QUALITY ACADEMIC CONTENT
HAS HELPED BUFFER OUR ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS
.....CU Undergraduates

The essence of education has been revolutionized all over the world since the turn of the century, from being a place of imparting and acquiring knowledge through teaching and learning, to one targeted at training individuals outside of regular academic curriculum in a bid to help them tap into their innate capacities to deliver on their competencies.

Gradually, the work environment is moving from the era of flaunting of certificates or academic qualification to value adding competencies. The question a prospective applicant needs to answer is ‘what are you bringing on board?’

In packaging students for the world of work, Covenant University, from inception, introduced some unique programmes, which include Entrepreneurial Development Studies (EDS). No doubt, the skills acquired from various vocations under this programme have contributed to the upsurge of budding entrepreneurs in the University.

Since 2006, when Covenant University had its first convocation ceremony till date, the University has consistently produced graduates with strong enterprise skills, who have continuously proven and made their mark in the business arena, and this trend has become synonymous with products of the University.

From Kunle Jina of e-Commerce, to Tolu Akinpeloye of Nacc Clothes and Nwoakolo Chukwuemeka who is into Charcoal exportation and winner of the Federal Government ‘YouWin’ business competition, Covenant University has not ceased to imbue in its students the entrepreneurial acumen to succeed in life.

A cursory look at the lives of some students of Covenant University showed depth and astute industrial image of what their tomorrow should look like, taking into account the skills they have developed from their period of study, stewardship and trainings at the University.

Ernest Oluwasegun is a student of Information and Communication Engineering in the College of Science and Technology, yet through commitment and hard work he has been able to develop competency in graphics design and video editing during the course of his study and service at Covenant University.

According to Mr. Oluwasegun, “with the skills I have acquired these few years and my passion for computers and such devices, I look forward to starting a multimedia firm, after learning the ropes in the industry, upon graduating from the University.” He stated that what he has noticed is that knowledge that can be practised is what is lacking in Nigeria, and here in Covenant University the focus has been more on building people to do what they are created to be able to do.

Another revelation of the impact a well-formed curriculum could have on the lives of students is the University’s Management making room for students to serve in the University’s Chaplaincy. Allen Oloruntobiola, of the Department of Electrical and Information Engineering (EIE), serves with Olive Media, the technical crew of the University Chaplaincy, and in the last three years the young man has been able to create a blend in his primary course of study and new things he has learnt from his colleagues in the team.

Exuding confidence in his gifting and ability, Oloruntobiola stated that over the years, he has developed a strong interest in graphics, software designing and coding, networking and sound engineering. According to him, “My primary course of study, EIE, has helped me to establish a strong affinity for the new capacities I have come to learn at Covenant University. Serving and interacting with contemporaries in the Olive Media has helped me to bolster my capacity for graphics design and sound engineering.”

He averred that down the line, after school, he looked forward to starting up a software development company, having been able to form a network with colleagues of like mind. According to him, “We are already working on a couple of projects that would help us individually and as a group to advance our future.

Similarly, Busola Elizabeth Kehinde, in her penultimate year in Department of Business Management said when she got admission into Covenant University, she made a vow that she would not just pass through the institution, but also allow the institution pass through her in a bid to making the most of her time in the institution.

Miss Kehinde said she came to the University just to ensure that she could use her academic pursuit to add value to her innate talents, and having honed her visual skills, she said she is ready to enter into the world of make-believe. According to her, “I have been active in convocation activities of CU, public lectures, inaugural lectures and other University functions, and I have been actively involved in planning my College and Departmental programmes, so I envisage going into event planning and management, publishing, editing and movie directing.”

One common denominator among all these students is the fact that they see the certificate they would earn as a buffer to the capacities they have successfully developed while in school. According to one of them, “If the University Management decides that there would not be certificates henceforth for all graduands of the University, I have gotten something that is beyond certificate that the world would not be able to take away from me.”
GO-GETTERS HOLD
ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP AT COVENANT UNIVERSITY

G o-getters! No talks... all action” was the slogan that echoed at the main hall of the Covenant University Guest House as the Go-getters Foundation, an entrepreneurship organization, in conjunction with GMK Media - a top photography firm in Covenant University - held an Entrepreneurship Workshop, tagged, 'Covenant University Entrepreneurship Workshop Agenda' earlier this year. The event, graced by co-founders of four different organizations was designed to enlighten the students on how to run businesses and be successful in what they do. This, according to the Go-getters team, would help eradicate unemployment in Nigeria and beyond.

Among the speakers at the workshop were the co-founder of Jumia E-Commerce Website, Mr. Raphael Afaedor; the CEO of Freeme Digital Distribution Company, Mr. Michael Ugwu; the Chief Executive Officer of Hairven Hair Products and Director of Eaglwatch Security Limited, Mrs. Iroghama Ogbeifun; and the CEO of TVCLabs, Harry Tomi Davies. The speakers educated the students on ways to be successful when establishing a business or company and how to curb unemployment in the country. They recounted their personal experiences in the world of entrepreneurship.

Raphael Afaedor stated that the problem with Nigerians is that no one wants to face his or her problems. “When you decide to face the problem of unemployment, remember that it is going to be difficult”, he admonished the participants who were very excited by the prospects of becoming entrepreneurs.

Also speaking at the event was Harry Tomi Davies. He took time to explain investment strategies. He stressed his points with an acronym, “POEM”, which stood for Proposition, Organization, Economics and Milestones. He explained how his investments have helped him in his appointment as a board member of many multi-national organizations such as Strika Entertainment, Sproxil, Baas Online Properties, amongst others.

The workshop ended with a session of interaction between the students and guest speakers on how to initiate and develop business ideas.
All is set for the Entrepreneurial Development Studies of Covenant University to assume the status of a full fledge degree programme to be housed in the Department of Business Management.

This came on the background of a resource verification visit of a three-man team from the National Universities Commission (NUC) to the University on Monday, September 16, 2013. The course, which was hitherto offered as a University wide course, would award B.Sc degree when approved by NUC.

The team, led by Professor Chuks Ezedum, expressed optimism in the successful take-off of the programme in Covenant University since the University Faculty was part of the team that drafted the National Curriculum and Basic minimum benchmark for Entrepreneurial Development Studies in Nigeria.

At the end of the resource verification exercise which included assessment of existing facilities and staff strength in the department where the programme would domicile, Professor Ezedum, who came with Professor Peter Eriki and Mr Olufemi Yeye, commended Covenant University's Management for the quality of its lecture halls, the public address systems, multimedia facilities and other teaching aids in the lecture theatres.

The team gave thumbs up to the University Library, otherwise known as Centre for Learning Resources (CLR). According to them, the library holding is quite rich and has some of the finest resource materials any tertiary institution in Nigeria could ask for.

Furthermore, the resource verification team advised Covenant University Management not to allow the ongoing decentralization of the university’s library system to affect the continuous improvement of the central library. They applauded the e-components that the University is subscribed to, as current and very impressive. This they said would engender students of the Department and the entire University to keep pace with current trends in their field of endeavour.

With regards to academic contents, the NUC team noted the high standards set for the proposed programme as touching the minimum graduation requirements, but requested that the benchmark grades for graduation be reduced so as not to over stretch the students.

In addition, they lauded the University’s introduction of entrepreneurship internship programme that would avail the students the privilege to gainfully acquire entrepreneurial skills from appropriate organizations.

Responding to some of the suggestions offered by the team, the Director, Centre for Learning Resources of Covenant University, Dr. Christopher Nkiko stated that the University is currently developing College libraries alongside that of the central Library. He said, other subsets of the Centre for Learning
Resources are also getting adequate attention.

The Head, Department of Business Management, Dr. Samson Ibidenri, appreciated the resource verification panel for a remarkable job done. He said the experience has been a revelation for the Department and promised that areas that needed to be improved upon would be addressed immediately in readiness for the accreditation visit.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor Charles Ayo, thanked the NUC team for making the process very businesslike and for a detailed report on the whole exercise.

Professor Ayo said, in keeping with the vision of the Chancellor of Covenant University, Dr. David Oyedepe, the Entrepreneurial Development Studies (EDS) has always been at the centre of the University's academic drive at all levels of undergraduate and postgraduate studies, since inception.

According to him, Covenant University has over the years trained individuals at home and abroad to drive the EDS programme of the University and as such, there are enough capable hands to propel the delivery of the goals and objectives of the programme in the University.

On the academic content, the Professor of Computer Science said the University's Management would gladly oblige an adjustment as suggested to enable students pick up other courses that they might need from time to time.

He told Professor Ezedum and his team that Covenant University has over the years cherished and nurtured every process of peer review mechanism that it has contacted. This, he said, was what has enabled the University to continually improve on her overall ratings with regards to rich academic content.

The Vice-Chancellor noted that getting it right with a programme such as Entrepreneurial Development Studies is germane if Nigeria must get out of the woods of unemployment.

Meanwhile, the Centre for Entrepreneurial Development Studies (CEDS) has introduced 14 additional vocations to the existing 22. Consequently, the Centre now offers 36 vocations in various fields. The Centre is also making plans to begin production of four new products in commercial quantities under the CEDS Extension and Expansion Programme.

The Director of the Centre, Dr. Chinonye Moses said there was the need for the introduction of the new vocations in order to expand the scope of training, particularly in the Science-related areas. She added that the Centre is working in conjunction with some departments in the University to achieve the expansion drive.

Dr. Moses hinted that the Centre would introduce some new products and expand the old ones to be able to meet the level of demand from the clientele base.

The newly introduced vocations are: Basic Mechanical Work; Wood Works; Horticulture and Landscaping; Paint making; Basic Electrical Work; Barbine as well as Entertainment and Creative Entrepreneurship. Others are: Shoe-making; Computer Repairs and Maintenance; Software Development; Basic Plumbing Works; Nylon and Poly bags making; Tiling and Basic Civil Engineering Works; Art Design and Painting; Plastic Production and Food Processing.

Entrepreneurial Development Studies (EDS) is one of the unique programmes pioneered by Covenant University, which has been adopted by National Universities Commission (NUC), the apex regulatory body in charge of university education in Nigeria.

It was introduced by the University to equip her graduates in order to become employers of labour rather than being job-seekers after graduation. It is a compulsory programme for all students of Covenant University at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
Covenant University Emerges 2013 Best Private University in Nigeria

The year 2013 ended on a good note for Covenant University, as the Centre for Democratic Governance in Africa (CDGA) awarded her the Best Private University in Nigeria, while the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles K. Ayo was inducted an honorary member of the centre.

The award, which was conferred on the University by the CDGA, led by the Director-General of the Centre, Dr. Dafe Akpocha, was done after thorough consultations with the regulatory body of universities in the country, the National Universities Commission (NUC) and visits to all private universities in the country.

Dr. Akpocha commended the Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo for the noble initiative of modeling Covenant University to the standard of world-class institutions. He averred that Covenant University has gradually over the years become synonymous with the advancement of good governance in Africa.

In his remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor Charles Ayo appreciated the centre for considering Covenant University worthy of the honour. He stated that the award was cherished and the University hopes to foster a relationship with the centre in a quest to drive good governance in Nigeria and Africa as a whole.

Professor Ayo stated that the University, from inception, developed customized academic programmes in Entrepreneurial studies to address the unemployment question facing the nation, and was set to strongly address leadership challenges through the African Leadership Development Centre (ALDC), endowed by the Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo.

In addition, he told the team from CDGA that Covenant University was on course to help stabilize the democratic tenets of Nigeria through the gradual introduction of e-democracy in the University’s host community, Ado-Odo/Ota Local Government Council, with the hope that from there, it would flow through the state and up to the Federal structure.

As part of the ceremony, Professor Ayo was presented a medal and membership certificate.

The event had in attendance, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Aaron A.A. Atayero, the Registrar, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo, Deans of Colleges, members of the press amongst others.

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is made up of 26 institutions in Africa and some others in the United States and United Kingdom, and from the advertising phase of the workshop till now, the popularity of Covenant University has moved from the realm of being known with the consortium, to that of a capable host of the consortium, thus attracting a huge web presence and attention.

Furthermore, NIH and Wellcome Trust having signed up on the workshop with Covenant University and appraised our capacity to deliver, would easily recommend applications for grants for research clusters from Covenant University to other funding Agencies, thus putting a seal of credibility and acceptance on activities of researchers in the University.

Also, the workshop has availed faculty, experts and participants from different institutions to see possible areas of collaboration for further advancement of research activities. No doubt, ripple effects would open Covenant University up for greater things.

In his address to the participants, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor Charles Ayo, stated that the workshop came up at a time when the University is passionately driving the vision of being listed as one of the 10 leading institutions of learning in the world, tagged “Vision 10:2022, One of 10 in 10.”

He challenged the participants to make the most of the opportunity availed them as scholars so as to return to their various nations empowered to advance health care delivery through the instrumentality of bioinformatics. i3ABioNet is a pan African Bioinformatics network comprising 32 bioinformatics groups distributed amongst 15 African countries and 2 partner institutions based in the United States of America.

The five-week workshop attracted participants and facilitators from South Africa, Tunisia, Uganda, Egypt, Tanzania, Morocco, Ghana, Canada, Nigeria and 2 from Covenant University.
Covenant University students outclassed other competitors at the 2013 Nigeria Software Competition held at Tinapa, Cross River State between the 22nd and 23rd of October, 2013. The University’s contingent returned from the 2-day competition, with laurels and cash prizes for their efforts.

The team of four students from the Computer and Information Science Department led by Dr. Ambrose Azeta, returned to the University with their heads held high, in the company of two trophies and a total prize money of N1.75 million. The competition, which attracted 24 teams of students from 21 schools from all over the country, saw representatives of the University competing in two different categories.

In the Nigeria Best Open Source Software of the Year category, sponsored by Institute of Software Practitioners in Nigeria (ISPON), Okwuokenye Ebuka, a 400 Level Management Information Science student and Inwalome Emmanuel, 400 Level Computer Science student came tops. They were awarded a medium-sized trophy and Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira for developing a Car Tracking System Simulator.

In the Nigerian Software Excellence Award 2013 category, Raymond Ativie and Oroge Alanuloluwa both 400 Level Computer Science students emerged as first runner up for the development of an Anti-Cultism Social Educational Media System, carting away a giant trophy and One and a half Million Naira for their initiative.

Receiving the University's Ambassadors on Tuesday, November 11, 2013, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo commended the performance of the students. He stated that all students in the University are exposed to the best of resources and there was need for personal development to enable their capabilities become evident to the outside world.

He appreciated the Head, Department of Computer Science, Dr. Nicholas Omoregbe and the head of delegation to the competition, Dr. Azeta for their time, investment and hard work towards bringing honour to the University.

In a related development, the University's representatives to the 2014 Argus Software Competition came fourth out of over 113 participating institutions of higher learning across the world. University of San Diego came tops followed by Pennsylvania University, while York University and Covenant University finished third and fourth respectively.

Out of the 113 participating universities, eighteen met the deadline of the time set for entries into the main competition. From the eighteen universities that submitted valuation model in the contest, Covenant University came fourth, and the only one out of four universities using the software in Africa.

The Head, Department of Estate Management, Dr. Ayotunde Oni commended the performance of the University’s representatives. According to him, “While we strive for the 1st position, our performance is indeed very encouraging, when we take into account that we are currently not among the first 100 ranked institutions offering a programme in estate management, yet we were able to finish fourth out of over 162 institutions.”

In addition, Dr. Oni said that while other academic institutions have always participated with their postgraduate students at Argus Software Competition, Covenant University has consistently been taking her undergraduates to the competition.

By this development, Dr. Oni said, he intends to examine the Postgraduate programme and probably present the University's Postgraduate students for the 2016 competition, with the permission of Cont’ on Pg 53
GOOGLE INTRODUCES
CU STUDENTS TO ONLINE MARKETING

A five-week training aimed at introducing Covenant University students to online-marketing commenced at the University campus on earlier in the year.

The training tagged “Google Ad Class” was organized by Google, an international online platform.

The students were taught how to advertise their products and services using Google and also how to build a career from online marketing.

Mr. Tobby Kunyis, one of the facilitators of the programme emphasized the importance of keywords in business advertisement. He also talked about the formulas for calculating a business advertisement rank and other important concepts.

Also speaking, a team member, Mr. Shadrach Alabo, encouraged the students to embrace hardwork and avoid skipping classes, this according to him, will make them eligible for the Certificate at the end of the five-week training.

inception which include unbroken academic calendar, non-existence of student/labour unrest, capacity building for both faculty and non-teaching staff and numerous awards, among others.

“The Senate has not failed in its responsibilities to the Board and the University in the areas of teaching, research and community service”, he noted.

While appreciating the Chancellor and the members of the Board of Regents for providing conducive environment and funds to operate, Professor Ayo assured them of the commitment of the Senate to the fulfillment of the vision “one of ten in ten”.

“We have put our hands on the plough and there is no looking back. Let me assure the Board that the vision “one of ten in ten” is being pursued with all fervency and will be accomplished even before the set time.”

Professor Ayo acknowledged the great contributions of the past leadership of the Senate from the pioneer Vice-Chancellor, Professor Bola Ayeni (2002-2004); Dr. Jonathan Aremu (Acting capacity 2004-2005) and the immediate past VC, Professor Aize Obayan (2005-2012).

He also congratulated the members of the Senate for the outstanding contributions and total commitment that have made the University the best Private University in the country.

There was also praise, prayer and testimony sessions to return all the glory to God for His faithfulness since inception.

The roll-call of Covenant University Senate from 2002 till date is 174 members and the present attendance stood at 67 members.
As part of activities to mark Civil Engineering Week in Covenant University, students of the department recently got a rare privilege to interact with a dynamic practitioner in the industry and be acquainted with the fact of operations, real time practice and challenges facing the profession of Civil Engineering.

Speaking on the theme: *Engineering the Future; Information, Exposure and Innovation*, the guest speaker Engineer Kunle Adejone, a civil and structural engineer from Ove Arup and Partners Nigeria Limited said the profession of civil engineering has taken a new dimension where all aspect of the built environment is taken into account in maintaining, conserving and improving life on the planet.

Engineer Adejone told the students not to see civil engineering as just about buildings, but going beyond that to the sphere of being involved in aviation, highways, mining, rail, sports, water, geotechnics, project management, environment impact assessment among others, and the ability to bring variety to bare on any project is the hallmark of a civil engineer.

According to him, “Its innovativeness, creative thinking, passion for the profession, ability to communicate, influence and impress upon clients to see things from your point of view, will determine the relevance of the 21st century compliant civil engineer.”

He told the civil engineers in training that the profession of civil engineering, by nature of the new world order, would remain eternally relevant. He challenged the students to ensure that when they start practicing, every of their engineering endeavours are geared towards relevance, functionality, pleasure and luxury.

Engineer Adejona who is a member of many professional bodies including: Nigerian Institution of Structural Engineers; Nigerian Society of Engineers; Association of Consulting Engineers of Nigeria; Fountain of Hope International and Federal Roads Safety Commission commended, Covenant University for making the study of civil engineering appealing, which has attracted a lot of female students to pursue a discipline in that field.

He advised the students not to be money conscious at the initial stage of entering the profession. According to him, even though the earning prospects are very low, the profession has the capacity to raise them beyond any measure, thus the need to choose the profession first. He stated that job satisfaction comes with doing what makes one feel good and you knowing that one is contributing to the advancement of the society.

Engineer Adejona told the students that he expected the entrepreneurial spirit to be birthed in them. He stated that they should not confine themselves to the theoretical aspect of their discipline, but take opportunities related to the discipline and make the most of it.

The facilitator said the fact that Entrepreneurial Studies is a major part of Covenant University’s curriculum should put all civil engineering students on autopilot mode to metamorphose into the next big thing in the world of Civil Engineering.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Head, Department of Civil Engineering, Dr. Adebanji Ogbiye represented by Dr. David Olukanni told the students that the interaction was an opportunity for them to interact with industry.

Dr. Olukanni charged the students to make the most of the meeting with an active practitioner of civil engineering. This, he said, would help them anticipate what the industry expects of them, how to react to these and how to develop new capacities for the work environment.

The workshop drew attendance from students across all levels in the department, and it was organized by the Civil Engineering Students Association of the University.
CU 6th Annual Drama: CREATIVITY AT ITS BEST

The Covenant University Drama Group has staged a play titled *The Paper*. The play was written by Femi Yakini and Runsewe Damilola, students of 500 Level Chemical Engineering.

The night which recorded a large number of attendees featured dance, music, mime, comedy and playlets by different groups.

The 6th drama night six was graced by the Registrar of the University, Dr Olumuyiwa Oludayo who joined other faculty, staff and theatre lovers to enjoy the interesting play.

*The Paper* revealed how God could turn disappointments to testimonies, shame to glory and most especially taught the audience never to give up on any issue of concern but seek the face of the Lord.

A lead character, Sola and two other characters Jaiye and Donald were faced with so many challenges in their academics, families and spiritual lives but the decisions they made finally, determined the end result.

Although, she was suppose to stay back for an extra year in the University, Sola escaped the trap of the enemy when she surrendered her life to Christ and her story changed.

While Jaiye who had family challenges also embraced Christ and her family reunited. Donald who refused to make amends regretted his actions and caused himself more harm than good.

The Faith Academy drama group also presented a playlet titled “The Name, the Enemy, 2014 and Beyond”.

The play emphasised the power in the wonderful name of Jesus and how the name is capable of breaking yokes and destroying the power of the enemy.

The Reflection Dance Group also had an interesting short presentation while the Eagle IT Drama Group were not left out as they presented a Comedy that almost threw some of the theatre lovers off their seats.

The Principles, a musical group also ministered in the Yoruba dialect, praising God in the best way they could.

It was a night of total theatre, with dance and music embedded in it. The tragic-comedy play ended on a celebration note.

The stage arrangement was superb as the props on stage were properly arranged; the lightning appropriately depicted the mood of the play.

The hall echoed with shouts of joy and no one was eager to leave not minding the hours spent, because it was really worth it.
CU HOLDS 2013/2014 CAREER FAIR

It was another great opportunity for Covenant University students to embrace great career opportunities as they participated in the 2013/2014 Career Fair organised by the University.

The fair with the theme: “Adding value through Industry Partnership” featured Career talk, Networking and Recruitment.

Declaring the fair open, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles K. Ayo said the presence of the companies and organisations is symbolic and with her quality of Education, Covenant University is poised to rewrite the history of Higher Education in Nigeria.

The Registrar, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo, in his welcome remark stated that it is the University’s quest to produce graduates who would be value adding personalities.

“You have come to a community of solution providers, community of people who are smart and do not have challenges believing in the future” he said.

He advised the students not to see the fair as an opportunity to get job only but to see themselves also as job creators.

Also speaking at the event, the Dean of Student Affairs, Mr. Azubuike Ezenwoke said the essence of a University is to prepare the manpower that would drive the mandate of adding value to the society.

He stated further that the fair was about adding value to the University, participating institution, CU Alumni and students.

In his speech, the keynote speaker, Mr Tominiyi Oni who is a Senior Human Resource and Organisational Development Officer at Friesland Campina (WAMCO), urged the students to discover their purpose in life. “Those who succeed are those who got the inspiration that they are not ordinary men in life” he said.

Mr. Oni enjoined the students to be agents of change and to discover their strengths and weaknesses in order to improve on them. He urged them to get acquainted with information pertaining to their dream career because companies are not looking for problem identifier but solution providers.

The Guest Speaker also emphasised the need to develop a right attitude, take action and have a mentor.

The students had the opportunity to interact with various companies and organisations representatives. Some of the companies also conducted recruitment test.

About Seven organisations participated in the fair, some of which include KPMG, Unilever, Skye bank, Dragnet Solution, UACN, Investment One Financial service Limited, Propertymart Real Estate Investment Limited.
INVESTMENT ONE INAUGURATES CLUB

Investment One, financial service limited, in April 2014, launched the Covenant University Chapter of Investment Club and inducted some students of the University.

In his opening remarks at the event, the Registrar of the University, Dr Olumuyiwa Oludayo stated that the goal of the club is to educate the students on how to encounter financial freedom and become enterprising self-dependent graduates who would be of assistance to others.

He stated further that lack of this consciousness makes graduates dependent on parents, friends and relatives. “The club will consist of a group of people who will have financial intelligence and who will invest to make the world a better place to stay”, he said.

While addressing the students, Head, Investment Education, Investment One Limited, Mr. Iyobosa Ihaza described the investment club as a group of people who pool their money together to make investments. He said the objective of the company is to boost the investment culture of undergraduates by creating an awareness programme. “It will be a platform for knowledge and capacity building” he said.

He enumerated the benefits of the club which include educational experience, practical exposure, sound advice, opportunity of internship and investment ambassadors among others.

The club will be divided into seven sectors which include Financial, Industrial, Oil and Gas, Agriculture, ICT, Consumer goods, as well as Hotel and Tourism.

The high point of the event was the launching of the club by the Registrar of the University, Dr Olumuyiwa Oludayo and the appointment of the pioneer executives of the club.

Mr. Oikah Samuel, a 300 Level Accounting student was appointed as the President, while Miss. Abeng Blessing, a 400 Level Biochemistry and Mr. Ekeporah Tobechukwu, a 300 Level Business Administration student were appointed Secretary and Research Coordinator respectively.

In an interview with the Executives of the Investment Club, the President stated that they were appointed because of their capability to handle the responsibility.

He said as the pioneer President of the club, he planned to draft the constitution for the club and appoint leaders into the seven sectors to coordinate activities and further publicize the club. He added that the club would educate students on how to go about investment and how to be financially inclined.

In the same vein, the Secretary of the club, Blessing Abeng, noted that major seminars would be organised to educate students on how to invest because many have limited knowledge of investments. “I will like to introduce the club to the Alumni base of the University” she said.

On his part, the Research Coordinator, Mr. Ekeporah Tobechukwu said that he would conduct research on new developments in universities around the world and ensure that there are innovations that would make the club
history of the NPA, as it is the first time that Nigerian Psychologists will be discussing rural development as a conference theme.

“It is a great concern that the rural urban drift in Nigeria is not about infrastructural and industrial development, but the migration of young, agile and dependent population; about developing of slums; about abandonment of agriculture, and the neglect of the elderly,” Dr. Zamani reiterated.

He further stated that the deliberations of the association in the next few days should generate solutions to those challenges. The Chairman of the occasion, Professor (Mrs.) Helen Osinowo, while presenting her address, stated, “The migration of people from rural to urban areas, leaves the farms empty, brings about food scarcity, and affects food security. Hence, we have to be concerned about the wellbeing of rural dwellers.”

She opined that those in the rural areas should not be forgotten, and the elderly should not be left alone; citing that the theme of the conference was chosen to address the situation of rural dwellers and their psychological needs.

Professor Emmanuel Aderemi Akinaide while presenting his keynote speech, titled, ‘Psychological Management of Mental Disorders Among Rural Dwellers in Nigeria,’ said, “Mental disorders are everywhere, but the good news is that they are treatable.”

During the ceremony, two deserving academics were presented with the Honorary Fellow of the Nigerian Psychological Association (HFNPA) award: Professor Aize Obayan, the immediate past Vice-Chancellor of Covenant University, a Professor of Counselling with specialization in Multicultural aspects of Human Behavioral Disposition; and Professor Olu Joshua Benedictus Osinowo, a Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery.