

# NEWSLETTER

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## NSE HONORS IUO VC AT INDUCTION CEREMONY IN BENIN

The Nigerian Society of Engineers Benin Chapter has honored the Vice Chancellor of Igbinedion University, Okada Prof. Lawrence Ikechukwu Ezemonye for his unflinching support toward the induction of Engineering students of Igbinedion University, Okada, as student members of the Nigerian Society of Engineers.

The presentation of the award of recognition was part of activities during the induction ceremony of over one hundred Engineering students of the General Abdulsalami Abubakar College of Engineering of Igbinedion University, Okada, by the Nigerian Society of Engineers in Benin City.

The NSE also presented an award of distinction to a 500 level Petroleum Engineering student, Miss. Regina Atari for bagging the STEM award in the Petrobowl competition of 2018.

The stem award is for competition in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

In his remark during the Induction ceremony, the National President of the NSE Mr. Adekunle Mukolu through his representative, Mr. Saad-Gidari-Wudwl, the National Vice President, urged the new inductees to follow the steps of their predecessors who he said are doing well in the society. He also admonished them to acquaint themselves with the code of Professional ethics of the society.

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the Benin Chapter of the NSE, Engineer Jonathan has offered free transportation for any of the newly inducted members to the National Conference of the NSE scheduled for November 2019 in Kano as part of the Benin Chapter's commitment to encourage the new members in becoming active in the Society.



From L-R: Dean, College of Engineering, Dr. Azike; DVC, IUO, Prof. Odejimi; VC, IUO, Prof. Ezemonye; Registrar, IUO, Dr. Okoro pose with the VC as he receives the NSE award in Benin

## IUO STUDENTS ON TOUR OF JAPAN

As part of their academic training, a group of Igbinedion University students are on tour of the far East- specifically the highly advanced nation of Japan. The study tour is being made to the University of Shimane in Hamada, a coastal city on the Sea of Japan. It is a small city of about one hour by expressway to the famed Hiroshima, site of the WWII atomic bomb blasts.

Japan itself is renowned for its very effective, highly skilled, and largely

homogenous society. Despite a glaring lack of natural resources, and frequently occurring natural disasters, the country has managed to rise to

prominence by investing in the development of its human resources through education

that emphasizes

skills for self-sufficiency, as well as science and technology, and there has gained the respect of the global community.

The students, led by Dr. Femi Olunfunmilade, of the International Relations Department of IUO, were given a grand reception by the Mayor of Hamada, His Excellency, Shoichi Kubota. The proceedings included a red carpet, the flying of both Nigerian and Japanese flags in the reception, and brightly dressed officials, clapping as they filed in.

The group was sure to cement the newfound relationship, by inviting the Mayor for bilateral relations with Benin Kingdom and Edo State, having presented him with a bronze Benin Head of the Oba in royal regalia.

Study tours of this nature are becoming the norm at Igbinedion University, as the Vice Chancellor, Professor Lawrence Ikechukwu Ezemonye, continues to solidify partnerships with a number of South Asian Universities, Shimane inclusive, as an extension of his Internationalization initiative.



Sitting: Dr. Femi Olunfunmilade (3rd from left); Mayor of Hamada, His Excellency, Shoichi Kubota (4th from left) and other officials of Hamada

Standing: International Relations students of Igbinedion University

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## EZEMONYE COMMISSIONS ULTRA MODERN READING ROOM

The Vice Chancellor of Igbinedion University Okada, Professor Lawrence Ezemonye, has commissioned an ultra-modern reading room for the Amazon hostel of the university.

The Amazon hostel houses 100 level female students and 200-600 level female medical students. Sometime last month, the Vice Chancellor said, "We commissioned a reading room at the Serena hostel so, I felt it was a good thing to replicate the facility in other hostels."

He said management had provided this basic facility so that students could put in their best in their academics. According to him, when students graduate from the university they go into global competition, so, you must ensure you inculcate the culture of going the extra mile.

In her contribution, the hostel warden, Dr. Angela Idonije, thanked the Management for the gesture and promised that the students would make good use of the facility.

Also speaking, a medical student in the hostel, Miss Thelma Uzoma, said students are appreciative of the transformation and development in every part of the university since the arrival of the Vice Chancellor, adding that with all of these facilities, students have no reason not to come out the best, not only in Igbinedion University, but also in global competitions.



R-L Professor Onuigbo, Provost College of Health Sciences, VC, Prof. Lawrence Ezemonye, DVC, Prof Deborah Odejimi, cut the tape at the commissioning of the Reading Room at Amazon Hostel



VC, Professor Lawrence Ezemonye (3rd from left) and Principal Officers of IUO inspect the newly commissioned Reading Room at Amazon Hostel

## IUO INSTALS ANOTHER TELECONFERENCING FACILITY

The administration of Professor Lawrence Ezemonye has continued to make good its promise to make ICT the core of teaching aids at Igbinedion University. This follows another state-of-the-art teleconferencing facility at the General Tukur Buratai Centre in the University's Main Library Complex. The Centre runs on an allotted internet connection with a public interface to allow for not only video conferencing, teaching and collaborations within the University, but also, remote international collaborations with other universities across the world.

The display unit of the video conference facility boasts an approximately 92-inch monitor unit which is broad enough to accommodate a large audience, without any significant decrease in the quality of the visuals irrespective of the distance. The audio interface uses recent audio technology which is an upgrade on the commotional 3D-surround audio boost. This ensures

wide audio coverage of the facility.

The video input uses a Triumph camera to ensure that reception of the signals, vis-à-vis participation in a conference session is not restricted to any special or expensive devices, as this significantly limits participation. However, a simple, web-enabled device can easily connect to the teleconferencing session via modern web-browsers.

This video conferencing facility is poised to improve international collaborations with Igbinedion University as well as the exchange of ideas within the said collaborations, which is important in removing the boundaries of learning.

It will also foster smart learning within the University community, since lecturers can conveniently administer lectures digitally.



Facilities at the Teleconferencing Room at the Main Library Complex, IUO

## IUO GRADUATES LAUNCH ARISTOTELIAN DEBATE CONGRESS, SET TO ORGANIZE INTER-SCHOOLS COMPETITION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN OVIA-NORTH-EAST

A group of graduates and undergraduates of Igbinedion University, Okada have launched a debate society the "Aristotelian Debate Congress", to promote the act of Public Speaking among students in Nigeria.

The debate society, Aristotelian Debate Congress, recently paid a courtesy visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Igbinedion University, Okada, ahead of its preparation to organize its maiden Inter-School debate competition featuring students in all Secondary Schools in Ovia North East Local Government of Edo State.

The President of the group, Dr. Uchenna Ibezim, a Medical Doctor and graduate of Igbinedion University in his address noted that the organization which was formed six months ago is launching its first competition for secondary school students in Ovia North East Local Government Area on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May, 2019 at the IUO Staff School in Okada.

According to him, the choice of Igbinedion University Staff School as the Venue for the maiden edition of the competition was strategic because charity should begin at home.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Lawrence Ezemonye, represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Professor (Mrs.) Deborah Odejimi expressed the joy of the Management that the debate society is being championed by a Medical Doctor trained in Igbinedion University and currently on his housemanship at the University Teaching Hospital in Okada.

She commended the dedication of the President of the group, Dr. Ibezim whom she described as Debate Personified owing to his sterling profile as representative of the University in his undergraduate days in all debate and public speaking competitions within and outside the country. These include; the Impact Africa Debate and Public Speaking Championship in Botswana (2017); Impact Africa Debate and Public Speaking Championship in Ghana 2016 among many others.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor said the university would do everything necessary to support the group to ensure its success.

She congratulated the Aristotelian Debate Congress for planting a good seed which in no time would grow to impact positively on the larger Nigerian society.



DVC, IUO, Prof. Odejimi Deborah (3rd from right) with members of the Aristotelian Debate Congress



## IUO CELEBRATES VICE-CHANCELLOR'S BIRTHDAY

**M**anagement and Staff of Igbinedion University organized a surprise birthday party for the Vice Chancellor, Professor Lawrence Ikechukwu Ezemonye, on Wednesday 20th March.

The birthday party, which could have held on the 14th of March, the date of the Vice Chancellor's actual birthday, had to be postponed because he was on official assignment outside Okada.

The familiar birthday chorus rang out across the office of the Vice Chancellor as staff of the University came together to celebrate him as he clocks a new age. There was also a presentation of gifts by various members of the university.

The Vice Chancellor expressed his gratitude by praying passionately for all present and thanked everyone for their love, remarking that the kind of love that has been shown to him is the kind that can help build up the university, creating peace and unity.

To round off the festivities, the cake was cut by the Vice Chancellor and there was a celebratory toast in his honor.



The Celebrant, Prof. Ezemonye (middle) surrounded by well wishers as he cuts the birthday cake

## EZEMONYE FLAYS ACTIVITIES OF QUACKS IN BUILDING INDUSTRY

**T**he Vice Chancellor of Igbinedion University, Okada, Professor Lawrence Ikechukwu Ezemonye, has flayed the overbearing influence of quacks in the building industry.

He made the statement recently while commissioning a standard marble signpost constructed by students of the Abdulsalami Abubakar College of Engineering of Igbinedion University, Okada. He also lamented several cases of failed buildings in different parts of the country, following the activities of quacks.

The Vice Chancellor eulogized the engineering discipline, which according to him was very crucial to the development of Nigeria.

He said the University holds the engineering discipline in a high esteem which was why he had to come with the full delegation of Management to appreciate the quality project being commissioned.

He congratulated the students on the full accreditation granted to all their programs at the recent National Universities Commission accreditation visit.

Prof. Ezemonye announced that the NUC resource verification team would soon visit the College with a view to accrediting the programmes for post-graduate studies, adding that he was going to make a special request for a rebate to the University Council for all graduates of the College seeking admission for post graduate studies in any Engineering program.

Earlier, the Acting Dean of the Abdulsalami Abubakar College of Engineering, Dr. Roland Azike, who welcomed the Vice Chancellor and the Management team to the unveiling of the project, said it was part of students' projects to beautify the College.

## IUO MANAGEMENT ATTEND PROFESSOR EMOVON'S BIRTHDAY THANKSGIVING

**T**he Management of Igbinedion University, Okada, has attended the 90th Birthday Ceremony of Professor Emmanuel Emovon, the Pioneer Vice Chancellor (Ad Interim) of the University.

The event which took place at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Benin City was graced by a cross section of notable personalities from all walks of life such as the Executive Governor of Edo State Governor Godwin Obaseki and his wife Mrs. Betty Obaseki, a representative of the Oba of Benin, other notable Government officials, distinguished scholars and well-wishers.

The church service was officiated by the catholic Bishop of Benin Diocese, who explained the importance of forgiveness and how God wants us to love our enemies. He seized the occasion to admonish the congregation to abstain from anything that would lead to destruction of public peace during the ongoing electoral activities, urging that people should imbibe the teaching of Christ that encourages us to love our enemies.

At the end of the event, the Principal Officers of Igbinedion University, Okada had a group picture with Prof. E. Emovon and his wife and later joined the numerous guests at the reception ceremony held at the Manque Crew Centre, GRA, Benin City.



Sitting: Pioneer VC, IUO, Prof. Emmanuel Emovon and his wife  
Top L-R: Head PR Unit, Mr. Ilugbo; University Librarian, Mr. Izevbekhai; Dean Post Graduate School, Prof. Okorie; Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Lawrence Ezemonye; CMD IUTH, Prof. Awe; Dean School of Basic Medical Sciences Prof. Josiah; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Odejimi; and Registrar IUO, Dr. Okoro at the Professor Emovon's Birthday Thanksgiving



## COUNTDOWN TO 20TH ANNIVERSARY, IGBINEDION UNIVERSITY SET TO CELEBRATE

The 20th Anniversary of the leading and premier private University in Nigeria, Igbinedion University, Okada (IUO) will hold on the 10th of May, 2019.

Founded in 1999 by Sir Gabriel Osawaru Igbinedion, billionaire philanthropist and prominent Benin Chief, IUO is the first private university in Nigeria. It has had much to celebrate since its inception.

the University has recorded several landmark achievements including being the first Private University to produce medical doctors in Sub-Saharan Africa and producing the first Private University graduate in 2006 to bag a first class at the highly competitive Nigeria Law School. The list of reputable figures who had attended the University or are currently in attendance is quite long, including such people as Mr. Awani Vincent Esimaje, designer for the Nigerian Super Eagles' Ceremonial Costume for the 2018 World Cup in Russia, Miss. Regina Daniels, Nollywood Actress, and Miss Anita Ukah, winner of Most Beautiful Girl In Nigeria 2018.

Igbinedion University offers both graduate and undergraduate programmes that are fully accredited by the National Universities Commission and the relevant professional bodies. These bodies include the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN), Council of Legal Education (CLE), Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN), Computer Professional Council of Nigeria, and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN). The University has an enrolment of over 5000 students across seven colleges, a number that is steadily rising.

Quite early in its life, and in line with its vision of being an internationally competitive University, IUO identified external linkages and networking with (older and mentoring-capable) universities and development partners strategic to the realization of its goals. In addition to standing linkages with the likes of the University of Westminster (UK) in the areas of staff development, diplomatic studies and ICT, Howard University, USA (telemedicine and teleconferencing), and East Carolina University (USA) in the area of global development, the School has added the likes of the University of Shimane (Japan), as well as the University of Lancaster (UK). The University has been admitted into full membership of the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI) based in Barcelona, Spain, the European Association for International Education, EAIE, and the Network Towards Unity for Health (Maastricht, the Netherlands) amongst other external affiliations. It was also part of the Consortium of Development Partnerships, CDP, a conglomerate of universities, research institutions, governments and development partners in North America, Europe and West Africa. IUO's Centre for Presidential Studies coordinated and continues to coordinate Module 8 of the CDP's project on Local Contexts of Conflict and Peace-building in West Africa that involve researchers from Ghana, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, the Netherlands

and Nigeria. Furthermore, and in order to optimize school systems and expand opportunities for students, the school has also recently established partnerships with tech giants such as Microsoft and Huawei as well as more academic organizations such as the Nigerian Society of Engineers and Conversation Africa.

Since its inception, the theme of excellence has been a recurring one; the school keeps growing and improving, setting and keeping standards high, and making its students and their futures the ultimate priority.

These past twenty years have been full of accomplishments and it is important that we give them the recognition they deserve. The University Management will be putting out activities to commemorate this momentous occasion. Keep a date with us as we begin the countdown.



Logo of the IUO 20th Anniversary

## CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 80TH BIRTHDAY

Emeritus Professor Oluwole Akande,  
Immediate Past Pro-Chancellor/Chairman Governing Council,  
Igbinedion University, Okada

Dear, Emeritus Professor Oluwole Akande  
**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 80TH BIRTHDAY**

It is with greatest pleasure that I write on behalf of the Board of Regents, Governing Council, Senate and Management of Igbinedion University Okada to felicitate with our Immediate past Pro-Chancellor and Chairman Governing Council and your distinguished family on this auspicious occasion of your 80th birthday celebration tagged "Celebration of an icon".

Like the symposium theme: "Exemplary Mentorship and Leadership - A life of service and distinction" which aptly captures the essence and import of your personae, you have come to stay as an enigma, a rallying point, a giver of virtue, an ebullient leader and an administrator par excellence.

Your tenure as Pro-Chancellor and Chairman, Governing Council of Igbinedion University Okada has been described as one of astute leadership, inspiring mentorship and proactive administration, the kind that we will continue to relate with as workable template of institutional culture.

We wish you and your entire household a happy birthday full of abundant joy, peace and love.

Happy birthday Sir.

Please accept the assurance of my highest regard.

Professor Lawrence Ikechukwu Ezemonye Ph.D., FNES, FSES  
Vice-Chancellor

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