



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University July 25-29, 2016

Vision 10:2022 is Reality, Chancellor Reassures as CU Honours Ex-VC, Others



The Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo and Former V.C Prof. C. K. Ayo

The vision of making Covenant University one of the top 10 universities in the world by the year 2022 is a mission accomplished, the Chancellor and Chairman Board of Regents of the institution, Dr. David Oyedepo, has reiterated.

He gave the assurance on Friday July 29, 2016 at a valedictory luncheon put together in honour of the immediate past Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo, the immediate past Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Taiwo Abioye and other members of their management team.

Speaking at the luncheon, which also featured the new Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, his deputy, Professor Shalom Chinedu,

senior management staff, including Deans, Heads of Departments, other members of faculty and Principal Officers, the Chancellor, who expressed appreciation to Professor Ayo and his outgoing team for their widely acknowledged achievements, said Vision 10:2022 is ordained by God.

"The important thing is that there is nothing impossible," said Dr. Oyedepo. "Vision 10:2022 is a reality and with people working assiduously towards it, it is a mission accomplished.

"This is God's university, I'll never say it's mine. This university will hit the mark. The closer you work with God, the brighter life becomes."

While acknowledging the "heavy price" paid by the immediate past management team, especially towards the realization of the vision one of 10 in 10, the Chancellor prayed that every member of that team would move to the next level and continue to contribute to the success of the university.

Also, Dr. Oyedepo admonished the current management team led by Professor Atayero on the importance of hard work, stressing that contributing towards achieving success is not about money but values.

"No one can survive working with me as a lazy person. Anybody leading any of the organisations must be up and doing," he said. "I found an heir, a very hardworking and tenacious person. I have no doubt that the current administration will succeed."

The speed with which Covenant University will move in the new academic session, he envisioned, will be greater than the last four years, adding that the institution will surge and everyone contributing shall be part of it.

"This university will gain greater speed. Let no one spite this prophetic word, it's always at a cost," Dr. Oyedepo emphasized.

To further demonstrate the university's appreciation to the leadership of the outgoing management, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Atayero and selected members of faculty and principal officers sequentially took to the floor to extol the virtues of Professor Ayo.

Professor Atayero, who described his predecessor as a man of passion, said the passion is so strong it overflows such that some people cannot contain it. "Professor Ayo is an astute manager of men and resources. I appreciate him for all he has done for Covenant University and I promise to make use of all the advices he has given me," said the VC.

The Dean, College of Science and Technology, Professor Nicholas Omorogbe, who bagged his PhD Degree under the supervision of Professor Ayo, said he enjoyed working with the outgoing VC. "He is a very good mentor to me," said Omorogbe. "He knows how to put right people in right places; that helped him in his administration."

The Head, Department of Electrical and Information Engineering, Dr. Francis Idachaba;

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CU Management Appreciates Outgoing Officers

In a meeting with its outgoing officers on Friday, July 29, 2016, the Management of Covenant University showered them with accolades in appreciation of their efforts and contributions to moving the University forward.

The event which was aimed at celebrating the faithfulness and hard-work of the leaders of the various directorates and departments, also, had them receiving befitting gifts in appreciation of their meritorious service to the Institution.

In his remarks at the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, congratulated the officers on

their successful tenure and enjoined them not to rest on their oars, but rather, to keep making efforts, even out of office, to move the University further in its quest to reach world-class status by the year, 2022.

While making the introductory remarks, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Shalom Chinedu, encouraged the outgoing officers to trust God for the reward of faithful service. He noted that committed service in a University founded on godly vision such as CU's, would definitely not go unrewarded.

The Deans who are leaving include the Dean, College of Engineering, Professor, Samuel



CU Management and outgoing Officers

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Security Experts Advocate Modern Approach to Counter Terrorism in Nigeria

Security experts in the country have advocated the adoption of modern security approach in the fight against terrorism in the country. They also called on the Federal Government to address the issue of injustice across the nation, particularly in the Niger Delta Area in order to stem the tide of insurgency.

The experts suggested the approach at the just concluded 2-day workshop on "Modern Security Approaches Towards Arresting the Tide of Terrorism in Nigeria", organised by Covenant University's Department of Sociology in conjunction with the University's Centre for Life-Long Learning on July 25-26, 2016 at its campus.

Ahmadu Suleiman, a retired Army Colonel and the first Keynote Speaker at the Workshop, submitted that terrorism has taken a different dimension from just recruiting people because of economic problems. He noted that terrorism include activities of Boko Haram, Niger Delta Avengers, Kidnappers, Fulani Herdsmen,

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Armed Robbers and political thugs among others.

Colonel Suleiman (Rtd) emphasised injustice, particularly against the people of the Niger Delta as the bane of terrorist activities in the area. "Injustice being done in the Niger Delta has to be reversed or redressed. No nation can survive under injustice. It is the razor that tears a nation apart," he noted.

Colonel Suleiman, who is also the CEO of Veteran Security Limited, blamed leadership failure for the Niger Delta agitations, noting that a lot of money and resources had gone into addressing the challenges but nothing to show for it and no one was held accountable.

He, however, commended the Federal Government for adopting the option to dialogue with the Niger Delta Avengers to

address the issues, even as he suggested immediate, medium and long-term solution to the insurgencies. Amnesty programme, according to him, ought to have been properly addressed as Rehabilitation programme, which is the immediate solution while the long-term solution would include restructuring of the nation to allow resource control by the states.

He also commended Covenant University for taking the initiative to organise the Workshop which he said, was very apt.

The second Keynote Speaker, Dr. Ferdinand Ikwang, who is the Programme Adviser on Niger Delta, Office of the National Security Adviser, in the Presidency, corroborated Col. Suleiman, noting that the reason why people take up arms is not poverty or unemployment but injustice. He explained that terrorism is pre-

meditated violence perpetrated against non-combatant target by sub-national group or clandestine agents.

Dr. Ikwang suggested various strategies to arrest terrorism in the country, which include de-radicalisation of radicals, strategic communication to counter the terrorists narratives as well as counter radicalisation, which premised on the concept that, "To stop burning fire, you take the unburned firewood away. When the burning firewood burns out, the fire goes down."

He advised the participants to always challenge anything contrary to the facts because, "If they are not challenged, the society will be radicalised and when it is radicalised, it will become violent."

Encomiums Galore as CU Sends Forth Fulbright Scholar, Akpan-Obong



Prof. Atayero, Patience Akpan-Obong and Chinedu

The Management and Faculty of Covenant University were lavish in their approbation as the institution, on Thursday July 28, 2016 held a send forth ceremony in honour of visiting Fulbright Scholar, Professor Patience Akpan-Obong.

A professor of Science, Technology and Society at the Arizona State University, USA, Akpan-Obong has since August 2015 been using her Fulbright to teach, conduct research and organise an international conference on e-government in Nigeria under the auspices of Covenant University.

Her research dwells on the integration of information and communication technologies in the administrative practices of Federal Government ministries and departments, state

governments and federal universities in a process called e-government or e-governance.

Virtually all members of management and faculty present at the send forth ceremony chaired by the CU Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA Atayero, were unequivocal about the great impact Professor Akpan-Obong has made during her sojourn in the university.

They acknowledged her prowess as a go-getter and one who personifies the CU core value of possibility mentality.

The Vice-Chancellor, who on behalf of the management, faculty, staff and students expressed appreciation to the Fulbright Scholar, said it's been wonderful having her at Covenant University.

"We appreciate you for the exposure on industry context, and we want to say a big thank you for all you have done," said Professor Atayero.

The immediate past Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo, during whose stewardship the Fulbright Scholar arrived Covenant University, appreciated her "immeasurable contribution to the university".

He said: "she demonstrated things, which simply show no assignment is exclusive preserve of any gender; a protagonist of the Covenant University-Conference on E-Governance in Nigeria (CUCEN). Looking at what she has brought, she is an invaluable asset nobody would want to lose."

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Head of Department, Biological Sciences, Professor Adesola Ajayi; Dr. Angela Eni of the Biological Sciences department; and Director, Centre for Learning Resource, Dr. Chris Nkiko were unequivocal in their appreciation of Professor Ayo for being non-discriminatory, result-oriented, supportive and firm.

The outgoing Vice-Chancellor, who came to the function accompanied by his amiable wife, in his remarks, attributed his appointment four years ago to God who found him worthy, and thanked the Chancellor, the Board of Regents and all members of the previous management team for the contributions brought on board.

"On behalf of my family and the people of Ede (in Osun State), I thank the Chancellor for believing in me," said Professor Ayo. "Indeed, it was a great privilege looking at the number of awards, because of the grace upon us."

Acknowledging the positive roles played by Professor Atayero, who was his deputy between 2012 and 2014, Professor Ayo said. "By the grace of God we have a good hand assuming leadership of Covenant University at this point".

With six years remaining in the task of achieving Vision 10:2022, the erstwhile VC urged Professor Atayero and his team to complete the assignment in the next four years. "This is the time to start burning the candle, I pray to God to lead you and your team aright," he said.

CU Management Appreciates Outgoing Officers

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John; Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies (SPS), Professor Shalom Chinedu and Dean, Students' Affairs, Dr. Oni Omogbadegun, as well as, the Sub-Dean (SPS), Professor Samuel Oloyede.

Among outgoing directors are the Director, Centre for Entrepreneurial Development Studies, Dr. Omotayo Adegbuyi; Director, Centre for Research Innovation and Discovery, Professor Samuel Wara and Director, Vice-Chancellor's Office, Dr. Akan Williams.

Outgoing heads of departments include Head, Department of Accounting, Dr.

Uwugbe Uwaloma; Head, Department of Architecture, Dr. Ibem Eziyi-Offia; Head, Department of Banking and Finance, Dr. Ikpefan Ochei; Head, Department of Business Management, Dr. Worlu Rowland; Head, Department of Chemistry, Professor Kolawole Ajanaku; Head, Department of Computer and Information Sciences, Dr. Adebisi Ayodele.

Others are: Head, Department of Economics and Development Studies, Dr. Okodua Henry; Head, Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Dr. Francis Idachaba; Head, Department of Estate Management, Dr.

Ajibola Mayowa; Head, Mass Communication, Dr. Omolola Oladokun; Head, Mathematics, Dr. Owoloko Enahoro; Head, Department of Physics, Dr. Temidayo Omotosho; Head, Political Science and International Relations, Dr. Olajide Ibieta; Head, Department of Psychology, Dr. Olajide Adekeye and Head, Department of Sociology, Dr. Tayo George.

Also present at the event were the Registrar, Pastor Olamide Olusegun; the Director, Financial Services, Pastor Bayo Oladehinbo and members of the Directorate of Media & Corporate Affairs.