



## **REPORT OF WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED NEUROSCIENCE FOR BEGINNERS, AND UPDATE IN RESEARCH METHODS HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017 IN BABACOCK UNIVERSITY, ILISHAN-REMO OGUN STATE, NIGERIA**

The Workshop was supported by ISN CAEN in the April 2017 Round for a Category 2B award. It was a very successful Workshop in terms of attendance and content. It started at 9am on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017, with a welcome address by Professor Iheanyi Okoro, the Deputy Vice Chancellor of Babcock University. He said the university was particularly happy to host such a unique workshop that is a blend of the very young ones in secondary schools, the middle career ones in universities, and the researchers, including faculty members. He expressed the wish of his university for a very successful Workshop. Thereafter, the chief organiser of the Workshop, Professor Polycarp Nwoha, thanked the University for accepting to host the unique Workshop and the participants for deeming it worthy to partake in the exchange of knowledge. Thereafter, he expressed delight on the presence of distinguished resource persons, particularly the ones that came from the USA – Professors Alhaji N’jai and James Auta. All participants introduced themselves, including their affiliations, reasons for attending the Workshop and what they intended to gain. With this over, Professor Polycarp Nwoha introduced the International Society for Neurochemistry (ISN) as the chief sponsor of the Workshop. He spoke extensively on the Mission and Vision of the ISN, the activities of the various committees, the numerous gains of belonging to the ISN and the reduced membership dues and benefits for those from low-income countries like Nigeria. He spoke glowingly of the four distinguished years he served as Councilor of the ISN and what benefits he brought to Nigeria and Africa. He urged as many as possible to belong to the ISN. He supported his talk with images of Executive members of the ISN and chairpersons of various committees. He also urged every scientist to strive to participate in ISN activities, particularly the female scientists. There were 120 recorded participants at the Workshop.

The first module of the Workshop was devoted to the following lectures on basic neuroscience, given by the following:

1. Basic information about Peripheral Nervous system – Dr. Olatunji Sunday, Babcock university
2. Basic information about the Spinal cord – Dr. Joshua Owolabi, Babcock university
3. Basic information about the Brain –Dr. Jude Egwurugwu, Imo state university, Owerri

4. Connections of peripheral and central nervous systems – Dr. Austin Obi, Imo state university, Owerri
5. Basic Neurochemistry – the gating system, Dr. Gabriel Oze, Imo state university, Owerri
6. Basic neurochemistry – Neurotransmitters, Dr. Sam Esosa, University of Medical Sciences, Ondo
7. Neurodegenerative Diseases common in the community, causes and prevention – Dr. Iyanu Ayoola, Obafemi Awolowo university, Ile-Ife

**Guest Lecture:** The Guest Lecture for the Workshop was delivered by Dr. (Chief) Michael O.N. Ibe, a consultant Neurosurgeon of long standing. The title of his talk was “Adopting preventive measures for nervous system malformations and their consequent neurological/psychological deficits: The Ebonyi state experience, Nigeria”. His lecture was applauded and very well received.

The second module of the workshop was update in research methods: The following delivered lectures:

1. Overview of the Workshop – Professor P. U. Nwoha
2. Data Collection and data analysis – Professor James Auta
3. Data Analysis - Professor James Auta – Illinois USA
4. Setting objectives in Research – Professor Alhaji Njai, Winsconsin (USA)
5. Sampling in Research – Professor Alhaji Njai
6. Career Soft Skills for Junior Investigators and Students – Professor Alhaji U N’jai, Winsconsin USA
7. Plagiarism – Professor Polycarp Nwoha, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
8. Mentorship – Professor Polycarp Nwoha
9. Advocacy in Neuroscience and Neurochemistry – Professor Polycarp Nwoha

**Brain Bee Contest for secondary schools** – winners of Nigeria Brain Bee contest for secondary schools were announced. They were Master Tomiwa Ariyibi, a 13 year old student of Holy Vessels International College, Ilesa, 1<sup>st</sup> price, Miss Chizitere Mary Uche, 16 year old student of Egbu Girls Secondary School, Egbu, Imo state, 2<sup>nd</sup> price, and Master Akingbulugbe Tobi, 15 year old student of Hallmark Secondary School, Ondo, 3<sup>rd</sup> price. The schools of the winners were given shields for winning while the students were given cash.

Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017. The Workshop continued on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017. The day was devoted to poster presentation by university undergraduate medical students. There were very interesting, high quality posters on different areas of neuroscience, including sleep, pain, stroke, and Parkinson’s disease. The poster session was very exciting. The presenters were rewarded with prize money. The Workshop ended on a very good note to the great satisfaction of the attendants. Everybody present was urged to engage in one form of educational outreach

or the other to create awareness of the wonderful benefits of career in neuroscience and neurochemistry.

Outcome: The 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up of the Brain Bee competition, Miss Uche Chizitere Mary of Egbu Girls Secondary School, Egbu, Imo state, eventually represented Nigeria at the World IBB Championship that took place in Washington DC from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 during the 2017 Conference of the American Psychological Association. The Nigerian and international brain bee contests provided very unique and very stimulating opportunities for these young ones to be excited about neuroscience. The poster event for undergraduate students equally raised a lot of awareness and stimulated varied interests in those that attended and those that didn't attend. They are all looking forward to partaking in future competitions. There was a lot of commendation for the richness of the Workshop.

Media: the events of the Workshop were carried by several media in Nigeria – Newspapers and radio.



Participants at Nigeria Neuroscience Workshop listening attentively to the presentations



Participants at the Nigeria Neuroscience Workshop in Babcock University in a group photograph





Miss Chizitere Mary Uche, the 16 year old SS2 student, of Egbu Girls Secondary School, Egbu, Imo state, Nigeria, represented Nigeria at the International Brain Bee contest In Washington DC, USA, 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2017. She was also in Babcock where she was awarded price.

#### List of Expenses

<b>Item</b>	<b>cost \$</b>
Accommodation for participants for two nights:	
For students	1,020
For resource persons	920
Feeding for all participants for 2 days:	
Tea breaks	340
Lunch, other entertainments	650
Transportation for Participants	830
Workshop materials:	

Posters and flyers	120
Jotters, writing materials	235
Bags	305
Banners	102
Certificates	80
Stipend for workshop assistants	1,050
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,652</b>

### List of participants

#### From outside Nigeria

Professor James Auta – University of Illinois at Chicago, USA – Resource person  
 Professor Alhaji N’jai – University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA – Resource person  
 Miss Idowu Zipporah - Baraton University, Kenya – undergraduate student

#### From Nigeria

#### Babcock university, Ilishan-Remo, Ogun state, Nigeria

##### Faculty

Professor Iheanyi Okoro  
 Professor ABO Desalu  
 Dr. Sunday Olatunji  
 Dr. F. Omotoso  
 Dr. Joshua Owolabi  
 Dr. Ibiroinke Awodele  
 Dr. Linda Nnenna Nwobi  
 Mr. Okechukwu O Echebelem  
 Miss Florence N Ngubor

##### Undergraduate students

Afoluwa J Obaroye                      Male  
 Chisom I George                          Female

#### Hallmark Secondary School, Ondo town, Ondo state

##### Teachers

Bolarinwa I. O  
 Ayoola E. E (Mrs)  
 Ekanem I. E

##### Students

Amoko Olubunmi Samuel              Male  
 Akinrinmade Tioluwani                Male  
 Oloba Fiyinfoluwa                      Male

Shotusin Victor	Male
Akingbulugbe Tobi	Male
Jesugoroye Daniel	Male
Akinjolire Omowunmi	Female
Omoyola Omotola	Female
Adedoyin Queen	Female
Ajayi Moyin	Female

### **Egbu Girls Secondary School, Egbu, Imo state**

#### **Teachers**

Onyekachi U. Basil-Nwachuku (Mrs)  
 Sylvaline Onwusoro Opara (Mrs)  
 Chief Uchendu D. Muokwe  
 Mr. Samson Eze

#### **Students**

Uche Mary Chizitere	Female
Chisom Jovita Alimaonu	Female
Ebubechi Philips Ihedi	Female
Favour E. Wosa	Female
Mercy Uwandu	Female
Beauty Okere	Female

### **Holy Vessels International College, Ilesa, Osun state**

#### **Teachers**

Temitope Emmanuel Awe  
 Lawrence Famoroti  
 Kayode Gbojumola

#### **Student**

Tomiwa Ariyibi	Male
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### **Imo state university, Owerri, Imo state**

#### **Faculty**

Dr. Jude N. Egwurugwu  
 Dr. Celestine Ekweosu  
 Dr. I. O. Omotosho  
 Dr. Augustine Obi  
 Dr. Chibundu C. Amadi  
 Dr. Gabriel Oze  
 Dr. Promise Nwankpa  
 Mr. Sylvester Akukwe

**Undergraduate students**

Godian C Njoku	Male
Charles I Ngwu	Male
Joseph U Onyemedia	Male
Blessed Joe-Madu	Male
Thelma-Rabi C Etumnu	Female
Kingsley C Iheanacho	Male
Chinenye Bless Nwachukwu	Female
Ebuka P Okoroafor	Male
Wisdom Vivian Onyenanu	Female
Chiamaka Vivian Onyirioha	Female
Chigozie L Owulezie	Male
Ferguson S. Okorie	Male
Goodness C. Nwokeocha	Male
Jesse O Asonze	Male
Robert Chika Arukwe	Male
Bartholomew Elendu	Male
Promise O Osuchukwu	Male
Emmanuel Ukaulor	Male
Anita I Onyiriuka	Female
Chizurum B Alozie	Male
Noel O Osusi	Male
Izuchukwu N Onukwugha	Male
Lasbrey C Ihugba	Male
Chisom Amaefule	Female
Feziechi B Egwurugwu	Female
Miriam O Mburuora	Female
Chizaram B Akanegbu	Female
Chinonyerem Onyemucheya	Female
Nzube E. Egwurugwu	Female
Chineme V. Dike	Female
Chukwuka Elendu	Male
Chrysantus C Ukeomah	Male

**Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Kaduna state****Undergraduate students**

Kandi Ndatsu Adamu	Male
Haruna A Lawan	Male

**Afe Babalola university, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti state****Undergraduate students**

Blessing C. Ibeh	Female
Temitope Okunoga	Female



Samuel Okon Bassey                      Male

**Bowen University, Osun state**

**Undergraduate student**

Miss Bolu Adebayo                      Female

**Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun state**

**Faculty**

Professor Polycarp Nwoha

**Graduate students**

Iyanuoluwa O Ayoola

Mr. Victor Abodunrin

Yoma Orumana

**Centre for Scientific Investigations and Training (CSIT), Owerri, Imo state**

Nkechi F Chukwu

Sunday O Osonwa

Onyinye Nzekwe

Charles Chilaka

Polycarp Adindu

**Other Participants**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Dr. Sam U Esosa	University of Medical Sciences, Ondo city, Ondo state
Dr. M.O.N Ibe	Federal Teaching Hospital Abakiliki, Ebonyi state
Dr. Teju Adeleke	Lafia Kona Specialist Hospital, Ibadan, Oyo state
Dr. Helen Obaje	Lafia Kona Specialist Hospital, Ibadan, Oyo state
Kayode Adebirigbe	Lafia Kona Specialist Hospital, Ibadan, Oyo state
Dr. O. K. K Adeboye	State Hospital Ijebu Ode, Ogun state
Adekombi Akinade	University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Osun state
Joseph O Oyewale	University of Lagos, Lagos state
Dr. Kelechi O Ndukuba	Memfys Hospital for Neurosurgery, Enugu, Enugu state
Dr. Adefisayo Otunaiya	State Hospital, Abeokuta, Ogun, state
Dr. Samuel Okhnea	Federal University of Agriculture, Aboekuta, Ogun state
Elijah A Adesiyun	Novena University, Ogume, Delta State
Omotola Adeyefa	Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso, Oyo state
Aja Ogbonna Akpoke	University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo state
Nnenna Chinagozi-Amanze	St. Catherine's Hospital, Port Harcourt, Rivers state
Genevieve I Opara	Central Medicare Owerri, Imo state
Olusiyi Oladeji	University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo state
Emmanuel O Ayanle	University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo state
Jude Ohanele	Development Dynamics
Tom A Ibe	Federal Polytechnic Nekede, Owerri, Imo state
Dr. Eloka J Unaiawe	Private citizen

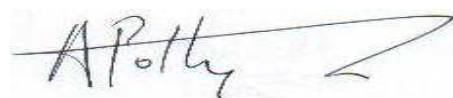
Ayodeji Ayodele  
Emma Odibo  
Chikwe Azoma

Health Standard Journal  
Journalist, The Nation Newspaper  
Journalist, The Sun Newspaper

### Survey

Participants were asked of their views of the Workshop. The common response was that it was unprecedented in the history of Nigeria to have such a successful mixture of persons with varied and wide educational backgrounds being deeply interested in learning and helping the others to learn. They spoke glowingly of such an innovation and the smooth manner in which it was organised. They wished future Workshop could be expanded to engage many more schools and persons. Many also expressed interest in the membership of the ISN if the conditions for entry were favourable and reachable. At the end, every participant was happy and fulfilled. Every participant at the workshop was given a certificate.

Reported compiled by



26<sup>th</sup> August, 2017

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Director, Centre for Scientific Investigations and Training, Owerri, Nigeria  
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