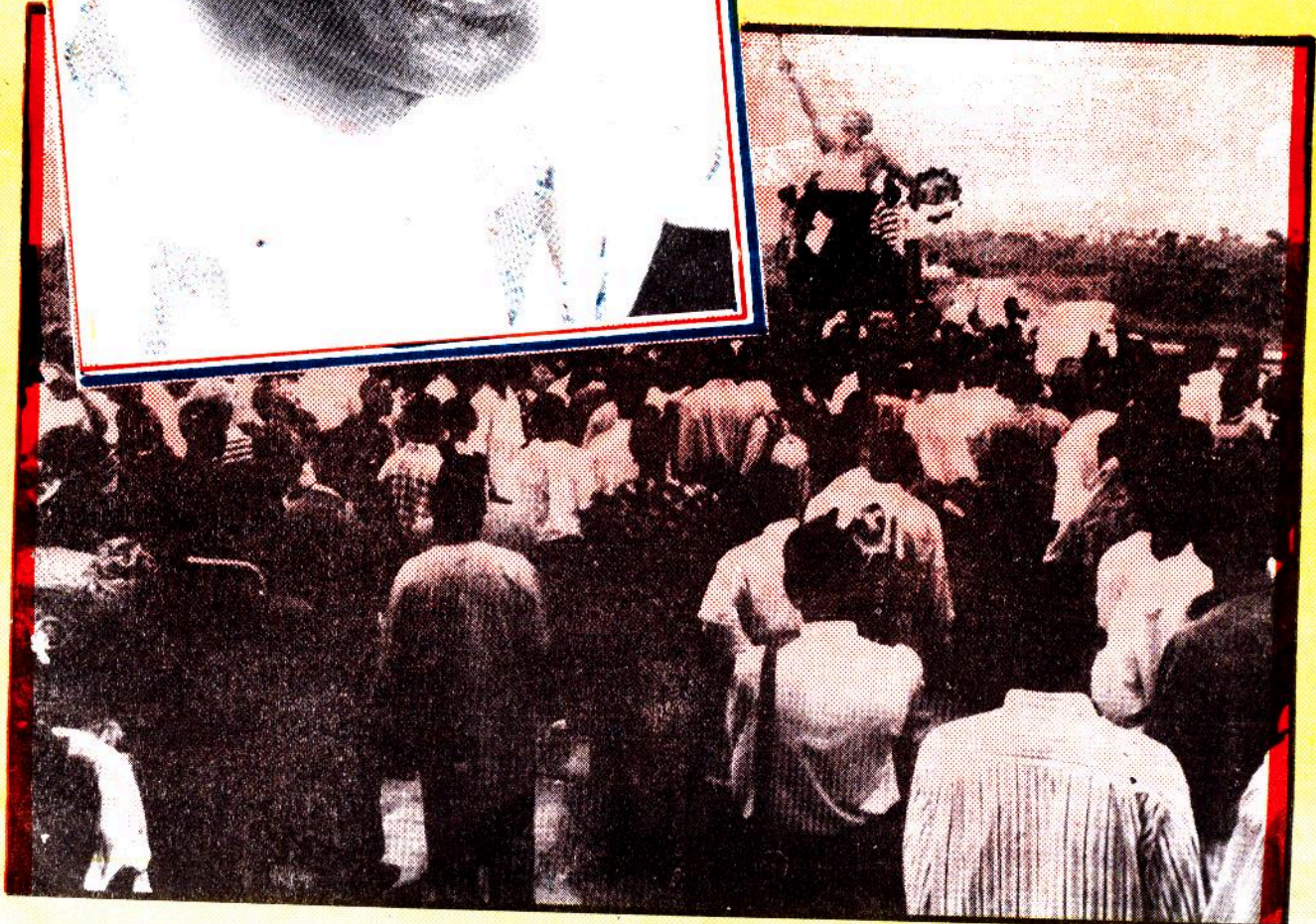


NEWSLETTER OF FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, OWERRI

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**The Return  
of the  
MAN  
of  
HISTORY**

*24/6/86*



# THE RACE FOR FUTO'S VICE-CHANCELLORSHIP

By the last quarter of 1995, it was common knowledge that the incumbency of the Vice Chancellor of Federal University of Technology Owerri, Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah, would expire by the 31st of December 1995. Diverse opinions and reports across ideological spectra indicated that Prof. Chuka Onyemaechi Godwin Obah had only TIME to beat in his bid for a second term in office as Vice-Chancellor, FUTO. His eminent colleagues, though qualified to run for the exalted position, gave Prof. Obah their spontaneous and undiluted support in recognition of his landmark achievements in the growth and development of FUTO since 1992.

As a result, the Governing Council commenced the orderly process of the reappointment/appointment of a Vice-Chancellor by strictly following the letter and spirit of Decree No. 11, (Universities Miscellaneous Provisions Decree 1993). In this edition we treat you to the highlights on the eventful road that has led to this second mandate.



HRH, Alhaji Sabi Idris  
Pro-Chancellor & Chairman of Council



HRH Hon. Justice Ambrose Ezeolisa Allagoa  
Chancellor

## Brief Profile of Candidates in the Big Race:

The race for the Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri from January 1, 1996 featured the incumbent, Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah, Prof. K.E. Osondu and Prof. M.O.E. Iwuala.

**Prof. M.O.E. Iwuala**, a Nigerian citizen, hails from Abba in Imo State. Born in 1944, he is married with children. He became a Professor of Zoology on February 1, 1982. Prof. Iwuala held numerous academic and administrative positions at the University of Jos and had a rather combative and controversial stint at the Imo Health and Population Project. Records show that Prof. Iwuala instituted a court injunction to restrain

the Imo State Government from relieving him of his post as Coordinator and subsequently failed to be re-appointed after the vacancy of his position was declared. Upon assumption of duty in FUTO in 1992, through the personal intervention of Prof. C.O.G. Obah, Prof. Iwuala enjoyed a string of choice appointments: He was Head, Department of Biological Science, Chairman, FUTO Linkages Committee, Vice-Chancellor's representative on the Shippers' Council Board of Trustees and member of the Management. However, as fate would have it, Prof. M.O.E. Iwuala was relieved of all these positions by 1993. Available

records indicate that Prof. Iwuala had twice applied for the position of Vice-Chancellor in Nigerian Universities without ever realising the tall dream. Reports also show that Prof. Iwuala in an unusual perception of his Community Service, filed a court injunction against the President of his Town Union and the Eze (Traditional Ruler) of his village.

## PROF. K.E. OSONDU

A soft spoken, urbane gentleman with a cleric's carriage, Prof. K.E. Osondu is a Nigerian citizen. He was born in 1939 at Lude, Mbaize in Imo State. He is married with children. He was promoted a Professor of Mathematics under the administration of Prof. C.O.G. Obah in 1992 with effect from 1990. Prof. K.E. Osondu was Acting Dean between 1990 and 1992. He ran twice for the Deanship position in FUTO and failed in both attempts.

## PROF. C.O.G. OBAH

Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah, a Nigerian citizen hails from Nnobi on the banks of Idemili River in Anambra State. Born on March 2, 1943, Prof.

Obah is married with children. He has been a Professor of Communications Engineering since September 30, 1981. Apart from the position of Vice-Chancellor, he has held several academic, professional and administrative positions. As FUTO's Chief Executive from 1992, Prof. Obah recorded an amazing string of achievements which include the following:

(a) *Movement of FUTO from its Temporary Site (Lake Nwaebere Campus) to the Permanent Site without any enabling grant.*

(b) *The conception and completion of fourteen projects at the permanent site including the Library, Students' Hostels and new classroom Blocks and Multiple Activity*

*Center (MAC).*

(c) *Clearing the backlog of promotions of academic, non-academic senior and junior staff. Making of 13 Professors and over twenty Readers, promoting fifty junior staff to senior staff positions. Ensuring that generally staff promotions are made as and when due and that all staff entitlements are paid.*

(d) *Introduction of an open, corporate, decentralised administrative system in the University including the use of dialogue.*

## WAITING FOR A VICE-CHANCELLOR



WAITING FOR A VICE-CHANCELLOR

At the completion of the selection exercise, Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah emerged as the unanimous choice of the Governing Council and was as such recommended to the relevant authorities in September 1995. A breathless FUTO then waited for the return of their Vice-Chancellor. The months of October and November came and passed without any news of the re-appointment of Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah. Anxiety could be felt in the air. When his first term eventually expired on December 31, 1995, he quietly stepped aside. But an almost orphaned FUTO was reassured

with the appointment of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. J.O. Duru as Acting Vice-Chancellor. The waiting game nonetheless persisted.

As time progressed, a group of elegant pretenders and rumour-merchants emerged with rumours, gossips, allegations and claims of cartons of petitions being dispatched to Abuja and Lagos, powerful delegations being sent to Aso rock etc. all in a bid to secure the appointment in place of the council's recommended candidate. Meanchile FUTO waited for their Vice-Chancellor with palpable expectancy.



Prof. J.O Duru  
D.V.C. (Academic) and former Ag. V.C



Prof. S.C.O. UGBOLUE  
D.V.C. (Administration)

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# **P**ROF. OBAH IS REAPPOINTED



**Jubilation galore for a rare Man of history.  
"FUTO is again on the Move" they sang**

No word can really capture the mood in FUTO when on Thursday 29, 1996, the long awaited news shattered the airwaves: Engr. Prof. Chuka Onyemaechi Godwin Obah, has been reappointed Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Technology, Owerri.

The degree and scope of empathy lavishly demonstrated by an overwhelming number of staff and students for Obah's reappointment bore eloquent testimony to the man's standing in his immediate constituency. Prayers were freely offered by the different religious groups to God for divine control of events since they believed that the voice of the people is the voice of God. The people had already spoken and their verdict was sound and clear. The staff and students returned an unimpeachable verdict on Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah as their leader and mentor. The various unions, professional and interest groups in FUTO used every available channel to support the candidacy of Prof. Obah.

Now, with news of his reappointment, emotions ran riot. Students and staff ran helter-skelter as they embraced each other in a frenzy of tremendous euphoria. At the Vice-Chancellor's lodge an army of excited well-wishers kept increasing. Cars, with headlamps fully on by 4.15p.m. blaring their horns pulled up by the gate as more people trooped in to celebrate the reality of the FUTO promise, the continuation of a cherished culture of humane leadership.

In an unbounded display of joy, some wept, some crawled on all fours, some sang victory songs, some danced as others went for tight and breathless embrace. The atmosphere from the campus to the Vice-Chancellor's lodge, and in the various homes of staff and friends of FUTO, bubbled with joy and celebration.

We are yet to find in recent and recorded history any Vice-Chancellor who provoked and sustained such a flood of goodwill and fanatical solidarity across the divides of cultures and idiosyncrasies. Engr. Prof. Obah has achieved this unique feat because he is perceived as an embodiment of the great dreams, visions and aspirations of FUTO. He walks and lives FUTO everyday.

# The Home Coming



The official car conveying the V.C., flanked by students rolls into the campus.

It was quite a moving spectacle on Friday, 1st March, 1996 when the staff and students trooped out in their large numbers to welcome Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah into FUTO again as a two term Vice-Chancellor.

The Vice-Chancellor who rode into the waiting arms of members of the University Community in an impressive motorcade was hilariously received with drumming, songs and cannon shots. Banners and posters congratulating the Vice - Chancellor for a well deserved reappointment were also displayed. Conspicuous among the inscriptions were **"Congratulation to the man of history Engr, Prof .C . O . G Obah ( God 's special Gift to FUTO) As He returns for a well deserved and cherished 2nd term in office as Vice-Chancellor FUTO"**.

**FUTO students welcome our fatherly Vice-Chancellor".**

**"YOU ARE OUR HERO"**.

In a brief reception ceremony at the university's quadrangle, the Students' Union President, Mr. Uwakwe Ukaegbu and the immediate past Presidents of NANS, Mr. Etim Inyang spoke glowingly of the attributes of Prof. C.O.G. Obah. They both thanked God for the return of the Vice-Chancellor.

Replying, Prof. Obah who was virtually mobbed by enthusiastic students, thanked all and sundry for the unprecedented and wonderful reception.

He expressed deep appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the University Governing Council for unanimously recommending him for reappointment and finally thanked the Head of State, General Sani Abacha for reappointing him. He promised to apply his energy and talents with renewed determination in the service of Federal University of Technology, Owerri and the country at large.

Thereafter, a convoy of students, staff, principal officers and friends of the University escorted the Vice-Chancellor along strategic routes of the University Campus amidst music and jubilation.

The road was strewn with green leaves and tree branches by an advance party of students and Man-O-War stalwarts suggesting a triumphal return for the visionary Vice-Chancellor.



**Prof. (Mrs) T.Y. Obah, Dean of School of Management Technology (SMAT) gets set to keep a date with history.**

# VICE-CHANCELLOR DEDICATES 2ND TERM TO GOD



Prof & Prof.(Mrs.)Obah at the Church Service

An inter-denominational service to offer prayers to God for peace and progress in the Federal University of Technology Owerri (FUTO) was held on Wednesday, March 6th, at the Multi Activity Centre (MAC). This was at the behest of the Vice-Chancellor, Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah, who was re-appointed for a second term of office.

The service, which was directed by Mr. A.M. Iheaturu, began with an opening Hymn - "All people that on earth do dwell". The Bible reading was from the Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 15, verses 1- 4. After a second hymn, "Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah", the service continued with prayers from all the main religious denominations on campus.

Mr. A.M. Iheaturu led the first prayer on behalf of the Catholics, followed by Mrs C. Chukwuezi for the Anglicans and Mallam Ibrahim Abduikareem

for the muslim brothers. They all prayed that God protect the Vice-Chancellor from every assault of the devil and that all those that will discharge the duties required of them may do so in safety.

In a brief remark, Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah, thanked God for every thing and pledged to continue to do his best for the University in this second term of office. He advised all to maintain the standard set

already both in academic and in extracurricular activities.

The service was rounded off with a beautiful and soulful song rendered by the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Choir, FUTO. In

attendance were the Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Profs. J.O. Duru and S.C.O. Ugbolue; the Principal Officers: Mr. J.C. Anafulu (University Librarian), Mr. S.N. Opara (Bursar), Dr. T.I. Igwe (Registrar) among other distinguished persons.

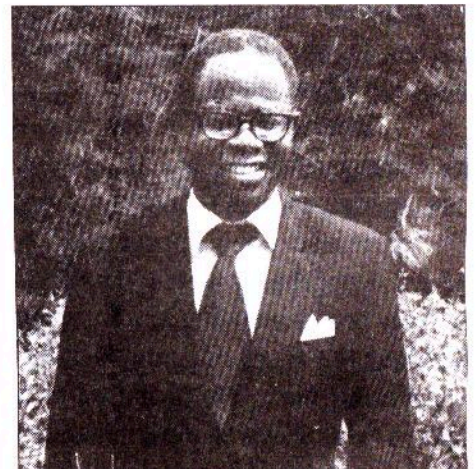
## Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah



Mr. J.C. Anafulu  
(University Librarian)



Dr. T.I. Igwe  
(Registrar)



Mr. S. N. Opara  
(Bursar)

# **WORDS THAT CANNOT DIE**

"Prof. Obah, as the father of students, never joked with their welfare..... his administration is acceptable to the entire University Community. In fact, if students were allowed to vote for their Vice-Chancellor, Prof. C.O.G. Obah would not have a match any day".

- *Mr. Uwakwe Ukaegbu,  
President Students Union, FUTO.  
Newsletter Vol. 15, August, 1995.*

"I have been banned from talking to the Press"

- *Dr. E. T. Eshett, Chairman, ASUU,  
FUTO Branch. Newsletter Vol. 15,  
Vol. 15, August, 1995.*

"It thrilled me to hear that FUTO was rated the best University in Nigeria".

- *Mrs. V.N. Ozor (USA),  
Retired Staff School Headmistress.  
Newsletter Vol.15, August, 1995*

"We are lucky to have the kind of leadership we have now, otherwise some would have dropped somewhere along the line and students would have given up and gone to other Universities. Staff would have done the same. I give credit to all who have been Vice-Chancellors, but the one we have now Prof. C.O.G. Obah, God sent him to take some battering and I believe he can take it".

- *Prof. P.B.U. Achi, Member, Governing Council, H.O.D., Mechanical Engineering and former ASUU Leader, Newsletter, Vol. 15, August, 1995.*

"If you run and look back, you lose steam My administration aims at making people happy, creating positive vibrations..... The philosophy to maximise achievements is to look forward, not backward and keep your tracks straight. By the Grace of God you will succeed".

- *Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah, Newsletter, Vol. 14 March, 1994.*

"Engr. Prof. Obah has succeeded so far because he has made himself available and sees everybody as his partner".

- *Mr. Kassim Olatunde Balogun, NANS  
Secretary General, Newsletter,  
Vol. 15, August, 1995.*

"This has been the only FUTO Chief Executive whom you can tell your problems and he will appreciate and help you solve those problems. This is the only chief Executive who needs to be introduced before he is seen as such because of the way he interacts with the people generally. We in NASU cherish his administration so much..... there is no time we come to him that he does not listen to us. He attends to the needs of the common people. I have to make it categorically clear that during our meeting with council Chairman, we pleaded with him to see that our Vice-Chancellor is returned to us because of his numerous achievements. He is not the type that will be laughing when you are crying. The present administration headed by Prof. Obah, has helped to alleviate the problems of stagnation, frustration and agitation to the effect that those who used to stop at EUSS 2 or 3 can now move up to EUSS 5 and those who used to stop a. EUSS 5 can now move to EUSS 8".

- *Mr. H.I. Opara, Chairman, NASU,  
FUTO Branch. Newsletter Vol. 15,  
August, 1995.*

"We wish to use this medium to express our profound gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Engr. Prof. C.O.G. Obah for his singular exhibition of courage, kindness and magnanimity in removing the obnoxious clause that prevented the promotion of secretaries in FUTO above personal Secretaries".

- *C.K. Mba, J.I. Uchehgbu, I.O.U. Echeme,  
C.E.A. Anaba et al for FUTO Secretaries.  
Newsletter, Vol. 15, August, 1995.*

"If not for Obah, what could have been our lot in FUTO?"

- *Students chanting songs on the day of the great return.*

# ASUU GOES ON STRIKE

A recently united ASUU, FUTO branch has voted to join the strike action called for by their National body to demand a review of the 1992 agreement between the Federal Government and ASUU. It would be recalled that in a resolution of ASUU-NEC of March 5, 1996 held at Usman Dan Fodio University, Sokoto, it was decided that on April 9, 1996, all branches shall commence a total and indefinite strike to get the government to review the September 3, 1992 Agreement with ASUU. Here in FUTO, the leadership of the local union, has vowed to stand for and keep faith with that historic resolution.

This new found unity and common front is in pleasant contrast to the simmering mistrust and callous infighting that had almost split the union some months back. It will be recalled that Dr. E.T. Eshett summoned a general meeting on 12th December, 1995 and curiously inserted the signature of the secretary without his consent. What began as a mere breach of protocol in communications erupted into a raging inferno of acrimony when the secretary Mr. Chinedu Iroegbu threw a bomb shell with a position paper captioned "THE STATE OF THE UNION". In it, the secretary, lamented thus:

"Executive meetings are rarely held and the Executive committee is unaware of most of the recent write-ups within and outside the university as well as interviews to the press. The Executive committee has therefore breached the constitution and code of practice of ASUU as contained in the appendix, section 6, subsection (iv),.....".

Regarding the issue of his forged signature, the secretary solemnly noted "It grieves my conscience that someone should mischievously and criminally impersonate my signature in the circular for the meeting of December 12, 1995".

Before then however, the plot had thickened with the mysterious postponement of the summoned meeting. Notices purportedly postponing the meeting were surreptitiously pasted by unknown persons as early as 6 am on the morning of Tuesday December 12, 1995. However the majority of ASUU members ignored the postponement notice and turned up for the meeting in which they unanimously adopted a resolution to invite Dr. E.T. Eshett to clarify some far-reaching pronouncements credited to him by a section of the Nigerian Media alleging tension and a culture of insecurity in FUTO.

In his reaction, the embattled chairman stated in a paper titled, "Unavoidable Postponement of the December 12, 1995 ASUU meeting" that he acted "on the advice of well meaning members of our union and some elder statesmen of the union who helped to

stave off a major crisis which would have erupted on that day". As the chairman and a segment of his executive continued to boycott ASUU meetings, the House went ahead with an earlier scheduled December 20th meeting and resolved to issue the following press release.

"At an extra-ordinary meeting of ASUU, FUTO branch held on December 20, 1995, the attention of members was drawn to the various letters, Newspaper publications and press releases signed by Dr. E.T. Eshett on behalf of the Union in which he made pronouncements and declared policy stand on certain alleged events on our campus. After very critical, objective and in-depth consideration of the pronouncements, the Union resolved as follows:

- (i) *that there is no crisis in FUTO.*
- (ii) *that the pronouncements of DR. E. T. Eshett are unfounded, untrue and calculated to create an impression of crisis situation in our University .*
- (iii) *that ASUU, FUTO branch unequivocally dissociates itself from the various*

In another development the Hon. Minister of Education Dr. M. T. Liman has dissolved the National Executive Council of ASUU and those of other unions at the national level.

## WHAT THE PAPERS SAY

THE GUARDIAN, Tuesday, March 5, 1996

### Pomp heralds FUTO v-c's reappointment

**A** LONG motorcade from the Federal University of Technology Owerri (FUTO) vice-chancellor's lodge to the campus and intermittent cannon shots heralded the resumption at the weekend

*From  
Chukwujekwu Ilozue,  
Owerri*

of Prof. Chuka C.O.G. Obah for a second term as vice-chancellor.

Media reports of Obah's re-appointment on Thursday prepared the ground for a rally on Friday by workers and students of the university.

The vice-chancellor, who was mobbed by students at the university gate amidst drumming, thanked God for making it possible for him to be reappointed.

He also thanked workers and students of the university for turning out in large numbers to welcome him back, saying the occasion marked a turning point in the relationship between the vice-chancellor, workers and students.

Contd. on page 12



# FUTO PROMOTES 7 PROFESSORS AND 5 READERS

Seven new professors have emerged in a recent promotion exercise in FUTO. The Governing Council at its 67th meeting held on March 28, 1996 approved the recommendations of the Academic Staff and Promotions (Committee Professorial) to that effect. The seven new professors are all eminent scholars in their different fields of specialization. One unique feature however is that three of the seven new professors are indigenes of Urualla in Ideato North L.G.A. of Imo State. These three are Prof. P.B.U. Achi, Prof. M.O. Maduako and Prof. C.C. Ndubizu. The rest include Prof. A.B.I. Udedibie, Prof. J.O. Ukponwan, Prof. B.N. Onwuagba and Prof. J.E. Njoku.

Below is a brief expose of their loaded curriculum vitae.

## PROF. J. E. NJOKU



Professor Jude E. Njoku who hails from Eziala - Obiangwu in Ngor Okpala Local Government Area, Imo State was born in 1952. He attended National High School, Aba where he obtained the School Certificate in 1971. He entered the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, graduating in 1976 in the 2nd Upper Class Degree bracket in Agricultural Economics. He was at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria for his masters Degree in 1981 and again returned to the University of Nigeria, Nsukka in 1989 for his Doctorate all in the field of Agricultural Economics. Prof. J.E. Njoku rose from the position of Graduate Assistant to Lecturer I in Ahmadu Bello University Zaria between 1977 - 1983. He joined the services of Federal University of

Technology Owerri in 1983 and became a Senior Lecturer (1987 - 1991); Reader (1991 - 1994) and now a Professor of Agricultural Economics.

A quiet and consistent achiever, Prof. J.E. Njoku who is currently the Dean of Students Affairs in FUTO, has also held the following positions:

-Head, Department of Agricultural Economics and extension, FUTO (1990 - 1992); National Co-ordinator (Nigeria), Collaborative Study of Cassava in Africa (COSCA) IITA Ibadan, Nigeria, 1992. Team Leader, Agricultural Institutions Research Thrust, SAAT, FUTO, 1985 - 1990, etc.

**Prof. J.E. Njoku** belongs to numerous learned societies and has won honours and recognition as Research Fellow, IITA, Ibadan, Nigeria; Recipient, Winrock International Research Grant Award, 1989 amongst others.

As a Researcher, Prof. Njoku had carried out extensive studies into the areas of Agricultural Adoption and marketing, published over forty (40) articles in learned National and International journals and books. He is also a Consultant to numerous Government and non-governmental Agencies including the Food and Agricultural organization of the United Nations, Rome.

Prof. J.E. Njoku is happily married with four children.

## PROF. P.B.U. ACHI



**Prof. Peter-Benson Uchechukwu Achi** who hails from Urualla in Ideato North Local Government Area of

Imo State began his secondary career at Bishop Shanahan College, Orlu and finished at the Government College Umuahia with a Distinction in 1966.

Thereafter, he proceeded to the University of Nigeria Nsukka to study Mechanical Engineering. On graduation in the 1976/77 session, he was engaged to lecture final year students with only a first degree.

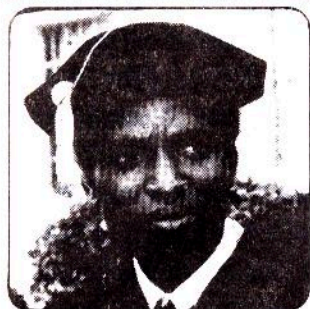
In the areas of distinctions and awards, Professor P.B.U. Achi won the Federal Government Scholarship at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Based on his brilliant performance as a "Junior Research Fellow" in the department of Mechanical Engineering, he won the University of Nigeria Fellowship for the M.Sc and Ph.D Studies and Research in the University of Aston, Birmingham. Following his resourceful scholarship at the M.Sc level (Production Technology and Management), Prof. Achi was appointed an Assistant lecturer II in the University of Aston while pursuing the Ph.D. degree. In effect, Prof. Achi has the unique honour of being a Student and later an Academic Staff of all the Universities he attended at home and abroad. As a foremost researcher, Prof. Achi remains one of the first Africans to conduct original research in Computer Numerical Control (Robotics). Between 1979 and 1981, he successfully designed a Computer Controlled machine Tool System which became the toast of foreign journals and assessors. He has over thirty-five scholarly papers in Engineering.

Professor P.B.U. Achi who belongs to a number of distinguished professional societies has also led the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) in two Universities - Anambra State University of Technology, Enugu, (1981 - 83) and Federal University of Technology, Owerri (1990 -93).

Since he joined FUTO in 1983, Prof. P.B.U. Achi has held responsible positions namely, Co-ordinator, SIWES.

1984/85 Ag. Director Computer Center, 1992; Ag. Head, Mechanical Engineering Department amongst others. Currently, Prof Achi is Head, Mech. Eng. Dept and member of Council, FUTO.

### A. B. I. UDEDIBIE, Ph.d



Professor Adiva Boniface Ikeli Udedibie was born at Aguleri in Anambra Local Government Area of Anambra State on August 12th, 1950. He attended St. Francis Primary School and St. Mary High School Ifite Ukpo between 1956 and 1971. He obtained a B.Sc. Degree (2nd Class Hons. Upper Division) in Animal Science from University of Nigeria in 1975, and joined the National Veterinary Research Institute, Vom-Plateau State, in 1976 as Pupil Research Officer. He proceeded to Cornell University, Ithaca-New York, in August 1978, from where he obtained M.Sc. and Ph.D. Degrees in Animal Nutrition in 1981 and 1983, respectively.

Prof. Udedibie joined Federal University of Technology, Owerri, from NVRI, Vom, in August 1984 as Lecturer I in the Department of Animal Production, rose to the rank of Senior lecturer in 1987 and Reader in 1991. He has diligently piloted the affairs of the Department as Head of Department from 1988 to date.

Prof. Udedibie's success in academic endeavors is purely an outcome of creativity and hardwork. He has devoted much time and energy in search of alternative sources of feeds for the Nigerian livestock industry. He is an active member of several national and international conferences.

He has 44 published scientific papers to his name and was ranked second in author productivity in Nigerian Journal of Animal Production in the years 1983 - 1987. Prof. Udedibie's eight years of research on the novel legume, jackbean (*Canavalia ensiformis*) has made him and FUTO identifiable with jackbean research nationally and internationally, a research project in which International Foundation for science (IFS), Stockholm-Sweden, has invested about 50,000.00 US Dollars since 1987. He was in Maracay-Venezuela in 1991, Nairobi-Kenya in 1992, Edmonton-Canada in 1993 and Addis Ababa-Ethiopia in 1995, all to discuss results of investigations on the jackbean in Nigeria.

At the community level, as President-General of Aguleri Town Union (1989-1992), Prof. Udedibie was instrumental to the historic commissioning of Aguleri Departmental Post Office in 1990 and Primary Health care center in 1991, a rare feat for which the town was ranked 5th in community development efforts in 1991 in the then Anambra State.

Prof. Udedibie is happily married to Josephine Uju Udedibie; the marriage is blessed with 4 sons.

### PROF. J.O.UKPONMWAN



Professor Joshua Osayande Ukponmwan was born in Benin City, Oredo Local Government Area of Edo State on August 10, 1944.

Professor Ukponmwan studied Textile Technology at Trent Polytechnic, Nottingham and Institution of Higher Education, Batton, U.K. from 1966-1970 and obtained the Higher National Diploma in Textile Technology. He later graduated

from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, obtaining an M.Sc. in Textile Evaluation in 1978 and Ph.D in Fibre Science in 1983 winning Federal Government Scholarship Award in 1976 and 1981. Professor Ukponmwan has had industrial training with leading textile machinery manufacturers in Switzerland and Belgium.

Prof. Ukponmwan joined the Federal University of Technology, Owerri from Center for Management Development (CMD) in December 1985 as Lecturer I. He was promoted Senior lecturer in 1987 and Reader in 1990 and he was appointed Acting Head of the Department of Polymer and Textile Technology from 7th October 1991 to September 1994 before going on Sabbatical leave as third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) South-South Program Fellow at The Technological Institute of Textile & Sciences (TITS), Bhiwani, India and Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association (ATIRA), Ahmedabad, India. Professor Ukponmwan is a member of University Senate and has served on several administrative committees of the School and the University and as an Assistant Hall Master. He is a prolific writer and has Published many papers in national and international journals in his area of specialization with 31 papers in referred journals and 1 Monograph on "The Thermal-Insulation Properties of Fabrics" to his credit. His current research interest is on evaluation of Polymeric and textiles with particular emphasis on the effect of environment and flame retardants on the thermal behavior and mechanical properties of fibres, yarns and fabrics, and fabric handle, physical and aesthetic properties of fabrics.

Professor Ukponmwan has served on the National Advisory Committee on Textile and acted as a consultant to Auchu Polytechnic Nigeria on the establishment of a De-

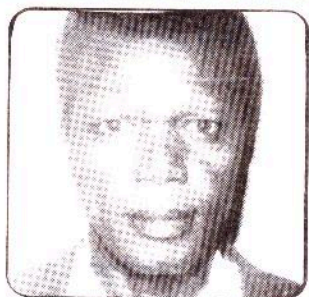
partment of textile technology and Clothing manufacture in the School of Fine & Applied Arts.

He has also served as a part-time lecturer to Imo State University (1987/88) and University of Benin (1998/90) and acted as External Examiner to Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria (1992/93 session). Chairman, technical committee on Fibres and paper of the polymer Institute of Nigeria. Chairman, Diplomas committee and member of council, Textile Society of Nigeria and Honorary Secretary of the Textile Institute, Eastern Zone (Nigeria) Section. He has been a chartered Textile Technologist, CText ATI since 1976 and a full member of the Polymer Institute of Nigeria.

His hobbies include travelling, sight seeing and reading. He enjoys playing lawn tennis and table tennis.

Professor Ukponmwan is married and blessed with 5 children.

### PROF. B. N. ONWUAGBA



Prof. Beniah Ndudim Onwuagba, born on December 09, 1948, hails from Nnokwa in Idemili L.G.A. of Anambra State.

He had his University education at University of Nigeria, where he obtained B.Sc. (Hons) degree in Physics (1975), M.Phil. degree in Physics (1980) and in 1984 bagged Ph.D. degree in Physics. Prof. Onwuagba had certificate of Merit by winning Imo State Prize Award for the best Postgraduate student in the Faculty of Physical Sciences of the University of Nigeria for the 1983/84 session. Before joining FUTO, he was Ag. Dean, school of Natural & Applied Sciences as well as Ag. Head

of Physics Department at College of Education Nsugbe (1983 - 1985). He joined FUTO on November 01, 1985 as Lecturer I. He rose to the rank of Reader in 1991 and was promoted Prof. of Solid State Physics effective Oct. 1, 1994.

Prof. Onwuagba is presently a Senior Visiting Scientist in the Condensed Matter Physics Group of the International Centre for Theoretical Matter Physics (ICTP) Trieste in Italy. In 1988, he was appointed a Junior Associate of the ICTP, a position he held till 1991. In 1989, Prof. Onwuagba had ICTP Award for research and Training in Italian Laboratories at Department of Physics, University of Padua in Italy for a period of 6 months (Sept 31, 1989 - March 30, 1990).

In recognition of his academic contributions in Physics the ICTP in 1992 appointed him a Regular Associate of the Centre for a period of 6 years in the first instance. Prof. Onwuagba has to his credit several Journal Articles in Physics with over twenty journal articles published in Europe, US and Canada. He is a member of learned societies and has attended many International and Local Colleges, Workshops and Conferences.

Prof. Onwuagba was Ag. Head of Physics Department in FUTO from 1988 - 1994. He is an external examiner to both B.Sc. and Higher degrees in Physics.

Prof. Onwuagba is married to Mrs. Felicia Ngozi Onwuagba and they are blessed with six children.

In addition, the Governing Council at the same 67th meeting approved the promotion to Readership of the following:

NAME/DEPT. OF STAFF	EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROMOTION
Dr. G.I. Nwankwor (Geology)	Oct. 1, 1994
Dr. B. Obah (Petroleum Eng.)	Oct. 1, 1994
Dr. Mrs. G.O. Esimai (Maths & Statistics)	Oct. 1, 1993
Dr. D.O. Onyemaobi (Mat/Met Eng)	Oct. 1, 1994
Rev. Dr. L.C. Asiegbu (GSU)	Oct. 1, 1994



## External Engagement

Dr. O.O. Onyemaobi, recently promoted a Reader in the Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering, has returned from a Sabbatical leave at the Federal University of Technology, Akure. While there, he was appointed the chairman of Accreditation panel of Mineral Resources Engineering in Kaduna Polytechnic, from 24th - 26th June, 1995. In September 1995, Dr. O.O. Onyemaobi was appointed chairman, Board of Directors of the Imo State Technological Skills Acquisition Centre, Orlu.

FUTO Newsletter congratulates Dr. Onyemaobi on this worthy recognition.

### Dr. C.J. IWUAGWU

Dr. C.J. Iwuagwu, a senior lecturer in the Department of Geoscience has been appointed an External Examiner for the department of Geology, Faculty of Science, University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

The appointment which begins from the 1995/96 session, is for a period of two years.

**Dr. (Mrs) G.A. Chukwudebe** attended a critique Workshop on review of Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) syllabus for Electrical/Electronic Engineering on April 11, 1996 in Lagos.

She also attended a one day conference on "Internet" on April 16, 1996 in Lagos. The conference was organised by the Electrical Division of the Nigerian Society of Engineers.

**Miss Okolo, J.C.** of the department of Biological Sciences, SOSC attended a workshop of Gene Cloning/Genetic engineering organised by Foundation for African Development through International Biotechnology (FADIB). It held at the University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus and lasted from 14th to 26th April, 1996. During the Workshop, she gave a talk on "Bioconversion of Agro-wastes using microbial enzymes".

## EXTENSION OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The Governing Council FUTO at its 67th meeting considered the requests by the following staff for an extension of their leave of absence.

Mrs J.T.Ugbolue (Approved from December 12, 1995 to December 11, 1996).

Mr. Omo Irabor: (Further extension not approved)

Mrs C.N. Eke: (Further extension not approved)

Mrs V.C.N. Otti: (Approved from October 1, 1995 to September 30, 1996).

The University Council at its 67th meeting has approved the renewal of leave of absence from February 14, 1996 to February 18, 1997 of **Dr. G.N. Onuoha**, the Hon. Commissioner for Agriculture, Imo State.

## A P P O I N T M E N T S

### PROF. G.U.OJIAKO

The Vice-chancellor has appointed Engr. Prof. G.U.Ojiako Dean of School of Engineering and Engineering Technology (SEET) to serve out the second term of Engr. prof. A.U. Chuku who has just retired from the services of FUTO with effect from 11th December, 1995.

### DR. K.O.OKPALA

The Ag. Vice-Chancellor has approved the appointment of Dr. K.O. Okpala as Ag. Head, Department of Chemical/ Petroleum Engineering with effect from 8th February, 1996 for a period of one year.

### MR. L.E. OKOROAFOR

The Ag. Vice. Chancellor has also approved the appointment of Mr. L.E. Okoroafor as Ag. Head, Security Unit for a period of one year with effect from 17th January, 1996.

## SABBATICAL LEAVE

### DR. F.C.C. ANYAEBUNAM

Dr. F.C.C. Anyaegbunam has been offered a one-year sabbatical leave appointment by FUTO as a senior lecturer in the Department of Physics, SOSC with effect from the date he assumes duty.

Dr. Anyaegbunam is from the Department of Physics and Astronomy, of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN).

### PROF: J.E.NJOKU

By virtue of his recent promotion to the Professorial status, Prof. J.E. Njoku has now assumed the substantive position of the Dean, Student Affairs as approved by the Vice-Chancellor.

# NEW ARRIVALS

## SENIOR STAFF

NAMES OF STAFF	POSITION	DEPT/SCH.	DATE ASSUMED DUTY
MR. C. C. Ibe	Asst. Lect.	Transport Mgt. Tech	20/11/95
Dr. Asieghu Baldwin C.	Lect. II	Project Mgt. (SMAT)	8/1/96
Dr. D. O. N. Obikwelu	Senior Lecturer	MME/SEET	18/12/95

## JUNIOR STAFF

NAME OF STAFF	POSITION	DEPT/SCH.	DATE ASSUMED DUTY
Oforma Friday Jacob	SOSC	Computer Operator I	09/11/95
Njemanze Charles Ndubisi	Student Affairs	Assitant Supervisor	04/11/95
Enyieghulam C. Ikechi	Computer Centre	Computer Operator I	09/11/95
Anulika M. Nwamuo	Registry	Typist I	24/11/95
Judith Amadi	MIS Unit	Computer Operator	25/11/95
Violet Nzechukwu	SIWES	Typist II	24/11/95
Christy Igboanusi	BIOSC	Typist II	25/11/95
Nkechi Akudolu	IPRP	Typist II	25/11/95
Cryina Umunnakwe	PP&D	Typist II	02/02/96
Chinyere C. Nwafor	Library	Library Attendant	15/11/95
Luke A. Anukam	Staff Sch.	Substitute Teacher	5/12/95

## JUNIOR STAFF

NAME OF STAFF	POSITION	DEPT/SCH.	DATE ASSUMED DUTY
CHIDI T. OPARA	CLERICAL OFFICER	REGISTRY	25/3/96
EDWIN NDUNUIZU LAB. ATTD.		CIS	8/2/96
PEACE M. EKE	TYPIST II	REGISTRY	1/3/96

## SENIOR STAFF

NAME OF STAFF	POSITION	DEPT/SCH.	DATE ASSUMED DUTY
DR. AGBOGU ARINZE E.	SENIOR LECT. STUDIES	GENERAL	20/11/95
MR. NZOTTA SAMUEL M.	LECTURER I	PROJECT MGT.	27/11/95
MR. OKOROAFOR GIBSON FRANCIS	LECTURER I	PROJECT MGT.	27/11/95
MISS LOUISA N. OKPARA	ASST. LECT.	GENERAL STUDIES	27/11/95
DR. ONYEKA A.C.	LECTURER I	MATHS/COMP.	27/11/96

What the Papers say. Contd. from page 7

Weekly SUNRAY, Sunday March 10, 1996

# University community rolls out drums for VC

BY CHARLIE NWEKEAKU

ACADEMIC activities at the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, (FUTO) came to a halt penultimate Friday, as the management, staff and students of the institution rolled out their drums to welcome Prof. Chuka Obah, the vice-chancellor, who has been re-appointed for a second four-year term.

As early as 8.30 a.m., less than 12 hour after the re-appointment was announced on the NTA network, the excited staff and students of the institution abandoned their offices and classrooms to formed an emergency convoy for the reception of the vice chancellor who drove into the campus with pomp and pageantry.

Carrying posters dotted with several encomiums on Obah, the elated staff and students almost mobbed the vice chancellor, as they were all eager to embrace him.

In an emergency reception ceremony held at the university quadrangle, Mr. Uwakwe Ukaegbu, the Students Union president, who spoke on behalf of his colleagues, congratulated Obah for his well deserved re-appointment.

Ukaegbu, who described Obah as a "man of history," commended the federal government for re-appointing the Nnobi-born professor of international repute.

Mr. Ehim Inyang, a former president of the National Association of Nigeria Students, NANS, said the students were grateful to the government for re-appointing Obah.

Inyang observed that Obah had done so well in his first term that it was only natural that he be granted a second tenure in order to accomplish the good work he had started.

Responding, Obah thanked God for using the pro-chancellor and chairman of the governing council, members of the council, friends and colleagues to support his re-appointment.

Obah promised to use his energy and intellect to move FUTO to greater heights.

The striking members of the Senior Staff Association of Universities, SSANU, FUTO branch, have also sent a goodwill message to Obah.

In a message signed by J. U. Nnabuike and O. C. Nwagwu, chairman and secretary of the association respectively, they pledged support and loyalty to Obah.

"Though we are on a nation-wide strike, we, however, pledge our unflinching loyalty and support for your administration."

Obah, a professor of communications engineering is married to a professor, and they are blessed with five children. He was first appointed the vice chancellor of FUTO in 1992.



• Obah

## PhD For Odii

**Dr. Marshall Odii** a Lecturer II in the Agricultural Economics Department of the School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (SAAT) has successfully defended his doctorate degree in Food Production Behaviour at the university of Ibadan.

The Newsletter warmly congratulates him.

## OGBOGU GETS STUDENTS' UNION AWARD

The Students' union Government of the Federal University of technology, Owerri has conferred the best lecturer award for the year 1994/95 on Dr. S.O.E. Ogbogu, a senior lecturer in Electrical Electronics Engineering and Ag. Director, Centre for Industrial Studies (CIS), FUTO.

The colourful ceremony was presided over by the president of the students' union Mr. Uwakwe Ukaegbu.

## OUR ERROR

In our january edition of the Newsletter, we erroneously addressed Dr. C.C. Asiabaka, Ag. HOD, Agric. Econs. and extension as Dr. C.N. Asiabaka. For the interest of our readers his correct initials are Dr.C.C. Asiabaka.

We sincerely regret the mix up.

## STUDY FELLOWSHIP

The Vice-Chancellor on behalf of the Senior Staff training Committee approved the applications for Study fellowship for a Master of Science (Msc) programme tenable in the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, of the following staff in the Bursary.

S/NO	NAME OF STAFF	DEPARTMENT
1	MR.I.C.OFOLETE	CASH MANAGEMENT UNIT
2	MR.D.O.AMATOBI	MAIN ACCOUNTS UNIT
3	MR.I.A.EKENTA	PAYROLL UNIT
4	MR.KALU.UKA.IBE	CASH MANAGEMENT UNIT

## RETIREMENT

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the voluntary retirement of the following from the services of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri.

NAME OF STAFF	DEPARTMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Mrs Ebere Dim	REGISTRY	10 - 11 - 95
Mr. Emmanuel Amaliri	VC'S OFFICE	01 - 09 - 95
Mr. Agwu K. Agwu	BURSARY	12 - 05 - 95

However, Mr N.A. Opara has been retired from the services of FUTO with effect from February 23, 1996 when he attained the mandatory retirement age of 60 (sixty) years from non-academic staff.

## PHILOSOPHY AND LIFE DESIDERATA

Go placidly amidst the noise and haste,  
And remember what peace there may be in silence.

As far as possible without surrender, be on good terms with all persons, speak your truth quietly and clearly;

And listen to others even the dull and ignorant; they have their own story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself, you may become vain and bitter;

For always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as plans. Keep interested in your career, however humble; it is real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; Many people strive for higher ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself, Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; For in the face of all avidity and disenchantment it is perennial as grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth.

Nurture strength of spirit to shield your sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with imaginings.

Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself.

You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here.

And whether or not it is clear to you. No doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God,

Whatever you conceive him to be, and whatever your labours and aspirations; in the noisy confusions of life keep peace with your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.

Be careful,

Strive to be happy.

FOUND IN OLD ST. PAUL'S CHURCH  
BALTIMORE: DATED 1692

# OBITUARIES

The Vice-Chancellor has received the sad news of the passing away of the following:

1. **Mr. Agwu Okonkwo** a former Assistant Security Officer who retired from the services of the University in 1992. He died on 6th February, 1996 and was buried on 18th February, 1996 in his home town Ohafia in Abia State.

2. **Mr. Godfrey Ahamefula Obinna Okoro**, a former member of the Governing Council of FUTO between 1986 and 1993. He died on February 12th, 1996 and was buried on 24th February, 1996.

3. **Miss Clara Ekwonye**, a Security Staff, died on 24/1/96 and was buried on 26/1/96 at her home town Amaeze in Obibizeama, Owerri L.G.A.

4. **Rev. Canon Vincent Nwaeze Azubike**, Father-in-law to Mrs Loise Nkechinyere Azubike, a cashier at the FUTO Community Bank died on February 12, 1996 at the age of 81 years. He has since been buried at St. Andrew's Anglican Church premises Obizi on 1st March, 1996.

5. **Mr. Stephen M. Iheagwam** who slept in the Lord on Sunday December 3, 1995 and was buried on Friday December 22, 1995 at Eziobodo at the age of 73 years. He is survived by Dr. V.A. Iheagwam, a lecturer I in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, FUTO.

6. **Mr. Vincent Ehumadu Nwosu**, died on Saturday September 2, 1995 in his home town Obokwu Obizi Mbaise in Ezinihite L.G.A. at the age of 75 years. He has since been buried. He is survived by Mr. Anthony C. Nwosu, a Typist in the Mechanical Engineering Department (SEET) FUTO.

7. **Mrs. Mercy Chitogu Nwaneri**, wife of Mr. Charles Nwaneri of the Security Department. The sad event occurred after child birth on 13/11/95. Her body was interred in her husband's compound.

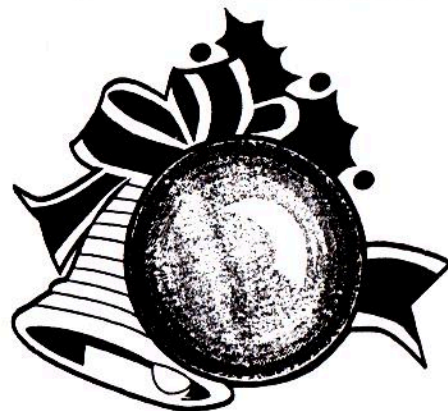
8. **Madam Ifemena Akunene Rebecca Oji**. the home call occurred in March, 1996 at the age of 70 years. She was buried on 3rd May, 1996 in her home town Umuabiama Village, Ajali, Orumba North L.G.A. She is survived by many children among whom is Mrs. N.A. Onyechi, Deputy Registrar (Academic Affairs).

9. **Mrs Caroline Nsonma Osondu**, wife of Prof, K.E. Osondu of the Department of Maths Computer. Her untimely death occurred in April, 1996 and she has since been buried at her home town Lude, Ahiara Mbaise. She is survived by her husband and five children.

10. **Chief P.M. Belonwu, Igwe of Adazi-Nnukwu** in Aniocha L.G.A. of Anambra State. He died on Friday march 23, 1996 and has since been buried in his home-town. He is survived by many children among whom is Mrs. P.N. Ozoh, a senior Nursing Sister at FUTO Health Services.

11. **Chief Clement Chinyelugo Aroh** (Ide of Abatete) died on the 18th of February, 1996 and was buried on March 14, 1996 in his home town, Abatete, Idemili Local Government Area, Anambra State. He was aged 77.

*May their souls rest in perfect peace Amen.*



## Wedding Bells

Vows of marital bond will be sealed between Mr. Chikwendu Ogbonna of the FUTO Staff School and Miss Uchechi Anyahuru on Sunday June 9, 1996 at the 7th Day Adventist District Headquarters along Ama-wire, orji.

Just as Mr. Tony Ibe of SAAT invites all and sundry to Umuchu in Anambra State for his traditional wedding ceremony on Saturday June 8, 1996.

## BIRTHS

NAME OF STAFF	SCH/DEPT.	SEX	DATE
1. Mr & Mrs Ukegbu	Estate & Works	Girl	8/10/95
2. Bro. I. Akpan	V.C.'s Office	Girl	7/10/95
3. Dr & Mrs Ojinmah	Gen. Studies	Boy	6/2/96
4. Mr & Mrs Charles A. Mbata	Security	Girl	19/7/95

# CHANGE OF NAMES

The following staff have changed their names as listed below:-

1. Former Miss Olive Uchechukwu of Biological Sciences Department, School of Science now wishes to be called and addressed as Mrs Olive Uchechukwu Iwuagwu.
2. Former Miss Juliet Nnenna Eze, a student of mathematics and addressed as Mrs Juliet Nnenna Odii.
3. Former Miss Darlen Chituru Njoku of the School of Engineering and Engineering Technology (SEET) now wishes to be known and addressed as Mrs Darlen Chituru Nwachukwu.
4. Former Miss Gloria Ezebunwa of the Postgraduate School now wishes to be known and addressed as Mrs Gloria Ikechukwu Emeahara.
5. Former Miss Margareth nwakanma Okere of the Physical Planning and Development Unit now wishes to be called and addressed as Mrs Margareth Nwakanma Isaac Njimogu.
6. Former Miss Chinyere Evangeline Nwachukwu of the Postgraduate School now wishes to be called and addressed as Mrs Chinyere Chinedum Obasi.
7. Former Miss Henrietta Ogumka of the Department of Polymer and Textile Technology also now wishes to be called and addressed as Mrs Henrietta Nwoguke.

their records have been updated accordingly and all documents bearing their former names remain valid.

## FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, OWERRI OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Candidates for the underlisted posts in the University Library:-

1. **Posts and Salaries**

(i) Graduate Assistant	-	UASS 1
(ii) Assistant Librarian	-	UASS 1
(iii) Librarian II	-	UASS 3
(iv) Senior Library Officer	-	EUSS 8
(v) Fireman	-	EUSS 2
Leading Fireman	-	EUSS 3
2. **Qualifications and Experience**
  - (i) Honours Degree with at least a second class classification. A degree in the Physical Sciences will be an advantage.
  - (ii) Master of Library Science (MLS) or equivalent. Candidates with a BLS plus 4 years post-qualification experience will be considered.
  - (iii) MLS plus at least 4 years relevant post-qualification experience.
  - (iv) OND/HND in Library Studies plus relevant experience. Candidates already holding the same or equivalent post in a tertiary institution will be given preference.
  - (v) WASC, GCE (O/L) or equivalent qualification with 4 credits at one sitting or 5 credits at 2 sittings including English Language. Previous experience as Fireman will be an advantage.

### 3. Method of Application

Application with detailed C.V. and Photocopies of Certificates should be addressed to the Registrar, Federal University of Technology, P.M.B. 1526 Owerri, to reach him on or before 30th June, 1998.

**Dr. T. I. Igwe**  
*Registrar.*