

NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM EXPLORATIONISTS (NAPE)

12TH NAPE – UAP LEADERSHIP FORUM

Friday 15TH – Sunday March 17TH, 2013

Venue: The Conference Center, University of Ibadan

THEME: Enhancing Skill-Based Learning and Professionalism in Geoscience Education in Nigeria – Industry to Academic Support and Collaboration

Workshop Communiqué issued at the end of a three-day NAPE 12TH University Assistance Programme (UAP) Leadership Forum, held at the Conference Centre, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, from March 15 to 17, 2013

Preamble:

The Nigerian Association of Petroleum Explorationists – University Assistance Programme (NAPE-UAP) 12TH Leadership Forum was held from March 15 to 17, 2013, at the conference Centre, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State. The forum was attended by over 100 participants comprising members of NAPE Executive Committee, Vice-Chancellors of University or their representatives, representatives of Captains of the Industry, and distinguished Industry and Academic Practitioners.

The theme of this year's forum is **“Enhancing skill-based Learning and Professionalism in Geoscience Education in Nigerian – Industry to Academic Support and Collaboration”**, and the primary objective is to strengthen the relationship between the industry and the academia in continuation of the commitment of NAPE to the study of the geosciences in Nigeria.

Plenary Session:

In the plenary session, several key papers were presented on the theme of the conference. This was followed by a Panel Discussion on **“Practical Strategies/Initiatives for Industry to Academic Teaching Support”**, and a breakout session to develop implementation of these strategies.

Observations from the Panel Discussion and Breakout Session:

The following were observed as factors and challenges that must be overcome in order to achieve a desired level of industry-to-academic support and collaboration:

- A realization that government alone cannot fund Nigerian Universities. Consequently, the industry and other stakeholders must make an input.
- Non compliance with class size (maximum of 50) as recommended by NUC and COMEG.

- Non cooperation by university administration in funding of field allowances.
- Instability of the academic session.
- Lack of unified framework for both university and the industry
- Poor attitude on the part of lecturers and students.
- Exodus of competent Nigerian professionals in the industry academia.
- Weak government regulations and policy enforcement.
- Lack of dynamism in the Geoscience Curriculum to match technological development in the industry.
- Limited cooperation of all stakeholders.
- Inability to sustain technological development and growth.
- High cost of equipment procurement and maintenance, including software licenses.
- Poor access to internet facilities.
- Tight work schedule of industry experts which does not encourage them to reach out to the University.
- Security and logic challenges for industry experts who desire to reach out to the University.

Recommendations:

As a means of overcoming some of these challenges, the following recommendations are made to enhance skill-based learning and professionalism in Geoscience Education in Nigeria:

The Government

- While government must strive to adequately fund the universities, the financial burden should be shared by the proprietors and all other stakeholders.
- Government should institute a National Research Fund Council to provide meaningful research grants to the universities.
- Government should incorporate elements of geosciences in the curriculum of secondary schools in order to improve students' understanding of the basic concepts.
- Government should enforce the Nigerian Content Policy.
- NUC and COMEG should work together to standardize the geosciences curriculum for universities while COMEG assists in enforcing minimum standard for geosciences education.

The Universities

- Each university should initiate a counseling and career development unit for proper counseling and development of leadership qualities in the students.
- Universities should be encouraged to set up special programmes for women to encourage more women participation.
- Universities should improve on teaching, learning and research strategies.
- Universities should support continuous re-training of their staff.

The industry and NAPE

- The Industry should foster more industry/teacher/student collaborations by establishing more geoscience centres of excellence.
- The industry should organize more job fairs for students.
- The industry should provide increased internship position to students and more opportunities for lectures to have industry experience through sabbatical programmes
- The should provide increased support for geological field trips.
- Professional Bodies such as NAPE, SPE, COMEG, etc must play more visible and active roles in fostering industry – academic collaboration.
- Geoscientists should be more active in their professional bodies in the areas of meeting their obligations to these bodies (e.g. payment of dues, practicing fees, etc).
- Availability of data for research work should be improved.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the 12TH NAPE-UAP Forum acknowledges the immense contributions of various participants including IOCs, PTDF, NCDMB, NUC, COMEG, AAPG, the universities, session chairs and distinguished speakers.

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Mr. George Osahon, fnape
NAPE President

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Mr. Olafioye Akinrinola
Chairman, UAP

17TH March, 2013