



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University June 20-24, 2016

VC Tasks Departments on Project Development, as CU WAVE Unveils Lab

The Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, Professor Charles Ayo, has charged all the Departments in the University to limber up in their research and project development activities in emulation of the milestones achieved by the Department of Biological Sciences.

He laid down the gauntlet at the

commissioning ceremony of project laboratories and operational vehicle at the Covenant University hub of the West African Virus Epidemiology (WAVE).

The WAVE project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Department for International Development (DFID) UK, addresses virus disease problems in roots and

tuber crops in West Africa. And the Team Leader of the WAVE's CU hub is Dr. Angela Eni, a lecturer in the Biological Sciences department.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony, Professor Ayo, who lauded Dr. Eni for her efforts at ensuring food security and other Faculty members of the Department of Biological Sciences for their project development initiatives, urged other departments to come up with similar projects.

"I appreciate the leadership of the College and that of Department of Biological Sciences," said the Vice-Chancellor. "If all departments in the University are able to come up with something as substantial and tangible like what we are seeing today, you would agree with me that Vision 10:2022 will be a child's play."



Prof. C. K. Ayo at the Commissioning of the CU WAVE Project Development

Covenant University Commissions GIS Laboratory, Organises Workshop

Covenant University on Monday, June 13, 2016 commissioned a Geographic Information System (GIS) Laboratory. The commissioning, performed by the Dean, College of Engineering, Professor Samuel John, who stood in for the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo, also signaled the commencement of a 5-day Workshop on GIS and Remote Sensing Applications.

While declaring the Workshop open, the representative of the Vice-

Chancellor noted that GIS would enable the University and the nation at large know the facilities to put in place in order to monitor security, agriculture and other activities in the country. He expressed confidence that the participants would enjoy and benefit maximally from the training.

The Workshop Coordinator, Mr. Gideon Adeyemi, stated that GIS is unique because of its capacity to perform integrated analysis of data sets that are of different origins, scales and time to aid decision making in natural resources management, transportation planning, assets and facilities management, environmental management, food security, business intelligence analysis, land information system, health management, tourism among others.

Corroborating the assertions of Mr. Adeyemi, the Workshop Resource person, Dr. Olalekan Taiwo of the University of Ibadan stated that the workshop was to create awareness of the use of GIS and its applications in engineering, environment, security,

Covenant, Robert Gordon Varsities to Collaborate

The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor Charles Ayo, has expressed willingness of the University to collaborate with Robert Gordon University, Scotland on research, staff and students exchange.

Professor Ayo made this known while addressing a 4-man delegation from Robert Gordon University, led by its Director, International Office, Mr. Jamie Hastings who paid him a courtesy visit in his office recently.

He said, "I believe that relationship between institutions should be symbiotic. I will like to see both institutions work together in the areas of research, staff and students exchange. I hope to see your university listed among those we collaborate with where our students can visit your university and your students also visit ours. We can put a MoU together in these areas."

Mr. Jamie Hastings had earlier briefed the Vice-Chancellor and his team that Robert Gordon University has between 350 to 400 Nigerians among its



Professor Samuel John

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CU Management and Official of Robert Gordon University

postgraduate students who are either full-time on campus or online. "Some of our best postgraduate students are Covenant University graduates, and we feel it's very important to come to Nigeria to see where the students came from. We want to see the opportunities they have and barriers they face before getting to UK to study with us," he explained.

The Head of Department, Sociology, Dr. Tayo George, also explained that the

visit and deliver lectures at the Department during their stay in the University.

The Robert Gordon University team later proceeded to the Multipurpose Hall of the Centre for Entrepreneurial Development Studies where they addressed faculty and staff of the Departments of Sociology, Economics and Development Studies, as well as Petroleum Engineering.

relationship between the Universities started last year when Mr. Hastings with other colleagues visited the Department of Sociology to deliver lectures. She added that the team would also

Following the dedication of the laboratory and the vehicle, Professor Ayo, who expressed satisfaction with what he saw, beseeched God to enable Dr. Eni and her team to be able to achieve success in their undertakings.

"I've never seen a lab like this in the University except when we visited a lab in the United States. Anybody would be proud to bring any researcher anywhere in the world to this place. Now you have shown us round, result is the only thing we are waiting for; result that will announce you and the University to the entire world. And by the grace of God the wisdom required will be bestowed on you and your team in Jesus name Amen," he said.

Explaining the importance of the laboratory equipment and vehicle funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Department for International Development (DFID) UK, Dr. Eni said it is to ensure that virus diseases of root and tuber crops are addressed appropriately and ensure food security for the West African region.

"In the laboratory, we have equipment for DNA analysis, DNA isolation and DNA analysis for PCR. We have equipment that will allow us to clone genes and send it out for sequencing and then we have facilities to allow us to engineer genes into other crops. So, we are fully a bio-technology lab. And we've just purchased a project vehicle, because in the farms the roads are rough," she revealed

CU Set to Release New Batch of Eagles

Management, faculty, staff and students are in high spirit as activities commence ahead of the 11th Convocation Ceremony of Covenant University, which comes up on Friday, June 24 in the university's chapel at Canaan Land, Ota, Ogun State Tagged 'The Release of Eagles', the convocation ceremony, which will be attracting dignitaries from all walks of life, will officially bring down the curtains on the eventful 2015/2016 academic session.

Graduating students, according to the management, have fulfilled the requirements of the Statutes and Regulations of Covenant University, and have been found worthy both in character and in learning to be admitted to the Degrees of their various Colleges. Covenant University has since inception been releasing a new generation of leaders, whom have been raised through a qualitative and life-applicable training system that focuses on value and skill development.

Activities lined up for this year's ceremony kicks-off on Wednesday with an early morning Special Convocation Assembly and a Special Convocation Service to be conducted by Bishop David Abioye later in the day.

A Convocation Lecture with the topic, 'Benchmarking the Quality and Relevance of Higher Education for National Development', will flag off Thursday's programmes with Professor Michael Faborode, Secretary General of the Association of Vice-Chancellors of Nigerian Universities and a former Vice-Chancellor of the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, as the Convocation Lecturer. Commissioning of the Covenant University Centre for Research, Innovation and Development (CUCRID), Exhibition of Innovative Products and Hooding Events for Colleges follow in quick succession, while a Special Gospel Concert/Variety Night wraps up the day.

The convocation ceremony, scheduled to hold between 9pm and 12.30 pm on Friday will feature a Keynote Address to be delivered by Professor Jerry Gana, a former Nigerian Minister of Information and Orientation and Pro-Chancellor/Chairman of Governing Council, University of Lagos. The Keynote Address precedes the award of First and Higher Degrees and Presentation of Special Awards and Prizes.

The ceremony will attract dignitaries from all walks of life.

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agriculture among others, noting that it was high time the scientists and decision makers began to use GIS to avoid failed decisions.

The Workshop which was put together by the Department of Civil Engineering in conjunction with the Directorate of Life-Long Learning will end on Friday, June 17, 2016.