



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University March 30-3, 2015

Mathematicians Advised to Build Capacity



Mr. Gbenga Ajibua
Admin. Manager, Midwestern Oil & Gas

Mathematics Students have been advised to develop their skills in order to stand out among their peers and increase their employability status.

The advice was given by the Administrative Manager, Midwestern Oil and Gas Company Limited, Mr. Gbenga Ajibua, on Wednesday, while speaking on the “Relevance of Mathematics in Oil and Gas Industry” at the Town and Gown interaction organized by the Department of Mathematics, Covenant University.

He explained the relevance of

Mathematics to every sector of the economy, particularly the Oil and Gas, noting that, “The Oil industry is the largest single user of mathematical programming. As oil becomes more difficult to find and more expensive to extract, Mathematical algorithms and simulations play an even more important role in the business”.

According to him, Mathematics is used to estimate the volumes of oil and gas in reservoirs, to optimize performance of wells and pumps that get the oil and gas to the surface, to improve the quality of the fossil fuel projects, and also to minimize vessel transportation and final delivery cost.

“With Physics, Geology and Mathematics, the Oil industry can function. However, Mathematics is key among others. If others are right but Maths is not right, all will run into stormy waters,” he explained.

Mr. Ajibua enjoined the students to start early to get additional qualifications as there are so many fields of knowledge to delve into in Mathematics. He added that the difference between the skills acquired

by an applicant and the skills required for the job is referred to as the skills-gap. These, according to him, are concerns for Human Resource Managers and business owners looking to hire employees that are competent and have employable skills.

He itemized the career path for a Mathematician in the Oil and Gas Industry to include Geophysics; Reservoir Engineering; Drilling Engineering; Wells, Reservoir and facilities management; Information Technology; and Finance, among others.

He advised that, “You can be who you want to be in the Oil and Gas industry. Everything in life is centered on Mathematics including the Oil and Gas Industry. As a Mathematician, you do not have limitation except yourself”, he charged.

In attendance at the interactive session were the Head of the Department, Professor Iyase, Dr. (Mrs.) Sheila Bishop, Dr. Alfred Owoloko, Dr. Timothy Anake, Dr. Michael Agarana, Professor Timothy Mosaku of Building Technology Department, and Dr. Benson Nsikak of Chemistry Department, among other staff and students of the Department.

CU Hosts Accreditation Team from National Institute Of Marketing of Nigeria (NIMN)

A team of assessors from the National Institute of Marketing of Nigeria were in Covenant University on Wednesday, March 11, 2015, on an assessment visit.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo stated, “The essence of peer review mechanism is to identify where we are and how we can improve on it. My personal concern has been on the area of e-marketing. In today's world, it is very crucial for every viable academic programme to acquaint itself with the necessary skills in ICT to be able to compete favourably in the world out there. On a yearly basis, we have collaboration with Google. The Company comes in here to select students for training in 'Google Ad Class' to expose

them to the rudiments and rubrics of e-marketing and e-adverts.

“This is the future; we have gone beyond the era of bricks and mortar. We are looking at a situation where students would finish from here and immediately carve a niche for themselves. However they can only do this if they have been groomed and prepared ahead. ICT is very current and on top of the demands of what this profession requires,” he said.

In his response, the Chairman of the National Institute of Marketing of Nigeria (NIMN), Mallam Umar Dangabarin said, “The purpose of the accreditation is to align the Board with what is happening in most of our higher institutions, in other to give them the

status they rightly deserve. We have different levels of membership, so the Institute gives enforcement and legalization to professional marketing practices across board.

“It is, therefore, important for institutions, their faculty and students to be duly registered, so that the Institute could to give students the professional training and advice they require to practice when they graduate,” he noted.

According to the NIMN Chairman, the areas of their assessment included the roles and objectives of the programme, computer knowledge and skills, admissions requirements, curriculum, academic regulations, training, standards of tests, marketing studio, practicals, projects,

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CU Signs Pact with Biotechnology Society of Nigeria (BSN)

Covenant University on Thursday, March 13, 2015, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Biotechnology Society of Nigeria (BSN). The event took place in the Vice Chancellor's conference room in Canaan Land, Ota.

The purpose of the MoU is to provide a framework for collaboration between the University and BSN in training and the dissemination of research information that are central to the technological growth of Nigeria and its integration into global discourse.

In his welcome remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo said, "We appreciate your efforts towards the establishment of a working partnership with us. Amongst the benefits of this collaboration is the area you mentioned, concerning conference attendance for students. It's a great part of this partnership, which would help us in addressing the disconnect between students and professionals in their field. We already started with a Town and Gown Meeting where we invite professionals from different fields to come and interact with the students to bridge the gap between the two. They inspire and motivate the students, thereby preparing them for life after graduation. I have been assured that this MoU would not be a document for the shelf; it would be taken further, to ensure that the collaboration starts off immediately."

In his remarks, the Registrar, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo, stated, "A number of things have happened prior to this event and I am certain that the two institutions came to this point because we see that



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Charles Ayo with the team from Biotechnology Society of Nigeria (BSN)

value can be exchanged at both ends. We are mindful of those we go into partnerships with in Covenant University, because God has brought us thus far as the number one University in Nigeria, West Africa and 15th in Africa at the recently concluded Webometrics Ranking of World Universities. We must maintain this placement accorded to us. So, we only partner with those who would help us drive our goals and visions."

In his response, the President of the Society, Dr. M. B. Yerima, of the Federal University, Dutse, Jigawa State, stated, "We are very glad meeting very serious minded people like the Covenant University community. Whoever comes into this environment leaves with lots of testimonies. My first contact with Covenant University was through testimonies given by some of my colleagues in the University.

"This visit has given me a great

opportunity to confirm all that I have heard about Covenant University. It's an awesome experience - from the decorum of the students, to the serenity of the environment and the well-equipped research laboratories - there's no scholar that would not love to come here for research and possible collaborations. I have no doubt that we would build something solid with this partnership. Our interest is in human capacity building," he explained.

Present at the event were the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Professor Taiwo Abioye; the Director, Centre for Research, Innovation and Discovery, Professor Louis Egwari; the Dean, College of Science and Technology, Professor Shalom Chinedu; the Deputy Dean, School of Natural and Applied Sciences, Dr. Olawande Daramola; HOD, Biological Sciences, Dr. Emeka Iweala; Dr. Solomon Rotimi; Representative of the Legal Department and members of the Directorate of Media and Corporate Affairs.

CU Hosts Accreditation Team from National Institute of Marketing of Nigeria (NIMN) cont. from pg 1

classroom, library, entrepreneurial skills, office accommodation, staff development, staffing, team spirit and learning

environment.

Later at the wrap-up session, the team commended the high level of discipline and focus which they observed in Covenant University. They stated that the institution met all the NIMN requirements, except for the marketing studio facility, which the CU Management assured them, would be put in place out-rightly.

The NIMN team was made up of Mallam

Umar Dangabarin, (Chairman); Mr. Kola Afolabi (Member); Dr. (Mrs.) Bolajoko Dixon-Ogbechi (Member) and Mr. Ibikunle Fasasi (Secretary).

Present at the meeting were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Taiwo Abioye; the Registrar, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo, the Dean, College of Business and Social Sciences, Professor Isaiah Olurinola; the Deputy Dean, School of Business, Dr. Francis Iyoha; Director Centre for Learning Resources, Dr. Christopher Nkiko; the Director Academic Planning Unit, Dr. Akan Williams; HOD, Marketing, Dr. Worlu Rowland and members of the Directorate of Media and Corporate Affairs.



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Charles Ayo with the team from National Institute of Marketing of Nigeria (NIMN)