

VOL 1 ISSUE 9

THE NEWS AT YOUR FINGER TIPS

OCT 17 - 31, 2020

Our Mission

 Building leadership through Christian education; transforming lives, impacting society for positive change.

Our Vision

 A first-class Seventh -day Adventist institution, building servant leaders for a better world.

Our Core Values

- Excellence
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Servant Leadership,
- Team Spirit
- Autonomy & Responsibility
- Adventist Heritage

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Productivity is never an accident. It is always the result of a commitment to excellence, intelligent planning and focused effort." - Paul Meyer

WE ARE ON THE WEB

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A Walk to Heal: (I-r) Prof Sunday Owolabi and spouse, Dr Titi Owolabi, Prof Ademola Tayo, Prof David Alao and Dr Folorunso Akande leading the procession during the Prayer Walk.





The duo: Messers Shola Akinlade (I) and Ezra Olubi

Paystack Nigeria has attracted N90 billion direct foreign investments into the country. This comes with a \$200million investment from American firm, Stripe.

Paystack, is a Nigerianowned on-line payment platform developed by the University's alumni, Shola Akinlade and Ezra Olubi. It started operation as a payment gateway in 2015 and within a short time, registered over 600, 000 customers including SMEs, Fintechs, educational institu-

tions as well as other online companies across Nigeria.

"The success and achievement of these exceptionally gifted young men are a living proof of our brand promise to our students and other stakeholders, as reflected in our pay off line, *'the future is* *bright'*," said BU Director of Marketing & Communication, Dr. Joshua Suleiman.

"We are elated by the international respect that their creativity and solution-based service have brought to them and the honour they have, by their leadership brought to Babcock. We will continue to ensure cutting -edge education delivery to our students".

The Assistant Director, Alumni, Development and Strategy, Mr. Joshua Umahi echoed similar views.

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BABCOCK HOSTS PRAYER WALK FOR NATIONAL HEALING

WEEKLY DIGEST

A Babcock University Newsletter

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HOTLINES



Standing Together: Prof. Ademola Tayo (right) with other community members during the prayer walk.

nity rose as one, last Wednesday, in response to a call for prayer for restoration of peace amidst violence in the country exacerbated by the shooting at protesters at the Lekki Toll Gate in Lagos.

An initiative of the Dean of the Veronica Adeleke School of Social Sciences, Prof. Jumoke Haliso, the Praver Walk, with the theme Heal Our Land, provided opportunity to seek God's intervention on a wide range of issues.

Among these were: wisdom for leaders, peace in Nigeria, hope for

N90B

youths, security agencies; comfort for grieving families as well as justice for those unjustly arrested and traumatized by the #EndSars protests.

Representatives of students, faculty, staff and officers interceded during the prayer walk which started from the Babcock **Business** School (BBS) car park, through the Joel Awoniyi School of Education & Humanity to the School of Science & Technology. It terminated at the BBS.

"At this time of our nation's history, Babcock as an institution cannot afford to be aloof or indifferent," said the University Pastor, (Dr.) Sunday Audu.

"The activity we are carrying out is not how long or enormous, but about how committed we are."

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BU ALUMNI FIRM ATTRACTS Dr. Joshua Suleiman

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He said it was gratifying to know that Babcock's graduates invented the payment platform now receiving global recognition.

"As an institution, we feel good to hear the great success stories coming from our graduates," he said. "There are more Babcock



Alumni making global impact yet to be discovered by us."

Both Alumni were 2006 Computer Science graduates. While Akinlade was an out-going person while in school. Olubi was totally an introvert whose major preoccupation was coding.





Praying and Walking for Healing: Community members processing round the campus. Pictured right: University Pastor, Dr. Sunday Audu led out.

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Quoting from the Holy Bible's 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sins and heal their land," Pastor Audu said, "This is a clarion call to prayer and God will answer us."

For Prof. Haliso, the walk was a "powerful connection between us, our country Nigeria, fellow citizens who



Prof. Jumoke Haliso and others at the event.

were heartbroken after that black Tuesday and our God."

President/Vice Chancellor Prof. Ademola S. Tayo reminded all that the times called for sobriety and sensitivity. "We know many families are traumatized and grieving, some of our students have also been affected by the general grief in the land. We need to pray more and ask God's mercy and grace for healing."



Dr. Akissi Metonou (right), Director of Food Services, Dr. Feyi Alade and others lift hands up in praise during the event.





Prof. Ademola Tayo (2nd right), Prof. Sunday Owolabi and spouse, Dr. Titi Owolabi and Prof. David Alao (right).

CREATING A STRONGER ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTRE

The Entrepreneurship Centre started off as a training ground for the Business Admin students. So much has happened since it expanded its reach September 2015. The editorial team spoke with the new administrative team: Director, Dr. Grace Makinde and Assistant Director, Mrs. Tumi Adesanya to know the scope, vision and direction of the Centre. Excerpts:

Q: The Entrepreneurship Centre started off as a training ground for the Business Administration students. Where are we now in terms of scope?

A: Prior to September 2015, the Entrepreneurship Centre was basically aimed at equipping Business Administration Students with vocational skills. However, following recommendations from the National Universities Commission (NUC) in September 2015, the Centre extended the empowerment programs to other departments. Consequently, all final year students except the medical stu-



The Entrepreneurship Centre's computer lab for training on online and digital marketing

dents now have access to vocational and entrepreneurial skills acquisition.

Similarly, the Centre now runs both as a skills acquisition and a commercial centre. We have a variety of products that we sell directly to the university community and general public.

Q: Is the training open to the public as well?

A: The Centre is also open to staff and the public interested in our skills acquisition programmes as well as our three-month certificate entrepreneurship programme. Several Vocation/Trades are available at the Centre amongst which are: shoe making and leather works, digital/online marketing as well as creative photography. (See box)

Q: The previous leadership apparently had its own challenges. What were they and what challenges do you think you would have to deal with?

A: The main challenge is space. The Centre should not just be about training of students for one semester. The training should be continuous and students of other levels apart from 400 levels should also be involved.

Q: Work space for expansion was an issue some time back; to what extent has this been resolved?



Dr. Grace Makinde: Optimistic about expansion.



Samples of footwear and bag made at the Entrepreneurship Centre

A: Well, the Administration is trying its best and we are hoping to leverage on the increased interest to get that resolved to a very large extent. We hope to have completed the intended expansion to accommodate more hands-on training and empowerment programs within the next two years.

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Q:What operational strategies have you put in place to ensure sustainability?

A: Aligning the team with the Centre's vision and objectives, quality assurance, prompt and good customer service as well as continuous creative and innovative product development, prudence and integrity.

Q: Amongst the Centre's three operational areas: training, production and services, which offers the most return on investment?

A: Well, they all offer their return fiscally and in other ways. However, Production and Services seem to offer more return on investment regularly.

Q: What is unique about the Centre?

A: Passion and drive for students' progress and excellence, quality assurance, facilities and equipment as well as continuous growth and

improvement

Q: How much support are you getting from the University administration?

A: The support has been tremendous. However, like the proverbial Oliver Twist, more support is still required especially in terms of space and laboratory.

Q: Have your products received NAFDAC approval and acceptance by the BIG?

A: The products do not have approvals yet because there is no laboratory which is a pre-condition for approvals. So, the Babcock Investment Group which runs the super store can't sell our products because of approvals (NAFDAC). The Centre can be the institutional cash-cow through the production section.

Q: What's your vision for the next five years?

Mrs. Tumi Adesanya

Bottom: The traning room for garment making and



"The Centre is also open to staff and the public interested in our skills acquisition programmes as well as our three-month certificate in entrepreneurship course." - Adesanya



design.

A: In the next five years the Centre should have its own building in line with NUC specification and Babcock on the map as an entrepreneurial university. We will also have NAFDAC registration for all our products that require their endorsement.

Our goal is always to produce young, solution-providers with required skills to launch into successful entrepreneurial endeavors.



PRODUCTS

- BU Skin Care (Petroleum Jelly)

- Hand wash
- Liquid soap
- Perfume

- Creative photography
- Digital & online marketing
- Embroidery & Monogramming
- Film Production & Editing
- Garment Making & Design Hair styling & wig making

- Tie & Dye

Shoe making & leather works

Production of soap & allied products

- Events Planning & Management

PHOTO-SEEN-THESIS





The University's faculty, staff and students responded positively to the call for a Prayer Walk last Wednesday. The event which was the first of its kind on campus, attracted more than a 100 persons seekng God's face for healing of Nigeria's pain and grief. Photos capture the different moments.









PHOTO-SEEN-THESIS













From the Security Department to the Office of the President/Vice Chancellor, it was a collective cry for help as young and old alike turned out for the Prayer Walk.



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ARRIVAL & SCREENING OF GROUP B STUDENTS

On campus arrival and Covid-19 screening of Group B students comprising 200 - 300 levels except for the 300 level medical students who had resumed with the Batch A students

Law students will be screened on the main campus and taken by buses to the Iperu campus. On site lectures and lab practical classes begin for group B students.

DEC 10 MID-SEMESTER EXAMS GROUP B

This will be on campus.

"Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope." - Martin Luther King

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