



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University September 18-22, 2017

Covenant Assures Freshmen of World-Class Services



Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Shalom Chinedu, addressing the fresh students

Freshmen of Covenant University have been assured of world-class services and a memorable stay at the University during their academic pursuits.

The Management of the University

gave this assurance on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at a Special Orientation Programme organised for freshmen, who were officially introduced to the Vision of the University as well as the opportunities that abound in the institution.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, in his presentation titled, 'World-Class Student Support Services: Our Commitment to Students' Welfare', convinced the new undergraduates that the University is home away from home.

Professor Atayero, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Shalom Chinedu, said the Vision of the University is to be a leading World-Class Christian Mission University, committed to 'Raising a New Generation of Leaders' in all fields of human endeavour.

The University currently runs a short term vision of becoming one of the top 10 universities in the world by the year 2022, aptly dubbed 'Vision 10:2022'.

He said that the Student Support Services of the University are designed, primarily, to ensure students succeed throughout their period of studentship. In his words, "The Student Support Services in Covenant University work to guarantee all-round success and the total well-being of our students and these are the tools for fulfilling the covenant we have with our students that shows our commitment to the students' welfare".

Contd. on Pg 2

Covenant University Impresses ISELLI 2 Conference Participants

Participants at the 2nd International School of Equatorial and Low Latitude Ionosphere Conference (ISELLI-2), hosted by Covenant University, have poured encomiums on the University and its Management for the quality of environment, infrastructure, equipment and the caliber of students and faculty at the University.

Lecturers from different institutions of higher learning, both within and outside Nigeria, were on Thursday, September 14, 2017, during a courtesy visit to the Management of Covenant University, unanimous in their opinions that the University is a wonderful ivory tower.

Leader of the visiting team and also one of the Directors of ISELLI, Professor Babatunde Rabi, said that participants had come to Covenant University to perform a research study that has direct impact on all aspects of life and, according to him, being on the University campus since the start of the conference has been awesome. "We have been privileged to enjoy the warm hospitality of this community and the essence of this visit is to say thank you for hosting this conference," he said.

A faculty from Boston College, the United States, Dr. Eindawoke Yizengaw, expressed surprise that a University established in 2002 had become the best private university in Nigeria in a short space of time. He said that with what he has witnessed, Covenant University has the capacity to achieve its vision of becoming one of the best universities in the world.

Speaking in similar vein, Professor Kazuo Shiokawa and Ms. Nada Ellahouny,

Contd. on Pg 2

NITDA Seeks Collaboration with Covenant on Scholarship Scheme

The National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) has opened discussions with Covenant University on the feasibility of the two organisations forging a partnership for the execution of the agency's Scholarship Scheme for Nigerian students.

Speaking during a courtesy visit to the Management of the University on Thursday, September 14, 2017, the Head, Human Resource and Administration of NITDA, Mr. Eniola Ayodeji, said that the Director General of the agency Dr. Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami, had personally expressed preference for Covenant University as a partner in the scholarship scheme based on the institution's profile as the best private university in Nigeria.

NITDA, according to Mr. Ayodeji, has since 2010 been giving out scholarship awards in two categories—the Masters and Doctorate scholarships. He said that the scholarships are intended for students who wish to have a career in the Information Communication Technology industry,



Officials of NITDA

adding that candidates are required to undergo an Aptitude Test, with the successful ones sponsored to study in some of the best universities in the world.

He explained that the scheme suffered a setback in 2016 due to the exchange rate of the US dollar. This had made NITDA to look inwards for institutions that they can partner with and Covenant University, which has an existing Memorandum of Understanding with the agency, came to the fore.

Mr. Ayodeji, who was accompanied on the visit by NITDA's Head of Special

Contd. on Pg 2

Covenant, TBWA Reach Agreement on Brand Projection

Covenant University and TBWA Concept, a firm that helps brands find strategic and creative white space through the power of 'Disruption', have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the projection of the University brand into a more purposeful and profitable future.

The Managing Director, TBWA Concept, Mr. Kelechi Nwosu, who led a four-man team representing his organization to the MoU signing ceremony on Friday, September 15, 2017, said that TBWA and Covenant University were collaborating on mentorship for students, faculty internship, students' learning and audit, research projects, and the University's brand management and communication. He noted that the major focus was to set a strategic direction for the University's brand.

Also, giving a brief insight into the agreement, the Head, Department of Mass Communication, Covenant University, Dr. Lanre Amodu, said that the MoU was coming at the right time and the University, known for its penchant for excellence, was taking its relationship with TBWA to another level.

While asserting that the agreement was goal-oriented, Dr. Amodu said that students of the University, brimming with

enthusiasm to learn, will go to the industry and come back with knowledge.

And following the signing of the MoU supervised by the Barrister Ayodele Osayande-led legal team, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, expressed satisfaction that both organisations had finally formalized their relationship. He said that the University will be celebrating its 15th year anniversary on October 21, 2017, and having maintained the same



Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, and Mr Kelechi Nwosu of TBWA, displaying the signed agreement

Covenant University Impresses ISELLI 2 Conference Participants

Contd. from Pg 1

from ISEE Nagoya University, Japan and the Space Weather Centre, Egypt, respectively, acknowledged Covenant University as a very good campus. Both, while admitting their fascination with what an African university like Covenant has to offer, said that they were inspired by its Core Values.

In her comments, the Head, Department of Physics, Covenant University, Dr. Mojisola Usikalu, thanked participants at the ISELLI-2 conference for visiting the University and appreciated the Vice-Chancellor for approving the hosting of the event. She said that ISELLI is a capacity building school, which is one of the core values of Covenant University.

The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, in his remarks, said that since the University has a vision of becoming one of the top 10 universities in the world in the next few years, it could not but play host to events such as the ISELLI. He assured the lecturers that the University would be glad to host the conference annually.

With international partnership being a focus of the University, Professor Atayero urged the lecturers to ensure that their institutions forge a collaboration with Covenant University. ■

brand since inception, it was time to start rebranding.

Professor Atayero said that Covenant University needed to rebrand in view of its vision of becoming one of the top 10 universities in the world in the next five years. He added that the University deserves a unique identity as the big universities it aspires to emulate also have their own identities, and TBWA's expertise would be crucial to achieving this goal.

He expressed optimism that Covenant University's relationship with TBWA will be mutually beneficial. ■

Covenant Assures Freshmen of World-Class Services

Contd. from Pg 1

"Covenant Student Support Services help students develop academic, interpersonal and social skills they need for success, and also provide vital support to students transitioning from different parts of the world into the Nigerian environment," he added.

While enumerating the different Student Support Services in the university that include the Student Affairs Department, saddled with the responsibility to attend to the welfare and general wellbeing of the students, mention was also made of the Faculty Support Programme (FSP) that provides members of Faculty the opportunity to interact with students. He encouraged students to use faculty as resource for information, referral, inspiration and advisors.

Other services highlighted by the Vice-Chancellor were the In-LoCo Parentis initiative, which allows Faculty and Staff play the role of guardians to the students; the Academic Level Advisers, where by students at all levels are assigned academic advisers; the International Office and Linkages, which provides support to international students; the Counselling Centre that provides psychosocial/behavioural counselling; and the Chaplaincy that drives the arrowhead of the University core values: Spirituality.

The Registrar, Covenant University, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo, in his remarks, charged the new intakes not to overstay their academic duration and urged them to build value-adding relationships and rich networks. ■

NITDA Seeks Collaboration with Covenant on Scholarship Scheme

Contd. from Pg 1

Duties, Dr. A.A. Dahiru, and Scholarship Desk Officer, Mrs. Christo Izi, said that his organization wish to work with Covenant University to foster technological development of the country by supporting young people with ideas in the area of innovation.

The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Shalom Chinedu, said that the University is very passionate about the quality of its products and a major area of interest where huge investment has been made is Postgraduate Training. He added that the University has many programmes that are ICT-oriented.

While assuring that the proposed collaboration would be successful, Professor Chinedu said that training is very vital because, "to develop a nation, you need to develop the people". ■