

# CU, Florida Varsity to Break New Grounds in Collaboration

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*Apparently satisfied with the level of success in their existing collaboration on research into how to curtail the scourge of cancer, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria, and the University of Florida Health Cancer Center, United States, have agreed in principle to explore new areas.*

The desire to widen the scope was made known on Monday, October 17, 2016, when the Director of University of Florida Health Cancer Center, Professor Folakemi Odedina, led a team to pay a courtesy call on the Management of Covenant University.



Participants in front of CUCRID building

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Speaking at the meeting, where she and her team were received by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA.

Atayero, and other members of management, Professor Odedina expressed her appreciation to Covenant University for its outstanding support for cancer awareness over the years since it signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Florida University.

The collaboration, she said, required an excellent support to thrive, and "Covenant University has put us on the map. However, we look forward to expanding from cancer to other areas".

Professor Atayero, in his remarks, who said he was happy to see Professor Odedina again, described the current MoU between Covenant University and the University of Florida Health Cancer Center as very good and assured that both organisations would strive to move it forward, especially as CU has a very strong Engineering Faculty.

"We'll take the MoU and Research to the next level, particularly with the new CUCRID (Covenant University Centre for Research, Innovation and Discovery) facility. We'll do everything possible to make sure your efforts are not in vain," said the Vice-Chancellor.

Professor Odedina and her team, which included a professor of Translation Genomics from the University of Southern California, Professor John Carpten; a Radiation Oncologist with the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Dr. Omolara Fatiregun; Dr. Kofi Gyan from the United States; and Dr. Titilola Akinremi, also from the United States, were primarily in Covenant University to organise the International Cancer Genomics and Informatics Workshop.

A Covenant University faculty, Professor Emeka Iweala, who was part of the team, said Professor Odedina and her entourage were in Nigeria to impact Covenant University and the Nigerian community on new ways of tackling cancer through lectures, seminars and meetings.

Other CU representatives at the event were the Registrar, Pastor Olamide Olusegun; Director, Financial Services, Pastor Bayo Oladehinbo; and Head of Department, Biological Sciences, Professor Adesola Ajayi; and Deputy Director, Research, CUCRID, Dr. Obinna Mwinyi.