A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION UMUNNEOCHI, ABIA STATE, TO PROVIDE FULL-TIME COURSES TEACHING, INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING IN TECHNOLOGY, APPLIED SCIENCE, ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES AND MANAGEMENT AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

1.-(1) There is established the Federal College of Education Umunneeochi, Abia State (Herein after referred to as "the college").

(2) The College shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and common seal and shall take power to acquire and dispose of interest in movable and immovable properties.

(3) The College may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

2.-(1) The governance and direction of the college affairs shall rest in the governing council of the college (in the Bill required to as "the council");

(2) The Council shall have the responsibility to consider and approve:

(a) The Programme of studies to be undertaken in the college;

(b) The annual estimates of the college; and

(c) The investment plan of the college.

(3) The Provision of the schedule to this Bill shall have effect with respect to the council to as mentioned herewith.

3.-(1) The council of the college shall consider of:

(a) A chairman and other members to be appointed by the President;
(b) A representative of the Federal Ministry of Education;
(c) A representative of the University of which the College is
affiliated to for the purpose of moderation;
(d) Two representatives of the academic board of the College;
(e) A representative of the National Commission for the College of
Education; and
(f) The Provost of the College.

4.- (1) A member of the council (other than the ex-official members)
shall hold office for a term of four years and subject to the provision of sub-
section (2) of this section shall be eligible for re-appointment for a further
period of four years and also move.

(2) The office of a member appointed under section 3 of this Bill shall
become vacant of:

(a) The member resigns in office by notice of writing under his hand
addressed to the Minister; or
(b) The Minister is satisfied that it is not in the interest of the college
for the person appointed to continue in office and notifies the member in
writing to that effect.

5. The functions of the college shall be:

(a) To provide full-time courses in teaching instruction and training:
   (i) In technology, applied sciences, arts, social science, humanities
   and management; and
   (ii) In such other fields of applied learning relevant to the needs of
development of Nigeria.
(b) To conduct courses in Education for qualified teachers;
(c) To arrange conference, seminars and workshops relative to the
functions of the college; and
(d) To perform such other functions as in the opinion of the council
may serve to promote the objective of the college.

6. The council of the college shall have power to:
(a) Hold examinations and grant NCE, Diplomas, Professional Certificates and other distinctions to persons, who have pursued of study approved and accredited by the National Commission for Colleges of Education;

(b) Hold examinations in Education for qualified teachers;

(c) Recruit staff and determine structure of such staff;

(d) Demand and receive from any student or any other person attending the college for the purpose of construction such fees as the council may with the prior approval of the Minister, from time to time determine;

(e) Hold public lectures and undertake printing, publishing and bookselling;

(f) Award fellowship, medals, prizes and other titles;

(g) Establish and maintain such schools and other teaching units with the college or extra moral departments as the councils may from time to time determine;

(h) Erect provide equip and maintain such educational recreational and residential facilities as the college may require;

(i) Create lectureships and other academic post and offices and to make appointment thereof;

(j) Receive and make gifts;

(k) Enter into such contracts as may be necessary or expedients for carrying into effects the objections of the college;

(l) Provide amenities for and make such other provision for the welfare of the staff and students of the college;

(m) Encourage and make provision for research in the college;

(n) Do such acts and things whether or not incidental to the foregoing power as may advance the objects of the college.

7.-(1) The minister responsible for education shall be the visitor of the college.

(2) The visitor shall, not less than once in every five years, conduct a visitation to the college or appoint a visitation panels consists of not less
than five experts to conduct the visitation:

(a) For the purpose of evaluating the academic and administrative
performance of the college; or
(b) For such other purpose as the visitor may deem fit.

8.- (1) There shall be established for the college a board to be known as
the Academic Board which shall consist of the following members:

(a) The Provost of the college as the chairman;
(b) All heads of departments;
(c) The college bursar;
(d) The college Librarian; and
(e) Not more than three members of the Academic staff other than the
heads of departments to be appointed by the council.

(2) The Academic Board shall be responsible for:

(a) The direction and management of academic matters of the college
including the regulation of admission of students, the award of certificates,
scholarships, prizes and other academic distinction;
(b) Discharging any other functions which the council may from time
to time delegate to it.

9. The minister may give to the council directions of the general
character or relating generally to matter with regard to the exercise by the
council of its functions and it shall be the duty of the council to comply with such
directions.

10.- (1) There shall be a Provost for the college (herein after referred to
as "the Provost") who shall be appointed by the president on the
recommendation of the minister.

(2) Where a vacancy occurs in the post of the provost, the council
shall:

(a) Advertise the vacancy in reputable widely read newspaper in
Nigeria specifying:
(i) The qualities of the person who may apply for the post;
(ii) The terms and conditions of service applicable to the post and
thereafter draw up a short list of suitable candidates for consideration of the
minister.

(3) The President shall appoint as provost one of the candidates
recommended by the minister.

(4) Subject to the general control of the council the provost shall be
the chief executive of the college and shall be charged with general
responsibility for matters relating to the day-to-day management and
operations of the college.

(5) The Provost shall hold office for a period of five years only and
on such terms and conditions as may be specified in his letter of
appointment.

11.- (1) There shall be for the college two deputy provosts namely:
Deputy Provost (Academic) and the Deputy Provost (Administration).

(2) The council shall the deputy provosts from among the chief
lecturers in the college in any of the following ways, that is:

(a) From a list of five candidates in order of preference, submitted
by the provost;

(b) On the recommendation of a selection Board constituted for
their purpose; or

(c) On the nomination of the provost;

(3) The selection Board referred- Sub section2 (b) of this section
shall:

(a) Consist of:

(i) The Chairman of the council;

(ii) The Provost of the college;

(iii) Two members of the Academic board; and

(iv) Two members of the council not being members of the
Academic Board.

(4) (a) The Deputy Provost (Academic) shall:
(i) Assist the provost in the performance of his function in Academic matters of the college;
(ii) Act as the provost when the post of the provost is vacant or if the provost is for any reason, absent or unable to perform his function.
(b) The Deputy Provost (Administration) shall:
(i) Assist the provost in administrative matters of the college; and
(ii) Perform such other functions as the provost or the council may from time to time assign to him.
(5) Each of the deputy provosts shall hold office for a period of two years no more.

12.-(1) There shall be a registrar for the college to be appointed by the council.
(2) The registrar shall keep the records and conduct the correspondence of the council;
(3) The registrar shall be the secretary to:
(a) The Council;
(b) The Academic Board; and
(c) Any Committee of the council.
(4) The registrar may perform any duty as may be assigned to him by the council or the Provost.
(5) The Registrar shall hold office for a period of five years and no more.

13.- (1) There shall be for the college in addition to the registrar:
(a) The Bursar; and
(b) The College Librarian.
Who shall be appointed by the council.
(2) The Bursar shall be the chief financial officer of the college and be responsible to the Provost for the day-to-day administration and control of the financial affairs of the college.
(3) The college Librarian shall be responsible to the provost for the
administration of the college library and the coordination of the library
services in the teaching units of the college.

(4) The Bursar and the college librarian shall each hold office for a
period of five years and no more.

14. A principal officer of the college may resign his appointment:
(a) In case of the provost by notice to the visit for; and
(b) In any other case by advise to the council.

15.-(1) The council may appoint other persons to be employees of
the college as the council may deem to assist the Provost and the Principal
Officers in the performance of their functions.

(2) The remuneration tenure of office and condition of service of
the employee of the college shall be determined by the council-consultation
with the Federal Civil Service Commission.

16. Service in the college shall be approved service for the purpose
of the pension's reform and accordingly, officers and other persons
employed in the college shall be entitled to pension's gratitude and other
retirement benefit as may be prescribed in their respective letters of
appointment.

17.-(1) These shall be a selection Board for;
The college which shall consist of:
(a) The Chairman of the council;
(b) The Provost;
(c) Four members of the council not being members of the
Academics Board; and
(d) Two members of the Academic Board.

(2) The functions, procedure and other matters relating to the
selection Board constituted under subsection (1) of this section shall be
determined from time to time by the council.

18.-(1) The college shall establish and maintain a fund which shall
be applied towards the promotion of the objection of this Bill.
(2) There shall be paid and credited to the fund established under subsection (1) of this section:

(a) Such sums as may from time to time be granted by the Federal Government through the National Commission for Colleges of Education;

(b) All monies raised by the council by way of gifts, grants in aid or test monetary disposition; and

(c) All subscription fees and charges for services rendered by the council and all other sums that may accrue to the council from any source.

(3) The council shall submit to the minister, through the National Commission for Colleges of Education not later than three months before the end of each financial year or at such other time as he may direct an estimate of its revenue and expenditure for the next succeeding financial year.

19.- (1) The College may accept gifts of loan, money or of other property upon such terms and conditions, of any as may be specified by the person making the gifts.

(2) The College shall not any gift of the conditions attached to the gifts are inconsistent with the functions of the college.

20. The college shall keep proper accounts of its receipt, payments, assets and liabilities and shall in respect of each year cease the account to be audited.

21. The council shall as soon as may be after the expiration of each financial year, prepare and submit to the minister a report of its activities during the immediate proceeding financial year and shall include in the report a copy of the audited accounts of the college for that year and of the auditor's report of the accounts.

22. In this Bill:

"Chairman" means the chairman of the council;

"College" means the Federal College of Education Umunneochi established under section (1) of this Bill;

"Council" means the Governing Council of the college established under
section 2 of this Bill;

"Function" includes power and duties;

"Minister" means the minister charged with responsibility of education;

"Member" means a member of the council including the chairman;

"Provost" means the provost of the college established under section 10 of
this Bill.

23. This Bill may be cited as the Federal College of Education,

SCHEDULE

[Section 2(3).]

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION RELATING TO THE COUNCIL, ETC.

Terms of service

1. There may be paid to the members of the council or any
committee, other than ex officio members, such remuneration and
allowances as may from time to time be determined by the President.

2. Where a vacancy occurs in respect of the membership specified
in section 3, it shall be filled by the appointment of a successor to hold office
for the remainder of the term of office of his predecessor in office and such
successor shall represent the same interest as his predecessor.

3. The council may act notwithstanding any vacancy in its
membership or any defect in the appointment of a member or the absence of
a member.

Proceedings

4.-(1) The Council shall meet for the conduct of business at such
times, places and on such days as the chairman may appoint but shall meet
not less than once every four months.

(3) The chairman may at any time and shall at the request in writing
of not less than six members, convene a meeting of the council.

(4) Where the council desires to obtain the advice of any person on
any particular matter, the council may co-opt persons who are not members
of the council but persons co-opted shall not be entitled to vote at a meeting of
the council.

(5) The Quorum of the Council shall be one half of the total members
of the Council, at least one of whom shall be a member appointed by the
President.

(6) Decisions of the Council shall be made on approval by a simple
majority of members.

Miscellaneous

5.- (1) The fixing of the seal of the college shall be authenticated by the
signature of the chairman, Provost and of some other members of the Council
authorized generally or specially by the Council to act for that purpose.

(2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person
other than a body corporate would not be required to be under seal may be made
executed on behalf of the college by any person generally or specially
authorized to act for that purpose by the council.

(3) Any document purporting to be duly executed under the seal of the
College shall be received in evidence and shall, unless the contrary is proved,
be presumed to be so executed.

EXPLANATION NOTE

This Bill seeks to establish the Federal College of Education, Umunneochi
Abia State as institution to offer full-time courses leading to the awards of
National Certificates of Education, Diplomas etc.