



**Sub-Saharan Africa
University Rankings 2023**

Ranked 1st in Nigeria, 1st in West Africa and 7th Best in Africa

OFFICE OF THE DEAN, SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

Professor Akan B. Williams

August 2, 2024.

The Centre Leader,

Covenant Applied Informatics and Communication

Africa Centre of Excellence (CApIC-ACE),

Covenant University.

Dear Sir,

CApIC-ACE Impact on Postgraduate Students' Enrolment

Covenant Applied Informatics and Communication Africa Centre of Excellence (CApIC-ACE) funded by the World Bank for 2019 - 2024 ACE-IMPACT has been truly impactful, being a blessing to Covenant University. I recall it was during my tenure as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor that the University received the approval as one of the World Bank's Centres of Excellence. As the Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies for four academic sessions now, I can attest to the impact of the Centre on postgraduate students' enrolment, quality of studentship and the ranking of the university.

A total of 165 postgraduate students have been given admission through the scholarship offered by CApIC-ACE since 2019, where the awardees are employed as Research Assistants (RAs). Out of the 165 students, 40 Ph.D and 125 master's students were awarded different categories of scholarships in Bioinformatics, Computer Science, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Cheminformatics and Information and Communication Engineering within the period under review. The increased number of scholarship awarded has contributed to the increased number of postgraduate students with good completion rate. New programme options such as Cheminformatics have been introduced in the School of Postgraduate Studies as a result of the scholarship opportunities provided by the Centre.

Vice-Chancellor:
Professor Abiodun H. Adebayo

Registrar:
Mrs. Regina A. Tobi-David

Raising A New Generation Of Leaders

The quality of the National and Regional postgraduate students is high as the awardees are usually selected among the top rated students from Nigeria and other African countries including Cameroon, Benin, Ghana, Liberia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zambia. Twenty one international students have been given postgraduate admission to date. This is significant as Covenant University barely had postgraduate students from the international context before the inception of the Centre. Significantly, a CApIC-ACE doctoral student from Cameroon, Mr. Wakai Theophilus, became the Chairman of the Postgraduate Student Council in 2023/2024 academic year. This is the first time an international student has been appointed as Chairman of the Council, showing the extent of integration of the international students in the university via the Centre.

The increased number of international students has also positively impacted on the ranking of Covenant University as percentage of international students in universities is one of the ranking parameters employed by Times Higher Education and other ranking agencies. The increased number of students also leads to increased publications for the university in *Scopus* indexed outlets as every student is expected to publish in two or three *Scopus* indexed outlets, depending on the type of programme, before graduation.

Your vision to produce a critical mass of qualified manpower, equipped with knowledge, skills and abilities to eliminate malaria and reduce the burden of breast and prostate cancers in the West and Central Africa have been largely realized.

This report is a validation of your end-of-project impact assessment. I congratulate the Centre leadership, the faculty, staff and students of the Centre for the positive impact on Covenant University.

Thank you.



Professor Akan Williams (Ph.D, FCSN, FICCON, MACS, MRSC)

Dean, School of Post Graduate Studies