

## VICE-CHANCELLOR'S SPEECH

Welcome to Ignatius Ajuru University of Education (IAUE) Port Harcourt, where Excellence, Integrity, and Service unite. From its inception, successive administrators of the University have each played fundamental roles in sustaining the vision of the founding fathers through policies that impact academic programmes and services that promote the well-being of the students and quality of studies, as well as facilitating the academic and professional life of the faculty.

Therefore, on the assumption of office in November 2021, this administration promised to embark on policies that would strengthen the integrity of academic programmes offered at the institution. To achieve this, the administration initiated urgent reforms in line with the National Universities Commission's (NUC) minimum benchmark, as well as global best practices in University education.

The administration is prepared to build a university that would have the trust of the public in its capability to train the right manpower for the nation's workforce through the training of industry-ready graduates, as well as construct legacy projects that would add to the aesthetics of the university.

The administration has plans to establish mutually beneficial institutional linkages with reputable universities and research institutions around the world to enable lecturers in the university to come out with ground-breaking research and innovations.

Similarly, to be at the same pace as the fast-growing status of the institution because of the expansion of the scope of its academic programmes, the new administration will bolster entrepreneurship education by teaching the students creative and innovative thinking in readiness for opportunities in the new knowledge economy.

In this regard, students would be equipped with business and customer management skills, team spirit, financial, analytical, and problem-solving skills, and planning. This is aimed at equipping them with business management skills and other competencies to prepare the graduates for self-employment.

To this effect, management proposed to invest more in Information Technology and the exploration of opportunities in the growing digital space to enhance the institution's visibility, ranking, and competitiveness in line with international requirements in the age of knowledge globalisation.

The administration also reinforced plans to establish mutually beneficial institutional linkages with reputable universities and research institutions around the world.

The purpose is to internationalise the academic programmes of the institution in order to turn out ground-breaking research and innovations that make society better. To this effect, management is investing in Information Technology in order to fully explore opportunities in the growing digital space to enhance the institution's global visibility, ranking, and competitiveness in this time of knowledge globalisation.

In the same vein, the quality assurance and the research and development units have been restructured to deliver on their core mandates to enable the University to retain the trust of the public as a place for training the needed workforce through high-impact research that will contribute to the development of the Niger Delta region and the nation at large.

Join us to build an innovative and transformational University that will train graduates that meet the demands of the global labour market.

Professor Okechuku Onuchuku

VICE-CHANCELLOR