



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University September 23-27, 2020

College of Engineering Strengthens Faculty, Staff Capacity for Accreditation Demands



Dean College of Engineering, Professor David Omole, making his presentation

Faculty and staff of the College of Engineering (CoE), Covenant University, would have to be steadfast in the collation of data and ensure maximum cooperation among

themselves for the engineering programmes in the University to be given clean bill of health by accreditation bodies.

The Dean, CoE, Professor David Omole, handed down this message to members of the college on Thursday, September 19, 2019, at the opening session of the Outcome-Based Education (OBE) for Engineering Accreditation Workshop for Director, Academic Planning Unit (DAPU), Heads of Departments (HoD), Faculty and Staff.

While stating reasons for the workshop, held inside the multipurpose hall of the Covenant

Centre for Entrepreneurial Development Studies, Professor Omole urged all participants to

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THE 2020 Ranking Data-Set Places Covenant Among Top 10 Movers

While the 2020 Times Higher Education (THE) World Universities Rankings may have come and gone, with Covenant University being ranked in the 401-500 range, thus setting her sights on improving on her latest feat towards the attainment of Vision 10:2022, a cursory look at the data set shows a University that is performing remarkably well among elites varsities and institutions of the world.

A cursory look at the various statistical data of the 2020 ranking shows that Covenant, aside moving from 638th in the World in 2019 ranking to 418th in the World in 2020, has jumped from the 9th position in Africa in 2019 to 5th in the present ranking, scaling a remarkable 4 places in a very competitive region. The breakdown of the top 5 universities in the continent shows University of Cape Town occupying the 134th position, globally, University of the Witwatersrand 194th, Stellenbosch University in the 251 – 300 range, all of South Africa, and Aswan University, Egypt 404th and Covenant University in the 418th.

A look at the big movers of the latest ranking show that Covenant

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Partnership Crucial to Sourcing Fund for Research, says Expert

An international business and strategy development expert, Dr. Akanimo Odon, has urged researchers at Covenant University to look beyond their immediate environment and consider doing research from a problem-solving perspective, if they must excel in their quest for grants.

Dr. Odon, who specializes in education and training, energy and environment, oil and gas, media, charities and government, gave this admonition on Tuesday, September 24, 2019, at a training with the theme 'Accessing International Fund' held at the



Dr Akanimo Odon, making his presentation

main auditorium of the Covenant University Centre for Research, Innovation and Discovery.

While adducing reasons for why Europeans and Americans tended to flock to Africa, the facilitator said that white people

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College of Engineering Strengthens Faculty, Staff Capacity for Accreditation Demands

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play their roles very well, as each faculty and staff would be fully responsible for producing documents related to their courses. He added that the submissions were also essential components of their Self-Assessment Reports (SAR) that would be compiled by the HoDs for OBE accreditation.

A facilitator at the workshop, Professor Christian Bolu, said that getting Covenant to be accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) had been one of the main objectives of the Covenant Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero. The immediate past Dean, CoE, added that it was in

pursuit of the ABET accreditation that Covenant played host to the International Engineering Alliance, the global body of engineering accreditors.

Another facilitator, Professor Sunday Oyedepo, the immediate past HoD, Mechanical Engineering, noted that accreditation bodies were always very firm when vetting provisions made by an institution for a programme due to their desire to improve the quality of graduates being turned out.

While highlighting the criteria set for the approval of a programme, Professor Oyedepo stated that a programme must score at least 70% in each of the criteria for it to be accredited. ■

Partnership Crucial to Sourcing Fund for Research, says Expert

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liked to come to Africa because it was full of problems and the whites always looked for problems to solve. He implored participants to consider doing research from a problem-solving perspective, adding that in an environment bedeviled by so much problems, it was the responsibility of the academia to find the solutions.

The Lancaster, UK-based expert stated that partnership was crucial to sourcing funds in this new era. He highlighted some action plans to be done by participants and warned the researchers not to limit their space as they could be limiting their place by so doing. According to him, the researchers must find consortium of partners in other African countries in their respective areas of specialties. He added that they should utilize their contacts, because they may not have access to grants available in

Nigeria but collaborating with a faculty in Kenya, where the grant was, could open the door.

While emphasizing that the researchers needed to build a research consortium, the facilitator emphasized that they must embrace multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary research, which was the way to big grants. Researchers, he stated, must develop a partnership profile with partners in industries, non-governmental organisations, and government, and also develop the skills in writing powerful proposals.

Speaking further, Dr. Akanimo encouraged participants to develop their money crews and these included their source persons, liaison persons, finance persons, and media persons. He explained that the source person combed the internet looking for

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was, hierarchically, placed number 7 among the top 10 movers, with a notable and significant 220 place movement from her position in the 2019 rankings.

The breakdown of some of the key performance indicators show that Covenant aggregated 27.2% in Teaching, 14.7 in Research, 78.4 in Publication Citations, 43.8% Industry Income and 26.2% in industry outlook.

Interestingly, the recent achievement, for a university that is barely 18 years old since her establishment, in the prestigious THE rankings, has gone a long way in validating the quality that is inherent in Covenant University, thus clearing doubts about the attainability of Vision 10:2022.

where the grant was; the liaison person looked at the dimension of the grant and who to call; the finance person with expertise in budgeting; and the media person who ensured the researcher had enough visibility on different platforms to attract patronage.

Dr. Akanimo, who was accompanied to the event by Mr. Peter O'Hara of the University of London, commended Covenant University for the giant strides she had made within a short space of time, especially her research-friendly environment, state-of-the-art facilities, and good positioning in global ranking of world's universities. ■