



UNN-USA SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWS LETTER

Featuring the Chicago Convention
Report



• Elevating Legacies. • Strengthening Bonds. • Networking for Impact.



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CHAIR'S FOREWORD



Dear UNN-USA Family,

Every year, our convention reminds us why we do what we do. It's not just a reunion, it's a reaffirmation of the bond we share as sons and daughters of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. Scattered across America but never far from home in spirit.

Chicago 2026 was, by every measure, a convention to remember. We welcomed old friends and new members alike, elected a new set of leaders to carry the baton forward, and had the honor of hosting the Vice Chancellor of our alma mater in person, a gesture that speaks volumes about the strength of the relationship between UNN and its diaspora family.

This newsletter captures the highlights of a weekend that, once again, proved that distance cannot dim the light of our great alma mater.

Thank you for showing up, for staying engaged, and for continuing to believe in this community.

With gratitude,

Dr. Charmaine Emelife

Chair, UNN-USA 2026
Convention Planning
Committee

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Celebrating Our Legacy. Building Our Future.

The just-concluded UNN-USA Annual Convention in Chicago was a remarkable celebration of our shared heritage, enduring friendships, and collective vision for the future.

Under the theme “Elevating Legacies and Networking for Impact,” the convention brought together alumni, distinguished guests, leaders, professionals, and friends of the University of Nigeria for meaningful engagement, reflection, and fellowship.

From the warmth of our Friday Night Meet & Greet to the thoughtful conversations, leadership transition, and inspiring keynote address on Saturday, the convention demonstrated once again the strength of the UNN family when we come together with a common purpose.



We are grateful to every attendee, speaker, panelist, volunteer, partner, and supporter whose presence and contribution made this gathering memorable.

Our legacy connects us. Our network empowers us. Our impact defines us.

Dr. Chika Okafor,
Outgoing President,
UNN-USA



ABOUT UNN-USA

UNN-USA is the umbrella body representing alumni & friends of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka living across the United States & North America.

The organization exists to:

01

Foster fellowship among UNN alumni in the diaspora

02

Support the university's continued growth and development

03

Create networking and mentorship opportunities across generations of alumni

04

Give back to the UNN community through outreach and giving

Today, UNN-USA continues to grow as one of the most active alumni networks representing the university abroad.

We are Grateful!!

To every alum, spouse, friend, and well-wisher who made the trip to Chicago this year, thank you!! Whether you flew in from across the country or drove in from down the road, your presence made this convention one to remember.

From the warmth of Friday night to the final handshake on the way out, this gathering reaffirmed why UNN-USA remains one of the strongest alumni networks in the diaspora. We're already looking forward to seeing you again.



UNN-USA CHICAGO 2026 AT A GLANCE!

Friday Night Meet & Greet

The convention kicked off with an evening of reconnection; old classmates catching up, new members finding their footing, and a room full of familiar Nsukka energy. It set exactly the right tone for the weekend: relaxed, warm, and full of anticipation for what was ahead.



UNN-USA CHICAGO 2026 AT A GLANCE!

Election of New EXCOs

A major highlight of this year's convention was the election of a new Executive Committee to steer UNN-USA forward. Members turned out to cast their votes, and the process reflected the same transparency and commitment to service that has defined this organization for years.



Val Uche, MD
President



Dr. Mrs. Tina Ukaigwe
Vice President

UNN-USA CHICAGO 2026 AT A GLANCE!

Fireside Chat with Distinguished Panelists

Attendees were treated to an engaging fireside conversation featuring four distinguished panelists, who shared candid insights and lessons drawn from their own journeys. The session sparked lively discussion and left many in the room with fresh perspective.



**Engr. Mrs.
Magdalen Emeruwa**



**Okwy Okeke,
MBA, MSF**



**Leo Chuks
Egbujiobi MD,
FACC, FSCAI**



**Dr. Charmaine
Emelife**

UNN-USA CHICAGO 2026 AT A GLANCE!

Keynote Address: Dr. Ufodike

Dr. Ufodike delivered the convention's keynote address on "Elevating Legacies and Networking for Impact." It was a compelling call to action, urging alumni to build on the legacy of their alma mater while using the strength of the network to create real, measurable impact in their communities. It's the kind of message that stayed with people well after the applause died down.

For the full speech, visit unnusa.org



Dr. Chidebelu Ufodike
Chief Operating Officer, New
Jersey Urology, U.S.

UNN-USA CHICAGO 2026

AT A GLANCE!

Saturday Night Gala

The weekend closed in style with the Saturday Night Gala; an evening of celebration, reflection, fund raising, and pride in how far UNNUSA has come.

Beyond the good food and even better company, the gala served as a showcase of the organization's achievements over the years, reminding everyone in the room just how much impact this alumni body has had, both for the university and for the students it supports.

Watching the testimonials of the UNN-USA Scholarship beneficiaries was a powerful close to the convention, and a fitting reminder of why this community keeps showing up, year after year.



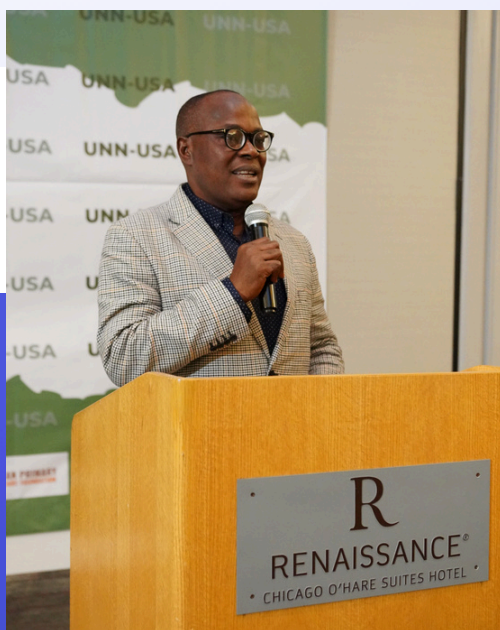
UNN-USA CHICAGO 2026 AT A GLANCE!

An August Visitor

The convention was honoured by the presence of the incumbent Vice Chancellor of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, who graced the occasion. His attendance underscored the enduring bond between UNN and its alumni body in the diaspora, and served as a powerful reminder of the shared mission that brings us all together year after year.

Thank you Mr. Vice Chancellor!!

To access the full speech, visit unnusa.org.



Professor Simon Uchenna Ortuanya
Vice Chancellor, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Your Generosity in Action!

Thanks to your incredible support at this year's convention, our alumni family generated \$39,655.00 in new commitments for student scholarships & endowment fund!

Here is how your contributions are making an impact:

\$13,355.00 in Cash: Already received and ready to deploy for the upcoming academic term.

\$26,300.00 in Pledges: Committed to sustaining our scholarship efforts moving forward.

Scholarship Impact to Date:

- 245 students across 31 departments have received scholarships, including 42 students with special needs.
- 19 students across 7 departments have benefited to date from the Named Scholarship Endowment Fund.

Thank you to everyone who attended, contributed, and pledged. We are deeply proud of what we can accomplish together!

LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

UNN-USA is led by an elected Executive Committee, supported by a Board and various standing committees that coordinate the organization's activities throughout the year.

Meet the very credible Executives who will steer the affairs of UNN-USA for the next 4 years:

Val Uche, MD
President
Med. Surg, 2009



Dr. Mrs. Tina Ukaigwe
Vice President
Department of Statistics, 1983



OUTGOING EXECUTIVES



Dr. Chika Okafor
President



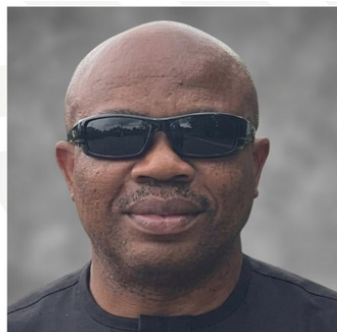
Dr. Sabine Chibueze
Vice President



Dr. Nnanya Kalu
Secretary



Dr. Chioma Ogunedo
Assistant Secretary



Mr. Chukwuemeka Oduah
Financial Secretary



Dr. Edith Okwandu
Public Relations Officer



Dr. Chidozie Amuzie
Ex-Officio Member



Dr. Valentine Uche
Director of Special Projects



Mrs. Ijeoma Nwabara
National Treasurer



Atty Onyi Ekwegbalu
Legal Adviser

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE TO UNN-USA!!!



2026/2027 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

We are pleased to announce that applications are now open for the next batch of scholarship beneficiaries.

This scholarship programme exists to support indigent students at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, helping to ease the financial burden of their education and ensuring that no student is forced to give up on their studies for lack of means.

How to Apply: Visit www.uunusa.org

If you know a deserving UNN student, kindly share this opportunity with them.

Deadline for application: October 1, 2026

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN OUR NEXT CONVENTION!

ATLANTA 2028



SEE YOU THERE!!!

Scan here to join the
WhatsApp community:



Know anyone who graduated from UNN and living in the US? Let's stay connected and make impact together. Join our WhatsApp Community to stay updated.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

UNN-USA extends its sincere appreciation to everyone who made the 2026 convention possible: our sponsors, volunteers, members, and every attendee who travelled to Chicago to be part of this.

Special shout-out to the ever capable convention planning committee members who ensured that this convention was a success: Dr. Charmaine Emelife, Dr. Sabine Chibueze, Dr. Tina Ukaigwe, Mr. Didacus Udeoji, Mrs. Ijeoma Nwabara, Dr. Chika Okafor, Mrs. Ngozika Okoroafor, Dr. Emmanuel Ekwulundu, Deacon Charles Anumudu, Dr. Chinyere Anyaogu, Dr. Val Uche, Dr. Paul Amuchie.

Thank you to UNN-USA leadership including Dr. Michael Okoroafor and all our Past Presidents. To the local organizers who brought Chicago to our doorstep, we sincerely appreciate you! Thank you to everyone who came out; we couldn't possibly name you all, but we're grateful to everyone of you.



Photo Gallery



Photo Gallery





Contact us:

LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube:
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and Friends Association USA

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