



NATIONAL UNION OF CAMPUS JOURNALISTS



(NUCJ) NDU Chapter

utilizing the strength of the pen in togetherness

Our Ref: _____

Date: 06/09/2019

Your Ref: _____

Invitation! Invitation!! Invitation!!!

Are you a writer, publisher, blogger, social media activist or in any related field in NDU?

The National Union of Campus Journalists (NUCJ) NDU Chapter invites members of the Public to its Maiden Congress which is slated to hold 12:00pm – 2:00pm on Saturday 7th September, 2019 at MJE Tech Centre, Beside RCF Tent, Main Campus School Gate, Amassoma (Next bus stop: Pop corn Stand).

Issues: Managing, curtailing and refining information for the betterment of our society.

The purpose for the formulation and establishment of NUCJ in NDU is to ensure that information disseminated about our local institution are correct and portray our institution in a decent and better light. This opportunity shall also be used to establish the National Union of Campus Journalists (NUCJ) in NDU with immediate appointment and election of its leaders.

Interested members of the public are hereby informed to send attendance notifications to 08082308255 or 08050706635.

Thanks and Godbless.

Kumo George K. (*Announcer*) (OGA NDU) 08082308255

Ozubide W. (Coordinator I) (NDU LATEST NEWS) 08141905827

Funkebi Gbenefadei (Coordinator II) (World News 24Hrs) 08024291361

Michael O. J. (Convener) (Admissions and UTME Nigeria) 08060699054

Programme of the Day

1. Welcoming of guests
2. Introduction of guests
3. Opening prayer
4. Opening speech
5. Keynote Address: **Managing, curtailing and refining information for the betterment of our society**
6. Feedback from audience
7. Election of principal officers
8. Meeting with the NDU PRO – Mr. Indoni Ingezi
9. Constitution of union funds
10. Tags, ID cards and jackets
11. AOB
12. Closing remarks
13. Closing prayer

**MANAGING, CURTAILING AND REFINING INFORMATION
FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR SOCIETY**

**MICHAEL, O. J.
CONVENER**

**LEAD PAPER PRESENTATION AT THE MAIDEN CONGRESS
EDITION OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF CAMPUS
JOURNALISTS (NUCJ), NDU CHAPTER HOLDEN ON
SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER, 2019 IN WILBERFORCE
ISLAND, BAYELSA STATE**

SEPTEMBER, 2019

Introduction

The explosion of information dissemination in modern times as a result of unfettered access to the internet has made it very possible for virtually everyone to become a journalist of some sort. All thanks to the electronic media, information can now be easily posted, copied and shared without any form of stress or incumbrance. This made reports skyrocket and have far reaching effects as reports now move faster than the speed of light.

Despite the above benefit/advantage of modern media reportage, it could not be totally asserted that it has not been without any single disadvantage. For the fact that there is no single body to oversee the news that goes on in the media, many has resorted to using it for blackmail, spreading of falsehood, misleading members of the public and using such in attacking opposition or those who share different opinions or belief.

The media has been used to mislead many in the past. Prior to the 2015 presidential elections, the media was widely used to fight against the removal of fuel subsidy. While this was then considered to be a very good move, it later became visible that such struggle was unnecessary as

those who were at the forefront of the struggle later became those who removed the fuel subsidy in the next administrative dispensation.

Within our local community here in NDU, almost the same thing played out few years ago. It was widely purported that the NDU management in collaboration with the state government was selling the NDU matriculation gown to University of African, Toru-Orua. It was also widely shared that the NDU also moved some mattresses to the same university. These stories were not adequately investigated to know the true situation of things. Although some later independent testimonies proved all these allegations to be false, a proper investigation especially inquiries from the NDU management would have shared a better light on the issue then, whereas, there was none.

With the foregoing, there was every need to formulate a strong body that can oversee the nature of news that leaves the environment with the aim of ensuring that any news shared is correct, true and places our great institution in a very decent and better light.

Managing Information

With the happenings around the Niger Delta University in recent times, there is need to manage information for the betterment of us all. It

should be recalled that the level of crises experienced in NDU during the school fees and civil service reforms saga would have been minimal if correct information were available to us all. This is to say that any information at our disposal must be managed to ensure that what comes out of it is good to the hearing of all and brings glory to the NDU. We must understand that we have all paid a price for the current peace being experienced in the NDU and as such, we must do all we can to sustain it by publishing positive information that can improve our quality as bearers of a good institutional certification.

Curtailing Information

The need to curtail information cannot be overemphasized. We must understand that what we have built for years can be destroyed with just one publication, hence, we must be restrictive in our bid to be the first to publish information. Curtailing information means that when you get a report, you wait, check through it and assess its suitability and correctness before publishing. Sometimes, the information may be correct, but the perception it may create can affect a personality or an institution. We do well to curtail the information to avoid unnecessary backlash and attention to ourselves.

Refining Information

Refining information will have to do with how we want information to look like. Sometimes, one may even distort the correctness of information for the purpose of saving society of crisis. If in your own discretion, an information will cause crisis, why not refine the information and put it in a better light? As time goes on, management may even request us to share particular information, if such information does not negatively affect any student or staff but just to create a good perception about NDU, then, it is wise to follow suit other than trying to exert ourselves that the true information must be published. In due time, we shall be looking at the challenges of being at loggerheads with school management and how we can manage it. We shall also look at how to publish radical information in the long run, but for now, this paper shall be restricted on the need to refine information to put society at large in a better light.

Summary/Conclusion

From the foregoing, we can see that to manage, curtail and refine information for the betterment of our society requires high

professionalism and a coordinated body to help direct the paths and forms of information disseminated from the NDU.

From time to time, we shall continue to work with the NDU to ensure that we develop Campus Journalism in NDU and contribute our quota to the betterment of the Niger Delta University.

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Admissions and UTME Nigeria