



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University January 1-4, 2019

Covenant Clinches Outstanding Tertiary Educational Learning Environment and Facilities Award



Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero and Members of Covenant Centre for Research, Innovation and Discovery (CUCRID), displaying the Most Outstanding Tertiary Institution Award won

West Africa's No. 1 University, Covenant, on Wednesday, December 12, 2018, added another feather to her cap by winning the "Outstanding Tertiary Educational Learning Environment and Facilities Award".

A Non-Governmental Organisation, Proudly Nigeria Campaign, presented the award to Covenant at a Proudly Nigeria Conference/Exhibition promotional event

held in Abeokuta, Ogun State, tagged 'Proudly Ogun State: Gateway Connect 2018'.

The award, received on behalf of Covenant by a senior faculty in the Department of Chemical Engineering, Professor James Omoleye, was presented by the Permanent Secretary in the Ogun State Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Engr. Jonathan Onajobi, representing the Ogun State Governor

and Special Guest of Honour, Senator Ibikunle Amosun.

While speaking on the award, which was one of the nine presented to different organisations, the Coordinator, Proudly Nigeria Campaign, Mr. Michael Abogu, said the nomination process for the awards was outsourced to the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON). "It was dutifully and diligently audited by the SON," he affirmed.

Mr. Abogu, who represented the Founder of Proudly Nigeria Campaign, Olorogun Elkanah Mowarin, said that the Proudly Nigeria Campaign initiative was a child of necessity, because Nigerians had over the years leisured themselves in enjoying imported goods and services in a country blessed with abundance of natural resources. "As a child of necessity, we decided that rather

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Former Ambassador Osuntokun Advocates Experts as Nigerian Delegates to UN

A former Nigerian Ambassador to Germany, Professor Akinjide Osuntokun has advised the federal government to always consider few knowledgeable experts as country's delegates to the United Nations.

Professor Osuntokun gave the advice at the opening plenary of the recently concluded first Covenant International Model United Nations Conference (CIMUN 2019) hosted by Covenant University, Ota.

Osuntokun delivered a keynote address at the event which had, "Restructuring the Future through Innovative Ideas," as its theme. He noted that the Nigerian delegates to the United Nations should not be restricted to members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or National Assembly.

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Covenant Research Status Affirmed at THE World Emerging Economies Summit

West Africa's Best University, Covenant, has once again justified her status as the hub of cutting-edge research in Nigeria and the West African sub-region, by being listed in the top echelon of the most significant research driven universities in the world's emerging economies ranking parameters.

Covenant emerged 151st at the 2019 Times Higher Education Emerging Economies Summit 2019, on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at an event in Doha, Qatar.

The event brought together Presidents, Vice-Chancellors, Rectors as well as policymakers and industry executives, to share and advance understanding of the opportunities and role of research universities to secure

Covenant University

RANKED=151st

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS EMERGING ECONOMIES

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their future and the vital role they can play in their nations' development.

Covenant's latest feat comes on the heels of the University crossing the 1,000 publications threshold for one year (2018), the very first time since her inception.

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than staying aloof and complaining that the country is being flooded with foreign goods, we should sell this initiative so that people will have the opportunity to grow," Abogun explained.

He stated that it was the first time the Proudly Nigeria event was being held at the regional level and the choice of Ogun State was influenced by her very close affinity to Nigeria's commercial capital, Lagos State.

Governor Ibikunle Amosun, in his Keynote Address presented by Engr. Jonathan Onajobi, said it was his pride to know that Proudly Nigeria Campaign promoted the celebration of local content and services in Nigeria, adding that hosting the event in Ogun State was an acknowledgment of the giant strides made by his administration since assumption of office.

While stating that it was imperative to put the ease of doing business in proper context in the socio-economic development of Ogun State, Governor Amosun noted that governments must ensure fair and open economic development to enhance their ranking in the ease of doing business, for instance, curtailing bureaucratic bottlenecks and corruption. Ogun State's status, he claimed, had evolved from being a largely civil service state to industrial hub of Nigeria.

He pointed out that his administration had at inception set about realising some cardinal objectives, which included affordable education, efficient healthcare delivery, increased agricultural productivity, rural infrastructure development and affordable housing. "As government, we are bound to create an environment to unlock the potential of our people. We undertook urgent reform to attract businesses to our dear state. We can now boast of improved business environment," said Senator Amosun.

As one of the award beneficiaries, the governor expressed his appreciation to Proudly Nigeria Campaign for considering him worthy of being honoured with the "Most Business-Friendly Governor of the Year 2018 Award".

The Keynote Speaker, Dr. Stephen Oluwatobi, had in his lecture titled, 'Role of State Government and Organised

Private Sector in the Provision of One Hundred Percent Local Content of Goods and Services in Nigeria, with a Spotlight on Ogun State', said that any individual desirous of self-sufficiency would have to look at a business that would earn him/her profit and the State Government had to create value that would earn it money.

Dr. Oluwatobi, who is the Deputy Director, Commercialisation, at the Centre for Research, Innovation and Discovery, Covenant, said that the real potential in Ogun were the young minds who formed about 60 percent of the state's population, and every sector of the state's economy was built on the might of the people. He stated that individuals should be allowed to own contents and resources as the crux of local content was the people.

The Keynote Speaker canvassed a deliberate utilisation of human and material resources and services, adding that government, the organised private sector and individuals must contribute their quota to achieving success on this score. "We can make things happen while using our own minds," he emphasised.

On what the government should do to achieve one hundred percent local content, Dr. Oluwatobi said that it must provide infrastructure that would make doing business easy, provide access to capital, give smooth access to market, and come up with favourable policies. New leadership at the College and the Departmental levels to the Chancellor and the University community for prayer and grace to run the race.

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"We have experts in the universities, ministries and press who should be members of the delegation. The idea that Senators and members of the House of Representatives should go to the UN is totally unreasonable. It doesn't

happen in other countries. So the delegation must be professionals and small in number, so that whatever they say will be from experience," he explained.

Osuntokun also expressed hope that the young people who constituted delegates at the Model United Nations would eventually find their ways into the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Press, Presidency, Ministry of Finance, and Defence, so that whenever issues about United Nations are discussed, they would contribute from experience.

Also, in his keynote address titled, "Daring to Engage in Disruptive Innovations," the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant, Professor AAA. Atayero, represented by the Head, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Professor Sheriff Folarin, stated that it was the long history of the successful participation and winning of laurels at various MUN by Covenant since 2007 that engendered the hosting of the conference.

"Covenant University is glad to host its first Model United Nations Conference. But we do not want it to go the way others have gone. We want to see mathematics translate to life-matics during and after this conference. It must not be another mere show of brightness by the students, but the translation of brightness to brightening of the world. It is the desire of the University to see innovative ideas and human developers, who will change their world in the nearest future, emerge from this conference," he advised.



Professor Akinjide Osuntokun, giving the 2nd Keynote Remarks