

Petroleum Engineering Education in Nigeria – The Way Forward

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Abstract

Nigeria being blessed with enormous oil and gas reserves is yet to experience development in her petroleum engineering related researches. There are only four Universities offering petroleum engineering education in about 40 recognized Universities. Most postgraduate studies are done abroad.

Presently, the government created Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) which is expected to equip Petroleum Engineering Departments (PED) in these Universities spends her resources in sending students abroad for the so-called postgraduate training instead of developing the expected PED. Is this what development is all about? International Partnerships Development Program (IPDP) and International Petroleum Engineering Departments Exchange Program (IPEDEP) are major tools to enhance this development.

This paper examines the history of Petroleum Engineering Education in Nigeria. It further compares the present state of Petroleum Engineering Education in the country with what obtains in some other Universities of the world.

The problems facing the departments were enumerated, some of which are inadequate funding, lack of equipments and facilities for researches, poor salary structure for lecturers and other staffs, nonchalant attitude of oil industries and companies e.t.c.

It suggests the possible steps the government through National University Commission (NUC) and other organization should take to improve the quality of Petroleum Engineering Education in Nigeria.