



# Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University March 18-22, 2019

## Several Reputable Foreign Scholars Join Covenant as International Visiting Scholars



Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, with visiting international scholars

Covenant, West Africa's pre-eminent University and one of the top 10 in Africa, has continued to prove to be the preferred destination for many foreign scholars, courtesy of the University's fast rising profile as a research and learning institution of repute.

The foreign Scholars, whose nationalities cut across different parts of the world, namely Europe, America, Asia and the Far East, have joined Covenant as International Visiting Scholars.

The appointment of International Visiting Scholars at Covenant is

renewable each academic session. Each stay is an opportunity for scholars to engage in teaching, scholarly scientific life of the University community, and possible research collaborations with members of the faculty in the receiving Department.

Indeed, Covenant had long established the culture of receiving international scholars, but the surge in number validates the recent elevation in status, particularly the University's ranking as a world-class institution prompted by a drastic improvement in her research endeavours, cutting edge teaching and world outlook.

Among the International Visiting Scholars is Dr. Loes Damhof, a 21st

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## Entrepreneurial Icon gives Nuggets on How to Innovate Disruptively, Sustain Entrepreneurship

Competitive intelligence, focus, culture, dynamism and foresight amongst others, should be the hallmark of an entrepreneur desirous of growing his/her business, be on top of it and sustain his/her dominion in the particular business.

This was the submission of one of Nigeria's most celebrated entrepreneurs, Engr. Nnamdi Ezeigbo, on Thursday, March 21, 2019, at the 3rd edition of the Covenant University International Conference on Entrepreneurship (CU-ICE) held in the Multipurpose Hall of the Covenant Centre for Entrepreneurial Development Studies (CEDs) on the University campus.

Engr. Ezeigbo, who was the Keynote Speaker at the conference with the theme: 'Disruptive Innovation and Sustainable Entrepreneurship', said that the leadership of a company must know what to do and how to go about it. According to the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of SLOT Systems Limited, an entrepreneur must have competitive intelligence, which he could utilize to outwit his/her rivals.

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## Covenant Has the Momentum to fulfill Vision 10:2022 - Dr. Ekhator-Mobayode

Having experienced firsthand the whole gamut of what makes Covenant a fast-growing world-class University, one of Covenant's International Visiting Scholar, Dr. Uche Ekhator-Mobayode has asserted that Covenant has the momentum to become one of the top 10 universities in the world in a few years' time.

Dr. Ekhator-Mobayode, an Assistant Professor of Economics from the University of Pittsburg, USA, whose research area is in the field of Development Economics, was on a teaching visit to Covenant. She acknowledged that though coming to Covenant was her first interaction with the academic community in Nigeria, she had been highly impressed with the standards at Covenant and the University's core values.

Dr. Ekhator-Mobayode stated that students and faculty of Covenant were quality people in terms of academics and just character in general and from her



Dr Uche Ekhator-Mobayode

observation, "If the passion and the commitment and the vision continue, Covenant University is definitely onto something and it would be so refreshing to have that kind of representation at the top because representation is important. We can all take pride in all the goodness, the change in narrative that is going on here, so I would like to see Covenant at

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# Several Reputable Foreign Scholars Join Covenant as International Visiting Scholars

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Century Skills University Lecturer in Communication and Multimedia Design. She is responsible for the curriculum: the skills, knowledge and attitude that you need as a student to sustain you in an uncertain future. After years of teaching in China, Russia and the United States, she shares her experiences with students in the Intercultural Communication classes.

There is also Professor Raffaele Marchetti, Deputy Rector for Internationalization and Associate Professor at LUISS Guido Carli of Rome, where he teaches International Relations in the Department of Political Sciences and in the School of Government. His research interests are about global politics, global governance, transnational civil society, democracy, and political risk.

Also, Covenant has welcomed Dr. Lynn Ilon. She is a Chief Innovation Coordinator of Bayoom Hub – a global social enterprise based in Korea. Dr. Ilon spent over 30 years as a professor in top ranked research universities in Africa, the United States and Korea. Her scholarly work focuses on the global economics of networked learning.

Yet another International Visiting Scholar at Covenant is Dr. Uche Esosa Ekhator-Mobayode, a consultant with the World Bank Group under the World Bank Africa Fellowship Program. She is also an Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Pittsburg at Bradford. Her research focuses on issues related to health, gender, and conflict in developing economies.

In addition are Professor Solomon Isiorho and Mr. Felix S. K. Agyemang, Professor Nduka Nnamdi Ekere, Ms Jacqueline Carey Gallo and Professor Li Chunyang.

Isiorho is a Professor of Geology in the Department of Geosciences at Purdue University, Fort Wayne, Indiana, US, while Agyemang is currently a PhD student at the Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge, UK. Agyemang does research in urban and regional planning, urban modelling and housing.

Professor Nduka Nnamdi Ekere of the School of Engineering, Faculty of Science and Engineering, University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom, is currently a Professor of Manufacturing Engineering with an established national and international academic presence and reputation. His research interests are in the modelling of manufacturing processes and

systems, with specific emphasis on Electronics Manufacturing and Assembly, and the Processing of soft solids.

Jacqueline Gallo is a doctoral candidate at the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge. She spent fifteen months in Karamoja, Uganda completing ethnographic research at a Catholic girls' secondary school. She earned a second Master's Degree in Education Research Design and Methodology at the University of Oxford.

Professor Li Chunyang, a Researcher and Supervisor of Phd and post doctorate, the Director, Department of Bioactive Compound and Functional Food, Institute of Agro-Food Science and Technology, Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Sciences (March 2006-present).■

# Covenant Has the Momentum to fulfill Vision 10:2022 - Dr. Ekhator-Mobayode

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the top”.

She added that, “When you have a mass of people coming together for a common vision, there is really nothing they cannot do. So, based on that, if Covenant say they want to have a space in the moon, I would believe that because I think that they do have that momentum to be able to get there”.

The scholar had recently been focusing on health and gender issues in most of her research, and a chunk of her research had actually been on Nigeria. She has examined the effect of conflict on the health, maternal and child outcome and gender outcome.

On the University's environment and her infrastructure, Dr. Ekhator-Mobayode said that she looked forward to a time when whatever was happening on the campus of Covenant could be multiplied all over Nigeria.■

## Entrepreneurial Icon gives Nuggets on How to Innovate Disruptively, Sustain Entrepreneurship

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Nnamdi Ezeigbo, the founder and CEO of Slot Systems, giving the Keynote remarks

“You must know what your rivals are doing at every point in time so you would not be left in the lurch,” he said.

On the strategy for growth, the Keynote Speaker said that to maintain continuous growth of the business, the entrepreneur had to put in place strategies to get to the positions he/she needed to reach in one to three years' time. He added that the strategies must be developed in-house and must be dynamic.

Also, Engr. Ezeigbo said that innovation could be disruptive or incremental. Disruptive innovation, he explained, would not require expertise but entirely new skills and capabilities different from that of the already existing

business. Incremental innovation, he stated, would make use of existing assets and capabilities; it would be exploitative, high risk and high cost; would depend on competence over several years; efficiency of economies of scale; and purely on improvement and operational effectiveness.

Earlier in his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant, Professor AAA. Atayero, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Akan Williams, said that entrepreneurial education had been one of the core components of the University's curriculum in her quest to raise a new generation of leaders. Covenant, he noted, recognised that entrepreneurship was a fundamental engine for economic and non-economic development.

The Director, CEDS, Dr. Felicia Olokoyo, had in her welcome address said the event was one of such credence to the fact that “Covenant does not only speak but act entrepreneurship” and, while describing the theme of the conference as timely, Dr. Olokoyo stated that it was the view of Covenant that only entrepreneurs who innovated disruptively in advance and stay abreast of global happenings would stand the test of time and develop sustainably.■