

Algonquin College to Train Nigerian University Graduates in Network Technology

Ottawa, ON, Aug. 17, 2005 – Algonquin College signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the government of Akwa Ibom, Nigeria, to train 70 Nigerian university graduates in different programs related to network technologies.

This \$2.5 million contract will be delivered over two years with the students training at Algonquin's Woodroffe Campus and living in the College's residence. Upon graduation, the students will return to Nigeria to help establish and operate a network of connectivity across their country.

Algonquin President Robert Gillett, His Worship Bob Chiarelli, Mayor of the City of Ottawa, Dr. Ebebe A. Ukpogon, Honourable Commissioner of the Ministry of Economic Development, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria, His Excellency Femi George, Nigerian High Commissioner, Akin Olafimihan, Chairman and CEO of Canadian Studies Limited as well as other Nigerian government delegates were on hand to speak at the signing of the MOU.

"Algonquin College is pleased to enter into this unique partnership with the Nigerian Government," says Algonquin College President Robert Gillett. "This joint venture is another example of how Algonquin College is addressing the increasing need, in Canada and abroad, for highly-skilled graduates that have practical experience in network technology."

The 70 students will be staying in Algonquin College's 1050-bed residence and will be enrolled in one or more of the following programs; Enterprise network Specialist, Internet Application Programmer, Computer Programmer, Computer Systems Technician, Photonics Engineering Technology, Geographic Information Systems, Interactive Multimedia and Information Systems Security.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the Nigerian students to receive the skills they need to help with the advancement of Nigeria," says Akin Olafimihan, Chairman and CEO of Canadian Studies Limited.

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Algonquin College was chosen by the Nigerian government as it is recognized internationally as a leader in the field of information technology training. The College is also well situated in the Nation's Capital which is known as the high technology and telecommunications centre for Canada.

"Our Nigerian Students will be wonderful ambassadors for Algonquin College and the City of Ottawa when they return to Nigeria," says Abla Sherif, Director of Algonquin College's International Education Centre.

About Algonquin College

Algonquin College of Applied Arts and Technology is located in the Nation's Capital and the Ottawa Valley and is the third-largest college in Ontario. Algonquin turns technology to students' advantage, delivering top-calibre education and valuable experience in high-demand industries. Algonquin College has a diverse population of some 15,000 full-time students and 41,000 part-time registrations in more than 120 programs and is committed to student success.

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