



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University February 16-20, 2015

Webometrics Ranking, “Nothing but favour from God,” - Vice-Chancellor



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Charles K. Ayo, at the media chat

The Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, Professor Charles Ayo, has described the University's achievement at the recently released Webometrics Ranking of World Universities as favour from God. The Vice-Chancellor said this at a Media Chat on Friday, February 13,

2015, in his conference room.

He supported his claims with scriptures taken from Job 32:7-8, “I said, Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom. But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding,” and Romans 9:15-16, “For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.”

Covenant University, at the just released Webometrics Ranking of 10th February, 2015, emerged No.1 among all the

universities in Nigeria and West Africa, while ranking No.15 in Africa. The University also emerged No.1 in Nigeria and West Africa and No.13 in Africa, in the Repositories Ranking.

The Vice-Chancellor explained further, “The Ranking Web or Webometrics is the largest academic ranking of Higher Education Institutions of about 25000 institutions all over the world based on web presence and impact. The factors being considered are Impact, Presence, Openness and Excellence. On the other hand, the Ranking Web of World's Repositories is to support Open Access initiatives and to offer free access to scientific publications in an electronic form and other academic materials. Thus, it motivates both institutions and scholars to have a web presence that accurately reflect their activities. To us, this is a dream come true and a fulfillment of prophecy. We give God praise and glory.”

Professor Ayo also stated that this administration came on board in November 2012,

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Covenant University Comes First Again, Signs Pact with CIBN on ACIB/MSc Degree Programme



CIBN President, Otunba (Mrs) 'Debola Osibogun exchanging signed MoU with the Vice-Chancellor's Representative and Dean, CBSS, Prof Oluranti Olurinola

Barely two weeks after Covenant University was announced the overall best in Nigeria and West Africa in the Webometrics Ranking of World Universities, the University has come first again. This time around, Covenant University is the first educational institution in Nigeria to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria, CIBN, on ACIB/MSc Degree programme.

What this translates to is that, an M. Sc

graduate of Banking and Finance of the University 'automatically becomes an Associate of CIBN.'

This feat was made known by the President/Chairman of Council, CIBN, Otunba (Mrs.) 'Debola Osibogun, FCIB, at the MoU signing ceremony on Thursday, February 19, 2015, at the Council Chambers, Bankers' House in Lagos.

The highly elated President said, “Today's event is very special to me for three main reasons. It is the first MoU

that will be signed by me in this New Year. Secondly, this is the first M.Sc./ACIB MoU our great Institute will be signing with any University in Nigeria and I am pleased to note that Covenant University is the first University to come under this arrangement. Lastly, it will be the second MoU between the two institutions, the first being the Degree Linkage Programme MoU.

“The ACIB/M.Sc. Banking and Finance programme was designed to support the Institute in the fulfillment of her mandate and to equip participants with the knowledge and skills to cope with changes in the ever-evolving financial services industry. It is also to meet the demand and yearning of bankers who would like to further their studies up to doctoral level”, she opined.

“The programme confers a dual award of M.Sc Banking and Finance as well as Associate of The Chartered Institute of Bankers (ACIB) on candidates upon completion. With the execution of this MoU, therefore, we have opened a new vista of opportunities for Nigerians to unlock their potentials. I am delighted that the Covenant University is partnering with us to achieve our objective of building adequate human capacity for the Banking and Finance Industry

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Covenant University Comes First Again, Signs Pact with CIBN on ACIB/MSc Degree Programme *Contd. from Pg 1*

in Nigeria and making our bankers a global reference point in banking professionalism”, she opined.

While re-assuring the University of the unwavering commitment of the Institute to the success of the partnership to the benefit of the two institutions and humanity at large, Otunba (Mrs.) Osibogun commended the Vice-Chancellor and the entire Management of Covenant University for their visionary leadership and commitment to transforming the educational landscape of Nigeria.

Also corroborating the CIBN President' word, the Chairman of the Institute's Capacity Building and Certification Committee, Barrister P. O. Olanrewaju, FCIB, noted that out of 46 Tertiary institutions contacted for the programme, only Covenant University was passionate about it.

“This template was sent at the same time to about 46 Tertiary institutions including those we have collaborations with. It was only Covenant University that could catch on to it. Covenant University is ready, willing, passionate about the programme

and has what it takes.”

“I think the easiest platform for anyone to get ACIB today is to key into this kind of M.Sc programme. It is a double barrel. All you need after the programme is for Covenant University to certify that you have completed all those courses. Send in your papers for processing and you will get your ACIB”, he explained.

In his remarks, the representative of the Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, Professor Oluranti Olurinola, who is also the Dean, College of Business and Social Sciences, , noted that the MoU came at a good time in the same month when the University was announced as number one in Nigeria and West Africa by Webometrics Ranking of World Universities.

Professor Olurinola explained, “About three years ago, we started to drive our 'Vision One of 10 in 10'. In other words, we want to be one of the topmost 10 universities in the world and by the grace of God, we are getting there. And when we get there, it will not

be CU alone; we are getting there with CIBN.”

While appreciating the President and other members of the CIBN Council, Professor Olurinola promised that the University would drive the programme with all the vigor required and expressed the belief that when the programme is due for review, the CIBN would not regret giving Covenant University the opportunity.

The Acting Registrar/Chief Executive of CIBN, Mr. 'Seye Awojobi supervised the execution of the MoU in the presence of the representatives of both institutions.

Also on the Covenant University team at the event were the Deputy Dean, School of Business, Dr. Francis Iyoha; HOD, Banking & Finance, Dr. Ochei Ikpefan (ACIB); Distinguished Professor J. A. T. Ojo (FCIB); Assistant Registrar, Legal, Mrs. Ayodele Odaro-Osayande and Information Officer, Mr. Ayo Ajayi.

Others are senior faculty of the Department of Banking and Finance, Dr. Kehinde Adetiloye (ACIB); Dr. Felicia Olokoyo (ACIB); Dr. Grace Egbuowean; Mr. Achugamonu Bede and three postgraduate students, Mr. Owen Arasonwan; Miss Joy Edomaruse and Miss Cynthia Ikwetogwu.

Webometrics Ranking: “Nothing but favour from God,” - Vice-Chancellor *Contd. from Pg 1*

with a mandate to get the University listed among the top ten universities in the world by 2022. That was christened Vision 10:2022 (1 of 10 in 10). When the administration came on board, the University was ranked 10th in Nigeria and about 100 in Africa. Currently, the story is different. It is simply the act of God. The mandate (1 of 10 in 10), was accepted, noting that 'faithful is He who calleth who also will do it.' Again, it was learnt from the Chancellor that 'any faith that relies absolutely on God to deliver a prophecy is an irresponsible faith.' That meant that the entire University had a role to play.

“We embarked on an 8-point agenda that is targeted towards the fulfillment of the Vision. With the attained feat, we are convinced that we are set to conquer the World. Holding unto the testimony of David when he was to confront Goliath, he said in 1 Samuel 17:36, 'Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them...' We have conquered Nigeria and West Africa. Very soon Africa shall be taken and the rest shall be a done deal,” he opined.

Elucidating on the journey so far, the Vice-Chancellor noted that the University pioneered many unique programmes, including the introduction of Entrepreneurial Education into the school's curriculum in order to avoid having the graduates of the institution comb the streets for job on graduation. That, he said, was adopted by the National Universities Commission (NUC) and is running in all

Nigerian universities today.

He also stated that the award of "Pass" Degree was abolished because the Management of the University did not expect the institutions' Kings and Queens to be so lowly ranked. Again, that was adopted by the National Universities Commission (NUC) and was applied across Nigerian universities. The Vice-Chancellor went on to say that Dress Code was introduced in the University as well and is being adopted by all tertiary institutions in Nigeria.

The Vice-Chancellor unveiled other programmes lined up by the University for the rest of the session, among which are the CU/Industry Partnership Luncheon. It involves the hosting of the captains of the various sectors of the economy to a luncheon. At the luncheon, there will be an exhibition of the Research Endowment of the University, with a view to seeking collaborations toward developing home-grown solutions to both local and national problems such as: Food Security; Political and Electoral Issues; Insurgency; Power / Electricity ; Economic/Unemployment; Transportation etc.

He also listed the Second International Conference on African Development Issues (ICADI), which he said was first hosted by the University in 2014, with two Nobel Laureates, Prof. Thomas Sargent and Prof. Eric Maskin as Special Guests. He said in the

second ICADI, the University would be hosting a Nobel Laureate, Professor Alvin Elliot Roth and several other eminent scholars in the field of Biotechnology, ICT, Materials and Renewable Energy. The conference, he said, is aimed at harnessing potential catalysts for African Development.

Another programme the Vice-Chancellor spoke about was the Adoption of Mobile Tablets. He said, “The University has adopted the Mobile platform of learning by acquiring Mobile Tablets for every student of the University. This is aimed at enhancing learning anywhere and anytime on Campus. It is heartwarming to note that an Eagle Company, Soft-com, owned by an alumnus is the one behind this great move.”

He also stated that the University has introduced 'Certificate/Diploma Programme in Leadership' to its curriculum and students would be graduating with it in addition to their major degrees. This, he said, was aimed at addressing the leadership gaps in Nigeria and Africa in general.

Present at the event were, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Taiwo Abioye; The Registrar, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo; the Director, Financial Services, Pastor Deji Okubanjo; the Director, Centre for Learning Resources, Dr. Chris Nkiko; the Director, Life-long Learning, Dr. Nicholas Omoregbe; the Director, International Office & Linkages, Dr. Angela Eni; the Director, Media & Corporate Affairs, Dr. Lanre Amodu. Others at the event were members of the press and other members of the Directorate of Media and Corporate Affairs.