



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University May 2-6, 2016

Covenant, Central Nantes Varsities for Collaboration

Plans are underway for possible collaborations between Covenant University and Central Nantes University, France. This was disclosed at a meeting between the officials of both universities on Thursday, May 5, 2016.

A four-man delegation led by the Deputy Director, International Relations, Central Nantes University, Mrs. Vernillard Sabine, paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo and other members of the University management team to discuss collaboration, specifically in the engineering programmes.

Mrs. Sabine explained that her



Covenant University Management team with Officials of Central Nantes University

university focused on engineering programmes, including Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Robotic Engineering among others at the postgraduate level. She

added that the university is involved in high quality research with the industry.

"We are one of the top engineering schools in France; we are mostly a postgraduate school for Master's and

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Obasanjo, Ogwu Lead Participants at CU's African Development Conference

Former President, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, and Nigeria's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Prof. Joy Ogwu, are the Special Guest of Honour and Keynote Speaker respectively, as Covenant University, Ota; Ogun State stages the third edition of its International Conference on African Development Issues (ICADI).

The theme of the event, which holds from May 9-11, 2016 at the African Leadership Development Centre on the premises of Covenant University, is 'Driving Inclusive and Sustainable

Development in Africa: Models, Methods and Policies'.

This year's edition of Covenant University's ICADI, a platform for intellectual discourse, which attracts and engages the best brains known to humanity in proffering viable solutions to the diverse issues relating to Africa's development, will also feature other speakers, panelists and discussants drawn from various walks of life within Nigeria and the diaspora.

These include Prof. Bonny Ibhawoh, Associate Vice-president, Research, at McMaster University,

Canada; Mr. Timothy Ogunayo, Managing Director of Skye Bank; Dr. Tunji Olopa, Executive Vice Chairman, Ibadan School of Government and Public Policy (ISGPP), Ibadan;

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Vice-Chancellor, Enactus Team Visits Isalu Community, Promises Development

The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor Charles Ayo and the Enactus Team have visited Isalu community in Ado area of the host community in the Ado-Odo/Ota Local Government Area of Ogun State. The visit, according to the Vice-Chancellor, was to identify possible areas where the University through Enactus Team can establish short and long-term developmental projects.

The Enactus is a community of students, academics and business leaders committed to using the power of entrepreneurial action to transform lives and shape a better, more sustainable world. The Team had identified the Village which lack social amenities like electricity supply, water, good road network, hospitals and schools among others.

While interacting with the Baale (Head) of the Community, Chief Bolaji Akapo and other community leaders after inspection on Thursday, May 5, 2016, Professor Ayo promised that relevant departments in the University would work with them to develop equipment for processing palm kernel for

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Chief Olusegun Obasanjo



Prof. Joy Ogwu

Covenant, Central Nantes Varsities for Collaboration

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Ph.D students. Our institution is strongly connected to the industry, we have very strong link in research with companies where our students have various internships and develop common research studies," she said.

In his response, Professor Ayo said that the courtesy visit was a welcome development, noting that Covenant University had planned possible collaboration with universities in

France. He added that the University also planned to award degree in French in addition to the degrees in Leadership and Entrepreneurial studies.

"If we want to take full advantage of globalisation, we should be able to speak other languages anywhere we find ourselves. There is, therefore, the need to acquire the knowledge of French language particularly in

Nigeria which is surrounded by Francophone countries," he stated.

He therefore expressed the willingness of the University to collaborate with Central Nantes University particularly in the engineering programmes. ■

Vice-Chancellor, Enactus Team Visits Isalu Community, Promises Development

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Prof. Charles Ayo and Chief Akapo with Enactus team and other officials of the University

oil, cassava for 'gari', functional borehole for water, solar panel for electricity and reconstruct the collapsed bridge which connects the Village with other communities.

Speaking in Yoruba Language, the Vice-Chancellor said, "Our students in the Enactus Team informed me that they identified a community that would need the help of the University. Since Universities are established for Teaching, Research and Community Development, I have come to see things for myself and through our Community Development Impact Initiative Committee and Enactus Team; we will contribute our own quota to the development of this community.

"Having gone round today, I will direct our Engineers in the Departments of Mechanical and Civil Engineering, Physics as well as Physical Planning and Development to work with you to develop machines for processing 'gari', palm kernel, construct borehole, develop solar panel and reconstruct the collapsed bridge," the Vice-Chancellor promised.

A student, Miss Naomi Ekpoki, whose foundation, Senema Love Foundation, provides education assistance to indigent students, also

promised to provide books and other writing materials for the students in the community.

In his remarks, the Baale, Chief Bolaji Akapo, expressed joy for the visit and noted that it was an answer to long-time prayers. He lamented the poor state and lack of socio-

infrastructures in the community even before he was born. He also took a swipe at the politicians who had promised and disappointed them in the past, hoping that the University would bring quick development to the area.

"When there are no social amenities, particularly schools, the future of a community is bleak. The only primary school in this community has just two classrooms managed by pupils in primary one to six. Those in secondary schools walked about five kilometers to Ado to attend school. Most of our pregnant women delivered on the way before arriving at the nearest hospital. These are some of the challenges in this community even before some of us were born," he lamented.

He also extended his appreciation to the Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo and Pastor (Mrs.) Faith Oyedepo, for their recent medical outreach to the community and prayed for good health and long life for them. "Please come and help us develop our community," he pleaded. ■

Obasanjo, Ogwu Lead Participants at CU's African Development Conference

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Dr. Nduka Okoisor; Senator Foster Ogola, Chairman Senate Committee on ICT and Cyber Security; and Deaconess Doyin Ogunbiyi, Chairman Ogun State Board of Technical and Vocational Education amongst others.

The Chancellor of Covenant University, Dr. David Oyedepo, who expressed delight at the sustenance of the ICADI Conference, which had in previous editions featured three Nobel Laureates as Keynote Speakers, assured that participants at this year's event would have a memorable time.

"I have no doubt in my mind that this carefully selected team of erudite scholars and technocrats will do justice to the central theme of CU-ICADI 2016," he said. "I do also expect that the inclusive and sustainable approach to this year's conference, as well as its expanded approach, will make the outcome of the conference much more beneficial to the development of the African continent."

Highlighting the significance of ICADI, the Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, Prof. Charles Ayo, described it as one of the strategic platforms targeted towards the actualization of Vision 10:2022 of the university, which is to get the university listed among the Top 10 universities in the world by 2022.

"We are gradually approaching the end of the fourth year of the vision with proofs to show," he said.

Prof. Ayo, who attributed the success so far recorded with ICADI to the support of the CU Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo and the university's Board of Regents, said getting Chief Obasanjo and Prof. Ogwu to feature in the third edition "is the best choice of speakers ever made in the history of ICADI".

"Nobody would be able to understand and solve the problems of Africa like Africans," he added. ■