Rivers varsity student drowns in UNIPORT's pool

By **Oluwatomisin Amokeoja** September 13, 2021   0   0

By Mike Odiegwu, Port Harcourt

A student of the Rivers State University (RSU) simply identified as Emmanuel has reportedly drowned in the swimming pool of the University of Port Harcourt (UNIPORT).

The deceased, a 100-level student, who hailed from Ogun State was said to have gone with three of his friends to swim in the Olympic-size pool at the sports complex but drowned while swimming.

The police were said to have visited the scene and took two of his friends to Choba Police Station for questioning.

The remains of the deceased were reportedly deposited at the mortuary of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital.

The management of UNIPORT immediately placed a ban on pleasure swimming at the facility.

The spokesperson of the university, Sam Kpenu, who confirmed the development, said that the remains had been deposited at the mortuary.

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Kpenu said: "A year one student from the Rivers State University of the Faculty of Marine Engineering, Mr Emmanuel, lost his life at the Olympic swimming pool at the Abuja Campus of UNIPORT.

"He was accompanied by some of his friends,namely Prince and Bright. The corpse has been deposited at the the UPTH morgue after the SUG President of RSU identified him.

"The friends were consequently arrested and detained at the Choba police station as investigations commence."

The Vice-Chancellor of UNIPORT, Prof. Owunari Georgewill, said the swimming pool would only be opened to professional uses.

He said: "We wish to inform all staff and students that the University of Port Harcourt swimming pool is an Olympic size swimming pool and henceforth we are placing a ban on pleasure swimming in the pool.

"Kindly bear with us as this is done to forestall further unfortunate incidents as it happened yesterday Sunday 12th September 2021. We lost a student of Rivers State University who came to swim for leisure with his three friends."