



**The Association
of Commonwealth
Universities**

Programme

Developing the next generation of researchers

Wednesday 12 – Friday 14 July 2017

Julius Berger Hall, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Workshop organised by The Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)
in collaboration with the University of Lagos

Wednesday 12 July – Day 1: The early career researcher and mentoring

09.00-10.00 **Registration and refreshments**

Opening ceremony

- 10.00-10.20 **Opening address**
Prof Oluwatoyin Ogundipe FAS, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics and Research), University of Lagos
- 10.20-10.30 **Welcome address**
Prof Rahamon A Bello FAEng, Vice-Chancellor, University of Lagos
- 10.30-10.40 **Introduction to the workshop**
Ben Prasadam-Halls, Director of Programmes, ACU
- 10.40–10.45 **Structured Training for African Researchers (STARS)**
Prof Cliff Studman, Professor of Research, St John’s University of Tanzania
- 10.45-10.55 **Remarks**
Olufemi Odubiyi, Lagos State Honourable Commissioner for Science and Technology
- 10.55-11.05 **Interlude – Dance drama**
Creative Arts Department, University of Lagos
- 11.05-11.15 **The Global State of Young Scientists (GloSYS) Africa Project**
Professor Nkiruka Uchenna Udeani, Research Partner, West Africa GloSys Africa Project, University of Lagos
Dr Abidemi Akindele, Global Young Academy Champion / Researcher, University of Lagos
- 11.15-11.55 **Impact of research on Nigerian industry**
Taiwo Adeniyi, Group Managing Director, VitaFoam Plc
- 11.55-12.00 **Close**
- 12.00-13.00 **Lunch**

Session 1

- 13.00-14.30 **Setting the scene: the benefits of professional development as a researcher**
Chair: **Dr Catherine A Akinbami**, Senior Lecturer, Obafemi Awolowo University
Dr Ayansina Ayanlade, Researcher and Senior Lecturer, Obafemi Awolowo University
Dr Abiodun S Momodu, Senior Research Fellow, Obafemi Awolowo University
Dr Shade J Akinsete, Lecturer, University of Ibadan
- This session will look at defining an Early Career Researcher (ECR) and the roles and responsibilities of ECRs.
- Purpose: To enable ECRs to understand their roles and responsibilities for their own professional development, as well as their contributions to the research effort.

14.30-15.00 **Refreshments**

Session 2

- 15.00-16.30 **Making the most of mentoring**
Chair: **Dr Chinwoke Clara Ifeanyi-obi**, Lecturer, University of Port Harcourt
Dr Mercy A Derkyi, Lecturer, University of Energy and Natural Resources, Ghana
Dr Omosivie Maduka, Senior Lecturer, University of Port Harcourt
Dr Catherine V Nnamani, Lecturer, Ebonyi State University
- This session will consider different aspects of mentoring: being a mentee or mentor, roles and responsibilities, and the impact on professional development.

Purpose: To enable ECRs to identify mentors and recognise their own responsibility as a mentee to make the best use of mentoring and institutional mentoring schemes; to enable mentors to better understand their role in Professional Development Planning (PDP).

Thursday 13 July – Day 2: Developing as a researcher

Session 3

09.00-10.30 **An introduction to research cooperation for ECRs**
Led by Sofia Apollonov, Project Officer, ACU
Prof Dr Johnny O Ogunji, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Federal University of Ndufu-Alike, Ikwo

A module taken from the Structured Training for African Researchers (STARS) programme, focusing on building effective collaboration and establishing partnerships.

Purpose: Collaboration and partnership are cornerstones of global and local research systems and, therefore, ECRs need to be skilled at doing both. Collaboration is the ability to work alongside others in your research network to achieve your professional goals. By extension, effective collaboration is the skill of doing this joint work well.

10.30-11.00 **Refreshments**

Session 4

11.00-12.30 **Professional Development Planning (PDP)**
Chair: Dr Catherine V Nnamani, Lecturer, Ebonyi State University
Dr Chinwoke Clara Ifeanyi-obi, Lecturer, University of Port Harcourt
Dr Omosivie Maduka, Senior Lecturer, University of Port Harcourt

The session will introduce a conceptual framework to support professional career development for researchers.

Purpose: To show participants how to use a career development tool to inform mentoring and supervisory professional development conversations, and to understand their responsibilities for their own professional development.

12.30-13.30 **Lunch**

Session 5

13.30-15.00 **Professional development milestones: providing evidence of progress**
Chair: Dr Ayansina Ayanlade, Researcher and Senior Lecturer, Obafemi Awolowo University
Dr Abiodun S Momodu, Senior Research Fellow, Obafemi Awolowo University
Dr Shade J Akinsete, Lecturer, University of Ibadan

The session will introduce and underline the importance of providing evidence of progress and achievements to different audiences.

Purpose: To enable participants to construct an example of evidence of their competencies, achievements and progress.

15.00-15.30 **Refreshments**

Session 6

15.30-16.30 **Planning your professional development and setting out an action plan**
Chair: Dr Mercy A Derkyi, Lecturer, University of Energy and Natural Resources
Dr Chinwoke Clara Ifeanyi-obi, Lecturer, University of Port Harcourt
Dr Catherine A Akinbami, Senior Lecturer, Obafemi Awolowo University
Dr Ayansina Ayanlade, Researcher and Senior Lecturer, Obafemi Awolowo University

The session will enable participants to identify key development priorities to establish a professional development action plan.

Purpose: To enable participants to write SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timebound) objectives as part of their PDP, and to understand the value of creating and maintaining their own PDP action plan as part of their responsibilities as a researcher.

Friday 14 July – Day 3: Becoming a research leader

Session 7

09.00-10.30

Research Uptake

Led by **Ben Prasadam-Halls**, Director of Programmes, ACU

Sofia Apollonov, Project Officer, ACU

Dr Catherine A Akinbami, Senior Lecturer, Obafemi Awolowo University

Dr Catherine V Nnamani, Lecturer, Ebonyi State University

Research Uptake will be considered as a process to facilitate and contribute to the use of research evidence by policy-makers, practitioners and the general public.

Purpose: Participants will reflect on the importance of communicating research to external audiences. This will involve considering who the key stakeholders for their research are, how to communicate research outputs to them and when to engage them at the various stages of the research cycle.

10.30-11.00

Refreshments

Session 8

11.00-12.30

The mobile researcher in a global research environment

Chair: **Dr Shade J Akinsete**, Lecturer, University of Ibadan

Dr Catherine A Akinbami, Senior Lecturer, Obafemi Awolowo University

Dr Abiodun S Momodu, Senior Research Fellow, Obafemi Awolowo University

Dr Omosivie Maduka, Senior Lecturer, University of Port Harcourt

This session will place professional development in the wider context of the global research ecosystem, and demonstrate the competencies required to be a successful mobile researcher as well as the benefits to individuals and their institutions.

Purpose: To enable participants to gain an appreciation of the competencies relevant to being a mobile researcher, and how to prepare for mobility, gain career benefit and create impact on returning home.

12.30-13.30

Lunch

Session 9

13.30-15.00

Preparing to be an effective research leader

Chair: **Dr Abiodun S Momodu**, Senior Research Fellow, Obafemi Awolowo University

Dr Chinwoke Clara Ifeanyi-obi, Lecturer, University of Port Harcourt

Dr Mercy A Derkyi, Lecturer, University of Energy and Natural Resources

Dr Shade J Akinsete, Lecturer, University of Ibadan

This session will enable participants to consider leadership in research and how to prepare themselves for research leadership.

Purpose: To enable researchers to discuss the characteristics of good research leaders, identify role models and understand how they can use PDP and action planning to prepare for leadership.

15.00-15.30

Refreshments

15.30-16.30

Closing session and attendance certificates

Sofia Apollonov, Project Officer, ACU