

## RESEARCH MANAGEMENT OFFICE NEWSLETTER

January 2024

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



elcome to to the 2024 first edition of your RMO Newsletter. Since the office opened, we have been creating your monthly newsletters. We sincerely hope you like them as much as we enjoy creating them for the University community and beyond. We recorded remarkable wins in grant awards at both local and international levels last year, attracting over \$10.1m as grant revenue to the University in 2023!

We plan to build on our successes and do even better this year! Our 2024 event schedule is packed with activities, many of which will center on efforts to increase the university's capacity in order to bolster its portfolio of research grants, enhance grant management and research administration procedures, and make a big difference in society through strengthening links with business. We also want to ensure that systems and protocols supporting international best practices for ethics and responsible conduct of research are entrenched in the University. The University is committed to creating frameworks that will act as guides for researchers in accessing research resources and promoting ethical conduct of research and sustainable values for research integrity, even in the face of significant investments in training systems for researchers and opportunities for research outcome utilization. While our goal is to train researchers to be better project managers, we intend to achieve this through constant reviewing of existing capacities and seeking ways to build on such capacities.

RMO aims to contribute significantly to the Universities vision of building research capacities for innovation and contributing to economic growth. As earlier emphasized, our strategy for research capacity building focuses on strengthening the skills and abilities of researchers to identify social needs, translate all identified needs into researchable problems, explore them using scientific approaches, and to disseminate results to respective end-users (including industries, government agencies, institutions, policy makers and practitioners). Our goal is to improve the abilities of researchers to address policy-related issues by employing research methodologies that take Nigerian objectives and requirements into account. We are committed to enhancing research capabilities in ways that most effectively cater to the specific requirements of the community and tackle relevant issues. We shall be working closely with the Research Centres this year to develop frameworks for stronger industry linkages and foster town-and-gown relationships for impactful research.

We shall continue to bring you a good mix of requests for grant applications for the remaining part of the year. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. As always we, at the Research Office, are happy to support your application process.

Wishing you all the best in your research endeavors this year!

Thank you.

Prof. T.G. Nubi



## Call for Tenders: Children's Learning – Effects of Climate Change and Environmental Degradation

Deadline: 15-Mar-2024

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) is inviting applications to conduct a systematic review of the effects of climate change and environmental degradation on children's learning in low- and middle-income countries.

#### What the fund will achieve

This systematic review will identify the effects of climate change and environmental degradation on children's learning in low- and middle-income countries. It will also outline what is known about the nature and scale of these effects.

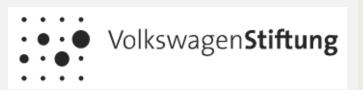
This review will inform UK approaches to address the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on learning. To produce a robust systematic review, the FCDO seeks a research team that has:

- experience undertaking research in the fields of climate and education in low- and middle-income countries
- an ability to review sectoral literature to identify evidence relevant to understanding the impact of climate and environmental degradation on education
- skills in conducting rigorous evidence syntheses, including systematic reviews or rapid evidence assessments

Email your technical and commercial proposal to <a href="mailto:uk\_evidence\_fund\_administration@pwc.com">uk\_evidence\_fund\_administration@pwc.com</a> by 5pm GMT on 15 March 2024. Late bids will not be accepted.

For more information, please visit:

https://www.gov.uk/international-development-funding/childrens-learning-effects-of-climate-change-and-environmental-degradation-in-low-and-middle-incomecountries



**Closing date**: 1 March 2024 **Amount**: €1,300,000

Raw materials are becoming increasingly scarce. Their extraction and processing place an excessive burden on the earth through greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity loss and water consumption. A transformation toward a significantly reduced raw material footprint is the societal consensus. This is the goal of circularity. Recycled and biogenic materials, prolonged product lifespans, refurbishing and repurposing are key to this.

#### What is funded?

The funding line 'Collaborative projects' is primarily aimed at the natural and engineering sciences. Participation from other fields is possible, if respective expertise is needed. Two to three researchers from different subfields with a common topic count as a collaboration. Funding is provided for original and practically relevant research problems towards closing raw material-product cycles. Topics for funding include amongst others bio-inspired material design, microbial and molecular conversion, valorization of complex waste streams, and recycling-friendly product design.

A second funding line for 'Practice transfer' is in preparation. Presumably, by the end of 2023 further details on this accompanying call will be announced.

For further information, please visit:

https://www.volkswagenstiftung.de/en/funding/fund ing-offer/circularity-recycled-and-biogenicresources



#### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



# African Environmental Defenders Emergency Fund

**Deadline:** Ongoing Opportunity

The African Activists for Climate Justice (AACJ) invites you to be a part of the solution! If you're passionate about making a difference and have a climate justice project in mind, they want to support you. Apply for their grants to create African solutions for African problems!

Against the backdrop of the challenges faced by African Environmental Defenders, and the dwindling civic spaces in most African countries, Natural Justice and partners have expressed their commitment towards protecting environmental and land defenders. To achieve this goal, the NGOs established the 'African Environmental Defenders Emergency Fund' to support environmental and land defenders who find themselves in emergency situations due to the nature of their work.

 The purpose of this fund is to promote respect for and enhance the protection of African Environmental Defenders working on land and environmental issues, by providing urgent emergency support to defenders throughout Africa.

More information, please visit:
https://envirodefenders.africa/emergencyfund/?fbclid=IwAR0UTFAl4uxhwe7IAaBE2d95O0lvSvtqUM2jpDLCKy4yhXWWJsXK52Mh
8Y#amieligible



Funding opportunity

# Population and systems medicine: responsive mode: programme

The Medical Research Council (MRC) is looking to provide funding to support a programme of research focused on population and systems medicine.

The population and systems medicine board (PSMB) funds research to unlock the complexity of human health and disease across the life course.

The funding remit includes population health and the impact of environmental factors including the social environment on health outcomes. Research focused on the physiology and pathophysiology of all the major organs and systems, with the exception of the brain and the immune system, is normally supported through our other research boards.

MRC is looking to fund research in areas including, but not limited to:cardiovascular, respiratory, musculoskeletal, gastroenterology, renal medicine and liver function, endocrinology and reproductive health, maternal health and the early origins of health and disease, nutrition, metabolic regulation, diabetes and obesity, trauma, acute medicine and surgery, inflammation in relation to disease processes and the resolution of the inflammatory response, medical sociology, lifestyle, socio-economic and behavioural impacts on health, health inequalities, population and disease related cohorts

Link: <a href="https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/population-and-systems-medicine-programme/">https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/population-and-systems-medicine-programme/</a>







# **Call for Proposals: Promotion** of Family Farming in West **Africa**

Deadline: 13-May-2024

The French Committee for International Solidarity (CFSI) has launched a Promotion of Family Farming in West Africa (Pafao) Program. The Promotion of Family Farming in West Africa (Pafao) program has been jointly supported, since 2009, by the Fondation de France and the French Committee for International Solidarity (CFSI).

The general objective of the Pafao program is to:

- Promote local initiatives strengthening the access to healthy and qualitative food produced by viable and sustainable West African family farms and processed in either the country itself or in adjacent regions, all while ensuring an equitable distribution of the added value, produced throughout the value chains (this is the present call for proposals);
- Capitalize (produce knowledge) by drawing useful lessons beyond the projects, serving both organizations and advocacy actors. The objective is to contribute to the already existing documentation on topics such as agriculture and food systemsustainability. Subsequently, the newly acquired knowledge can then be used by decision-makers when deciding upon public policies;
- Support the construction of strategies for change of scale so that successful initiatives do not remain marginal but occupy more economic space.

To apply please visit: <a href="https://www.cfsi.asso.fr/appel-a-">https://www.cfsi.asso.fr/appel-a-</a> projets-promotion-de-lagriculture-familiale-en-afriquede-louest-pafao-2024/

# Strategic Opportunity Fund

Funding Agency: Actionaid Closing Date: Ongoing

Opportunity



This is a rapid response fund that can be accessed by women's organizations and their networks for the promotion and protection of women and girls' rights. It is designed to enable women's organizations and their networks respond promptly to rights violations as well as seize unanticipated opportunities to create change in the lives of women and girls in Nigeria.

The grant positions the Local Women's Rights Organisations (LWROs) to be nimble in responding to women and girls' rights issues in any location. Since project commencement, 19 organisations including non-project partners have benefitted from this fund.

Target Audience: Community people, Farmers, Akwa Ibom Women Cooperatives, Kano Youths, Partners Stakeholders, Women Farmers etc.

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

If you have been in the NGO world for quite a while, you will agree that winning grants is not just about bank credit alerts. There are processes that spans across proposal development, review, preselection, due diligence, final selection, Work Plan development, and Work Plan Approval, before granting finally happens. These processes could take months, and sometimes years, but imagine all these including implementation, reporting, and funds retirement happening in seven (7) days? Yes, 7 days - they present to you WVL Nigeria project Strategic Opportunity Fund (SOF).

Link: https://www.feministhub.org/strategicopportunity-fund/



# **Apply for MFMC Small and Large Grants**

Deadline: 22-Mar-2024

The Minor Foundation for Major Challenges (MFMC) is offering small and large grants to support communication projects which advance the transition to a low carbon economy.

#### **Priorities**

- The MFMC supports projects that support urgent, large-scale transformation, with a focus on changing policies and practices in public or private institutions.
- The foundation's priorities for 2019-2023 are to:
  - o encourage and support innovation in climate communication
  - o increase the number of voices and narratives in climate advocacy
  - o help strengthen social and political movements that open up for radical change
  - o concentrate on supporting European proposals

#### **Grant Categories**

- Large Grants: In this category, MFMC is looking for projects typically in the range of EUR 20,000 to EUR 200,000, although larger projects may be considered. The application process consists of two steps, where interested organizations are asked to initially submit a short pitch. Based on this, the organization may be invited to submit a full application if the MFMC board finds the project appealing.
- **Small Grants:** In this category, it is possible to apply for smaller grants of up to EUR 10,000 in a simplified one-stage process. Applications will be assessed by the MFMC board based on its aims and strategy.

#### Eligibility Criteria

- The MFMC supports projects that support urgent, large-scale transformation, with a focus on changing policies and practices in public or private institutions.
- The foundation only considers applications that clearly fall under its strategy.

For more information, please visit: <a href="https://unifor.no/stiftelser/the-minor-foundation-for-major-challenges/">https://unifor.no/stiftelser/the-minor-foundation-for-major-challenges/</a>



# EO Climate Crisis Photography Competition 2024 Is Now Open!

Deadline: 26-Apr-24

Earth. Org's Nature and Wildlife Photo Competition 2024 is now open for submissions, where you will have opportunity showcase your work to the world, and win one of three cash prizes.

They invite explorers, adventure travellers, professional photographers and photographers working on the front line of wildlife conservation across the world to submit their photographs for the following categories: **Wildlife in Peril**, **Climate Action**,

**Overall Winner**: 6 of the best photos to be chosen from the two categories above.

The Winner of the Earth.Org "Overall Best Environmental Photo" 2023 will be awarded with US\$500. The Winners of the two sub-categories "Wildlife in Peril" 2023 and "Climate Action" 2023 will be awarded with US\$250 each.

Link: <a href="https://www2.fundsforngos.org/environment/2024-eo-climate-crisis-photography-competition/">https://www2.fundsforngos.org/environment/2024-eo-climate-crisis-photography-competition/</a>

Link: https://earth.org/photocompetition-2024/

## RESEARCH MANAGEMENT OFFICE NEWSLETTER

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#### UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS CENTRAL RESERCH COMMITTEE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Central Research Committee (CRC), University of Lagos, is pleased to launch its annual call for proposals for the 2023/24 Academic Year. The CRC Grant is a seed grant designed to support novel, ambitious, and convincing research ideas with the objective of proffering solutions to societal problems of critical concerns. The grant aligns with the University's strategic mission to develop research capacity, strengthen community engagement, support applied research or pilot initiatives with anticipated outcomes that should have a positive impact on the University community and/or the nation at large. Projects are selected and approved by the Central Research Committee. Grant recipients are expected to publish one to two articles in peer reviewed journals at the conclusion of their project.

#### THEMATIC PRIORITIES

All projects must align with at least one of the following CRC thematic priorities:

Science and Engineering	Humanities and Social Sciences	Cross-Cutting
Health & Well-being	<ul> <li>History, Culture and identities</li> </ul>	• Entrepreneurship & Wealth creation
Agriculture & Food Security	• Men, Women, & People living with	Blue Economy
Power & Clean Energy	disabilities, Equity and Social	
• Transport	Inclusion	
• Environment	• Governance, Politics, Law, and Ethics	
• Computing (Artificial Intelligence,	• Finance & Economic Development	
Cloud Computing, Information		
Systems, Software Engineering,		
programming, Computer		
Engineering).		

#### **EIGIBILITY**

Eligible recipients include: Lecturers in any of the departments, Research Centres, and Distance Learning Institute (DLI), University of Lagos. Multi-Disciplinary research projects, comprising researchers from various disciplines, are most highly encouraged. Additional members of the research team can be drawn from researchers in any tertiary institutions, research institutes, Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations, and/or industry. However, the Principal Investigator must be accountable to the composition of the research team and their capacity to deliver excellent results. This is consistent with the global best practice of involving government and other non-state actors in research projects that seek to address national needs. Teams with multidisciplinary composition and with remarkable track record of implementing meaningful research will be prioritized in the selection process.

The following costs are not eligible for CRC funding:

- Gifts,
- Luxury goods,
- Lunch and alcohol
- Procurement of items and/or equipment already available in the institution
- Expenses incurred prior to the awarding of the grant, or after it expire

Proposals with a strong focus on solving global, regional, or local problems and demonstrating strong potential to proffer novel and scalable solution to challenges of national significance, as well as having the potential for commercialization (or industrial application) will be prioritized. Proposed areas of funding must be related to the SDGs — which must be so stated. The research proposal must show how the research work will resolve societal problems within Nigeria and Africa needs and context.

#### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The process of application involves submitting a proposal to the CRC Office email: <a href="CRC@unilag.edu.ng">CRC@unilag.edu.ng</a>.

The proposal template is accessible online at: tinyurl.com/unilagcrc

#### SELECTION PROCESS

Successful applications will be announced following critical blinded reviews first by the Faculty Research & Ethics Committee (FREC) and then by the Grant Selection Committee (GSC), which will include members of the CRC. Successful teams must demonstrate collaboration and high potential to provide a significant influence in any of the twelve research areas of paramount importance to the University, state, and/or the nation. The PI and, at least a member of the Research Team of an adjudged fundable proposal, might be invited to defend their proposal before the Central Research Committee. Thereafter, the successful proposals for grant awards will be presented to the CRC for approval.

#### **FUNDING AMOUNT**

Mini Grant: NImillion - N2.5mil

Main Gran: N3million - N5million

#### DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Deadline: 3I-March-2024

For any enquiry, please contact the CRC Secretariat at RMO using the e-mail addresses: <a href="mailto:crc@unilag.edu.ng">crc@unilag.edu.ng</a> or call: +2348028415292

#### Signed:

Professor Bola Oboh

Chairman, Central Research Committee

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# SPSAS Biodiversity

São Paulo School of Advanced Science

Deadline: 11-Mar-24

The São Paulo School of Advanced Science (SPSAS) Biodiversity is inviting applications for the SPSAS Codesigning Biodiversity Assessments to empower young scientists and environmental technicians to design, obtain, and analyze biodiversity data suitable for supporting effective environmental action programs and policies. They aim to encompass biodiversity of key taxa in their genetic, phylogenetic, functional, and sociocultural dimensions, developing comprehensive and adaptable assessment procedures that meet real-world demands.

#### Funding Information

 SPSAS – Biodiversity is funded by FAPESP, with support from other agencies and institutions. There are no tuition costs, and financial support is available to cover travel and expenses for participants without their own funding.

#### Application Group

- Brazilian nationals or long-term residents (this includes foreign PhD candidates affiliated with a Brazilian institution and professionals with longterm contracts or permanent positions in <u>Brazil</u>)
- Other nationalities (including Brazilians who are long-term overseas residents, such as PhD candidates or professionals with long-term contracts or permanent positions in other countries)
- Academic
- Non-Academic

For further information, please see: <a href="https://espca.ib.unicamp.br/en/home-english/">https://espca.ib.unicamp.br/en/home-english/</a>

# DARWIN INITIATIVE



**AMOUNT:** £100,000 and £600,000

**DEADLINE**: open

Round 29 sees the continuation of Darwin Initiative Main, now in its 30th year. Darwin Initiative Main invites applications for environmental projects between £100,000 and £600,000.

You need to apply online for Round 29 Darwin Initiative projects through the Flexi-Grant Application Portal.

Round 29 of the Darwin Initiative include the following schemes:

- Darwin Initiative Main Stage 1 closed, Stage 2 by invite only
- Darwin Initiative Extra now open
- Darwin Initiative Capability & Capacity now open
- Darwin Initiative Innovation now open

Additional material that you will be required to complete as part of your application can be downloaded from Flexi-Grant.

Darwin Initiative Extra will continue under Round 29 for projects between £600,000 and £5m. Darwin Initiative Extra is intended for projects that are on a clear scaling pathway: building on good evidence from smaller projects to demonstrating the potential to scale further by completion and delivering strong results for biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction. Darwin Initiative Innovation is aimed at projects intending to test a novel approach that if proven could scale to deliver results for biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction.

Further info please see link:

https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/apply/





#### **Background**

Nigeria, one of the major Gulf of Guinea countries has coastal states spanning Calabar to Badagry that are hotspots of climate change impacts as well as Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing. Further, anthropogenic impacts such as plastic pollution has been documented across these coastal ecosystems particularly in fish species. Meanwhile, the subsistence of a major part of the coastal population crucially depends on the fisheries in the region. Thus, the combination of food-climate-biodiversity (FCB)-related stressors exacerbate the challenges to the livelihoods, food security and wellbeing of the people.

#### **PhD Project**

A 3-year PhD studentship position to commence within three (3) months is advertised aimed at investigating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU)-plastic pollution-climate change nexus challenges and developing desirable futures for FCB sustainability within the Gulf of Guinea (focus on the Nigerian coastlines). The candidate will be opportune to interact with a diverse international and transdisciplinary network of researchers, practitioners, policymakers and other stakeholders within the West Africa case study of the project (Nigeria and Ghana) as well as other case study countries across the world. The studentship which will be funded within the Solving Sustainability Challenges at the Food-Climate-Biodiversity Nexus (Solving FCB) project is led by the Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries (IOF), University of British Columbia (UBC), Canada with collaborating international institutions. The University of Lagos (UNILAG) is a Co-Investigator/Collaborator within the West Africa Case Study of the project led by Dr. Temitope O. Sogbanmu.

The position is **Full Time** for a period of **36 months** with a scholarship **covering the PhD tuition fees, a monthly salary at the University of Lagos scale for CONUASS Level 2**. Project-related travel expenses will be covered. Your specific duties are as delineated above and additional duties assigned to you by the Principal Investigator (Dr Sogbanmu) alongside other collaborators with her in the project. You will be based at the Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, University of Lagos, Akoka Campus, Lagos, Nigeria under the supervision of Dr Temitope O. Sogbanmu and Prof. Adebayo A. Otitoloju.

#### Requirements

- A Masters degree in Environmental Toxicology and Pollution Management, Fisheries, Environmental Sciences, Marine Sciences, Geography or any other related fields with a CGPA of 4.0/5.0 and above
- Research, scientific writing and analytical skills evidenced by academic publication(s) and/or conference presentation(s) is desirable
- Ability to travel locally, regionally for short to long time research-related trips.

**Application Packet** Application letter, CV (max. 5 pages), main credentials among others should be submitted at this link on/before **4 pm (WAT) Friday, March 15, 2024.** 

Please see link for application: <a href="https://forms.gle/pmSnkvLL8dM8KvkN9">https://forms.gle/pmSnkvLL8dM8KvkN9</a>



# THE FULBRIGHT VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM

Call for Application: February 2024. Closing June 2024

Deadline for submitting online application and all supplementary documents: June 1

The online application with supplemental documents uploaded as part of the application must be submitted by the deadline.

#### **Program Information**

The Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program (FVSP) also called the Fulbright African Research Scholar Program (ARSP) is a research fellowship award grants to Nigerian academics or professionals to conduct advanced research at U.S. institutions. The selection process and final award of grants are extremely competitive. Two categories of grants are offered under The Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program: Research Grants, and Program and Curriculum Development Grants.

#### **Research Grants:**

ARSP research grant offers senior faculty from select Nigerian universities or research institutes, opportunity to conduct research in any academic discipline at a U.S. academic or research institution for a minimum of three (3) months and a maximum of nine (9) months, beginning no earlier than August 2024 and no later than March 2025. Applicants for research grants must hold a doctorate degree or equivalent terminal degree in their fields at the time of application. Preference will be given to individuals who have at least three years of university teaching experience and a productive scholarly record.

#### Program and Curriculum Development Grants:

ARSP program and curriculum development grant offers senior faculty or administrators from select Nigerian universities or research institutes, opportunity to conduct research in any academic discipline at a U.S. academic or research institution for a minimum of three (3) months and a maximum of five (5) months beginning no earlier than August 2024 and no later than March 2025. Proposals should be linked to professional duties and demonstrate how the scholar will use the knowledge gained to develop new courses, curricula, or other academic programs at the home institution. This grant is designed for university faculty or administrators with less experience and who may not have had recent access to research or instructional developments in their disciplines. A doctorate degree is not required, but applicants must hold a minimum of a master's or equivalent graduate degree at the time of application.

#### **Grant Benefits**

The grant covers J-1 visa, round trip airfare to the U.S., a settling-in allowance, professional allowance, monthly stipend, housing allowance, books-and-supplies allowance, and computer allowance. The grant also covers basic university health insurance as a primary insurance coverage and the Fulbright ASPE health benefit as secondary coverage. The grant also covers dependent allowance and travel of one dependent if he/she will stay with the grantee for at least 80% of the grant period.

To Start a New Application: Applicants must visit and click "create an application" at: <a href="https://apply.iie.org/fvsp2024">https://apply.iie.org/fvsp2024</a>

For more information, please visit: <a href="https://ng.usembassv.gov/the-fulbright-visiting-scholar-program/">https://ng.usembassv.gov/the-fulbright-visiting-scholar-program/</a>





# Apply for the National Geographic Society **Grants Program**

**Deadline**: 11-Apr-24

The National Geographic Society warmly welcomes and encourages applicants from historically and currently underrepresented and underserved populations to apply for its grant program.

National Geographic is committed to funding a diverse and globally representative cohort of Explorers. Funded projects will incorporate science, storytelling, and/or education, and must align with one or more of the Society's five focus areas: Ocean, Land, Wildlife, Human History & Cultures, and Human Ingenuity.

#### **Funding Information**

- **Level I Grants:** Funding requests at this level can be up to USD \$20,000.
- Level II Grants: Funding requests at this level can be up to USD \$100,000, but smaller requests will be accommodated and will not be more or less competitive.

#### What they Fund?

- Bold, innovative, transformative work
- They fund individuals working on projects in science, conservation, storytelling, education, and technology that align with one or more of the focus areas.
- And they don't just support their incredible work. They actively seek to help them network, connect, and learn with National Geographic and each other, empower them with cutting-edge tools, technology, and training, and further their impact and recognition through the storytelling.
- Methods and/or means of work must be ethical, sensitive, and align with the National Geographic Society Code of Ethics
- You may submit a proposal as the project leader for only one National Geographic Society grant at a time.
- You must submit a final report and media from any previous National Geographic Society grants for which you were the leader before applying to lead a new project.

Link: https://www.nationalgeographic.org/society/grants-and-investments/

# **Two UNILAG Dons Win Grand Challenges Grants**



Two Dons (2) of the Faculty of Pharmacy, College of Medicine, University of Lagos, Dr. Margaret Ilomuanya and Dr. Mutiat Bolanle Ibrahim have won Grand Challenges Grants.

Dr. Ilomuanya of the Department of Pharm. and Pharm. Technology, won a grant for her research titled "The Cervical Mucus Barrier as a Target for Artificial Neural Network Inspired Novel Blends of Electrospun Scaffolds" while Dr. Ibrahim of the Department of Pharmacognosy won a grant for her research titled: "Characterisation of Herbal Bioactive for the Development of Spermicides for Female Contraception".

The two dons were part of II African researchers who were announced on Monday, February 12, 2024 as recipients of key grants under the Grand Challenges Africa, a flagship initiative of the Science for Africa Foundation with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The grants aim to propel innovative research in climate adaptation for agriculture, and in the development of safer, easier to access and use contraceptives.

The Grand Challenges Africa (GC Africa) initiative seeks to promote Africa-led scientific innovations to help countries better achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by awarding seed and scale-up grants to the continent's most impressive solutions. GC Africa supports big, bold impactful innovative ideas that have a potential for impact, scale and sustainability.

To read more about this news, please visit <a href="https://scienceforafrica.foundation/media-center/21-million-boost-african-led-research-climate-and-agriculture-and-safer-contraceptives">https://scienceforafrica.foundation/media-center/21-million-boost-african-led-research-climate-and-agriculture-and-safer-contraceptives</a> to read more.

#### RESEARCH FUNDING

THE CONSERVATION, FOOD & HEALTH FOUNDATION

# Grants to protect Environment, improve Food Production, and promote Public Health

Deadline: 1-Jul-24

The Conservation, Food and Health Foundation is seeking applications to protect the environment, improve food production, and promote public health in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, and the Middle East.

#### Fields of Interest

Conservation: Conservation grants promote environmental conservation through field research, projects, and advocacy that: Protect biodiversity and preserve natural resources, Help mitigate the adverse effects of climate change, Build the scientific and technical capacity of local conservation organizations and promote local, regional, and international partnerships, Increase engagement between scientists, local communities and organizations, and decision-makers, and Partner with indigenous communities and local people.

**Food**: Grants in the food and agriculture program area focus on research-based projects that build capacity for selfsufficiency and resilience to climate change, strengthen local food systems, and support healthy nutrition

**Health**: The Foundation supports efforts that test new ideas and approaches that promote public health, with a special emphasis on reproductive health and family planning and their integration with other health promotion activities.

For more information, please visit: <a href="https://cfhfoundation.grantsmanagement08.com/">https://cfhfoundation.grantsmanagement08.com/</a>



#### **Fellowship Program:**

- The fellowship has two tracks i) a wet-lab track focusing of end-to-end protocols for nextgeneration sequencing of pathogens; and ii) a drylab track with a focus on public health bioinformatics data analytics, interpretation, and reporting.
- The fellowship program aims to support technical experts and future leaders in public health pathogen genomics and bioinformatics in Africa.
- Training led by continent-based educational and professional subject matter experts
- Training at State-of-the-art facilities across the continent
- Multilingual fellowship program

#### The fellowship program has the following objectives:

- To train pathogen genomics and bioinformatics workforce to improve outbreak detection, investigation & disease surveillance in Africa
- To contribute to strengthening the prevention, preparedness, surveillance, and control of infectious diseases while supporting the implementation of Africa's New Public Health Order
- To contribute to knowledge and technology transfers and capacity building within and between African Union Member States

#### Potential candidates and host institutions:

- We are anticipating at least 25 fellows for the 2023 cohort
- 15 host institutions across Africa. Applicants should provide evidence of the host institution's agreement to accept the fellow for the duration of the fellowship period. Africa CDC and ASLM will support fellows to identify host institutions.

Further information: <a href="https://africacdc.org/news-item/call-for-application-africa-cdc-pathogen-genomics-and-bioinformatics-fellowship-program/">https://africacdc.org/news-item/call-for-application-africa-cdc-pathogen-genomics-and-bioinformatics-fellowship-program/</a>



# Dr. Elyse Connors, Fulbright Scholar from WMU visits WARTCLOR and RMO



Dr. Elyse M Connors, an assistant professor at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo Michigan, has received a Fulbright Scholar grant to visit the University of Lagos, Nigeria, between February and June 2024. Through the visit, she will be assisting in the development of new programs at the West African Regional Research & Training Centre for Low Vision Rehabilitation (WARTCLOR), UNILAG. Her work will be building upon the works of the Director of the Centre, Prof. Folasade Akinsola, and an earlier Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Patrick Okonji, a Senior Research Fellow at the RMO, University of Lagos. Dr. Connors will be working to build capacity for the newly approved postgraduate programs at WARTCLOR, through the development of lecture materials and resources for new clinical classes. In addition, she will be working with faculty on research projects related to low vision rehabilitation.

Dr. Connors coordinates post graduate programs in Vision Rehabilitation Therapy at her home university. Vision Rehabilitation Therapist teach persons with visual impairment how to carry out activities of daily living in safe and efficient ways. Dr. Connors earned her Master of Religion at Asbury Seminary, her Masters in Vision Rehabilitation Therapy and Orientation and Mobility at Western Michigan University, and her Ph.D. at Western Michigan University in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences. She has published papers on safer medication management for persons with low vision, the use of GIS mapping to target limited resources to address health disparities, and strategies for grass-roots organization to strengthen the professional discipline of Vision Rehabilitation Therapy

# 2019 – 2021 UNILAG RESEACRH REPORT

We are pleased to present to all faculty and staff of th University, as well as the external community and th world at large, our 2019-2021 Research Report.



The Research Report for this period provides comprehensive details on the Research activities across the different disciplines and faculties in the University, publications peer-reviewed in journals, grants successfully won and engagement implemented, with society, innovation from cutting-edge research, and research partnerships built for stronger research impact on our society. Although the 2019-2021 period marked the years in which the COVID-19 pandemic caused significant declines in academic research productivity globally, the University of Lagos sustained its tenacity for research excellence and reputation as a premiere public research university with over N17b attracted in research income. We are glad to have electronic copies accessible to all our readers. To download a copy,

#### please visit:

https://research.unilag.edu.ng/wpcontent/uploads/2022/06/Annual-Report2.pdf

# YOU CAN NOW ACCESS SUPPORT FOR ETHICAL APPROVAL



#### THE RESEARCH MANAGEMENT OFFICE



# **HREC**

The University of Lagos **Human Research Ethics** (UNILAG HREC) now has a Central Office at the Research Management Office, Akoka Campus. The Office has the same mandate as the Idi-Araba HREC Office, and brings all services for ethical clearance to your door-step at Akoka Campus. This further reiterates our commitment to have a one-stop Office at the RMO. The HREC Office has the following mandates:

- Verify that the rules and processes of the university regarding research ethics adhere to both national and international standards.
- Create institutional review and research ethics Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and policies for the University;
- Educate the university's staff and students about conducting ethical research and conducting ethics reviews by offering seminars, workshops, materials, and other resources
- Provide administrative support to all researchers applying for ethical clearance

The **Research Ethics Office** ensures that research conducted by University researchers/faculty and students, complies strictly with institutional policies as well as with global best practices. UNILAG HREC consists of the Institutional Review Board (IRB), which reviews research involving human subjects.

# **ACUREC**



We are also happy to inform you that the University's Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUREC), which reviews and grants ethical clearance to research studies involving animals is likewise housed in the Research Management Office.

In essence, prior to research involving animal(s) can be undertaken, it is imperative to seek reviews of the project's ethical considerations and obtain approval from UNILAG ACUREC. Kindly note that it is a violation of global and national ethical laws governing handling of or use of animals in research without seeking and obtaining ethical approval. In essence, no research, teaching or testing that involves the use of animal should commence before ethical approval by the Committee. We are committed to ensuring that researchers do not dabble into unanticipated problems or complications for neglecting national regulations and policies governing animal care and use.

For more information/queries, please email: <u>Unilagrec@unilag.edu.ng</u> OR <u>Unilagacurec@unilag.edu.ng</u>

# **OUR MOTTO**

Advancing translational research output and uptake to meet societal needs

# **OUR VISION**

To support researchers with information on funding opportunities, encourage collaboration and provide adequate training/services for the acquisition of knowledge and skills in grantsmanship that will enable carrying out of cutting-edge research

# **OUR MISSION**

To be the flagship of innovative research administration and management in Sub-Saharan Africa, a catalyst for doing and up taking cutting edge research in the society

# WHAT WE DO?

# Pre-grant application services

Funding opportunities: disseminate research funding opportunities

Confirm eligibility of researchers according to sponsor guidelines

Liaise with funding agencies on behalf of the university

Interpret sponsor guidelines & regulations

Register & assist with agency submission websites

## **Proposal Writing**

Review Request for Applications (RFAs) and Request for Proposals (RFPs)

Proposal development

Ensure compliance with submission guidelines

Institutional support documentation for grants application

Edit and format grants applications for readability

Review and sign research proposals on behalf of the University or as a delegate of the University

# **Budgeting**

Budget templates

Cost sharing

Routing and approval

## Training

Provide training opportunities relating to grantsmanship for early career researchers.

### **Award Services Communication**

Identify and communicate proactively and effectively award parameters and sponsor terms and conditions to researchers and other administrative staff.

Network with researchers to share and obtain information for effective scientific communication.

## Project management

Provide assistance to researchers and staff on post-award administrative processes

Liaise with sponsors to ensure compliance with guidelines and to resolve conflicts and concerns (whereapplicable) Initiate and manage partnership agreements, sub-awards and sub-contracts with external collaborators

### Fiscal Stewardship

Provide support to researchers to facilitate the management of research funds and ensure financial management and control on behalf of external Sponsors.

Ensure the preparation and submission of financial reports to sponsors according to set deadlines

Coordinate and respond to audits and monitoring visits requested by sponsors in collaboration with other units such as bursary, procurement services and the researcher.