



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

UWinnipeg's Global College Supports First Annual Igbo Cultural Festival 2005

WINNIPEG—Manitoba Igbo Cultural Festival 2005, presented by Umunna (Igbo) Cultural Association of Manitoba Inc. and supported by The University of Winnipeg's Global College, takes place Saturday, July 9, 2005 at Tech-Voc High School, 1555 Wall Street from Noon until 7:00 p.m.

The daylong festival will feature live music and dance performances, exhibits, food, and cultural displays from the Igbo homeland in Nigeria; and, educational lectures and presentations on Igbo culture and the Nigerian people by experts from across North America.

The purpose of the first annual Igbo Fest is to raise awareness of the importance of Nigerian/Igbo history and heritage in Winnipeg's diverse cultural collage.

Experts on the history of Nigeria and the Igbo people will create a stimulating multi-disciplinary forum in which festival participants can share research, experiences, and ideas on Igbo culture, history, and heritage.

Organizers are anticipating attendees from various cities throughout Canada and the United States. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

Keynote speakers include:

- **Dr. Okechukwu Ikejiani**, M.D., F.R.C.Path., Ottawa; Distinguished physician, academic, and community builder in Nigeria and Canada; Retired Medical Director, Board member, and Director of Laboratories, Glace Bay Community, and Glace Bay General Hospitals, Glace Bay, Nova Scotia; and, Consultant Pathologist, Sydney Regional Hospital, Sydney, Nova Scotia. **Lecture title:** *The Igbo within Multicultural Canada.*
- **Dr. Emmanuel Egbogah**, P.Eng., Calgary; Chairman and CEO, Emerald Energy Resources Ltd., and O&G Technologies Ltd, Calgary, Alberta;

International Energy Advisor; Pioneered the establishment of the Dept. of Petroleum Engineering at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria in early 1970s; and, designed and taught Petroleum Engineering courses world-wide, including in Canada, Britain, Libya, Malaysia and Nigeria. **Lecture title:** *Uche Akonam: The Science and Technology Mind of the Igbos.*

- **Mrs. Florence Okwudili**, Winnipeg; Member of non-governmental organizations dealing with issues of development and the underprivileged. **Lecture title:** *The Role of Igbo Women in Community Development.*
- **Mr. Arinze Eze**, Winnipeg: Performing Artist. **Lecture title:** *The Richness of Art and Culture among the Youth*

For more information, please visit www.umunnaigbo.mb.ca

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