



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University July 4-8, 2016

Eschew Pride, CU Chancellor Counsels Graduating Eagles

Admonitions, counseling and words of praise were not in short supply at the Special Convocation Assembly that kicked off activities ahead of the June 24, 11th Convocation Ceremony of Covenant University, with the Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo, exhorting members of the graduating class of 2015/2016 to eschew pride in all their undertakings wherever they may find themselves after bagging their certificates.

The Chancellor, who attributed the growth of his Ministry to meekness, thanksgiving and not sharing God's glory with Him, said at the convocation assembly held at the university's chapel on Wednesday, that the academic environment is highly susceptible to pride because knowledge spurs arrogance and that's why there are so many qualifications without recognition.

He said: "Young people, who are

going now, because I understand a lot of you walk on your head, be careful; pride will cut you short. The reason some people can't get a job is because they feel too big for the job. And that's what translates to not giving God the glory. That you were even qualified to be admitted, you thank God, that you came through here not rusticated you celebrate God.

"Beware of pride. Young people, don't walk on your head, it's not safe. Whatever you have decided to do, dabble into it, give it your best, it's a stepping stone. This pride will shoot you down, don't try it. You get a job and your boss is below you in your sight, you have closed the door. This place didn't happen, I and God founded it. Yet I can't go behind the authority to go and execute something that is not in my office."

One year of the National Youth



Dr. David Oyedepo

Service Corps (NYSC) programme, Dr. Oyedepo posited, is more than enough for the graduating students to get themselves set for the future that will await them. "To start from where you are, just be excited at being productive at every stage of

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No Quality Teaching without Quality Research – Professor Faborode

Former Vice-Chancellor, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Professor Michael Faborode, has charged tertiary institutions in Nigeria and Africa on the imperative of improving on their research activities, so as to have a corresponding improvement in the quality of teaching.

Professor Faborode proffered this suggestion, at the Convocation Lecture of Covenant University held recently on the institution's premises in Ota, Ogun State. The lecture had as its theme, 'Benchmarking the Quality and Relevance of Higher Education for National Development.'

While delivering his paper, which focused largely on the relevance of higher

education to national development, the guest lecturer, Professor Faborode, who is also the Secretary-General, Association of Vice-Chancellors of Nigerian Universities (AVCNU), stated, "The challenge and mandate of universities now relate to providing access to higher education for the teeming population of African youths, producing skilled and creative graduates to tackle African development challenges, and undertaking research to use science and innovation to provide solutions to tackle poverty, underdevelopment, and bridge the African inequality gap."

According to Professor Faborode, "We need a new strong commitment to research: in the entire system, but particularly in science and technology; no Quality Teaching without Quality Research."

Commenting on the disparity between African Universities and their contemporaries around the world, he stated that the level of collaboration and partnership between African universities is inadequate. "Whereas, no African university has the capacity to compete on its own at a global level; the only way that we can equalize the global playing field is if African institutions partner with each other," he said.



Professor Faborode

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Humility, Master-key to Triumphant Living – Bishop Abioye

Members of the Covenant University's graduating class of 2016, have been told to imbibe the elevating and divine quality of humility for a triumphant life after graduation.

The 1st Vice President of the Living Faith Church Worldwide, Bishop David Abioye, gave this advice while delivering his message titled, 'The Master-key to Triumphant Living,' at a special Convocation Service in Commemoration of the 11th Convocation Ceremony of Covenant University.

Abioye, who took his opening text from Joshua 1:1-5, stated that God asked him to speak over the lives of all graduating students prophetically, concerning the uniqueness of that which He would do in their lives. He declared to them, the word of God, which states that every place where their feet shall step on, God had given them as a possession. He emphasised that they would all live an enlarged life.

He stated that triumphant living is the birthright of any child of God, the plan of God, and His will for all His children (2 Corinthians 2:14). Declaration, he said, "is an affirmation of your position in Christ." He pointed out that everything in life has keys and keys are more valuable than gifts. "What Jesus gave to us are keys, If you are asking for gifts, you are asking for less, but if you are given keys, you are given

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Graduating Class Advised to Exhibit Quality Attitude

The graduating class of the School of Postgraduate Studies of Covenant University has been advised to exhibit good knowledge, skills and attitude expected of someone who has obtained higher qualifications as they proceed further in life.

The advice was given by Professor Bioye Aluko, the Guest Speaker at the School of Postgraduate Studies Hooding Event on Wednesday, June 22, 2016, as part of activities marking the 11th Convocation Ceremony of the University.

While speaking on, "After Postgraduate Training, What's Next?" Professor Aluko noted that the higher the degree obtained, the higher the expectations of the people, particularly as they are products of Covenant University. "As graduates of Covenant University, more is expected from you because of the spiritual and moral training you were subjected to," he said.

The Guest Speaker, who is also the Dean of the Faculty of Urban Design at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, emphasised that though, the course of study may be one or two years, the graduands would continue to defend what they have

learnt for life.

"As a graduate of any discipline, there is a level of attitude expected of you. For those who may want to go into academia, you are not going to teach alone but also provide leadership in research and community service. You should be able to supervise others. For those who are already in the industry, you should be able to apply all you have learnt to your assignment," he advised.

Professor Aluko also enjoined them to exhibit the Entrepreneurial skills they acquired, which, according to him, would help them in the future.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo, advised them to identify gaps to fill in order to remain relevant. He added that the University had tried to train them in leadership and entrepreneurial skills in order to have competitive edge. "This is a dreamers' land, please dream big and take a throne," he said.

Earlier in his address, the Dean of the School, Professor Shalom Chinedu, informed that 18 PGD, 115 Masters and 21 Ph.Ds are graduating in this year's



Professor Bioye Aluko

convocation. According to him, this is not a mean achievement considering the age of the University. While appreciating the Management for the much emphasis laid on the PG programme, he also commended the students for subscribing to the training at Covenant University.

Also present at the event were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Taiwo Abioye; Registrar, Pastor Olamide Olusegun; Director, Financial Services, Pastor Bayo Oladehinbo, Deans and Sub-Deans of Colleges and School of Postgraduate Studies; Board of the School of Postgraduate Studies as well as students. ■

Eschew Pride, CU Chancellor Counsels Graduating Eagles *Contd. from Pg 1*

your lives. If it means selling pure water, be productive, because you gather experience with every engagement, which goes on to be a blessing to the future that awaits you," he said.

The vision of Covenant University being one of 10 in 10 by the year 2022, he added, is a reality as nothing is impossible to God. "There is nothing this God cannot do," he emphasized. "No devil can stop it; all we need is to be a partaker of it as it happens. How we moved from a 3000 capacity sanctuary to a 50,000 sanctuary, it's God, because no man can do it. While 3000 capacity took three years to complete, 50,

000 took one year. So, you know that is God. Please don't misjudge divine capacity."

Speaking at the occasion, which was spiced with songs of praise and benedictions for the Chancellor, the Board of Regents, the university's management team, members of faculty and staff, and the graduands, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo, appreciated God for the successful completion of the job started four or five years ago as the case may be concerning the duration of Degree programmes.

"This set, the 'Prestige Set', also qualifies to

be called the 'Vision one of 10 in 10 set'. This administration came in with some of them that entered into a four-year programme, which coincided with the announcement of Vision 10:2022. Today we have come through less than four years of the vision but we've achieved unimaginable and undeniable goals, to God be all the glory," he remarked. ■

No Quality Teaching without Quality Research – Professor Faborode

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He stated that the time has come for African universities to create a global academy of commons – a global community of scholars, who although responsive to the local and national needs of our society, nevertheless, transcend national politics to practice a 'science' that produces knowledge for the collective human community. ■

cannot wear out a man of grace; and if people can describe the happenings in your life, then, it is not 'grace,' see Daniel 6." he pointed out. The grace of God, the Bishop said, is not for strong people, it is rather for weak people. "The earlier you come to the end of your strength, the earlier the grace of God will begin to work in your life," he said. ■

Humility, Master-key to Triumphant Living – Bishop Abioye

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Bishop David Abioye

invaluable things. Keys are points of triumph," he stated.

The Bishop explained that 'Keys,' are called 'grace,' and grace is the master-key to a triumphant lifestyle (2 Corinthians 12:9). "Grace is the only thing God says is sufficient. Grace covers your errors and colours your efforts (Zechariah 4:1-7). Grace does not seek compliments; it says, use what you have, but do not depend on what you have (Ecclesiastes 9:11). Grace is all you need (Genesis 47:15; 1 Samuel 2:9; Zechariah 4:6). There is no level of power that cannot be measured, but grace is inexhaustible," he stated.

"You can wear out power, but you