

## Hope Rises for MOUAAU as TETFund BOT Inspects Distressed Projects of Past Administrations

By Ubadire Agua



There is a glimmer of hope that several building projects initiated by a previous administration in Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, but stalled at various stages, will receive the intervening attention of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for eventual completion.

This was gleaned from an interaction between a team led by a member of the Board of Trustees (BOT) of TETFund, Hon. Esther Ukachukwu and the University Management Committee led by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, CFS, on Tuesday, October 2, 2025 in the Modern Lecture Theatre of MOUAAU.

In his welcome address, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Iwe, expressed his excitement at the decision of TETFund BOT to send a team to MOUAAU on an inspection tour of the distressed projects. He noted that his Administration inherited over many building projects which were

abandoned at various stages of completion, due to highly complicated reasons.

Prof. Iwe revealed that since 2021, when he assumed office as Vice-Chancellor, he has written several letters of appeal and visited TETFund on many occasions to see how to revive the projects for the benefit of the University, without any positive response, adding, however, that “I am glad that our prayer and cries have been heard, especially with your visit today to see things for yourselves”.

The Acting Director of Physical Planning, Arc. Iheanyichukwu Ogbonna, presented a history of the distressed projects to the Inspection team and listed them to include:

1. College of Medicine Building,
2. Large Lecture Theatre
3. 2017/2018 Merged Intervention Building.
4. College of Natural Resources and Environmental Management (CNREM) Building,

5. College of Agricultural Economics, Rural Sociology and Extension (CAERSE) Building and
6. College of Physical and Applied Sciences (COLPAS) Phase II Building.

In her response the TETFund BOT Member and the Zonal Trustee, thanked MOUAAU for the reception and presentation. They asked critical questions about records of funding of the projects, which they were furnished with, and they assured the University of the objective report of their findings.

The Visitors also revealed that TETFund is currently intervening in other aspects other than building, like security and disaster. They encouraged the University to explore such interventions.

# Employment in MOUAAU is not for sale, VC warns job seekers, racketeers

By Ubadire Agua



**T**he Vice-Chancellor of Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, has warned job-seekers and racketeers that employment in the University is not for sale, and that they should go through the process without seeking who to offer any form of gratification.

In a statement released by the Head of Public Relations in the University, the VC warned that any staff caught in any act that misrepresents the University would be disciplined appropriately.

#### **The Press Release reads:**

“It is, perhaps, no longer news that Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, advertised for teaching/academic and non-teaching staff positions on Friday, October 10, 2025 in two national newspapers, namely: The Guardian and Punch.

In the advertisement, interested and

suitably qualified members of the public were invited to apply for available positions through a weblink dedicated for the process. In other simpler words, the process of application is entirely online.

Since the application portal became active, some members of the public have started contacting people they know within and outside the University, to seek their support and assistance in securing jobs in the University. In fact, people are beginning to ask questions about how much money it could cost to secure jobs in the University.

While we appreciate the robust interest members of public have shown in starting or continuing their careers in Michael Okpara University of Agriculture Umudike, it is important to alert them to beware of employment racketeers, whose stock in trade is to seize every opportunity to defraud unsuspecting job seekers.

For the records and before lying lips and rumour mills become active and start spreading lies, we hereby state

categorically that employment in Michael Okpara University of Agriculture Umudike is not for sale and there are no slots of employment reserved or allocated to any person or group of persons in the process.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, has never and will never demand financial or any form of gratification from anybody in the discharge of his duties in public service.

The public is hereby put on alert to be ready and willing to resist, refuse and expose any person or group of persons who may present himself/herself or themselves as agents of the Vice-Chancellor and demand financial or any other form of inducement for the purpose of securing employment in MOUAAU”,



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# MOUAV 64th Inaugural Lecture: Prof Anyika-Elekeh calls for better nutrition for adolescents

Ginger Eke Collins



## Prof Anyika, MOUAV 64th Inaugural Lecturer

**A** Professor of Human Nutrition and Dietetics, in Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Prof Juliana Uchenna Anyika-Elekeh has warned that adolescents are at risk of poor health if their nutrition is not taken seriously.

Prof. Anyika-Elekeh gave the warning during the 64th Inaugural Lecture of the University, which she delivered on Wednesday, October 8, 2025.

In the Lecture, titled “Adolescence: A Bridge Between Childhood and Adulthood and Their Need for Adequate Nutrition”, Prof. Anyika-Elekeh stated that parents, schools and

society must act fast to improve the eating habits of young people.

She explained that adolescence is a sensitive stage where the body grows rapidly, and wrong feeding habits picked up at that stage could lead to lifelong health problems. She recommended increasing the intake of fruits and vegetables while reducing soft drinks and junk foods among teenagers.

She called for aggressive nutrition education that targets both adolescents and their parents since most food habits are formed at home.

According to her, parents must first learn healthy eating before they can

transfer it to their children.

Prof Anyika-Elekeh also urged school authorities to take responsibility by monitoring what is sold within school premises. She advised that only nutritious snacks be allowed into tuck shops and that fruits and vegetables be made available to boost micronutrient intake for students.

She concluded that these steps, if followed, would help to change the poor feeding habits and ensure adolescents grow into healthy adults.



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# Proper data management key to Institutional Growth, VC says at Senate Affairs' Workshop

By Sunday Anyim Okorie



**Participants at the Workshop organized by Directorate of Senate Affairs**

The Vice-Chancellor, Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike (MOUAAU), Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, has described proper data management and organized records keeping as the backbone of University's governance and growth.

Prof. Iwe stated this while addressing participants at the maiden in-house training workshop for University Administrators organized by the Directorate of Senate Affairs on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, with the theme: Data Management: Pathway to Efficient Service Delivery of the Directorate of Senate Affairs.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Nneoma Elechi Obasi, "the University system relies heavily on data for planning, policy-making and effective service delivery, hence, proper data management must never

be undermined. He commended the Directorate of Senate Affairs for taking the initiative and urged participants to make the most use of the Workshop.

In her address, the Keynote Speaker and Registrar of the University, Dr. (Mrs.) Nkeiruka Charity Mbanasor, emphasized that data collection, processing, and dissemination are sensitive tasks that must be approached with competence, accuracy, confidentiality and integrity.

Said the Registrar: "Data handlers are the gatekeepers of institutional truth. Every figure, name, or data released from our offices has consequences. It is therefore crucial that officers painstakingly verify and file documents accurately before releasing information".

In his address, the Director of Senate Affairs, Dr. Moses A. Agbai, stated that the training was designed to equip staff of the Directorate, along with

other selected senior administrators with the relevant skills and competencies necessary to enhance their performance and ultimately, increase overall productivity within the University.

The training featured presentations from resource persons which included the immediate past Director of Human Resources Management, Dr. Peter Nwaoma; Deputy Registrar, General Administration, Mrs. U. O. K. numa; the Acting Director, ICT, Mr. Sunny Eyeh, ; and Mrs. N. Ochulo who is the Chief Confidential Secretary to the Vice-Chancellor.

Participants described the training as enlightening and impactful and expressed their appreciation to the Directorate for organizing the capacity-building Workshop.



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# Defend academic standards in examinations, Senate AQAM Committee urges staff at 1-day Workshop

By Joy Nlebedum



The Senate Academic Quality Assurance and Monitoring (AQAM) Committee in Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike (MOUUAU), has urged academics in the University to defend the integrity of examinations and other cherished values of academics in the University System.

This was part of the communique issued by the Committee at the end of its 1-day Workshop on Best Practices in the Management of Examinations and Related Matters held in ICAN Hall on September 30, 2025.

Declaring the Workshop open, Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academics, Prof. Nneoma Elechi Obasi, described the conduct of examinations as one of the critical jobs of academics and a key contributor to the credibility of any university.

The Vice-Chancellor said the Workshop was timely as it would

remind academic staff, ahead of resumption of the 2025/2026 session, of their roles in managing examinations, particularly in preventing and curbing various forms of examination malpractice.

Prof. Iwe assured that the University Management was committed to addressing any lapses identified by the Committee in monitoring compliance to examination guidelines with a view to boosting the confidence of students and stakeholders in the system.

In his welcome remarks, Chairman of Senate AQAM Committee and Director of University Advancement (DUA), Prof. Chukwuma O. Ofor, stated that the Workshop was organized to remind academics of their sacred duties in upholding the integrity of examinations and ensuring that academic standards are not lowered in the University.

He reminded participants, who were drawn from all the Colleges in the University, that the integrity of university examinations can only be

achieved through the enforcement of guidelines.

The Workshop featured paper presentations by Resource Persons drawn from the AQAM Committee, including Prof. Jude Nwaru, Prof. Chinyere Echendu, Dr. Idowu Eluwa, Prof. Charles C. Ononuju and Prof. C.O. Ofor, and addressed topical issues on Pre and Post examination activities; Roles of Supervisors, Assistant Supervisors and Invigilators in Managing Malpractice Situations, Uncertainties and Emergencies, etc.

MOUUAU News reports that participants actively engaged in interactions, sharing their experiences and challenges and recommended stronger inter-departmental collaboration, expanded use of technology, and tougher penalties for misconduct as measures to strengthen examination credibility.



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