



# Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University May 29-June 2, 2017

## Covenant, NIM Seal Agreement on Students' Scheme Programme



Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero and Registrar, NIM, Mr Tony Fadaka, displaying the signed agreement

Covenant University and the Nigerian Institute of Management (Chartered) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Students' Scheme Programme, which gives

students in universities and polytechnics the opportunity to imbibe and practice the ideals and values of professional management at the early stage of their career development.

Speaking at the MoU signing ceremony on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, the Deputy President, NIM, Professor Olukunle Iyanda, who represented the institute's President, Emeritus Professor Munzali Jibril, congratulated the Chancellor, Covenant University, Dr. David O. Oyedepo, for the vision to establish the great University which, according to him, has become the yardstick for the evaluation of not only private but public universities.

The Student's Scheme Programme, said Professor Iyanda, is one of the routes to membership of the NIM and is open to all interested undergraduates irrespective of their field of study. It is usually undergone between the third and final year of study in the university or and during the two years of the Higher National Diploma programme in the Polytechnics, he added.

The students, he stated further, undergo a preparatory training programme arranged to suit both the University and the Institute, and the training equips the students with additional management, entrepreneurial and self-reliance skills which enhance their employability. Certificates are awarded to the candidates upon the completion of the

Contd. on Pg 2

## Type 2 Diabetes Endangers 1-in-5 Nigerians - Study

Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus – a chronic condition that affects metabolism of glucose in the body – now affects over 4.7 million Nigerians aged 20-79 years, a study has suggested.

The study was led by researchers at Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria. They warned that the disease will threaten even more people without an effective public health response, higher public awareness and lifestyle changes (including healthy diets and physical activity).

They found that 40% of people with Type 2 diabetes are undiagnosed, and that deaths occur for 1-in-5 diabetes patients admitted to hospital with complications from the disease. These complications can affect the heart, kidney, brain, eyes, blood vessels and nerves.

Over the last 30 years, Type 2 diabetes has increased by 440% to 4.7 million cases or 5.7% of all Nigerians. This rate is up to 3 times higher than the neighbouring countries of Cote d'Ivoire (2.3%), Ghana (1.9%), and Senegal (1.8%).

The researchers highlighted how the understanding of Type 2 diabetes in Nigeria and many African countries was hindered by shortfalls in routine health data, and how this hampered an effective response in various settings. They called for more research, especially in Northern Nigeria where data was particularly scarce.

According to the lead researcher, Dr. Davies Adelaye: "The last nationwide survey of non-communicable diseases in Nigeria was conducted in 1997. Most findings reported on Type 2 diabetes mellitus in Nigeria since then have been based on modelled estimates from neighbouring countries with relatively more detailed data on the disease."

We have therefore systematically synthesized the best evidence on Type 2 diabetes mellitus across all geo-political zones in Nigeria to guide relevant evidence-based public health and policy response in the health sector, he added. ■

## Covenant, Lead360 to explore Collaboration on Career Centre

Covenant University and Lead360 Nigeria, a firm that partners with universities in Africa to help students transform their education and aspirations into meaningful work, have deliberated on the possibility of setting up a career centre in the University.

Making a presentation on the proposal to develop a career centre to the Management of Covenant on Wednesday, May 17, 2017, the Country Director, Lead360 Nigeria, Mr. Femi Iromini, said that having identified the challenges plaguing universities in Nigeria, especially the country's noticeable absence in the league of nations producing most employable graduates, it became



Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, flanked by Pastor Bidemi Oyeniran (R) and Mr Country Director, Lead360, Mr Femi Iromini (L)

Contd. on Pg 2

## Zenith Assurance Proposes 'School Fees Protection Plan' to Covenant

Zenith Life Assurance Limited has proposed to the Management of Covenant University, a School Fees Protection Plan, otherwise known as the 'Child Education Plan', designed to ensure that the education of a child does not come to a halt in the eventuality of the death or permanent incapacitation of the parent or guardian.

Introducing the product to the Management of Covenant on Wednesday, May 17, 2017, a Deputy Manager with Zenith Assurance, Ms. Sylvia Onwekwe, who led the team representing her company, said that the child education plan is a product tailored to fit the University as it is the desire of many parents to provide qualitative and functional education programme for their children.



Deputy Manager, Zenith Life Assurance Ltd.,  
Mrs Sylvia Onwekwe, speaking on the purpose  
of her team's visit to CU

Ms. Yemi Awobajo, a technical staff of Zenith Assurance, while making a presentation on the proposal titled, 'Student Education Term Plan', said that the scheme guarantees the continuous payment of a child's full school fees in the event of the death or incapacitation of either parent or guardian responsible for the payment of the school fees to

cover the duration of the child's stay in the school.

In the event of the unexpected happening, Zenith Life will take over the payment of the child's school fees until he or she graduates from the school subject to the policy limit of liability, she added.

The burden of premium payment, she noted, is borne by the parent or guardian; the insurance also covers the particular parent or guardian paying the school fees, while the school is the assured or policy holder.

Stating the benefits of the policy to the school, Ms. Awobajo said that it is a source of additional revenue generation; there is stability of budget; and Zenith Life will organize career talk or counseling for students.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, thanked Zenith Life Assurance Limited for introducing the Student Education Term Plan to the University.

He said that the plan was a good product, but the University management would have to deliberate on it and see how it conforms to the University's policy. ■

### Covenant, Lead360 to explore Collaboration on Career Centre *Contd. from Pg 1*

imperative to address the issue.

Of all public and private universities in Nigeria, he claimed, none has a career centre, and it will be good for Covenant University to set the pace by giving its support to the setting up of a career centre.

Speaking on the choice of Covenant University, Mr. Iromini, who described himself as a firm believer in the University's vision of being among

the top 10 universities in the world by the year 2022, said that the University has continued to set the pace for Africa through its numerous accomplishments, typified by awards like the 2017 Best Private University in Nigeria and the Most Employable University in Nigeria.

He posited that over the next decade, universities would not be ranked based on research and graduates rate but on the employability of their graduates, such that schools that prioritise early student career services will have high graduate employability and successful alumni.

The core services of the proposed career centre, he explained, are career coaching and

advisory, internships/job placement, publicity, and career outcomes. The career centre could be onsite and also virtual, and students are to subscribe for the services.

The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, in his remarks, confirmed the University would not be accepting Lead360's proposal in totality, but urged the company to collaborate with the University.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, the University already has a Data Analytic Centre, which has been used to identify where its best students are coming from. Lead360, he said, should consider looking at the career mentorship not just for Covenant University's present students, but for the future Covenant students so that the students would be guided right from High School and not when they get to the University.

Professor Atayero expressed enthusiasm that the partnership between Covenant and Lead360 will evolve, and also gave directive that a team comprised of representatives of both organisations be set up to take the discussions forward. ■

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academic programmes.

"By agreeing to seal this collaboration with a MoU, the Vice-Chancellor and indeed the University authorities have demonstrated their commitment to building a culture of management professionalism amongst students of the University. At the end of the day, this will lead to enhanced product quality and acceptability of Covenant University graduates, which will in turn further positively impact on the already enviable image of the University," said Professor Iyanda, who was at the head of a 7-man NIM team, including the Registrar, Mr. Tony Fadaka, that graced

the MoU signing ceremony.

Following the formal signing of the MoU supervised by Covenant's Legal Officers, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, said it pleased his heart to see that a very young institution like Covenant University was entering into a partnership with an old institution as the Nigerian Institute of Management. ■