



MOU AU receives NUC's nod to commence MSc. programme in Embedded Artificial Intelligence

By Ubadire Agwa



Prof. Abdullahi Yusufu Ribadu,
Executive Secretary of NUC



Pro Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe
VC MOU AU

Hardly will any week now pass in Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike (MOU AU) without any good news.

Last week, the National Universities Commission (NUC) approved the re-establishment of the University's programmes in the College of Management Sciences, namely: BSc. Accounting, Banking and Finance, Marketing, Economics and Business Administration.

This week, the NUC has approved the commencement of our MSc. programme in Embedded Artificial

Intelligence (EAI).

In a letter to the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, CFS, the NUC's Ag. Director of Academic Planning, Abubakar M. Girei, said the Executive Secretary of the Commission and approved considered the establishment of the M.Sc. Embedded Artificial Intelligence postgraduate programme to be run in the Main Campus with effect from the 2024/2025 academic session.

This programme is innovative and sets MOU AU apart as a hub for

innovative research in all aspects of agriculture, science, engineering and technology.

It may be recalled that quite recently, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MOU AU, in which the Agency of the World Body builds a world-class innovation hub in the University, simply known as UNIPOD.

Reacting to the development, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Iwe, said "we must consciously and intentionally thank God for His unfailing compassion, mercy and favours towards our University".

He appreciated the support and commitment of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Prof. Nneoma Elechi Obasi, the Director of Academic Planning, Prof. Anthony A Nlewadim, and his team, as well as Director of the Centre for Artificial Intelligence, Prof. Lawrence Oborkhale and the Dean of College of Engineering and Engineering Technology, Prof. Bethrand N. Nwankwojike and all who worked hard to see the realization of the dream for the University.



MOUAU signs MoU with UFS, South Africa, UoP, Greece, as VC commends Engr. Dr. Onyelowe for the Linkages

By Collins Ginger Eke



Engr. Dr. Kennedy C. Onyelowe



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), on behalf of the University, and noted that he has consistently committed himself to serious academic and research activities, which has not only distinguished him in the University, but has also raised the profile of the University among others in the country.

"This MoU is aimed at establishing a collaborative partnership between the two educational institutions in promoting academic, research, and cultural exchange. It is designed to strengthen academic collaboration, research, and cultural exchange between the institutions and Engr. Dr. Onyelowe has represented and promoted the image of the university remarkably, and his contributions to international linkages are invaluable," Prof. Iwe added.

The Ag. Head of Department of Civil Engineering, Engr. Dr. Kennedy C. Onyelowe, has been commended by the Vice-Chancellor of Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike (MOUAU), Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, for successfully facilitating an academic partnership between his Department and the Departments of Civil Engineering at the University of the Free State (UFS), South Africa, and the University of the Peloponnese, UoP, Greece.

Prof. Iwe applauded Engr. Dr. Onyelowe, while signing a

Meanwhile, to further demonstrate his commitment to academic excellence, Engr. Dr. Onyelowe, has instituted a ₦100,000 cash reward to any academic staff in the Department of Civil Engineering who publishes as the lead author in a Q1-ranked journal between February 21, 2025, and February 1, 2027.

According to Engr. Dr. Onyelowe, the initiative is not just a financial incentive but a strategy to foster a culture of excellence, innovation, and competitive scholarship. "This reward is to encourage rigorous research and high-impact publications, ensuring that our Department remains at the forefront of global academic excellence," he remarked.

MOUAU News reports that Engr. Dr. Kennedy C. Onyelowe, is a globally recognized scholar and recipient of the prestigious World Top 2% Scientist recognition. He was recently listed as No. 37 in the Elsevier/Scival 500 top researchers in Nigeria for the years 2021 - 2025.

USLACC seeks collaboration with MOUAU to enhance agricultural entrepreneurship

By Ubadire Agua

The United States Latino Africa Chamber of Commerce (USLACC) is poised to partner with Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, in enhancing agricultural entrepreneurship and ensure food security in Nigeria, the African Representative of USLACC, Ambassador Ifeoma Mary Ejiogu has said.

Ambassador Ejiogu said this when she paid a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor of MOUAU, Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, in his office on

Thursday, March 27, 2025, revealing that she has read so much about the University and would like to see a partnership between MOUAU and USLACC.

"This University, being a specialized institution in agriculture is strategic to the vision and mission of USLACC. We would like to interact and partner with the University on matters of food security, youth inclusiveness and participation in agriculture value-chains," the Ambassador said.

Responding, the Vice-Chancellor



L - R: Amb. Ejiogu, Prof. Iwe

expressed the gratitude of the University Management to the USLACC African Representative and assured her that MOUAU is open to discussions on how to tackle food insecurity in Nigeria.



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MOUUAU Partners Abia Ministry of Agriculture Against Anthrax, Other Animal Diseases

By Joy Nlebedum



L-R: Dr. Cliff Agbaeze, Prof. Iwe

In a proactive move to prevent the spread of anthrax in livestock, the College of Veterinary Medicine, Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, (MOUUAU) and Abia State Ministry of Agriculture have kicked off a state-wide vaccination campaign against anthrax and other animal diseases in Abia State.

The campaign which started on Thursday March 20, 2025 at the Demonstration Farm of the College of Veterinary Medicine, MOUUAU will run for 14 days across the 17 Local Government Areas of the State.

Speaking at the flagging-off ceremony for the campaign in Umudike, the Abia State Commissioner for Agriculture, Dr. Cliff Agbaeze, said the decision comes on the heels of a confirmed anthrax outbreak in Nasarawa State, which the State Government says, poses a significant risk to Abia

State due to the trans-boundary movement of livestock and trade animals.

The Commissioner disclosed that a team of veterinary doctors from both the Ministry of Agriculture and College of Veterinary Medicine, MOUUAU, would visit livestock concentrations and all Wards/Communities in the 17 Local Government Areas of the State to carry out the vaccination exercise.

On his part, the Vice-Chancellor of MOUUAU, Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, CFS, said the University would assist the Abia State Government with experts from its Colleges of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science and Animal Production, to extend veterinary care to remote areas and ensure that livestock farmers benefit from the government's intervention.

VC commends PR Stalwarts in MOUUAU, as NIPR seeks partnership with the varsity.

PR Reporters

Public Relations stalwarts in Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, including Dr. Ubadike Agua and Mrs. Onyinye Ralph-Nwachukwu, have been commended by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, for their sterling contributions to the image-management efforts of the University over the years.

Prof. Iwe commended the duo while responding to the address of the Chairman of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) Abia State Chapter, Deacon Felix Olunkwa, who led other Executive members of the Institute to a courtesy call on him on Friday, March 21, 2025.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, "our University is blessed with skilled and talented PR experts who have distinguished themselves in their profession. I must commend Dr. Ubadike Agua, the Head of our Public Relations Unit, and of course, Mrs. Onyinye Ralph-Nwachukwu, a Deputy Registrar in the Directorate of Senate Affairs for proving their mettle in our image-management efforts".

"This job of public relations is not all about theoretical knowledge alone, it requires some form of tact, talent and skill, which these two



L-R: Deacon Olunkwa, Prof. Iwe

professionals possess. We have had to fall back on them in the past to manage our events, even when they did not hold substantive positions in the PR Unit", the Vice-Chancellor said.

Meanwhile, earlier in his address during the courtesy call, the Chairman of NIPR, Abia State, Deacon Olunkwa,

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congratulated the Vice-Chancellor on his 4th year in Office and for changing public perception of the University from negative to positive in the last 4 years. He noted that the Institute now hears good news about MOUAU, including successful results from accreditation and resource verification exercises,

expansion of infrastructure and general peace and stability of the University, among others.

Deacon Olunkwa said the Institute, consisting of experts in image management, would like to partner with the University to

advance its reputation management engagements.

Highpoint of the Courtesy call was the presentation of an award of Excellence in Image Management to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Iwe, for which he was grateful.

FSLC Examination: MOUAU DPS emerges best in Abia State, as 31 pupils bag distinctions

By Chinedu Ononiwu and Sunday Okorie



Dr. Vera Akpan

Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike Demonstration Primary School (MOUAU DPS) has emerged overall best performing public primary school in Abia State in the 2023 First School Leaving Certificate Examination.

The Head Teacher, MOUAU DPS, Dr. Vera I. Akpan, disclosed this to MOUAU News in a recent interview. She said the School clinched the 1st position among the best performing schools across the 17 Local Government Areas of the State after a rigorous screening exercise

that determined the quality of input and output from the schools.

"Our pupils' performance in the 2023 First School Leaving Certificate Examination released in November 2024, was overwhelming. Out of 90 pupils of our School that sat for the exam, 31 came out with distinction, 3 bagged Merits, while 56 made Credits", she stated.

While acknowledging God for His help in achieving the remarkable results, Dr. Akpan lauded the commitment and selfless dedication of the teachers which she said helped the pupils to grow and excel academically.



Outstanding leaders go out of the way to boost the self esteem of their personnel. If people believe in themselves, it's amazing what they can accomplish.

- Sam Walton



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