



# The Nigerian Society of Engineers

PORT HARCOURT BRANCH

e-newsletter

2 0 0 8 / V O L U M E 2 6

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## Engineering Education in Nigeria Technical Presentation by Prof. Musa Alabe, VC, Yobe State University at RSUST, Port Harcourt during IEEE Seminar on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2008 (reviewed)

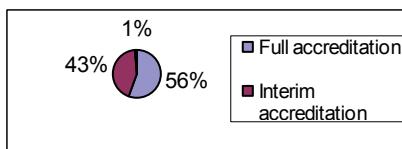
**INTRODUCTION:** The presenter Prof. Musa Alabe gave the definition of engineering education in a nutshell and highlighted areas of special attention that could improve the engineering education in the country. Engineering has been defined in various ways but two definitions were highlighted at the seminar. "Engineering is the application of Science for the efficient utilization of natural resources to produce wealth"; and it has also been defined as the "application of laws governing forces and materials of nature through research, design, management and construction for the benefit of mankind". In the training of the engineer especially at foundation levels, it is generally and globally agreed that Mathematics, Material Science, Mechanics and Humanities must be taught. Mathematics is the language of the engineer, while Material Science teaches about matter. Mechanics is the tool kit for the engineer. The humanities teach the engineer on how to handle the complex relationship between Man and Machine much better. At subsequent engineering levels, candidates pursue various fields of engineering with varying specialization.



Prof. Musa Alabe

**ENGINEERING REGULATION:** The performance of engineering profession is determined by regulatory bodies such as NUC and COREN. In the presentation a summary of the NUC accreditation exercise of 2007 was given. It was reported that out of 872 programs that applied for accreditation, 599 (68.7%) got full accreditation, 247 (28.3%) interim accreditation and 26 (3.0%) were denied accreditation. Out of this number 90 Engineering programs were examined, 50 (55%) got full accreditation status, 39 (43%) got interim accreditation status and 1(1%) was denied accreditation. The detailed parameters and benchmarks used for the exercise was also a topical issue.

**ENGINEERING ACCREDITATION EXERCISE 2007:** The statistics has shown that the quality of education in Nigeria is poor.



The fact that over 40% of engineering programs earned Interim accreditation status, informs us that, a lot needs to be accomplished to address inadequacies in areas of staffing, physical facilities, libraries and academic content. The presentation seems to consider the problems and advise the appropriate authorities to remedy the situation.

### Staffing Problem:

- (1) Academic staff strength in our universities are below expectation and should be considered.
- (2) Salaries of academic staff (engineers) in all Universities should be reviewed upward by the Federal Government.
- (3) Imbalances in salary structure should be normalized.

**Poor Infrastructures:** This can be attributed to lack of adequate teaching spaces e.g. lecture rooms and theatres. They are often over-crowded and lack ventilation for proper teaching atmosphere. This also includes offices for teaching and non-teaching staff of engineering programs. The laboratories and workshops are often ill-equipped, while some components/facilities are obsolete. For an engineer to be well educated, he needs to have a balance between theory and practical. This can be achieved through well-equipped laboratories and workshops that are regularly updated with facilities.

**Library** The Library is an essential education service and helps the engineer to become better informed and trained. The major objective of any Library is to provide material and service, which will now and in the future contribute to the fulfillment of making a qualified engineer. It should provide material of good quality, quantity and diversity to support research of any engineering field. Books and other reading materials such as audio-visual resources, pamphlets, and e-facilities make up the major material resources of the library.

Cont .....next edition

**NSE PH E-NEWSLETTER CELEBRATES HER ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY ON THE 5TH OF JULY 2008. PLEASE SEND YOUR COMMENT ON HOW THE E-NEWSLETTER HAS FAIRED SO FAR. YOUR COMMENTS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT EDITION.**

**THANKS FOR READING THE NSE PH E-NEWSLETTER. INFOTECH/LIBRARY & PUBLICITY COMMITTEES.**

**NSE PH PAYS A TECHNICAL VISIT TO ELEME JUNCTION FLY OVER CONSTRUCTION SITE ON SATURDAY 14TH JUNE 2008**



Engr. Huck of Julius Berger explaining the fly over diagram to the NSE PH team



NSE PH team inspecting the Eleme junction fly over construction work.

**REPORT ON PRIMAVERA WORKSHOP ORGANISED BY THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, PH CHAPTER**



Primavera is one of the latest software for engineering project management. The workshop took place from 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at the IT Center of the Nigerian Society of Engineers, PH Branch. Fifty seven participants from all professions attended the workshop. The software is applicable for project management and to optimize cost, time and human resources.

**ENGR. MARK DEREFAKA, FNSE, NOW A CHIEF.**

On Saturday 14th June 2008, Engr. Mark Derefaka FNSE was made a Chief in his home town Idi-Obubu in Okrika Local Government Area of Rivers State. NSE PH was present at the coronation ceremony.



Engr. Chief & Mrs. Derefaka

*The Nigerian Institution of Mechanical Engineers*  
(A Division of Nigerian Society of Engineers) Port Harcourt Chapter  
**THE CHAIRMAN ENGR. A.R.S. DIENAGHA, FNSE**  
Cordially Invites

**Investiture Ceremony** to the  
**ENGR. HON. SIR, LASBRY ONUGBU AMADI, MNSE, RSC NIMECHE**  
As the 2nd Chairman of NIMECHE Port Harcourt Chapter

**SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOUR**  
His Excellency Engr. Tolu Ikuru MNSE  
The Deputy Governor of Rivers State

**CHAIRMAN OF THE OCCASION**  
Engr. Okopi Alex Momoh MNSE, NIMECHE  
President, NIMECHE

**GUESTS OF HONOUR**  
Mr. C. S. Udoh  
MD/CEO Point Engineering Ltd  
Port Harcourt

**R. S. V. P**  
Engr. Denis A.A. Danla MNSE, NIMECHE  
Chairman Investiture Planning Committee  
08033395137

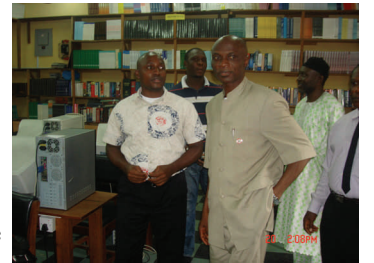
Engr. Goodluck Ikenyiri MNSE, NIMECHE  
Secretary Investiture Planning Committee  
08032856649

**ENGR. HON. SIR, LASBRY ONUGBU AMADI, MNSE, NIMECHE**

DATE : Sun. 29TH JUNE 2008 VENUE: ALDGATE HOTELS SANI ABACHA ROAD G.R.A PHASE III PORT HARCOURT. TIME: 3.00PM

**INDUSTRIAL TRAINING FUND (ITF) INSPECTS NSE PH IT CENTER/LIBRARY**

The Deputy Director/Area Manager, Port Harcourt Area Office of the Industrial Training Fund (ITF), Mr. J. Akin Akintola, inspected the IT Center/Library of NSE PH on Friday 20th June 2008. The purpose of the inspection is to ascertain the standard of the NSE PH IT Center for use by ITF for training purposes.



Mr. J. Akin Akintola (center)

**COREN 17TH ENGINEERING ASSEMBLY:**

**THEME : VALUE FOR MONEY IN ENGINEERING PROJECTS: THE ROLE OF ENGINEERING REGULATION.**

**VENUE: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE. ABUJA.**

**DATE: 23RD-24TH SEPT, 2008.**

**REGISTRATION FEE: #12,000. PRE-REGISTRATION: #15,000. AFTER 22ND AUGUST, 2008. TECH & CRAFTMEN: #6,000 FLAT.**

**PROGRAMME OUTLINE:**

**DAY 1: 9:00AM-OPENING CEREMONY, 12:00PM: TEA BREAK, 1:00PM: TECH SESSIONS, 7:00PM: DINNER.**

**DAY 2: 9:00AM TECH SESSION, 12:00PM: TEA BREAK, 12:30PM: TECH SESSION, 2:00PM CLOSING**

**NOTICE! NOTICE!! NOTICE!!!**

All members of NSE PH should pay their **annual branch dues** of N4000 and **compulsory levy** of N5000 towards the Engineer Resource Center to **UBA ACC. NO: 0802080000194 (Port Harcourt main Branch)**. Also pay **National Annual Subscription** of N5,500.00 directly to **AFRIBANK ACC No. 142022215613** & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation.

All payments should be made at the Bank