



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University February 26-March 2, 2018

Covenant, ACCA Establish Pact on Partnership



Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, and Head, ACCA, Nigeria, Mr Tom Isibor, displaying the signed agreement

Covenant University and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) have ratified their relationship with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU, signed on Wednesday, January

7, 2018, during a courtesy visit of the ACCA to the University Management, will help both parties achieve their respective organisational goals and objectives. It will create an enabling platform for both organisations to work together reciprocally in areas of mutual interest and within the parameters of their individual policies, regulations, and laws.

Speaking during the event, the Head, ACCA Nigeria, Mr. Tom Isibor, appreciated the hospitality accorded his team and the ambience of the University environment, as well as the serenity it offers. He stated that the ACCA, which has been in existence for hundreds of years, has a strong vision to be number one in the promotion of the accounting profession.

"We want to make sure our students learn the rudiments of the profession and

are work ready. We also try to ensure that they have IT exposure," he added.

Mr. Isibor explained that building partnerships with universities is very important to the ACCA, as it creates an integrated system. He expressed excitement at the great opportunity to work with Covenant University to develop the accounting profession in Nigeria, promote accounting as a career, and build future accountants through various programmes and networking activities.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero commended the teams from both Covenant University and the ACCA that worked to make the partnership a reality. He considered signing of the MoU as the validation of a relationship that was working already.

While stating that ACCA was his favourite for the fact that it gives students an international advantage, the Vice-Chancellor

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United Nations Peacekeeping Efforts Strengthen Global Peace – Envoy

The Director, United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), Nigeria, Mr. Ronald Kayanja, has stated that, in recent years, the international body has demonstrated its commitment to the prevention of genocide and human rights violations in many conflict areas around the world. The UN envoy made this assertion at the 2nd 'Town and Gown' Seminar of the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Covenant University, where he delivered a lecture titled 'International Peace Architecture: Challenges for the 21st Century'.

Positing that United Nations peacekeeping efforts have helped make

Nigeria a better place, the Guest Speaker noted that the world had hitherto considered the United Nations a failure due to its inability to prevent catastrophes such as; the over 500,000 to one million Rwandans killed within 100 days, the over 8,000 massacred in Srebrenica, Bosnia, and the hundreds of lives lost in the prolonged Somali civil war. He added, that in a bid to forestall such reoccurrence, UN peacekeeping missions', today, focus primarily in ensuring that lives and properties of civilians are preserved.

He stated that the UN peace architectural framework, designed since 1945, has been tested consistently over the years as it pertains to the international body's rules of engagement during peacekeeping missions, from the cold war era to the various armed conflicts zones, and the genocides in Srebrenica and Somalia.

According to him, "While the United Nations is committed to remaining an impartial arbiter during conflicts, it has gotten to a point where it will not be indifferent to issues of rights violations and genocides." Mr. Kayanja said that the peacekeeping function of the United Nation had over

Expert urges Chemical Engineers to explore opportunities in diversification in non-oil Economy

A Project and Manufacturing consultant, Engr. (Dr.) Julius Sunday Bolujoko, has encouraged burgeoning engineers to look into the technology and innovation inherent along the value chain in the non-oil diversification of the nation's economy and make the most of it, rather than applying for jobs after graduation. He gave this charge on Thursday, February 15, 2018, as the guest speaker at the Town and Gown seminar of the Department of Chemical Engineering, Covenant University.

Delivering a lecture on the topic, 'Investment in Technology and Innovation Option: for Diversification in Non-Oil Economy', Engr. Bolujoko, who is the Managing Director of Rich Investment and Manufacturing Limited, said it was not by accident that the Nigerian government is currently focusing on non-oil diversification of the economy, while strengthening the manufacturing sector to play its expected role in development and employment generation.

He noted that a very large chunk of the nation's budgetary appropriation was committed to payment of salaries, and little goes to fund capital projects, while approximately 50% of the nation's youth were unemployed. Hence the government's imperative of exploring non-oil alternatives in a bid to foster sustainable economic development. The government, he observed, is coming to terms with the importance of

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Director, United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), Nigeria, Mr. Ronald Kayanja, making his presentation

Expert Urges Budding Civil Engineers to Be Creative



Participants at the 2nd Civil Engineering Town and Gown Interaction

The Chief Executive Officer of Mospad Constructions Limited, Engr. Oluwarotimi Opadola, has urged budding Civil Engineers to put on their thinking caps and be creative, if they are to make a mark in the industry.

Engr. Opadola gave the charge as the Guest Speaker at the Town and Gown Seminar of the Department of Civil Engineering, Covenant University, held on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at the civil engineering conference room.

The guest speaker, who spoke on the

topic 'The Role of Civil Engineers in the Society: Engineering Practices and Ethics', described a civil engineer as an innovative, logical, creative, and versatile professional.

He educated the audience on the several popular and unpopular roles of a civil engineer. According to him, the profession is the bonding point for all other professions involved in the construction industry. The seasoned engineer stressed that without the civil engineer, the construction plan remains on paper and there is no actualisation in view. He lauded the participants for their bravery by choosing one of the most challenging, yet interesting fields of engineering.

In the word of the guest speaker, "The construction industry is the largest employer of manpower; more than one-third of the wealth creation of the globe is from the construction industry. Investment in the construction industry, all over the world, is in the region of over one trillion dollars per annum".

Engr. Opadola stated that the practice of civil engineering plays the role of supporting the economic development and the standard of living of the people. He added that a good civil engineer has the task of providing the needed infrastructure that supports the development of the nation even with the minimal available resources.

The guest speaker, who noted that the success of the industry is tied to the interconnection of all the professions and professionals in it, said a civil engineer must have a good relationship with the Architect as well as other professionals he will work with.

He impressed it on the students that "impossibility is never in the dictionary of a civil engineer". He did not round off his presentation without expressing his gratitude to the Management of Covenant University for a highly commendable initiative such as the Town and Gown Seminar series, which bridges the huge gap between classroom knowledge and field knowledge.

Also at the seminar were faculty and staff of the Department of Civil Engineering. ■

United Nations Peacekeeping Efforts Strengthen Global Peace – Envoy *Contd. from Pg 1*

time moved from conflicts monitoring to proper peacekeeping and building engagement, which in turn has resulted in increased casualties among UN Peacekeepers in conflict zones around the

world.

The Uganda-born diplomat noted that wars and conflicts are not just synonymous with developing countries, but are issues that have plagued

humanity since the dawn of time. Furthermore, the accessibility of parties to conflicts, or agents of terrorism to the internet, has made it very easy for weapons of war to be easily developed. According to him, while the main purpose for the creation of the United Nations was the prevention and removal of threats to global peace, and the suppression of acts of aggression, the preventive aspects of this function, most times, are not done in the full glare of the public, but through back channels of diplomacy.

He stressed that civil wars, unplanned and illegal migration, violent religious fundamentalism, cyber espionage, threats of nuclear weapons, amongst others, are some contemporary threats that the global body must constantly tackle through its peacekeeping initiative to ensure world peace.

In her welcome address, the Head, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Dr. Oluwemi Fayomi, said the opportunity the lecture availed the audience was one that could not be overemphasised, as Dr. Kayanja was well-placed to demystify the subject matter of international peacekeeping.

She charged the undergraduate and graduate students of the department to draw important lessons from the lecture towards advancing the course of international peace wherever they find themselves around the world. ■

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expressed his admiration and respect for other accounting certifications. He hoped the outcome of the partnership would help in the fulfilment of the University's quest for the attainment of a world-class status.

In her remarks, the Head, Department of Accounting, Professor Olubukunola Uwuigbe, said she was happy at seeing the deliberations metamorphose into the signing of an MoU. She also hoped the relationship would bring forth positive results that would help in actualising the vision of the

University.

Professor Uwuigbe explained that Covenant University has students who are currently registered with the ACCA, and others trained by the ACCA who currently work with blue chip companies across the world.

Also at the event were the Registrar, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo; Director, Financial Services, Pastor Sunday Abayomi; and a representative of the Legal Unit, Mrs. Ayo Osayande. ■

Expert urges Chemical Engineers to explore opportunities in diversification in non-oil Economy *Contd. from Pg 1*

technology and innovation in the actualization of its programmes and as such, how Nigeria moves forward depends on youth training and development toward unique approaches in resolving problems, thereby creating solutions.

Citing agricultural production and processing as an example of where opportunities abound, the guest speaker said that Chemical Engineers could fit into almost any industry. He urged them to identify areas of farm and support practices (planting and harvesting),

varieties and yield support, production processes, packaging, quality assurance, and export support to make valid contributions. Engr. Bolujoko, who notably served as the first Nigerian Technical Director of Cadbury Nigeria Plc, said that Chemical Engineers could latch onto opportunities offered by agricultural products where Nigeria has a national advantage. These include cocoa, cotton, ginger, cashew, tea, onion, garlic, sesame seed, and palm oil among others. "Nigeria has no business being poor if these areas of

advantage were well explored for commercial gain. We have to find out what exactly we can do, key in, and make the most of it," he said. ■