



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University January 20 - 24, 2020

19 make Chancellor's Exceptional Researchers List 2019

Nineteen (19) faculty members of Covenant have made the Chancellor's Exceptional Researchers List of the University for the year 2019.

The Chancellors Exceptional Researchers List is the holy grail of Covenant faculty, who through their research efforts had been exceptional in their contributions toward the University's attainment of her vision to become one of the top 10 universities in the world by 2022 (Vision 10:2022).

The criterion for making the 2019 list, according to the Covenant Management,

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Covenant Research Output at its Highest since Inception



Professor AAA Atayero, Vice-Chancellor

Covenant, at the weekend, indicated she was not resting on her oars as the best research university in Nigeria, as the latest report on the University's research endeavours by SciVal revealed the aggregate of her publications was at its highest since inception.

According to SciVal, the web-based analytics solution with unparalleled power and flexibility that provides comprehensive access to the research performance of over 14,000 research institutions and their associated researchers from 230 nations worldwide, Covenant, which ended 2019 with all-time high 1,381 publications (remarkably the first time she was crossing the 1,000 mark in a reference year), had at



Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo, Dr. Fayomi and Professor Loto

the weekend recorded an aggregate 4,873 publications.

Specifically, God's own University had since 2016, when the current administration led by Professor AAA. Atayero assumed office, been having a terrific year-on-year increase in her publication profile. From a humble total publication of 1,193 between 2005 and 2015, Covenant had between 2015 and as at the weekend recorded a staggering 3,680 publications.

The latest development came a few weeks after Covenant, courtesy of computations made by SciVal, emerged the best institution in Nigeria on different fronts in the field of research. Covenant emerged No. 1 among the top 100 Institutions in Nigeria by scholarly output. 90 per cent of top Nigerian authors in Computer Science are from Covenant. 90 per cent of top 10 Multidisciplinary Nigerian authors are from Covenant. 80 per cent of top 10 Nigerian authors in Engineering are from Covenant, and 60 per cent of top 10 Nigerian authors in the past five years are from Covenant as at this writing.

The meteoric rise in Covenant's publication profile is attributable to Covenant's ReCITe Agenda, a plan introduced by the administration for fulfilling Vision 1 of 10 in 10. ReCITe, according to the VC, is coined from "Research is our responsibility, Citation and Innovation leads to Income, Teaching is our goal".

Ultimately, it is the Lord's doing, and to Him alone be all the glory.

Edustart 2020: Strategy, Innovation, others Crucial to Sustainable Business Ventures in Africa - Ezeigbo



CEO, SLOT Limited, Mr. Nnamdi Ezeigbo, delivering his Keynote Address on the topic "Building Sustainable Ventures in Africa"

An entrepreneur must be able to own his strategy, identify his partnership for growth, embrace strategic positioning, be innovative, and ensure his trust capital is non-negotiable for him to build a sustainable business venture, the Chief Executive Officer, SLOT Systems Limited, Mr. Nnamdi Ezeigbo has advocated.

The renowned entrepreneur handed down this message on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, while addressing participants, as the Keynote Speaker, at the Covenant University Edustart Global Conference 2020, themed 'Empowering Africa through Entrepreneurship'.

Mr. Ezeigbo, who gave an address

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Covenant Emerges Best Nigerian Varsity in APWEN Projects Contest



Professor James Omoleye

Hints that multiple award-winning University, Covenant, was not going to give rival Nigerian institutions any kind of slack emerged last weekend, with representatives of the University crowned winner of the annual projects contest of the Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria (APWEN).

APWEN had extended an open invitation to current final year and recently graduated female students of all Nigerian universities to enter their final year projects for the association's annual projects contest. Awards were to be presented to the best three projects during APWEN's Investiture of its 16th President.

Three 2019 Chemical Engineering graduates of Covenant, dubbed 'Alpha Team' - Ukeme Umana, Temiloluwa Makanjuola, and Queen Bassey - entered their final year project: "Design and Construction of a Pilot Plant for the Production of Combustion Fuel from Waste Plastics (PE)", supervised by Professor James Omoleye.

In the first phase of the contest, Alpha Team was adjudged one of the best three and was invited to the Investiture on 18th January 2020, where the project of Covenant's ex-students was adjudged the best and the team awarded the first Prize of N250,000.

According to Professor Omoleye, other benefits accrued to the Covenant alumni were a training for them on their project, sponsorship of a mini-commercial scale plant to be built by and for the Alpha Team by APWEN, and a pledge of N2m by the President of Nigeria Society of Engineers to be shared among the best three project teams. To God alone be the glory. ■

19 make Chancellor's Exceptional Researchers List 2019 *Contd. from Pg 1*

was for those who aspired to make the Chancellor's exceptional researchers list to have not less than 20 publications in Scopus for the year 2019 as at January 20, 2020.

Dr Isaac Fayomi of the Department of Mechanical Engineering led the group of 19 Chancellor's Exceptional Researchers with a whopping 98 publications. His research interests include Materials science, Mechanical Metallurgy, and Advanced Surface Engineering with Nanocomposite Multifunctional Fabrication of Alloys.

Next was Dr Moses Emeteri of the Department of Physics, whose interest in Multidisciplinary Modelling earned him 76 publications. He was closely followed by Professor Esther Akinlabi of the Mechanical Engineering Department with 64 publications. Professor Akinlabi's research interests are Laser-based Additive Manufacturing, Friction Stir Welding, Surface Coating and Renewable Energy.

Other faculty from Mechanical Engineering on the list are Professor Roland Loto, Professor Oluseyi Ajayi, Dr Stephen Akinlabi, Engr. Imhade Okokpuje, Professor Cleophas Loto,

Professor Sunday Oyedepo, Dr. Abiodun Abioye, Dr Sunday Afolalu, and Professor Olayinka Ohunakin.

Also in the list dominated by faculty from the Mechanical Engineering Department were Professor Sanjay Misra of the Department of Electrical and Information Engineering (EIE), Dr Emmanuel Okoro (Petroleum Engineering), Dr Theophilus Adagunodo (Physics), Professor AAA. Atayero (EIE), Dr Mojisola Usikalu (Physics), Dr Hilary Okagbue (Mathematics), and Dr Samuel Sanni (Chemical Engineering).

Interesting to note that these exceptional faculty (making up approximately 3.89% of all faculty) contributed 721 (52.06%) of the 1,388 publications by Covenant indexed in Scopus for 2019.

'A breakdown of the exceptionals contribution by discipline indicated that Engineering accounts for 80.03% of the 721 publications; Physics = 17.20%; while Mathematics accounts for 2.77% each.

A breakdown by departments shows: Mechanical Engineering = 62.55%; Physics = 17.20%; Electrical and Information Engineering = 10.82%; Petroleum Engineering = 3.88%; Chemical Engineering = 2.77%; and Mathematics = 2.77%. ■

Edustart 2020: Strategy, Innovation, others Crucial to Sustainable Business Ventures in Africa -Ezeigbo *Contd. on Pg 2*

titled 'Building Sustainable Ventures in Africa', said that entrepreneurship was about creating value for people, noting that in business people were mainly concerned about making money. However, according to him, it was possible to build sustainable ventures in Africa, but Africans needed to change their mindsets.

In his opening remarks at the event, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Akan Williams, said it was imperative that African governments and multilateral development partners evolve sustainable innovative development strategies to exploit the huge manpower and market opportunities available in the continent as available statistics suggested that by 2050, Africa's population would be 2.3 billion and the youth population had been estimated to reach 830 million.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, at

the onset of Covenant University, her curriculum was designed to nurture total graduates that were mentally resourceful, intellectually reinforced, enterprisingly self-dependent, futuristically visionary and responsibility sensitive to changes demanded for the dominion nature Covenant graduates were divinely crafted for.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Curator, Hebron Startup Lab, and Convener of the Edustart Conference, Dr Stephen Oluwatobi, noted that the maiden edition of Edustart, in 2018, focused on addressing the future of education, while the second edition, in 2019, focused on the quality of the future teacher. He, however, pointed out that the new decade, starting from 2020, belonged to those who imbibed entrepreneurship.

He stated that the mission for Edustart was to impact 50,000 people to help them succeed. He urged participants to make the most of the opportunities provided by the event. ■