



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University JULY 6- 10, 2015

Covenant University Hosts Africa's Entrepreneurs Boot Camp



Cross section of participants during the boot camp

Not less than 1, 000 Entrepreneurs from 51 African countries were camped at Covenant University between Friday, July 10 to Sunday 12, 2015 in a 3-day Boot Camp organized by the Tony Elumelu Foundation.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation, Parminder Vir Obe, and her team paid a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo and the Management Team of Covenant University to express their appreciation for hosting the event and to intimate them of the programme schedule.

Parminder Obe noted that the Vision and Mission of the University are in line with the Tony

Elumelu Foundation, which is set to commit \$100 million (One Hundred million US Dollars) to empower and grow 10, 000 entrepreneurs in Africa in the next 10 years.

The CEO said that the Foundation received over 20, 000 applications from entrepreneurs in 52 African countries since the programme was announced, out of which only 1, 000 were selected from 51 countries cutting across various disciplines. The entrepreneurs, according to her, would be encouraged to interact and network which she said can be easily made possible by the available facilities on campus.

Parminder Obe express gratitude and commended the University Management and staff for what she called the “fantastic” support received since the Foundation

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• Nation Building through Effective Research Work

In a bid to teach lecturers how to add value in a given society, the Department of Computer and Information Science, Covenant University has organized a two-day seminar for the teaching cadre of the institution. The main aim of the seminar was to expand their scope of knowledge about research works that influences both the institution and the country as a whole.

Charging the participants at the College of Science and Technology Conference Room, the Guest Speaker, Professor Oludayo Olugbara from Durban University of Technology, South Africa, said it was important for researchers to address the question/problem that could bring solution to a given society.

According to him, “For any research work to be of value both within and outside the country, it must address the important question or problem faced by that given society. Try to understand your field and use standard domain of your research that will be useful internationally; understand your culture and field. Read

wide and know about important findings,” he added.

Professor Olugbara also noted the requirements for a good research work. According to him “a research work must be original and inspiring, rigorous, must have sufficient data to justify sound statistical conclusion”. Furthermore, Professor Olugbara, explained that before a research work could be of value, the researcher must also possess certain qualities that would include the ability to study well, write well and edit well.

In applying a systematic approach during any research work, Professor Olugbara urged the participants to follow the process required of a good research work. In his words, “Always begin with the problem. Give reasons based on the literature to prove relevance of the problem, identify possible applications, and provide evidence from the literature to support every decision made to solve the problem. Provide enough details,



Professor Oludayo Olugbara delivering his lecture

explain how the problem was studied, and discuss how the method will solve the problem”.

Concluding his presentation, the Guest Speaker urged the participants to collaborate with international authors to grow the University because it leads to knowledge transfer. He also urged the University to open research accounts for researchers towards the fulfillment of Vision 1 of 10 in 10.

University of East London seeks partnership with Covenant University

A team from the University of East London has expressed interest in collaborating with Covenant University to widen research that will help to solve local issues regarding Nigeria and the African Continent.

Making the intention known at a courtesy visit to the Covenant University Management, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of East London, Professor Nora Colton, said that the purpose of the collaboration is to widen the research base of both institutions internationally that will provide solutions to African issues.

In her words, "Having looked at what Covenant University is good at; we are keen on building partnerships with the institution. This is part of our international strategy to collaborate with the university in widening the strength in research works that will proffer solutions to local issues, especially in Nigeria".

The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor Charles Ayo, in his remarks stated that the drive of Covenant University is to proffer solutions to African problems by producing graduates who are agents of change, to restore the lost dignity of the black man.

Professor Ayo said, "Looking at our long term vision to be one of the top ten universities in the world by 2022 and raising a new generation of leaders, we are committed to producing industry-ready graduates because we are conscious of the gap between the industry and institutions in the society.

"Currently, some of our strategic indigenous innovations have been imbibed at the national level in most universities, and we see ourselves as chatting the way and blazing the trail for other universities to follow," he added.

Earlier in his welcome remarks, the Registrar, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo emphasized the vision of Covenant University, adding that creditable partnerships are welcome in order to achieve the stated goal of the institution.

According to him, "Covenant University was established in 2002. We are running on a vision to become one of the top ten universities in the world by the year 2022 and we are confident of the fact that we will be able to achieve the vision through the help of God and laudable partnerships. We are trying to rewrite the story of the black man, to ensure that Africa is



Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles K. Ayo with Professor Nora Colton during their visit

not seen to be lacking but to have value we can offer".

The team from University of East London includes the University's MBA Director Dr. Jumoke Okoya; School of Social Sciences International Leader, Dr. Braniscan Radeljic; International Recruitment Officer (Africa), Mr. Tola Jaiyeola and Alumni Advancement Officer, Mr. Mohamed Azizi Shyllon. Also at the meeting were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Taiwo Abioye; Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies, Professor Charles Ogbulogo; Director, Financial Services, Pastor Deji Okubanjo and the Director of Media and Corporate Affairs, Dr. Lanre Amodu.

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made her intention known about the Boot Camp.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ayo in his remarks informed the visitors that the University pioneered the entrepreneurship education in the Country. It was introduced by the Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo in order for the graduates of the University to become employers of labour rather than to seek employment after graduation.

He added that the National Universities Commission (NUC) had since adopted the Entrepreneurial Development Studies into the curricular of university education in the Country.

Professor Ayo noted, in the words of the Chancellor that, "Success is not

about the amount of wealth amassed but the contributions to humanity," which according to him, aptly described the efforts of the Chairman of the Foundation, Mr. Tony Elumelu, not only in Nigeria but Africa in general.

He announced that the University, through her Open and Distance Learning platform, would introduce the entrepreneurial education to those who may be interested and invite the Foundation to be part of it in order to expand the scope and fulfill the visions of both institutions in that regard.

"We see a future in what the Foundation is out to do and believe that it will achieve the vision before

the set time, thereby improving the situations of the people of Africa."

Earlier in his welcome remarks, the Registrar of the University, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo, expressed gladness that the University is hosting the maiden edition of the Boot Camp and called for further collaboration between the two institutions.

Also at the meeting were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Taiwo Abioye; Director, Financial Services, Pastor Deji Okubanjo; Director, Physical Planning and Development, Architect Gbenga Alalade; Director, Academic Planning, Dr. Akan Williams and Director, Centre for Entrepreneurial Development Studies, Dr. Chinoye Moses.