

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University Nov. 27 - 30 2017

#### CU, GMAC Firm up Talks on Graduate Management Admission Test



ovenant University and the Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC) have agreed to take their discussions further on the proposed Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) for students of the University, with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, gave hints to this effect on Monday, March 20, 2017, when the CU Management played host to the GMAC Director, Marketing Development for Africa, Dr. Ronald Sibert.

Speaking at the meeting, which was sequel to a previous one held between the CU Management and the representatives of GMAC in November 2016, Dr. Sibert said that the purpose of the visit was to know the needs of Covenant University with regards to gaining access to qualified students in Africa and for GMAC to help the University identify and train the students.

Dr. Sibert, who was accompanied by two other officials of GMAC, Ms. Danielle Boland and Mr. Oloruntobi Alasi, explained that the GMAT exam, which was created by business schools to discover and select the best students with the greatest potential to succeed, beams a spotlight on talent around the world.

"The GMAT structure consists of Analytical Writing, Integrated Reasoning, Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning. It creates value for students through effective reasoning, and schools adopt it because they know it positions them very well on the world map," he said.

While acknowledging the University's Vision of being one of the top 10 universities in the world by the year 2022, the GMAC Director said that accepting the GMAT exam can help the institution.

#### Paul Varsity VC Lauds Covenant University



Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Ateyero, presenting some CU souvenirs to Vice-Chancellor, Paul University, Professor Uche Isiugo-Abanihe, during his courtesy call to his office

he Vice-Chancellor of Paul University, Anambra State, Professor Uche Isiugo-Abanihe, has commended his Covenant University counterpart, Professor AAA. Atayero, for the "great work" being done by the institution.

Professor Isiugo-Abanihe, who was at Covenant University on Friday, March 17, 2017, as an external examiner for one of the University's students, seized the opportunity to pay a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Atayero.

Both Vice-Chancellors had a brief deliberation, particularly on the Town and Gown seminar, an initiative introduced by the CU management to bridge the gap between the industry and the academia.

Professor Gbolahan Oni of the Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Covenant University, who led Professor Isiugo-Abanihe to Professor Atayero's office, also introduced to the CU Vice-Chancellor a lecturer in the Demography and Social Statistics Department of the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Dr. Akanni Akinyemi.

### Entrepreneurship Day: Mentors, Panelists Laud CU on Entrepreneurship Development

ovenant University has received plaudits for its pacesetting role and innovative strategies in the development of the entrepreneurial capacity of its students and people in the society at large.

Some of the mentors and panelists for the 2017 edition of the Entrepreneurship Day of the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Development Studies (CEDS) of the University were hearty in their approbation on Wednesday, March 22, 2017, when they paid a courtesy call on the Vice- Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero.

The mentors included the CEO, African Hub, Mrs. Oluwole Oluneye and the CEO, Happytalks Academy, Dr. Shogo Oyeniyi, while the panelists were a Deputy Managing Director at Kola Akomolede and Company, Mrs. Tolu Dima-Okojie and Founder, Spazio Ideale, Mrs. Tomi Bamgbelu, with the latter duo being alumni of Covenant University.

Mrs. Oluneye, who described what Covenant University was doing as a fantastic job, said that each time she is on the University campus the feeling is inspiring and amazing. What Covenant University is doing inside the campus filters outside the campus; it is innovation all the time, she added.

She stated that part of the University's contribution to entrepreneurship in Nigeria is a renaissance and that is why established entrepreneurs have decided to support the



Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, with some speakers and participants of EDS Day Parley

## Mortgage Bank Introduces New Product to Covenant University

he Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (FMBN) has continued its drive towards ensuring that all Nigerian workers own a house of their own by introducing its new product, the Home Renovation Loan Scheme, to Covenant University.

Speaking during a presentation of the product to the Management of Covenant

University on Thursday, March 16, 2017, the Leader of the visiting FMBN threeman delegation, Mr. Adesoga Ogunfeibo, said that he was overwhelmed by the quality of infrastructural facilities available in the University and wished he had attended such an institution.

While revealing that his organization was awed by the support received from CU in terms of consistency in remittances to the National Housing Fund (NHF), the Team Leader said that the FMBN had come to introduce the Home Renovation Loan Scheme to the University.

The home renovation loan, he explained, has been helping a lot of employees in both public and private organisations to complete their housing projects.

Mr. Ogunfeibo said that the FMBN gives out N1 million as renovation loan and N15 million as building mortgage. On the loan

repayment process, he stated that the borrower pays one-third of net salary over a period of five years, after which the borrower can come for another loan.

He pointed out that borrowers of the N1 million renovation loan would not need to deposit the Certificate of Occupancy of their land unlike those for the N15 million building mortgage.

"It shows the seriousness on the part of the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria to make the loan accessible and affordable for everyone," Mr. Ogunfeibo said.

Processing of the loan, according to him, takes a maximum of one month, while organisations have to undertake to stand for their employees.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, thanked the FMBN team for bringing the home renovation loan scheme to the University, adding that majority of people in the institution would be interested in it

The Vice-Chancellor seized the opportunity to inform the FMBN representatives about the Canaan City Consortium Project, in which Covenant University intends to have a huge chunk for its employees. He invited the mortgage bankers to help in financing the project.



CU Management with Officials of Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria

#### Entrepreneurship Day: Mentors, Panelists Laud CU on Entrepreneurship Development

Contd. from Pg 1

University.

"Covenant University is still the number one in Nigeria for entrepreneurship. There is a growing community of emerging entrepreneurs from CU and government should listen to you because you are changing the economy of Nigeria," said the African Hub chief executive.

According to the Managing Director, Kola Akomolede and Company, Mrs. Tolu Dima-Okojie, Covenant University contributed to her development with the Entrepreneurial Development Studies (EDS) programme. The CU alumnus suggested that the University should endeavour to follow up what its graduates are doing in the area of entrepreneurship so that it can make meaningful contribution.

The CEO, Happytalks Academy, Dr. Shogo Oyeniyi, likened Covenant University to Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, explaining that Dubai is a city you leave and six months after, you see new things and just like Dubai, CU keeps growing.

"I've done some things in more than 20

# CU, GMAC Firm up Talks on Graduate Management Admission Test Conta. from Pg 1

position itself the way it wants and there are many ways to accomplish such goals.

"One of the ways to do this is to attract the kind of students you want, graduate them to be the best so that they can tell your story," said Dr. Sibert.

In his comments, the Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies, Covenant University, Professor Samuel Wara, said that the University was conscious of what to do to realize its Vision, and some of these include using the GMAT structure and adopting the international best practices, introducing Graduate Management Aptitude Test and attracting more of international students to the University's programmes.

The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, in his remarks, said that being mindful of the Vision of becoming one of the best in the world in the next five years, the University wants its students to engage in research, which is the focal point and it is in this light that CU and GMAC can collaborate.

He directed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with action plans and timelines should be prepared with the University's Core Values and Vision taken into consideration.

universities, but I discovered that when I speak with CU students, I have to be on top of my game, which shows that CU students have high intellectual capacity," he said.

Another alumnus of the University, Mrs. Tomi Bamgbelu, who is the Founder, Spazio Ideale, said that she didn't start out wanting to be an entrepreneur, but the teachings in Covenant University made her realize that she can do it.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, said that it was enriching to know that all the labour by the University has not been in vain, adding that the institution invests a lot in students when it comes to entrepreneurship.

The idea of making Dr. Stephen Oluwatobi the Director, CEDS, said the Vice-Chancellor, has proven to be a well thought out decision, because there has been lots of innovativeness since his appointment.