

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

# Internal memorandum

Members of Senate

From Vice-Chancellor and Chairman of Senate

Ref. No: NAU/VC/23/Vol. XV/42

Date: July 25, 2023

## VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT (7<sup>TH</sup>) TO THE 220<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF SENATE, WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023 AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER NNAMDI AZIKIWE UNIVERSITY, AWKA

### 1.0 THE OPENING

It is my delight to welcome Senate to its 220<sup>th</sup> Meeting rather attention arresting by its numbering.

The following catalogue of events that transpired in the University since after the 219<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Senate would interest Senate.

### 2.0 FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF MY ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE AS VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY

The activities marking the fourth year anniversary of my assumption of office as Vice-Chancellor of the University took place from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

I wish to thank members of Senate for their individual participation in these events.

### 3.0 ACADEMIC EVENTS

#### 3.1 Honorary Doctorate Degree Awardees for the 17<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the University

The University will hold its 17<sup>th</sup> Convocation ceremonies in November 2023. In furtherance of this, I present to Senate, for its consideration and recommendation to Council the following persons for the award of honorary degrees of the University.

- i) **Chief Ikenna Kevin Okafor, Ide Akwaeze**  
Chief Ikenna Kevin Okafor holds a Bachelor of Science degree, second class honours in Chemistry of the University of Calabar. He is

also a Fellow, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (FCIA) and Associate member, Equipment Leasing Association of Nigeria.

Chief Okafor is the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of the following companies: Keves Global Leasing Ltd; Athur Services Ltd; and Keves Inn and Suites. He is a member of the Board of Directors of UNIZIK Business School.

Chief Okafor is a renowned Philanthropist and Nnamdi Azikiwe University has benefitted immensely from his philanthropy, the latest being his one hundred million Naira (₦100,000,000.00) donation towards the ongoing construction of UNIZIK Business School Building.

**ii) Dr. Okey Anueyiagu**

Dr. Okey Anueyiagu holds a Bachelor of Science degree (Hons) from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka and an M.A and PhD from Fordham University, New York, USA, his field of study being Economics and Political Science. He also holds the Doctor of Political Science, *Honoris Causa* of Gregory University, Uturu,

Dr. Anueyiagu is a member of the Board of Directors of UNIZIK Business School. He has a widely variegated business network in Nigeria and abroad: Principal partner, AKOB Corporation, New York, USA; Chairman and Chief Executive Officer AKOB Nigeria Ltd; Managing Director, Pointec Technologies Ltd; Director, Transmatic Automobile Ltd; Chairman, Brown Brommel Ltd, among others. He is a Professor (Probono Publicio) in the Department of Political Science of the Gregory University, Uturu.

**iii) Abdul Samad Rabi**

Abdul Samad Rabi is a Nigerian businessman, founder of the BUA Group of Companies and the Abdul Samad Rabi Initiative, *ASR, Africa*, whose *motto* is *Unlocking Sustainable Development Opportunities in Africa by Africans for Africans*.

Through the ASR Africa Initiative, he has undertaken numerous philanthropic interventions in education, health and social development in many institutions in Nigeria and indeed in the length and breadth of Africa. Currently, the ASR Initiative is constructing a One Billion Naira (₦1B) Students' Centre in Nnamdi Azikiwe University

ss: Along Enug  
A  
Email: unipres  
Phone:

### 3.2 Times Higher Education Universities Ranking

The latest release of universities ranking in Sub-Saharan Africa by the London based *Times Higher Education*, placed Nnamdi Azikiwe University 4th in Nigeria and 31st in Sub-Saharan Africa. With this we are approaching an important milestone in our *Project 200* to become the best University in Nigeria and among the top 200 Universities in the world.

### 3.3 Academic Discourses

#### 3.3.1 Inaugural Lectures

- i) 84<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Lecture: *Re-Engineering Teacher Education in Nigeria for Sustainable Development in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*; Prof. Vivian Nwogbo, Department of Educational Management, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023.
- ii) 85<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Lecture: *Trajectories of Food and Nutrition Insecurity: Dynamics And Equilibrium*; Prof. Nkiru Meludu, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension, 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
- iii) 86<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Lecture: *Giving Feedback, Receiving Feedback, Utilizing Feedback: The Educational! Catholicon*; Prof. Ngozi Nwabugo Agu, Department of Educational Foundations, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

#### 3.3.2 Maiden Jubilee Academic Lecture:

*Righting Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health Wrongs in Nigeria: Stepping the Stairs or Staring the Steps?* Prof. Joseph Ifeanyi Brian-D Adinma, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

#### 3.3.3 Public Lectures

- i) Ekwueme Centre for Multidisciplinary Research (ECMR) Founders' Week 2023, 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023.

ECMR marked its Founders' Week 2023 as follows:

- ❖ 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023, Inauguration of ECMR Research and Publication Committee by the Vice-Chancellor.
- ❖ Virtual Symposium on: *Africa in the Match (sic) of Civilization*. Three papers were presented:
  - Dr. Ben Nwosu: *The state Knowledge Centres in Africa's Contemporary March in Civilization*.

- Prof. Uche Nwogwugwu: *The Dialectics of Africa: Quest for Genuine Development.*
  - Prof. Gerry Emejulu: *Today's Academics and Civilization.*
- ii) National Political Association South-East Zone Annual Conference hosted by our Department of Political Science, 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
The theme was: *Building an Integrated South-East Nigeria: Politics, Economy and Security*, with Senator Enyinnaya Abaribe as the Keynote Speaker.
- iii) Faculty of Environmental Sciences World Environment Day/Faculty Annual Lecture, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
- iv) 2023 World Drug Day, Organized by the University in concert with the International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP), South-East and the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Anambra State Command, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at the University Auditorium.  
  
The theme was: *People First: Stop Stigma and Discrimination, Strengthen Prevention.*
- v) Department of Cooperative Economics and Management: Symposium and Maiden Alumni Home Coming, with the theme: *Cooperatives: Partners for Accelerated Sustainable Development*, 19th July 2023

### 3.3.4 Workshops

- i) Nigerian Association of Clinical Psychologists (NACP) Continuing Education and Training Workshop, 20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023, University Auditorium. *SDG 4*

The theme was: *Psychological Assessment and Management of Substance Use Disorder.*

- ii) One day Technical Support Training on Inclusive Education Policy, organised by the Joint National Association of Persons Living with Disabilities, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023.

Four (4) staff of the University attended this workshop held at the Indigo Hotel, Awka.

- iii) Grant Writing Workshop organised by the Centre for Sustainable Development, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023.

The theme was: *Building the Foundation for Fundraising Success for Sustainable Development Goals' Researches.*

- iv) International Institute for Creative Development/U.S Embassy Workshop, 2<sup>nd</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023.

One staff of the University, Moses Onugadi Njoku of the Department of Fine and Applied Arts was one out of fifteen persons in the creative disciplines selected to and participated in the workshop.

- v) African Union Development Agency-New Partnership for Africa Development (AUDA-NEPAD) Restoration Academy workshop, 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023, Lagos.

Dr. John Agbo of the Department of Forestry and Wildlife was granted approval to attend the above-named workshop on: *African Forest Landscape Restoration.*

- vi) Faculty of Social Sciences Staff Orientation: Tuesday 4th July 2023

- vii) *Special Executive Track 'A' Training Workshop 2023*; backed by the World Bank and the National Universities Commission (NUC), organised by the Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (CE-SPESS) of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri and our Centre for Environmental Impact Analyses and Laboratory Services, Tuesday 18th to Saturday 22nd July 2023. Some staff of the University took part in the training.

- viii) *Quality Assurance Assessors Training, Chisco Institute of Transport Studies, 23<sup>rd</sup> July to 4th August 2023.* The National Board for Technical Education, Southeast Zonal Office has selected Chisco Institute of Transport Studies to host the first phase of its Quality Assurance Assessors Training from 23rd July to 4th August 2023, successful hosting of the training programme will qualify the Chisco Institute of Transportation Studies to become a Training and Assessment Centre for the Nigerian Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF).

Some technologists of the University are participating in the workshop.

### 3.4 TETFund Matters

The Board of Trustees of TETFund has made the following approvals:

#### 1) Research Grant Intervention

The total sum of four million, two Hundred and twenty seven thousand, four hundred and twenty two naira (₦4,227,422), being the second tranche release under its research grant intervention for the following projects:

- i) *Bench scale production of Ethanol Bio-Based Phennox-lignin Formaldehyde (PLGF) Adhesive Kinetic and Placket Burma Optimisation: ₦1,960,000.00, with Dr. Chinenye Faith Okey-Onyesolu as lead researcher.*
- ii) *Fertility Biochemical profiles of Females With Human Papilloma Virus Associated with cervical Abnormalities and Cervical Cancers in Federal Medical Centre, Asaba, Nigeria: ₦1,979,580.00, with Dr. Nkiruka Rose Ukibe as lead researcher.*
- iii) *Use of Nonverbal Communication Channels by Undergraduates of Nnamdi Azikiwe University: ₦1,439,000.00 with Ogochukwu Nneka Onyenekwe as lead researcher.*
- iv) The Board also approved the sum of seventeen million, one hundred thousand Naira (₦17,100,000.00) under its Research Fund Intervention, being the first tranche release from the approved sum of twenty eight million, five hundred thousand Naira (₦28,500,000.00) for the research topic: *Environmental Surveillance and Comparison of Genome Sequences of SARs-COV-2 in Waste Water from South-East, South-South and North-Central Nigeria*, with Dr. George Okechukwu Chukwuma as lead researcher.
- v) **Years 2021 – 2023 (Merged) TETFund Intervention in Research Project (RP): Disbursement of First Tranche of Funds (Batch 15)**  
The Board of Trustees of TETFund has also approved the release of the sum of ₦32,182,200.00 (Thirty two Million, One Hundred and Eighty-two Thousand, Two Hundred Naira) representing 60% of the approved amount of ₦53,637,000.00 (Fifty three million, six hundred and thirty seven thousand Naira) for the following research projects:

- *Pattern of Antibiotic Multidrug Resistant Genes and Immunological Responses Associated with Misuse of Antibodies in South-Eastern: ₦1,080,000.00, with Dr. Alfred Ehiaghe as lead researcher.*
- *Molecular characterization and Gene-sequencing of the major malaria vector in communities affected by flood to prevent outbreak of post-flooding epidemic*

42

*malaria: ₦1,095,000.00 with Dr. Umeanaeto Pauline Ukamaka as lead researcher*

- *Evaluation of glycated haemoglobin and some selected apolipoproteins levels in pregnant women attending Nnamdi Azikiwe Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital Nnewi. ₦1,039,200.00 with Dr. Manafa Patrick Onochie as lead researcher.*
- *Investigation of child poverty challenges and assessment of out of school children problems in Anambra State: implication for policy and legal mitigation frameworks: ₦1,080,000.00 with Dr. Nneka Obiamaka Urnjiaku as lead researcher.*
- *Development of a new construction material from agro wastes (Rice husk and breadfruit seed coats) for building application using Epoxy resin as binder: ₦1,140,000.00, Dr. Nwadike Emmanuel Chinagorom as lead researcher*
- *Effects of interpretation construction-based teaching method on academic achievement of secondary school biology students in Awka South Local Government Area of Anambra State: ₦1,140,000.00, Dr. Chikendu Rebecca Ebonam as lead researcher.*
- *Cytokine pattern in hepatitis-B-virus positive individuals attending Federal medical centre, Asaba Delta State: ₦1,188,000.00, Prof. Ibeh Nancy as lead researcher.*
- *Comparative effects of blended and E-learning on students' academic achievement in research methodology in basic schools of nursing in Anambra State: ₦1,080,000.00, Dr. Onyeka Edith Chinyere*
- *Development and Evaluation of Nano-materials as fish feed additives for enhanced catfish production: ₦1,080,000.00, Amaefule Desmond Okechukwu as lead researcher.*
- *Examination of factors that mitigate loss aversion and challenges to entrepreneurs in Anambra State: ₦1,050,000.00, Prof. Ebele Stella Nwokoye as lead researcher.*
- *Geoelectric assessment of Groundwater potentials and vulnerability in Awka Millennium city and Environs, Anambra State: ₦1,080,000.00, Dr. Augustine Ifeanyi Chinwuko as lead researcher.*
- *Examination of factors that engenders child labour and assessment of barriers to child emotional labour eradication in Anambra State: ₦1,050,000.00, Dr. Cordelia Ojiagu as lead researcher.*

3) Year 2020 – 2023 (Merged) TETFund Academic Research Journal (ARJ) Intervention: Release of Funds for Final Tranche (ARJ Disbursement): Final approval of the sum of ₦1,500,000.00 (One million, five hundred thousand Naira), being 15% final tranche of the approval sum of ₦10,000,000.00 (Ten million Naira for the academic Journals below:

- i) Nnadiiebube Journal of Philosophy Vol. 2, No 1 (2,500 copies) (TETFund/ESS/UNI/AWKA/ARJ/1): ₦750,000.00
- ii) Nnadiiebube Journal of Philosophy Vol. 2, No. 2 (2,500 copies) (TETFund/ESS/UNI/AWKA/AR/ARJ/2): ₦750,000.00

#### 4.0 GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, HONOURS WON, ENDOWMENT OF PRIZES

i) **Department of Medical Rehabilitation Learning Resource Grant from Physiopedia Plus**

The Head of the Department of Medical Rehabilitation, Dr. Ebere Nwamaka Yvonne Ihegihu, has attracted a learning resource grant of one hundred and eight thousand, five hundred and thirty-seven pounds (£108,537) from Physiopedia Plus.

ii) **Nomination of the University as South-East Zonal Centre by the Committee of Deans of Engineering and Technology of Nigerian Universities**

By this nomination, the Dean of our Faculty of Engineering will serve as the Coordinator in the South-East on matters concerning the Committee.

iii) **Endowment of Award for the Best Graduating Student in Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinicals at the 4<sup>th</sup> MBBS Examinations**

Prof. Gerald Udigwe, Provost, College of Health Sciences has, in his personal capacity, endowed a prize of one hundred thousand Naira (₦100,000.00), tenable for ten years in the first instance, for best student in Obstetrics and Gynaecology Clinicals at the 4<sup>th</sup> MBBS professional examinations, as determined by the Department.

iv) **Prof. Dennis Aribodor, Director SIWES, has been appointed ASUU Coordinator for Owerri Zone by the National leadership of the Academic Staff Union of Universities**



94

v) Nnamdi Azikiwe University Alumni Association has been ranked 11th on the scale of fifteen (15) strongest alumni association of Nigerian Universities as published in [infoguidenigeria.com](http://infoguidenigeria.com).

vi) **Onyinye Omenugha Qualifies as a Finalist for the Chegg Global Students' Prize.**

Miss Onyinye Omenugha, daughter of Prof. Kate Omenugha of the Department of Mass Communication and a graduate of our Faculty of Law, currently in the Nigeria Law School has qualified as one of the fifty (50) finalists for the Chegg Global Students' Prize; the only Nigerian in the list.

The Chegg global Students' Prize was founded in collaboration with the Varky Foundation to celebrate exceptional students who are making real impact on learning, lives of their peers, and on society.

Onyinye's qualification is predicated on the impact she is making in the lives of other students and society through her organisations: LAWSANAID and the Kate Centre for Arts and Creativity (KACAC). She had also recently won the Diana Award for young people for humanitarian impact across the globe.

vii) **Confucius Institute at Nnamdi Azikiwe University (CI-NAU)**

❖ Chinese Bridge Competition for secondary school students in Nigeria.

Two of the students entered by CI-NAU in this competition performed outstandingly: Master Innocent Emmanuel Ihuoma emerged as the first runner-up, while Miss Jacob Angel Omotola emerged as the Champion. Miss Omotola will represent secondary school students learning Chinese Language in Nigeria at the World Chinese Bridge Competition in China.

This is the fifth consecutive time that CI-NAU is winning the competition since its entry into the competition in 2019.

❖ **Chinese Bridge Competition for College (University) Students**

CI-NAU students emerged in the top three positions in the above-mentioned competition: Miss Okechukwu Chioma Lovina emerged Champion, Miss Olorunyomi Titilayo Janet, and Mr. Nwafor Michael Chibuike were the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> runners-up respectively.

## **5.0 DONATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY**

### **5.1 Book Donations to the University**

S D G 4

The trio of three University staff: Engr. (Dr) Okechukwu I.C. Ezeanyim; Dr. Stanley C. Mgbemena; and Engr. (Dr) Charles C. Okpala, attracted a collection of books worth three million Naira (₦3,000,000.00) from a socio-cultural Group: *Mgbako Ndi Anambra In Rhodes Island, USA*.

### **5.2 Civil Engineering Equipment Donation From the Nigerian Building and Road Research Institute (NBRRI)**

The NBRRI has donated a Wizard Auto Compact line Compression Machine to the University.

## **6.0 CODET 2023 ENGINEERING STUDENTS' COMPETITION, 13TH JULY 2023**

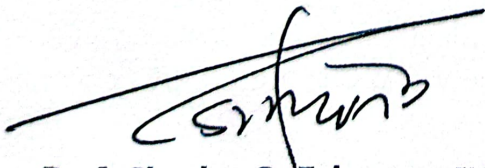
The University hosted the above-named Competition, organised by the Committee of Deans of Engineering.

## **7.0 DEATH OF A 300L ECONOMICS STUDENT, OGBONNAYA PETER OKWUTE, 25TH JUNE 2023**

The above-named student of Chukwudube Lodge, Ifite-Awka died in the lodge on 25th June 2023 in a suspected case of suicide. The suspicion of suicide is hinged on an empty bottle of substance suspected to be sniper found in his room and the battery of recent misfortune he was said to have encountered prior to his death: death of his cousin which threw him into melancholy, suspected losses in crypto trading and pressure from his landlord to pay his rent.

## **8.0 ACTION SOUGHT**

The above Report is presented to Senate for noting.



**Prof. Charles O. Esimone, FAS, FPSN**  
Vice-Chancellor