First Cohort of UMFlint-Nigerian tDPT Students Graduate



Sunday, May 5, 2013 - Flint, MI, USA: Indeed, history was made today when six (6) members of the first cohort of Nigerian based Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy (tDPT) students graduated with their DPT during the commencement ceremony of the University of Michigan-Flint (UMFlint), Flint Michgan. Please join us in congratulating the pioneer Nigerian based DPT physiotherapists:

1. Dr. Nneamaka Abanum
2. Dr. Kayode Alewi
3. Dr. Aderonke Eso
4. Dr. Frank Iheakam
5. Dr. Izuchukwu Nwoba
6. Dr. Olabisi Oyarekua

Only Drs. Abanum, Alewi and Oyarekua were able to make it to the commencement ceremony. They were joined in the celebration by family and friends.

				
'Amaka Abanum	Kayode Alewi	Aderonke Eso	Frank Iheakam	Izuchukwu Nwoba

The Nigeria Physiotherapy Network (NPN) salutes the courage, resilience, and determination of members of the 1st UMFlint-Nigerian tDPT cohorts. They deserve the accolades and compliments for doing the Nigeria Physiotherapy Community proud by completing their tDPT studies. These six DPT physiotherapists therefore becomes the first Nigerian based (or South African based - in case of Kayode Alewi) Nigerian physiotherapists to earn a DPT. We also salute the spouses, family and friends of the graduates whose moral and financial support made this possible.



The Nigeria Physiotherapy community was well represented by a very powerful delegation from Nigeria and the United States. Dignitaries include:

- Dr. Joshua Dele Jogunola - CEO/Registrar of the MRTRB
- Mr. Taiwo J. Oyewumi - President, Nigeria Society of Physiotherapy
- Col. (Dr.) Paschal O. Mogbo - CEO, Preferred Physiotherapy Clinic and Vice-Chair, National Postgraduate Physiotherapy College of Nigeria
- Dr. (Mrs) Bridget Birabi - Former President of Nigeria Society of Physiotherapy, and Chair, Education COmmittee of the Nigeria Society of Physiotherapy
- Ms. Ummukulthoum Bakare - Public Relations Officer of the Nigeria Society of Physiotherapy

Other dignitaries from the US who graced the occassion include:

- Dr. Abiodun E. Akinwuntan - Associate Professor and Interim Associate Dean for Research, College of Allied Health Sciences, Georgia Regent University, Augusta, GA; and Chair, Nigeria-US PT Programs Alliance Executive Committee of the of the Nigeria Physiotherapy Network
- Dr. Lukman Ganiyu - Owner and President, Spine & Orthopedic Physical Therapy, Beloit, WI; and Vice-Chair, Nigeria-US PT Programs Alliance Executive Committee of the of the Nigeria Physiotherapy Network.
- Dr. Emmanuel B. John - Associate Professor, Radford University, Roanoke, VA, and Executive Director of the Nigeria Physiotherapy Network.

- Welcome Reception for Nigerian PT Dignitaries by UMFlint Professors
- Nigerian Dignitaries Visit Genesys Medical Center
- Nigerian PT Dignitaries and DPT Students at Lunch
- Nigerian Dignitaries Visited UMFlint PT Program
- UMFlint Chancellor Hosted Nigerian Dignitaries to a Luncheon
- Commencement (Graduation) and Graduate Luncheon

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