

# UNN Celebrates 56<sup>th</sup> Founders' Day in Style

Inya-Agha Egwu

Princess Alexandra of Kent in October 7, 1960 laid the foundation stone of the University of Nigeria. Every October, staff, students, alumni and friends of the university gather at the same venue where the foundation was laid to celebrate and reminisce the visions of the founding fathers of the institution led by Rt. Hon. Nnamdi Azikiwe.

Besides recounting nostalgic memories of the formative years of the university, the gathering, popularly known as "Founders' Day" provides platform for the university administration to bring the alumni up-to-date with events, developments and challenges of their Alma Mater.

This year, 2016, the University of Nigeria celebrated her Founders' Day in style. The celebration had a touch of innovation in the activities which spanned for one week. The event featured the Minister of Science and Technology, Dr Ogbonnaya Onu as a guest lecturer. Onu treaded on a familiar terrain as he spoke on the topic; "Science, Technology and Innovation: the way forward".

The Minister lamented that the neglect of science, technology and innovation since Nigeria's independence had inflicted unprecedented harm on the country's national development and left Nigeria trailing behind lesser endowed Sub-Saharan countries in the field of innovation.

"We must aim to use science and technology to create wealth for our people, reduce poverty and work towards eliminating abject poverty, build an inclusive, competitive and sustainable diversified economy",



Principal Officers of the University of Nigeria, Governing Council Members, Minister of Science and Technology, the Chief Judge of Anambra State and other guests cutting the Founders' Day cake

the Minister advised.

Alumni Day and Dignity of Man lecture was an integral part of the Founders' Day. Lecturers that feature in the event are usually shopped from the pool of distinguished alumni of the university. The Chief Judge of Anambra State, Justice Peter Umeadi presented the 8<sup>th</sup> Dignity of Man Lecture during the 2016 Founders' Day.

Justice Umeadi, who spoke on "The Rule of Law as the Foundation of any Nation", called for the domestication of Child Rights Acts by all the states in Nigeria, in line with changing times and development in the country. He advised legislatures to prioritise the greater good of the people while enacting laws.

"It should always be borne in mind that the good of the people and strengthening of the foundation of the nation ought to be the purpose of legislation which is then enforced by the ordinary courts", the Judge said.

The Commissioner of Police, Enugu State, Emmanuel Ojukwu, while discussing the lecture, noted that corruption was a major impediment to the observance of the rule of law which, according to him, was often recited in theory but absent in practice.

In his address at the alumni day, the

Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Benjamin Ozumba said that the University of Nigeria under his watch was making strides in line with the vision of the founding fathers.

He outlined part of the achievements of his administration within the past two years to include: improved global ranking by WEBOMETRICS which placed the University of Nigeria first in the country and among the best in Africa; entering into strategic collaborations to expose staff and students of the University to International best practices; completion of stranded buildings and revitalizing moribund establishments including the Faculty of Agriculture farm. "Despite economic Challenges in the country" The Vice-Chancellor said "we are resilient and resolute in giving the University of Nigeria a facelift. Such was the spirit of our founding fathers"

At the Nnamdi Azikiwe Library, an exhibition was mounted where departments, faculties and institutes showcased their latest inventions and research publications. On display were Solar water heater with fibre-reinforced plastic storage tank; incinerator for converting solid waste into energy for domestic hot water generation; Biomass cookstoves; Thermo-syphon water heater;





**Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Ogonnia Onu delivering the 56<sup>th</sup> Founders' Day lecture of the UNN**

paintings; fabrications and textile materials.

A recent addition to the activities of the Founders' Day was the Dignity of Man Debate by students. The target of the debate, according to the coordinator, Prof Edith Nwosu was to prepare students for public speaking and critical thinking. "Our expectation is that one day, our students will debate in the British Parliament", she said.

The celebration was not lacking in entertainment as the institution's Department of Music staged a night of music concert. The Department, which recently emerged the best department of music in Nigeria at the Campus Classical

held at the University of Lagos, played different symphony ranging from Western Dance, African Chorus to African Instrumental. The Music night was capped with African danced drama titled Economic Palaver and Jungle Justice.

The Department of Film and Theatre Studies equally staged a drama show captioned "IyiUwa". The drama

captures the folklore of "Ogbanje" myth in Igbo cosmology where a girl dies and reincarnates repeatedly until the umbilical cord linking her with the spirits is severed by unearthing a ritual token called "IyiUwa"

The celebrations were capped with a thanksgiving service at Chapel of Redemption, University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus.



**l-r: Dean, Faculty of Arts, Prof Onyeji, DVC (Admin) Prof Igwe, former Governor of Enugu State, Dr Okwesilieze Nwodo, VC, Prof Ozumba; guest lecturer Prof. Falola; Registrar, Barr Igbokwe, University Bursar Mr Edeh ( first from right) and faculty members of the Faculty of Arts at the first Distinguished Lecture series of the Faculty of Arts.**



# DEPT. OF PURE AND INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY IMMORTALIZES LATE PROF. IKOKU

Choice Aliko

In honour of the great iconic academic legend, Prof. Chimere Ikoku, the Department of Pure and Industrial Chemistry, University of Nigeria, has inducted an annual memorial lecture as a way of immortalising the late professor of Chemistry.

The Vice-Chancellor, UNN, Prof Benjamin Chukwuma Ozumba, while delivering his speech at the Princess Alexandra Auditorium, Applauded the Department for their wisdom and effort to organise the maiden edition of the Prof. Chimere Ikoku Memorial Lecture.

According to him, the event was an opportunity to appreciate service to humanity of which Prof Ikoku was a Pathfinder, as his service to humanity spans across spheres of life. "my administration is committed to building human developmental platforms for moulding greater men and women who would soar our great Institution and country to a greater height just like our late Professor did before his demise", he said. Also, Prof Ozumba revealed that the late Professor was a scholar and a great Leader who served as a two-time Vice-Chancellor in the University of Nigeria and other Universities, thus he accomplished a great feat by leaving an indelible foot print in the sands of time.

The Chairman of the Occasion, Prof. Oleka Udala urged the youth to keep studying chemistry in order to propel life, As chemistry is about life while Biology is about human which in turn will help to uphold the legacy of Prof Ikoku.

Furthermore, he enlightened students and the academia of the need to practice knowledge without borders, citing an example with the Doctors without Borders

(DWB) group which was formed in 1971 by a group of French physicians whose aim was to travel across destitute and dangerous Countries to

care for people's health and combat any injustice they encounter. Prof. Udala stated that if knowledge was not crisscrossed it could be catastrophic; hence

he called for the need for every profession to jointly work together and emulate the group of Physicians (DWB) to move the Nation forward.

Moreso, the Vice-Chancellor, Usmanu Danfodio University, Sokoto, Prof. Abdullahi Abdu Zuru who delivered the keynote address titled: Chimere Ikoku: Chemist, Scholar and Statesman, spoke on how the Late Chemist imparted lives such as his in the field of Chemistry. He revealed that Prof Chimere prepared him for the challenges of life without claiming credit for it emphasizing that he spent his life helping unknown persons realise their potential before his demise. According to Prof. Zuru, the Late Prof. Ikoku Was a good lecturer whose class was always serious, Attentive and most times embellished with jokes which made it lively.

"Prof Ikoku was a man of considerable experience who has through the years assiduously amassed a great deal of working knowledge of a wide range of activities, with a high sense of responsibility, which made him able

and willing to accept additional responsibilities done with vigour", he said.

Speaking at the event, the son of Late Prof Chimere Ikoku, Mr Ikenna Ikoku expressed delight over the honour given to the memory of his father by the University of Nigeria.

He buttressed that despite the contributions of the father to the University, he also believed that people should be involved to boost the commitment of enlightening the human mind. Mr Ikenna Ikoku emphasized that his father's drive of contributing to the world of science through his field of study, was to enhance national and human development which made him show concern on Africans and wanted the average African to be exposed to science. He stressed that his father's father's

memory was a treasure he would behold forever, as he explained that he was a great disciplinarian who raised them under certain codes and conducts, teaching him and his siblings to stay away from crime because according to him the mere thought of a crime is an offence and criminal.



Representatives Of Pharmacy Class Of 1997.

# 46<sup>th</sup> Convocation of UNN

Inya-Agha Egwu



**L-r: Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nigeria, Prof Benjamin Ozumba, 2015/2016 Best Graduating Student of UNN, Eke Ifeanyichukwu Emmanuel, Pro-Chancellor, Emmanuel Chukwuka Ukala, SAN and the Registrar, Barr. Christopher Igbokwe at the 46<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the UNN**

It was a beehive of activities at

the University of Nigeria as the premier Institution celebrated its 46<sup>th</sup> Convocation in grand style conferring about 12,448 degrees on deserving graduands.

The Convocation activities, which spanned from Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2017, attracted dignitaries from different parts of the country who either came to felicitate with their friends, wards or attended as special guests of the University.

Activities for the convocation was flagged-off at the Main Hall of the University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus where the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Benjamin Chukwuma Ozumba outlined the convocation events and briefed pressmen and members of the university community of major developments in the university within the past one year.

Prof. Ozumba informed the audience that the University had consolidated its primus position in the latest Webometric rankings which still placed the University of Nigeria in the number one position among all the universities in Nigeria with over 4000 differences in citation between the Institution and the University of Ibadan that occupies the second position.

“Having retained that enviable position consecutively for three rankings, we now consider it a privilege to remain at the top and we are not ready to abdicate that position anytime soon”, the Vice-Chancellor said.

At the conferment of first Degrees, Certificates and Diploma, a total of 10425 graduands received first degrees, diplomas and certificates, 94 of them bagged 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours Degree with Eke Ifeanyichukwu Emmanuel of the of the Department of Microbiology

emerging the Best Graduating Student for the 2015/2016 session.

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“As a student, I had no shoes, I did menial jobs, including photography, to survive, I thank God who crowned my efforts with good success”, Eke said while presenting his valedictory speech.

At the Postgraduate level, the University graduated a total of 2,023 students.

365 of them received Doctor of Philosophy Degrees (Ph.D) 1,419 received Masters Degrees while 239 graduates were awarded Postgraduate Diplomas. Professor Igwe Charles Arinzechukwu won the Vice-Chancellor's Research Leadership Prize. Vice-Chancellor's Faculty Postgraduate Prizes were won by Ibout Johnson Cletus,



Faculty of Physical Sciences (1<sup>st</sup> Prize); Chukwu Jude Okechukwu, Faculty of Social Sciences (2<sup>nd</sup> Prize) and Melefa Omotosho Moses, Faculty of Arts (3<sup>rd</sup> prize)

A unique aspect of the convocation was a special convocation ceremony for the conferment of Honorary Degree on Pastor Enoch Adeboye, the General Overseer of Redeemed Christian Church of God. Adeboye, who gained admission into the University of Nigeria in 1963 but left in 1966 because of the civil war crisis, was conferred a Doctorate Degree in Divinity (Honoris Causa).

“My joy knew no bounds when it became clear to me that 50 years later, I will still go with a degree of this University”, the clergy said, adding that he was “grateful to God and to the authorities of the University of Nigeria”.

Engineer Emeka Obiora Okwuosa, Chairman and CEO of Oilserv Limited, and a seasoned administrator, Engineer John Obinna Chukwu were equally conferred Doctor of Business Administration (Hon. DBA) and Doctor of Public Administration (Hon. DPA) respectively.

### **Engineers Top Honorary Awardees**

Meanwhile, many of those who were conferred Honorary Degrees and title of Professor Emeritus were Engineers. Besides Engineers Okwuosa and Chukwu, four out of seven Professors that received the title of Professor Emeritus were from the Faculty of Engineering. They included: Prof. Anthony Okey Odukwe,

Prof Samuel Onuorah Onyegegbu, Prof Francis Igboji Idike and Prof Emmanuel Uchecukwu Odigbo.

Others who received the title included: Prof. W. I. Beniah Onuigbo, Prof. Benson Omeniha Oluikpe and Prof. Samuel Nnagbo Chiejina.

### **Buhari Praises Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor and VC**

The Visitor to the University, President Muhammadu Buhari in his address at the convocation paid glowing attribute to the authorities of the University for holding forte with sound academic tradition bequeathed to the university by her founding fathers.

“I have noted with joy”, said the



**VC, Prof Ozumba and Pro-Chancellor, Mr Ukala, SAN**

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Benjamin Chukwuma Ozumba, clearly understands the pedigree of the founding fathers and did not rest until the university became the first in Nigeria, The fourteenth in Africa, and presently enjoys an enviable and distinguishing ranking in the world!”

The President maintained that “Special thanks are also due the hardworking Chancellor as well as the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council, members of the



**L-r: Vice-Chancellor's wife, Pharm Chinelo Ozumba, VC, Prof Benjamin Ozumba, General Overseer of RCCG, Pastor Enoch Adeboye and the Governor of Enugu State, His Excellency Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi at the 46th Convocation of the UNN**

president who was represented by the Minister of State for Education, Prof. Anthony Anwuka “that the present

Governing Council, the Senate, Staff and students of this university for respecting the





Chairman of the 46th Convocation Lecture, Hon Justice B.A Adejumo displaying award he received from the VC of UNN The 46th Convocation Lecturer, Prof Umaru Garuba Danbatta (left) receiving award from the VC of UNN, Prof. Ozumba



The 46th Convocation Lecturer, Prof Umaru Garuba Danbatta (left) receiving award from the VC of UNN, Prof. Ozumba

product of visible work rather than clinging to the absurdity of invisible thoughts”.

President Buhari entreated the graduands to engage in fruitful jobs that would bring development to the country.

In his address, the Chancellor of the University, His Imperial Majesty, Oba Adeyeye Enitan Babatunde Ogunwusi, the Oni of Ife, charged the graduands and honorary awardees to be good ambassadors of the University, stressing that the University would continue to uphold its tradition of delivering quality education.

“Make excellence your watchword and remember always to be the stellar star in whatever environment you find yourself”, the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council, Mr Emmanuel Chukwuka Ukala, SAN advised in his address..

Mr Ukala maintained that the economic recession in the country presented opportunities for universities to excel in researches and innovations.

According to him, “well equipped universities in such seasons rise to the peak of their inventiveness”.

The Senior Advocate of Nigeria appealed to Nigerians to see opportunities presented by the prevailing economic situation in the country. The Convocation ceremony was capped with Thanksgiving Service at St. Peter's Chaplaincy, University of Nigeria. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Ozumba at the service thanked God for the success of the convocation activities and also thanked staff and students of the University for their cooperation.

The Vice-Chancellor Stated that his administration had recorded achievements in the areas of provision of municipal services, environmental aesthetics, structural upgrades, timely promotion of staff, enhanced global visibility, among others.

“I dedicate these achievements to my management team and my staff and students”, he said.



Minister of State for Education, Prof Anthony Anwukah (4<sup>th</sup> from right); the Chancellor, HIM, Adeyeye Enitan Babatunde Ogunwusi, Ooni of Ife, (3<sup>rd</sup> from right); the Pro-Chancellor, Emmanuel Ukala, SAN (2<sup>nd</sup> from right); the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Benjamin Ozumba (5<sup>th</sup> from right) and Principal Officers of the University at the 46<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the University.





# Pharmacy Class of '97 Donates 6 Million Naira Equipment. Expressed gratitude to the class of Olanrewaju Mgboji '97 for her benevolence and urged

“The Univ  
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9th From Left Is The Dvc Admin, Prof Charles Igwe Flanked By Representatives Of '97 Class, Dean Of Faculty Of Pharmaceutical Science Prof. G. C. Onunkwo And Past Dean Of The Faculty Prof. S. Ofuefule Prof. Ema Ibezim Posing With Laboratory Equipments Donated By The '97 Class.

Adding, that 56 members of the '97 class gave the donation.“We were able to accomplish this great feat because we believed we are one big family and this spirit of oneness has kept us together for the past 19 years”, she said. She further disclosed

Other Classes to emulate from their kind gesture. He noted that he was optimistic that the equipment would help to restore the lost glory of UNN Pharmacy with regards to research. meanwhile, the immediate past Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Emmanuel Ibezim who was the initiator of giving back to ones alma mater appreciated the class of '97. In his words, “this class is so wonderful and unbeatable”.

has donated laboratory equipment worth 6 million naira to the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, UNN. The equipment w e r e 1 U V / V I S - spectrophotometer; 10 Microscopes; 12 Weighing balances and 150 laboratory goggles.

The '97 class were represented by Pharm. Nwaobia Victor; Ezinne Nkwaa-Omenyima (nee Aboaja); Vivian Eluagu (nee Uzodimma); Emmanuel Chukwu Osodiuru; Philip Uzor; John Ugwu Okonkwo; Charles Mebirim and Jerad Oti. Also Pharm. Dr. Emmanuel Chukwu-Osodiuru thanked the faculty for sowing into them while stressing that the Faculty is now reaping her fruits. “The Faculty made us and we have come to give back a little”.

Speaking on behalf of the class, Pharm. Chinenye Onodugo (nee Ifenacho) who was the assistant class representative said that the equipment was donated in order to sustain high quality research and effective teaching. Pharm. Onodugo said she was grateful to God for making it possible for the '97 class to accomplish the great feat.

In a vote of thanks, the Associate Dean, Dr. Sylvester Chukwuemeka Nworu said that the class had set the pace and thanked them for stimulating others to do greater things.



## STAFF THAT RECEIVED ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS RECENTLY

No.	Name	Department	Additional Qualification	Awarding Institution
1.	Ude, Monday Samuel	Registry (Personnel Services)	Masters in Religion & Cultural Studies (Old Testament)	University of Nigeria
2.	Dr. Ogbuene Emeka B.	Environmental Management and Control	Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Environment Management.	Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Akwa
3.	Dr. Jude Okechukwu Chukwu	Economics	Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Development Economics	University of Nigeria
4.	Dr. Chikere Nkwonta	South-East Zonal Biotech. Centre	Doctor of Philosophy in Biochemical and Biomedical Studies	Cranfield University, United Kingdom



# APPOINTMENTS



S/No.	Name	Department	Designation	Date of Appointment
1.	Prof. C. Okafo	International Law & Jurisprudence	Dean, Faculty of Law, 2016/2017 & 2017/2018	01-08-2016
2.	Prof. I. Okpala	Haematology/Immunology	Director, Institute of Molecular Medicine & Infectious Diseases, 2016/2017	02-08-2016
3.	Prof. P.N. Onwuasoanya	Educational Foundations	Chairman, UNTransroutes Committee, 2016/2017	02.8.2016
4.	Dr. K.C Ani	Philosophy	Director, Publications & Strategic Contacts for the University, 2016/2017	02.08.2016
5.	Prof. B.S.C. Uzochukwu	Community Medicine	Director, Institute of Public Health, 2016/2017	02.08.2016
6.	Prof. (Mrs) H.U. Okafor	Paediatrics	Director, Institute of Maternal and Child Health, 2016/2017	02.08.2016
7.	Prof. J.U. Ibiam	Educational Foundations	Director, Curriculum Development and Instructional Materials Centre (CUDIMAC), 2016/2017	02.08.2016
8.	Rev. Fr. Prof. A.N. Akwanya	English & Literary Studies	Chairman, Senate Calendar Editorial Board, 2016/2017	02-08-2016
9.	Dr. (Mrs.) E. NWosu	Commercial & Property Law	Associate Dean, Student Affairs Department, 2016/2017	02-08-2016
10.	Prof. (Mrs.) A.I. Achike	Agricultural Economics	Chairman, Advisory Committee on Foreign Students. 2016/2017	02.08.2016
11.	Dr. C.U. Nwoji	Civil Engineering	Associate Dean, Student Affairs Department, Nsukka Campus, 2016/2017	02.08.2016
12.	Professor C.V. Ukwe	Clinical Pharmacy	Chairman, Board of Governors University of Nigeria Secondary School, Nsukka campus, 2016/2017	02.08.2016
13.	Dr. (Mrs.) A.U. Chinweuba	Nursing Science	Acting Head, Department of Nursing Science, 2016/2017	08.08.2016
14.	Dr. (Mrs.) I. Okoronkwo	Health Administration & Management	Acting Head, Department of Health Administration	22-09-2016
15.	Prof. J.N. Ezeilo	Public & Private Law	Associate Dean, Faculty of Law, 2016/2017 & 2017/2018	26-09-2016
16.	Prof. M. Nzegwu	Morbid Anatomy	Deputy Director (Administration) of Open Distance learning (ODL) Programme, 2016/2017	01-10-2016
17.	Prof. (Mrs.) C.V. Ukwe	Clinical Pharmacy & Pharmacy Management	Chairman, Management Board for the University Medical Services, 2016/2017 & 2017/2018	05-10-2016
18.	Prof. (Mrs.) E.C. Umeano	Educational Foundations	Chairman, Board of Governors, University of Nigeria Secondary, Nsukka Campus, 2016/2017 & 2017/2018	05-10-2016
19.	Prof. D.N. Ezeh	Educational Foundations	Chairman, Senate Curriculum Committee, 2016/2017 & 2017/2018	06-10-2016
20.	Prof. (Mrs.) P.O. Osadebe	Medicinal Chemistry	Dean, Postgraduate Studies, 2016/2017 & 2017/2018	10-10-2016