

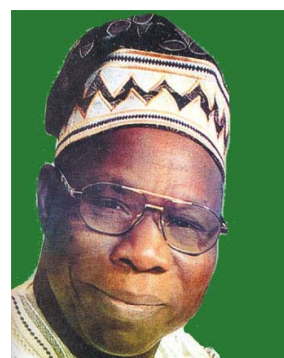
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## **Inauguration of the Governing Council of Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun**

Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun has been established in the Niger Delta region. This was a direct initiative of Government in an effort to strengthen capacity in science and technology in the Niger Delta area. The establishment of the University was approved at the Federal Executive Council meeting of 14 March, 2007.



President Olusegun Obasanjo *GCFR*

The Petroleum Training Institute (PTI) Effurun, is to serve as the take-off Campus of the University. The National Universities Commission has since the approval commenced implementation of the six-point plan approved by Mr. President for the University's take-off which includes the issue of resource sharing of facilities at the Petroleum Training Institute, Effurun with the University. The National Universities Commission has also been mandated to identify members of a Planning and Implementation Committee who would work in consonance with the identified Principal Officers of the University to prepare the Academic Briefs, Physical Master Plan and other required documents, which are necessary implementation instruments for the development of programmes and physical structures for universities.

The Collegiate system which will be developed in three phases over a period of six years has been approved for the institution. The College of Science is to be the Foundation College; to ensure a strong science base which is a requisite for the appropriate development of Technology and Engineering Programmes. This will be followed by the establishment of the College of Technology in the second phase of development. The College of Management

Sciences has been earmarked for the third phase of development. The main programmes foci of the University will be Petroleum Engineering and Technology related courses.

To give effect to the establishment of the University, the National Universities Commission is to work in conjunction with a number of distinguished Nigerian men and women of proven integrity, who have been appointed as members of the Governing Council and Principal officers of the University by Mr. President, in his capacity as the Visitor. They are:

**Chancellor**

His Royal Highness, Alh. (Dr.) Muhammadu Iliyasu Bashar, *OFR*, Emir of Gwandu.

**Members of the Governing Council**

- |  |   |                             |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| i. Engr. Joseph Makoju                 | - | Chairman, Governing Council |
| ii. Prof. Philip Kuale                 | - | Member                      |
| iii. Prof. M.A. Rahmon                 | - | Member                      |
| iv. Dr. (Mrs.) Uche Azikiwe            | - | Member                      |
| v. Alh. Shetima Ibrahim Bukar          | - | Member                      |
| vi. Mrs. Eno Bassey                    | - | Member                      |
| vii. Ministry of Energy Representative | - | Member                      |
| viii. FME representative               | - | Member                      |

**Principal Officers of the University**

- |                          |   |                 |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------|
| i. Prof. Babatunde Alabi | - | Vice-Chancellor |
| ii. Mrs. L.O. Onwuka     | - | Registrar       |

Babatunde Alabi is a Professor of Mechanical Engineering and a former Dean, Faculty of Technology, University of Ibadan while Mrs. Onwuka is a Deputy Registrar at the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.

The appointment of the University Bursar and Librarian are to be effected by the Governing Council of the University after its inauguration which will be on Wednesday 25 April, 2007 in the conference room of the Minister of Education. The Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun, is expected to admit its first batch of students in September, 2007.

The Board, Executive Secretary and Management of the NUC heartily congratulate the people of Delta State and indeed the entire citizenry of Nigeria on the establishment of the Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun and wish the appointed members of Governing Council and Principal Officers a successful tenure.

## **International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) Meets in Ontario, Canada**

The Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board (PEQAB) of Canada hosted the 2007 Annual Conference of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) in Ontario from 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5th April, 2007. This year's conference

which attracted over 270 participants from over 50 countries focused on “*Quality Assurance: Coming of Age – Lessons from the Past and Strategies for the Future*”.

Participants at the conference comprised of Ministers of Higher Education, academics, policy makers, regional accrediting agencies, International Organizations, The World Bank and non-governmental organizations among several stakeholders of Higher Education. The National Universities Commission was represented by Professor Peter O. Adeniyi, visiting Professor and former Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Akure and Mr. Christopher J. Maiyaki, Special Assistant to the Executive Secretary. Also present at the conference were two other Nigerians – Mrs. Theresa Okafor of the Quality Assurance and Research Development, Lagos and Professor Olusola Oyewole of the Association of African Universities (A.A.U) based in Ghana.

The International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) was established in 1991. The main purpose of INQAAHE is to collect and disseminate information on current developing theory and practice in the assessment, improvement and maintenance of quality in higher education. Through information sharing, the Network:

- Promotes good practices in the maintenance and improvement of quality in higher education;
- Identifies areas of research into the theory and practice of quality assurance in higher education and to facilitate such research;
- Helps establish means of evaluating the effectiveness of quality assurance;
- Provides advice and expertise to assist the development of newly-established quality assurance agencies;
- Facilitates links between quality assurance bodies especially across national borders;
- Works with the regional networks of quality assurance agencies;
- Assists members to determine the standards of institution operating across national borders;
- Permits better-informed international recognition of qualifications and
- Helps members to be alert to dubious accrediting practices and organizations.

INQAAHE has three types of membership – full, associate and affiliate. Full membership is available to those organizations responsible for assuring the academic quality of post-secondary education programmes offered by institutions other than themselves. Associate membership is available to those agencies or organizations, including universities and other higher education institutions with a major interest in evaluation, accreditation and quality assurance in higher education while affiliate members are individuals with major interest in the subject. As at April 2006, INQAAHE membership consisted of 125 full, 42 Associate and 8 affiliate members from 72 countries. The list of members can be found at [http://www.inqahe.org/members\\_view.cfm?typ=1&mID=3sID=5](http://www.inqahe.org/members_view.cfm?typ=1&mID=3sID=5). The NUC is a full member.

The Conference was arranged to include; Pre-conference and specialized workshops, Plenary sessions for keynote papers, Parallel sessions where over 60 papers were presented, Poster Sessions and Panel discussion. The following keynote papers were delivered at plenary sessions:

- “*The Changing Context of and Expectations for Quality Assessment in Higher Education: A Panoramic View of the past Three Decades and Challenges for the future*” by **Michael Skolnik**, Professor of Higher Education, University of Toronto;
- “*Outcome and Theory of Quality Assurance: Improving our Understanding of Organizational Change*” by **Bjorn Slensaker**, Programme Director, NIFU/STEP, Norway;
- “*Challenges and Issues in Higher Education Quality Assurance: Perspectives from a Developing Country*” by **Nenalyn P. Defensor**, Commissioner of the Commission on Higher Education, Philippines;
- “*Growth of Higher Education in East Asia: Issues and Challenges*” by **Christopher Thomas**, Sector Manager for Education in the East Asia and Pacific Region of the World Bank

Topics addressed at the pre-conference and specialized workshops ranged from *External Review of Quality Assurance Agencies; Preparing Institutions for the Self Evaluation process; National Regulatory Framework for Quality Assurance: Impact on National and Transnational Education to Effective Site Visits; Outcomes and Theory of Quality Assurance with particular focus on Impact of External Quality Assurance and Quality Assurance and Accountability of External Quality Assurance Agencies*. Other topics included *Legitimacy and Efficiency of National Systems of Quality Assurance; Challenges of the International Recognition of Qualifications; Establishing a Quality Assurance Agency; and UNESCO/OECD Guidelines for Quality Provision in Cross-boarder Higher Education: Relevance for QAA Agencies*.

One of the highpoints of the conference was the presentation of the report of the out-going President of INQAAHE, Dr. Richard Lewis. He reported that the achievements of INQAAHE included:

- Organisation of workshops and conferences
- Establishment of a dedicated website
- Ensuring regular publication of its bulletin and the Journal of Quality in Higher Education
- Forging closer links with international bodies
- Revised guidelines on Good Practice for Quality Assurance bodies
- Midwived the birth of many agencies
- Increased Institutional Membership to 160
- Impressive increase in the number and scale of activities.

He also expressed the following common concerns in Quality Assurance:

- Movement from accountability to enhancement where the primary objective is not solely about excellence, but that the worst programme be enhanced to be of acceptable standards.
- The input-processes-output system
- Movement towards learning outcomes and assessment
- Community being entitled to be aware of the quality status of programmes and HEIs
- Growing relationship between international organization and governments in collectively tackling the challenges of QA
- Use of terminologies
- Ranking and Quality Assurance
- Focus on innovation to add a qualitative dimension to the business of QA
- QA helping institutions to showcase their areas of strengths
- Ensuring the availability of detailed standards for good practices.

Certain salient issues came out clear from the conference:

**Low participation of the African continent.** It is worth noting that the conference, though well attended, had very low African representation. By extension, Nigeria, given the number of Universities, had an unimpressive attendance. While the other continents were represented at the conference by either a regional Q.A and/or Accreditation Agency, Africa was not represented by such a body. This could be explained by the non-availability of such an organ in the continent.

**Global recognition of Q.A.** Quality Assurance in higher education is now globally recognized and it has started to influence the recognition of certificates. The outcome of programmes accreditation should engender enhancement strategies rather than negative sanctions only. The conduct and outcome of accreditation and Quality Assurance vary from one country to another. In some countries, it is voluntary (institutions inviting accrediting agency for evaluation) and decentralized. Nevertheless, conforming to accreditation standards is compulsory and attracts sanctions covert or overt in the event of deviation globally.

**Programme audit.** Programme audit is becoming more relevant as a basis for QA. to determine the number of approved programmes being run so that the unapproved ones are “checkmated”.

**NUC Quality Assurance.** The National Universities Commission activities with regard to accreditation of programmes in all Nigerian Universities are widely known. However, the activities of the NUC Standing Committee on Private Universities as well as that of the Committee on the Monitoring of Private Universities which are very important components of QA are less known beyond the shores of Nigeria.

Set against the above observations and in recognition of the increasing global value of Q.A, the following becomes imperative:

1. NUC should spearhead the establishment of a regional Quality Assurance Agency under the auspices of Association of African Universities (AAU);

2. There is the urgent need to put in place a national administrative and legal framework for the regulation of cross border Higher Education in the face of increasing interests and advertisements being directed at the Nigerian student-clientele
3. There is the need to train staff who are competent in Q.A, with a view to equipping and exposing them to emerging trends and concepts of QA.
4. QA policies and accreditation guidelines should be disseminated to all stakeholders.



L-R Professor Peter O. Adeniyi, Mrs. Theresa Okafor and Mr. Christopher J. Maiyaki – Nigerian delegation to INQAAHE conference in Canada

## Beyond the Proprietors

Internally Generated Revenue is an integral fund that must be sourced for the growth and development of universities particularly in the face of multifarious needs. The trend is such that our universities, particularly the public ones are overly dependent on proprietors. Elsewhere in the world (the U.S in particular), there is aggressive fund-generating drive in other directions – philanthropists, alumni and research targeted at the focal points of a particular industry or locality. Inability to diversify the sources of funding to universities over-stretches available funds and limits the possibilities attainable.

Nigerian universities need to learn a lesson or two from the U.S, and Europe which has just taken steps in this direction. The articles below were culled from *Guardian Unlimited* and intended to sensitize and spur Nigerian university administrators to go beyond the proprietors with rigor but honourably.

## Universities urged to seek private funding

**Donald MacLeod**  
**Thursday March 16, 2006**  
[Guardian Unlimited](#)

English universities are being urged by the government to follow the American example and chase donations from philanthropists and alumni.

Today, the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) announced £7.5m in matched funding over three years to help 27 universities in England to set up development offices to increase income from private donations.

The money is going mainly to new universities or smaller institutions, which have not yet got into the donations business. Oxbridge colleges and the leading research-led universities are already gearing up for big fundraising campaigns. Cambridge has announced a £1bn campaign and Edinburgh is planning a £350m drive.

Eric Thomas, the Vice-Chancellor of Bristol University who chaired a taskforce reporting on charitable giving in the sector, said: "American levels of fundraising may not be within our reach for the foreseeable future, but many UK institutions are doing well and most recognize that **philanthropy is one key to greater autonomy.**"

Professor Thomas is the chairman of panel that picked the 27 universities from 78 bids. He continued: "This money will do two things: it will bring dividends for the institutions that receive it, and it will help professionalize the business of fundraising in UK higher education. Voluntary giving must never become a substitute for state funding of universities, **but it should be an important element in a diverse funding stream.**"

Bill Rammell, the Minister for Higher Education, said: "Government funding for universities is increasing for the first time in a generation. But I also want to see our **institutions increase their ability to tap into private donations**, like universities in other countries. The new funding we are providing should help provide the spur for more private donations."

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## The Americans are coming

**Jessica Shepherd**  
**Tuesday February 20, 2007**  
[The Guardian](#)

The university fundraiser and college dean in Hollywood's 1996 blockbuster The Nutty Professor could hardly be a more dislikeable character. Strands of hair plastered across his forehead twinkle at the prospect of rich donors. And this is how many people still see those whose job it is to ask alumni to donate, says Mary Blair, director of development and alumni relations at the London School of Economics.

"There's a distrust of people in fundraising," she says. "It is as if they think we possess magic powers to make their wallets fly out of their pockets. I could maybe talk you out of £20, but not out of £100,000. You have to want to give a sum like that."

If some of the public are not on the side of fundraisers, the government is. Last week it announced that for every £2 an English university raises from alumni, philanthropists and businesses, it would give £1, up to a maximum of £2m a year for each institution. The scheme will start next year.

### **Completing the jigsaw**

Newer universities and colleges without fundraising offices will each be given £100,000 to establish them. The government hopes the three-year scheme, worth £200m, will stimulate an extra £400m in private donations to universities. Tony Blair is said to see encouraging endowments as "completing the jigsaw" of higher education, following the introduction of £3,000 tuition fees in the autumn.

The aim is to rival the endowments of Canadian and North American universities, particularly those in the Ivy League.

"It's breathtaking how far we have to go to be anywhere near US fundraising levels," says Professor Eric Thomas, the vice-chancellor of Bristol University, who led a taskforce on donations to higher education in 2004. The Sutton Trust, an educational charity, reports that the gap between the 10 largest university endowments in the UK and the US has widened by £12.5bn in the last three years, and that the UK seriously lags behind the US and Canada in terms of funds raised and rates of alumni who give. The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (Case), which represents those who work in alumni relations worldwide, says UK universities are 50 years behind their US peers and 20 years behind Canadian counterparts.

Only Oxford and Cambridge universities compare with American colleges, raising £185m in 2004-05, holding endowments of £6bn and achieving alumni giving rates of 10%. The combined endowment of all other UK universities is an estimated £1.9bn - yet Harvard alone has an endowment worth £13.4bn, while Yale and Stanford have £8bn and £6.4bn respectively. At Princeton, 61% of alumni donate; only nine UK universities report that 3% or more of their alumni do so, according to the Sutton Trust.

UK universities are, however, improving fast. In 2001, Nottingham University raised its target of £30m over five years, a year early. Last year, Edinburgh University announced it was aiming for £350m by 2011 and has so far raised £200m. And Cambridge University said last week that it had raised £500m of the £1bn it hopes to drum up by 2012.

Could their success be partly down to an influx of North American and Canadian fundraisers hired to work in top positions in UK university alumni relations offices? Oxford, Nottingham, Durham, Bristol, the LSE, Edinburgh, Aston and Warwick have fundraisers from Canada or the US.

"Where we are from, being asked for donations as a student or alumnus is just an accepted part of university culture," says Young Dawkins, who was president of the University of New Hampshire foundation in the US before becoming the vice-principal for development and alumni of Edinburgh University. "We have also been doing this kind of thing for a lot longer."

In the US, students are encouraged to feel a sense of belonging to their year group, or "class".

"The class of 73 competes with the class of 74 to raise funds for their college, for example," says Jon Dellandrea, Oxford University's pro vice-chancellor for development and external affairs, and former vice-president of the University of Toronto.

He adds that in North America, there is an "unabashed notion that it is reasonable to expect people to support the organisation", which could include asking students in their final year for donations.

Tania Rawlinson, director of campaigns and alumni relations at Bristol University, says that last year her former university, an ivy league institution, asked her nine times to donate: "My expectation has been that I joined a community for life and that includes being asked for money."

But will such techniques be employed here - and would we want them to be? "I would feel it was entirely inappropriate to approach a UK donor or alumnus with that kind of persistence," Rawlinson admits. "But we need to stop being embarrassed about asking for money in the UK. I would be sad if in a decade's time students here weren't expecting their universities to ask them for donations."

### **No badgering**

Moreover, says Liesl Elder, director of development at Durham University and the former campaign director of Santa Clara University in California: "Effective fundraising doesn't necessarily have to involve badgering. It's about helping people to align their generosity with the university."

Dawkins says UK universities are not necessarily going to take on US methods. "Scotland will find its own way of fundraising," he says. "People are very generous here, but they are probably not interested in receiving nine mails a year. However, the British can learn some excellent lessons from the States on how to organise the development office, for example."

Aniela Shuckburgh, who worked at Harvard before becoming Cambridge University's head of campaign affairs, disagrees that American fundraising methods are aggressive. "They have proved successful," she says. "But it is a mistake to assume we have to do as they do in the States."

The fundraisers say their problem is not recruiting donors, but experienced personnel. "We have a desperate need for staff who understand fundraising, and my worry is whether we can train enough people to take advantage of this golden opportunity," says Joanna Motion, vice-president for international operations at Case. "US and Canadian fundraisers working over here bring a level of confidence and a depth of experience that few from the UK can match." Dawkins agrees: "Many come from the charity sector, which is fantastic, but the education sector is just not the same."

But both are optimistic about the future and encouraged by the government's announcement last week. Motion says: "This will concentrate the minds of the fundraisers and attract the attention of the donors."

Dellandrea hopes the government will go on to match the most generous donations universities receive.

And they deny any worries that student debt or top-up fees, introduced in the autumn, could put off potential donors. On the contrary, they argue, once you pay for something you value it more. "US fees are, after all, much higher than in the UK anyway," says Dawkins.

If he turns out to be wrong, there is always another way. Last year, Cambridge in America, a society for Cambridge graduates living in the US, collected a staggering \$38m (£19.4m) from just 1,900 donors.

**Source:** <http://education.guardian.co.uk/higher>

## NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION



### **Re: Get a B.Sc. Computing (Honours) Degree in Just One Year**

The attention of the National Universities Commission (NUC) has been drawn to the handbill being circulated by an organization called APTECH with the caption "*Get a B.Sc. Computing (Honours) Degree in Just One Year*".

For the avoidance of doubt, APTECH is **NOT** a university and **DOES NOT HAVE THE MANDATORY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LICENCE** to run a university or mount a university programme either on its own or in affiliation with any university within or outside Nigeria.

As part of the NUC's statutory mandate, the Commission has the responsibility to inform the general public of government approved programmes in Nigerian universities for guidance and for appropriate subscription to such programmes.

Consequently, the general public is hereby notified that persons who enroll into APTECH's ACCP course with the intention of earning a B.Sc Honours degree from a premium university in UK in just one year, **DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK.**

*Signed*  
**Professor Julius A. Okojie**  
Executive Secretary

*Best wishes for the week.*