followed, yields two important molecules that play opposing roles in animal energy metabolism which are Thyroxine and Melanin, adding that Thyroxine speeds up basic metabolic rate (BMR) of the body while Melanin slows down metabolism by scavenging free-radicals that promote catabolism, and protects against sun's ultra-violet radiation damage of the skin and body.

With the establishment of yam

domestication, he went ahead to say that West Africa has been confirmed as a major cradle of crop domestication and civilization. This, he noted is what makes the Forest West Africa the yam belt that stretches from Cote D'Ivoire to Cameroun. Accordingly in the West African Forest, Dr. Osuagwu revealed that the double oil palm is domesticated for fat adding that it is the most important crop in the Forest West Africa. According to him, the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation had this to say about palm oil, “because of its

economic importance as a high yielding source of edible and technical oils, the oil palm is now grown as a plantation crop in most countries with high rainfall”.

Earlier, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, Prof. Ndukwe J. Okeudo expressed optimism that the 34th Public Lecture will be interesting and urged staff and guests to pay adequate attention to be able to enjoy the lecture. Prof. Eze however assured that the lecturer as an erudite scholar was prepared to share his wealth of knowledge which will be beneficial to all and sundry.

Secretary of the Lecture Series Committee, Mrs Chinatu Iloeje in a vote of thanks, said that the lecture was quite insightful for the layman to understand and also thanked the Lecturer, the Vice Chancellor, Chairman and members of the Lecture Series Committee for a successful



▼ The 34th Public Lecturer, Dr. Chidi G. Osuagwu receiving the Memento from DVC, Academic, Prof. N.J. Okeudo

outing. Dr. Osuagwu's citation was read by the University Orator and Chairman, Lecture Series Committee, Professor Babington O. Esonu.

In his closing remarks, the

Vice Chancellor thanked Dr. Osuagwu for his presentation and commended him for the highly educative lecture. He used the opportunity to advise that people should endeavour to check their food

intakes and not consume just anything in the name of food adding that it has become pertinent to make such necessary checks particularly as one gets into adulthood.

“FOOD PRODUCTION SYSTEMS UNDER THREAT...” VC AT CROP SCIENCE SOCIETY OF NIGERIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Okwara, Obumneke Bede

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze has asserted that Food Production Systems are under threat from uncertainties relating to climate variables like change in rainfall pattern which has different consequences including flooding and delayed onset of rainfall. He made the assertion at the Crop Science Society of Nigeria's 6th National Annual Conference with the theme *“Improving Crop Production Systems for Sustainable Development in Nigeria”*.

It was held on Monday, October 14, 2019 at the Forestry and Wildlife Technology Auditorium.

Represented by the Dean School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology Prof. P. C. Obasi, the Vice Chancellor opined that because of delayed onset of rainfall, food producers are constrained to delay planting until the rain is established



▲ National President of Crop Science of Nigeria, Prof. Michael I. Uguru delivering his address

which he said causes threat to food security and imposes different degrees of moisture stress on crops. He therefore suggested developing appropriate techniques and policies to improve and sustain food production, taking into consideration the diverse environmental conditions across the various regions.

Vice Chancellor Eze advised

Crop Scientists to double efforts in complementing efforts the Federal and State governments had made previously by establishing programmes that helped farmers at the two levels. He also encouraged them to give more attention to discovering appropriate technologies for improving the production of different crops under changing climatic conditions and the reduction of post harvest losses through value addition.

The National President of Crop Science Society of Nigeria, Professor Michael I. Uguru, expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze for his support and provision of the necessary facilities for the hosting of the 2019 Annual Conference of the Society. He stated that the benefits of the Conference are not only for knowledge-sharing but included exchange of

research ideas.

The keynote Speaker, Prof. Dominic A. Okpara presented a paper on ***“Viable Seed Sector: a Veritable Tool for Sustainable Crop Production in Nigeria”***, through which he noted that while the three tiers of government have always made efforts to make agriculture play a significant role in Nigeria's economy, the expected change was yet to be realized, pointing out the huge gap between population growth and crop production. He pointed out the lack of efficient seed systems for multiplication, lack of improved varieties and inefficient production technologies, constraint in crop yield and seed system as critical factors in the food security of any nation adding that the quality and stability in the food environment are vital if food production will be sustainably managed.

Professor Okpara enumerated major problems in the Nigeria Seed System which include inconsistent government policies resulting in the abandonment of previous government laudable policies that were aimed at strengthening the seed system, poor funding of agriculture and agricultural institutions, inadequate trained personnel in breeding, high cost of improved seeds, poor level of private sector involvement, inadequate

processing/storage facilities, farmers conservative attitude resulting in the traditional use of local seeds saved from previous season's crop in preference to new improved seed that have been tested by the farmer etc.

However, he opined that productive crops and healthy plant food for people and livestock start with good seeds and suggested that agronomic practices aimed at mass-producing and retaining quality seeds should be intensified, post harvest seed technology including cleaning, drying, seed-testing and certification must be adhered to as stipulated in the National Seed Policy as well as encouraging private seed companies to engage in seed production as a business venture, amongst others.

Finally, according to Prof. Okpara, strengthening collaboration with universities or research and development institutes and the private sector through National Agricultural Seed Council is required to ensure farmers get quality seeds at the right price.

Earlier in a courtesy visit, the National President of the Association, Professor Michael I. Uguru briefed the Vice-Chancellor that the importance of crop production, the greatest

avenue for raising internally generated revenue is advancing from production in the water known as hydroponics, to production on air, aerobatics. He thanked the Vice-Chancellor for the provision of facilities and a serene environment.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, speaking through the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Professor Ndukwe J. Okeudo while welcoming the visitors, described the Vice-Chancellor as one who loves to promote agriculture pointing out also that the importance of agriculture lies in crop production.

He advised organizers of the Conference to look beyond the traditional and concentrate more on subsistence agriculture and the issues affecting the development of crops.



▲ Dean School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology, Prof. P.C. Obasi making his speech during the Conference



▼ VC Prof.F.C Eze declaring the Conference open.

NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS HOLDS HER 42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN FUTO.

Oyelu Jude Ejike

The Nigerian Institute of Physics (NIP) held her 42nd Annual Conference at the Hall of Excellence, Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO) on Tuesday 19th November 2019 with the theme **“Physics in Manufacturing for National Development; Poverty Alleviation and Future Innovations”**. The theme was carefully selected to explain what physics can do in human societies Vis-a-vis its role in providing solutions to the World Socio-Economic, Technological and Environmental problems. Prof. (Mrs) Chinyere Ada Madu, Chairman of Local Organizing Committee and Head of Department of Physics in her welcome address, said that she was delighted to welcome everyone to the 2019 Annual Conference of the Nigerian Institute of Physics hosted

by the Federal University of Technology Owerri. According to her, the Conference was indeed remarkable for two reasons-being the second of its kind hosted in the University in its 39-years of existence as well as the fact that it took place in FUTO under the leadership of 7th Substantive Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, a distinguished Professor of Solid State Physics, hence, the choice of the University as the host of the conference could not have come at a better time, she asserted! Furthermore, Prof. Madu said that one of the missions of Federal University of Technology, Owerri is to create a strategic platform for the exchange of scientific knowledge among Physicists and other professionals, as well as assisting industries and

government ministries, departments and agencies in the implementation of National Science and Technological advancement of Nigeria. She used the medium to inform participants that the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. F.C. Eze has taken Research, Development and Innovation to another level and thanked him and the University Management for steering the University to a new height of growth and development. In an address, the Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology Owerri, Prof. F.C. Eze, said that he was particularly overwhelmed that the University under his leadership is hosting Nigeria's finest Physicists. He stated that the Institute is in tune with the National productivity challenges as well as being conscious of the requisite role of Physics in advancing appropriate solutions. He therefore

commended the organizers for carefully choosing the theme which would guide the discourse on how Physics can be better utilized in the Manufacturing sector to ensure sustainable livelihood.

He added that FUTO as a foremost University of Technology in Nigeria has remained at the forefront of Science, Technology and Innovation. As a result, he stated, graduates from the institution are highly sought after, all over the world. He opined that FUTO is determined to pursue her mission of offering practical training geared towards

transforming the nation's economy from consumer-oriented to production-oriented with sound technological base.

Further to this mission, the management has also given Research and Innovation an unprecedented boost in the University with the creation of the office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor on Research, Development and Innovation which is headed by a Physicist, Prof. B.C Anusionwu and declared that FUTO will continue to fly the flag of Excellence as contained in his strategic blueprint for the University **"Driving the Culture of Excellence"**.

The President of Nigerian Institute of Physics, Prof. Hyacinth O. Aboh, in his speech, defined Physics as an exact Science, the soul of Science, the king of the Sciences and above all, a discipline that explains humanity adding that NIP is in dire need of opening up its frontiers for better service to the Nation. He disclosed that the two-acre land along the airport road, within the University of Abuja needs to be developed into the National Physics Center and called on individuals, groups and governments at all levels to support the Institute financially to realize the dream.



President of the Nigerian Institute of Physics Prof Hyacinth.O.Aboh addressing the VC during the Courtesy Visit.

VICE CHANCELLOR INAUGURATES 21ST SUG EXECUTIVE

Stella Ijebula

The 7th Substantive Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology Owerri, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze has charged students of the Institution to always maintain peace and tranquility on campus. He gave the charge on Monday, November 4, 2019 during the inauguration of the Students Union Government Executive of the 2019/2020 academic session.

Prof. Eze congratulated the outgoing executive led by Comrade Chigozirim Frank Samuel for their support and doggedness to the



▼ SUG President Comrade Eberechukwu Timothy reading his address

management and the University community in spite of the security challenges on campus. He said that the University exists primarily because of the students who have come to garner knowledge in their various disciplines and urged them to shun cultism as anyone found guilty would be expelled.

Prof. F.C. Eze advised the new executive members to emulate their predecessors assuring them that every dint of hard work would surely speak for them at the appropriate time.

Earlier, the new President Comrade Eberechukwu Timothy thanked the Vice-Chancellor and the Management for their efforts in ensuring that meritocracy and transparency were maintained all through the electoral process.

He stated that the new Executive tagged the **Aluta Experience Executive**, is poised to give Nigerian students the best and rewarding experience at every given opportunity adding that the expectations of the students would not be truncated. He made request for additional security, provision of more ATMs, steady supply of water in different hostels, rehabilitation of bus stops, promising that his administration will do its best to maintain a peaceful, serene and clean environment which would foster academic excellence and make FUTO great.



▼ The New SUG Executive taking the oath of office



▼ VC Prof.F.C Eze making a remark while principal officers look on

Principal Officers at the inauguration were the Deputy Vice Chancellors Academic Prof. N J. Okeudo

and that of Administration Prof. J.S. Orebiyi Registrar Mr J.U Nnabuihe, University Librarian Dr. Mrs Chinwe V.

Anunobi and Prof. C.E. Orji, Dean Student Affairs Units.

NEWMAP VISITS FUTO, DONATES VEHICLE

Ugochukwu Barbara L.

A team from the Nigerian Erosion and Watershed Management Project (NEWMAP) Imo State Chapter, on Thursday, November 14th, 2019 paid a courtesy visit on the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze. Speaking during the visit, the team leader, Dr. Amos Abu said that the relationship between FUTO and the Erosion Project has been a standing one. He pointed out that FUTO is one of the few Centres of Excellence that relates with NEWMAP. He stated that NEWMAP is helping with the state of the art weather station, remote



▼ Representative of the VC Prof. Ndukwe J. Okeudo (DVC. ACAD) making a remark

power and remote sense telemetry station. Dr. Abu pointed out that the Organisation saw the need to support the University logistics, hence the gift of a vehicle to assist FUTO

thereby adding value to the work done against erosion. The vehicle was handed over to the Vice Chancellor by the State Technical Committee Chairperson of the Project and Permanent



▼ The leader of the team
Dr. Amos Abu addressing
the VC

Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Mr. G.E. Nnah. The team leader said that NEWMAP has the objective of reducing the probability of soil erosion with the watershed approach and they cannot do the project successfully without having the adequate scientific information and data to enable them execute the programme. He added that in order to control erosion, NEWMAP should know the total rainfall within a particular catchment area, the flow, outlook of the flow and the current capacity of the structures to enable the discharge of water from the environment successfully. Having considered this as key and critical, he said that the project found out that the capacity and institution need to be strengthened and the Organization found out that FUTO is where most of these challenges of erosion are being prominent. This

according to him is why the project recognises the fact that the Institute of Erosion studies in FUTO be considered, attended to and upgraded to the Centre of Excellence; and that has being captured into the document of the project. It is on this premise that NEWMAP provided the Automatic Weather Stations which is used in generating the weather parameters and hydrological data for the purpose of learning and planning for informed policy decision. As part of water resource management, Dr. Abu added that they get information from the data and quantify what is available in terms of quantity and quality to enable NEWMAP plan for the development. He further said that it is their duty to insure and know what is happening with the underground water for the purpose of human

consumption and for sustainability of the resources.

He disclosed that NEWMAP is here in continuation with the collaboration and partnership with the University to bring another component of what will be of good assistance and importance to FUTO as a centre of excellence and academic learning which is the underground monitoring evaluation. He said that the contractor and the agency that is mandated by law to carry out the physical survey with the guidance of physical planning to ensure that the specific land for this project has no envisaged use as part of the development plan of the University.

In conclusion, he said that the Vice Chancellor should help to ensure that the project has adequate security and accommodation for the purpose of sustainability. He expressed gratitude for his support in ensuring that FUTO moves forward.

Welcoming NEWMAP to the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze thanked them for recognising the University as a foremost University of Technology that started the Institute of Erosion in the country from the beginning of the University up to date. He also thanked NEWMAP



▼ The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment Mr. G.E. Nnah, handing over the Hilux van key to the Vc's representative

trend because climate has become the key issue and with this, the key issues in Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be addressed.

The Vice Chancellor, in a vote of thanks expressed delight for their visit and urged the team to feel free because FUTO is a hospitable place. He prayed that this project will be another landmark in the University's achievement.

Principal Officers who were present at the courtesy visit were Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) Prof. N. J. Okeudo, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration), Prof. J. S. Orebiyi, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research Development & Innovation), Prof. B. C. Anusionwu, the Bursar, Mrs. H. O. Onuoha, Dr. (Mrs) Chinwe V. Anunobi, the University Librarian and other members of NEWMAP.

for the stations, for being proactive and for the vehicle they donated to the University.

He added that upgrading the institution is part of what FUTO will do to enable sustainability. He urged NEWMAP to help articulate what the University is doing and how to approach World Bank. He stated that the Management will provide

accommodation and deploy security around the area so as to help with the project. He also stated that the Director of Physical Planning will be contacted to interact with the contractor and other people involved in the project.

Prof. Eze said that the University is optimistic to do research on erosion particularly with the modern



▼ The Hilux van donated by NEWMAP

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT RESEARCH CENTRE HOLDS TRAINING THE TRAINER WORKSHOP

Chinweuba Ekwemalor



by the Centre.

Prof. Uche said the knowledge gained from the workshop will broaden and impact practical knowledge on the mechanism, principles, objectives, code of conduct and system ethics as well as moral norms in public procurement. He urged the participants to freely interact with the resource persons, to derive the best out of the training.

The Public Procurement Research Centre PPRC, Federal University of Technology, Owerri on Monday May 6th, 2019 held a workshop for Public Procurement Staff of Ministries, Departments and Agencies. The 5-day workshop which was titled "Public Procurement Bid, Evaluation, Managing and Negotiating with Consultants and Contractors" was aimed at training Public Officers in the procurement sector.

In an opening speech, the

Director PPRC, FUTO Engr. Prof. Remy Uche commended participants from the MDAs for finding time to attend the workshop and urged them to pay adequate attention to the resource persons. He assured them that their respective organizations recommended them for the training because of the positive change they were expected to take back by training other staff in their respective offices and agencies after their training, in addition to encouraging them to attending subsequent trainings frequently organized

The Public Procurement Research Centre was commissioned on October 8th, 2012 by the United Nations Development Programme Country Representative. Dignitaries from the National Assembly, Heads of Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Federal Government were present at the commissioning. The courses of the PPRC FUTO are open to Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government, Federal Government Institutions, Service Providers, Contractors and others.

SCHOOL OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY HOLDS 4TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

Chinweuba Ekwemalor

The School of Health Technology (SOHT) Federal University of Technology Owerri, on Wednesday August 7 through Friday August 9, 2019 organized the 4th International

Congress on Health Science and Technology with the theme *"Innovation Technologies for Health Promotion and Health Management: Sustainable Tools for Reliable Health Care*

System". The event took place at the Hall of Excellence, FUTO.

Declaring the Congress open, the Vice Chancellor Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, represented by the Deputy



Vice Chancellor Research Development and Innovation Prof. Bede C. Anusionwu, said that the congress has become an annual event by the School and hoped that it would gain international recognition in no distant time.

Vice-Chancellor Professor F. C . E z e h o w e r e r acknowledged the World Health Organization (WHO) for sponsoring the 2019 Congress and prayed for more sponsors. He urged the participants to look into the indigenous ways of preventing diseases and how they could modernize them to cure diseases.

The Keynote address titled "Microbiota and Metabolic Syndrome" was delivered by Professor Emmanuel C. Opara, a Professor of Medical Biochemistry from the University of London, England and a researcher at the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

Prof. Opara reviewed the epidemiology and Pathophysiology of Pandemic

diseases globally and in developing countries to include obesity, diabetes, cancer, malaria and gastrointestinal diseases and also highlighted the role of the interdisciplinary collaborative research in designing preventative and therapeutic approaches. He went further to discuss one of the hottest topics in healthcare delivery which is the role of Microbiota in treatment of diseases, reviewing its application in obesity, diabetes, cancer and other diseases.

The Dean School of Health Technology Prof. P.U Agbasi was optimistic that the 2019 International Congress will elicit greater reactions in terms of new researches, collaborations and teachings adding that students and younger lecturers will be great beneficiaries of the rich academic harvest.

Also, Rev. Sr. Prof. Evangeline Oparaocha, the Congress President and former Dean SOHT revealed that the

problem associated with Nigeria's crumbling health care system is poor managerial ability, displayed at all levels of the system and stressed the need to orientate sectors connected with health care management and delivery in the country so as to reposition them to face the 21st Century health challenges.

Adding his voice, Dr. Jervas Ekezie Chairman Local Organising Committee stated that the gathering would afford scientists the opportunity to present and discuss recent discoveries in Health Promotion and Health Management adding that the sub-themes of the lectures, if well researched and adequately presented would go a long way in reducing the high rate of morbidity mortality through proper health promotion and management that are needed to salvage the double burden of diseases affecting the population and the economy.

FUTO MARKS 2019 WORLD LITERACY DAY

Chinweuba Ekwemalor

To mark the 2019 World Literacy Day, the University Library Federal University of Technology Owerri, on Monday September 9, 2019 organized a program for the FUTO Community at the E-Library Quadrangle.

Declaring the event open, the University Librarian Dr. Mrs. Chinwe V. Anunobi said the World Literacy Day is marked annually on September 8. She however stated that out of the three major ethnic groups in Nigeria Igbo, Yoruba and Hausa, while the others speak their dialects openly and wherever they find themselves, Igbos prefer to hide their identity by showing off their knowledge of English language.

Dr. Anunobi however expressed happiness with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) for including Igbo in their programmes which is known as BBC Igbo, where Igbos can showcase themselves, their culture and heritage. She further urged the students to be proud of their ethnic group by embracing, learning, speaking and writing the Igbo language.

The Guest Lecturer, an Igbo scholar and Assistant Lecturer in the Directorate of General Studies FUTO, Mr. Andrew Mgborogwu in his lecture titled *"The English Language*

and Literacy as Basic Tools for National Development", stated that the ability to communicate is a basic requirement in life thus communication is done through language pointing out that language remains an important factor in National Development and Consciousness. He added that Nigeria has a natural division through the Rivers Niger and Benue in the three major areas and that the divisions correspond with the three major language groups namely the Hausa in the North, the Igbo in the East and the Yoruba in the West.

Mr. Mgborogwu however said that despite the three major languages, Nigeria has over four Hundred (400) indigenous languages and more than two hundred and fifty (250) ethnic groups while stating that Nigeria as a heterogeneous society comprises of people with diverse cultures and languages. He said if any of the languages is adopted as the nation's official language, the tendency for people of the other ethnic groups to feel cheated and marginalized will always be there.

Amidst this multitude of languages in Nigeria, English language is the obvious choice for literacy as well as for national and sustainable development, stating that in

the absence of any indigenous language which caters for the need of the entire people, it becomes impossible to communicate and interact socially and economically across the nation's inter-ethnic boundaries.

"Therefore, the English Language comes handy as a neutral medium of communication across geo-ethnic boundaries. It helps to enhance and promote social and economic interactions among the various tribal groups. In spite of the changing trends and growing acceptance and use of indigenous languages, a good command of English is still a shaft that pivots a Nigerian into the topmost social and political circles of the country," he said.

Mr. Mgborogwu however said that English language is the life wire of the nation's economy, social, political, educational and administrative development as well as the window that links the nation to the outside world.

Highlights of the event were presentations of gifts by students that won spelling competitions in Igbo language.



▲ FUTO Alumni President, Engr. Ndubuisi Chijioke delivering his address during the courtesy visit.

FUTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IMO STATE CHAPTER

VISITS VC

Chinweuba Ekwemalor

Executive Committee of FUTO Alumni Association and Board of Trustees, Imo State Chapter on Thursday August 15, 2019 visited the Vice Chancellor Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze to introduce to him and members of Management the new leadership of the Alumni Association and the Alumni Board of Trustees Owerri Chapter. In his address, President of the Association Engr. Ndubuisi Chijioke said they had come to introduce to the University Management the new leadership of the Alumni Association and the proper constitution of the Alumni Board of Trustees, after twenty years of its existence. He further stated that the Association has tremendous interest and roles to play in catalyzing support and engagements for the University through her network of over 40,000 graduates, positioned in various industries, the public service and private practices.

Engr. Chijioke said the Alumni network has become a great asset to the University thereby activating a rewarding relationship either on the pedestal of charitable works or platforms of mutually profitable businesses adding that to facilitate this, the Association has developed a database of members with details of their current placements. He expressed concern over the delay and difficulty faced by FUTO graduates in accessing their student records either for employment purposes or to further their studies. "We are aware the University is making efforts in this regard, needless to emphasize how much it has cost our members in terms of opportunities. The Alumni is ready to share technology-based solutions and other resources that may be required by the University to aid the immediate resolution of this debacle", he stated. The President of the

Association commended the Vice Chancellor and the Management for their enduring efforts in making FUTO a University to reckon with despite the numerous challenges they face within and outside the University. He also told the Vice Chancellor of the need to investigate lecturers/students unwholesome practices which he said has come to the knowledge of the Association. Also speaking, Chairman Board Of Trustees FUTO Alumni Association Lady Nkiru Ajoku said members of the BOT were elected among other things, to promote and encourage mutual understanding and co-operation between FUTO Community and the Alumni, to ensure that the leadership of the Alumni upholds the constitution and play by the rules and guidelines, help in proper registration of the Alumni body as a legal entity, resolving differences and

areas of conflict between the University Management and the Alumni in times of crises or misunderstanding.

The BOT Chair thanked the Vice Chancellor for the cordial relationship the leadership of the Alumni has enjoyed with him over the years as well as his personal support towards their programmes adding that the BOT will continue to use their network and increased membership to impact positively on the University, announcing that they will set up a foundation soon to help in funding research and projects in order to position FUTO as a leading School of Technology in Nigeria and West Africa.

Lady Ajoku also pleaded with the Vice Chancellor to facilitate the quick return of Alumni representative to the Governing Council of Convocation which she said will give the Alumni and Academic Staff Union of

Universities another platform to contribute towards the policy thrust of his administration and promote growth and excellence in the University.

In his remark, the Vice Chancellor Professor Francis Chukwuemeke Eze congratulated the Imo State leadership of the Association and members of the BOTs for emerging victorious during the election and recognized members of the Association as partners in progress.

Professor Eze however tasked them to give back to their Alma Mater in line with his Mantra "Driving the Culture of Excellence" thereby making FUTO a world class University indeed. He assured them that the University has been making tremendous progress despite her challenges.

Expressing concern over delay in preparation of transcripts, the Vice

Chancellor said that the main challenge was power supply which has been rectified adding that the Unit had embarked on the process of clearing the backlog. He elicited the Association's support to the Management in tackling security problem in the area of erecting a fence round the University particularly around the female hostels.

Prof. Eze promised to plead with the FUTO branch of the Academic Staff Union of Universities to keep a slot for the Alumni Association for Convocation representation and hoped that the Alumni would be a great asset to the University. He further reported that the case of unethical practices in the University had minimized with the setting up of a Committee to monitor and punish anybody found guilty.



▼ VC, Prof. F.C. Eze with other Principal Officers in a group photograph with the members of FUTO Alumni Association

NEWLY ELECTED NASU EXECUTIVE PAYS COURTESY VISIT ON THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Chioma Ike



▲ Vice Chancellor Prof. F.C. Eze addressing the NASU members

Newly elected executives of the Non Academic Staff Union of Universities (NASU), led by the Chairman, Comrade Pastor Samuel Iwuala, paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze on Friday, May 17, 2019 at the Vice Chancellor's Conference Room.

Stating the purpose of their visit, Comrade Pastor Iwuala said it was to intimate the Vice Chancellor and Management of the change in leadership of the Union and to formally introduce the new members of the executive to him. He commended the kind disposition of the Vice-Chancellor towards the Union and assured him of the Union's unflinching support to his administration.

Comrade Iwuala remarked that the Vice-Chancellor, being an astute administrator required good support machinery that would join him in moving FUTO forward and made himself and NASU available for that purpose. He pointedly stated that God has chosen him as the

7th substantive Vice Chancellor to cater for the needs of staff in the areas of promotions, conversions and prompt payment of salaries.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze in his response, thanked the NASU executives for their kind words and the visit. He said he was particularly happy that the new NASU Chairman whom he knows very well as a Pastor who walks in the footsteps of the Almighty God would join him in the quest to turn FUTO around. He appreciated Comrade Pastor Iwuala's leadership skills, adding that people think leading a Union is all about *'telling lies or cutting corners'*, but assured NASU that the pastor will be a different kind of Union leader.

Prof. Eze reminded them that FUTO Management prides itself ahead of other Universities in provision of welfare packages for staff, prompt payment of salaries, and in trainings and workshops and urged the Union to desist from antagonizing the Council or Management but to be patient, adding that welfare of staff and

students will be completely taken care of in due time. The Vice Chancellor also charged NASU and other Unions to interact with Management often to avoid clashes of interest based on unfounded rumours, pointing out that they owe it a duty to be truthful to their members, not failing to inform them of Management's good intentions towards them and the university.

The Vice-Chancellor expounded that any staff not promoted after three years has the right to know the reason, instead of spreading false and unfounded rumours or cause trouble using the Unions. He stated that "Unions have no right to disrupt Management programmes in order to showcase their grievances. You should rather, as part of your mandate and duty, seek avenues to contribute to the development of FUTO". He also enjoined them, as a matter of priority, to invite management to their meetings and congresses for interactions with their members on any issue of concern while reassuring them that better days are ahead.

“UNWARRANTED DUMPING OF PLASTIC WASTES, A UNIVERSAL CHALLENGE” – PROF. I.C. MADUFOR

■ Dr. Obinna Ofozoba ■

The Institute of Polymer Engineers, an arm of the Nigerian Society of Engineers, organized the 2019 Conference and Annual General Meeting between 8th and 10th August, 2019 at the FUTOWA Complex, Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Imo State. The theme was “Polymers and Environmental Sustainability: The Role of Government, Industry and Academia”.

Welcoming participants to the Conference and Annual General Meeting, the National Chairman Institute of Polymer and Textile Engineers, Engr. Prof. I.C. Madufor said that the effect of unwarranted dumping of plastic wastes on the environment has become a universal challenge which explains the adoption of the aforementioned theme for

the Conference. He further said that waste management especially polymer wastes have become the major focus in most industrialized countries noting that some countries that seek to provide a decent environment for their populace are already banning the use of plastic packages especially the non-degradable ones.

In his welcome address, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze said that the Federal University of Technology Owerri was one of the foremost Universities that offered Polymer and Textile Engineering as a course and which was pioneered in FUTO by Prof. S.C.O. Ugbolue, a former Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration, before his retirement.

Professor Eze who spoke through the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Professor Ndukwe J. Okeudo said that the theme of the Conference is relevant and informed the participants that an Environmental and Waste Management Committee has been constituted, to show the importance the University Management attaches to environment and waste disposal noting that the Department of Polymer and Textile Engineering will help in recycling the plastic wastes.

He urged the participants to be very attentive during the Conference to enable them imbibe and nurture those habits that will help the environment and enhance good lifestyle.



▲ VC's representative and the DVC Academic, Prof. N.J. Okeudo(3rd from left) in a group photograph with some members of the Institute of Polymer Engineering

WOMEN IN SCIENCE FOR THE DEVELOPING WORLD PAYS COURTESY VISIT TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

■ Chioma Ike ■

Representatives of Women in Science for the Developing World, South Eastern Zone paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze and Management on Monday, May 13, 2019. Venue of the visit was the Vice Chancellor's Conference Room. Chairman of the Organisation, FUTO Chapter Prof. Mrs. E. U. Onyeka thanked the Vice-Chancellor for receiving them in audience and notified him that the zone had selected FUTO as host to their forthcoming Conference and thereafter solicited his support.

The FUTO Chapter Chairperson was full of gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for hosting the

"Workshop on the Various Ways to Get Grants for Research" which she said was an 'eye opener' to women noting the many grants allotted to the Organization and expressed its preparedness in positioning women to tap into the opportunities. At the upcoming Conference she revealed, the Vice-Chancellor's wife, Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze, an active member of the Organization in the South East Zone, will be given a "Recognition Award".

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis C. Eze in his response, appreciated the women for the visit and the kind comments accorded him and commended the FUTO Chapter Chairperson on the active participation of

FUTO women in the organization. He urged them to continue to excel in their research works, get grants and win more awards/fellowships. For the upcoming Conference, Prof. Eze encouraged them to source the right personnel to facilitate the workshop, further stating that FUTO has the enabling environment and adequate equipment to aid them in their research work.

He advised them to desist from exhibiting fake research works which he pointed out seems to be the norm in the present academic world. The Vice-Chancellor, on behalf of Management and staff of FUTO promised to support them within the available resources in hosting the Conference.

Orientation
PROGRAMME
FOR NEWLY RECRUITED STAFF

Ayobami Orebiyi

The Registry, Federal University of Technology, Owerri, on August 6 through 8, 2019 organized an orientation exercise for the newly recruited Registry staff. It was held at the Senate Chamber, FUTO.

The Registrar Mr. John U. Nnabuihe congratulated the



newly recruited staff on their appointment. He spoke briefly about the structure and enabling ACT CAP F 23 that

established the University and the laws of the Federation of Nigeria, and pointed out that the ACT provides the



▼ Cross session of staff of the Registry Unit during the Orientation

statutory bodies as the Governing Council, Senate, Congregation and the Convocation.

He further explained that the University is structured and administered along two broad components, the Academic and Administrative/Service Units with eleven Schools that are housing fifty Departments. He went ahead to say that decisions taken by the various approving authorities or committees are usually communicated to the affected functionaries or persons, by way of internal memoranda or official letters that originate from the Registrar or his representative.

In her paper presentation titled "Work Ethics and Competence" a Resource Person Mrs. Uju J. Udedibie, a Deputy Registrar and Coordinator of the Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies, said the disarray in work ethics, morals, social discipline and

general civility has deteriorated to an alarming rate adding that if nothing is done to solve the problem, the lofty ideals of the founding fathers to make FUTO a Centre of Excellence will fail, especially if the human elements who will steer the ideals are not well groomed.

According to her, employees are expected to observe the highest standard of ethics and also comply with all applicable laws and regulations of the University. She said that the common goal to make FUTO a Centre of Excellence could be obstructed by suspicions, greed, grudges, disputes and ethnic allegiances. Mrs Udedibie however advised the newly recruited staff to be independent, self-reliant, team players and self-confident adding that **"life without self control, standard of behaviour or rules and regulations will be chaotic. Today's generation has a great**

task to preserve ethics and confidentiality by going back to the basics".

Another Resource Person, the Deputy Registrar /Coordinator Legal Matters Unit Mr. H.O. Mezieobi, described the University as a complex and highly regulated organizational entity, the reason the Council focuses on general superintendence of policy, finances and property of the University. He therefore disclosed that administrators are adequately enabled to make the University regulations available and as well acquaint themselves with the rules guiding the University for effective services.

He also revealed that a huge relationship exists between adherence to rules, regulations, norms, procedures and effective performance, pointing out that the regulations and application of same must reflect in the interest of effectiveness, efficiency and excellence in the University system.

In a vote of thanks Barr. Mrs Belinda Njemanze was full of appreciation to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze and the Management for the privilege of the orientation programme and promised on behalf of the participants, a replication of all they learnt.

FUTO HOLDS WORKSHOP

ON INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS FOR ACADEMIC STAFF

Okwara Obumneke Bede

 Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor Research, Development and Innovation Federal University of Technology Owerri put together a workshop on

Instructional Methods, Tools and Techniques for Online Teaching and Learning, for the academic staff. It started on Monday, July 29 and ended on Friday August 2, 2019, at the Physics Hall.

The workshop started with a presentation on the benefits of online Teaching, its Practical Steps and Management System. It featured an interactive session where the participants were given ample opportunity to ask questions to which they got the necessary clarifications.

One of the Resource Persons and Deputy Vice Chancellor Research, Development and Innovation Prof. Bede Anusionwu, told the participants to always practice all they have learned in line with the popular adage, ***“Practice makes Perfect”***, in order to be proficient in online teaching methods in readiness for whenever the University would commence the programme. Prof. Anusionwu informed participants that online teaching has become popular globally, reiterating that FUTO

will key into the system in no distant time.

Another Resource Person Engr. Dr. Amadi Emmanuel, a lecturer in the School of Information and Communication Technology FUTO, defined Google Form as a web-based application used to create forms for data collection purposes. He stated that teachers and students can use Google Forms not only to make surveys, quizzes or event registration sheets but could also use it for submission of assignments. He opined that online teaching and learning increases students' active participation in learning and reduces distraction to the barest minimum.

Participants at the workshop were drawn from different Schools and Departments of the Federal University of Technology Owerri.



▼ DVC, Research Development and Innovation, Prof. Bede C. Anusionwu delivering his address



▼ Cross session of Academic Staff of FUTO during the Seminar

“DISTINGUISH YOURSELF THROUGH YOUR WRITING” - AG. COORDINATOR, IPRU **Chioma Ike**

Administrative staff of the Information and Public Relations (IPR) Unit have been urged to distinguish themselves by being more creative in writing their news reports. The advice was given at the recently novel In-House Training organized by the Unit on Monday, July 29, 2019 at the Unit's Administrators Office.

The Acting Coordinator of the Unit and Principal Assistant Registrar Mrs. Uche, Bright-Nwelue who facilitated the Training, as the Resource Person, In-House, explained that report writing is one of the interesting areas in journalism where the writer is given the freedom to express himself in his own way by writing catchy stories that will positively capture the interest of the audience. However, although the freedom is established she stated, the writer has to follow the guidelines and “House Style” of whichever organization he represents, she noted. According to her, House Style refers to the peculiar way media organizations adopt in reporting news or events, to avoid 'plagiarism', even though reports could be monitored.

She stated that reports are usually presented either in a “Pyramid” or “Inverted pyramid” form, explaining that the inverted pyramid style, where the writer or reporter kicks off or leads the story from the most important aspect to the least, is the most

popular amongst media houses. Mrs. Bright-Nwelue explained to her team of story writers that in making use of the inverted pyramid style of writing, the summary of the headline/entire story should be contained in the first and second paragraphs, as well as the title of the report if it is a quotation. In addition, she said that the “4Ws” (who, what, when, where) must be found within the first paragraph of each report.

Furthermore, she urged the administrators to positively project the image of the University, that of the Vice Chancellor and achievements of his administration through their reports, pointing out that good reports are not based on using high sounding or ambiguous words which gives the writer away as being ignorant of the “Communication Theory”, a theory which states that people should adjust their

required to develop their stories. This she stated is necessary for a number of reasons which include the fact that it would help the reporter to write an all-encompassing and elaborate report, depending on who is involved and not leaving out any vital point, quoting the speakers out of context which could be an embarrassment to all involved as well as the University, not attracting libel etc.

She used the opportunity to remind them that writing for the electronic media is different from writing for the print, explaining that while reports for electronics are usually shorter and straight to the point, the print requires embellishment. She also advised them to refrain from repetitions or using archaic words or sentences. The training ended with an intensive question and answer session.





CES HOLDS WORKSHOP ON REPOSITIONING OF TECHNOLOGISTS

Okwaranwaneri C. Chidubem

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration, Prof. Julius S. Orebiyi, said the Centre needed a special commendation for putting together the workshop. He informed the participants that his administration would not in any way toy with the training and re-training of FUTO staff, which he said spurred him to approve the workshop without hesitation.

To impact courage for diligence on learners, the Vice-Chancellor advised them to avail themselves the opportunity to participate in all the discussions, shun laxity and pay attention to all the learning processes. He highlighted on the essence of the workshop which include the need to equip technologists on new teaching and learning techniques in entrepreneurship and skills acquisition.

In her presentation, former Rector of Federal Polytechnic, Nekede, Owerri Dr. Mrs. Celestina U. Njoku

The Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies CES, Federal University of Technology, Owerri with intent to boost productivity on entrepreneurship and skills acquisition, held a workshop on Tuesday, September 3, 2019, at the CES Hall with the theme ***“Repositioning Technologists for Practical Teaching in Entrepreneurship and Skills Acquisition.”***

In his address, the Director, Prof. C.C. Eze recalled that the Centre, established in 2008, has within the period, passed several teething phases including office space, lack of working tools and recognition by the University Community as a veritable Centre for hands-on-tools, creative and innovative minds development and self employment. The Centre, he pointed out, had in spite of its numerous challenges,

expanded on types of skills impacted on the students and the University community adding that it presently produces and trains people on how to make fruit drinks, detergents, insecticides, clothing materials, confectioneries, decorations, dresses and headgears.

On his zeal to intensify efforts geared towards growing the Centre, Prof. C. C. Eze indicated the Centre's readiness to establish a joint venture with the Department of Food Science and Technology in bakery and teaching students same. He also acknowledged the efforts of the University Management in solving most of the problems facing the Centre by providing a 100 KVA generator, workshop equipment, and production of manual and log books for workshop practices.



VC in a group photograph with the Director of the Centre Prof. C.C. Eze, resource persons and technologists



cross section of technologists at the workshop

stressed that in a teaching and learning situation, evaluation of students' performance is necessary to help determine whether or not the students have

achieved the desired goal. She added that adhering to the lecture would not only make work a lot easier but also help the students to be grounded in the three

domains of education since they would eventually become entrepreneurs or employers of labour.

FUTOWA EMBARKS ON BUILDING OF FEMALE HOSTEL PROJECT

Okwaranwaneri C. Chidubem



VC Prof. F.C. Eze making a speech while Chaplains of STACC Rev. Fr. Dr. Jude Ike; Chapel of Light Ven. Dr. Kelechi Okere and All Saints Rev. Dr. Godwin Adaka and others look on

well as to create job opportunities for the host communities, before embarking on the Hostel Project. She solicited the support of members towards realizing the project which she described as very dear to her heart.

Speaking, the Vice Chancellor Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, who also chaired the occasion, thanked FUTOWA immensely for embarking on the project which he said will also contribute to the development of FUTO. He disapproved of the rancor that exists among the womenfolk and insisted that such misunderstanding was not necessary. He however noted that it takes few people

The Federal University of Technology Owerri Women Association FUTOWA, on Friday, June 7, 2019 performed the ground breaking ceremony to mark formal take off of the FUTOWA Hostel building for females. The ceremony took place at the proposed hostel site, beside Post Graduate

School hostel.

In her opening remark, the President of FUTOWA and wife of the Vice Chancellor Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze said that the Association considered the benefits which include provision of accommodation for students, generating revenue for the University as

of like minds to achieve greater results. To the students especially the females, the Vice Chancellor advised them to be of good behaviour and avoid making movements in and out of their hostels late at night, calling on the Spiritual Fathers of FUTO, Chaplains of Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Chaplaincy, Chapel of Light and All Saints as well as FUTOWA to embark on programmes and activities that would serve as continuous guide to the students.

He also expressed gratitude to FUTO students who he described as well behaved and urged them to shun misinformation and social media hype which he said sometimes contained negative and false stories that are detrimental to the institution. Professor Eze however promised FUTOWA of Council and Management's assistance in the building project, reminding them that Council has been doing so much for the Association. He urged members of the Association

to contribute their quota towards the hostel project. The Vice Chancellor later performed the ground breaking ceremony. Chaplains of All Saints Chapel Reverend Dr. Godwin Adaka, Chapel of Light Ven. Dr. Kelechi Okere and the STACC Rev. Fr. Dr. Jude C. Ike prayed respectively for the successful completion of the project, availability of resources to complete the project and God's abundant mercy on the Vice Chancellor and his Management.

INSTITUTE OF POLYMER ENGINEERS HONOURS VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WIFE

Okwara, Obumneke Bede



▲ Wife of the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic, Dr. Mrs. Geraldine Okeudo receiving the award on behalf of wife of the VC Dr. Mrs Egejuru Eze

It was a colourful event at which the Institute of Polymer Engineers in line with the popular saying, "give honour to whom it is due", honoured wife of the Vice-Chancellor of FUTO, Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze with the Golden Award of the Institute. By the award, Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze, who is also the Director, FUTO Farms Limited as well as the President of FUTO Women

Association, FUTOWA, was admitted into the Council of Fellows of the Institute. The event was the Annual Dinner Awards and Fellowship Conferment of the Institute on Friday, August 9, 2019 at G-Towers Hotel, Owerri.

In a welcome address, the National Chairman of the Institute Engr. Prof. I.C. Madufor, described Dr. Mrs.

Eze as the anchor woman when Waste Management Project of the University is mentioned, adding that her interest in clean environment and polymeric waste management endeared her to the Department of Polymer and Textile Engineering.

According to him, the FUTOWA President brought to bear her wealth of

international and local experience in agricultural practices resulting in large scale commercial production of crops and livestock in FUTO. Her efforts reiterated, have helped the University in converting vast forest land into aesthetically appealing plantations of timber, palm, plantain, and banana, orchards of pineapples and oranges as well as endless plots of cassava farms. She has drastically raised the stock of FUTO Farms and increased

the Internally-Generated Revenue of the University, adding that the aforementioned and many more were the reasons that necessitated the Golden Award on her. In her speech, Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze represented by wife of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Dr. Mrs. Geraldine Okeudo, expressed gratitude to God for the honour. She commended the Institute for the award which she described as symbolic and prestigious. *"I am*

humbled by the award and I pledge to partner with the Institute to take the University to an enviable height". She also thanked the Committee members who worked hard to ensure a hitch-free event and thereafter made a cash donation of One Hundred Thousand Naira to the Institute. Also present at the dinner award were Engr. Prof. Mrs. K.B. Oyoh, Engr. Cletus Ekpo and many others.



▲ Wife of the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze delivering her speech during the seminar.

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IWoGDS, FUTOWA

COLLABORATE TO END SEXUAL, DRUG ABUSE, FRAUD IN FUTO

Chinweuba Ekwemalor

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The Institute of Women, Gender and Development Studies (IWoGDS) in collaboration with the Federal University of Technology Owerri Women Association (FUTOWA) organized a talk show and interactive session with students on Wednesday September 11th and Thursday September 25, 2019 with the above theme. At the event which kicked off

on Tuesday September 10, 2019 with a launch on "War against Vices in FUTO", Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze reminded students of the vices in FUTO such as cybercrime, prostitution, examination mal-practice, lesbianism, H.I.V, rape, cultism, drug abuse, co-habitation among others which she stated, are not acceptable in the University. She urged the students to report such acts in

their hostels and lecture halls to the President of FUTOWA, Director IWoGDS and Dean Student Affairs. She told the students to be vigilant of their environment as evil people are on the prowl to lure students to rape and cultism, urging them to desist from examination mal-practice and embrace reading in order to avoid being expelled from the University. She said that it is the duty of

parents to guide their children on how to live and relate with people, not mingling with students who are not trained. Director of Pharmaceutical Services FUTO, Pharmacist Mrs. Uchechi Imo presented the first paper titled 'Drug Abuse, STDs/STIs'. She said illicit drug use remains a disturbing development in society and the nation at large, pointing out that it is linked to many of the socio economic, developmental, security and health challenges that plague Nigeria today. Worried by this alarming trend of drug abuse and misuse and its negative effects, IWoGDS and FUTOWA she disclosed, organized the event to create awareness and sensitize, inform and warn students against the evil of drug abuse. She expanded on drug tolerance, dependence and withdrawal symptoms, the commonly abused drugs, effects and diseases resulting from drug abuse. In summary, she urged them to say no to drug abuse and misuse. The Director, Institute of Women, Gender and Development Studies (IWoGDS), Dr. Mrs. G. N. Okwu spoke on "Sex Education and Gender-Based Violence and x-rayed dating on campus, sex

and sexuality, safety tips on campus dating, violence and rape, different types of dating abuse, contraceptives and types of contraceptives, consequences of premarital sex and benefits of chastity, sexual urge and how to control them". On avoiding rape, Prof. Okwu enjoined them to be alert and stop moving about with ear/head phones, not to be too trusting etc. She concluded by encouraging them to shun premarital sex, cohabitation, alcohol and substance abuse, advising them to set goals for themselves and pursue them and above all, to be prayerful adding that unless the Lord builds a house, its builders labour in vain and unless the Lord watches over a city the watchmen stand guard in vain. Presenting the third paper titled 'Cultism, Forgery/Internet Fraud', the Dean Students Affairs Unit Prof. C. Orji stated that according to history, cultism started for a good course in 1952, but over the years, things have changed from bad to worse. Cultism in campuses has resulted in loss of lives and property, disruption of

Academic Calendars, fear and insecurity, fall in educational standards and performances etc. The Dean pointedly stated



that cultists are liable to die young, advising FUTO students to shun cultism and pursue a decent lifestyle. Prof Orji said forgery and internet fraud which has become very popular amongst youths have grave consequences and dangers attached to it. The Government is coming up with strong policies and laws and some have already been caught, he said and advised them to focus on legitimate, profitable ICT-based careers rather than forgery and internet fraud.



UCHE, BRIGHT-NWELUE ASSUMES OFFICE AS THE UNIVERSITY IMAGE MAKER

Nonso Opara

Uche, Bright-Nwelue, a Principal Assistant Registrar at the Information and Public Relations Unit, Federal University of Technology, Owerri has been appointed the Acting Coordinator/Public Relations Officer PRO, of the University. The appointment letter dated January 2, 2019 was communicated to her by the 7th Substantive Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze. Consequently, she was re-appointed the second time following the demonstration of her good leadership quality and display of office dexterity.

A graduate of Mass Communication of the Abia State University, Uturu, is an accomplished professional with background in Banking and Journalism. She started her journalism practice with the Imo Broadcasting Corporation Owerri now Orient Television, rising from a Sub-Editor to an Editor. She also combined her editorial duties with presentation of



'Peak of The Week', a weekly news programme on television. She represented the Television Medium at the Abia State Government House and the State for eleven years as a State Correspondent. She also holds a Master of Arts Degree M. A, in Broadcasting with a PhD in view. A distinguished member of the Nigeria Union of Journalists, (NUJ), she is also a member of the

Association of Nigerian Universities Professional Administrators (ANUPA).

A seasoned Administrator per excellence, a virtuous Christian and quintessential mother, she belongs to the Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion. The reason for her appointment to this office is not far-fetched. She is an industrious woman, who has indeed demonstrated diligence and hard work in her services to the University. No doubt, the 7th Substantive Vice-Chancellor of the University painstakingly selected her knowing that by God's special grace, she would discharge her duties creditably well. Her appointment to this office is a true representation of a square peg in a square whole.

Uche, Bright-Nwelue has a wealth of experience on the job. She has attended Conferences and Workshops both inter and intra University. Prior to her appointment as the Acting Coordinator, Information

and Public Relations Unit FUTO/Public Relations Officer, she held the enviable position of the first Desk Officer, Freedom of Information FUTO 2016 with the primary function of sensitizing the University Community and the larger public on the Freedom of Information Act. She has the flair for editing which she does with ease. This attribute was brought to bear when she meticulously edited the "Iconic Hallmarks of Excellence - a

Compendium of the Legacies of Professor Chigozie Asiabaka", the 6th Substantive Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Owerri 2011-2016.

Mrs. Bright-Nwelue joined the services of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, on May 17, 2011 as an Assistant Registrar, her first port of call as an Administrator being the Department of Statistics where she served as the Departmental Administrative Officer for

less than two years before her redeployment to the Information Unit in 2013.

She had garnered working experience at the defunct Progress Bank of Nigeria, where she held the position of a Supervisor and Editor (TV/Radio) at the Imo Broadcasting Corporation, Owerri during the years spanning 1998-2011. Uche, Bright-Nwelue is a devoted mother and grandmother of three. She is happily married to Sir Bright Nwelue, a renowned Public Relations Analyst. The marriage is blessed with six lovely children.

UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA ALUMNI EXECUTIVE OWERRI BRANCH VISITS VICE CHANCELOR Stella Ijegbula

The Alumni Association of the University of Nigeria Nsukka has its unique way of showing solidarity and support for her members who hold leadership positions in the society. This was demonstrated recently by the executive members of the Alumni Association Owerri branch when they paid a courtesy visit on one of their own Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, on Friday, May 31st 2019.

In his address, President of the Owerri Branch of the

Association, Sir Chinedu Ajoku said that the change of guard took place on February 25 2018. He highlighted some challenges facing the Association to include hosting of meetings, the Alumni Building Project, Secretariat, admission for their children and wards and pleaded with the Vice Chancellor to remember them in the scheme of things.

In his remarks, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze congratulated the UNAA

Owerri branch President and executive for emerging victorious during the election that elevated them, thanking them for their visit which he described as timely. He enjoined them to strive to give quality leadership to the Association. Professor Eze promised to offer the needed help according to their requests, based on available resources. He apologized for his inability to be regular at meetings due to exigencies of duty and pledged to always pay his dues.

VICE CHANCELLOR EXEMPLIFIED INTO THE NOBLE DEGREE ORDER OF ST. JOHN INTERNATIONAL

■ Nonso Opara ■

In keeping with the faith of Saint John the Baptist, Patron Saint of the Knight of St. John International, and to maintain the core mandate of fostering a feeling of fraternity amongst its members, the Catholic Metropolitan Archbishop of the Owerri Ecclesiastical Province, His Grace Archbishop A.J.V. Obinna and the Noble Grandmasters, the Officers of the Temple and the Noble Degree Team on Monday, September 30, 2019 elevated the Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, alongside other Brother Knights including the Director Public Procurement Research Centre Engr. Prof. Remy Uche, into the Noble and highest Degree of the Holy Cross Knighthood of Saint John International. The exemplification took place at Maria Assumpta Cathedral Church, Owerri.

The Noble Degree, the fifth and highest, is the ultimate honour bestowed on members of the Knights of Saint John International for their long and meritorious service to the Order, the Holy Mother and the Church. According to the Bishop, members of the Noble Degree



VC, Prof. F.C. Eze poses for a photograph after his exemplification ▼

must first be found worthy by the public display of their Catholicity, having contributed so greatly to the ecclesiastical functions of the Holy Roman Catholic Church and to the Knights of Saint John International, for upwards of ten consecutive years.

Delivering the sermon at the Mass, Archbishop Obinna admonished them to continue to love God exceptionally, believe His words seriously adding, "when we are in Christ, our love becomes great." He enjoined Christians to also

believe in the existence of one God which he said all worship in diversity both in language and character, informing the congregation that everyone no matter the rank or status attained, all men are children of God.

He reminded members of the Knighthood that "whoever reaches the 5th Degree level is expected to accept the life of the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. The level typically identifies you to exemplify the work of our Saviour, even though none can be equated with Him. We know you cannot come out best but you must be near in exemplifying the work of our Lord Jesus Christ".

The prelate also advised them to always demonstrate humility in its entirety as God humbled Himself in Jesus Christ and suffered brutality, persecution and crucifixion on the Cross adding that Christ suffered humiliation for the sake of mankind. "But He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him and by His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5), Bishop Obinna quoted and thereafter enjoined them not to fear humiliation no matter the degree. He also



▲ VC Prof. F.C. Eze (C) and Engr. Prof. Remy Uche in a group photograph with other members after their exemplification

stated, "As good soldiers of Christ, I urge you all to be armed with the Celestial Sword and continue to be agents of God's grace".

Knight of Saint John International is a Roman Catholic men's Fraternal Organization that stands for Roman Catholic Virtues of

Faith, Hope and Charity under the banner of Fraternity. It was incorporated in New York State in 1886 under Patron Saint John the Baptist.

"DO NOT REST ON YOUR OARS, SUSTAIN RECORDED SUCCESS THROUGH MORE HARD WORK"-VC AT FISO GRADUATION

Okwara Obumneke Bede



School FISO not to relax on their oars but to ensure that whatever success they have achieved should be sustained through investing their strength for more hard work. This he stated at the 2019 Graduation/Prize Giving Day ceremony of FISO which took place on Thursday, July 25, 2019 at the School Hall.

Professor Eze continued by saying that "secondary school is not a training ground for hoodlums, miscreants or bandits but a well structured place for developing affective, cognitive and psychomotor domains. It is a place where future leaders, professionals and managers of industries etc. are nurtured and trained. Make good use of the opportunity to better both

The Vice Chancellor of Federal University of Technology Owerri,

Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze has charged students of FUTO International Secondary



your present and future life, because many are not so blessed". He reminded the graduands that they still have a great task ahead of them including that of striving to gain admission into higher institutions, while pledging management's unflinching support in their effort to keep the flag of FISO flying until it becomes the toast of other secondary schools in Imo state and beyond.

The Vice Chancellor, who was represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Administration, Prof. Julius S. Orebiyi, congratulated the graduands for the successful completion of secondary education and commended the principal and teachers for working assiduously towards the realization of the arduous task. He recalled that FISO has won many international and local school competitions, commending their excellent performance in the West African Senior School Certificate Examination and National Examination Council.

Commenting further, the Vice Chancellor's representative noted that the success story of FISO cannot be complete without the fatherly role of the

amiable and pragmatic Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze whose commitment to the welfare of the School by way of providing the needed funds for infrastructural development and other needs, even in the face of dwindling resources, is not only unwavering but also phenomenal.

The Vice-Chancellor also reminded the staff of the necessity to work in tandem with the principal to ensure that the School is moved to an enviable height because *"any house divided against itself must surely fall"* he stated. He observed that some teachers have constituted themselves into cliques to antagonize the Principal and mar her efforts but advised that they should add value to the growth of the School and well being of the students by turning a new leaf, or they will be fished out and shown the way out. He also did not see any reason for the acrimony between Arts and Science teachers of FISO. He therefore admonished them to have a change of attitude and embrace a harmonious and peaceful relationship.

Speaking also, wife of the Vice-Chancellor and Director FUTO Farms Dr. Mrs. Egejuru

Eze who was represented by wife of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Dr. Mrs. Geraldine Okeudo, told the graduands to remain focused, and exhibit the good virtues that have been inculcated in them. She advised that as they go into a new sphere of life, they should seek to be good ambassadors of FISO, make hard work their watchword and keep the flag of their alma-mater flying high wherever they may find themselves.

In a valedictory speech, the Principal Dr. Mrs. Jean Ogbonna, congratulated the graduands and wished them success in all their future endeavors. She advised them to be good ambassadors of FISO and ensure that they distinguished themselves wherever they go by being worthy in speech character and learning. She thanked the Vice Chancellor Prof. F. C. Eze who she described as an apostle of hard work and excellence, for the opportunity given her to serve as Principal of FISO and promised to be alive to her responsibilities. She also thanked the Deputy Vice Chancellor Administration Prof. J.S Orebiyi whose duty it is to oversee the School on behalf of the Vice Chancellor, for his kindness and listening ear.

Parents and guests were entertained by the students in cultural dances and songs. There was also a fine art exhibition segment where they showcased their crafts and products. In attendance also was Chairman of the Parents Teachers Association Mr. Douglas Awumibe and many others.

FISO ORGANIZES CAREER DAY FOR HER STUDENTS

■ Okwara Obumneke Bede ■

Federal University of Technology International Secondary School Owerri (FISO) held a laudable Career Day for her students on Friday, May 31, 2019, at the school hall.

In her address, the Principal FISO, Dr. Mrs. Jean Ogbonna, emphasized the objectives of the Career Day which include exposing students to different available careers from which they could make their choices, assisting them to acquire valid and current information about different occupations such as entry requirement for courses they may want to study, institutions where such courses are offered, duration of courses, problems and prospects.

Dr. (Mrs) Ogbonna advised the

students to pay maximum attention and listen attentively to the renowned scholars to enable them acquire correct information, knowledge on different job opportunities in the country and required skills needed to do such jobs.

The occasion was graced by different professionals who enlightened the students on different careers, educational requirements, institutions where courses are studied, duration of courses, requisite skills, problems and prospects associated with different professions and many other areas of note.

The Resource Persons were the Director FUTO Health Services Dr. J.K. Aguocha, Mr. Uchechi

Ray Emeana teacher FISO, Dr. Mrs. Stella Okereke (Chief Nursing Officer FUTO), Mr. Okechukwu Orji (Accountant). Others were Dr. Ugochi Ogbonna (Optometrist, FUTO), Mr. Daniel Echeli (Medical Lab. Scientist), Engr. Mrs. M. N. Akanbi of SEET FUTO and Barrister Mrs. Ezinne Ibekwe.

In a vote of thanks, the Vice Principal of FISO Mrs. Irene Ekechi, expressed unreserved gratitude to the Vice chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze and the management for approving the programme. She also thanked the Principal, Dr. Mrs. Ogbonna, the Resource Persons and all who made the occasion a success.

USS COMMISSIONS PLAY EQUIPMENT TO BOOST CHILDRENS' DEVELOPMENT

■ Chioma Ike ■

The University Staff School (USS) on Monday, September 30, 2019 commissioned the play equipment for the School's playground.

In her address, the Vice-Chancellor's wife, Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze applauded the School Management and Parents Teachers Association for the great achievement. She stated that play equipment enhance the physical development of children, improves their flexibility, balancing as well as overall motor skills. She went ahead to encourage

the staff to continue the good work they have been doing in the lives of the children, assuring them that they will reap the commensurate reward and even more from God Almighty.

Speaking before the commissioning ceremony, the Head Teacher Mrs. G. Ofulume expressed gratitude to God, who made the actualization of the project possible. She also extended her gratitude to the immediate past Acting Head Teacher Comrade C. J. Ogbonna and the Parents

Teachers Association that facilitated the project.

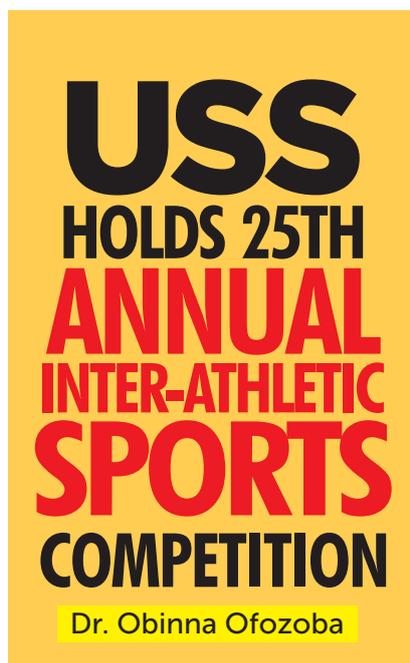
The Children were excited as they tried out their new play equipment. Some of the equipment include merry-go-round, swings, sliding grill etc.

Among those present was Chaplain of All Saints Chapel, Rev. Godwin Adaka who dedicated the play equipment to God, praying for God's protection on the children as they make use of the play equipment.

As part of efforts towards promoting physical wellbeing of the pupils of University Staff School, FUTOWA, the Management of the School organized the 25th Annual Inter-Athletic sports competition on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at the School field.

Welcoming guests and pupils to the event, the head teacher, Comrade C.J. Ogbonna stated that the importance of sports cannot be overemphasized as most countries of the world who have continued to excel in sports invest in training and developing their young ones early. He appreciated the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze who has always encouraged them through mapping out huge financial resources annually to ensure the sustainability of the competition.

Comrade Ogbonna however pointed out some challenges facing the School, most of which he said are as a result of aging factor. He called the attention of the Vice-Chancellor on the need to re-grass the field to curb erosion as well as replacement of the mowing machines which has become necessary as several repairs on the existing ones were without result. Again, while highlighting on the need for procurement of



new computer system and a generating set, he also noted that most of the chairs and tables for teachers are no longer in good condition thereby making the teachers use pupils' lockers as tables. He therefore appealed to the Vice-Chancellor, Parents Teachers Association (PTA), good-spirited individuals and corporate organizations to assist the school in the aforementioned areas of concern so that the international standard of the school will be guaranteed. In his response, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Francis Chukwuemeka Eze who spoke through the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration, Prof. Julius S. Orebiyi said that sport is an integral part of the training of human persons. He noted that while taking cognizance of the development of a

child like intellectual and social wellbeing, one also has to be mindful of the child's physical development.

Prof. Orebiyi thanked the Management of the staff school for their effort in ensuring physical and sundry development of the pupils and urged them not to relent in their good works.

He acknowledge myriads of challenges being faced by the staff school and assured them of the readiness of University Management to do whatever that is possible to assuage the situation.

The sports competition culminated in the presentation of trophies to houses that attained various positions during the competition, ranging from the first position by the Red house (Vice-Chancellor's house), followed by Green house (Bursar's House) who secured the second position, while the third position was taken by Blue house (Registrar's House) amongst others.

Also present at the competition were wife of the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Mrs. Egejuru Eze, Coordinator Deputy Vice-Chancellor's (Administration) Office, Mr. Daniel Ejiofor and staff of the University Staff School, members of FUTOWA, parents and other invited guests.

“CHILDREN ARE VITAL AND MORE IMPORTANT THAN CRUDE OIL”- VC AT USS GRADUATION

Okwaranwaneri C. Chidubem

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology Owerri, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze has stressed that ***“children are highly valuable and more important to the society than crude oil and all other resources one may think of.”*** He made the all-important statement during the 2019 Graduation\Prize Giving Day Ceremony of pupils graduating from the University Staff School USS, FUTO, on Thursday, July 25, 2019 at the School. Prof. Eze, who was represented by Chairman Committee of Deans and the Dean Post Graduate Schools Prof. Mrs. Nnenna Oti, emphasized that children are the pride of families and the entire society as well as the most appreciated gift from God to mankind. He added that proper and careful upbringing should be given them for the benefit of the respective families and the society at large. He was also happy that the graduating pupils had set a step towards their future

and prayed that they will all grow to become doctors, lawyers and many other professionals as they may desire.

In his address, the Acting Head Teacher USS, Comrade Chikwendu J. Ogbonna said that the pupils have received good and sound academic foundation that would propel them to excel to greater academic heights. He encouraged them to remain focused and exhibit the good virtues which he said had been inculcated in them.

According to him, the School had scored 100% in the 2018 First School Leaving Certificate and 2019 State Common Entrance Examinations, 98% in the 2019 Federal Common Entrance Examination as well as creditable performances in Navy, Army, Air Force and Police Entrance Examinations. These achievements could not have been possible without the moral and financial support of the Vice-Chancellor Prof.

Francis C. Eze, Comrade Ogbonna added.

In one of their presentations tagged “Akukouwa- World News”, by the news presenter Nwada Ugochukwu Princess, the USS thanked Prof. Eze for providing them with a mowing machine and waste bins which had enhanced cleanliness within the School environment. Some of the challenges facing the School which include a new hall with toilet facilities, tiling and re-roofing of the already existing hall, were also highlighted. The children also exhibited some of their products such as dettol, izal, liquid soap, air freshener and art portraits. Highlights of the occasion were presentation of a portrait to the Vice-Chancellor, unveiling of USS Almanac and cutting of graduation cake by the Vice-Chancellor's representative, wife of the 6th substantive Vice Chancellor Prof. Mrs. Ihuoma Asiabaka and others.



▼ Representative of the VC Prof. J.S Orebiyi DVC (Administration) making some remarks at the event

"STAY AWAY FROM NEGATIVE TENDENCIES" – VC ADMONISHES USS PUPILS

Chioma Ike

Party. She also appreciated the wife of the Vice Chancellor and FUTOWA President, Dr. (Mrs.) Egejuru Eze for her continued support and motherly care to the pupils.

Earlier, the Acting Head Teacher also expressed gratitude to the Acting Director, Quality Assurance, Dr. Emma Esenwa, for his assistance in renovating the offices of the Head Teacher Secretary and the General Office. She however appealed to the University Management for the tiling of the classrooms.

The pupils thrilled their guests with wonderful performances such as dances, choral songs, Christmas Carols and drama. Those present include the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research Development and Innovation, Prof. B. C. Anusionwu, the University Librarian represented by Dr. Mrs. Getrude Umunnakwe, past USS Head Teachers, FISO Principal, Dr. Mrs. Jean Ogbonna, amongst others.

It was a colourful event during which the staff and pupils of the University Staff School (USS) turned out in their touch of white and red attires to celebrate yet another Christmas/End of year Party on Wednesday, December 18, 2019.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze who was represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Administration, Prof. J. S. Orebiyi assured the school of the University Management support and provision. He admonished the children not to abandon their responsibilities at home especially to their parents and to stay away from negative tendencies that could ruin their lives. He also enjoined them to be law abiding children, showing respect to their elders, as well as to have role models who will mentor them positively. He prayed for God's blessings, protection and progress upon the teachers and pupils.

Prof. Orebiyi noted that in view of the school's request for the tiling of the classroom floors, the University Management had

already contacted contractors to survey and take measurements of the affected areas and their requirements. He stated that work will resume in earnest as soon as the preceding processes were completed.

In her address, the Acting Head Teacher, Mrs. Ebele Ofulume Praised God for His Protection and sustenance through the cause of the year. She thanked the Vice Chancellor and his Management Team for their tireless support to the school, pointing out that the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Francis Chukwuemeka Eze, out of love for the children, initiated the culture of the yearly Christmas



▼ USS pupils singing during the party

STAFF MATTERS

RESIGNATIONS

Nduagwa, Daniel N.

The Vice Chancellor has approved the notice of resignation of appointment of Nduagwa, Daniel N. of Junior Personnel Matters Unit, as a Computer Operator with effect from June 7, 2019.

Onwuegbula Udochukwu Gospel

The Vice Chancellor has also approved the resignation of Onwuegbula Udochukwu Gospel of the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), as a Clerical Officer with effect from April 4, 2019.

SUSPENSION FROM DUTY

Mrs. Chinyere T. Amadi:

The University Management at its 37th meeting held on Monday, May 6, 2019 considered and approved the request of the Investigative Panel into Fraudulent Payment Portal for Pre-Degree School fees, and its directive that Mrs. Chinyere T. Amadi of Pre-Degree Unit be suspended from duty for three (3) months with effect from Monday, May 13, 2019.

WITHDRAWAL OF SERVICE

Dr. Mrs. Angela Nneka Okoli

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the withdrawal of service of Dr. Mrs. Angela Nneka Okoli of the Department of Crop Science and Technology, School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology with effect from November 1, 2019.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. I.M. Aligbe

The Governing Council at its 174th meeting held Wednesday, April 17, 2019, approved the application of Mr. I.M. Aligbe of Registrar's Office for the renewal of his leave of absence for another period of one year, with effect from February 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020.

APPROVAL FOR REVIEW OF STATUS ON CONVERSION

Dr. Chike Ezenwa

The Vice Chancellor also approved the review of the status on conversion of Dr. Chike Ezenwa of Directorate of General Studies, from the rank of Lecturer II to the rank of Lecturer I with effect from March 15, 2018, being the date of his conversion to academic staff.

NOTICE OF TERMINAL LEAVE

S/No	Name	Dept/Unit	Effective Date
1	Mrs. Felicia Nnenwa Mba	University Library	July 5, 2019
2	Engr. Nnanna Okoro	Centre for Instrument/Equipment Centre	Jan. 21, 2019
3	Dr. Mrs. Chinyere R. Nwufu	Public Health	June 12, 2019
4	Mr. Richard I.A. Opara	Electrical and Electronic Engineering	Aug. 27, 2019

DEPARTMENTAL TRANSFER

In line with provisions of the Federal University of Technology ACT Cap. F 23, Vol. 7 laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004, and also the Regulations Governing the Conditions of Appointment of Senior Staff, the Vice Chancellor has approved the transfer of:

S/No	Name	Rank	Previous Dept.	New Dept.	Effective Date
1	Dr. Dike Henry Ogbuagu	Lecturer I	Environmental Management	Biology	March 10, 2019

APPOINTMENTS

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the appointments of the following staff:

S/No	Name	Dept./Unit	Status	Effective Date
1	Prof. T.I.N. Ezejiolor	Biotechnology	HOD	July 1, 2019
2	Dr. N.M. Anosike	Building Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
3	Prof. C.E. Nwanyanwu	Microbiology	HOD	July 1, 2019
4	Dr. O.A. Kalu	Urban & Regional Planning	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
5	Dr. C.M. Duru	Biology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
6	Dr. Mrs. E.A. Nwoke	Public Health Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
7	Dr. R.A. Ugulu	Quantity Surveying	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
8	Dr. A.P. Uzoiye	Environmental Management	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
9	Dr. Mrs. M.O. Ofor	Crop Science & Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
10	Dr. F.C. Anaeto	Agricultural Extension	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
11	Dr. Mrs. H.O. Obikaonu	Animal Science & Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
12	Prof. Mrs. R.N. Nwabueze	Centre for Continuing Education	Director	July 1, 2019
13	Dr. C.U. Igwe	Pre-Degree Unit	Co-ordinator	July 1, 2019
14	Prof. I.J. Ogoke	Environmental Sciences	Dean	July 1, 2019

15	Dr. B.A. Ozurumba	Financial Management Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
16	Dr. Mrs. G.N. Okeudo	Transport Management	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
17	Dr. A. U. Megwas	Optometry	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
18	Dr. J. Ekezie	Prosthesis & Orthotics	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
19	Dr. C.C. Iwuala	Dental Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
20	Prof. C.M. Agu	Centre for Agricultural Research & Extension	Director	July 1, 2019
21	Prof. C.I. Owuamanam	Food Science & Technology	HOD	July 1, 2019
22	Dr. Mrs. Sylvia Anyado-Nwadike	Science Laboratory Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
23	Prof. S.U.O. Onyeagocha	Agricultural Economics	HOD	July 1, 2019
24	Dr. M.A. Nwachukwu	Surveying & Geoinformatics	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
26	Engr. Dr. U.I. Duru	Student Affairs Unit	Associate Dean	July 1, 2019
27	Engr. Prof. C.N. Anyakwo	Materials and Metallurgical Engineering	HOD	July 1, 2019
28	Dr. C. Ogueri	Fisheries & Aquaculture Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
29	Dr. Mrs. S.I. Umeh	Environmental Health Sciences	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
30	Arc. Dr. Steve I. Nwandikom	Architecture	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
31	Dr. D.I. Edet	Forestry & Wildlife Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
32	Dr. I.I. Ekpe	Soil Science & Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
33	Dr. Mrs. I.E. Achumba	Electrical & Electronics Engineering	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
34	Dr. D.E. Onwuegbuchunam	Maritime Management Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2018
35	Prof. Mrs. I.P. Asiabaka	Management Technology	HOD	July 1, 2019
36	Dr. F.I. Izuegbunam	Mechatronics Engineering	HOD	July 1, 2018
37	Dr. K.O. Chilakpu	Agricultural & Bio-Resources Engineering	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
38	Dr. J.C. Osuagwu	Civil Engineering	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
39	Prof. A.N. Amadi	School of Basic Medical Sciences	Dean	July 1, 2019
40	Dr. N.C. Izuwa	Petroleum Engineering Technology	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
41	Dr. G.N. Onyeagoro	Polymer & Textile Engineering	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019
42	Dr. G.O. Osueke	Mechanical Engineering	Ag. HOD	July 1, 2019

43	Perpetua Akuoma Ibeawuchi	School of Physical Sciences	School Administrative Officer/Ag. Coordinator	Oct. 24, 2018
44	Obianuju Asoluka	School of Biological Sciences	School Administrative Officer/Ag. Coordinator	March 4, 2019
45	Dr. Mrs. Blessing U. Ekemezie	Dean's Office Student Affairs Unit	Hostel Administrator (Hostel C)	March 13, 2017
46	Prof. O. T. Ebiringa	Management Technology	Dean	July 1, 2019
47	Prof. I. J. Ogoke	Environmental Sciences	Dean	July 1, 2019
48	Engr. Prof. Mrs. G. A. Chukwudebe	Computing and Information Technology	Dean	July 1, 2019
49	Prof. C. E. Orji	Physics	Dean	July 15, 2019
50	Prof. P. C. Obasi	Agricultural Economics	Dean	July 1, 2019
51	Prof. P. U. Agbasi	Health Technology	Dean	July 1, 2019
52	Engr. Prof. J. C. Ezeh	Engineering and Engineering Technology	Dean	July 1, 2019
53	Prof. C. C. Z. Akaolisa	Physical Sciences	Dean	July 1, 2019
54	Engr. Dr. G. O. Osueke	Mechanical Engineering	Dean	July 1, 2019
55	Dr. Mrs. Ndidi-Paschal Anyaoha	Agricultural Extension	Ag. Coordinator	July 1, 2019
56	Dr. C. I. Anyanwu	Project Management Technology	Ag. Head	July 1, 2019
57	Dr. G. U. Ugwuanyi	Statistics	Ag. Head	July 1, 2019
58	Dr. Mrs. E. C. Nwokorie	Computer Sciences	Ag. Head	July 1, 2019
59	Engr. Dr. Obi Nwokonkwo	Information Technology	Ag. Head	July 1, 2019
60	Engr. Dr. T. O. Azeez	Environmental Technology	Ag. Head	July 1, 2019
61	Prof. E. N. Erumaka	Mathematics	Head	July 1, 2019
62	Prof. Mrs. C. E. Ojukwe	Chemistry	Head	July 1, 2019
63	Prof. C. A. Ahirakwem	Geology	Head	July 1, 2019
64	Prof. M. S. Nwakudu	Chemical Engineering	Head	July 1, 2019
65	Prof. Mrs. I. P. Asiabaka	Management Technology	Head	July 1, 2019
66	Prof. Mrs. C. A. Madu	Physics	Head	July 1, 2019
67	Mrs. E.S. Ofulume	University Staff School	Acting Head Teacher, University (USS)	July 29, 2019

RE-APPOINTMENTS

The Vice Chancellor has re-appointed the under-listed staff for another period of one year:

S/N	Name	Department	Position	Effective Date
1	Prof. J.E. Ovri	Materials and Metallurgical Technology	Chairman, Business Committee of the Senate	July 1, 2019

2	Prof. B.O. Esonu	Animal Science and Technology	University Orator/Chairman, Lecture Series Committee	February 13, 2019
3	Dr. Mrs. U.F. Eze	Information and Management Technology	Ag. Director University Computer Centre (UCC)	July 1, 2019
4	Engr. Prof. B.U. Dike	Civil Engineering	Managing Director, FUTO Press Limited (FPL)	May 7, 2019
5	Mr. R.U. Akujobi	FUTO Bookshop Ltd.	Managing Director, FUTO Bookshop Ltd.	July 1, 2019
6	Dr. Christopher C. Ejiogu	Environmental Technology	Coordinator, Host Communities Relations Officer	July 1, 2019
7	Prof. L.E. Akujobi	Financial Management & Technology	Director, Nigeria-Israeli Centre for Management Studies (NICMS)	July 1, 2019
9	Prof. D.C Njoku	Fisheries & Aquaculture	Director, Intellectual Property and Technical Transfer Office	July 22, 2019
10	Dr. John Ibinwangi Ogolo	Management Technology	Ag. Director, Special Duties (Security)	July 1, 2019
11	Dr. Ihem Emmanuel	Soil Science & Technology	Bus Manager, FUTO Bus Services	July 1, 2019
12	Mr. D.O. Nwokecha	FUTO Consult Ltd. (FCL)	Managing Director, FUTO Consult Ltd. (FCL)	July 1, 2019
13	Dr. C.A. Nsofor	Biotechnology	Ag. Head, Department of Forensic Sciences	July 1, 2019
14	Engr. Dr. I.S. Ike	Chemical Engineering	Ag. Head, Chemical Engineering	July 1, 2019
15	Dr. A.I. Opara	Geology	Ag. Director, Institute of Erosion Studies (IES)	July 22, 2019
16	Prof. R.N. Nwaoguikpe	Institute of Environmental Health and Environmental Justice (IEHEJ)	Director, Institute of Environmental Health and Environmental Justice (IEHEJ)	July 1, 2019
17	Dr. F.O. Nwosu	Public Procurement Research	Deputy Director, Public Procurement Research Centre (PPRC)	July 1, 2019
18	Uche Bright-Nwelue	Acting Conductor	Information and Public Relations Unit (IPRU)	July 1, 2019

RENEWAL OF CONTRACT APPOINTMENT

S/N	Name	Dept.	Rank	Effective date
1	Mr. Mmaduakonam C. Amaechina	Physical Planning and Development	Chief Planning Officer	April 12, 2019 to April 11, 2020
2	Arc. Chidi Charles Asinobi	Architecture	Lecturer I	May 3, 2019
3	Dr. O.F. Uzoh	Computer Science	Senior Lecturer	April 1, 2019 to Dec. 31, 2019

4	Engr. Andrew I. Ogbonna	Materials & Metallurgical Engineering	Lecturer I	Aug. 18, 2019 to Aug. 17, 2020
5	Engr. Dr. Benjamin C. Okeke	Information Technology	Lecturer I	May 24, 2019 to May 23, 2020
6	Surveyor Promise I.C. Onyekwena	Quantity Surveying	Lecturer I	June 18, 2019 to June 17, 2020
7	Engr. Bernard Nzeribe	Engineering and Engineering Technology	Lecturer I	May 6, 2019 to May 5, 2020
8	Dr. Basil Ochieze	Materials and Metallurgical Engineering	Lecturer I	April 3, 2019 to April 2, 2020
9	Dr. Josiah Ahaiwe	Information Technology	Lecturer I	July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020
10	Dr. O.F. Uzoh	Computer Science	Senior Lecturer	April 1, 2019 to Dec 3, 2020
11	Engr. Dr. Ikechi Ofong	Mechanical Engineering	Lecturer I	May 28, 2019 to May 27, 2020
12	Mr. Chukwuemeka Umunna Osuji	Security	Senior Security Officer	Aug. 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020

OFFER OF SABBATICAL LEAVE WITH PAY

S/No	Name	Dept./Unit	Place of Study	Effective Date
1	Dr. Kingsley Chiwuike Ukoha	Computer Science	FUTO	2019/2020
2	Prof. Olatunde Arayela	Architecture	FUTO	2018/2019
3	Dr. Isaac Abiodun Odesola	Building Technology	FUTO	2018/2019
4	Engr. Dr. Charles N. Ononuju	Project Management Technology	Federal University Otuoke, Bayelsa	2019/2020
5	Engr. Prof. Mrs. Fati Astapawa Adamu	Agricultural & Environmental Engineering, Adamawa University of Technology	FUTO	2019/2020
6	Dr. Besheng George Akachu	Mathematics University of Nigeria Nsukka	FUTO	2019/2020
8	Prof. Bassegy Igri Okon	Animal Science, Uni-Cal	FUTO	2019/2020
9	Prof. E.E. Ike	Physics, Uni-Jos	FUTO	2019/2020
10	Prof. Godfrey Akpan Iwo	Crop Science, Uni-Cal	FUTO	2019/2020
11	Prof. Gideon Okpokwasili	Microbiology, Uni-Port	FUTO	2018/2019
12	Dr. Mrs. Adamu Glory Ironkwe	Agric. Extension	FUTO	2019/2020

RENEWAL OF STUDY LEAVE WITH PAY

S/N	Name	Dept.	Place of Study	Programme	Effective Date
1	Mr. Obinna C. Unigwe	Electrical and Electronics Engineering	University of Edinburgh, Scotland	PhD	14 Sept. 2018 to Sept. 13, 2019

2	Mr. Chikwendu David	Transport Management Technology	University of Leeds, United Kingdom	PhD	Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020
3	Mrs. Chinebuli C. Uzundu	Transport Management Technology	University of Leeds, United Kingdom	PhD	Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020
4	Engr. Paul Uzoma	Polymer and Textile Engineer Tech	University of Science and Technology China	PhD	Sept. 1, 2019 to Aug. 31, 2020
5	Mr. Darlington C. Ahiegbu	Environmental Management	University of Witwatersrand, South Africa	PhD	Oct. 1, 2018 to Sept. 30, 2019
6	Mr. Kingsley O. Egbo	Physics	City University Hong Kong	PhD	Sept. 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019
7	Engr. Mrs. Ehinomen E. Atimati	Electrical & Electronic Engineering	United Kingdom	PhD	Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020
8	Engr. Emenike Egelle	Petroleum Engineering	Teesside University, U.K	PhD	Jan. 1, 2019 to Dec. 31, 2019
9	Engr. Mrs. Lilian C. Azubuikwe	Polymer & Textile Engineering	University of Calgary Canada	PhD	Jan. 2, 2019 to Dec. 31, 2019
10	Engr. Mrs. Chioma M. Onyelucheya	Chemical Engineering	Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka	PhD	Oct. 2, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2020
11	Mr. Remigius Chinedu Nlemorisa	Information & Communication Technology Centre	COMSATA Islamabad Campus, Pakistan	MSc.	Sept. 2019 to Aug. 2021
12	Mr. Anthony C. Iheonye	Agricultural and Bio Resources Engineering	MC Gill University, Canada	PhD	Aug. 24, 2019 to Aug. 23, 2020
13	Mr. Nnanna-Jnr M. Okoro	Environmental Management	Ph.D	University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa	Oct. 1, 2019-Sept. 30, 2020
14	Mrs Njideka Ebere Njoku	FST	Ph.D	University of Pretoria, south Africa	July 1, 2019-Dec. 31, 2019
15	Mr. Obinna C. Unigwe	EEE	Ph. D	University of Edinburgh, Scotland	Sept. 14, 2018-Sept. 13, 2019

16	Miss Domaris c. Okafor	FST	Ph. D	University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada	Jan. 2, 2019-Dec. 31, 2019
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STUDY LEAVE WITHOUT PAY

S/N	Name	Dept.	Place of study	Programme	Effective Date
1	Mrs. Ihuoma J. Nwaehiri	Financial Management Technology	University of Port Harcourt	PGD in Political Science & Administrative Studies	Aug. 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019
2	Mr. Stanley Eze Okangba	Project Management Technology	University of Witwatersrand Johannesburg South Africa	PhD in Construction Project Management	Jan. 31, 2019 to Feb. 1, 2020
3	Mr. Kingsley O. Egbo	Physics	City University of Hong kong	PhD in Physics & Material Science	Sept. 1, 2017 to Aug. 31, 2018
4	Mr. Victor I. Oluigbo	Information Management Technology	Doctoral School of Info. Maths University of Lyon, France	PhD in Computer Science	Oct. 15, 2018 to Oct. 14, 2019

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF DUTY AFTER STUDY LEAVE

S/No	Name	Dept	Place of Study	Resumption Date
1	Mrs. Chioma E. Njoku	Materials & Metallurgical Engineering	University of Witwatersrand Johannesburg, South Africa	Feb. 6, 2019

RENEWAL OF STUDY FELLOWSHIP

The Vice Chancellor has renewed the study fellowship of the following staff:

S/N	Name	Dept.	Programme	Place of Study	Effective Date
1	Mr. Nnanna O. Okoli	Petroleum Engineering	PhD	University Port Harcourt	2018/2019
2	Mrs. Chinyeaka Hostensia Izunobi	Statistics	PhD	FUTO	2018/2019
3	Gloria Ngozi Ezeh	Information Technology	PhD	FUTO	2017/2018
4	Mr. Andrew Omame	Mathematics	PhD	FUTO	2018/2019
5	Mr.Uche S. Igwe	Quantity Surveying	PhD	Malaysia	2019/2020
6	Mr. N. Eluchie	Food Science and Technology	PhD	FUTO	2018/2019

7	Mrs. Nneka O. Ukanwoke	Mathematics	PhD	FUTO	2018/2019
8	Engr. Kelechi O. Njoku	Civil Engineering	PhD	FUTO	2016/2017
9	Mrs. Ijeoma M. Agunwah	Food Science and Technology	PhD	FUTO	2016/2017
10	Mrs. Chioma N. Eluchie	Food Science and Technology	PhD	FUTO	2017/2018
11	Mrs. Joy Okwudiri C. Oguzie	Project Management Technology	PhD	FUTO	2017/2018
12	Mr. Darlington C. Ashiegbu	Environmental Management	PhD	Witwatersrand South Africa	2017/2018
13	Mr. Chinedu Nwapa	Polymer and Textile Engineering	PhD	FUTO	2018/2019
14	Mrs. Oluchukwu E.	University Staff School	PhD	University of Portharcourt	2018/2019

AWARD OF STUDY FELLOWSHIP

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the Award of Study Fellowship of the following Staff:

S/N	Name	Dept.	Degree in View	Programme	Place of Study	Effective Date
1	Mr. Tochukwu N. Ugorji	Prosthetics and Orthotics	PhD	Biomedical Tech.	FUTO	2018/2019
2	Adeleye Samuel Adeniyi	Microbiology	PhD	Microbiology and Molecular Genetics	New Jersey, United States	2018/2019
3	Miss Ifeoma Nwokediuko	Microbiology	PhD	Microbiology	FUT	2018/2019
4	Miss Mercy N. Madubike	Biotechnology	M.Sc	Biotechnology	FUTO	2018/2019
5	Miss Damaris C. Okafor	Food Science and Technology	PhD	Agric, Food and Nutritional Science	Edmonton, Canada	2018/2019
6	Mr. Leonard C. Nnadi	Information Technology	M.Sc	Information Technology	FUTO	2019 to 2020

REGULARIZATION OF APPOINTMENTS (TEACHING STAFF)

S/No	Name	Department	Rank	Effective Date
1	Mr. Emeka C Godwin	Mathematics	Assistant lecturer	May 8. 2018
2	Mr. Remiguis O. Alaetuo	Prosthetics and Orthotics	Laboratory Technologist II	May 20, 2018

REGULARIZATION OF APPOINTMENTS (SENIOR NON-TEACHING)

The Governing Council has at its 172nd meeting held on Wednesday, September 19, 2018, approved the regularization of appointment of the following senior staff:

S/No	Name	Dept/Unit	Rank	Effective Date
1	Miss Angela C. Ezeh	Public Health	Laboratory Technologist II	May 21, 2018

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS (ACADEMIC STAFF)

S/NO	NAME	DEPARTMENT	DESIGNATION	EFFECTIVE DATE
1	Mr. Chidozie Loveday Igbokwe	Petroleum Engineering	Assistant Lecturer	March 18, 2015
2	Mrs. Chinwe N. Obi	Mathematics	Assistant Lecturer	June 20, 2013
3	Dr. Stephen I. Nwankwo	Architecture	Senior Lecturer	August 7, 2018

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS (SENIOR NON-TEACHING STAFF)

The Governing Council at its 172nd meeting held on Tuesday, September 18, 2018, confirmed the appointments of the following Senior Non-Teaching Staff:

S/N	NAME	DEPT/UNIT	DESIGNATION	EFFECTIVE DATE
1	Mrs. Faith Chikaodi Ofor	Student Affairs	Higher Housekeeper	July 11, 2018
2	Dr. Emeka Obioha	Health Services	Principal Medical Officer	August 6, 2015
3	Mrs. Nneka Agim	University Library	Assistant Librarian	June 7, 2013
4	Miss Chisom Enemuo	Centre for Continuing Education	Administrative Assistant	July 4, 2018
5	Mr. Chukwuemeka J. Umeh	Information & Communication Technology Centre	Computer System Programmer/Analyst	August 1, 2018
6	Mrs. Faith Chikannele Offor	Student Affairs Unit	Higher House Keeper	July 11, 2018

RE-DESIGNATION

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the re-designation of the staff below:

S/NO	NAME	DEPT/UNIT	FORMER RANK	NEW RANK	EFFECTIVE DATE
1	Mrs. Rosemary Chinenye Abanum	University Library	Higher Library Officer	Assistant Librarian	May 3, 2019
2	Miss Nancy C. Akagha	University Library	Higher Library Supervisor	Library Officer	January 29, 2019
3	Mr. Peter Chima Ekezie	University Library	Assist. Chief Library Supervisor	Senior Library Officer	January 29, 2019

ADJUNCT APPOINTMENTS

The Vice Chancellor has approved the adjunct appointment of the staff below:

S/N	Name	Dept.	Rank	Effective Date
1	Engr. Dr. Eze R. Onukwugha	Civil Engineering	Senior Lecturer	April 8, 2019 to March 7, 2020
2	Dr. Ikenna Reginald Ajiero	Building	Lecturer I	2018/2019
3	Prof. Prince O. Asagba	Computer Science	Professor	April 18, 2019 to April 17, 2020
4	Dr. Dubem Ikediashi	Building	Reader	2018/2019
5	Prof. Francis O. Iwuagwu	Optometry	Professor	January 2, 2019 to December 31, 2019
6	Prof. Francis I. Okeke	Surveying and Geoinformatics	Professor	May 2, 2019 to April 30, 2020
7	Prof. Benedict Obeten Offem	Fisheries and Aquaculture Technology	Professor	June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020

RENEWAL OF ADJUNCT APPOINTMENTS

The Vice Chancellor has approved the renewal of adjunct appointment of the staff below:

S/N	Name	Dept.	Rank	Effective Date
1	Dr. Stanley Chukwudi Ugochukwu	Quantity Surveying	Lecturer II	June 27, 2019
2	Dr. Uche B. Aguocha	Prosthetics & Orthotics	Senior Lecturer	June 10, 2019 through June 9, 2020
3	Prof. Chukwudi O. Onyeaso	Dental Technology	Professor	Jan. 2, 2019 to Dec. 31, 2020
4	Dr. M.I. Ajaero	Dental Technology	Lecturer I	April 18, 2019 to April 17, 2019
5	Dr. Samuel I.J. Onwuasoanya	Quantity Surveying	Senior Lecturer	March 8, 2019 to March 7, 2020
6	Arc. Prof. Ikechukwu Onyeyiri	Architecture	Professor	March 20, 2019 to March 19, 2020
7	Prof. Chinedum C. Onyenekwe	Prosthetics and Orthotics	Professor	June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020
8	Prof. Enoch O. Nwachukwu	Computing and Inform. Tech.	Professor	April 25, 2019 to April 24, 2020
9	Prof. Frances Ngozi Chukwukere	DGS	Professor	Dec. 13, 2018- Dec. 12, 2019

STUDY LEAVE WITH PAY

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the one-year study fellowship with pay of the teaching staff below:

S/N	Name	Dept.	Degree in View	Place of Study	Academic Session
1	Mr. Moses Ojukwu	Food Sci. Tech.	PhD	University of Sains Malaysia	2019 to 2020
2	Engr. Ifeanyi C. Nwakanma	Mgt. Technology	PhD	Kumoh Institute of Tech. South Korea	2019 to 2020
3	Mr. Chima O. Okoro	Building Tech.	PhD	University Teknologi Malaysia	2019 to 2020

UPGRADING

In line with the provisions of the Federal University of Technology ACT CAP. F. 23, Vol. 7 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and in accordance with the Regulation Governing the Conditions of Appointment of Senior Staff, the Vice-Chancellor has approved the upgrading of the following academic staff:

S/N	NAME	DEPT/UNIT	FORMER RANK	NEW RANK	EFFECTIVE DATE
1	Mrs. Blessing A. Mba	Biochemistry	Graduate Assistant	Assistant Lecturer	July 26, 2018
2	Engr. Ndubuisi Igboko	Chemical Engineering	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	March 21, 2019
3	Engr. Justus Uchenna Anaele	Material and Metallurgical Engineering	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	March 22, 2019
4	Dr. Mrs. Uzoamaka Chris-Ejiogu	Financial Management Technology	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	March 22, 2019
5	Mr. Chukwuebuka M. Nwagu	Mechanical Engineering	Lab. Supervisor	Technologist II	April 18, 2019
6	Engr. Ogbonna Chris Nkuzinna	Chemical Engineering	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	April 18, 2019
7	Engr. Mrs. Onyinyechi E. Okoligwe	Chemical Engineering	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	April 18, 2019

CHANGE OF NAME

S/N	OLD NAME	NEW NAME	DEPT/UNIT
1	Miss Francisca Onyebuobi	Mrs. Francisca Okonkwo	Health Services
2	Miss Uboegbulam Eleanor Nonyerem	Mrs. Obi Eleanor Nonyerem	Registry
3.	Miss Nwosu Eziada Chinememma	Mrs. Nwokeji Eziada Chinememma	Bursary

4	Miss Ukaegbu Pauline Chinyere	Mrs. Ewulonu Pauline	University Library
5	Miss Ononikpo Nneka Mercyjane	Mrs. Ihekweke Nneka Mercyjane	Quantity Surveying

PROMOTIONS

ACADEMIC STAFF (PROFESSORIAL)

On the recommendation of the Academic Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee (Professorial), the Governing Council at its 174th meeting approved the promotion of the following staff:

S/No	Name	Dept.	Previous Rank	Present Rank	Effective Date
1	Dr. Emmanuel U. Onweremadu	Soil Science & Technology	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2016
2	Dr. Edward E. Effiong	Chemical Engineering	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2017
3	Dr. Christopher E. Nwanyanwu	Microbiology	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2017
4	Dr. Stephen U.O. Onyeagocha	Agricultural Economics	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2015
5	Dr. Chika C. Ogueke	Food Science & Technology	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2017
6	Dr. Emmanuel E. Chigbu	Financial Management Technology	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2016
7	Dr. Mrs. Helen O. Obikaonu	Animal Science Tech.	Senior Lecturer	Reader	Oct. 1, 2015
8	Dr. Chiedozie O. Ibegbulem	Biochemistry	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2017
9	Dr. Ekperechi Amadi	Microbiology	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2015
10	Dr. Edmund E. Nkwocha	Environmental Management	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2015
11	Dr. Mrs. Eunice A. Nwoke	Public Health	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2017
12	Dr. Chikwendu E. Orji	Physics	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2015
13	Dr. Akajiaku C. Chukwuocha	Surveying and Geoinformatics	Senior Lecturer	Reader	Oct. 1, 2018
14	Dr. Ekperechi S. Amadi	Microbiology	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2017
15	Dr. (Mrs) Udoka F. Eze	Information Tech.	Reader	Professor	Oct. 1, 2017

ACADEMIC STAFF (NON PROFESSORIAL)

On the recommendation of the Academic Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee (Non Professorial) the Governing Council also at its 174th meeting, approved the promotion of the under listed staff:

S/No	Name	Department	Previous Rank	Present Rank	Effective Date
1	Mr. Okechukwu K. Okeke	Maritime Mgt. Technology	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018

2	Mr. Emmanuel I. Akeleme	Environmental Sciences	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
3	Dr. Benedict Amadi	Project Mtg. Technology	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
4	Dr. Ibeawuchi I. Echeme	Project Mgt. Technology	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
5	Engr. Dr. Angela N. Nwachukwu	Petroleum Engineering Technology	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
6	Dr. Innocent U. O. Nwaiwu	Agricultural Economics	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
7	Dr. Victor U. Odoemenam	Animal Sc. & Technology	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
8	Dr. Nnanyere O. Aladi	Animal Sc. & Technology	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
9	Dr. Mrs. Rachael Nwakwasi	Agricultural Extension	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
10	Engr. Dr. Robert O. Onosakponome	Civil Engineering	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	Oct. 1, 2018
11	Dr. (Mrs) Ndiamaka N. Ahaotu	FST	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
12	Dr. Ngozi Chima-James	University Library	Librarian I	Senior Librarian	Oct. 1, 2018
13	Mrs Chikaodi L. Nwakwuo	University Library	Librarian II	Librarian	Oct. 1, 2018
14	Dr. James A. Echetama	Agric Extension	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
15	Dr. Benedict N. Igbokwe	DGS	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
16	Dr. Kenneth U. Chukwu	DGS	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
17	Dr. Nnaemeka J. Anyanwu	Animal Science	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2017
18	Engr. Emmanuel O. Mbah	Petroleum Engineering	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	Oct. 1, 2018
19	Mr. Uzochukwu O. Enwereuzoh	Environmental Management	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	Oct. 1, 2018
20	Surv. Richard Ebere Njoku	Surveying & Geoinformatics	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	Oct. 1, 2018
21	Dr. Chibuike O. Chigbo	Environmental Management	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	Oct. 1, 2018
22	Dr. Emmanuel E. Iheme	Soil Science & Tech.	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
23	Engr. (Dr.) Magdalene N. Akanbi	Polymer & Textile Eng.	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
24	Dr. Mac-Anthony C. Onyema	FWT	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
25	Mr. Ifeanyi C. Onuoha	Environmental Management	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
26	Dr. Christian N. Anyanwu	Fisheries & Aquaculture Technology	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
27	Dr. Nwabueze M. Anosike	Building Tech.	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
28	Dr. Johnbosco e. Umunnakwe	Environmental Management	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
29	Dr. Dike H. Ogbuagu	Environmental Management	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
30	Dr. Mrs. Chioma M. Ahukaemere	Soil Science & Tech.	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018

31	Dr. Stanley U. Onwudike	Soil Science & Tech.	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
32	Engr. Dr. Ifeanyichukwu M. Onyejekwe	Petroleum Engineering	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
33	Mr. Modestus O. Anusi	Chemical Engineering	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
34	Mrs. Chinonso M. Chris-Emenyonu	Soil Science & Tech.	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
35	Mr. Achigbu I. Onyemaeze	Building Tech.	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
36	Mr. Emmanuel I. Nkeleme	Building Tech.	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
37	Dr. Chinedu E. Ihejirika	Environmental Management	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
38	Dr. Gordon T. Amangabara	Environmental Management	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
39	Engr. Chinedu Nwapa	Polymer & Textile Eng.	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	Oct. 1, 2018
40	Dr. Christopher C. Ejiogu	Environmental Management	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
41	Mr. Obinna Nnebue	Crop Science	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
42	Mr. Chima Onyebuchi Okoro	Building Tech.	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
43	Miss Amanda U. Ezirim	Biochemistry	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2017
44	Mr. Emmanuel Etumni	Mechanical Eng.	Asst. Chief Foreman Supervisor	Deputy Chief Foreman	Oct. 1, 2018
45	Mr. Ikechukwu Godwin Amasiatu	ICTC	Systems Analyst /Programmer II	Systems Analyst /Programmer I	Oct. 1, 2018
46	Enr. (Dr.) Fidelis C. Njoku	Civil Engineering	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
47	Dr. Christian C. Oporum	Microbiology	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
48	Miss Ngozi C. Anigbogu	DGS	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
49	Mrs Jacinta C. Ofirichukwu	Computer Science	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	Oct. 1, 2018
50	Mr. Charlse O. Njoku	Financial Mgt Tech.	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	Oct. 1, 2018
51	Mrs Ngozi C. Umelo-Ibemere	Statistics	Lecturer II	Lecturer I	Oct. 1, 2018
52	Mrs. Chinwe I. Ahumaraeze	DGS	Lecturer II	Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
53	Mrs. Ogechi S. Alagbaoso	FST	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
54	Mrs. Chioma N. Eluchie	FST	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
55	Mr. Moses Ojukwu	FST	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
56	Mr. Emmanuel A. Osuji	Financial Mgt Tech.	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
57	Miss Alma t. Banigo	Biomedical Tech.	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
58	Mr. Samuel Uzoechi	Biomedical Tech.	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
59	Mr. Gregory N. Iwuoha	Public Health	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018

60	Mrs. Ugonma W. Dozie	Public Health	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
61	Mr. Agbaeze Ejem	Computer Science	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
62	Mrs Chinyeaka H. Izunobi	Statistics	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
63	Mr. Austin Emeka Okoli	Geology	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
64	Dr. (Mrs) Adamma A. Ukaoma	Biology	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
65	Engr.(Dr.) Lewechi Anyaogu	Civil Engineering	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
66	Engr. (Dr.) Kelechi ThankGod Ezirim	Mechatronics Engineering	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
67	Engr. (Dr.) Innocent O. Eze	Polymer & Textile Eng.	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
68	Engr. (Dr.) Simeon C. Nwanonyeni	Polymer & Textile Eng.	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
69	Dr. Chilaka E. Nwaimo	Financial Mgt Tech.	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
70	Dr. Anthony I. Otuonye	Information Mgt. Tech.	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
71	Mrs Patricia O. Onyechere	Management Tech.	Assistant Lecturer	Lecturer II	Oct. 1, 2018
72	Dr. Kalu Okereke Igwe	Biochemistry	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
73	Dr. Chijioke A. Nsofor	Biotechnology	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2017
74	Dr. Mrs. Ngozi U. Nwogwugwu	Microbiology	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
75	Dr. Obinna G. Udujih	Public Health	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
76	Dr. Chikere I. C. Ebirim	Public Health	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
77	Dr. Mrs. Joy U. Chukwuchekwa	Mathematics	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
78	Dr. Mrs. Felicia N. Nwulu	DGS	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
79	Dr. Irenaeus I. Osugiri	Agric. Economics	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
80	Dr. Peter A. Onoh	Agric Extension	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018
81	Dr. Jonadab U. Chikaire	Agric. Extension	Lecturer I	Senior Lecturer	Oct. 1, 2018

SENIOR STAFF (NON TEACHING)

On the recommendation of the Administrative and Professional Staff Appointments and Promotions Committee (APSAPC), the Governing Council at its 173rd meeting approved the promotion of the under listed staff:

S/NO	NAME	DEPT/UNIT	PREVIOUS POSITION	CURRENT POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
1	Mr. Christogonus Ikenna Anunobi	Information And Communication Technology	System Analyst/Programmer I	Senior System Analyst/Programmer I	Oct. 1, 2018

2	Mr. Okechukwu C. Oji	Bursary	Principal Accountant	Chief Accountant	Oct. 1, 2018
3	Mrs. Rakiya M. Ahmed	Bursary	Principal Accountant	Chief Accountant	Oct. 1, 2018
4	Mr. Chibuzo H. Okeh	Bursary	Principal Accountant	Chief Accountant	Oct. 1, 2018
5	Mrs. Nkechinyere Laise Azubuike	Biomedical Technology	Assistant Registrar	Senior Assistant Registrar	Oct. 1, 2018
6	Mrs. Eucharia Osuji	Geology	Assistant Chief Lab. Technologist	Deputy Chief Lab. Technologist	Oct. 1, 2018
7	Mr. Anthony Ihenacho	Security	Patrol Supervisor	Assistant Security Officer	Oct. 1, 2014
8	Mrs. Mary Helen Ogu	University Staff School	Senior Mistress II	Senior Mistress I	Oct. 1, 2018
9	Mr. Eugene Okoro	Security Unit	Assistant Fire Sub-Officer	Deputy Chief Fire Sub-Officer	Oct. 1, 2018
10	Miss Celestina E. Nwoke	FUTO Farms Ltd.	Asst. Chief Agric. Superintendent	Deputy Chief Agric. Superintendent	Oct. 1, 2018
11	Mr. Sabastine Orji	Security Unit	Assistant Chief Patrol Supervisor	Chief Patrol Supervisor	Oct. 1, 2018
12	Mrs. Ebere M. Oduma	Mathematics	Assistant Chief Caretaker	Chief Caretaker	Oct. 1, 2017
13	Mr. Chike Joseph Anafulu	CIEC	Principal Supervisor	Asst. Chief Works Supervisor	Oct. 1, 2018
14	Mr. Friday I. Oforma	Computer Science	Assistant Chief Computer Technologist	Deputy Chief Computer Technologists	Oct. 1, 2018

HEALTH AND FITNESS CORNER

CARDIAC ARREST AND HEART ATTACK

A cardiac arrest is when your heart suddenly stops pumping blood round your body, commonly because of a problem with electrical signals in your heart.

When your heart stops pumping blood, your brain is starved of oxygen. This causes you to fall unconscious and stop breathing.

What are the signs of a cardiac arrest?

There are usually no symptoms before a cardiac arrest and, without immediate treatment, it will be fatal. If someone is in cardiac arrest:

- they won't be conscious
- they won't be responsive
- they won't be breathing, or breathing normally.

What causes a cardiac arrest?

The most common cause of a cardiac arrest is a life-threatening abnormal heart rhythm called ventricular fibrillation (VF). Ventricular fibrillation happens when the electrical activity of your heart becomes so chaotic

that the heart stops pumping and quivers or 'fibrillates' instead.

Heart-related causes of cardiac arrest:

- coronary heart disease.
- heart attack
- cardiomyopathy and some inherited heart conditions . congenital heart disease
- heart valve disease
- acute myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle)
- heart conduction disorders that make you more likely to experience abnormal heart rhythms, such as Long QT syndrome.

Other causes of cardiac arrest:

- electrocution
- drug overdose
- severe haemorrhage - losing a large amount of blood
- drowning.

What's the difference between a cardiac arrest and a heart attack?

People often think that a cardiac arrest and a heart attack are the same thing,

but this isn't true.

A heart attack happens when blood supplying the heart muscle is cut off due to a clot in one of the coronary arteries. This can cause chest pain, although symptoms can be less severe, and can permanently damage the heart. The heart is still sending blood to the body and the person will be conscious and breathing. A person having a heart attack has a high risk of experiencing a cardiac arrest.

A cardiac arrest occurs when the heart suddenly stops pumping blood around the body, often because of a problem with the electrical signals to the heart muscle. Someone who is having a cardiac arrest will suddenly collapse and will stop breathing.

Both a heart attack and a cardiac arrest are life-threatening medical emergencies call a doctor if you witness someone having a cardiac arrest or think you or someone you're with is having a heart attack.