

Dr. Celestine Iyamu Emerges the National President of the PTI Alumni Association

Dr Celestine Iyamu recently emerged the National President of the Alumni Association of the Petroleum Training Institute, (PTI) Effurun, assuring that his team has a lot of visions and plans to take the alumni to greater heights.

In his word, "We will contribute meaningfully to the growth and development of the oil and gas sector of the nation's economy as alumni of the PTI. It is on good record that graduands of this great Institute are proud of the school. Many of us have also gone to other institutions to get higher degrees and certificates. But the PTI is our base, so we are very proud of the school".

Speaking further, Dr. Iyamu noted that, "I have three years tenure as the president, and I want to focus on three areas. One is to complete the PTI alumni building started by the old executive in the school. Within a space of one year, we should complete that building.

"Secondly, I also want to get our graduands all over the world that are yet to be active in the alumni to come in. Many of them are in high places. For instance, Professor Kalu Osiri, in the United States of America, he is the owner of a university, he graduated from the PTI. He has assured he would come on board.

"The third vision is to give the alumni a political power, that power that will help us take the alumni to greater heights. Outside finance, we need the political power as a body to attract government's attention. It will make government give the Institute attention. We should develop the links with political leaders".

Speaking on the poor funding facing the Institute, Dr. Iyamu said, "My appeal to Mr. President is that politics should not come into the PTI. The government should give adequate funding to the PTI, compel the Petroleum Technology Development Fund, (PTDF) to fund the PTI adequately, Tertiary Education Trust Fund, (TETFund) and other agencies should do the same".

In the words of Dr. Iyamu, "Mr. President should see the PTI as one instrument to up-scale his achievements. The Ministry of Petroleum resources should ensure that the Institute gets adequate funding for the Institute. Also, The Federal Government can engage the alumni in finding solutions to challenges in the oil and gas sector. We can be part of government panels and committees to provide solutions. We have many of our graduands that are playing great roles in the oil and gas sector across the globe.

"The current National president of Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria, (PENGASSAN), Engr Festus Osifo is a product of the PTI. So, you see we have many of the right persons that can help government add value to the oil and gas sector", he noted.