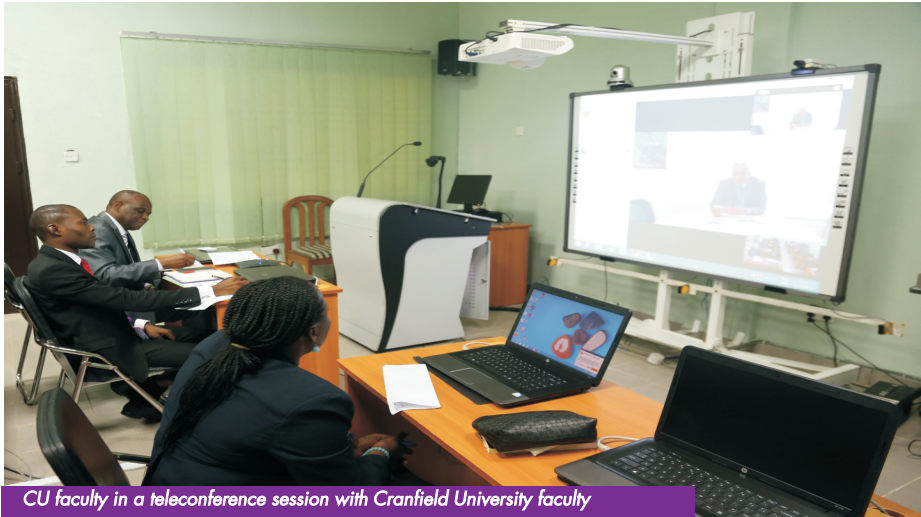




# Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University Nov. 28 - Dec. 2, 2016

## CU, Cranfield University Open Talks on Research Collaborations



CU faculty in a teleconference session with Cranfield University faculty

The Dean, College of Engineering, Covenant University, Professor Christian Bolu, who acted as moderator from the Nigerian end during the teleconference, first introduced members of the Wind Power research cluster of Covenant University, led by Dr. Oluseyi Ajayi, with Dr. Maurizio Collu representing Cranfield University at the UK end.

Dr. Ajayi highlighted the different studies his research cluster had carried out on tidal and wind energy generation, particularly looking at the potential and magnitude of wind power to be generated offshore. He noted that since Cranfield has capacity in building wind turbines, there could be collaboration between the British institution and Covenant University.

He proposed to Dr. Collu the possibility of students transfer and Covenant University students coming to Cranfield to use its facilities to develop something good.

In his comments, Dr. Maurizio said that it would be dynamic to collaborate with Covenant University, as Cranfield could design its own turbine for some specific areas.

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Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, and Cranfield University, United Kingdom, are putting modalities in place to collaborate on a number of research-based and teaching endeavours, which would be of mutual benefit to the two institutions.

This much was communicated as researchers from Covenant University and Cranfield University on Wednesday, November 23, 2016 began series of teleconference meetings bordering on different fields of

research engagements, which included Wind Power Generation, Entrepreneurship, Petroleum Engineering, and General Energy/Solar.

Other areas of interest expected to be discussed in the series of meetings are Sustainable Rural Infrastructure, Mechatronics Engineering, Water and Environment, Material Science, Internet of Things (IoT) and Smart City, and Agrifood.

## Economic recession, Federal Government advised to shun foreign loan

The Federal Government has been called upon to shun foreign loan as the only option to bail the country out of the current recession and look inward to other means of injecting money into the economy in order to push production as well as empower spending.

ESV Casmir Anyanwu, the Principal Partner at Cassy Anyanwu and Co, made the call recently while speaking on, "Intrigues in Real Estate Investment Analysis and its Role as a Panacea for a Recessed Economy," at the Town and Gown seminar organised by the Department of Estate Management of Covenant University.

Anyanwu, who was the guest speaker at the event, urged the government to borrow from idle funds including those recovered from treasury looters. "Government should borrow from pension funds and the unclaimed dividends accounts that run into several trillions of naira and some other funds that are lying idle and unproductive," he said.

He argued further that Real Estate sector of the economy is able to bail out the country from recession. "Despite the fact that recession hits



ESV Casmir Anyanwu, making his presentation

real estate market and investment hard," he noted, "it is still about the most durable and fastest to recover from recession," Anyanwu argued.

The Head, Department of Estate Management, Dr. Chukwemeka Iroham, had earlier noted that the topic for the seminar was apt and would afford the participants which consisted of faculty, staff and students of the department the opportunity to have an insight to the intrigues in the real estate practice.

## Expert Advocates Quality Assurance Over Quality Control

The importance of quality assurance over quality control in any organisation was the crux of discussions at a recent Town and Gown interaction in Covenant University.

The event organised by Chemistry Department of the university focused on, "Relevance of Quality Assurance in Manufacturing of Products," delivered by Mr. Abiodun Afolayan, a Regulatory Affairs Manager at Unilever, Oregun, Lagos.

Afolayan, who was the guest speaker at the interactive seminar pointed out that quality assurance, transcends an organisation's operations across the value chain until the product has been finally

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Mr. Abiodun Afolayan, a Regulatory Affairs Manager at Unilever, Oregun, Lagos, making his presentation at Chemistry Town and Gown Seminar

## CU, Elsevier Mull Partnership on Information Solutions



CU Management with Elsevier Officials

Elsevier, a world-leading provider of information solutions that help to make better decisions, deliver better care, and sometimes make groundbreaking discoveries in science, health, and technology, has expressed its desire of partnering with Covenant University in its efforts at rising to the top of world rankings of universities.

The Sub-Saharan Account Manager, Mr. Ahmed Abdelwahab, disclosed this on Thursday, November 24, 2016, when he led a team from Elsevier on a courtesy visit to the Management of Covenant University.

Describing Covenant University as a very ambitious global university that wants to continue climbing the rankings, Mr. Abdelwahab said that his team, which also included the Country Director, Elsevier, Mr. Ibrahim Usman, and Customer Consultant, Ms. Genevieve Musasa, was at the University to have more understanding about its needs.

Elsevier, said Mr. Abdelwahab, is one of the few companies that provides comprehensive and complete platform for social workflow and has the technical expertise to instruct people on using its solutions, and data to validate the University's direction. "As Management, you have to monitor what's going on in the university; we have the solution," he added.

A presentation made by the Elsevier team to the CU Management showed that Elsevier has a Research Intelligence Portfolio made up of Scival, for external view; Pure, for internal view; Analytical Services, for custom analysis; Scopus, for rich data; Mendeley, for research productivity; and ScienceDirect, for empowering smarter research. Elsevier's basket of metrics, according to Mr. Abdelwahab, "guarantees high quality contents and spurs high ranking".

The Director, Vice Chancellor's Office, Dr. David Omole, in his comments, said that Covenant University had always made use of Scopus and described as heartwarming, the training conducted by Elsevier on how to use Scopus to search for journals and publish research finding

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, said the University subscribed to Scopus and the Times Higher Education Rankings because "we want to improve our ranking and to educate our scholars".

The Vice-Chancellor, who reckoned that Covenant University needed to show a niche for research, expressed delight at Elsevier's data and averred that the web-based digital solutions provider may continue to enjoy the University's patronage.

## CU, Cranfield University Open Talks on Research Collaborations *Contd. from Pg 1*

Also, he expressed hope that both universities could arrange exchange of PhD students who can follow specialised modules on renewable energy.

The next meeting between the Entrepreneurship research cluster of Covenant University, led by the Director, Centre for Entrepreneurial Development Studies (CEDs), Dr. Stephen Oluwatobi, and Dr. Shailendran Vyakaram, representing Cranfield, focused on post-school entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship research and how to merge organisational knowledge into entrepreneurship.

Covenant University, said Dr. Oluwatobi, had in 2002 started the CEDs and made it available to all students, who were educated in entrepreneurship, adding that more features like vocational education was added in subsequent years. The CEDs, he revealed, had recently launched an entrepreneurship project aimed at developing the mindset of students.

The centre, he stated, was leveraging on alumni network and getting interesting feedbacks from the investment community in Nigeria. "We are doing things in research to further boost capacity," Dr. Oluwatobi added. Osuagwu, praised the University and the Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the tournament for "being a great team player with the Council, a high sense of responsibility and organization and for putting in place a most orderly championship, which clearly differs from previous experience".

Describing the institution as serene and beautiful, he figuratively said many of the delegates were "disappointed because what they saw and got was not in any way, what they had expected, in view of perceptions before arriving for the event" because in the farms the roads are rough," he revealed.

town and gown seminars in order to foster collaboration between the university and the industry.

Earlier in his remarks, the Head, Department of Chemistry, Dr. Akan Williams, stated that the subject of quality in any establishment cannot be overemphasised.

He recalled how he ensured quality preparations towards accreditation of any programme when he was the Director of Quality and Academic Standard of the university and charged the participants to ensure quality in all they do as scientists.

## Expert Advocates Quality Assurance Over Quality Control *Contd. from Pg 1*

consumed or used, thereby completing its shelf life. Quality control on the other hand, is a reactive or corrective measure taken when the actual products have been churned out.

It was further stated that quality assurance focuses on defect prevention while quality control focuses on defect identification. "Organisations that toy with quality assurance are either out of business or on the verge of closure," he argued.

The guest speaker enumerated the gains of quality assurance which included brand loyalty, business continuity, reduction of waste, global recognition, consumers' confidence and commitment, good image, huge turnover, huge savings for business expansion, acceptability, good legacy as well

as employees commitment.

According to Mr. Afolayan, quality is the bedrock of any organisation; the continuity, growth or otherwise of any organisation is anchored on quality. Embracing quality in manufacturing despite economic recession is a factor that can make firms to become successful.

The Director, Quality and Academic Standard of the university, Dr. Edwin Agwu, who represented the Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, at the programme noted that the aim of Town and Gown was to bridge the gap between the academia and the industry. He suggested that a panel should be set up with a view to harness all the contributions from various