



# Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University December 3-11, 2020

## Chancellor admonishes Students to desist from Wanton Movements during Holiday Season

The Chancellor and Chairman, Board of Regents, Covenant University, Dr David O. Oyedepo, has advised students proceeding on Christmas holidays to desist from wanton movements during the Yuletide season. He gave this admonition on Friday, December 4, 2020, at the Departure Service organized for the



The Chancellor and Chairman, Board of Regents, Covenant University, Dr David O. Oyedepo, giving the word and prophetic blessings during the Students Departure Assembly.

students at the University Chapel. "There is no return match in the race of life; as life is in seasons and there is a season for everything," he stated.

He continued: "This is your overcoming season. Anything you don't overcome now will overcome you in future. This stage of your life is your planting season for knowledge, and relevant knowledge creates a future (Lamentations 3:27). I learnt from Jesus in Jeremiah 10:7-8; invest your time in acquiring relevant knowledge."

Dr. Oyedepo emphasized the need for the students to eschew wayward life during the holiday period. He advised them to take time to develop themselves in areas they had challenges instead of walking about aimlessly. While warning them that their parents' accomplishments were not transferable, and no one could keep what he could not make, the Chancellor stated that "What you can't make, you can't keep. Any child that depends on his father's inheritance has made a fool of his destiny. I took time to do something about a challenge I had with speaking a long time ago,

and today, I have become a wordsmith".

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Abiodun H. Adebayo, in his remarks, stated that God had been faithful to Covenant University, and there was no doubt as to what God had wrought on the institution, the Board of Regents, Management, faculty, staff, and students. He added that it was the first time the University would be resuming a new session without a holiday in-between.

Professor Adebayo encouraged the students to ensure that Spirituality, the arrowhead of Covenant University, became their watchword all through the holiday season. He asked them to define their goals and be focused, check the books they must read and begin to outline them.

In his brief exhortation of the students, the Registrar, Dr. Oluwasegun Omidiora, urged the students to ensure they put God first in their dealings as they embarked on the holidays. He encouraged them to be good ambassadors of Covenant University wherever they find themselves and hold forth to the core values of the institution.

Also present at the Departure Assembly were the Director, Financial Services, Pastor Babatunde Onatola; the Chaplain, Pastor Kayode Martins, Deans of Colleges, and other Principal Officers.

## Professor Nwinyi attains Acting Dean, SPS as Dr Amodu becomes Director, ALDC

The Board of Regents, Covenant University, has approved the appointment of Professor Obinna Nwinyi and Dr Lanre Amodu to the positions of Acting Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies (SPS), and Director, Africa Leadership Development Centre (ALDC) respectively.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Abiodun H. Adebayo, at a brief ceremony in his Conference Room, conveyed the good news to the Management of the University and alongside the new appointees. He thanked Professor Nwinyi and Dr Amodu for accepting the call to serve and charged them to bring their wealth of experience to bear in their new assignments.

Professor Adebayo said the Board of the University recognized the strategic importance of the SPS in driving academic and research

excellence. He noted that the Postgraduate School played a critical role in enhancing the short and long term vision of the University, thus the need to appoint, albeit in an acting capacity, an individual with a rich vein of knowledge of the operations of the SPS.

The Vice-Chancellor charged the new Director, ALDC, Dr Lanre Amodu, to bring his creative wealth to bear on the existing structure while introducing some levels of dynamism to the office.

He told the audience that the ALDC was central to the overall plan of the University, especially as it pertained to the development of leadership capabilities in both faculty, staff and students of the University, and it was important that the Centre remained true to its mandate.

Professor Adebayo thanked the immediate past Director of the Centre, Dr Tuesday Owoeye, for being very active in driving the mission of the ALDC. He said that the Board appreciated Dr Owoeye for his contributions to making a success of the Centre.

Professor Nwinyi was until his new appointment, Sub-Dean, SPS, while Dr Amodu had been at different times the Head, Department of Mass

## Professor Adebayo Assures CUSS Governing Council of Covenant University's Support

The Board of the Governing Council of Covenant University Secondary School (CUSS) has called on the Management of Covenant University to assist and support the pre-tertiary school in her quest towards academic excellence and the attainment of national visibility among secondary schools in Nigeria. The Chair of the Council, Deaconess Marie Usidame, made the appeal when she led other members of the council on a courtesy call on the University Management. She said the visit was primarily to establish a more robust working relationship with the University.

The School Principal, Mr. Olukorede Akanni, appreciated the support the school had been enjoying over the years from Covenant but canvassed for a relationship where there would be a seamless flow of graduating students from the CUSS to Covenant University.

Mr. Akanni noted the increased students' subscription from families working and resident at Covenant University. "From available statistics, 30% of the new intake in the current school term are related to the staff of Covenant University, and we hope to improve on the current subscription," he added.

Covenant University's Director of Financial Services, Pastor Babatunde Onatola, commended the staff of the CUSS for the quality and positive effect they were bringing to bear on the lives of the young scholars. He tasked the school's governing council and the school management to work towards getting their promotional messages beyond the perimeters of Canaanland.

He suggested that these could be done through the various media, while also making the necessary



Vice-Chancellor, Professor Abiodun H. Adebayo (Middle), flanked by Prof. Obinna Nwinyi, Ag. Dean School of Postgraduate Studies (SPS) (L), and Dr Lanre Amodu, Director, African Leadership Development Centre (ALDC) (R)

Contd. on Pg 2

Contd. on Pg 2

# . TETFUND ICT-Digital Economy Thematic Group Understudies Covenant University Research Model

The Tertiary Education Trust (TETFUND) will be tapping into the various capacities available across the spectrum of the Information Communication Technology (ICT) sector of Nigeria in its attempt at establishing a national research and development foundation for driving and advancing the industry.

This objective was made known when the Coordinator and Team Leader of the TETFUND Research and Development Standing-Committee on ICT-Digital Economy Thematic Group, Professor Bashir Galadima, led other members of the group on a courtesy call to the Management of Covenant University.

According to Professor Galadima, the committee had the mandate to work assiduously towards the

establishment of a national research foundation to spur activities in the ICT sector of the business space and encourage more players in the digital space.

He averred that the standing-committee was the most important of the arrays of standing-committees under the TETFUND initiative, taking into consideration the crucial role of ICT in driving other sectors of the nation's economy. "ICT supports and enables all other sectors; education, healthcare, manufacturing, commerce, etc., and as such the importance of setting up a robust framework that will help the standing-committee meet its objectives," he added.

Professor Galadima highlighted the roles

research institutions, industries and government across all levels needed to play to make the assignment a success. "We are here at Covenant University as a representative of the academia, taking into cognizance the position that this University occupy in the research ecosystem of the Nigerian education landscape," he enthused.

He said the team was at Covenant University to learn from the University's research experiences and see how in just 18 years, the University had been able to concretize her research plan. He added that the nation, through the work of the sub-committee, could adopt its findings as a model for building the research and development foundation.

The Head, Department of Computer and Information Sciences, Professor Ambrose Azeta, welcomed the idea of a national research foundation for the promotion of ICT and digital economy, noting that the industry had longed for such. He said the establishment of the foundation would encourage software engineers and local initiatives through the provision of national infrastructure and policy framework to support innovation.

"This will go a long way in answering the mindboggling questions of why the nation's local software developers are leaving the country," he stated.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Abiodun H. Adebayo said Covenant, being an ICT-driven University, was proud to be associated with the assignment of the standing-committee while hoping that the project would become the platform for a rebirth in the development of Nigeria.

Professor Adebayo noted that with the advent of COVID-19 across the world, the means of doing business had been completely altered. He said that as the digital economy could never be shut down, it had become imperative for the nation's business environment to evolve and grow into it. He urged governments in the country to make ICT resources available to citizens at a basic level, and above all be committed to promoting the adoption of the virtual space to drive governance and business.

The meeting had in attendance, the Registrar, Covenant University, Dr Oluwasegun Omidiora; Dean, College of Science and Technology, Professor Temidayo Omotosho; Dean, College of Engineering, Professor David Omole; Director, Financial Services, Pastor Babatunde Onatola; Director, Centre for Systems and Information Services, Engr. Bayo Ajala; and Director, Covenant University Centre for Research Innovation and Discovery, Professor Emeka Iweala. ■



Covenant University Management with TETFUND ICT-Digital Economy Thematic Group

## Professor Nwinyi attains Acting Dean, SPS as Dr Amodu becomes Director, ALDC Contd. from Pg 1

Communication, Director, Vice-Chancellor's Office, and Acting Registrar of the University amongst others.

The Vice-Chancellor urged all present to work at bringing onboard ingenious innovations to the University operations, which would spark the speedy attainment of the overall vision of the University.

Also present at the meeting were the Registrar, Dr Oluwasegun Omidiora; Dean, College of

Management and Social Sciences, Professor Uwalomwa Uwuigbe; Dean, College of Leadership and Development Studies, Professor Olujide Adekeye; Dean, College of Science and Technology, Professor Temidayo Omotosho; Dean, College of Engineering, Professor David Omole; University Chaplain, Pastor Kayode Martins; and the Head, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Professor Sheriff Folarin. ■

## Professor Adebayo Assures CUSS Governing Council of Covenant University's Support Contd. from Pg 1



operational adjustment to help families cope with the severe economic challenges in the wake of the impact of COVID-19 on businesses and careers nationwide.

The Registrar, Dr. Oluwasegun Omidiora, reiterated the need for the Governing Board to champion payment modalities that would ease

that should ordinarily attract a multitude of students to her campus. "There is a need to tweak her operational framework with added advantages that both parents and students cannot resist," the Registrar averred.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor

Abiodun Adebayo, appreciated the team for their visit. He assured them of the continuous support of the University towards improving the school's academic performance among secondary schools, not just in the state, but in the nation at large.

Professor Adebayo, while noting that there was a continuous need for improvement, assured the CUSS's Governing Council of support that would help the young pre-tertiary school, to fulfil her aspiration of churning out the very best for the country. "You can bank on us to give you the necessary support towards developing quality manpower through training, capacity building and resources within the University's operational context to boost your students and staff performance," he explained.

He added that the CUSS had a sound governance system that should ordinarily attract a multitude of students to her campus. "There is a need to tweak her operational framework with added advantages that both parents and students cannot resist," the Registrar averred.

He urged the Board to spearhead operational changes and review processes towards gaining improved patronage. "You need to blow your own trumpet, by adopting robust advertising, highlighting awards and showcasing excellent results of your students in national examinations, for all to see," Professor Adebayo advised.

Other members of the Governing Council at the visit were Engineer Gideon Adeyemi, Barr. (Deaconess) Chinelo Olayanju, and Deacon Jacob Ekpe. ■