

# Vice-Chancellor Urges Participants to Maximise Opportunity at Training Programme on Leadership Skills, Others

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*The Vice-Chancellor, Covenant, Professor AAA. Atayero, has urged participants at a five-day three-part training programme on leadership skills, grant writing, and mentoring skills for emerging leaders to make the most of the opportunity.*

The training programme featuring members of Management, Principal Officers, and Faculty of Covenant and her sister university, Landmark, was organised by the Team Leader, West African Virus Epidemiology (WAVE), Covenant University Hub, Dr. Angela Eni, with facilitators drawn from the African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD).



Vice-Chancellor, Covenant, Professor AAA. Atayero, giving his welcome remarks

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Giving his remarks at the opening session of the training on leadership skills, held on Monday, September 3, 2018, Professor Atayero commended Dr. Eni for the initiative and said it would have cost the University a fortune to have her personnel undergo the training abroad. Thus, it would be an exercise in futility if by the end of the training, it did not impart on how things were done at Covenant and Landmark.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, the vision of Covenant was to be one of the top 10 universities in the world by the year 2022 and as such, members of Management, Faculty and Staff must be at the cutting edge of their disciplines.

The Training and Development Officer, AWARD, Ms. Esther Njeru, said African women were having great innovations but were unable to present their findings. She added that the women had to seek mental and physical empowerment on how to write grant applications and then there was a need to involve everyone in the value chain, including men.

Dr. Salome Gitoho, a faculty at the United States International University, Kenya, who was one of the facilitators, said the purpose of the training was to strengthen Covenant and Landmark leadership and enable them to pursue and realise the Universities' vision.

She said the training objectives were for participants to be able to identify strategic learning opportunities to strengthen areas for development in leadership; differentiate between leadership and management functions; strengthen the ability to lead a team effectively with diverse groups; and articulate how they can serve as change agents in their own institutions among others. The other facilitator, Mr. Douglas Ouma, from the University of Eldoret, Kenya, told the participants that they would also be exposed to how institutions could use leadership to help address development issues in Africa.

Earlier in her welcome remarks, Dr. Angela Eni explained that having three different topics for the training programme was necessitated by the fact that Covenant had various cadres of faculty with different needs. According to the event schedule, the training on leadership skills was to hold from Monday to Wednesday, the training on grant writing was billed to begin on Wednesday, while the training on mentoring skills for emerging leaders was fixed for Thursday. The whole exercise was expected to end on Friday, September 7, 2018.

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