



ISN-CAEN Fellowship Award Category 1A (April 2016 Round)

Report of Lab Visit

Awardee: Gabriel O Omotoso MBBS, PhD

Advisor: Oluwole B Akinola PhD.

Department of Anatomy, College of Health Sciences, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria

Host Laboratory's Advisor: Jianrong Li PhD.

Host Laboratory: Dr Jianrong Li's Lab, Department of Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, United States of America.

I received the CAEN Award Category 1A (April 2016 Round) award in June 2016 to support my visit to Dr. Li's laboratory at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX U.S.A. Due to challenges regarding Visa processing, I could not begin my visit until February, 2017.

On arrival at College Station, my host advisor made adequate arrangement to pick me up at the Airport, and I was warmly welcomed by the host laboratory, the members of which have long anticipated my visit. On the first day in the Lab, I was introduced to the Laboratory and its members which include a research assistant professor and research students, who were willing to share their research experiences with me during my stay. The Lab members meet every Monday to discuss the progress of their research activities, and I was intimated with all the research projects/activities going on in the Lab. As part of the University prerequisites to join the Lab, I undertook some class-based and Lab-specific research training, Institutional Biological Safety Level 2 (BL2) Training, Biological Safety Cabinet Training on Blood-Borne Pathogen as a component of Biosafety Occupational Health Programme, and a basic course in IACUC.



The main objective of the visit to Dr Li's laboratory was to learn new techniques in Neuroscience research that are related to cuprizone-induced demyelination, which I could readily domesticate in my home Institution. I was introduced to new techniques and was able to perfect some skills I have earlier acquired, ranging from handling, use and care of mice, tissue perfusion and fixation using peristaltic pump, cryopreservation using liquid Nitrogen, cryosectioning, immunohistochemistry and fluorescence microscopy. Other techniques were those of RNA studies, use of PCR, and gel electrophoresis.

During my stay also, I actively participated in a research work designed to assess the corpus callosum for progression of demyelination and microglial activation in a cuprizone model of demyelination using transgenic mice. Although this was an ongoing research work, we were able to record significant findings during my participation.

I am very grateful to ISN and the ISN-CAEN Committee for this award which made the visit possible. I also wish to express my gratitude to Dr Jianrong Li, my host, for giving me free access to her Lab and the huge support I received from her and all lab members. Finally, I appreciate the host Institution, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, for the privilege to utilize their facilities.

The visit was fulfilling and successful, and I left the United State a better researcher and enriched neurochemist.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Gabriel Olaiya Omotoso

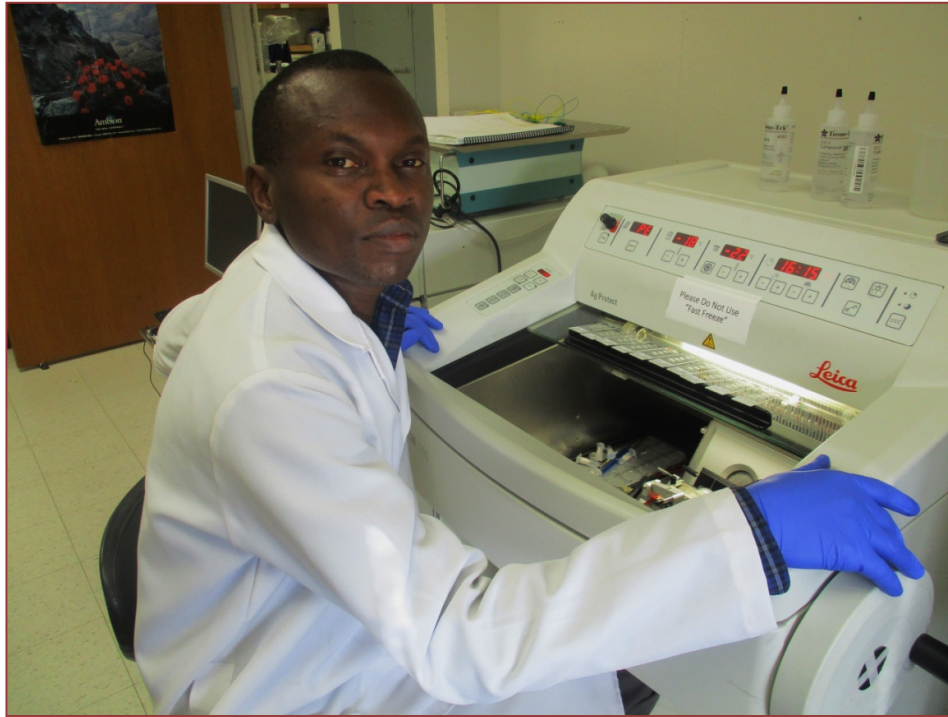


Photo 1: Gabriel Omotoso in Dr Jianrong Li's Lab, Department of Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, United States of America.

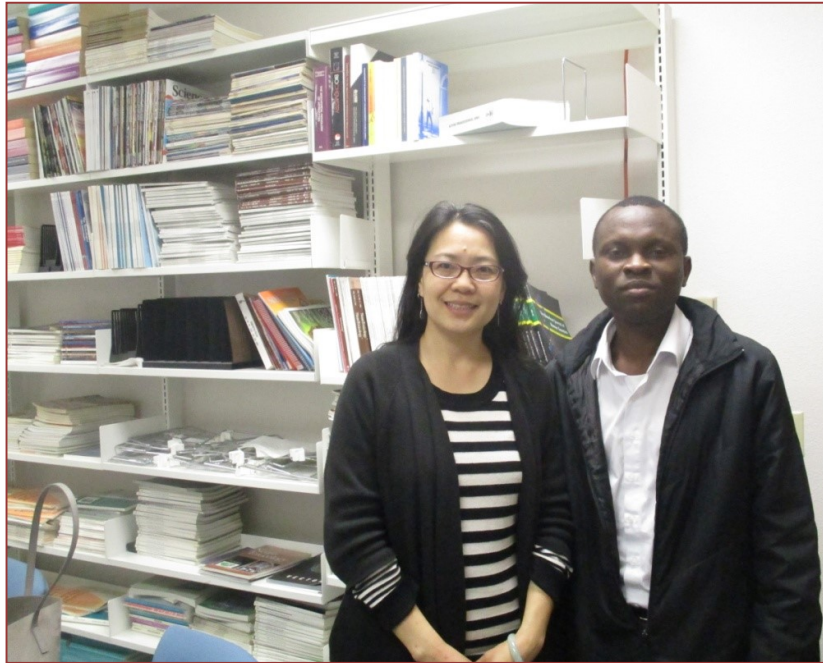


Photo 2: Gabriel Omotoso with Dr Jianrong Li, Associate Professor, Department of Veterinary Integrative Biosciences, Texas A& M University.

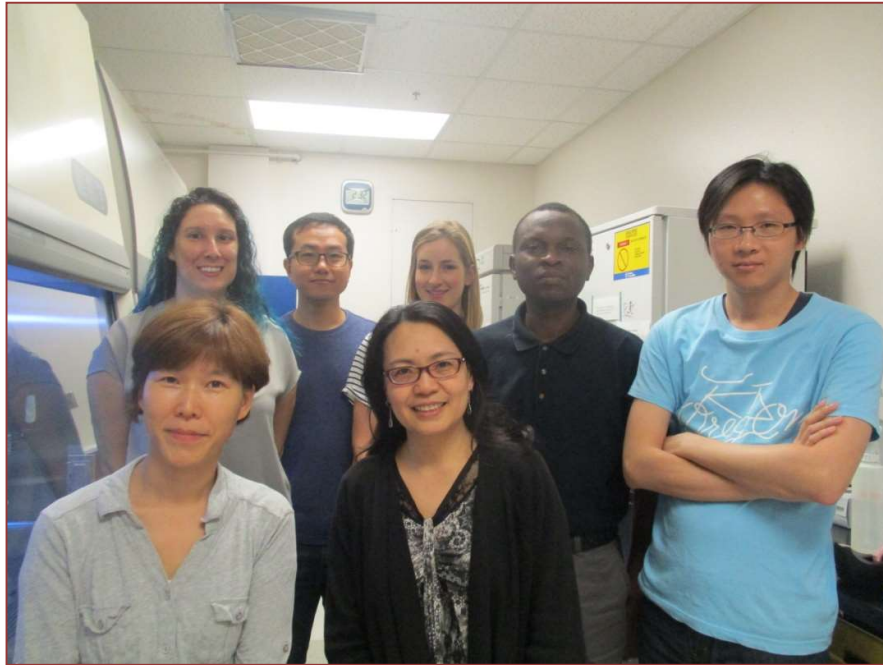


Photo 3: Members of Dr Jianrong Li's lab. Standing from the left: Danielle Michaud, Se Hoon Jeong, Bianca Barth, Gabriel Omotoso, Felix Lu; Sitting from the left: Sun Kim, Dr Jianrong Li.



Texas A&M
University



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