



MOUAAU 57th Inaugural Lecture: VC cautions against tarnishing the good image of the University

By Ubadire Agua, Patrick Oparah, Chinedu Ononiwu, Sunday Anyim, Collins Ginger-Eke and Joy Nlebedum



Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe
(Vice-Chancellor MOUAAU)

The Vice-Chancellor of the Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, has cautioned staff of the University against acts that could embarrass and tarnish the good image of the

University.

The Vice-Chancellor gave the warning in his remarks during the 57th Inaugural Lecture of the University, held on December 11, 2024.

According to Prof. Iwe, the University was exposed to all manner of embarrassment in recent times,

by persons who are old enough in the System and should have known what is tenable and what is unacceptable in it, but deliberately decided to embarrass the University. He advised them to resign.

"The University has its segments of existence and functionality. So, anybody who has been in the University for 10 years and does not know the way University functions should better resign and go home and not constitute embarrassment anymore to the University", the VC said.

While expressing his dismay over some image-damaging conduct of some staff with regards to the 57th Inaugural Lecture, the VC stated that his administration has, in the past 3-4 years, committed itself to the peace and stability of the University and worked with people of all opinions and interests. He noted that anybody who is working against the unity of the University would not be given a



place to thrive.

"I did a lot behind the doors as a Deputy Vice-Chancellor, to bring this Community to a point of communion. As Vice-Chancellor, I have continued to work for the unity of all people" the VC said.

Furthermore, the Vice-Chancellor said "this Lecture was scheduled over 9 months ago and to

prepare the minds of everybody towards it. I addressed the Senate on November 20, and stated that the 7th Governing Council, in April, 2023, put to rest every controversy about this Lecture. So anybody that is coming today to raise any controversy might be looking for trouble and when the trouble comes, I hope that no one would chicken out because if you

go contrary to the law of the University and embarrass the University, you may be committing acts of gross misconduct, and that can be handled. So all the people that have tried to embarrass this University as a result of the 57th Inaugural Lecture have cases to answer. Wherever they have taken it does not matter because we shall come back to investigate it"

"Our Council has no intent to interfere in MOUAAU's administrative processes" - Pro-Chancellor

By Chinedu Ononiwu and Joy Nlebedum



Comrade Fidelis Edeh
Pro-Chancellor MOUAAU

The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Governing Council of Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudiike (MOUAAU), Comrade Fidelis Edeh, has assured the University community that the Council would not interfere in the administrative processes and the hierarchical structure of the Uni-

versity.

Comrade Edeh gave this assurance while speaking during the 12th Convocation Ceremony of the University held on Saturday, November 30, 2024.

According to the Pro-Chancellor, there has been a recurring warning/advice at various fora that the Governing Council should not interfere in the daily affairs of the

administration of the University. He therefore declared that the Governing Council, "has no intent to interfere in the clearly defined hierarchical structure of the University."

Instead, Comrade Edeh said that the Governing Council would strive to uphold accountability and demonstrable results in its affairs.

Meanwhile, the Pro-Chancellor also revealed that the Council would be guided by the Agricultural Policy of a former Premier of Nigeria's Eastern Region, Dr. Michael Okpara, which was presented before the Eastern Region House of Assembly on 18th November, 1957. Comrade Edeh noted that the adoption of the template is the quickest way for the University to attain its mandate in the areas of Knowledge, Food and Security.



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MOUUAU 57TH Inaugural Lecture: Prof. Echebiri Calls for practical actions to revamp oil palm production

By Sunday Okorie



Prof. Raphael Ndubuisi Echebiri

Prof. Raphael Ndubuisi Echebiri has called on government at all levels to come up with pragmatic action plans to revamp oil palm production in Nigeria.

Prof. Echebiri made the call while delivering the 57th Inaugural Lecture of Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, which

held on December 11, 2024.

In the Lecture titled, "The Mirage of Plenty: Facts but Fiction in Nigeria Agro-economy and Smallholder Systems", Prof. Raphael Ndubuisi Echebiri, noted that oil palm has huge income earning potentials and vast usage for human consumption and industry.

"in view of the huge income earning potentials of oil palm, and its vast usage for human consumption and industry, it has become necessary for the Federal Government to come up with a pragmatic action plan to revamp its production, processing and marketing". Prof. Echebiri said.

Prof. Echebiri called on the 5 State Governments of the Southeast Nigeria and individuals to take practical steps to reinvent the consciousness of the Region's comparative advantage in oil palm production and other major crops including root and tuber crops.

He also challenged local authorities including traditional rulers, President Generals and opinion leaders to collaborate and restore the status of oil palm production in their localities by seeking the assistance of institutions and extension agencies within their reach.



Guests at the Lecture



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