

Africa's Young Entrepreneurs Seeks CU Partnership



President & Founder, Africa's Young Entrepreneurs, Mr. Summy Francis, decorating the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles K. Ayo, with the organisation's lapel pin

A team from Africa's Young Entrepreneurs, a youth focused organisation, led by its president, Mr. Summy Francis, visited Covenant University (CU) on Thursday, September 4, 2015, for the inauguration of the University's chapter. The ten man team made up of both national and international delegates were received by the University Management in the Vice-Chancellor's Conference Room.

In his statement of purpose, the president of the group, Mr. Francis stated, "We are here for the inauguration of Africa's Young Entrepreneurs. This is geared towards giving young people a soft landing when they graduate from school; creating a platform whereby, they can receive funding and mentorship in business." He also stressed the need to teach young people that businesses can actually start without money.

Mr. Francis said that he conceived the vision for the organisation out of frustration, while living in South Africa, when he did not understand fully, what a business failure meant or understand how frustrating running a business could be. However, he said that his experiences opened him up to what many young people face in a bid to run their own businesses, adding that his desire is to help them transit smoothly.

The Registrar, Pastor Olamide Olusegun, in his remarks enthused about the prospect of building up the business capacity of CU students. He said, “We need to expand our scope and get the students to know what is available for them in the association.”

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Charles Ayo, stated in his remarks, that Covenant University was committed to raising a new generation of leaders in all spheres of human endeavour. He noted that the lack of credible leadership in Nigeria and indeed Africa, has informed the vision and drive of the University. He stated that there is hope for Africa in the goals of the Africa’s Young Entrepreneurs.

Professor Ayo, further explained that entrepreneurship was introduced in CU as a course and not a degree programme, because the Chancellor/Chairman Board of Regents of the University believed that Entrepreneurship should not be a paper based programme, rather it should have practical and hands-on training on how to start and build businesses.

He enjoined the newly inaugurated chapter and members to be mindful of the task of regular training and improvement.

Others at the event were the Director, Financial Services, Pastor Adebayo Oladehinbo; Dean, College of Business and Social Sciences (CBSS), Professor Francis Iyoha; Director, Centre for Entrepreneurial Development Studies (CEDS), Dr. Omotayo Adegbuyi; HOD, Business Management, Dr. Rowland Worlu; members of the newly inaugurated association and a member of the Directorate of Media & Corporate Affairs.

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