



# The Nigerian Society of Engineers

## PORT HARCOURT BRANCH



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website: [www.nseph.org](http://www.nseph.org)

e-mail: [info@nseph.org](mailto:info@nseph.org)

30TH JANUARY, 2010

### The Nigerian Society of Engineers Port Harcourt Branch held its first General Meeting at the Branch Secretariat .

The Port Harcourt Branch of The Nigerian Society of Engineers held its first general meeting in 2010 on Thursday 28th January. The meeting was well attended by the branch EXCO members, Fellows of the society and members. Before the meeting started, a technical presentation on 'Diagnosing and Prognosing Gas Turbine Rotor Shaft Faults Using 'The Mice'' was delivered by Engr. Dr. E. A. Ogbonnaya, who is the Head, Department of Marine Engineering, Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt. Issues discussed during the meeting were; Ratification of 2010 Budget, 2010 Committee Composition, 2010 Programme of Activities amongst other issues.



L-R: Vice Chairman, Engr. Denis Dania , Chairman, Engr. A. H. Igoni & Secretary Engr. G. Ikenyiri during the branch general meeting.



Engr. Ogariawo, Engr. Ogolo, Engr. Lilly, Engr. Prof. Hart & some senior members of the branch at the branch general meeting.



L-R: Engr. (Wari Alabo) Jumbo, Engr. Tunde Salihu (IEEE Nigeria Chair), Engr. (Chief) O. O. Oruye & Engr. Mrs. Ohagwa at the meeting.

### NSE PH Branch 2010 PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

QTR	MONTH	ACTIVITY	DAY/DATE	TIME	VENUE
FIRST QUARTER	JANUARY	Investiture of Branch Chairman	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	4.00pm	Recneps Centre
		General Meeting – Ratification of 2010 Budget, Committee Composition, Programme of Activities etc.	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	5.00pm	Branch Secretariat
	FEBRUARY	Technical Visit to Mobil Producing Nigeria Unlimited, Bonny Island	Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Bonny
	MARCH	Workshop on: Effective Management of Engineering Projects	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	9am – 5pm	Branch Secretariat
		Seminar for Professional Interview	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9am – 5pm	Branch Secretariat
		Workshop on: CAESAR II – Pipe Stress Analysis I	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	9am – 5pm	Branch Secretariat
		General Meeting/Symposium on: Alternative Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Management System in Port Harcourt Metropolis-	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9am – 5pm	Branch Secretariat

### ENGR (CHIEF) G. MASSARI AND OTHERS HONOURED BY EKET BRANCH

Engr. (Chief) G. Massari, FNSE alongside the Governor of Akwa Ibom State His Excellency Chief. Dr. Godwills Obot Akpabio, Engr. Mrs. Mayen Adetiba, FNSE, Engr. Imaobong Johnson Inyang, FNSE (immediate past chairman of Eket Branch) and Late Engr. Felix Esi were honoured on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2010 with merit awards by the Eket Branch of the Nigerian Society of Engineers. The awards which were presented by the president of the Nigerian Society of Engineers Engr. Chief Olumuyiwa Alade Ajibola, FNSE, the AGBAAKIN of Ile Ife, was on the occasion of the fund raising/induction ceremony of the branch. The branch had earlier in the day had the NSE President lay the foundation stone of the branch Engineering Center (secretariat) and commissioned the 32-seater coaster bus donated to the branch by the Governor of Akwa Ibom State.

On Friday January 29, 2010 the president led the delegation of NSE to visit ExxonMobil Nig. Unlimited and was received by a team of engineers led by the General Manger JVO and the Deputy Operations Manager, Engr. Oladele Adisa. During the visit the president had a brief session with engineers and listened to a brief presentation by the Gen. Manager JVO, Mr. Ron Rumel. He enjoined the organisation to partner with NSE to develop local content and enhance capacity building by structuring a working meeting for core professional development of local engineers.

**INTERVIEW WITH ENGR. PROF. M. A. SALAU, FNSE ON THE THEME OF 2009 CONFERENCE/ AGM: 'ENGINEERING STRATEGIES FOR CONFRONTING CHALLENGES OF GLOBAL ECONOMIC MELTDOWN'**

*E-Newsletter: Good morning Prof. We want our reading audience to be kept abreast with the activities of the 2009 AGM at Owerri. Therefore, we want to discuss on the theme of the conference, but we would appreciate if you can briefly tell us what you do.*

**Prof. Salau:** My name is Engr. Ajibade Salau. I am the Dean, Faculty of Engineering, University of Lagos. Apart from that I have been the chairman of the technical committee of the Nigerian Society of Engineers and I am the chairman for this technical session of the 2009 NSE conference. Definitely, in Nigeria today we have economic meltdown. The meltdown has adverse effect on us as a result of the economic characterization of other countries because we are importers of goods and services of those countries. We hardly export goods both natural and human resources, we depend mainly on our crude oil without adding any value to it. We have to reduce or eliminate the effect of meltdown by looking inward not for the interest of engineers only, but also for all Nigerians to progress. We should not depend on other people's economy to progress. We have a lot of raw materials, a lot of local available materials which we should harness. You can see in the Nigerian content development, we were told that within four years in the Nigerian content development, we have moved from 10% to 40% in terms of human capital development. Our engineers should be the beneficiary of the system not only in oil and gas industry but also in all other sectors of the economy. When I delivered my inaugural lecture, in April 2008, the topic was "Abundant Locally Available Structural Engineering Materials without affordable structures". How can we have so many locally available materials and we cannot deliver an affordable structure? The theme of this conference becomes appropriate and I am sure the communiqué from the conference will move Nigeria forward if implemented. We shall give engineering solution and I believe, the government should be able to use Nigerian engineers optimally.

*E-Newsletter: Thank you Prof. In the area of raw materials, what efforts do you think engineers are making in terms of research and development? Because before we can go into utilizing our own materials, we need to go into research and development. Is the government supporting this in your faculty or is there any other means?*

**Prof. Salau:** Of recent there was national ASUU strike based on the fact that the government is just making noise; it is not putting enough money into

the research laboratories. We have the department of Materials and Metallurgical engineering. That is the section we need research work in materials. We do not have analyzer which will cost not less than fifteen million naira. In the whole University of Lagos, Engineering Faculty we don't have metal analyzer and we have been struggling to buy this for the past four years. So these are the areas we are talking about. You cannot train people to go and look into raw materials when they have not seen the equipment to analyze it. The research, I will tell



Engr. Prof. M. A. Salau

you that they are just dried research. In those days it is called defense, you put in money and at the end you obtain new product. **That is invention.** We should not wait for a teacher before we should prepare ourselves for advancement in raw materials development. Most times we prefer to import fabricated building instead of using what we have. Look at what has happened in Nigerian local content development. They have invested, they have put money, and they have persisted over three years yet there is something to show. Even though they have put up a structure, let us persist but how much money was put into it? How many people have been using the result of the research, we do not use the result. For example, we have been promised that we are going to have University of Lagos National Weathering Institute. Where are we going to train people on weathering? People will be taken and trained abroad. So if those ones come back, it would now be appropriate for government to say nobody should come from outside. It's going to be a State of the art.

*E-Newsletter: Let's look at infrastructure in this country, most times government will execute projects and just overlook it, especially in the riverine areas. They will build a jetty and forget about it, what is your opinion in line with the prevailing economy?*

**Prof. Salau:** That is the maintenance aspect of it. Some of our major secretariat buildings have been abandoned and nobody cares about it. Yes we have been calling on government, the political willingness is one and secondly, the involvement of professionals is another. They should set up these funds for maintaining all these things not

this kind of thing we are seeing. Structures are deteriorating, all the roads, from Lagos down to Niger Delta are deteriorating, and the entire stadia in Lagos have deteriorated. The railways have all deteriorated. Meanwhile some countries are still making use of their old infrastructure because there is provision for maintenance. We have been shouting "create a culture of maintenance". But because of greed, some politicians are selfish instead of encouraging the government. Some people are wrongly advising the government and at the end the public will become the victim. An Authority should be set up, perhaps allow it to be passed into law to take care of maintenance of infrastructure: water, power etc.

*E-Newsletter: Thank you Prof. But before we go, can you tell our reading audience the contribution individuals can make in the area of maintenance and man power development?*

**Prof. Salau:** We the engineers we meet, we always tell ourselves that some engineers have the means of developing this country but sometimes because of individual benefit they cannot tell the truth. We have to advise our administrators, politicians the way forward in order to come out in the midst of poverty. We are in the pool of plenty. All foreigners, when they come into this country, they don't want to go back, they want to use both our human and natural resources. I know Nigerians; we are gifted with both human and natural resources. We are very intelligent but unfortunately because of wrong advice we are where we are. So I will advise that everybody should contribute their quota, politician, non-politician, engineers and non-engineers in making sure that Nigeria moves forward. This melt down should not have affected us and if it should affect us, the impact should not be this much. Thank you.

*E-Newsletter: Thank you very much for the audience you have given us.*



Engr. Prof. M. A. Salau & Engr. Dr. A. A. Ujile



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**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: 0234-031-0000962 (Port Harcourt Main Branch). Also pay **National Annual Subscription** of N7,500.00 for **Members** & N9,500 for **Fellows** directly to AFRIBANK ACC No. 1420202215613 & forward all tellers to the secretariat for reconciliation. All payments should be made at the Bank