In order to acquaint the faculty and staff with the global trend in the use of intellectual property, Covenant University has organized a 3-day training/workshop with the theme: 'Intellectual Property Right and Patent Documentation Procedures'. The workshop, put together by the University's Centre for Endowment Research and Development (CUCERD) in conjunction with the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), Intellectual Property Technology Transfer Office (IPTTO) as well as the Nigerian Copyright Commission, held between May 14 and 16, 2014. The resource persons drawn from various governmental agencies and the University were able to pass across information on the state of intellectual property in Nigeria, the values of intellectual property as an asset and the need to take intellectual property more seriously by both faculty and students.

According to one of the resource persons and the Director, Nigerian Copyright Institute, Mr. John Asein, the participants now have the understanding of the rules governing intellectual property and the economic importance of the same. "We've been able to pass across information on importance value of intellectual property and how any "

He therefore enjoined them to embrace hardwork, be receptive to the training that has commenced and to ensure that they are fully protected on field putting on their industrial kits, helmets and gloves. Dr. Matthews stated further that they would be expected to learn how to construct materials and equipment relevant to their fields. They will be taught block fabrication, paint making, glass blowing, welding, how to work on lathe machines, wiring of house, installation of satellite stations antenna and others.

The programme, according to him, has helped Covenant University students to stand out excellently, as some have won scholarships, received recommendations and have been commended for their unique performance in their various fields. The programme will last for five weeks.
CU, NOTAP Trains Faculty on Intellectual Property

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person/academic can easily spin so much out of the use of intellectual property.

“We have also been able to see why it is important for lecturers to understand the rules so that they don’t only live by those rules, but are able to pass them to the students, so that when they deal with copyright works or other people’s intellectual property, they will see and appreciate the need to do it according to the rules”, Mr. Asein explained.

Earlier during a courtesy visit by the resource persons led by the Director of Intellectual Property Rights at NOTAP, Engineer Joseph Nwosa noted that the University is doing well and it is a trail blazer among the universities where IPTTOs are situated. He added that the agency would like to see the University’s patents turned to products.

At the wrap-up session in the Vice Chancellor’s office, the Director of CUCERD, Professor Louis Egwari, stated that through the knowledge from the workshop, many of the faculty have come to appreciate copyright issues and gave assurance that by the end of the year, there would be more harvest of patents applications from them.

Providing solutions to national problems”.

The Head, Department of Political Science and International Relations, as well as the Director of the Covenant University’s International Office and Linkages, Dr. Sheriff Folarin, while presenting the background introduction for the special guest and lead discussant for the forum, welcomed him formally to the University and thanked him on behalf of the University management for being at the event.

Presenting the background for the topic of the discussion, Professor Ibhawo said, “I am pleased to be here with you today, having been to this Covenant University once and was thoroughly impressed, not just because of the architecture of the buildings, but the quality of the scholarship. So, I really see this as a blessing to have this opportunity to interact with you.”

Professor Ibhawo observed, “Anyone going through the news in Nigeria lately will see that we have been bedeviled by insurgency, militancy and conflict. And in the academia, it is our responsibility to analyze the situation, and come up with policy guidelines that will help guide the country into a process of change. This is not just a military exercise as the Americans found out that all their might in Afghanistan and in the world would not reduce insurgency. We need a concerted approach; we need scholars to come together to reason through the process.”

Other discussants at the event were Professor Kunle Amuwo, Professor Kayode Soremekun, and Dr. Daniel Gberevbie.

Members of the University community attended the Round-table Discussion.

The first edition in the series of Departmental Round-table, also hosted by the Department of Political Science and International Relations of Covenant University, which held in 2011, featured a discussion on “Insurgency In Northern Nigeria: Boko Haram,” with Professor Kunle Amuwo from the Intervention Crisis Group (ICG), Darkar, Senegal, leading the Round-table.