



Covenant University Newsflash

A daily update of News and Events in Covenant University March 23-27, 2015

Chancellor Advocates Tolerance During and After General Elections

“Understanding, restraint and tolerance will go a long way in separating the ongoing general elections in Nigeria from all the previous ones”. This was the submission, last Friday, of the

Chancellor of Covenant University, Dr. David Oyedepo in a charge to the academic members of the University community.

Dr. Oyedepo, speaking at the Friday Faculty Fellowship of the institution on election eve, tasked all members of staff to be civil, mature and exhibit decency in the discharge of their civic responsibilities in the March 28 and April 11 elections. Describing the elections as crucial to Nigeria's image and development as a nation, Dr. Oyedepo appealed to everyone not to allow emotions take the better side of their rationality, positing that “ability to tolerate one another in a competitive atmosphere, without taking any particular person who differs from your standpoint or choice as enemy, is the height of democratic maturity and civility”.

Challenging them to accept whatever the outcome of the elections will be, the Chancellor asked: “do you assure me that a day or two after the election verdict had been given and your candidate had lost, you would still smile at or shake the hands of your colleagues who supported the other candidate that won?”

Dr. Oyedepo preached peace and understanding among the candidates and their supporters and charged Nigerians to eschew violence or critical outbursts in the event of any disagreement. He particularly urged all to remember that when crisis results, it would take the nation backward for many years again.

The Chancellor offered prayers for the peace of the elections and asked that there would not be another spectre of bloodletting or protracted inter-ethnic or interfaith skirmishes. He put the nation in the charge of God before, during and after the polls.



The Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo, on arrival at the polling centre during the last Presidential election

Covenant University's Professor Maduagwu Elected Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Science

Professor Emmanuel Ndubisi Maduagwu of the Department of Biological Sciences, Covenant University, has been elected a Fellow of the prestigious Nigerian Academy of Science. This was contained in a letter to the erudite scholar, signed by the Executive Secretary of the Academy, Dr. Oladoyin Odubanjo.

The letter read in part, “I am delighted to inform you that at the end of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Nigerian Academy of Science held at the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) Yaba, Lagos, on the 29th of January 2015, you were elected a Fellow of the Academy. Please accept my warm congratulations.”

In a chat with Media and Corporate Affairs, Professor Maduagwu said that the Fellowship is something young Scientists look forward to along their

career path. He added that, “It is a good recognition of my efforts in the area of science.”

When asked what the Fellowship meant to him and the University, he said, “Apart from standing shoulder-to-shoulder with my colleagues, it means that we have a Fellow of the Academy of Science in Covenant University. This will bring up the profile of the University, particularly for 'Vision 10: 2022',” he explained.

Professor Maduagwu, who joined Covenant University in 2014, also believed that the Fellowship would boost accreditation of the programmes in the Biological Sciences, thereby increasing admissions quota for the programmes, particularly at the postgraduate level.

The Professor of Biochemical and Environmental Toxicology is also a fellow and member of many local and international learned societies,

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Large Turnout of Covenant University/Canaan Land Members for General Elections

Members of the Covenant University and Canaan Land communities were not left out of the elections fray on March 28 as they turned out en masse to participate in the process of electing a President and members of the National Assembly. Staff and families started trooping out to the Benja/The Bells Polling Unit as early as 9am to perform their civic duty of voting. Many persons had to defy the distance, which had to be trekked, to ensure that they were part of the historic momentum, which offered another excellent opportunity to advance the progress of the country as well as its democratic consolidation.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo and other Management staff drove in cars out of the campus between 10am and 12 noon for the mandatory card reading and accreditation. Also, the Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo arrived at the accreditation/voting unit around 1pm, where an obviously surprised and elated tumultuous crowd swarmed around him in appreciation of his coming to join them in the unit to exercise his electoral rights like any of them.

Responding with greetings, smiles and handshakes, Dr. Oyedepo met the Management staff, a crowd of staff of

Covenant University as well as a mammoth crowd of members of his Church, Winners' Chapel, who rented the air with shouts of "Papa..Papa" and made spirited efforts to take photographs of him. He then proceeded to do his accreditation and waited a while after which he cast his vote.

Movement to and from the polling units in Sango Ota, particularly along Idiroko Road was generally and closely restricted. Our correspondent (this author) who drove round the units sighted heavily armed and stern-looking security operatives, who had mounted road blocks at every strategic corner. He was flagged down at a point and asked to produce any identification and the Permanent Voter Card (PVC) before he could be allowed further passage.

The accreditation and voting in the wards between Iyana Iyesi and Asore-Obere went peacefully. Nigeria was having elections for the determination of who would govern it for another four years. Eleven presidential candidates were contesting, two of whom were the strongest contenders, namely, General Muhammadu Buhari (a former military Head of State) of the All Progressives Congress and People's Democratic Party's Dr. Goodluck Jonathan, who is the incumbent President.

Covenant University's Professor Maduagwu Elected Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Science

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including: Fellow, Nigerian Institute of Biology; Fellow, Malawian Society of Food and Chemical Safety; Fellow, Nigerian Society of Food and Chemical Toxicology; Member, Royal Society of Chemistry, London; Member, American College of Toxicology, Washington D.C; and Nigerian Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, among others.



Professor Emmanuel Ndubisi Maduagwu

Professor Ndubisi Maduagwu was promoted to a full Professor in 1989. He had published over 70 first class scholarly and original research articles in well known and reputable peer-reviewed international scientific journals, and almost entirely on the metabolism of foreign chemicals and the interaction of food toxicology, the environment, and carcinogenesis.

"I have successfully supervised the Master degree dissertation and Doctoral theses of many postgraduate students in the field of Biochemical and Environmental Toxicology. Three of my Ph. D. students have since become Professors," he explained.

FACULTY/STAFF BIRTHDAY

March 15-20, 2015

22-March

Mr Fadoju Oludare Samuel
Accountant 1, Financial Services

22-March

Salau Odunayo Paul
Assistant Lecturer, Business Management

23-March

Dr Aririguzoh Stella Amaraebiugwu
Lecturer 1, Mass Communication

23-March

Dr Taiwo Joseph Niyan
Senior Lecturer, Banking And Finance

23-March

Mr Epetimehin Oluwagbenga Samuel
Assistant Lecturer, Business Management

23-March

Mr Adedokun Michael Oluyemi
Lecturer 2
Electrical and Information Engineering

23-March

Dr Owoeye Samuel Tuesday
Senior Lecturer, Languages and General Studies

24-March

Dr Agwu Edwin M.
Senior Lecturer, Business Management

25-March

Dr Willoughby Alexander Adesina
Senior Lecturer, Physics

25-March

Mr Awodire Ebenezer A.
Graphic Artist 1, Media & Corporate Affairs

26-March

Dr Rotimi Oluwatosin John
Lecturer 2, Petroleum Engineering

26-March

Dr Okposin Samuel
Senior Lecturer, Economics

26-March

Miss Iroko Bolanle Medeyomi
Senior Pharmacy Assistant, Health Centre

26-March

Mr Adedapo Emmanuel Adebunayo
Assistant Lecturer, Chemistry

27-March

Dr Obanua Ada Sonia
Lecturer 2, Mass Communication

27-March

Dr Agbude Ade Godwyns
Lecturer 2, Political Science and International Relations

27-March

Mr Agboola Olasunbo Olaoluwa
Assistant Lecturer, Mathematics

28-March

Mr Uwajeh Chukwuma Paul
Senior Accountant, Financial Services