



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University February 5-9, 2018

Professor Abioye Seeks Further Research in Discourse, Stylistics and the New Media



Covenant University's 12th Inaugural Lecturer, Professor Taiwo Olubunmi Abioye, delivering her lecture on the Topic "By Words They Were Created: The Synergy Between Language Discourse and the Media in

A former Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, Professor Taiwo Abioye, has called for further research in the fields of Discourse, Stylistics and the New Media as there are still fresh grounds requiring innovative explorations in the respective fields (<http://bit.ly/12-inaugural>).

According to her, Discourse, Stylistics and the New Media have been given an appreciable level of scholarly attention from interdisciplinary perspectives, it is, however, instructive to suggest for subsequent studies in some areas believed to have lacked sufficient research devotion.

She made the call on Wednesday,

January 17, 2018, at the 12th Inaugural Lecture of Covenant University, where she delivered the lecture with the topic, 'By Words They Were Created: The Synergy Between Language, Discourse and the Media in the Construction of Realities'.

According to the professor of Discourse Stylistics and Applied Linguistics, the communicative devices and, especially, stylistic devices are intentional and in particular, word choice defines respective styles of expression and such choice of words is pivotal in the definition, construction and expression of realities.

Professor Abioye argued that, incontrovertibly, the influx of social platforms has become diverse and the new media have firmer grip and influence on language than they ever did, with Scholars refusing to rest on their oars in investigating the state of language evolution in the face of a vibrant media world.

Professor Abioye recommended, amongst others, the establishment of a Language Development Centre at Covenant University, where different aspects of language studies are pursued.

Giving his remarks after the lecture, the

Chancellor and Chairman, Board of Regents, Covenant University, Dr. David O. Oyedepo, thanked the inaugural lecturer for treating the audience to a rich lecture. He said the place of knowledge in present day Nigeria cannot be overemphasised as the country was fast becoming interconnected.

While congratulating Professor Abioye for a vast and extensive lecture to help the nation understand the place of communication, the Chancellor said the academia has a lot of work to do, just as he

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Power Crucial to Success of Sustainable Development Goals in Nigeria, Says Expert

It would be difficult for Nigeria to realise any of the numerous objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) without significant improvement in the availability of electricity to the populace, an expert in the power industry, Engr. Bashir Mohammed has declared.

He made the declaration on Wednesday, January 31, 2018, at the Town and Gown seminar of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Covenant University, where he was the Guest Speaker. Delivering a lecture on the topic, 'The Role of Power Sector in Achieving Sustainable Development', Engr. Mohammed, who is the Manager, Egbin Power Plant, Ikorodu, Lagos, said despite the diverse human and natural resources that Nigeria is blessed with, she is still described as a developing country, basically due to lack of electricity.

Countries of the United Nations, he said, had adopted a set of goals to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda. According to him, each of the goals, which include good health, clean water, quality education, innovation and infrastructure among others, has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years. "But we cannot achieve any one of the 17 items the UN wants to achieve without electricity," he added.

Giving an overview of the current situation with electricity generation, transmission and distribution in Nigeria, Engr. Mohammed said the government had

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Covenant Steps Up Use of Solar Advocacy in Varsity Community

The Renewable Energy Research Cluster of Covenant University has intensified efforts at getting inhabitants of communities around the University to embrace the use of solar energy in their businesses and social activities.

In furtherance of this objective, some members of the renewable energy research cluster, led by its Head, Professor Samuel Wara, on Thursday, January 25, 2018, paid a visit to Isalu Village, in Ado-Odo/Ota Local Government Area, Ogun State, where the research cluster had 15 months ago placed a Mobile Solar Charging Kiosk.

Isalu community, being without electricity, had since been using the facility to charge their mobile telephones. The mobile solar charging kiosk has a solar panel, and its lower part contains the storage devices, battery, charge controller, and charging pots.

Shedding more light on the purpose of



Covenant University Renewable Energy Research Cluster Members with Isalu Community Leaders

the visit, Professor Wara, said members of his research team are advocates for the use of solar energy. He said having used the mobile solar charging kiosk for 15 months, residents of Isalu are convinced that solar energy works.

He said the research cluster seek to expand the mobile solar energy charging facility and design new ones by incorporating GSM modules that are

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Covenant Publication Most Cited in SAJE in December 2017

The South African Journal of Economics (SAJE) has adjudged a publication by Covenant University's quartet of, Professor Isaiah Olurinola, Professor Philip Alege, Dr. Oluwatobi Stephen, and Dr. Uchenna Efobi the top most cited article in the month of December 2017.

The result was a function of the high level conversations and influenced discourse the article, alongside other four publications from the SAJE platform, was generating in the continent.

The research publication titled, 'Innovation in Africa: Why Institutions Matter', examined facilitating dynamics of institutions in Africa, with cursory attention directed at determining the equivalent effects of institutional

development on innovation.

The study investigated 40 African countries between 1996 and 2012; with the study baseline equation estimated using the Systems Generalised Method of Moments estimation technique.

The observed result revealed that government effectiveness and regulatory quality are two institutional measures that have the most equivalent impact on innovation. This result is robust in diverse respects.

The milestone recorded by the publication of the four Covenant faculty further validates the quality of research initiatives from the stable of Covenant University as the march towards the speedy attainment of Vision 10:2022 enters the sixth year. ■

Power Crucial to Success of Sustainable Development Goals in Nigeria, Says Expert

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Manager, Egbin Power Plant, Ikorodu Lagos, Engr. Bashir Mohammed, making his presentation at the Mechanical Engineering Department's Town and Gown Seminar

since privatised some aspects of electricity generation, but maintains a monopoly hold on transmission, while distribution is in the hands of the private sector. He, however, bemoaned the prevailing situation whereby residential houses and businesses in the country go without electricity for hours on a daily basis due to inadequacy in power generation, transmission and distribution.

The guest speaker, in his illustration of the benefits a nation will derive from steady electricity supply, said, "Enormous energy consumption has always been associated with prosperous societies. The quality of electricity energy consumed by a country determines the level of economic activities, which lead to growth and development".

He averred that to achieve sustainable development, Nigeria must give the power sector the serious attention it deserves, as availability of electricity will breathe new life into homes, industries, science and technological researches, and address challenges in areas like communication/entertainment, rural/urban

population drift, and security.

For Nigeria to achieve the level of development she craves, Engr. Mohammed said the government urgently needs to fix the power sector from generation down to the distribution, where people can utilise it for our prosperity. He stressed that more investment should be made towards acquiring appropriate power facilities, and efforts should also be geared towards training a generation of engineers, technologists, technicians and craftsmen that will cater for the technical and managerial needs of the industry. ■

Covenant Steps Up Use of Solar Advocacy in Varsity Community

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capable of giving feedbacks on usage. He added that the research cluster also had plans to teach people how to design and build the system, and maintain it as well.

"Everybody needs basic lighting. Already they spend money on buying fuel to power their generators and light their homes. With this initiative they spend less. We are bringing solar technology and getting them to use it for their houses, businesses, women and youth cooperatives, for their television viewing centres, and barbing salons. The convenience and comfort of doing business

Professor Abioye Seeks Further Research in Discourse, Stylistics and the New Media

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urged the government to start responding to vital issues like education.

The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, in his opening remarks, said the import of the inaugural lecture, 12th in the University's series, became glaring because of the theme, which is about the power of words. According to him, that African people believe words to have inherent power for self-realisation was evident from the many adages across different languages on the continent.

Other prominent personalities at the event, which attracted a large turnout of audience, were the Vice-President, Education, Living Faith Church Worldwide, Pastor (Mrs) Faith Oyedepo; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Shalom Chinedu; Registrar, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo; other members of Management and Principal Officers of the University; the University Senate; distinguished guests, faculty, staff and students. ■

will also increase, and many more people will see it as a functional intervention to their livelihood," he stated.

The Baale (Village Head) of Isalu, Chief Akapo Bolaji, expressed gratitude to Covenant University for the mobile solar energy kiosk initiative. He said the facility works round the clock and has proved to be very useful to the villagers, old and young, since it was deployed to the community.

Chief Akapo expressed his excitement at the proposal by the research cluster for residents to pay a token for service rendered by the mobile solar energy kiosk, as proceeds would be used to maintain and upgrade it as well as introduce other solar products to the village deserves, as availability of electricity will breathe new life into homes, industries, science and technological researches, and address challenges in areas like communication/entertainment, rural/urban population drift, and security.

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