Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) is our priority at Yaba College of Technology. The UNEVOC Centre was instituted to showcase and inform on best practices in TVET and how we are preparing our students for the world of work. Keep reading the newsletter to be informed and educated as we transform our nation and our world with the subject of TVET. Thank you.

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The Director of Centre of Excellence, National Board for Technical Education, Dr. M. S. Abubakar has completed his tenure in December 2014 and in his position an acting Director, Dr.(Mrs) Amina Idris has been appointed.

Dr. Idris therefore doubles as the Coordinator of the UNESCO-UNEVOC West African Cluster. This is to wish the indefatigable Dr. Abubakar success in his future endeavors.

In this edition of the newsletter, we honor both Dr. Abubakar and Dr. Idris and their profiles are presented on the back page.

Dr. Emmanuel Adekunle Aromolaran gave the 7th Inaugural Lecture of the Yaba College of Technology, Lagos Nigeria with the title “Business Education: A Panacea for Unemployment in a Depressed Economy”. The event which took place on November 19, 2014 at the New Multipurpose Lecture Hall of the College attracted dignitaries from the academia, public and private sector.

Dr. Aromolaran, a Chief Lecturer in the College, identified unemployment as a major developmental issue in contemporary African societies and even in the Diaspora. He recommended business education as the panacea to the menace.

Nigeria’s Education Minister, Mallam Ibrahim Shekarau has commissioned four infrastructural facilities at Yaba College of Technology (Yabatech), Lagos.

The facilities were: a seven-storey edifice, 1500-seater multi-use auditorium, Registry and Bursary Building, and a three-storey lecture theater, which can seat 2,000 students at a time.

The exercise coincided with the minister’s Impact Assessment Tour of tertiary institutions in the country organized by the Federal Ministry of Education. The tour aimed at measuring development programmes and progress made by each institution.

Earlier, the Rector Dr. Margaret Ibiyeye-Ladipo said the facilities commissioned and others yet to be commissioned were geared toward expanding access to higher education in the premier institution.

The Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) 2014, an annual event to raise awareness and celebrate entrepreneurship globally took place from November 17-20, 2014 at Yaba College of Technology.

The UNEVOC Center, Yaba College of Technology partnered with the Center for Entrepreneurship Development (CED) in marking the weeklong events with the theme “Get Connected”.

Some of the programmes in the course of the GEW week were: an awareness rally, lecture, exhibition and free skill acquisition training for students.

Dr M. A. Adebakin, the Deputy Rector (Administration), who represented the Rector, Dr. Margaret Ladipo declared the event opened while the guest lecturer, Dr Julie Momoh, Center Manager, National Board for Technical Innovation (NBTI) Agege, Lagos, spoke on the topic: “Building Entrepreneurship Ecosystems towards Business Growth in a Developing Economy”. Some of the dignitaries at the event include the Managing Director Lisabi Mills Nigeria Limited, Mr. Shex Ladipo, the Provost of Wavecrest College of
Hospitality Mrs Tana Forsuelo, Dr(Mrs) Coker of NBTI and a host of others.


3rd Nigerian Education Innovation Exhibition held in Abuja

Yaba College of Technology was well represented at the 3rd National Education Innovation Exhibition in Abuja, Nigeria. The annual event is a showcase of innovative projects developed at various Secondary and Tertiary institutions in the country.

The YCT delegation was led by the Rector of the College, Dr(Mrs.) M. K. Ladipo.

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NBTE organizes Hands-on Training on Science Laboratory Equipment

The National Board for Technical Education in collaboration with Nigerian Institute of Science Laboratory Technology (NISLT), Ibadan hosted a training workshop at the Technology/SLT Department, Kaduna Polytechnic from November 17-21, 2014.

The major objective of the hands-on-training was to expose Nigerian technologists and scientists to modern analytical instruments in biological chemical and physical sciences, especially, modern digitalized versions and recent innovations, and to update their capabilities. The workshop was attended by 38 Participants drawn from NBTE and Polytechnics nationwide.

Dept. of Languages, YCT host 4th Interfaculty Workshop

The Department of Languages, School of Liberal Studies organized its 4th Interfaculty workshop on November 13, 2014. The Guest Speaker was Dr. R. A. Soleyeye, Director, Center for Degree Program, Federal College of Education Osiele, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria.

In the paper delivered titled “Scholarly Publications and Academic Integrity for Career Excellence”, he emphasized the need to ensure academic integrity in scholarly publications. This he noted, will prevent academics from falling down the topmost rung of the ladder when they least expected. He said “the maintenance of academic integrity helps foster an academic environment dedicated to long life commitment to learning”.

The event was declared open by the Rector of the College, Dr. M. K. Ladipo who was represented by the Deputy Rector (Administration) Dr. Adebakin.

Health Tips – The ABCs of Stress Management

by Mrs. M.J Shode ADNS, LASUTH

Excerpt from the presentation at the WITED day

A. Alone at least 30 minutes per day
B. Be aware of your stress meter: Know when to step back and cool down
C. Concentrate on controlling your own situation, without controlling everybody else.
D. Daily exercise burns off stress chemicals
E. Eat lots of fresh fruit, vegetables & plenty of water
F. Forgive others, don't hold grudges, be tolerant

LASTVEB partners Nigerite to train teachers

Nigerite Limited, a building component construction company, recently trained ten teachers from Lagos State Technical and Vocational Education Board (LASTVEB). The training exposed the teachers to the theoretical and practical aspects of dry construction technology, which can be used to
complement the wet method in constructing buildings. The teachers were drawn from the five Government Technical Colleges across Lagos State.

Executive Secretary of LASTVEB, Engr Olawumi Gasper, said the training was a product of the board’s partnership with Nigerite, underscoring the importance of college-industry partnership in Technical and Vocational Education Training.


**NBTE CoE holds Workshop on Managerial Skills and ICT for Staff**

NBTE Centre for Excellence for TVE, UNEVOC Coordinating Centre, in collaboration with the Conference of Registrars of Nigerian Polytechnics and Colleges of Technology (COREG), organized a capacity building workshop on Managerial Skill and ICT from November 25-27, 2014.

The objectives of the workshop included to ensure that administrative and other staff of the Board and the Polytechnics achieve optimal efficiency in administration using Modern technology and ICT, develop the right skills and become professionally competent. The workshop was attended by some senior administrative officers from NBTE, Polytechnics, Monotechnics and similar Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria. A total of forty four (44) participants were in attendance.

**In House Sensitization on NVQ**

The training was carried out at Centre of Excellence for TVE from 27th to 28th November, 2014. It was attended by 135 NBTE Staff/Officers on CONTEDISS 11 and above, facilitated by NBTE trained verifiers. The major objectives of the workshop was to understand the concept of NVQF and its advantages, importance of NVQs in the development of skills, and identify the roles of NBTE with regards to NVQs.

**Intel ‘She Will Connect’ Training Continues**

Sequel to the initial ICT training in October 2014 organized by the UNEVOC Centre, WITED and WITIN, about 1000 girls underwent ICT training under the scheme in November 2014. The training was held for a month.

They were trained on the use of packages such as MS Word, MS Powerpoint, MS Excel, Mindmap etc. The training gave room for more girls to improve their ICT knowledge and edge towards entrepreneurship.


**YCT Students invent Solar Public Light**

A group of Yaba College of Technology students took part in the first Lagos Inventergy Challenge and invented a product tagged Lite-pop - a solar public light. The Lite-pop is an environmental solution kit which intends to solve city environmental issues like: Street Lightning, calculating the amount of humidity, temperature, sound, CO₂, NO₂ and Solar. The Lite-pop inventors, a group of five, include Savage Olaolu, Oseji Tochukwu, Okagbue Precious, Sanni Rilwan and Oseji Ebenezer. They recently won 2nd
Dr(Mrs.) Funmilayo Doherty elected SETPOM President

Dr(Mrs.) Funmilayo Doherty has been elected President of the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Pollution Mitigation (SETPOM), an environmental advocacy organization. The amiable Coordinator of the YCT UNEVOC Centre, Dr. Doherty is a seasoned environmentalist who continues to contribute immensely to the betterment of the environment through research and this election is both a testament to that and a challenge to do more.

SETPOM International Conference held

The Society for Environmental Toxicology and Pollution Mitigation (SETPOM)’s international conference was held at the University of Lagos Guest House from December 3-5, 2014 with the theme “Emerging Environmental Pollutants and Public Health Concerns”. The event drew participants from non-profit organizations, academics, consultants, regulators, industrialists, safety practitioners and other environmental stakeholders to discuss new ways to save the environment.

Highlight of the conference was the presentation of prizes to the winners of the secondary school essay competition. The first position of the award went to Akinsola Damola of Yaba College of Technology Secondary School. He got a certificate and a CWAY dispenser. The second position went to Onyirioha Adainvora of Canon James Pearse Anglican College, a feat that won him a table-top refrigerator. The third prize winner, Adeniyi Abiola of Igbobi College, got a certificate and a microwave.

UNEVOC Centre organizes Education Tour to Songhai Farm

The UNEVOC Centre organized an educative and relaxation tour to Songhai Centre, Porto Novo, Republic of Benin for College staff. It was an experience of the renowned model of agriculture practiced at the farm.

The group also had an opportunity to dine with the founder of Songhai Farm, Rev. Father Nzamujo. He expressed his delight on the visit and reiterated that the College with an existing MoU was always welcome to learn and collaborate with the Songhai Center.

Other places visited include: Quidah Slave Trade town and Cotonou, the capital of Republic of Benin.
Mr. John Okewole weds

A staff of the YCT UNEVOC Center, Mr John Okewole got wedded to former Miss Olayemi Olabokunde, an alumnus of the Yaba College of Technology on November 1, 2014 in Lagos.

In attendance were the Director of the Centre, Ms. Ify Marinze, the Coordinator, Dr(Mrs) Funmilayo Doherty and other staff of the Centre. Here is wishing Mr. & Mrs. John Okewole a fruitful and happy family.

Profiles

Dr. Muhammad Sani Abubakar, former Director, NBTE Centre of Excellence for TVET was born on 14th March, 1954 in Danja Local Government area of Katsina State. His academic qualifications started at Danja Primary School; 1964-68, G.S.S. Funtua; 1969-73 (WASC Division 1 Distinction), A.B.U. Zaria; B.Sc (Hons) Physics: Second Class Upper Division, Ohio State University, Columbus, USA: M.Sc/PhD Physics; 1980-85, and NTI Distance Education PGDE Programme; 2005-06.

His main area of Ph.D research are Infrared Absorption of Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide and work involved analysis of several vibration-rotation bands of carbon dioxide molecular spectrum recorded with a Fourier Transform Spectrometer.

Dr. Abubakar began his career in 1979 as a lecturer at Bayero University Kano, where he taught Modern Physics, Nuclear Physics, Classical Mechanics, etc, at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and had supervised M.Sc Physics programme; 1985-90. He served as Graduate Teaching Associate while pursuing graduate programme at the Physics Department, Ohio State University, USA; 1980-84.

Dr. Abubakar served as Director, College of Science and Technology, Kaduna Polytechnic; 1990, Deputy Rector (Academic); 1992-98, and Deputy Rector (Administration); 1998-99.

He was appointed as Director of Programmes, National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) - 1999-2010.

Dr. M. S. Abubakar retired from service of NBTE in April, 2010 as Ag. Executive Secretary, NBTE after which he served on contract basis as pioneer Director of NBTE Centre of Excellence for TVET - 2012-14

He was appointed as visiting senior lecturer (Physics) by Kaduna State University in August, 2010.

Dr. M. S. Abubakar is a member of the following professional bodies; Nigerian Institute of Physics, Solar Energy Society of Nigeria and American Association of Physics Teachers (1994-1990). He is a Honorary Fellow, Nigerian Institute of Science and Technology and Fellow, Nigerian Institute of Physics.

He attended several national and international conferences within Nigeria and abroad. He has published many journals and articles. He also has special interest in Information Communication Technology (ICT), Laser applications and Renewable energy technologies. He is a silent achiever and result oriented, and he is married with children.

Dr(Mrs) Amina Mohammed Idris, the Acting Director of NBTE Center of Excellence for TVET is a trained teacher, scholar and educationist for almost three decades, with special interest in Open and Distance Learning, Gender Mainstreaming and the Revitalization of Technical Vocational Education(TVET) in Nigeria.

Dr. Idris started her educational career by obtaining the National Certificate for Education (NCE) at ATC/ABU Kano in 1982 before going to complete her bachelor’s degree in education from the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. She earned a Masters of Education in Administration and Planning at the University of Lagos before proceeding for her doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

Dr Idris has contributed immensely to the growth of technical and vocational education and training (TVET), women empowerment and education generally in Nigeria and beyond.

Her special interests include Vocational Technical Education Development and Training; Girl-Child Educational Development; Curriculum Development to meet Technological Changes and innovation etc.

Dr Amina Idris is a member of Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM), Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) and World Council for Curriculum and Instruction (WCCI).