



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University September 17-21, 2018

Covenant Selected to Host African Development Bank's Center of Excellence!



Covenant stands out again among peers as the University has been selected to host the African Development Bank's (AfDB) Coding for Employment Centre of Excellence.

Following a rigorous selection process and a feasibility mission to the University in December 2017, Covenant was given the prestigious opportunity

to be among the few selected institutions to pioneer the revolutionary movement. Of all the universities in Nigeria-Federal, State and Private-Covenant and three other universities were the only institutions selected to represent Nigeria among the five countries participating in the programme. The other countries include Senegal, Cot d'Ivoire and Rwanda.

The African Development
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Biochemists are Responsible for Quality of Life – Expert

An expert in the field of Biochemistry, Mr. Oriyomi Adetunji, has said that a major function of Biochemists was to improve the quality of life and processes.

Adetunji, who was the Guest Speaker at the Town and Gown Seminar



An expert in the field of Biochemistry, Mr. Oriyomi Adetunji, making his presentation at the Department of Biochemistry's Town and Gown Interaction

organised by the Department of Biochemistry, Covenant University on Wednesday, September 5, 2018, spoke on "The Relevance of Biochemistry in the Fast Moving Consumer Goods Industry."

The Guest Speaker explained that one of the most useful techniques that would enable a Biochemist to improve life and processes of Fast Moving Consumer Goods was the understanding of Quality Management System (QMS).

A Quality Management System, according to him, was a formalized system that documented processes, procedures and

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Chemists Charged to Ensure Healthy Generations

How Chemists can help contribute to ensuring a healthy life-style of current and future generations was the crux of discussion on Tuesday, September 4, 2018, at the Town and Gown Seminar of the Department of Chemistry, Covenant University, Ota.

Participants at the seminar agreed that Chemists had roles to play to provide healthy alternatives to foods fortified with chemical preservatives, additives, flavourings, laboratory generated fats, as well as fortified vitamins and minerals.

The Guest Speaker, Mrs. Adetoun Okoli, a Food and Nutrition Health Ambassador, spoke on "The Role of a Chemist

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Covenant Selected to Host African Development Bank's Center of Excellence! *Contd. from Pg 1*

Bank's Centre of Excellence is one of the major initiatives under the "AfDB Jobs for Youth in Africa Strategy". The goal of the strategy is to help create 25 million jobs for youths in Africa over the next 10 years. AfDB also plan to equip 50 million youths with a blend of soft and hard skills to improve their rate of employability and entrepreneurial success. The

project aims to nurture Africa's next generation of a workforce to be digitally enabled. Partnering with AfDB on the project are Facebook and Microsoft, among others.

According to the project summary of the Coding for Employment programme, its three aims include: equipping 130 centres of

excellence with ICT infrastructure; training youths in demand-driven ICT skills and entrepreneurship; and linking graduates to the ICT ecosystem for access to internships and job opportunities. The 130 centres of excellence are spread across the 5 selected countries and it is expected that each centre will train at least 1,800 youths. Hence, Covenant is excited to be one of the 130 centres of excellence in Africa, within five countries and among the only four in Nigeria.

Biochemists are Responsible for Quality of Life – Expert *Contd. from Pg 1*

responsibilities for achieving quality and objectives. "This helps to meet customer and regulatory requirements and improve their effectiveness and efficiency on a continuous basis," he said.

Adetunji also noted that QMS served many purposes which included improved processes, reduction of waste, lowering of costs, facilitating and identifying

training opportunities, engagement of staff, as well as setting organisation-wide direction.

He enjoined the participants, particularly the students, to prepare for the world of work as future Biochemists, noting that, "The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today."

overfed but undernourished generation that ever lived,' because of poor nutritional diet.

"We must remember that the human body is biochemical in nature, thus must be fed with foods that are compatible with its natural mechanism and not otherwise. As Chemists, providing healthier options may seem daunting, even challenging; however, if we begin to work in that direction, we will help move positively towards a healthy generation now and in the future," she advised.

The Head of the Department, Professor Olayinka Ajani, had earlier in his welcome remarks noted that the essence of the Town and Gown was for the students to understand how to translate theories to tangible products. It also created an avenue for effective collaboration between the University and the industry in order to proffer solutions to human challenges.

Chemists Charged to Ensure Healthy Generations *Contd. from Pg 1*



Mrs. Adetoun Okoli, a Food and Nutrition Health Ambassador, speaking at the Department of Chemistry's Town and Gown programme

in Ensuring a Healthy Generation." She noted that diseases affecting young and older generations today were mostly from the water and food consumed as well as the

individual's general lifestyle.

"You are what you eat. Whenever you eat or drink, you either eat to feed a disease or fight a disease. How you prepare your food can affect how you look, feel and how long you live," she said.

Okoli charged chemists to start providing healthy alternatives since this generation, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO), has been termed 'the most