

ANCHOR

A publication of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness



Vol. 12 Issue 1

...assuring effectiveness, keeping the promise

March, 2025

OUR VISION

A driving force for transforming Babcock University into a center of excellence through assuring institutional effectiveness.

OUR MISSION

To Uphold Babcock University as a center of excellence, through quality development and management of personnel and materials in teaching and learning, research, and spirituality.

OUR CORE VALUES

Trust in God

Integrity

Persistence

Excellence

Diligence

Service

Loyalty to Seventh-day

Adventist Heritage

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EDITORIAL

Be Exceptional: Inspire, Influence, Impact

In an era marked by rapid technological advancements, including AI-driven applications like ChatGPT, OpenAI, and Deepseek, creativity is increasingly at risk. Many people have embraced the convenience of technology, often at the expense of traditional methods that foster innovation. The growing dependence on technology for nearly every task has, unfortunately, led to job losses, particularly among those who fail to distinguish themselves through exceptional work and innovation. As educators and staff of this esteemed institution, God's own university, it is imperative that we embody excellence in our teaching and service while exemplifying Christ in all we do. By setting high standards and leading with distinction, we posi-

tion ourselves as pioneers in academia and beyond. This edition of *Anchor Newsletter* explores various pathways to exceptionalism, including specialized workshops designed for provosts, deans, heads of departments, course advisors, and new faculty and staff. Additionally, it features exciting updates from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE). Let us continue to be trailblazers, setting ourselves apart through dedication, creativity, and unwavering commitment to excellence!



Constance C. Nwosu, PhD (AVP, IE)

PEN OF INSPIRATION

The Teacher and His Work

The teacher must bring to his difficult task the patience, forbearance, and gentleness of Christ. His heart must glow with the same love that led the Lord of life and glory to die for a lost world. Patience and perseverance will not fail of a reward. While his best efforts will sometimes prove unavailing, the faithful teacher will see fruit of his labor. Noble characters and useful lives will richly repay his toil and care. Many assume the position of a teacher without a proper sense of their responsibility and without due preparation. They are not actuated by that lofty purpose which an enlightened conscience and a love for souls would inspire. They teach merely to earn a livelihood, and do not realize the danger of marring the work by indulging their own peculiarities and revealing their defects of character. Hence their lack of self-control and wise discipline exerts upon pupils an influence which no after-effort can wholly counteract. The teacher should not enter upon his work without careful and thorough preparation. He should feel the importance of his calling, and give himself to it with zeal and devotion. It is not his duty to exhaust the energies of mind or body in other branches of labor which may be urged upon him. This would unfit him for his specific work. Every educator should daily receive instructions from the Great Teacher, and should labor constantly under his guidance. It is impossible for him rightly to understand or to perform his work, unless he shall be much with God in prayer. Only by divine aid, combined with earnest, self-denying effort, can he hope to fill his position wisely and well.

Culled from *The Teacher and His Work* by Ellen G. White, published in *The Review and Herald* on September 22, 1885.

OIE BRINGS TOGETHER ACADEMIC LEADERS FOR INSIGHTFUL WORKSHOP

As part of its commitment to institutional effectiveness, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) organized its annual workshop for Deans, Heads of Departments (HODs), and Course Advisors. The event took place on January 13, 2025, at the Sapphire Activity Hall, focusing on the theme **“Faith and Resilience: Implementing Academic Policies.”** The workshop provided faculty members with the necessary insights and strategies to navigate the academic year successfully. The session commenced with a devotional led by Prof. Efe Ehioghae, the University Pastor, who drew inspiration from Psalm 23. He emphasized the significance of God’s guidance in academic leadership, highlighting various leadership styles such as pace-setting, transformational, authoritative, and laissez-faire. According to Prof. Ehioghae, relying on divine direction equips leaders with the resources, motivation, and wisdom to effectively support stu-



Prof. Ehioghae

my Shepherd.”

Following the devotional, Prof. C.C. Nwosu, Associate Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and convener of the workshop, welcomed the attendees and provided a brief recap of the university’s mission, vision, and core values.



Prof. Amanze

In his keynote address on **“The Roles of Provosts, Deans, HODs, and Course Advisors,”** Prof. Philemon Amanze, Senior Vice President for Academics, stressed the need for educators to be intentional in fostering student success. He defined a Course Advisor as a qualified faculty member nominated by the head of department to work with registered students to achieve their academic goals. He highlighted the

importance of equipping faculty with the necessary skill set to effectively engage and mentor the Gen Z student population. Prof. Amanze emphasized that academic excellence remains the primary goal of higher education institutions and is achieved through alignment with the university’s mission, vision, and core values. He further stressed that ensuring student success requires a collaborative effort among academic stakeholders, including provosts, deans, HODs, and course advisors. Their responsibilities include mentoring students, fostering a cooperative academic environment, facilitating whole person development, and ensuring that students fulfill their academic requirements diligently.

Mrs. Modupe Idowu, Deputy Registrar of Exams and Senate, discussed the critical role of academic departments in student record management. She emphasized that accurate and efficient record-keeping enhances institutional effectiveness and positively impacts student outcomes. She also urged faculty members to uphold the school policies and collaborate closely with the Registry to ensure smooth academic operations. The Institutional Research Unit of OIE, headed by Dr. Ngozi Ogbonna, was also on ground to give update on Student Rating of Teaching Effectiveness (SRTE) for the 2023/2024 School Year.

The workshop concluded with an interactive session where participants addressed key concerns, including student who have exhausted their studentship, policy enforcement, disciplinary measures, and penalties for late course registration. The content of the workshop and its success reaffirmed OIE’s commitment to fostering an academic environment that prioritizes structure, resilience, and student success.

PHOTO VIEW FROM THE PROVOSTS, DEANS , HODS AND COURSE ADVISORS' WORKSHOP



Prof. Ogbonna and Dr. Ngozi speak as other faculty listen keenly



Prof. C.C. Nwosu



A cross-section of the participants

EMPOWERING EDUCATORS: OIE HOSTS TEACHERS' WORKSHOP

On January 14, 2025, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness organized a pivotal workshop for educators at the newly inaugurated Sapphire Activity Hall. Themed **"FAITH AND RESILIENCE: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR TOUGH TIMES,"** the event aimed to equip teachers with essential strategies for character-driven and engaging instruction. The workshop commenced with a devotional by Prof. Efe Ehioghae, the university pastor, who emphasized the transformative nature of teaching. Drawing insights from Matthew 5:2, Mark 4:2, Luke 10:39, and Acts 26:24, he highlighted that Jesus prioritized teaching over preaching. He urged educators to embody Christ-like character, as teaching is not just about intellectual impartation, but also about moral guidance and character development.

Prof. Philemon Amanze, Senior Vice President for Academics, highlighted the qualities of an effective teacher. He advised educators to be passionate, knowledgeable, and articulate while maintaining discipline in their classrooms. He also emphasized the importance of preparation, including professional appearance, as a reflection of their identity and role.

The keynote speaker, Mr. Abiola Abayomi Isikalu, an adjunct lecturer and PhD candidate in political science, delivered an insightful presentation on **"Interactive Learning Redefined: Harnessing Game-Based Pedagogy to Foster Critical Engagement Across Disciplines."** He explored the transformative impact of game-based learning in enhancing problem-solving, collaboration, and critical thinking. By simulating real-world scenarios, this approach enables students to apply theoretical knowledge in practical contexts. Mr. Isikalu contrasted AI-driven education with game-based pedagogy, emphasizing that games introduce real-world unpredictability, fostering adaptability and interdisciplinary learning. He encouraged educators to integrate game-based strategies for a more interactive and meaningful learning experience.

The workshop also featured testimonials from teachers who successfully integrated Faith in Learning (IFL) in their classrooms. Dr. Theodore Dickson shared how IFL has helped him develop resilience and improve classroom management. Prof. Akin Babalola spoke on how he integrates faith in learning in classroom by linking every concept to its biblical origin, while Dr. Elizabeth Ngozi explained how she uses nature object lessons to create a synergy between faith and learning in her classes. Dr. Jerry Kwarbai highlighted the value of empathy and relatability, while Dr. Uduak Edy-Ewoh emphasized attentiveness and recognizing each student's worth. Dr. Akissi Metonou testified to the power of continuous prayers for students, and



Mr. Isikalu

Dr. Maitanmi spoke on his commitment to supporting struggling learners while Prof. Dorcas Odunaike noted that her "food for thought" reflections had been transformative for her students.

The workshop provided an enriching platform for educators to explore faith-based and innovative pedagogical approaches, reinforcing their role in shaping resilient and morally grounded students.



A cross-section of the participants

GLIMPSES AND FACES AT THE PROVOSTS, DEANS , HODS AND COURSE ADVISORS' WORKSHOP



A cross-section of the participants

WELCOME ABOARD: ORIENTATION FOR NEW EMPLOYEES

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness organized an orientation session for newly recruited staff and faculty on January 15, 2025. The aim of the event was to acquaint the employees with the university's values, policies, and administrative structure, while reinforcing their commitment to excellent service.

Spiritual Care: Examining the Roles of Chaplaincy!

The program commenced with a devotional led by Pastor Chukwuemeka Abaribe, who reflected on 2 Kings 7, highlighting the virtues of selflessness and strategic thinking. He encouraged staff to be resilient, attentive to divine guidance, and steadfast in faith. Following the devotional, Pastor Abaribe introduced the concept of Chaplaincy Care, emphasizing the role of the Spiritual Life Department in providing support and fostering spiritual growth. He urged the new employees to engage with chaplains and utilize the available resources for personal and professional development.

Inside HR at Babcock: What Every New Employee Should Know!

Dr. Abiola Makinde, Director of Human Resources, addressed the roles and responsibilities of new employees, underscoring the importance of the Babcock University Employee Handbook as a key resource. She clarified employment terms and encouraged staff to adhere to the guidelines while maintaining diligence and professionalism.

Understanding the BU Organogram: Who's Who and What They Do!

Dr. Joshua Suleiman, Director of Marketing and Communication, provided insights into the administrative hierarchy of Babcock University. He outlined the leadership structure, including the roles of the Visitor, Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, and Vice-Chancellor, as well as the function of the Governing Council. He also explained the university's five divisions namely Presidency, Academic, Management Services, Financial Administration, and Student Development, emphasizing their roles in ensuring efficient communication and operations.

The Seventh-day Adventists: Friends in Faith, Neighbours in Love!

Dr. Toyin Babalola from the Department of Religious Studies introduced new employees to the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He described the church as a prophetic community with a global mission, referencing key scriptural passages such as Revelation 14:6-12. He also highlighted distinctive Adventist doctrines, including the observance of the Seventh-day Sabbath, creation, and perspectives on life after death.

Customer Care: The Right Way to Serve Every Customer!

Dr. Chinedu Ahannaya, a faculty member in the Department of Accounting and an expert in customer service, delivered a session on effective client relations. He emphasized the importance of building positive and lasting relationships with students, parents, colleagues, and other stakeholders. He encouraged staff to consistently deliver high-quality service, ensuring that every interaction leaves a lasting, positive impression.

Security Matters!

To enlighten the new employee on security details, Dr. Chukwuma Ajike, the Director of Babcock Security Services, was on ground to do justice to the subject matter. He admonished the participants to be security conscious and comply with the rules/regulations of the institution as stipulated in the employee's handbook.

The orientation program provided new employees with essential knowledge and resources to navigate their roles effectively while reinforcing Babcock University's commitment to academic excellence, faith-based leadership, and exceptional service delivery.



Dr. Makinde



Pastor Abaribe

PICTURE PANORAMA FROM THE NEW EMPLOYEE'S ORIENTATION



Pastor Babalola



Dr. Ahannaya



Dr. Ajike



A cross-section of the participants



WAD HOSTS STRATEGIC PLANNING SEMINAR AT BABCOCK UNIVERSITY

The West-Central Africa Division (WAD) of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, through its Office of Strategic Plan, conducted a two-day seminar on January 27–28, 2025, at Babcock University's BBS Auditorium A. The seminar aimed to align the institution's efforts with its forthcoming 2025–2030 Strategic Plan. The event was led by Pastor (Prof.) Oyeleke Owolabi, WAD's Field Secretary for Strategic Planning. In his opening remarks, Babcock University President/Vice Chancellor, Pastor (Prof.) Ademola Tayo, encouraged participants to fully engage in the planning process to support the university's mission and long-term goals.

The program opened with a devotional session by University Pastor, Pastor (Prof.) Efe Ehioghare, who underscored the importance of "Faithfulness and Stability" in achieving strategic goals, drawing lessons from biblical texts such as Ephesians 1:4 and Nehemiah 2:18.

Pastor Owolabi's presentations emphasized the importance of understanding the institution's history and mission, revisiting its foundational statements, and fostering collective ownership of the strategic process. He outlined four key strategic priorities: Communion with God, Identity in Christ, Unity through



Prof. Tayo



Prof. Owolabi

the Holy Spirit, and Mission for All. He stressed the need to integrate Christian values into academic life and prepare students spiritually and academically.

The seminar included breakout sessions for participants to contribute ideas toward achieving the strategic goals. Concluding the event, Pastor Owolabi highlighted essential steps for effective strategic planning: needs assessment, evaluation of past strategies, detailed planning, time management, alignment with institutional values, and team collaboration. He urged all attendees to be committed strategic thinkers in implementing the university's vision for the next five years.



A cross-section of the participants

"If you don't know where you are going, you might wind up someplace else." ~ Yogi Berra

CELEBRATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS (OIE)

The year 2025 kicked off on a joyful note for the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) with a series of birthday celebrations among staff members. Leading the celebrations was Prof. C.C. Nwosu, Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness, who marked her milestone 70th birthday on January 15. Just days later, January 18, Mrs. Bukola Ajibola from the Institutional Research Unit (IRU) also celebrated her birthday. Continuing the cheerful spirit into February, the month of love, Mrs. Rose Allison from the Quality Assurance and Control Unit added to the festive atmosphere with her birthday on February 5.



Prof. Nwosu

We extend our warmest wishes to all the celebrants for a year filled with good health, joy, and prosperity!



Mrs. Ajibola



Mrs. Allison



A cross-section of the happy OIE family celebrating with the Birthday Celebrants