



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University October 3-7, 2016

CU Management Charges Students' Council on Responsible Representation

The Management of Covenant University has had an interactive discussion with Executive members of the university's Students' Council towards fostering a better and conducive learning environment, and to help the students understand management expectations, taking into account the ReCITe (Research, Citation, Innovation and Teaching) goal of the management.

Speaking at the forum, the Chairman of the Students' Council, Toro-Obong Udoh, expressed appreciation to the Management for the improved internet services, power supply, and intervention in ensuring that there was a moderation in the prices of meals at the University cafeteria.

He told the gathering that the leadership of the students' body is working at getting every student in the University to embrace and run with the vision of being listed as one of the top 10 universities in the

world by the year 2022.

He highlighted some of the activities earmarked by the Council for the current academic session, which include I-Respond welfare initiatives for challenged students, and harnessing creative photography and video skills of undergraduates. This is to create improved media presence for students, improve on existing channels of communication for better enlightenment process for students and address cases of misdemeanor. He revealed that the students' body was working at getting an App that will help serve as a channel of complaints and ensure that speedy attention is given to any issue raised.

To buffer academic performance of students that will ensure a most engaging academic session, the



CU Management with Members of Students' Council

Council plans to take academic pursuit to the halls of residence in the form of group tutorials and discourses amongst students of related discipline.

Members of the Students' Council told Management that a sensitisation campaign tagged, 'We Are Covenant University', will soon be flagged off towards effectively integrating the

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CU, Honeywell Partner on Reverse Engineering of Food Products

Covenant University and Honeywell Flour Mills Plc have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that will see the two organisations partnering on the use of Reverse Engineering for food production.

The Covenant University Centre for Research, Innovation and Discovery (CUCRID) is expected to harness the capacities of researchers in the Departments of Chemistry and Biological Sciences to execute the terms of the MoU.

Speaking at the MoU signing ceremony, which took place on Wednesday, September 28, 2016, at the Corporate Head Office of Honeywell Flour Mills in Lagos, the Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies, Professor Samuel Wara, who represented Covenant

University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, said the first phase of the partnership will entail using the process of reverse engineering to come up with various reliable sauces and ingredients that will enhance existing quality of the Honeywell brands.

Professor Wara said working teams will be met in a bid to establish an understanding and the expectations from both sides, towards reengineering various Honeywell products and help domesticate production.

He promised that the Departments of Chemistry and Biological Sciences will strive to see that the relationship becomes a fruitful endeavour, which will possibly lead to having an endowed centre at the University for the sole purpose of carrying out reverse engineering activities in the area of foods and beverages.

The Head, Corporate Development and Investment, Honeywell Group, Mr. Teddy Ngu, said the teams need to get to work immediately as the company places premium on the MoU. He noted that there was need for partnering departments and units to meet and understand the scope of work, develop timelines and financial implications of the partnership.

He averred that a hundred percent domestication of production will go a

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Onesimus Lauds CU Chancellor's Patronage, Seeks More Support

The Chancellor, Covenant University, Dr. David O. Oyedepo, has been commended for his patronage of the life recovery programme, Onesimus.

Representatives of stakeholders in the programme, expressed the appreciation when they paid a courtesy call on the CU Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, in his office on Friday, September 30, 2016.

Introducing the Onesimus team to the Vice-Chancellor, the Team Leader, Onesimus, Barrister Benson Iwuagwu, said the stakeholders, comprised of the Prison Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN), the Nigerian Prison Services (NPS), the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) and Covenant University, have come to congratulate Professor Atayero as the fourth Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University to sustain the Onesimus project.

The project, he explained, is targeted towards re-habilitation of inmates in the Nigerian Prisons to ensure national development and peaceful co-existence. "We are building a community of reconciliation for those affected by crime; this is where Covenant University is playing a fundamental role. Covenant University comes in by addressing psychological issues with programme founded on strong philosophy and curriculum," he said.

Onesimus, Iwuagwu noted, is not just thinking about people in prison and when they leave, but concerned about their need in prison

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Mr Teddy Ngu from Honeywell Group and Dean, PG School, Prof Samuel Wara, displaying the signed agreement

CBAAC Director Advocates Promotion of African Culture

Covenant University's quest for restoring the beautiful heritage of Africa was brought to fore as she hosted her very first Cultural Day in collaboration with the Centre for Black and African Arts and Culture (CBAAC) at its African Leadership Development Centre (ALDC) on Saturday, September 17, 2016.

The epoch making event attracted many important dignitaries including the Director General of CBAAC, Dr. Ferdinand Anekwe, who also presented the Keynote Address on the topic, "Promoting African Culture in the 21st Century".

In his address, Dr. Anekwe traced the

challenges of African countries to the neglect and disregard for their culture; citing the saying of late President Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, who was said to have posited that, 'African leaders should "seek the Political Kingdom first"...', which our first political leaders were doing, with no success", he therefore advocated for the seeking of a 'cultural kingdom' instead.

He gave instances of countries like China and India, which promoted their culture and are doing well in the comity of nations while African countries are lagging behind. He therefore advocated for a shift in education policy to inculcate teaching of



Participants at first Covenant University Cultural Day

history in schools for proper acculturation of the young ones.

A representative of Covenant University Management, Professor Amos Alao, remarked that Nigeria and most African countries have a lot of diversities which could be tapped for the benefits of its teeming population because a country without a cultural identity is dead. He concluded that Covenant University is always proud to showcase true African values and ethos which explained why the institution has supported the hosting of the Cultural Day celebration.

There were many performances by CU students like Miss Ochei Joy Oyare, a 400 Level student of Mass Communication, who recited a poem titled 'The Spoken Word' that talked about our penchant for loving foreign foods like custard over pap and wearing of foreign fabrics over traditional African attires among others.

Participants also showed-off various African dance steps, songs fashion parade and foods.

There was cooking competition won by Mr Oyebade, a student of Estate Management at Covenant University. ■

CU Management Charges Students' Council on Responsible Representation *Contd. from Pg 1*

University values and informal rules into students' way of life on and off campus.

The students' body executives, however, appealed to the University's Management to make adequate provision for appropriate engagement of students through the reopening of the work study programme, which apart from empowering students, serves as direct entrepreneurial skills acquisition avenue.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero said the leadership of the students' body should see itself as an interface between students and Management, while at the same time serving as advocates of students to the Management. He said it is time they help their colleagues own the Covenant University project, eradicating any demographic question of us versus them.

Professor Atayero told the Students' Council leadership that the vision of the Chancellor and Chairman, Board of Regent, Dr. David O. Oyedepo, is that graduates of the University should grow to fulfill their potentials in managerial

capacities in and outside the University. He stated that it was important that students of the University own the vision espoused by the Chancellor, buy into it and run with it thereby making the most of what the University has prepared for their training as students.

The Vice-Chancellor reminded the gathering that the University is benchmarking with the very best, and as such, Management in its quest to give the very best to the students, will expect them to be candid and forthright at all times. He encouraged the students to embrace volunteerism as a lifestyle, because it is a platform that drives appropriate change

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CU, Honeywell Partner on Reverse Engineering of Food Products *Contd. from Pg 1*

long way in reducing the amount expended in sourcing foreign exchange and at the same time, proffering indigenous solutions to economic problems, no matter how simple they may

look.

According to him, "These small things should not be taken for granted, as no one can determine how big they will grow into in the next 10 to 20 years." He promised that various food product samples will be sent to the appropriate laboratories in the University for analysis.

The Memorandum of Understand will among other things see Covenant University engage the process of reverse engineering to replicate food product samples through its Centre for Research, Innovation and Discovery (CUCRID); assist Honeywell Flour Mills Plc in product modification process, knowledge sharing sessions with its personnel in Research and Development Innovation team; and make available its laboratories and academic personnel for the purpose of the MoU. ■

active involvement of all stakeholders bringing to the fore different skills and interventions such as technical skills, psychological interventions, entrepreneurial interventions and leveraging on reformation rather than punitive actions to help ex-inmates to re-integrate into the society with sustainable source of livelihood. ■

Onesimus Lauds CU Chancellor's Patronage, Seeks More Support *Contd. from Pg 1*

itself. And while seeking the continued support of Covenant University, he revealed that Onesimus wants restorative justice resuscitated, including the setting up of an afterthought structure and provision of mentors.

Iwuagwu seized the opportunity to extend an invitation to the CU Vice-Chancellor to visit the Kirikiri Prisons, which he said would be clarion call to other Vice-Chancellors.

Earlier on, Professor Abiodun Gesinde, who leads the CU Onesimus group, said the university is committing a lot of money to the project. "We develop curriculum; we go to Kirikiri to teach, not only theory but psychological fellowship," he said.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA.

Atayero, in his response, said it's not by happenstance that CU is partnering with others on the Onesimus programme, as God has given the Chancellor, Dr. David O. Oyedepo the mandate to liberate people from oppression, and one of the avenues through which he does it is education.

He acknowledged Onesimus' efforts at giving prison inmates a new beginning. But what is more important, according him, is how to prevent people from going to prison. "That is talking about having good governance," he said.

Professor Atayero assured the Onesimus team that Covenant University will do more for the programme.

The Onesimus project strives on the