



NYA

Newsletter

A quarterly publication of the Nigerian Young Academy (NYA)

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EDITORIAL

It's celebration time for the Nigerian Young Academy as we commemorate the 10th anniversary of the establishment of this great Academy. Since its inauguration on 30th August, 2010, the NYA has grown in leaps and bounds, serving the Nigerian academia to entrench research, excellence and integrity. In this edition of the NYA newsletter, we take a closer look into the activities of the NYA in the past 10 years, and assess how we have fared in achieving our set goals and objectives. Despite the limitations of the pandemic currently ravaging the world with its attendant economic hardship, the NYA has many reasons to celebrate. Hence, the 10th Anniversary celebration and General Assembly of the NYA will now hold on Tuesday, 1st Dec, 2020 at the Nigerian Stored Product Research Institute (NSPRI) Conference Hall, Yaba, Lagos. All partners and well-wishers of the NYA are welcome to join us in person or virtually.

It may not be only the NYA that should be celebrating. The country, Nigeria, is also celebrating the 60th anniversary of her independence, albeit on a low key. Unfortunately, it appears the country still has a long way to go in achieving true independence both for herself and her people, as is evident in the protests rocking the entire country at this time. What started out as #EndSARS protests are fast evolving into a revolution that may shake the very fabric of the nation. It is our sincere heart cry that these will all work together to birth the new nation of our dreams, where peace and justice shall reign, and young people will be empowered to maximize their potential.

Let's take a trip down memory lane as we celebrate #NYA@10. We celebrate the landmark achievements of the Academy and its members in the last 10 years, even as we pray for a more glorious future ahead. Congratulations NYA, and continue to soar higher!

Chukwudi, Chinwe Uzoma.

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Publicity Secretary

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Member
Member
Member

THE NIGERIAN YOUNG ACADEMY (NYA) AT 10: OPERATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE NYA



THE NIGERIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE WORKSHOP ON THE FOUNDING OF THE NIGERIAN YOUNG ACADEMY

The Nigerian Young Academy (NYA) was inaugurated on Monday, August 30, 2010 by the then President of the Nigeria Academy of Science (NAS), Prof. Oye Ibidapo-Obe, the first Vice President of the Nigerian Academy of Education, Prof. Nduka Otonti and the Vice President of the Nigerian Academy of Engineering, Prof. A. F. Ogunye at the close of the Inaugural Workshop held at the Redeemers University, Mowe. The then vice-chancellor of the Redeemer's University, Professor Oyewale

Tomori, who later became the next president of NAS, was also very instrumental in the establishment of the NYA. 12 participants at the workshop were selected as steering committee members to pilot the affairs of the new young Academy. Within 8 months, the first set of 23 members of the NYA were inducted and officials elected at the first General Assembly held at the Federal University of Technology, Owerri in May, 2011.

Operations of the NYA

The NYA is the unified platform for the exchange of ideas among brilliant young scholars and researchers across disciplines and regions, nurturing outstanding and aspiring young academics and professionals towards improving the state of the nation. To ensure relative smoothness of operations within the NYA, a policy document and constitution was formulated (which has since been reviewed). This document essentially guides the general operations of the Academy and is upheld by the Executive Committee (EC) under the leadership of the President of the Academy. Overtime, the EC meetings are held monthly (virtually), with two physical meetings annually. The General Assembly (comprising of all current NYA members) is the highest decision-making body of the NYA. The membership tenure of the NYA is 5 years following induction, after which the member exits the NYA and is conferred a Fellow of the academy.

With a national spread of her membership and a lack of physical secretariat infrastructure, operating a secretariat was an area where considerable time and effort had to be injected to have a functional system. The secretariat is mobile but robust enough to efficiently handle the operations of the NYA. The secretariat under the leadership of the General Secretary and the President administers issues such as membership affairs, general correspondences, and full digital records of all academy documents. The financial officers (Presi-

dent, Financial Secretary and Treasurer) enforce the financial regulations of the NYA. Efforts to eventually have a physical secretariat are still being worked on. The NYA publishes a quarterly newsletter which has proved to be a good way of keeping the membership and friends of the academy updated. This and other publicity initiatives are driven by the Publicity Committee led by the Publicity Secretary. In addition, the official journal of the NYA, Annals of Science and Technology (AST) has continued to grow and is now in the 5th volume. The journal receives contributions from far and wide and has built an international reputation and acknowledgement.

There are three distinct working groups of broad academic disciplines in the NYA, and every member belongs to one. These working groups have the task of coordinating researches of common interests and communal outreaches. Having identified four cardinal sustainable development goals (SDG4: Quality Education, SDG5: Gender Equality, SDG6: Clean Water and Sanitation & SDG16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) as short to medium term target areas where the NYA has relevant and growing competence, the working groups drive a significant part of the actualization of this engagement. The working groups are funded from the NYA seed funds and partner funding bodies. The NYA makes use of committees in the execution of tasks, most of which are on an ad-hoc basis. As an Academy with service and volunteerism as part of its core values, all members are given the opportunity to serve on committees (appointed by the Executive), thereby availing each person an avenue to express themselves while working as part of a team.



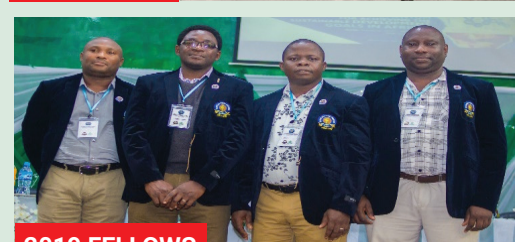
2012 GA



2013 GA



2019 GA



2019 FELLOWS

Members of the Executive Committee of the NYA from inception

Office	2011-2013	2013-2015	2015-2017	2017-2019	2019-2021
President	Unuabonah, Emmanuel I.	Akindede, Abidemi J.	Odjadjare, Emmanuel O.	Olomola, Temitope O.	Egbetokun, Abiodun A.
Vice President	Akindede, Abidemi J.	Nwankwo, Levi I.	Kolawole, Olatunji M	Igbinosa, Isoken H.	Muhammad, Aliyu
General Secretary	Sojinu, Olatunbosun S.	Igbinosa, Etinosa O.	Omorogie, Martins O.	Omoruyi, Matthew I.	Kazeem, Mutiu I.
Assistant General Secretary					Ibrahim, Auwal M.
Treasurer	Osemwegie, Omorefosa O.	Gayawan, Ezra.	Adebayo, Abiodun H.	Adebayo, Elijah A.	Olasunkanmi, Lukman O.
Financial Secretary	Nwankwo, Levi I.	Isaac, Clement	Isaac, Clement	Rotimi, Oluwatosin J.	Akinwumi, Isaac I.
Publicity Secretary	Eseola, Abiodun O.	Atolani, Olubunmi.	Jaiyeola, Temitope G.	Kazeem, Mutiu I.	Chukwudi, Chinwe U.
Technical and Logistics Secretary	Obiekezie, Theresa N.	Yusuf, Rafiu O.	Erukhaiure, O.L.	Egbetokun, Abiodun A.	Ugbenyen, Anthony M.
Ex-Officio I		Unuabonah, Emmanuel I.	Akindede, Abidemi J.	Odjadjare, Emmanuel O.	Olomola, Temitope O.
Ex-Officio II		Obiekezie, Theresa N.	Gayawan, Ezra.	Jaiyeola, T.G.	Rotimi, Oluwatosin J.

NYA Membership

Excellence has remained the keyword in the recruitment of new members through a peer-reviewed merit-based process that involves all existing members of the NYA. With an initial strength of 23 members, the NYA now has a total of 37 former members (Fellows) and 47 current members that spread across the entire nation. Although the constitution allows for a maximum capacity of 100 members at any given time, the membership has not reached 70 at any time till date. The admission rate currently averages at about 17% of annual applications and the NYA continues to aggressively pursue the sensitization of colleagues in the country who are eligible to apply. The peer-review process entails 3 rigorous stages beginning with a pre-screening during which all applications are shortlisted based on the general advertised eligibility criteria, and each application is then classified for peer-review under the relevant working group. The next stage carried out within each working group involves assessment of each application received by three different reviewers who use a list of well-defined rubrics in judging the applicants. The point by point allocation as well as the overall score by each reviewer is then presented to the working group by the Chairperson for consideration and consent. The report for all applications sent to the working group is then presented to the Executive who in turn present same to the General Assembly through the President. Once the General Assembly considers the report and approval is given, the full report of the entire applications for the year under review is sent to senior Academies with whom the NYA has a good working relationship (at the moment, that is only the Nigerian Academy of Science) for ratification. It is only after this is done that the candidates are contacted with the result of their application. The whole process of assessment is usually completed in 3 months. The current membership of the Academy comprises of individuals across all the 6 geopolitical zones in the country from both the academia and research institutes. Efforts geared at encouraging female membership amidst consideration of their specific roles as mothers are now factored into the admission of new members.



2011 Inductee



2012 Inductee



2013 Inductee



2014 Inductee



2015 Inductee



2016 Inductee



2017 Inductee



2018 Inductee



2019 Inductee

Flying the Flag

Members of the NYA (past and present) have continued to respond to the challenges of raising the standards of excellence and integrity in their career paths. A number of members and former members (Fellows) of the NYA have risen to the peak of their professional careers and some are already occupying both elective and appointed enviable administrative positions. As excellent researchers in their own right, it is no surprise that the NYA has produced people with several laurels and distinctions at both national and international levels of recognition. The NYA has produced members of the African Academy of Science Affiliates, TWAS Affiliates, Africa Science Leadership Programme Fellows and GYA (Global Young Academy) Executives.

General Meetings

With the spread of membership across the federation, the annual General Meeting has been carefully moved around different venues to reflect the national identity of the Academy. The General Meetings have been held alongside annual conferences during which members and non-members (most of whom are also young or mid-career researchers) have had the opportunity to present some of their research findings, and also engage in critical discussions on topical issues. Best presentation awards in both oral and poster sections are given during the conferences to serve as an encouragement for guest presenters. The general meetings culminate in the General Assembly (GA), which is a compulsory meeting of all members of the Academy, and failure to attend attracts appropriate constitutional sanctions. The General Meetings are normally held as a physical meeting, thus requires some financial and logistics support from the host university. Of the 9 General Meetings held till date, only 1 was held outside a university and it was in conjunction with the NAS in 2016. Some of the events have been held in universities where the Academy does not have any member, but enjoys the support of the host university. The NYA remains extremely grateful to the university administration of the following universities for the acceptance and the support received during the respective periods of hosting: Federal University of Technology, Owerri (May 2011); Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka (June 2012); University of Ibadan, Ibadan (July 2013); University of Ilorin, Ilorin (July 2014); Federal University of Technology, Minna (May 2015); Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun (August 2017); University of Medical Sciences, Ondo (August 2018); and Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria (August 2019).

Finances

As expected, organizing the various NYA events requires funds. Members pay an annual due that enables the Executive to carry out basic administrative functions while applying for better funding opportunities for the execution of activities. All host universities have generously provided both cash and in-kind support to the NYA while hosting various activities. Support from the NAS has been enormous over the years, and for this, the NYA is truly grateful. In-kind support has also been received from bodies such as Inqaba Biotech, May & Baker Nigeria Plc., and Africa Center of Excellence on Neglected Tropical Diseases and Forensic Biotechnology (ACENTDFB) of Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria. Some individuals and companies have also supported the Academy in cash donations and these include Mr. Nakama Keri, Dr. Boladale Adebowale and FUNMAN, Nigeria. The NYA has received sole or joint grants from the United States Embassy in Nigeria (2016), The World Academy of Sciences Regional Office for sub-Saharan Africa (TWAS-ROSSA) (2016), IAP-Carnegie Harnessing Science, Engineering and Medicine to Meet Africa's Challenges Small Grants Scheme (2017), main and supplementary InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), African Academies Diaspora Fellows Program (AADFP) (2018), and COVID-19 Africa Rapid Grant Fund (2020). In addition, the NYA has also received several Travel supports from the following NAS, GYA, IAP, Network of African Science Academies (NASAC), and Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAF).

Advocacy and Workshops

Beyond the General Assemblies and conferences, the NYA has been involved in organizing workshops for young scientists with the aim of mentoring younger academics. The Academy now organizes an average of three workshops a year on different specialized and general research related issues. Several of these events have been organized in collaboration with NAS, other African Academies, and other universities that have served as host institutions for these events. These events give room for some hands-on demonstration and general deliberations on the thematic focus while affording selected attendees the opportunity to also showcase some of their research findings. With the COVID-19 lockdown and attendant challenges, the NYA like most other organizations had to evolve in its style of operations. In this regard, a series of webinars have now been adopted to continue to engage with researchers and students on topical issues. The anti-plagiarism workshops have become the most popular workshop series organized by the NYA. These workshops became necessary as a result of some of the challenges the Academy observed were rampant in the broad field of research in the country. The workshops are aimed at sensitizing the public especially the postgraduate students and young researchers on the evils of engaging in plagiarism. It also seeks to provide general education for attaining greatness in the academia while maintaining integrity. In addition to the workshop series, the Academy has recently engaged on a massive media campaign against unethical practices in the academia. These have been featured in top outlets including Nature (www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-07462-2).

In relation to SDG 16, the Academy undertakes activities to draw attention to the state of internally displaced persons

(IDPs) in Nigeria. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre reports 417,000 new IDPs between January and June, 2018 (the fourth highest globally, surpassed only by Ethiopia, Syria and Democratic Republic of Congo), due to Boko Haram insurgency and herdsmen crisis. The NYA visits the IDP camps to explore first-hand the challenges of the IDPs as a basis for understanding the types of support that will serve best. Two of the largest IDP camps in Abuja (New Kuchingoro and Karonmajigi) were selected and visited by the Academy in 2018. Some relief materials were presented on behalf of the NYA in each camp. After observing a recurrent challenge of lack of or bad mentoring among young researchers around the country, the NYA recently put up a new training workshop centred on mentoring. Recently, the Global State of Young Scientists (GloSYS) Africa project of the Global Young Academy (GYA) identified mentoring as a key factor lacking in the African research setting. This realisation propelled the NYA to adopt mentoring as an important strategy to improve research excellence in Nigeria. We believe that to reinstate a vibrant academic culture that celebrates ingenuity and excellence, proper mentorship, as a matter of urgency, must take centre stage in the development of academics, and researchers. To this end, the NYA is organizing a Mentorship Training Workshop designed to empower early to mid-career researchers to become effective mentors; so that they in turn can produce a generation of well-groomed academics/researchers. The training would be in-depth and hands-on, and successful candidates would be supported by follow-up activities and resources. The maiden edition was disrupted by the COVID-19 lockdown but would happen as soon as it is practically possible.

National Awards

In order to encourage excellence amongst early to mid-career researchers who are not members of the NYA, 6 annual competitive national awards have been instituted. The prizes attached to the awards are kind donations from senior erudite scholars. All the current prize donors are Fellows of the Senior Academies: 4 Fellows of NAS and 1 Fellow of Nigerian Academy of Letters. The current awards include: Professor Oyewale Tomori National Young Scientist Prize in Microbiology (instituted in 2013); Professor Aderemi Kuku National Young Scientist Prize in Mathematical Sciences (instituted in 2013); Professor Kayode Adebowale National Young Scientist Prize in Chemistry (instituted in 2014); Professor Friday E. Okonofua Young Scientist Prize in Health Sciences (instituted in 2016); Professor Kayode Adebowale National Young Scientist Prize for Women in Chemistry (instituted in 2017); and Prof. Olurotimi Taiwo National Young Researcher Prize in Linguistics (instituted in 2018). Originality, research excellence and impact are placed as topmost factors in considering the applications for these awards. The NYA administers these awards by sending out a call for applications, assessing the applications received within the working groups (similar to the peer-review method used for membership), and the selection and approval of the winners by the General Assembly. The awards are presented at the annual General Meeting/Conference.

Relationships

From the very beginning when NAS established the NYA, NAS has remained a true Senior Academy providing oversight and supportive roles in many ways to the NYA. This relationship culminated in the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the two academies in 2017. NAS has provided mentorship to the NYA at an organizational level as well as at individual and group levels. The NYA submits an annual report of its activities to NAS for consideration. Efforts to connect better with the other Senior Academies in the country are still on-going. The NYA looks forward to a closer working relationship with all Senior Academies.

The NYA also has a good working relationship with other National Young Academies within the African sub-region and globally. There have been previous interacademy collaborations and interactions culminating in the establishment of a Liaison Officer at the NASAC office in Nairobi. The NYA has participated in the 4 Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies (WWMYA) that have been facilitated by the Global Young Academy. These meetings have provided platforms for comparing notes and cross-fertilization of ideas among different young academies across the world. An outcome of the WWMYA is the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Young Academies that was launched at the World Science Forum in Budapest, Hungary in November 2019, with the NYA as a signatory.

Our Dream

In the past ten years, the NYA (though in infancy) has made giant strides and footprints in the Nigerian academia and beyond. We hope the next ten years would consolidate on the achievements of the past and enlarge our horizon. We anticipate that the NYA would continue to be blessed with individuals who, above the basic requirements of excellence and integrity, are selfless, have a strong sense of service and are committed to the Academy vision. We look forward to taking our plagiarism workshops to every university in the country and raising a huge level of national conscience on the subject of plagiarism, with the possibility of having research integrity offices in our research centres and universities. We intend to also create a more suitable environment for academic culture based on effective mentoring of younger colleagues. To this end, we intend to make our mentoring training an annual event with continuous engagement of those trained for up to 3 years. We envisage our journal would grow in readership, acceptance and subscription to become a truly international journal. As the voice of young researchers in the nation, there is still a lot to be done in terms of advocacy, involvement with government and civil society organizations and general school outreach. The NYA continues to strive to ensure that we remain a bold, courageous and yet sonorous voice that can truly be representative and demonstrative of what excellence breeds.

MEMBERS AND FELLOWS NEWS

Appointments and promotions

A Fellow of the NYA, Dr. Adejuwon Adeneye has been promoted to the rank of Professor effective from 1st Oct, 2016. He is now a professor of Pharmacology, Therapeutics & Toxicology, at the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, Lagos State University College of Medicine, Lagos. Prof Adeneye's research interest is in the areas of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Traditional Medicine, Pharmacology, and Herbal Medicine.

Another Fellow of the NYA, Prof. Levi Nwankwo has been appointed Director of the Office of Research and Development, Federal University Kashere, Gombe state. Prof. Levi Nwankwo is of the Department of Physics, Federal University, Kashere.

Yet another fellow of the NYA, Dr. Olufunke Fayehun has been elected Chair of the Board of Management of the Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa (CARTA). Dr. Fayehun is a Senior Lecturer in Sociology, Faculty of the Social Sciences, University of Ibadan, Ibadan.

In a similar development, a member of the NYA, Dr. Temitope Odetoye, was elected the first female Chairperson of the Nigerian Society of Engineers, Ilorin chapter. Dr. Odetoye who was elected the 21st Branch Chair is the Ag. Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Ilorin, Ilorin.



Prof. Adejuwon Adeneye



Dr. Temitope Odetoye



Prof. Levi Nwankwo

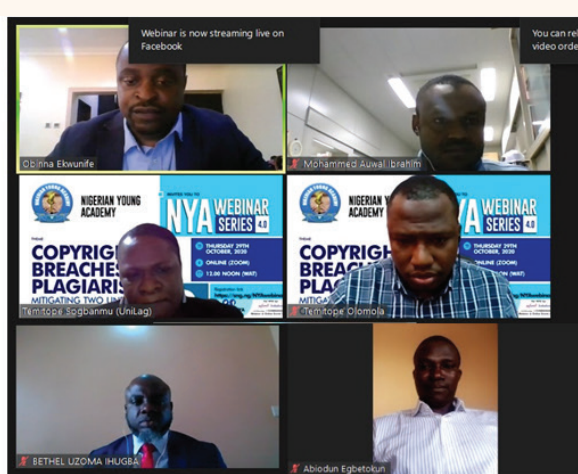
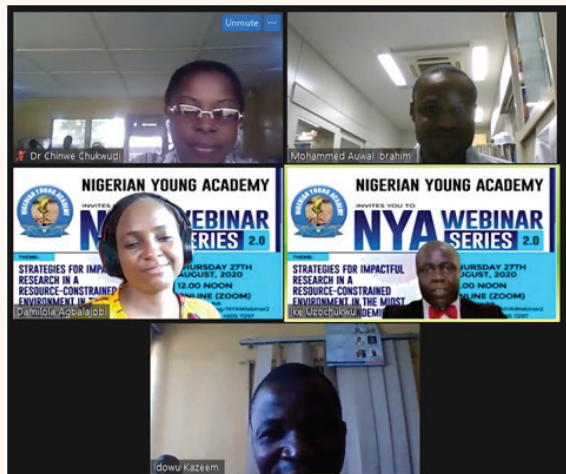


Dr. Olufunke Fayehun

NYA HOLDS WEBINAR SERIES 2.0, 3.0, 4.0

In line with the new normal, the NYA monthly webinar series, which is as an alternative platform for the usual Workshops and Seminars, has continued to hold. The 2nd edition of the webinar series was held on 27th of August, 2020 on the theme "Strategies for Impactful Research in a Resource-Constrained Environment in the Midst of Covid-19 Pandemic", with Prof Ikemefuna Uzochukwu-Principal Investigator, Drug Design and Informatics Group, Department of Pharmaceutical Medicinal Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka; and Dr Damoila Agbalajobi – Department of Political Sciences, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife as the speakers. Out of 257 registered participants, 130 attended the live webinar. The 3rd edition was held on 24th September, 2020 on the theme "Big Data and the Future of Research in Africa". The speakers were Dr Wesley Doorsamy-Associate Professor, Institute for Intelli-

gent Systems, University of Johannesburg, South Africa, Dr Olumuyiwa Asaolu – Associate Professor, Department of Systems Engineering, University of Lagos, and Mr. Johnson Adeleke- Big Data Consultant, LigaDatat, USA. The webinar had in attendance 129 participants out of the registered 227. The 4th edition of the NYA webinar series was held on 29th October, 2020 on the theme "Copyright Breaches and Plagiarism: Mitigating Two Unethical Conducts in Academics" and featured Dr Temitope Olomola of the Department of Chemistry, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Dr Temitope Sogbanmu of the Department of Zoology, University of Lagos, and Dr Bethel Ihugba of the Department of Legislative Support Services, National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies, Abuja as speakers. 257 participants were registered for the webinar, with 137 attending the live webinar. All webinar series were streamed live on the Academy's social media handles.



NEW RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Cerebral malaria and toxoplasmosis: could their concomitant presentation worsen psychotic condition? *Annals of Science and Technology*, 2020. doi: <https://doi.org/10.2478/ast-2020-0011>.

Members of the Infectious and Non-infectious Diseases subgroup of the Biological and Health Sciences working group of the NYA have published their collaborative research work in the NYA journal, Annals of Science and Technology. The authors include **Ibrahim, M. A., Atilola, O., Mohammed, A., Awosanya, E. J., Odetokun, I. A., Muhammad, A., Chukwudi, C. U., Ukwaja, K. N., & Oyeyemi, O. T.**

Doxycycline induces Hok toxin killing in host *E. coli*. *PLoS ONE* 2020; 15(7). <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0235633>: In this original research article, **Dr Chinwe Chukwudi** reports that the hok/sok locus, a type I toxin/antitoxin plasmid stability element which enhances host cell survivability and pathogenicity in stressful growth conditions and is often associated with multi-drug resistance plasmids, especially ESBL-encoding plasmids was found to increase bacterial susceptibility to doxycycline. The increased doxycycline susceptibility occurs despite β -lactam resistance imparted by the hok/sok locus. Leveraging on this finding, doxycycline could be used to counteract the multi-drug resistance plasmid maintenance/propagation, persistence and pathogenicity mechanisms associated with the hok/sok locus, which could potentially help in efforts to mitigate the rise of antimicrobial resistance.

Dihydroartemisinin as a potential drug candidate for cancer therapy: a structural-based virtual screening for multitarget profiling.

Integration of medicinal plants into the traditional system of medicine for the treatment of cancer in Sokoto State, Nigeria. **Drs. Ibrahim Malami and Aliyu Muhammad** have elucidated possible antitumor properties of dihydroartemisinin through the structural-based virtual studies. The intervention of these proteins with dihydroartemisinin would be expected to modulate downstream biochemical pathways leading towards a therapeutic regimen against cancer. They also documented the traditional knowledge of medicinal plants integrated into the traditional system of medicine for the treatment of cancer in Sokoto state. Various forms of diagnosis, the plant parts used, their modes of preparation, and different routes of administration were documented.

Agrochemical Health Risks Exposure and its Determinants: Empirical Evidence among Cassava Farmers in Nigeria. **Dr. Raphael O Babatunde** has co-authored a new report on Agricultural health risk exposure among crop farmers in Nigeria engaged in unsafe farm practices. The report highlights the exposure of farmers to agrochemical health risks in cassava operations, the frequent use of WHO class II and III health risks chemicals, the poor knowledge of safe farm practices among the cassava farmers and factors associated with farm chemical health risks exposure.

CALL FOR FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

Exploring the African Narrative Research Fellowship Program for Emerging Scholars. Africa No Filter (ANF) is calling for application for Africa No Filter Fellowship Program for Emerging Scholars. ANF supports the development of nuanced stories that shift existing, stereotypical narratives about Africa through research, grant making and advocacy. Applications must be submitted by 13 November, 2020. http://theacss.org/pages/fora-and-debates/1255/call-for-applications_exploring-the-african-narrative-research-fellowship-program-for-emerging-scholars.

Excellence Fellowship Program for International Postdoctoral Researchers (Israel)

The Israel Academy of Science & Humanities and the Israel Council for Higher Education are calling for applications for their "Excellence Fellowship Program for International Postdoctoral Researchers". The fellowship program is open to international candidates who have received a PhD from a recognized higher education institution outside of Israel less than 4 years from the time of application (not including parental or medical leave), or who will receive a PhD from a recognized higher education institution outside of Israel prior to the commencement of the fellowship. The deadline to submit applications is 01 February, 2021. <https://international.huji.ac.il/news/new-excellence-fellowship-program-international-postdoctoral-researchers>

Wellcome Trust International Fellowships and Grants

Wellcome trust is offering nationals of low- and middle-income countries a number of fellowships and grants, including International Training Fellowships to receive training at postgraduate or postdoctoral level, International Intermediate Fellowships to lead their own research programmes, Senior Research Fellowships to support independent researchers who are emerging as global leaders in their field, Innovator Awards for researchers who are developing healthcare innovations that could have a major and measurable impact on human health, Research Development Awards to lay the foundation for research that takes risks and pushes academic boundaries, Joint Health Systems Research Initiative to support research to improve health systems in low- and middle-income countries, and Multi-user Equipment Grants to provide support for multi-user items of equipment. The deadline to submit applications/ proposals is between 05 November, 2020 to 12 January, 2021. For more information please visit: <https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes>.

Olusegun Obasanjo prize for scientific discovery and/or technological innovation 2020

The Olusegun Obasanjo Prize for Scientific Discovery and/or Technological Innovation is intended to reward and honour African scientists who have made outstanding contributions in scientific discovery or technological innovation. The Prize will be awarded in each of the fields of Biotechnology, Energy, Information and communication technologies, and Material sciences. The deadline to receive nominations is 22 December, 2020. For more information, please visit: <https://www.aasciences.africa/calls/olusegun-obasanjo-prize-scientific-discovery-and-or-technological-innovation-2020>

UPCOMING EVENTS

10th Anniversary celebration and 2020 General Assembly

The 10th Anniversary celebration and 2020 General Assembly of the NYA will now hold as follows:

Date: Tuesday, 1st December, 2020

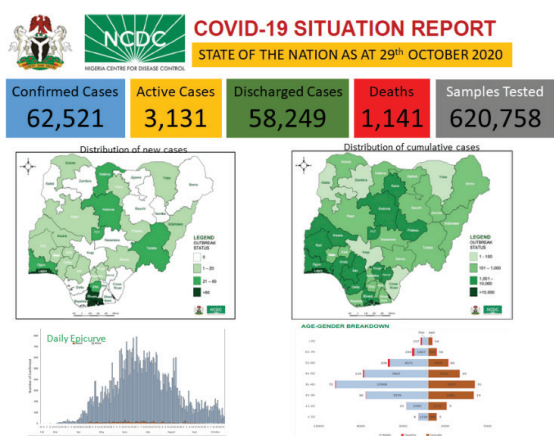
Venue: Nigerian Stored Product Research Institute (NSPRI) Conference Hall, Yaba, Lagos And Virtually

Theme: **Research, Policy and SDGs' Realization in Nigeria: Challenges and Implication.**

Registration: <https://forms.gle/CUKoim7bH37PLYF6>.

Participation in the opening ceremony is open and free for all. We regret that the usual annual conference will not hold in this meeting due to COVID-19 disruptions. However, the ceremony will feature the induction of new members, award of national young scientists' prizes and conferment of Fellows of the NYA on exiting members, as well as keynote speech and panel discussions.

COVID-19 STATE OF THE NATION



NAS CORNER

3 FELLOWS OF NAS ELECTED AS AAS FELLOWS

Three fellows of the Nigerian Academy of Science have been recently elected as Fellows of the African Academy of Sciences. Among the 39 Fellows recently announced to be elected in the 2019 set of AAS fellows, are 3 Fellows of NAS: Professor Kayode Oyedode Adebawale, Professor Richard Adegbola and Professor Grace Olusola Gbotosho. The NYA

felicitates with NAS on the success of these fellows in the AAS election, particularly with Prof Adebawale, who currently sponsors two NYA national awards viz: Professor Kayode Adebawale National Young Scientist Prize in Chemistry (instituted in 2014) and Professor Kayode Adebawale National Young Scientist Prize for Women in Chemistry (instituted in 2017).



Prof K. O. Adebawale



Prof G. O. Gbotosho



Prof R. Adegbola

2ND NAS ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS



THE NIGERIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

2ND NAS ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS

The Nigerian Academy of Science (NAS) is the apex independent scientific body in Nigeria. The Academy's mission is to promote the growth, acquisition and dissemination of scientific knowledge, and to facilitate its use in solving problems of national interest. The NAS invites Nigerian scientists, and other stakeholders to send original research for its 2nd Annual Scientific Conference. This edition of the conference will be held virtually. The details of the Conference are as follows:

Theme: *Applied and Translational Research in National Development*

Date: *26th-27th January 2021*

The purpose of this conference is to bring together relevant stakeholders - policymakers, researchers, and the private sector - to discuss how scientific research findings can be transformed into new innovations and techniques that would be of value to the society. The 2021 NAS conference seeks to showcase original research under the following sub-themes:

- Research for Policy and Practice
- Translational Research in Medicine
- Industry-Academia Partnership and Collaboration

Participation in the conference is open to all interested researchers, particularly those from Nigerian tertiary institutions and research institutes. There is no conference registration fee for the 2021 conference. However, pre-registration for the conference is required. To register and/or submit an abstract for the 2021 NAS conference, please visit www.nas.org.ng/conference for more information. The deadline for submission of abstracts is Thursday, 5th November 2020, while the deadline for registration is Friday, 13th November, 2020.

Selected abstracts will be published in the conference book of abstracts, and, subsequently, full papers will be considered for publication in the Academy's journal - the Proceedings of the Nigerian Academy of Science (PNAS).

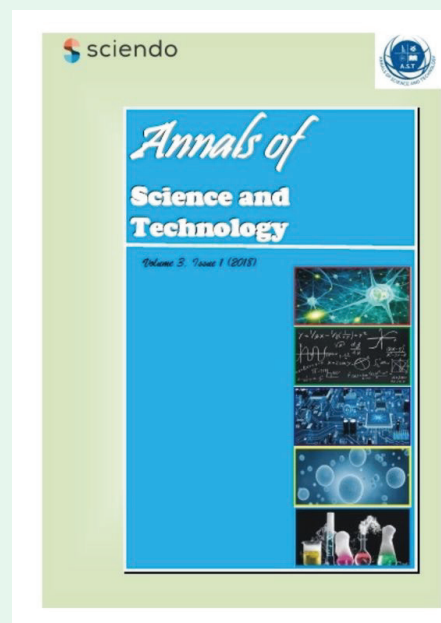
For further information/clarification please contact the NAS Secretariat using 0808-962-2442 or konvema@nas.org.ng.

Announcer:

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