

EDITORIAL

It's another new year of greater opportunities, possibilities and achievements. The NYA heartily celebrates with you for making it through the tough and tortuous year 2020 (in which keeping safe became the paramount global goal) into the new year 2021. We sincerely hope that this new year will bring us relief and restoration from the troubles of the previous year occasioned by COVID-19 global pandemic.

In line with the 'new normal' way of doing things, the NYA celebrated her 10th Anniversary and General Assembly on Tuesday, 1st December 2020 in a hybrid (physico-virtual) event with the theme: "Research, Policy and SDGs Realization in Nigeria: Challenges and Implications". Highlights of the meeting, which includes induction of new members, conferment of Fellows of the NYA on exiting members, and awards for outstanding Nigerian young scientists are presented in this edition of the NYA newsletter. Also in this edition is the call for applications for membership of the NYA, as well as the National Young Researchers' Award to outstanding Nigerian young scientists in various disciplines.

Indeed, the NYA has come of age, with the very giant strides being made by her members and fellows. As the NYA was celebrating her 10th Anniversary, a fellow of the NYA was appointed the Vice-Chancellor of one of the most prestigious universities in Nigeria. This and many other achievements show that the NYA is composed of the finest quality young academics in Nigeria!

As the nations of the world continue to battle the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic with the rolling out of vaccines, it is our earnest prayer that this scourge will soon be a thing of the past and life can return to some level of normalcy. On behalf of the Publicity Committee, I present this edition of the NYA newsletter with best wishes for the new year.

Chukwudi, Chinwe Uzoma.
DVM (Nig), PhD (London)
Publicity Secretary

All enquiries should be directed to:

Nigerian Young Academy
c/o Executive Secretary
The Nigerian Academy of Science
8A Ransome-Kuti Road
University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos

www.nigerianyoungacademy.org
nyacademy1@gmail.com
www.twitter.com/contactNYA
www.facebook.com/contactNYA

Publicity Committee

Dr Chinwe Chukwudi	Chair
Dr Oluwabunmi Oyebode	Member
Dr Tony Orji	Member
Dr Uchenna Oyali	Member
Dr Ibrahim Malami	Member

10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND 2020 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE NYA: RESEARCH, POLICY AND SDGS REALIZATION IN NIGERIA: CHALLENGES AND IMPLICATIONS



A cross-section of members and new fellows at the 10th Anniversary and General Assembly of the NYA held at NSPRI Guest House, Yaba, Lagos

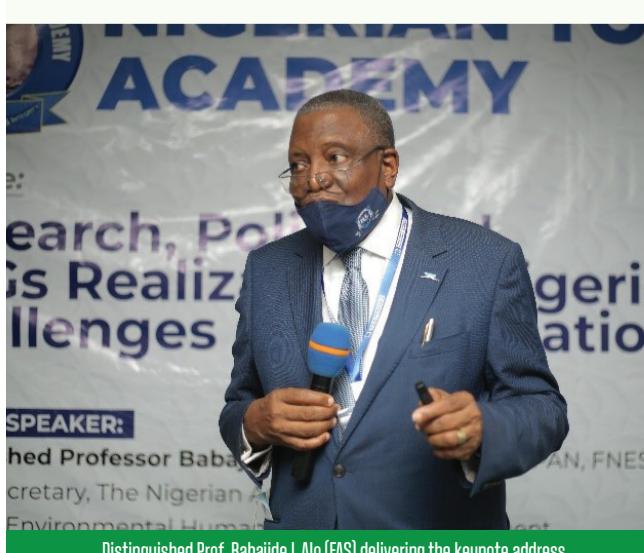
The 10th Anniversary and General Assembly of the NYA was held at the Conference Hall of the Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute, Akoka, Yaba, Lagos. The event held from December 1-2, 2020. This was a momentous event as it featured a celebration of the Academy's 10th year of existence. However, in line with the prevailing COVID-19 protocols, the event was hosted in hybrid format; with only the leadership of the Academy, new members who were inducted at the event, exiting members who were decorated as fellows, prize winners and a few special guests in physical attendance, while all other members and participants joined virtually via Zoom. The President of the Nigerian Academy of Science, Prof. Mosto Onuoha (represented by the NAS Executive Secretary, Dr. Doyin Odubanjo), delivered the goodwill message of NAS. The keynote address on the theme "Research, Policy and SDGs Realization in Nigeria: Challenges and Implications" was delivered by Distinguished Prof. Babajide I. Alo (FAS).

In his keynote address, the Foreign Affairs Secretary of the Nigerian Academy of Science and the Director, Center for Environmental Human Resources Development, UNILAG, noted that there seem to be a disconnect between research policies and the SDGs in

Nigeria, which in addition to the existing lack of/weak research culture and poor funding, are mitigating the realization of the SDGs in Nigeria. He however called for a strategic paradigm shift in integrating research and scientific advisory into government policies and decision-making, while highlighting the need for investment in demand-driven, contextual and impactful research that can guide decision making. Ultimately, **Science can inform policy, but policies can (and should) direct science towards the greater (and more equal) good.**

The ceremony also featured a panel discussion with the past and present NYA presidents on NYA – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, cutting of the 10th Anniversary cake, conferment of the fellowship of the Academy on twelve distinguished members who successfully completed their five-year term and induction of twenty-three new members into the Academy. Five outstanding young researchers were also honoured with National Young Scientists prizes.

The NYA appreciates the unflinching support of NAS, as well as the University of Lagos and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Lagos for financial and logistical support to make the event a success.



Distinguished Prof. Babajide I. Alo (FAS) delivering the keynote address



The NYA President, Dr Abiodun Egbetokun flanked by the 4th NYA President, Dr Temitope Olomola (L) and the 2nd NYA President, Dr Abidemi Akindele (R) cutting the 10th Anniversary cake

NYA DECORATES NEW FELLOWS IN GRAND STYLE



2020 New Fellows with the Special Guest, Prof. Babajide Alo, FAS: (L-R) Dr Oluwatosin Rotimi, Dr Olayinka Atilola, Dr Adejoke Akingele, Dr Isokenh Igbinosa, Prof. Alo, Dr Oyetunde Oyegbemi, Prof. Festus Okoye, Dr Temitope Olomola. Five other new fellows attended the event virtually via Zoom.

At the time of the Anniversary, eight (8) members of the Academy had fulfilled the mandatory five (5) years of membership. Another four (4) whose exit was deferred from last year joined them to make twelve (12) new Fellows of the NYA. This brings the total number of NYA Fellows to fifty-two (52). The new fellows are:

S/No	NAME	INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION
1	Prof. Festus Basden Chiedu OKOYE	Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka
2	Prof. Akhere Akuekegbe OMONKHUA	University of Benin, Benin City
3	Dr Adejoke O. AKINYELE	University of Ibadan, Ibadan
4	Dr Olusola Nathaniel MAJOLAGBE	Ladoke Akintola University of Tech. Ogbomoso
5	Dr Temitope Oloruntoba OLOMOLA	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife
6	Dr Oyetunde Timothy OYEYEMI	University of Medical sciences, Ondo
7	Prof. Obinna Chukwuemeka NWINYI	Covenant University, Ota
8	Dr Olayinka ATILOLA	Lagos State University, Ojo
9	Dr Raphael Olanrewaju BABATUNDE	University of Ilorin, Ilorin
10	Dr Oluwatosin John ROTIMI	Covenant University, Ota
11	Dr Isoken Henrietta IGBINOSA	University of Benin, Benin City
12	Dr Obinna EKWUNIFE	Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka

FIVE OUTSTANDING YOUNG RESEARCHERS AWARDED NATIONAL YOUNG SCIENTISTS PRIZES

As an Academy that is rooted in a deep culture of excellence, the NYA honoured five outstanding young researchers with the National Young Scientist Prizes in different fields during the 10th Anniversary and General Assembly. The winners were selected following a review of all nominations/applications received. The categories of awards presented and the winners were as follows:

1. Prof. Oyewale Tomori National Young Scientist Prize for Research in Microbiology won by Dr Ebeye Ejikeugwu of Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki.
2. Prof. Friday E. Okonofua National Young Scientist Prize for Research in the Health Sciences won by Dr Victor Nna of

University of Calabar, Calabar.

3. Prof. Kayode Adebowale National Young Scientist Prize for Research in the Chemical Sciences won by Dr Jimoh Tijani of Federal University of Technology, Minna.

4. Prof. Kayode Adebowale National Young Female Scientist Prize for Research in the Chemical Sciences won by Dr Blessing Umeokoli of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka

5. Professor Aderemi Kuku National Young Scientists' Prize for the Mathematical Sciences won by Dr Isaac Lare Animasaun of Federal University of Technology, Akure.



The Award Winners: (L-R) Dr Victor Nna, Dr Isaac Animasaun, Dr Blessing Umeokoli, Dr Jimoh Tijani, Dr Ebeye Ejikeugwu

NYA INDUCTS 23 NEW MEMBERS

The Nigerian Young Academy (NYA) inducted twenty-three new members during the 10th Anniversary and General Assembly. Out of the twenty (20) candidates qualified to be admitted into the NYA following the rigorous peer review process of the applications, thirteen (13) presented themselves for the induction at the event in December 2020. They were joined by ten (10) others who missed their induction the previous year. The current membership of the NYA now stands at fifty-eight (58). The twenty-three (23) newly inducted NYA members are:

S/No	NAME	INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION
1	Dr Ibrahim Babangida Abubakar	Kebbi State University of Science & Technology, Aliero
2	Dr Kafilat Adebola Bawa-Allah	University of Lagos, Akoko
3	Dr Akeem Babatunde Dauda	Federal University, Dutse-Ma, Katsina
4	Dr Murtala Bindawa Isah	Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina
5	Dr Oseni Kadiri	Edo University, Iyamho
6	Dr Esther Emem Nwanna	Federal University of Technology, Akure
7	Dr Ayobami Adebola Busari	Covenant University, Ota
8	Dr Sunday Onos Edeki	Covenant University, Ota
9	Dr Abubakar Abubakar Khaleed	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria
10	Dr Cosmas Uchenna Ogbuka	University of Nigeria, Nsukka
11	Dr Peter Chukwunonso Okoli	Alex Ekwueme Federal University, Ndufu Alike
12	Dr Kaisan Muhammad Usman	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria
13	Dr Chinwoke Clara Ifeanyi-Obi	University of Port Harcourt, Port Harcourt
14	Dr Olumuyiwa Bayode Adegun	Federal University of Technology, Akure
15	Dr Udochukwu Bola Akuru	University of Nigeria, Nsukka
16	Dr Saheed Adewale Adio	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife
17	Dr Ezekiel Omotoso Obafemi	Awolowo University, Ile-Ife
18	Dr Oyewale Mayowa Morakinyo	University of Ibadan, Ibadan
19	Dr Stephen Adeniyi Adefegha	Federal University of Technology, Akure
20	Dr Omolara Faith Yakubu	Covenant University, Ota
21	Dr Mutiat Bolanle Ibrahim	University of Lagos, Lagos
22	Dr Olorunfemi Raphael Molehin	Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti
23	Dr Oju Ibor	University of Calabar, Calabar



A cross-section of the 2020 new members inducted at the 10th Anniversary and General Assembly opening ceremony



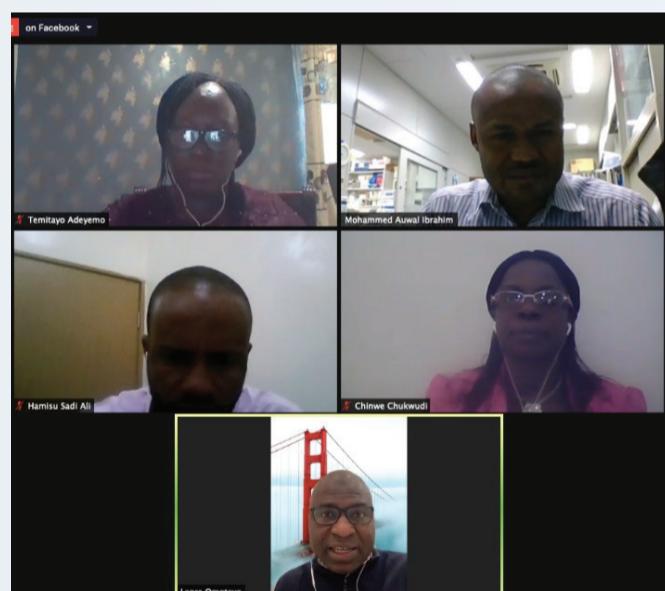
A cross-section of the 2020 new members inducted at the 10th Anniversary and General Assembly opening ceremony

NYA HOLDS WEBINAR SERIES 5.0

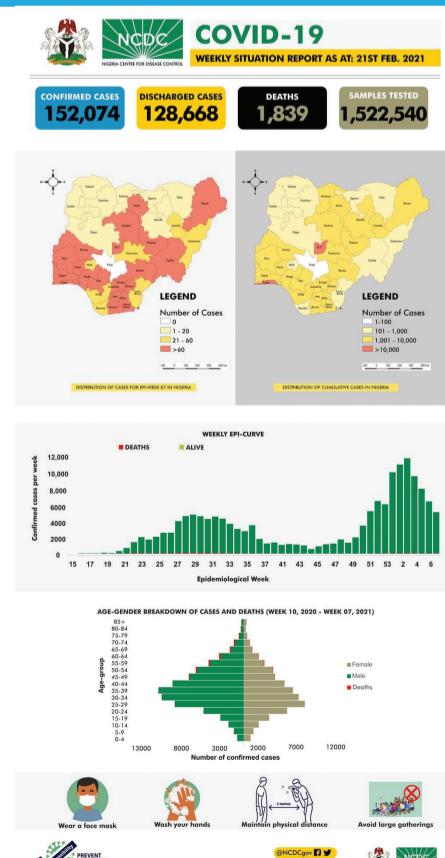


The banner for the NYA Webinar Series 5.0 features the NYA logo and the text "INVITES YOU TO NYA WEBINAR SERIES 5.0". It includes the theme "THE ECONOMY IN THE NEW NORMAL: ROLE OF THE ACADEMIA DURING FINANCIAL SHOCKS", the date "THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 2020", and the time "12.00 NOON (WAT)". It also lists the speakers: Dr. Hamisu Sadi Ali, Dr. Temitayo Adeyemo, Dr. Moshood Omotayo, and Dr. Mohammad Auwal Ibrahim. The banner also includes the registration link and the webinar ID.

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 5th edition of the webinar series was held on 26th November, 2020 on the theme "The economy in the new normal: Role of the Academia during financial shocks", with Dr Hamisu Ali of the ABU Business School, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Dr Temitayo Adeyemo of the Agriculture and Food Policy Department, Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research, and Dr Moshood Omotayo of the Department of Paediatrics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA as the speakers. Out of 86 registered participants, 48 attended the live webinar. The webinar was streamed live on the Academy's social media handles.



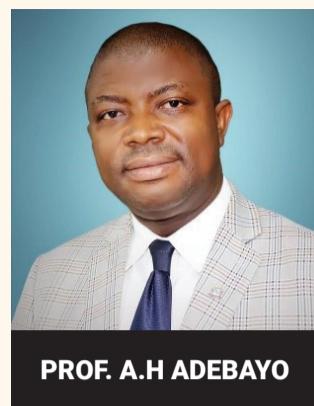
COVID-19 STATE OF THE NATION



MEMBERS AND FELLOWS NEWS

APPOINTMENTS

A fellow of the NYA, Prof. Abiodun Humphrey Adebayo has been appointed the 7th Vice Chancellor of the Covenant University by the



PROF. A.H ADEBAYO



PROF. O.C NWINYI

Board of Regents (BOR). This is a landmark achievement for the NYA, as he is the first of the NYA family to be appointed as such. Prof. Adebayo is of the Department of Biochemistry, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Otta. He is also a Sectional Editor of the Academy's official Journal, Annals of Science and Technology.

In a similar development, another fellow of the NYA Prof. Obinna Chukwuemeka Nwinyi has been appointed the Ag. Dean of the School of Postgraduate Studies of the same Institution. Prof. Nwinyi is of the Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science and Technology.

PROMOTIONS

Two NYA fellows have been promoted to the rank of Professor at the University of Ilorin. Prof. Raphael Olanrewaju Babatunde and Prof. Opeyemi Eyiayi Ayinde are of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Management. Similarly, a member of the NYA, Dr Temitope Odetoye, was also promoted to the rank of Assoc. Professor in the same institution. Dr Odetoye is the Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering and the Chairman of the Ilorin chapter of the Nigerian Society of Engineers.



PROF. R.O BABATUNDE



PROF. O. E AYINDE

Another member of the NYA, Dr Temitope Olawunmi Sogbanmu, has been appointed a member of the Editorial Board of an academic Journal, Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management (Quartiles: 1, Impact Factor: 3.44). Dr Sogbanmu is a Senior Lecturer of the Department of Zoology, University of Lagos. Her area of research is aquatic ecological risk assessment, environmental evidence synthesis and translation, and wastewater toxicity and management.



DR. TEMITOPE ODETODE



DR. T.O SOGBANMU

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

The Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program

Nigerian applicants are invited for The Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program (FVSP) tenable at U.S Institutions. Two categories of grants are offered under The Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program: Research Grants and Program and Curriculum Development Grants. Applications must be completed online at <https://apply.iie.org/fvsp2022>. The deadline to submit application and all supplementary documents is **June 1st**. For more information on how to apply please visit: <https://ng.usembassy.gov/education-culture/exchange-programs/fulbright-african-research-scholar-program-ars-p/>

please visit: <https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/royal-society-wolfson-visiting-fellowship/>

Royal Society Wolfson Fellowship

The five-year Royal Society Wolfson Fellowships will enable UK universities and not-for-profit research institutions to attract and recruit internationally outstanding leading researchers to their organisation. The scheme covers all areas of the life and physical sciences, including engineering, but excluding clinical medicine. The deadline to submit application is **17 March, 2021**. For more information please visit: <https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/royal-society-wolfson-fellowship/>

CeMM International Postdoc Program (Vienna, Austria) Pre-ERC Postdoc Program in Cellular, Molecular and Digital Medicine

CeMM Research Center for Molecular Medicine of the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna are recruiting a group of postdocs who are eager to pursue ground breaking biomedical research, and we will help them to establish themselves as future scientific

Royal Society Wolfson Visiting Fellowship

The Royal Society Wolfson Visiting Fellowships provide an opportunity for outstanding international research leaders to undertake a flexible 12-month period of sabbatical leave in a UK University or research institution, to foster international collaborative links and enriching scientific research in the host organisation as well as the wider UK science base. The deadline to submit application is **17 March, 2021**. For more information on how to apply

leaders. The postdoc program is designed to prepare postdoctoral researchers for an independent research career in top research organizations in Europe and around the world. Please apply online <https://cemm.jobbase.io/job/xe7z80qr>. The deadline to submit application is **27 March, 2021**. For more information please visit: <https://cemm.jobbase.io/apply/jch-cpvuloy4p28utoc8t9s949ivjdva>

Nature Research Awards for Driving Global Impact

Nature Research is inviting applications from early career researchers working in these areas of Food security, water security and/or energy security, Healthcare interventions, Environmental protection, Climate change and Sustainable cities. Prizes will be awarded to one winner and two runners up. The winner will receive a grant of USD 30,000, coverage on nature.com and on the Award's website and the two runners up will each receive a grant of USD 10,000 and coverage on nature.com and on the Award's website. Applications must be submitted online through <https://natureresearch.submittab.le.com/su/bm1t/b70be-ae0-a904-43b1-8076-72d909dc5686/driving-global-impact-award-2021>. Application window closes on **21 March, 2021**. For more information please visit: <https://www.nature.com/collections/ccjnyjxvmp/about>

Call for Research Proposals: Genomic Research Approach for Diversity and Optimising Therapeutics - Project Africa GRADIENT

Project Africa GRADIENT (Genomic Research Approach for Diversity and Optimising Therapeutics) was initiated in 2018 as a collaboration between GSK and Novartis aimed at establishing a consortium to collaborate with expert academic centers and organisations in Africa to support high quality research on African genetic diversity of relevance to drug therapeutics. Applications are invited to submit research proposals involving genetic makeup affecting the response to drugs commonly used to treat TB and malaria in Africa. Funding for up to 5 years, in two independent stages are available with the possibility of extensions. The deadline to submit "online intention to submit" is **01 March, 2021**. For more information please visit: <https://www.aasciences.africa/calls/call-research-proposals-genomic-research-approach-diversity-and-optimising-therapeutics>

International Development Research Centre

IDRC offers grants, funding, and awards to researchers and institutions to find solutions for global development challenges. We work on and fund projects in five interconnected areas of research that we believe will have the greatest impact on reducing the effects of climate change and addressing inequality, while helping to reach the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Applicants must complete the Application for an IDRC Research Grant kit. Applications are accepted through year. For more information please visit: <https://www.idrc.ca/en/funding/how-apply-and-manage-idrc-research-grant>

NYA CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Nigerian Young Academy (NYA) is inviting applications from brilliant young and early career researchers below the age of 45 who are from various disciplines working in Nigerian institutions. Two categories of application are available:

1. Call for application for **membership** of the NYA 2021 for scholars working in any research-based discipline, including the social sciences, arts, humanities, education, law, sciences, medicine, engineering etc. Applications must be submitted online through <https://nigerianyoungacademy.org/aboutus/2021form>.

2. Call for application for **National Young Researchers' Prizes** in Linguistics, Microbiology, Mathematical Sciences, Chemical and Health Sciences. Applications must be submitted online through <https://nigerianyoungacademy.org/opportunities/prizes/2021form>.

NOTE: Persons who have applied for membership are not eligible to apply for any NYA prize in the same year. Multiple applications from same applicant in the same year will all be automatically disqualified. Application window closes on **14th March, 2021**.

PUNCH

NIGERIAN YOUNG ACADEMY
Executive Secretary, The Nigerian Academy of Science, 8A, Ransome Kuti Road, University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos, Nigeria
www.nigerianyoungacademy.org

2021 CALL FOR APPLICATION FOR ANNUAL NATIONAL YOUNG RESEARCHERS' PRIZES AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE ACADEMY

INTRODUCTION
The Nigerian Young Academy (NYA) is a unified platform for interaction among brilliant young researchers below the age of 45 in Nigeria who are from various research disciplines and regions. The Academy seeks to nurture outstanding and aspiring youthful academics and professionals towards improving the state of the nation. The NYA recognizes excellence among young researchers nationally and promotes the application of collective research findings for the improvement of the quality of life in the Nigerian society.

CALL FOR APPLICATION FOR NATIONAL YOUNG RESEARCHERS' PRIZES
The Nigerian Young Academy invites applications to her National Young Researchers' Prizes namely:

- i. Prof. Olurotimi Taiwo National Young Scientists' Prize in Linguistics (#50,000)
- ii. Prof. Aderemba Kuku National Young Scientists' Prize in Mathematical Sciences (#100,000)
- iii. Prof. Friday Okonofua National Young Scientists' Prize in Health Sciences (#100,000)
- iv. Prof. Kayode Adebawale National Young Scientists' Prize in Chemical Sciences (#100,000)
- v. Prof. Kayode Adebawale National Young Scientists' Prize for Women in Chemical Sciences (#100,000)
- vi. Prof. Oyewale Tomori National Young Scientists' Prize in Microbiology (#50,000)

CALL FOR APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE ACADEMY
The Nigerian Young Academy (NYA) invites applications from young researchers to become members of the Academy. The call is open to all scholars working in any research-based discipline, including the social sciences, arts, humanities, education, law, agriculture, natural sciences, medicine, engineering etc.

ELIGIBILITY FOR PRIZES AND MEMBERSHIP

- i. For prizes, candidates should not be older than 45 years of age by December 31st 2020. However, for membership, candidates should not be more than 40 years old (male) or 45 years old (female) as at 31st December, 2020.
- ii. Candidates should show evidence of scholarly research in their fields and must be affiliated to a not-for-profit research institution in Nigeria (e.g. Higher institutions or research institutes).
- iii. For prizes, only Nigerian citizens who have lived and worked in Nigeria for no less than 3 years will be considered.
- iv. Candidates must hold at least a **Master's degree** in relevant disciplines
- v. Persons who have applied for prizes are not eligible to apply for NYA membership or vice versa.
- vi. Multiple applications from an applicant for different NYA awards will be automatically disqualified.
- vi. Members/Fellows of the NYA and previous winners are excluded from competing for these prizes.

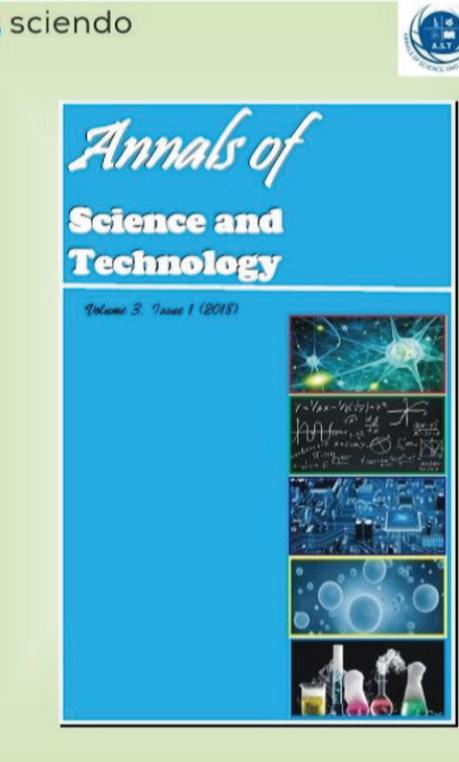
HOW TO APPLY
Go through the guidelines and complete the online application form by visiting the NYA website via:
Prizes: <https://nigerianyoungacademy.org/opportunities/prizes/2021form>
Membership: <https://nigerianyoungacademy.org/aboutus/2021form>
Signing in to an active Google account is required for completion.

APPLICATION PERIOD: 1st January – 14th March 2021

ENQUIRIES
Membership (membership@nigerianyoungacademy.org), Prizes (prizes@nigerianyoungacademy.org)
Contacts: A. A. Egbetokun, PhD (President, 08053387246), M. I. Kazeem, PhD (Secretary, 08030622000)

AST PLATFORM

 sciendo



Call for submission of manuscripts

The Annals of Science and Technology (AST), a journal of the Nigerian Young Academy (NYA), hereby calls for the submission of manuscripts for publication in its next issue.

The journal is indexed and abstracted by many reputable outlets including Google Scholar, EBSCO Discovery Service, J-Gate, ReadCube, Baidu Scholar, CNKI Scholar (China National Knowledge Infrastructure), Naviga (Softweco), KESLI-NDSL (Korean National Discovery for Science Leaders), Naviga (Softweco), Promi Central (ExLibris), Summon (Serial Solutions/ProQuest), TDNet and WorldCat (OCLC).

AST publishes both theoretical and experimental high quality articles twice in a year. It publishes research articles, state of the art reviews and short communications in the field of biological, health, chemical, mathematical and physical sciences, as well as engineering and technology. More information on the journal such as submission guidelines can be found in the link below:
<https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/ast>

NAS CORNER

NIGERIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE INDUCTS FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT



Professor Ekanem Ikpi Braide

The Nigerian Academy of Science, at its Annual General Meeting held virtually on Thursday, 28th January, 2021, has inducted Professor Ekanem Ikpi Braide FAS as the President of NAS. Prof. Braide is the 19th President of the Academy, and the first female President in 44 years of its existence. Professor Braide, a Professor of Parasitology/Epidemiology was a member of the national committee that achieved the laudable feat of guinea worm eradication in Nigeria. She served as Vice Chancellor, Cross River University of Technology (CRUTECH) Calabar, Nigeria (2004 to 2009) and as Pioneer Vice Chancellor, Federal University, Lafia, Nigeria (2011 to 2016). She is currently the Pro-Chancellor of Arthur Jarvis University, Akpabuyo, Nigeria. She took over from Professor Mosto Onuoha FAS (Professor of Pure and Applied Geophysics), and will lead the Academy, for the next four years, in achieving an improved quality of life for the Nigerian society through the promotion and application of science and technology; as well as strengthen the nation's ability to deliver the fruits of science to society by the acquisition, growth, and dissemination of sound scientific knowledge and facilitation of its use in the solution of major national problems.