

REPRC-EfD Research Recommends Review of Fishery Act

Inya Agha Egwu



Some of the participants at the REPRC-EfD Policy Day, held at Valencia Hotel Abuja

The Resource and Environmental Policy Research Centre (REPRC), University of Nigeria, Nsukka has proposed a review of the Fishery Act of 1992 to accommodate regulatory measures that will curtail the depletion of fish and other aquatic creatures in Nigeria's shelf.

The proposal was based on a research finding conducted by the Centre which used Fishery

Performance Indicator (FPI) to evaluate performance of Marine Artisanal Fisheries in Nigeria. Presenting findings of the research, sponsored by the Environment for Development (EfD), during a policy outreach organized by the Centre at Valencia Hotel, Abuja recently, Dr Ebele Amaechina said that Nigerian marine artisanal fishery performed below and worse than the average of all African fisheries and therefore required

urgent intervention.

The REPRC-EfD research therefore recommended an immediate stop to artisanal open access fishery in Nigeria by defining who is entitled to fish or not at each point in time.

The study also recommended the involvement of fishermen in regulating access and use of unwanted gears. That, according to the research, could be achieved by creating a beach management unit in every

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Colourful Guard of Honour held for the VC, Prof Charles Igwe and Corps commandant S.O Ojowoye



Corps Commander, S.O Ojowoye addressing the Vice-Chancellor during a courtesy visit by the Nigeria legion Cops of Commissionaire



Group Photograph of Sandwich Matriculants with the Director of the Institute of Education, Prof Kay Onyechi (middle) and some Mangement staff of the Institute



Representatives of 2001 Pharmacy class officialy handing over the lab equipment to the Dean, Prof Anthony Attamah



L-r: Dr Chukwuone, Director REPRC; Prof. Njoku; 1st Runner Up, Kayode Winner of 3MT, Ifeoma; Prof. Onyechi; 2nd Runner Up, Judith; Dean Agriculture, Prof. Agwu and the Chairman Senate Ceremonial Committee Prof. Nwaguma at the maiden edition of UNN 3MT competition



Royal Visit of by the Traditional Ruler of Awka Ancient Kingdom, His Imperial majesty, Obi Austin Chukwuezugbo Ndigwe to their son the VC, Prof Charles Igwe with a royal decoration to show their support



Tanimola Fafunwa in a handsahke with the VC, Prof Charles Igwe during a courtesy visit by the Faculty of Education in honour of Prof. A.B Fafunwa



Group Photograph of the VC, Prof Charles Igwe with his Imperial Majesty, Obi Austin Ezugo Ndigwe (Uzu Awka), principal officers of the University and the Igwe's cabinet



The election Proceedings to the election of the DVC Administration



The president of Beta Sigma Confraternity and Former Governor of Enugu State, Dr Okwesili Eze Nwodo presenting a Congratulatory card to the VC on behalf of the group



The Deputy Governor of Enugu State, Her Excellency Cecelia Ezeilo with delegation from Pharmacy in a courtesy visit to the VC during the Pharmacy oath- taking ceremony

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landing site.

The data presented by Amaechina provoked discussions among stakeholders at the event, comprising fisher folks, representatives of government agencies and environmental scholars.

The Director of REPRC-EfD, Dr Nnaemeka Chukwuone, who anchored the discussion, noted a shortfall in Fisheries Act of 1992, which he said contained regulations only for trawler fishermen who fish above five nautical miles but contains no regulation for artisanal fishing in the lower shelf.

Chukwuone, who also presented a paper titled “A case for Integrating Knowledge of Environmental and Resource Economics into Natural Resource and Economic Management in Nigeria” said the result of lack of

artisanal fishing regulation was a bastardized fishing practices which cause depletion of fish in Nigerian marine waters.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration, University of Nigeria, Prof. Pat Okpoko added that the regulation should also involve placing restrictions on the sizes of hooks and nets sold to artisanal fishermen.

Prof. Emmanuel Oladipo, who chaired the policy day discussion panel, said the event had revealed the need for research on improved species of fish that can serve the growing Nigerian population. He said such research should also discover the fishery potentials of Nigerian rivers, waters and lakes.

Prof Oladipo commended REPRC-EfD for organizing the outreach, stating that the event

had produced outcomes that should be articulated to influence policy decisions in fishery.

A major part of the event was the inauguration of the Centre’s Policy Advisory Panel (PAP). The Panel chaired by Professor Emmanuel Oldipo, had other members as Director of Climate Change, Chairman, House Committee on Environment, Mrs. Halima Bawa and Professor Chinedu Nwajiuba.

Other members of the PAP included the President, All Farmers Association of Nigeria, Mr. Muiyiwa Odele of UNDP, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Mr. Joseph Akpokodge of World Bank, Professor Eric Eboh and Professor Stella Williams.



The Director of REPRC-EfD, Dr Nnaemeka Chukwuone making a presentation at the Policy Day event.

Pharmacy Alumni Give Back to their Alma Mater

Uju Akamigbo

The 2001 class of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Nigeria, had their home coming after 18 years of graduation. The event was coloured with a donation of laboratory equipment worth 2.6 million naira to the faculty.

Part of their activities was a visit to the Vice-Chancellor Prof Charles Igwe, in his conference room where they were received by the Vice-Chancellor and the other management staff of the University.

The Vice-Chancellor's representative and Director Academic Planning, Prof Johnson Uramah, while receiving the alumni, expressed happiness and satisfaction that the alumni had remembered their root, even to the extent of giving back, "Alumni drive development in most universities these days, and we are glad it is happening in our own" he said.

Prof Uramah went further to encourage the alumni to make homecoming a regular affair, while encouraging other

classes to follow their footsteps. He also thanked the faculty for doing a good job by giving the students reasons to come back. "This is credited to the way you treated them as students which has left them with good memories of the university". He encouraged the alumni and the faculty to keep the flag of UNN flying. The Dean of Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Prof Anthony Attama, thanked the Vice-Chancellor for the opportunity given to them to visit with their alumni. He expressed joy and gratitude that

aid of the faculty with the huge donation of the lab equipment. The leader of the class, Pharm Josephat Obasi, while addressing the VC, commended the University administration for the enormous developments seen around the university, especially the magnificent building built for their faculty. "What we have seen have made us happy and we have decided to stay two extra days to enjoy every bit of the new face of UNN", Obasi said.

He pledged on behalf of the class to continue to do their best in order to take their faculty to enviable height, and also to continue to be good ambassadors of UNN.

The equipment donated included: 2 Microscope, 5 Kymographs, 5 Organ bath, 5 Electronic balance, 1 Auto

clave, 2 water bath, Magnetic Stirrer, Incubator, Anatomical models for heart, kidney, liver, skeletal system.



The VC's representative, Prof Uramah, and some Management staff of the University with Staff and Alumni from Pharmacy

a lot of alumni interventions were happening in his tenure as the Dean of Pharmacy, noting that many more good tidings are on the way.

Prof Attama thanked the 2001 class for remembering home and for also coming to the

UNISEC

sends off 32nd Batch of Students

Uju Akamigbo



Some of the graduating students in their robe

The University of Nigeria Secondary school Nsukka, celebrated its 32nd Prize-Giving, Investiture of Prefects, and Graduation Ceremony of about 139 graduands on Thursday 18th July 2019.

The Principal of the school, Mr. Ignatius Okafor, in his speech, charged the graduating students to remember all they had learnt, and not forget their motto which is "Excellence through Honest Labour".

He went further to encourage the students to be bold and never give up to the challenges of life, but rather trust in God, work hard and go for the best always. "Always be prepared in all you do because success is assured when opportunity

meets readiness", Okafor said.

Mr Okafor, also congratulated the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nigeria, Prof Charles Igwe in his election as the UNN VC and wished him wisdom and grace to steer the affairs of the University to enviable heights. He also thanked the Board of Governors of the school, the school P.T.A and the teachers who had helped in moulding the students.

The Chairman Board of Governors, University of Nigeria Secondary School, Prof. Elsie Umeano, while delivering her speech, stated that the school had maintained academic excellence with very high moral standards. She said that the school maintains zero tolerance for examination malpractice and has been able to

build a culture of self-reliance among its students.

The Vice-Chancellor's representative, Prof Johnson Uramah, while addressing the graduands, admonished them to uphold the virtues that had been inculcated in them in the past six years of their secondary education and also to be good ambassadors of their great alma mater.

Prof Uramah, went further to charge the newly elected prefects to make efforts to justify the

expectations of their fellow students who elected them and that of the teachers that endorsed the election. "Your studies must not suffer on the account of your new positions", he added.

The ceremony was coloured with activities like songs, choreography, dances and most importantly, the awards of both behavioural and academic excellence across the classes, JSS1-SS3.

Some of the outstanding awardees were the Overall best graduating Student, Orumah Nneoma who won more than 8 awards, others were Odigbo Chuka, SS2; Ugwuishiwu Chinaza, JSS3; Nwozuzu Eribinwa, JSS3; and Iwuchukwu Chidiebube, JSS2, who bagged so many awards that made them have the stage on the occasion.

University Primary School Holds its 2019 Graduation/Prize-Giving Ceremony

Uju Akamigbo

As part of the rituals to mark the end of school session, the University School Nsukka on Thursday, August 1, 2019 marked its graduation/ prize-giving ceremony.

The event which took place at the Ekpo Convocation Arena, University of Nigeria Nsukka, was flagged off with a passing-out parade by the graduation pupils with an Inspection of Guard of Honour by the UNN Vice-Chancellor and the School's headmistress.

The Headmistress, Mrs Susan Echa, in her speech told the graduating pupils that the ceremony marks the beginning of a new chapter as they journey into another phase of life. She encouraged the pupils who distinguished themselves in different subject areas, saying that success was out of their hard-work.

She went further to thank the teachers for being very supportive and for working so hard in nurturing the pupils. The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nigeria, Prof Charles Igwe, in his speech, congratulated the graduating pupils and their parents. He stated that one of the key



The overall best student okpukpara Ifechukwu with the Chairman Board of Governors of University Staff School, Prof Oreh

goals of education is to bring out the best in every child, and that is why his administration is committed to providing opportunities for every child to succeed.

Prof Igwe reminded the graduands that they had earned significant gift and foundation that will help them in their future. "Persevere to achieve success, your future is in your hands", he said.

The event was loaded with activities like dance, recitations, marchpast and prize-giving to outstanding academic excellence achievers. Prizes were

given to students who went for different Mathematical competitions bringing medals ranging from gold to bronze to the school.

Also in the list of Awards were pupils with 1st- 3rd position in different classes from grade 1 to 6, best in

English and Maths and other specialist subjects. There were also individual prizes given to students with best performance in different subjects of interest.

Top in the awards, was the overall best graduating Pupil, Okpukpara Ifechukwu, who stole the day's show by receiving over 15 awards



The head boy giving a valedictory speech on behalf of the graduands

Untold Story of Nigeria's First Electric Car

Inya Agha Egwu

The University of Nigeria made history recently when it launched the first made-in-Nigeria electric campus shuttle with the capacity to transport five passengers at a speed limit of 30 kilometres per hour.

The rechargeable vehicle, propelled by Litton Ion battery instead of a combustible engine, conveyed the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof Charles Igwe, the former Vice-Chancellor, Prof Benjamin Ozumba and Dr David

Oyetunji of the National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDCC) round the campus at a demonstration that captivated staff and students of the university.

The electric car was the outcome of less than two months intensive work by the Mechatronics Research Group of the university after the group was challenged by the former Vice-Chancellor to demonstrate its capabilities by working ahead of NADDCC's vision for electric shuttles on Nigerian campuses.

Coordinator of the research group, Associate Professor Ozoemena Ani had developed a keener interest in electric vehicles

during his stint at the Michigan State University (MSU), USA, as a visiting scholar in 2018. At MSU, Ani worked on solar powered rechargeable multi-function electric

proposals.

Ani, recalled how Prof Ozumba, the then Vice-Chancellor of UNN took him to task after the meeting with NADDCC by approving the sum of 1.6 Million Naira and mandated his research group to deliver the electric car project within six weeks.

The first two weeks, according to Ani was dedicated to developing the drawing before the search for the materials, 80 per cent of which was sourced from Onitsha, Nnewi and Nsukka and the remaining parts were bought from China

He said his group expended about N800,000.00 on materials, excluding cost of labour and transportation.

"We still need grants to perfect the design before sending it to the industry for commercialisation", Ani said while acknowledging some defects in the released prototype.

Ani, who, as a primary school pupil, had a dream of driving his personally produced car, said he would prefer a local industry like Innoson IVM to take up the mass production and commercialisation of the vehicle.

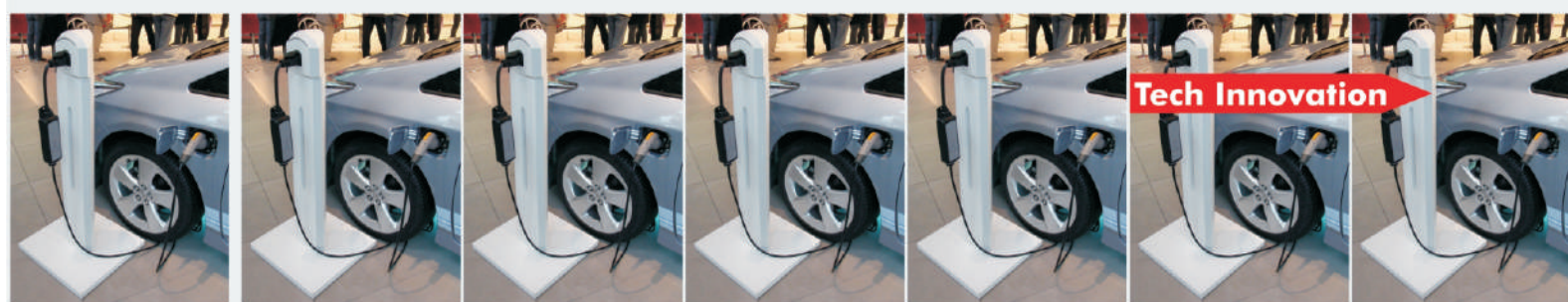


Dr Ani driving the electric car around the university campus

tractors which could perform stationary and field operations.

On his return to the Nigeria, Ani forwarded a proposal to the NADDCC for the production of six of such tractors for medium scale farmers across the six geopolitical zones in Nigeria.

The result was a meeting conveyed by the NADDCC and some universities including UNN, Usman Danfodio University, National Metallurgical Institute, UniLag and the University of Ibadan. At the meeting, the NADDCC discussed its plan to explore the production of electric campus shuttles and electronic tractors and requested the participating institutions to submit guided



The VC, Prof Igwe, (left) former VC Prof Ozumba and members of the Mechatronics Research group after launching the electric car

“The university is a knowledge hub and we have demonstrated that we are capable of producing electric vehicles. With the help of NADDC, Industries can sign a good MOU with our university and take it up from there” Ani said

Asked if he was not bothered by the failure of the Senate to approve the introduction of electric cars in the country, Ani said that Nigeria needed to plan for tomorrow in line with emerging global trends. “Like the technology of GSM, electric cars will come upon us regardless of how we see them now”, he said

Ani’s response re-echoed the stand of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nigeria, Prof Charles Igwe who had stated during the launching of the car that “Nigeria cannot afford to stagnate while the rest of the world move on”.

He expressed the preparedness of the University of Nigeria to lead the country to the 4th industrial revolution through innovations.

Igwe promised that his administration would improve on the foundation laid by his predecessor to ensure that the university launches more

innovative outputs within the span of his five years tenure

David Oyetunji ,who represented the Director of NADDC at the launching of the vehicle, congratulated the University of Nigeria for setting the pace in the production of electric vehicle in Nigeria. He said the product was in line with the vision of the council which it had demonstrated by inviting proposals from selected Nigerian universities.

“NNDC will like to partner with the University of Nigeria and work towards the commercialization of the developed prototype”.

Students Excited on Prospect of Electric Shuttles on Campus

Inya Agha Egwu

Students of the University of Nigeria have applauded the idea of introducing electric vehicles for shuttle services on their campuses, stating that their involvement in the production process of the vehicle will build innovative flow chain that will dawn an era of competitive creativity in the university

A member of the Mechatronics Research group, Job Victor Chukwuebuka, final year student of the Department of Mechanical Engineering said that working on the electric vehicle brought him out of classroom and gave him a practical experience. "I did the Computer Aided Design, worked on the break system and was involved in the mathematical calculation of the vehicle, I can tell you it was a wonderful experience", Chukwuebuka said.

On the advantage the vehicle has over the conventional vehicles, the Mechanical Engineering student said that electric car is 60 percent efficient compared to 40 percent efficiency of vehicles that use combustible engines. He added that the electric

vehicle mitigates carbon emission and saves more money at the long run.

Another student member of the group, Eze Chukwuemeka

electric vehicles was in line with global movement away from fossil.

"I am impressed that my university has joined the moving train" Oliorah said, while maintaining that the launching of the electric vehicle will boost the spirit of innovation among students of the university.

The Pharmacy student said the use of the vehicle for shuttle services will ease the transportation lot of students. According to him, "When introduced, the vehicles will definitely reduce the cost of transportation since it won't be needing fuel".

The only problem Oliorah foresees with the innovation is the possibility of product not getting approval and sponsorship of the government.

Abdulahi Abubakar Sadiq, the SUG secretary, Nsukka campus, said he was looking forward to the mass production of the vehicle and its deployment for shuttle services. "Some students were involved in the production of the vehicle; its deployment will boost innovation and creativity in the University", Sadiq said while pleading that the product and idea should not be dumped.

George, a final year student of the Department of Electrical Engineering, said the idea of electric shuttles excite students. "I was involved in the production of the prototype, I can tell you that if the government can help us provide at least two charging stations, we can kick-start the shuttle service with what we have produced", George who said he had passion power electronics said.

Reacting to the prospect of the electric campus shuttles, Oliorah Patrick, a final year student in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, said that the development of the



The first Nigerian- made electronic car, produced by UNN