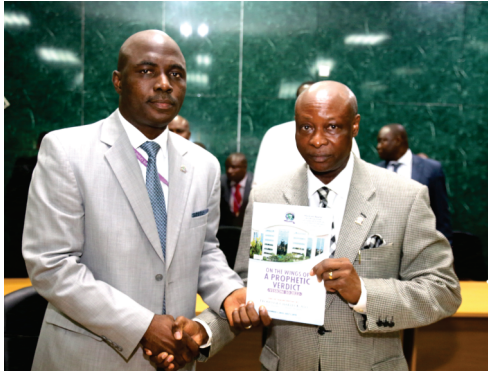




Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University July 18-22, 2016

Atayero Succeeds Ayo as Covenant University Vice-Chancellor



Professor AAA. Atayero and Charles Ayo

The Board of Regents, Covenant University's apex governing body has approved the appointment of Professor AAA. Atayero, as the fourth substantive Vice-Chancellor of the University.

Secretary of the Board of Regents, Pastor Chioma Okwuanyi, on behalf of the Chairman of the Board and Chancellor of Covenant University, Dr. David Oyedepo, made the announcement on Friday July 15, 2016 at a special meeting of Principal Officers, Deans, Directors and Heads of Departments.

Professor Atayero replaces Professor Charles Ayo, whose tenure elapsed last month.

Speaking on how the Board of Regents arrived on its choice of Professor Atayero, Pastor Okwuanyi said the Board, at a recent meeting to consider a number of eminent professors from Covenant University, decided to limit the choice to the products of the university in order to

allow for continuity; somebody who has been in the system who knows where Professor Ayo stopped, and start building from that foundation.

The announcement was greeted with a thunderous applause from the audience including Professor Ayo, who described the day as symbolic in the annals of history of the university. It would have been disheartening, he said, if the university had to look elsewhere to pick his successor.

He acknowledged the contributions of all present, while expressing satisfaction that he has bequeathed a university where faculty, staff and students can walk with their heads held high across the continent of Africa.

"I congratulate the incoming Vice-Chancellor. Actually, we started the journey together... I therefore have no doubt

Contd. on Pg 2

New VC, Atayero, Promises Wonderful Time

The new Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, says members of Faculty, Staff and Students will have a wonderful time during his stewardship.

Atayero, who was appointed Vice-Chancellor on July 15, 2016 following the expiration of the tenure of his predecessor, Professor Charles Ayo, made the promise on Monday July 25, 2016 at the Opening Assembly organized by management of the university to herald the beginning of the 2016/2017 academic session.

A former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) of the university between 2012 and 2014, Atayero told the gathering, which included the Secretary of the Board of Regents, Pastor Chioma Okwuanyi, who represented the Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo, members of the management team, faculty and staff, that he was privileged to be found worthy of steering the ship of the university at this crucial time.

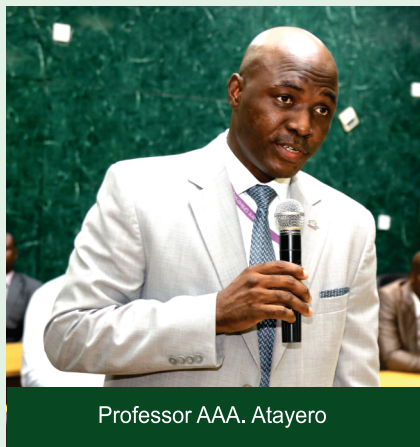
While describing his assumption of duty as "a change of baton", having previously worked with Professor Ayo, Professor Atayero thanked the Board of Regents for reposing confidence in his ability.

"To say I'm overwhelmed would be the understatement of the century," said the Professor of Communication Engineering. "For the Board of the university, at this

daunting time, has asked me to move the university forward.

"I'm sure you will have a wonderful time. Together we will take this university to its rightful place."

Earlier, the representative of the Chancellor, Pastor Okwuanyi, had while unveiling the new Vice-Chancellor and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Shalom Chinedu to the faculty and staff, said the former Vice-Chancellor had performed well but if the great achievements recorded in the last four years are to be maintained, it was incumbent on the Board of Regents to find the right individual to continue with the good works.



Professor AAA. Atayero

Contd. on Pg 2

CU Appoints Chinedu as Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Covenant University's apex decision making body, the Board of Regents, has appointed Professor Shalom Chinedu as the new Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the university.

The Secretary to the Board of Regents, Pastor Chioma Okwuanyi, announced Chinedu's appointment on Monday July 25, 2016 at the Opening Assembly held to usher in the 2016/2017 academic session of Covenant University.

The Assembly, which had the university's management team, members of Faculty and Staff in attendance, also featured the unveiling of Professor Aderemi Atayero as the new Vice-Chancellor of the institution.

Pastor Okwuanyi, who represented the Chairman, Board of Regents, and Chancellor of Covenant University, Dr. David Oyedepo, enjoined Professor Chinedu to join hands with Professor Atayero in achieving set objectives.

Chinedu, who replaces Professor Taiwo Abioye, was until his new appointment the Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies. The Professor of Biochemistry had also served in various offices including the Dean, College of Science and Technology; Director, Vice-Chancellor's office; Director, Quality Assurance and Academic Standards; Sub-Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies; and Head, Department of Biological Sciences.

Contd. on Pg 2

Mathematics Study Group Can Solve Nigeria's Problems –NMC Director

Nigeria, with a teeming population of more than 180 million and seemingly limitless human and natural resources, should be able to nestle in the fold of developed nations if the country can use Mathematics to solve its myriad of problems, the Director General of the National Mathematical Centre (NMC), Abuja, Professor Adewale Solarin, has advocated.

He made this remark at the opening ceremony of the Inaugural Nigerian Mathematics in Industry Study Group (NIGMISG) Workshop/Conference, holding at Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, with the theme, 'Fostering Collaborative Research between Academics and Industry Using Mathematics'.

Professor Solarin, who was the Keynote Speaker but represented by Professor F. Saporu, in his speech titled, 'Mathematics in

Industry in Nigeria: Problems and Prospects', commended Covenant University for initiating the study group, which he said has the potential of transforming Nigeria into an industrialised nation.

The problem of Nigeria, he said, is suffering in the midst of plenty. "How can we mathematicians help? Mathematics is used in finding answers to questions and problems which arise in everyday life. The presence of industries is an index of a modern society. Consequently, choosing mathematics study group with industry as a model is very appropriate."

Mathematics study groups with industry, he pointed out, provide a forum for industrial scientists to work alongside academic mathematicians on problems of direct industrial relevance. A study group,



cross section of the participants at the conference

he enumerated, provides a forum for exploiting the expertise of leading applied mathematicians to find solutions to industrial problems; clarifying and clearly formulating a problem; bringing new perspectives and fresh ideas; brainstorming on mechanisms and methodologies; and finding state-of-the art solution procedures ■

Atayero Succeeds Ayo as Covenant University Vice-Chancellor *Contd. from Pg 1*

whatsoever that Professor Atayero will be able to move the university forward at a faster rate having been part and parcel of the Vision," said Professor Ayo.

He subsequently presented his handover note titled, 'On the Wings of a Prophetic Verdict: Vision 10:2022' to Professor Atayero, and prayed that God will give the new Vice-Chancellor the wisdom and the grace to take the university to a greater height.

Professor Atayero, in his acceptance speech, thanked the Board of Regents for the confidence reposed in him to carry the mantle of leadership of the institution from where Professor Ayo stopped.

While acknowledging that the task before him is not an easy one, the Vice-Chancellor is optimistic that victory would be achieved.

"When I was made the Deputy Vice-

Chancellor (Academic), when I was writing my acceptance letter then, one of the things I noted was I'm fully persuaded that this can only be done exclusively by the leading of the Holy Spirit. It is pleasing that I'm currently on the mountain, and one of the scriptures I read on the mountain is Romans 9:28: 'For He will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth'.

"I am convinced that victory would be achieved even before the last lap as set by our indefatigable Chancellor. Another good reason is that we are standing on a very sound foundation. It is only a privilege for us and the team coming in to be able to carry this mantle forward and we make bold to say that by His grace we shall not disappoint."

Curtains were drawn on the

unveiling ceremony with Pastor Okwuanyi asking all present to pray that God gives Professor Atayero the grace to accomplish the task before him.

Professor Atayero and Professor Ayo later met in the Vice-Chancellor's Office at the Senate Building, where members of staff led by the Director, Vice-Chancellor's Office, Dr. Akan Williams, were introduced to the new helmsman. ■

New VC, Atayero, Promises Wonderful Time

Contd. from Pg 1

Pastor Okwuanyi, who described Professor Atayero as "the man to take us to the Eldorado", urged other members of management, faculty and staff to give their unflinching support to the new helmsman.

"The task before the Vice-Chancellor, faculty, staff and students is enormous, daunting and challenging. What we need to move forward is unity of purpose.

"There is an assignment for everybody; you do not come to the university by chance, it is by divine ordination. We should contribute our quota, be fair and just," said Pastor Okwuanyi. ■

CU Appoints Chinedu as Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Contd. from Pg 1



Professor Shalom Chinedu

He has been actively engaged in teaching, research, mentoring, and community service in the tertiary institution since 1992. His current research interests include production of cellulolytic enzymes, bio-fertilizers, fermentation substrates, and other valuable products from solid wastes; production and molecular characterization of protein sweeteners from African tropical plants, and identification of essential metabolic reactions and potential drug targets of *Trypanosoma brucei*. He is also a supervisor, examiner and assessor of Postgraduate theses/dissertations.

Professor Chinedu is the leader of 'Covenant University Public Health and Well-being Research Group (CUPHERG)', an interdisciplinary research group working together with the University's Community Development Impact Initiative Committee to raise the health and living standards of local communities. ■