

# NNAMDI AZIKIWE UNIVERSITY

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## Internal memorandum

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

To: Members of Senate

From: Vice-Chancellor & Chairman of Senate

Ref. No: NAU/VC/23/Vol.XI/27

Date: March 27 2023

**A REPORT (5TH) TO THE 218TH MEETING OF SENATE,  
WEDNESDAY, 29TH FEBRUARY, 2023 AT THE SENATE  
CHAMBER**

MARCH

### **01 THE OPENING**

I am glad to welcome senate to its 218th meeting, after the break occasioned by the general elections.

Senate will find reported below the relevant events during the reporting period.

### **02 ACADEMIC MATTERS**

#### **2.1 Closure of Universities and Inter-University Centres for the 2023 General Elections.**

In compliance with the instruction of the National Universities Commission, arising from the directive of the Hon. Minister of Education, the University shut down from Wednesday 22nd February, 2023 for the Presidential/National Assembly elections and the Gubernatorial/State Houses of Assembly elections. The university resumed on 20th March, 2023, after the conduct of the re-scheduled Gubernatorial and House of Assembly Elections. A revised academic calendar for the 2021/2022 academic year has consequently been published. Second semester examinations are scheduled from Tuesday 11th April to Thursday 21st April, 2023. Vacation is from Monday, 24th April to Friday, 12th May, 2023. The 2022/2023 academic year commences on Monday, 15th May, 2023.

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## 2.2 A Special Request for Academic Curriculum on Substance and Addiction Studies from the Cameroonian Ministry of External Relations.

The Cameroonian High Commission in Nigeria through its letter, Ref. No: 1206/L/HCCN/CS/22 dated 26th October, 2022, has requested for the University's Curriculum on substance and addictive studies for onward transmission to the Cameroonian Ministries of Higher Education and Secondary Education. This is to help the country deal with the drug abuse challenges in its youth population.

The foregoing is another indication of how far Nnamdi Azikiwe University is catching international limelight through our *Project 200* and at the same time an encouragement to us all to do more to fully actualize *Project 200*.

## 2.3 Academic Discourses

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### a. Public Lectures Conferences, Workshops, etc.

- i) Obodouzu Conference/Rally 28th January, 2023 of the Inner Wheel Club Nigeria, 2023.

The Inner Wheel Club, Nigeria, Whose National Representative/President is our Prof Ezimma Nnabuike, held its above-named conference in the University. The theme was: *Work Wonders*.

- ii) 23rd International Conference of the African Council for Communication Education (ACCE) 24th – 27th January, 2023.

The theme was : *Communicating Science, Technology and Innovation in Times of Economic Distress and Pandemic. 2023*

- iii) Igu Aro Igbo Festival and Unveiling of Igbo Calendar Organised by the University's Directorate of Igbo Village and Centre for African Civilization, 27th January, 2023.

The highpoint of this year's edition of the event was the presentation of the University's calendar in Igbo language.

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- iv) The 11th Edition of the Chief (Dr) F.C. Ogbalu Memorial Lecture, 24th January, 2023.

The theme was: *Security and Nigeria's Economy: Reflections from Igboland*, with Prof. Nkechinyere Nwokoye of our Department of Igbo, African and Asian Studies as the Speaker. Interestingly, the entire proceeding was in Igbo Language.

- v) Research Workshop and Communication Skills Training for Postgraduate students with the theme: *Essentials for Quality Research and Seamless Graduation, 15th – 17th February 2023, Organised by the College of Postgraduate Studies*

- vi) Alumni Converge/Special Recognition of Revd Prof. B.C. Osisoma, *FCNA*, 10th February 2023.

Revd Prof. B.C. Osisoma was the Chief Guest of Honour and the Guest Speaker.

- vii) Akachi Ezeigbo Literary Day 11th February 2023. This event was organized by the James Currey Literary Society, Oxford and its supervising body Abibiman Publishing London in concert with the University to honour Prof. Akachi Ezeigbo. The theme was: *What Do We Do with a Woman like Akachi Ezeigbo*

## **b. Inaugural Lectures**

- i) 73rd Inaugural Lecture: *Marriage of Inconvenience Between Neo-Imperialism and Nigerian Development: Can Hippo and Rhino Tango?* Prof. Emmanuel Chukwuemeka, 15th December 2022.
- ii) 74th Inaugural Lecture: *The Challenge of Pioneering Neurosurgery*, Prof. Jude Kennedy Emejulu, 19th January 2023.

- iii) 75th Inaugural Lecture: *Mobilopathy and the Harbingers of Death on the Highway: Epidemiology for Prevention and Control*. Prof. Prosper Obunikem Adogu, 27th January 2023.
- iv) 76th Inaugural Lecture: *Music Composition and Social Change in Nigeria: The Composers Commitments*, Prof. Agatha Ijeoma Onwuekwe, 2nd February 2023.
- v) 77th Inaugural Lecture: *Energy Security Assessment Framework for the Nigerian Economy in the presence of Threats and Disruptions*, Prof. Uche Collins Nwogwugwu, Thursday 16th March 2023.
- vi) 78th Inaugural Lecture: *Malaria Story and Challenges to Malaria Elimination in Nigeria*, Prof. Dennis Nnanna Aribodor, Thursday 23 March 2023.

## 2.4 COREN Re-Accreditation Of Undergraduate Engineering Programmes

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The Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) was in the University from 1st to 5th February 2022 for the re-accreditation of the programmes in the Faculty of Engineering. I am glad to report that the result of the exercise has been released and that all six (6) programmes in the Faculty had full accreditation, valid to February 2027.

## 2.5 TETFund National Research Fund (NRF) Intervention: Disbursement of First (1st) Tranche Under 8th Batch

The Board of Trustees of TETFund has approved the first (1<sup>st</sup>) tranche disbursements for the following projects:

- i) *Developing Smart Strategies for Enhancing Maximum Carbon Capture in Tropical RainForest Belt in South-East Nigeria*: Lead Researcher, Dr. Igu Nwabueze Ikenna: ₦12,000,000.00
- ii) *Production of Sodium Polyacrylate Precursor From Biomass-Based Fumaric Acid for Sustainable Quality Diaper Absorbent*; lead researcher Prof. Mathew C Menkiti: ₦12,000,000.00

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- iii) *Development of Locally Sourced Dilute Magnetic Semiconductor Spintronic Materials for Mobile Phone and Computer Memories*, Lead researcher Prof. Ekpunobi Azubuike Josiah: ₦10,000,000.00

### **03 UPDATE ON APPOINTMENT OF STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS**

Since my initial report to Senate and the last update at the 217th Meeting of Senate held on 18th January 2023 on the above subject, I am pleased to report the following appointments:

#### **3.1 Bursar, University of Nigeria, Nsukka**

Dr. Ada Godwin, a Deputy Bursar 1 has been appointed as Bursar of the University of Nigeria Nsukka

#### **3.2 University Librarian, Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurum, Delta State**

Prof. M.I. Anyaegbu of the University Library has been appointed the Nnamdi Azikiwe University Librarian, Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurum, Delta State.

These appointments, particularly to the high competitive positions of principal officers of universities is an assurance that Nnamdi Azikiwe University has with its workforce competent staff who can prove their mettle anywhere.

#### **3.3 Prof Lilian Obiageli Orogbu, Elected into the House of Representative**

Prof. Lilian Orogbu, immediate past Dean of the Faculty of Management Sciences was elected to represent the Awka North/South Federal Constituency on the platform of the Labour Party in the National Assembly elections held on 25th February 2023.

### **4.0 APPRAISAL AND PROMOTION OF STAFF FOR THE 2021/2022 APPRAISAL YEAR**

I am glad to report that following the conclusion of the 2021/2022 appraisal, Council has approved as indicated below

the promotion of staff whose promotions are subject to the approval of Council. In doing this it is apt to observe that the online appraisals introduced by our Administration has considerably eased the appraisals process.

#### 4.1 Promotion of Academic Staff

- a) Promotion to the position of Professor

A total of thirty-three (33) position were promoted to the rank of Professor

- b) Promotion to position of Reader

A total of forty (40) staff were promoted to the rank of Reader.

- c) Promotion of Non-Teaching Staff To CONTISS 13 and above.

A total of eighty-two (82) staff were promoted to various positions in this salary bracket.

#### 05 HONOURS WON BY STAFF AND STUDENTS

- i) **Surv. Ebere Jude Ekemezie Emerges as the Overall Best in the 2022 Surveyors Council of Nigeria (SURCON) Professional Examinations**

Surv. Ebere Jude Ekemezie, a first class graduate of the Department of Surveying and Geoinformatics and an academic staff of the Department emerged as the overall best in the Surveyors' Council of Nigeria (SURCON) Professional Examination held on 16th February 2023, bagging the Distinguished Senator Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan Award for the best candidate.

Prof. (Mrs) Ebele J. Emengini of the Department and first female Professor of Surveying and Geo-informatics in Nigeria was the Pre-induction Speaker.

- ii) Two students of the Faculty of Medicine Win Sponsorship From The Hon. Commissioner for Trade and Investment, Imo State

The Commissioner of Trade and Investment, Imo State, Comrade Simon Ebegbulem, has undertaken to sponsor twin brothers, Peter Nwoko and Silas Nwoko for the MBBS Programme of the Faculty of Medicine.

The Dean Faculty of Clinical Sciences, Prof. Victor Onyiaorah, has thanked him on behalf of the Faculty, College and the University.

- iii) Mr. Dike Paul Chinedu Goes Through in the Chinese Bridge Films Dubbing Competition

Mr. Dike Paul Chinedu, a fourth-year student of Chinese studies, representing CI-NAU, was successful in preliminaries of the above-named competition. 150 students from 119 countries across the world took part in this competition. He will now proceed to the next level of the competition.

## 06 ACTION SOUGHT

The above Report is presented to Senate for information and noting.



**Prof. Charles O. Esimone, FAS, FPSN**  
**VICE-CHANCELLOR**