



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University December 4-8, 2017

Engineering, Manufacturing Crucial for Industrialisation -Professor Oyawale



Professor Festus Oyawale, presenting Covenant University's 11th Inaugural Lecture

Professor Festus Oyawale, has asserted. The professor of Mechanical Engineering made the submission on Friday, November 10, 2017, while delivering the 11th Inaugural Lecture of Covenant University titled, 'Engineering and Manufacturing: A Sine Qua Non for Pertinence' (<https://goo.gl/L5J3fp>).

Justifying the imperative of Nigeria working towards industrialisation, the inaugural lecturer said that the advent of the Numerical Control machine soon after the Second World War, its graduation to the Computerized Numerical Control (CNC) machines and, subsequently, to the adaptive manufacturing robots that can work next to humans, had helped industrialised nations and manufacturing companies to improve their productivity in both manufacturing planning and production processes.

Nigeria, according to Professor Oyawale, has an array of technologists, technicians, engineers and artisans, many of whom are more qualified than their

counterparts in the industrialised countries, but a host of Nigerian graduates is unemployed while many more are partially employed. He lamented the inability of Nigeria to join the league of industrialised nations in spite of efforts made over the years.

Professor Oyawale, however, posited that Nigeria is not bereft of ideas, as exemplified by the launch in 2014 of the Nigeria Industrial Revolution, which was based on a philosophy of broadening the

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NUC Accreditation Teams Laud Covenant on Biology, Psychology, Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Programmes

The National Universities Commission (NUC) teams on an accreditation visit to four programmes of Covenant University – Biology, Psychology, Chemical Engineering and Petroleum Engineering – have commended the University on the provisions made for running the programmes.

The interim reports read by leaders of the four respective teams to the Management of Covenant on Friday, November 24, 2017, were unanimous in their assessments that the provisions made were good and satisfactory.

The team leaders were Professor Edaka Uyoh (Biology), Professor Felix Oluwatelure (Psychology), Professor Felix Aisien (Chemical Engineering) and Professor Adewale Dosunmu (Petroleum Engineering). According to the aggregate of their reports, the academic content, philosophy and objectives of the programmes are within the limit of the NUC benchmark; the laboratories and equipment are state-of-the-art and adequate; the library is of very good standard; and the University meets her financial obligation to the programmes.

Furthermore, they agreed that the curricula conform substantially to the principles, precepts and theories one would expect in the programmes; there is adequate complement of quality faculty and support staff; admission requirements are in line with NUC laid down standards; academic regulations are accessible to students; and the existence of a largely good external examiner system.

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A synergy between engineering and the core manufacturing sub-sector is absolutely necessary if Nigeria must attain the status of an industrialised nation, a senior faculty at Covenant University,

Everybody Has a Role to Play in Vision 10:2022 – Professor Obayan

The Director, African Leadership Development Centre (ALDC), Professor Aize Obayan, has advocated that, for Covenant University to become one of the top 10 universities in the world by the year 2022, the vision must be broken into parts, whereby departments and units of the University play their roles with the leaders at the leading edge.

She made the submission on Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at a one-day leadership emphasis session for the Management team, Professorate, Directors and Heads of Departments of Covenant University and Landmark University, where she made a presentation on the topic, 'The Practice of Leadership: Executing the Brief'.

Professor Obayan, the second substantive Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University and immediate past Vice-Chancellor of Landmark University, said the practice of leadership, in executing the brief, is by taking the lead as it is in the practice that you see the texture of leadership.

In her explanation of what leadership should be, she said leadership is about



Director, African Leadership Development Centre, Professor Aize Obayan, making her presentation

taking responsibility, which is the totality of anything exemplary and the attitude of all stakeholders must be world-class. A Leader, she stressed, must not stay in the now as they exist in the future, and must think ahead, must be committed, see how others are raised, evolve change and manage its consequences, not just talking the talk but walk the talk, and must be an embodiment of the values of the institution.

Professor Obayan said that, to move

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French Institutes Seek Collaboration with Covenant



Courtesy Visit of French Embassy Officials

Two French Institutions, Ecole Central Nantes (ECN) and ESSEC Business School (EBS), have indicated their willingness to collaborate with Covenant University in different endeavours.

Representatives of the institutions gave this indication on Thursday, November 23, 2017, at a meeting with the Management of Covenant University, facilitated by the French Embassy.

Professor Frederic Meslin, the Director, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, ECN, said the institution was interested in some strong collaborations with Covenant in research and student

exchange, while Mr. Arnaud Jonquet, the International Recruitment Manager (Africa), ESSEC, said he his visit to Covenant offered an opportunity for a symbiotic relationship in terms of partnership between ESSEC and Covenant.

Providing a background to the visit of the representatives of ECN and ESSEC, Mrs. Saranne Comel, the Director, Campus France, French Embassy, said the embassy was giving opportunity to universities in France to speak with top universities in Nigeria. She stated that the French universities have a special focus on academics and had done a lot of research.

Mrs. Comel said French universities are looking for partnerships, and had extended invitations to Covenant to visit their campuses in France.

In her comments, the Director, International Office and Linkages, Dr. Ada Peter, affirmed that representatives of the ECN and ESSEC were working with Covenant on student exchange programme and research collaboration. ESSEC, she said, proposed that graduates of Master's programmes of Covenant have the opportunity of coming to ESSEC and work with top notch companies in France.

The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, in his remarks, said the French institutions were starting their search for partnership from a very good place, with Covenant as their first point of call.

Professor Atayero noted that Covenant had always strived to start a business school, and partnering with ESSEC could be an opportunity to kick-start it. Also, while stating that Engineering is currently one of the strongest points of Covenant, he hoped the University and ECN could have a veritable collaboration. ■

Everybody Has a Role to Play in Vision 10:2022 – Professor Obayan

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from theory to practice in the process of fulfilling a vision, leaders must set the objectives of ensuring qualitative and sustainable leadership; sustaining the legacy and results; and demonstration of leadership that invigorates the vision. "Often, leadership is not sustained in Africa, it's always the story of once upon a time. We're talking about sustainable leadership, expanding the results, and raising the younger ones to tow a similar path," she added.

In executing the brief in the practice of leadership, she said a leader must be a model for the people, such that where the leader wants people to go he goes there first. A leader must cross-check the results, communicate genuinely, and make a personal commitment.

Speaking further at the event organized by the ALDC with the theme, 'The Leadership Edge: Qualitative and Transformational Leadership for Sustainable Results,' Professor Obayan said personal effectiveness is a core brand of a leader, and the four major components of personal effectiveness are Relevance, Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Management of Resources, which she termed REEM. ■

NUC Accreditation Teams Laud Covenant on Biology, Psychology, Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Programmes

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While thanking the Management of Covenant for its hospitality, the team leaders said that members of their teams were glad to be exposed to the beautiful facilities at Covenant University. In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, appreciated members of the NUC accreditation teams for the quality job done in such a short time, adding that the comments made by the team leaders showed the depth of the exercise.

He said the vision that birthed Covenant is a compelling one, with the University seeking to transform the black race by raising a new generation of leaders. Covenant, he emphasised, will always strive to be at the cutting edge of excellence. ■



Covenant University Management with NUC Reaccreditation Teams to Biology, Psychology, Petroleum and Chemical Engineering Programmes

Engineering, Manufacturing Crucial for Industrialisation – Professor Oyawale

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scope of the industry and accelerating the expansion of the manufacturing sector.

Noting that Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) have been neglected for too long in Nigeria's secondary schools, the inaugural lecturer argued that STEM will elevate Nigeria's position in the global economy and give her students the skills they need to successfully compete with talents from around the world.

On his prescribed panacea to the challenges of industrialization, Professor Oyawale said that, students' projects and local entrepreneurship efforts should be geared towards the production of automotive and machine components; and establishment of private steel companies should be encouraged.

The inaugural lecturer did not end his lecture without acknowledging that, Covenant University has been blazing the trail in the provision of hi-tech training equipment (a 3D printing machine and a CNC machining centre) in the Mechanical Engineering Department, which is fast establishing a working relationship with private manufacturing outfits to produce components for the open market or tailor-made for the oil and gas sector through additive manufacturing. ■