



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University November 20-24, 2017

Covenant Leads in Computer Science, Engineering, Others in Nigeria



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Covenant University's quest to be one of the 10 leading universities in the world by the year 2022, dubbed Vision 10: 2022, got a boost as the University emerged tops in Computer Science, Engineering, Business Management, Accounting and

other multidisciplinary programmes.

This was contained in the 2017 report obtained from Elsevier SciVal data. The report captured the number of published research publications by Nigerian Universities between 2012 and 2017.

In Computer Science, for instance, Covenant confidently led 47 other universities in Nigeria with 339 publications written by 295 authors, and cited 285 times as against Federal University of Technology which was in second position with 145 publications, written by 208 authors and cited 210 times. Also, 12 percent of the top 100 authors in Computer Science in Nigeria are in Covenant University.

Similarly, the University confidently sits atop other 47 institutions that have

publications within Engineering in Nigeria with 342 publications written by 342 authors and 457 citations. The next runner-up is Federal University of Technology, Akure, with 306 publications written by 330 authors and 568 citations. In the third position was Ahmadu Bello University.

Furthermore, Covenant, with 206 publications by 316 authors beats Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife; University of Lagos, Akoka; University of Nigeria, Nsukka and University of Ibadan to second, third, fourth and fifth positions with 99, 89, 66 and 61 publications respectively.

In Theoretical Computer Science, there was a wide gap between Covenant's 59 publications and FUT, Minna's 8; Unilorin 6; Bayero University's 5 as well as ABU's 4 publications. In the same vein, Covenant ranked best in Decision Sciences with 83

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55 Faculty Ascend New Levels at Covenant

Covenant University's apex decision making body, the Board of Regents, has approved the promotion of 55 members of faculty.

A breakdown of the 55 promoted faculty featured 17 of them moving from the level of Assistant Lecturer to Lecturer II; 17 from Lecturer II to Lecturer I; and 21 from Lecturer I to Senior Lecturer. The promotion cuts across various departments in the four Colleges of the University.

Unveiling the newly promoted faculty at a recent meeting in the Senate Chambers of Covenant, the Registrar, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo, said the change of levels was the result of the

promotion exercise that started earlier in 2017, when members of faculty were encouraged to submit application for promotion.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, who charged the newly promoted faculty to see their elevation as a call to higher duty and not a gift, urged them to be mindful of Covenant's vision of becoming one of the top 10 universities in the world in a few years' time. He said the University is at the top and wants to remain there.

Professor Atayero said Covenant is blessed as no other university in Nigeria today has the type of Board that Covenant has.

While encouraging the promoted faculty to hold strongly to their jobs as their seats were being contested, the Vice-Chancellor assured that their labour shall not be in vain.

Also present at the meeting were Deans of Colleges, and other Principal Officers of Covenant.

Nielsen Reassures Covenant on Operations Academy Initiative

Apparently in a bid to make its relationship with Covenant University an enduring one, a market research and information services company, Nielsen, has expressed its avowed commitment to ensuring that products of Covenant have the cutting edge qualification in the ultra-competitive job market.

Representatives of Nielsen gave this assurance on Friday, November 10, 2017, when they paid a courtesy call on the Management of Covenant University, preparatory to flagging off the Operations Academy, which entails the selection of some final year students, with experts from Nielsen taking them through course works and at the end of the programme, certificates are awarded to participants and the best selected.

Leader of the team from Nielsen, Mr. Abhir Gupta, said that Covenant University was among the four institutions selected for the Operation Academy in Nigeria, and his organization seeks to identify geniuses through the programme, with emphasis placed on Integrity, Digital Growth and Innovation.

According to the Operations Executive, Nielsen, Mr. Eric Adodo, the benefits accruing to the students from the programme are exposure to multinational

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A cross section of newly promoted academic staff

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Budding Biochemists Exposed to Career Opportunities



Miss Fashedemi making her presentation at the Biochemistry Department's Town and Gown Seminar

Graduates of Biochemistry have been charged to take advantage of opportunities offered by the programme, as an interdisciplinary science with prospect to move across different spectrum of all organisation's activities.

A Biochemist and Certified Auditor, Glaxo SmithKline, Nigeria, Miss. Titilayo Fashedemi, gave the charge on Friday, November 3, 2017, at the second edition of the Town and Gown Seminar, organised by the Department of Biochemistry, Covenant University,

Ota.

Fashedemi, who spoke on "Pharmaceutical Quality Audit: The Story of a Biochemist" also enjoined the graduates of Biochemistry to develop skills and experience in order to work and build careers as Biochemist, Quality Control Coordinator, Food and Drug Inspector, Plant, Food and Nutritional Biochemist, Teacher/Lecturer as well as Toxicologist among others.

The guest speaker noted that the study of Biochemistry is also a popular route to postgraduate programmes in Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Veterinary Science, adding that, "With adequate training, graduates can also gain access to non-traditional areas and contribute meaningfully to the society through sales and marketing, science journalism, business, health and safety in oil or manufacturing company."

Sharing her experience as an Auditor in pharmaceutical industry, Fashedemi explained that pharmaceutical industries employs the use of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) which

ensures that quality is built into the organisation and processes involved in all aspects of manufacturing including collecting, transportation, processing, storage, quality control and delivery of finished products.

This, she said, calls for auditing, which is an effective means of evaluating compliance of the company with the quality system. "Auditing helps to give feedback to management as part of a continuous improvement programme which enhance the confidence of shareholders, patients and regulators," she added.

An auditor, according to her, is a guest with the aim to help improve operations and not to attack or belittle operations. Auditor, she also noted was to find deficiencies against regulatory requirements, identify existing and potential risks to business continuity and company image and turn these deficiencies into added value by providing and agreeing recommendations for improvement.

Also present at the event were the Head, Department of Biochemistry, Dr. Solomon Rotimi, faculty, staff and students of the department. ■

Nielsen Reassures Covenant on Operations Academy Initiative *Contd. from Pg 1*

companies, interaction with business leaders and award of certificates, while for the University, the benefits include making Covenant more visible, valuable exposure for its students and opportunity to increase the student employment rate.

The Dean, Student Affairs, Dr. Timothy Anake, and Director, Centre for Lifelong Learning, Dr. Mayowa Agboola, were unanimous in their comments that the Operations Academy aligns with the kind of experience Covenant wants for its students. They hoped that the students would be better for it at the end of the

programme.

In his remarks, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Shalom Chinedu, representing the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, said the University stands out among the motley crowd of universities in Nigeria, with its vision of raising a new generation of leaders.

While acknowledging that students have to be properly equipped to qualify as leaders, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor assured Nielsen of Covenant's commitment to the



Covenant University Management with Nielsen Officials

Operations Academy programme, adding that the University will strive to enhance its relationship with the company.

Also on the Nielsen team were the Head, Operation and Technology, Mr. Khalid Mehmood; Associate Director, Human Resource, Ms. Lola Oyebola, including Ms. Sophia Odutola and Mr. Oluwatosin Adegun, both of whom are alumni of Covenant University. ■

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publications and 57 published in Multidisciplinary publications.

The Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero while apprising the Faculty and Staff with the University's rising profile in the field of research based on the computations by Elsevier SciVal said that the University has already emerged a clear world leader in some Distinctive Competencies.

He explained that with over 660

publications, Covenant University produced 14% of the top 86 research authors in Nigeria. The authors were ranked among top 500 authors by volume of publications within the past 5 years (2012 and 2017).

"It is also interesting to know that the output of Covenant University researchers accounts for a significant percentage of publications recorded in Scopus in Nigeria in 2016. In particular, Covenant accounted for

13.7% of the total Engineering publications, 21.4% of the total Computer Science publications, 22.1% of the total Business Management and Accounting publications, and a whopping 26% of the total publications recorded in Scopus for Nigeria in 2016 are from Covenant University. This is in a country with a total of 155 universities - 40 federal, 46 state and 69 private; you will agree with me that God is doing marvelous things in Covenant University," he explained. ■