



**FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE,
UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA NSUKKA**

**MAIDEN INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE
ON VETERINARY & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES**

Theme
Exploring Innovations in
AGRO-VETERINARY AND BIOMEDICAL
Research for Sustainable Development

Date: 10th - 12th March, 2021
@ PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITORIUM,
UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA
Mode: Physical and Virtual



NATIONAL ANTHEM

Arise, O compatriots
Nigeria's call obey
to serve our fatherland
with love and strength and faith.
The labour of our heroes past
shall never be in vain,
to serve with heart and might
one nation bound in freedom
Peace and unity.

O God of creation,
direct our noble cause
Guide thou our leaders right
Help our youth the truth to know
In love and honesty to grow
And living just and true
Great lofty heights attain
To build a nation where peace
And justice shall reign

THE UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA SONG

VERSE 1

Solo: Hail Varsity of Nigeria, My Alma mater
Refrain: Hail her and rejoice for the sake of truth
Solo: Where young men and women do seek for knowledge
Refrain: Hail her and rejoice for the sake of knowledge
Solo: Where the nation's potentials do brood in the nest
Refrain: Hail her and rejoice for her noble ideals
Solo: Hail Varsity par excellence our dreams come true
Refrain: Hail her and rejoice for the giant awakes

All: *My Alma mater, My Alma mater
Noble are thy looks and thy ideals
And great art thou in Science and in Arts
In other realms of learning
Thou art all sublime.*

VERSE 2

Solo: Hail Varsity of Nigeria, My Alma mater
Refrain: Hail her and rejoice for her lofty plans
Solo: The Varsity that is sited on soft green hills
Refrain: Hail her and rejoice for her beauty's sake
Solo: Hail Varsity of our glory, the pride of our land
Refrain: Hail her and rejoice for her light will shine
Solo: Hail Varsity par excellence our dreams come true
Refrain: Hail her and rejoice for the giant awakes

All: *My Alma mater, My Alma mater
Noble are thy looks and thy ideals
And great art thou in Science and in Arts
In other realms of learning
Thou art all sublime. X2*





PROF. CHARLES IGWE

Vice Chancellor, UNN





PROF. I. C. NWAOGU

Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine,
University of Nigeria Nsukka





PROF. U. M. IGWEBUIKE

Chairman, Conference Planning Committee





PROF. I. U. ASUZU

Former Vice Chancellor,
Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

CHAIRMAN OF THE OCCASION





PROF. M. I. AHMED

Vice Chancellor,
Federal University of Agriculture, Zuru, Kebbi State

KEYNOTE SPEAKER





BIOSKETCH OF **PROFESSOR MUSA ISYAKU AHMED** **Vice Chancellor,** **Federal University of Agriculture, Zuru, Kebbi State**

Professor Musa I. Ahmed is the Pioneer Vice Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture Zuru, Kebbi State. He is a Fellow, College of Veterinary Surgeons, Nigeria (FCVSN), Fellow, Institute of Human and Natural Resources (FIHNR), Member, Academia in Information Technology Professionals (AITP), Computer Professionals Council, Nigeria (CPN) and Nigeria Computer Society (NCS).

His organizational skills, leadership quality along with his versatility in agriculture, aquaculture, Bioinformatics and information and communication technology (ICT) made him an ideal candidate for the delivery of a keynote address on "Agro-Veterinary and Biomedical Research for Sustainable Development". Professor Ahmed's resourcefulness and ingenuity at work has been an asset that perpetually paved way for the numerous appointments he enjoyed with every incoming administration in the Universities where he works. He was the Director, Instructional Technology Centre, University of Maiduguri (2019-2020); Coordinator, Instructional Technology Centre, University of Maiduguri (2018-2019), Director, Computer Services and Information Technology, University of Ilorin (2014-2017) and Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Maiduguri (2010-2012). He held positions of Deputy Director, Sub-Dean, Consultant, Head of Department and many other responsibilities in the Universities where he worked.

He has the innate ability to strike the balance between his primary area of specialization which is veterinary parasitology, arable mechanized agriculture and information and communication technology.

He is a pragmatic farmer with about twenty-seven (27) years of mechanized farming experience, a true scholar with intrinsic qualities of an ICT-compliant administrator and a team player in the promotion of contemporary Agro-Veterinary technology and functional integration of information and communication technology in teaching, learning and research environment.

Ahmed's creativity and critical thinking in the poultry industry enabled him to introduce a Danish broiler breed in West Africa (Scanbrid) in 1994 and he developed a cure for cutaneous leishmaniasis. His analytical expertise and strong communication skills using digital technology will be beneficial to the audience as a key resource candidate to contribute in this International Conference on Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences.

Ahmed's personality and empathy stretches beyond the realm of university service to his immediate community where he renders free consultancy to poultry, fish and crop farmers using digital technology. He possesses a creative and innovative mind that brings to the work place a rare combination of 33 years of amalgamated experiences on advances in agricultural technology and livestock resources as a cocktail. His passion for the art of agricultural revolution is exemplified in his eagerness to imbibe the use of Bioinformatics to improve crop yield, quality and disease control.

Professor Ahmed is a delightful mentor, an entrepreneur, a hard worker, an administrator and a passionate educator whose versatility paved way for him to traverse to Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto; Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria; University of Ilorin, Ilorin, University of Georgia, Athens, Kansas State University, Texas A & M, College Station, Texas; Alabama A & M, Huntsville; Fatih University, Istanbul; University of Edinburgh, U.K.; Shanghai University, China and Shenzhen University, Guangdong, China in the course of his academic sojourn.





PROF. B. B. FAKAE

Former Vice Chancellor, Rivers State
University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt.

LEAD PAPER PRESENTER





BIOSKETCH OF PROFESSOR BARINEME BEKE FAKAE

**DVM, MSc (Nigeria), CertRP, PhD (Edinburgh),
MNSAP, MCVSN, MNYAS, MAAAS, FNIIS, FNSAP**

Professor Barineme Beke Fakae, 65, in 1982 qualified as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) with distinction in Veterinary Parasitology and Entomology and distinction in Veterinary Public Health and Jurisprudence from University of Nigeria Nsukka and obtained an MSc in Veterinary Parasitology in 1986 from the same University. In 1993, as a Commonwealth Academic Scholar, he obtained a PhD in Tropical Animal Health from The University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

He joined the services of the University of Nigeria Nsukka in 1983 and rose to rank of Professor of Veterinary Parasitology in October 2004. He headed the Department of Veterinary Parasitology and Entomology and served as a Consultant Parasitologist to the University of Nigeria Veterinary Teaching Hospital Nsukka.

He was appointed the 4th substantive Rector of the Rivers State Polytechnic, Bori and reappointed for a second tenure but based on his enviable track record of academic reforms and infrastructural development at the Polytechnic, Prof BB Fakae was appointed Vice Chancellor of the Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt, with a mandate to rescue the institution from total infrastructural and academic decay. Prof BB Fakae completed his second tenure as the 6th substantive Vice Chancellor of the University in 2015.

During his tenures, these institutions experienced vigorous implementation of ICT master plans coupled with massive infrastructural development and academic orderliness. The University achieved accreditation of courses, high ranking in the NUC Institutional Accreditation and World Webometric Ranking and regular back to back convocations with immediate issuance of certificates and academic transcripts at graduation.

Prof Fakae has earned several international academic fellowships and research awards. He is a member of several learned societies and professional bodies and has published widely. He has received several honours and social awards. He is a seasoned administrator and a resource person to various fora on sustainable vocational and technical education in Nigeria with emphasis on the use of modern information and communication technologies (ICT) for education management and effective curriculum delivery.





PROF. L. O. AKA

St. Matthew's University of Medicine,
Cayman Islands, British West Indies

LEAD PAPER PRESENTER





BIOSKETCH OF **PROFESSOR LAWRENCE OKONKWO AKA** DVM, MSc, PhD, MAPS

Lawrence Okonkwo Aka is a professor of Veterinary Physiology and Rumen Bio-engineering at St. Matthew's University of Medicine, Cayman Islands, British West Indies. Dr. Aka hails from Ibite-Okpatu, in Udi Local Government Area of Enugu State. He had his primary and secondary education at Community Primary School Ogurugu (1982) and Government Technical College, Nsukka (1988) respectively. He obtained the DVM degree in 1996 from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka with honors as the best graduating student. In 2004 and 2010, he obtained the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees respectively from the same University. He has taught Veterinary Physiology for 22 years. During this period, he has served as an astute researcher in various aspects of Veterinary Physiology, a consultant to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital of the University of Nigeria, and mentor to many students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. He served as the Chair, Department of Veterinary Physiology, University of Nigeria until his appointment at St. Matthew's University, Cayman Islands, British West Indies. He has served as visiting Professor and external examiner of Veterinary Physiology in various Universities including Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto; University of Maiduguri, and University of Agriculture Makurdi, Nigeria from 2009-2016. Dr Aka has supervised and examined several postgraduate projects in Veterinary Physiology. He has published over seventy (70) articles in reputable peer review journals and as well presented several conference papers in several conferences including the 2nd International Conference on Cancer Biology, Therapeutics and Drug Discovery and Delivery held at Los Angeles, California USA (October, 2018).

Using the in-sacco technique of rumen function studies, Dr. Aka has developed a model for evaluation of rumen degradability of tropical forages, which aims to develop commercial ruminant feed through chemical depolymerization of higher plant polysaccharides. His areas of research interest are: 1. Hormonal regulation of digestive functions in ruminants and mitigation of rumen methane emission. 2. Impacts of environmental residues on animal reproduction. 3. Endocrine disruption and cancer biology. His current focus is on the antineoplastic properties of extracts from tropical plants. Dr. Aka is a recipient of several academic awards including the University of Nigeria faculty best student award at undergraduate and Doctoral levels. He has authored some books which include: "Foundation of Veterinary Physiology" (1st edition, 2004, and 2nd edition, 2014), and Cultivating an Excellent Attitude, 2007. He has recently concluded a book project that would help students of veterinary physiology, worldwide, to approach questions in veterinary physiology with a clear sense of clinical correlation that meets competency requirements.

Dr. Aka is a member of reputable professional organizations including the Nigerian Veterinary Medical Association and the American Physiological Society. He continues to serve as a reviewer for several Journals including but not limited to Journal of Applied sciences, Pharmaceutical biology, Current Journal of Applied Science and Technology (Sciencedomain), e.t.c. He is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Veterinary Education and Animal Welfare Center; a non-governmental organization for the advancement of veterinary education and research, student mentoring and scholarships, animal production and welfare, veterinary entrepreneurship, disease monitoring and control, with headquarter in Nigeria and affiliates in France and United States of America. Dr. Aka is currently leading the Caribbean Ecological and Marine Animal Research that focuses on Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Cuba, Haiti, and Dominica Republic. He is happily married to Mrs. Celestina Aka and they are blessed with six sons. Dr. Aka loves Christian evangelism, youth mentoring and playing ping-pong.





PROGRAM OF EVENTS FOR FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE 2021

OPENING CEREMONY

DAY 1 PROGRAM

On-site registration	---	8am
Courtesy call to the Vice Chancellor	---	9am
Introduction of Dignitaries	---	10:00am – 10:10am
National Anthem	---	10:10am – 10:20am
University of Nigeria song	---	10:20am – 10:30am
Opening prayer	---	10:30am – 10:40am
Opening Remarks by Chairman of the Occasion	---	10:40am – 10:50am
Welcome address by the Dean FVM	---	10:50am – 11:05am
Address by the VC	---	11:05am – 11:20am
Tea Break	---	11:20am – 11:50am
Keynote Address	---	12:00pm – 1:00pm
First Lead Paper Presentation	---	1:00pm – 2:00pm
Vote of Thanks by CPC Chairman	---	2:00pm – 2:10pm
Closing prayer	---	2:10pm – 2:20pm
BREAK	---	2:20pm – 3:10pm
Poster presentations	---	3:10pm – 4:00pm

DAY 2 PROGRAM

PHYSICAL/ON-SITE PARALLEL SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

Opening prayer	---	9:00am – 9:10am
Second Lead Paper Presentation	---	9:10am – 10:10am
On-site oral presentations in 4 groups	---	10:30am – 1:00pm
BREAK/Poster presentation	---	1:00pm – 2:00pm
On-site oral presentations in 4 groups	---	2:00pm – 4:00pm

DAY 3 PROGRAM

VIRTUAL/ONLINE PARALLEL SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

Opening prayer	---	9:00am – 9:10am
Virtual presentations in 4 groups	---	9:10am – 1:00pm
BREAK	---	1:00pm – 2:00pm
Virtual presentations in 4 groups	---	2:00pm – 4:00pm
Closure	---	4:00pm





Opening Remarks By **CHAIRMAN OF THE OCCASION,** **PROF. ISAAC UZOMA ASUZU**

PROTOCOL

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to the maiden and first-ever international multi-disciplinary conference organized by the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Nigeria Nsukka. Conference attendance is a sine-qua-non for the academic community because it affords the opportunity to rob minds on scientific advances and discoveries of our times. Research has gone multidisciplinary, which has the benefits of looking at problems from various perspectives that will result in more in-depth work and better quality research publications.

It is in this light that this conference has been organized to attract researchers from all branches of science – Agriculture, Veterinary Medicine, Pharmacy, Medicine, Molecular Biology and specific subject areas like biotechnology, genomics, bioinformatics, nanotechnology, biomedical engineering and so on. I hope that the outcome of this conference will provide solutions to some of the teaming challenges facing developing nations like ours and will ultimately improve the quality of life (both social and health) of our citizens.

We are no doubt living in austere times caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. It has completely changed the dynamics of doing business and the conference organizers have devised a way around this problem by calling the attention of all relevant sections of the society to take part in this epoch-making event. The conference is therefore in two sections, virtual for those in the diaspora or others who are not able to travel to Nsukka, the venue of the conference and for those who are able to physically present their papers. We would sincerely wish that there was no coronavirus disease pandemic so that all could gather, not only to present their scientific works but to socialize and network with one another, which are equally important aspects of attending a scientific conference. However, for those who are able to attend physically, you should find time to enjoy the safe, serene and cool environment of Nsukka – a land surrounded by lofty green hills and very friendly people. I wish you a very successful conference attendance and fruitful deliberations.

This speech is not complete without appreciating the efforts of our Vice-Chancellor, Prof. C. A. Igwe for providing the environment conducive for hosting an international conference of this magnitude. The courage of our newly-elected Dean, Prof. I. C. Nwaogu to embark on such an ambitious project is highly appreciated. Finally, the efforts of the local organizing committee headed by the indefatigable Prof. U. M. Igwebuikwe to organize this conference within a very short time are highly commendable.

Thank you for listening while I wish you safe trip as you return to your various stations at the end of the conference.

Isaac U. Asuzu DVM, PhD, FCVSN, FAS.
Professor of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology,
University of Nigeria, Nsukka
Former Vice-chancellor, Federal University Oye-Ekiti





**A WELCOME ADDRESS BY PROF. I. C. NWAOGU,
DEAN, FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE,
UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA
AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE
FACULTY'S MAIDEN INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC
CONFERENCE,
10TH MARCH, 2021 AT PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITORIUM**

The Vice Chancellor, University of Nigeria Nsukka – Prof. Charles A. Igwe

The Chairman of the Occasion – Prof. Isaac U. Asuzu

The Keynote Speaker and Vice Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture, Zuru, Kebbi State – Prof. Musa I. Ahmed

The Lead Paper Presenter – Prof. Barineme B. Fakae

Principal Officers of the University

Deans of Faculty and Directors of Institutes and Centres

Distinguished Professors

Heads of Department

Other Staff of the University here present

Conference Participants

Gentlemen of the Press

Ladies and Gentlemen

Lions and Lionesses

On behalf of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Nigeria Nsukka, I warmly welcome you all to this maiden edition of the faculty's International Scientific Conference on Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences. Permit me to begin by appreciating Prof. Charles Arizechukwu Igwe, Vice Chancellor, University of Nigeria Nsukka for his kindness in granting approval to the Faculty to host this conference, as well as his acceptance to be the Chief Host of this event. Thank you, Mr. Vice Chancellor.

I have the honour and pleasure to specially welcome the Keynote Speaker and Vice Chancellor, University of Agriculture, Zuru, Kebbi State, Prof. M. I. Ahmed, who accepted our invitation to participate in this capacity, despite the tight schedules of his office. Similarly, I welcome in a special way, our Lead Paper Presenters; Prof. B. B. Fakae, former Vice Chancellor, Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt and Prof. L. O. Aka of St. Matthew's University of Medicine, Cayman Islands, British West Indies.

I recognize with delight all participants in this conference, who have come from different parts of the country and beyond to grace the occasion. Our colleagues in the diaspora and other international participants that are joining us via the online platform are duly acknowledged.





The theme of the conference is “Exploring innovations in Agro-Veterinary and Biomedical Research for sustainable development.” This is very appropriate, particularly at this time when our country, Nigeria is in dire need of alternative sources of income to drive the ailing economy, which is at the verge of collapse due to over-reliance on oil as the major source of revenue. This conference promises to be a forum where discussants will proffer pathways for application of agro-veterinary and biomedical research outcomes in national development. The need for diversification of the economy cannot be overemphasized and the development and promotion of agro-veterinary ventures is the way forward. Advances in both crop and animal farming technologies have potential for job creation to provide the urgently needed employment opportunities for our teeming youth.

It is obvious that innovations in robotics and artificial intelligence are becoming increasingly relevant in agro-veterinary disciplines. Indeed, there have been revolution and upsurge in the development of molecular tools and nano-technologies during the last three decades and these have applications in agriculture, veterinary medicine and biomedical sciences. Scientists within and outside Nigeria have made hallmark discoveries in immunology, genetic engineering, diagnostics, food security, disease prevention and control, energy generation and environmental safety. It is expected that colleagues, researchers and scientists from different countries of the world will have opportunity to showcase their discoveries and contributions to knowledge in this conference. More so, the conference will provide an avenue for interaction, exchange of ideas and establishment of linkages and collaborations for cutting-edge research and training.

As we look forward to a successful and result-oriented conference, I welcome everyone to the University of Nigeria, a great citadel of learning sited on the soft green hills of Nsukka. Do well to enjoy the hospitality of our environment while the conference lasts. May this conference leave long-lasting legacies on your research and career.

Thank you.

**Prof. I. C. Nwaogu DVM (Kishinev);
Msc; PhD (Nigeria); FCVSN
Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine**



**AN ADDRESS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR, PROF. CHARLES
ARIZECHUKWU IGWE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE
MAIDEN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VETERINARY AND
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES ORGANIZED BY THE FACULTY OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA ON
WEDNESDAY, 10TH MARCH, 2021 AT PRINCESS ALEXANDRIA
AUDITORIUM, UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA**

The Chairman of the Occasion – Prof. Isaac U. Asuzu

The Keynote Speaker – Prof. Musa I. Ahmed, Vice Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture,
Zuru, Kebbi State

The Lead Paper Presenter – Prof. Barineme B. Fakae

Principal Officers of the University here present

Members of the University Governing Council here present

Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies

Deans of Faculty and Directors of Institutes and Centres

Distinguished Professors and Academics

Heads of Department here present

Other Staff of the University here present

Conference Participants

Gentlemen of the Press

My Lords; spiritual and temporal

Ladies and Gentlemen

Lions and Lionesses

It gives me great pleasure to witness the maiden edition of the International Conference on Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences organized by the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Nigeria, Nsukka. The conference is a bold step in the right direction. The theme of the conference namely, 'exploring innovations in agro-veterinary and biomedical research for sustainable development' is very apt. Time has come for scientists and researchers to export and apply their research findings to solving real life problems in the industry; thus contributing to national development. This is especially needful at this time when there is an upsurge in the use of new scientific tools and technologies in the fields of agriculture, veterinary medicine and biomedical sciences, leading to a revolution in scientific discoveries.

I hope that the conference will offer participants a platform to exchange ideas and explore various novel technologies and innovative scientific approaches applicable to agro-veterinary and biomedical sciences. The interaction should be in a manner that it will be of benefit to the experts, the starters and the students alike. Participation of international scientists in the conference is a welcome development that will help to build bridges and birth scientific networks and collaborations.

It is a privilege to have in attendance outstanding and internationally recognized researchers as plenary speakers in this conference. The Chairman of this occasion – Prof. Isaac U. Asuzu is not only a renowned scientist of international repute, but also an astute administrator that has served at various times as Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) of this great university, and Vice Chancellor, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti.

The Keynote Speaker – Prof. Musa I. Ahmed, Vice Chancellor of Federal University of Agriculture, Zuru, is an erudite scholar, an administrator, a veterinarian and a pragmatic farmer, with many years of experience in mechanized farming and promotion of agro-veterinary technology.



The first Lead Paper Presenter – Prof Barineme B. Fakae, a former Vice Chancellor of Rivers State University of Science and Technology Port Harcourt, is famous for his works on epidemiology and control of gastrointestinal parasites of farm and pet animals. The tenets developed through his works are still applied in the control and prevention of parasitic diseases to date.

Of course, the second Lead Paper Presenter is no less a person than Prof. Lawrence O. Aka, a professor of veterinary physiology and rumen bio-engineering at St Matthew's University of Medicine, Cayman Islands, British West Indies. He is known for developing a model for evaluation of rumen degradability of tropical forages, using the in-sacco technique of rumen function studies. His studies form a prelude to formulation of commercial ruminant feeds.

Moreover, this conference has brought together participants from within and outside the country who are experts in their respective areas of research. I strongly believe that the conference will exhaustively meet every high expectation.

I sincerely thank and congratulate the Dean and staff of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine for their efforts at organizing their first International Conference on Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences. The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine boasts of diligent and committed teachers, mentors and researchers, whose works are published widely in many high impact factor-rated journals of international repute. Recently, the Veterinary Teaching Hospital was selected to benefit from the Fleming Country Grant of the United Kingdom, with reconstruction of the Microbiology Laboratory Unit to serve as a SENTINEL Laboratory for the entire South East and South South geopolitical regions, in the fight against antimicrobial resistance in Nigeria. In addition, the Veterinary Teaching Hospital has taken delivery of a new 2019 Model, Toyota Hilux designated for disease surveillance. It was donated by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD) in conjunction with the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), the REDISSE Project and the World Bank.

I wish to reiterate the commitment of the University Management to the promotion of academic and professional excellence in the University of Nigeria in general and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in particular. Within the limits of our scarce resources, my administration will continue to provide the enabling environment for high quality teaching, learning and research in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

I most warmly welcome all resource persons and participants to this conference. I am aware that some participants, particularly those outside the country will make their presentations via online platforms. I assure the organizers and participants of strong uninterrupted broadband internet support by our ICT Unit for the smooth running of the conference.

I wish you a memorable outing. Remember to observe the NCDC-approved non-pharmaceutical protocols for prevention of the spread of COVID-19 infection. Wear your nose masks properly, wash your hands frequently and make use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers. As much as possible, maintain a good social distance always.

On this note, I hereby declare the conference open.

God bless and grant you journey mercies as you travel back to your various locations at the end of the conference.

Thank you

Professor Charles Arizechukwu Igwe
Vice Chancellor





Resource persons for Parallel Presentation Sessions

1. Physical Presentations on Thursday 11th March, 2021

GROUPS	SESSIONS	RESOURCE PERSONS
Group A Medicine/Physiology/ Pharmacology/Biochemistry	Morning Session 10.30hrs – 13.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. B. M. Anene
		Rapporteur – Dr. K. G. Madubuike
	Afternoon Session 14.00hrs – 16.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. P. A. Onyeyili
		Rapporteur – Dr. P. E. Aba
Group B Anatomy/Reproduction/ Surgery	Morning Session 10.30hrs – 13.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. C. O. Igbokwe
		Rapporteur – Dr. N. U. Njoku
	Afternoon Session 14.00hrs – 16.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. I. S. Ochiogu
		Rapporteur – Dr. I. K. Peter-Ajuzie
Group C Public Health/Parasitology/ Pathology/Microbiology	Morning Session 10.30hrs – 13.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. C. O. Nwosu
		Rapporteur – Dr. C. K. Ezeasor
	Afternoon Session 14.00hrs – 16.00hrs	Chairman – Dr. Mrs. E. V. Ezenduka
		Rapporteur – Dr. C. A. Akwuobu
Group D Animal Health/Animal Production/Biotechnology	Morning Session 10.30hrs – 13.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. B. N. Marire
		Rapporteur – Dr. F. O. Abonyi
	Afternoon Session 14.00hrs – 16.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. A. O. Ani
		Rapporteur – Dr. Mrs. C. J. Aronu





2. Virtual Presentations via Zoom on Friday 12th March, 2021

GROUPS	SESSIONS	RESOURCE PERSONS
Group A Medicine/Physiology/ Pharmacology/Biochemistry	Morning Session 09.00hrs – 13.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. A. O. Anaga
		Rapporteur – Dr. Mrs. U. U. Eze
	Afternoon Session 14.00hrs – 16.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. R. I. Obidike
		Rapporteur – Dr. I. C. Egbuniwe
Group B Anatomy/Reproduction/ Surgery	Morning Session 09.00hrs – 13.00hrs	Chairman – Dr. K. A. Raheem
		Rapporteur – Dr. K. C. Ogbanya
	Afternoon Session 14.00hrs – 16.00hrs	Chairman – Dr. C. S. Ibe
		Rapporteur – Dr. S. O. Ekere
Group C Public Health/Parasitology/ Pathology/Microbiology	Morning Session 09.00hrs – 13.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. K. F. Chah
		Rapporteur – Dr. I. O. Ezech
	Afternoon Session 14.00hrs – 16.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. J. I. Ihedioha
		Rapporteur – Dr. A. J. Ogugua
Group D Animal Health/Animal Production/Biotechnology	Morning Session 09.00hrs – 13.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. P. A. Nnadi
		Rapporteur – Dr. C. O. Nwaigwe
	Afternoon Session 14.00hrs – 16.00hrs	Chairman – Prof. N. S. Machebe
		Rapporteur – Dr. C. C. Ogbu



VOTE OF THANKS BY

PROF. UDENSI MADUABUCHI IGWEBUIKE,

CHAIRMAN, CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

PROTOCOL

Blessed be the Name of the Lord God Almighty! He has given us grace to make a good start of the first International Conference of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Nigeria Nsukka. He will see us through all the programmes scheduled for this conference in Jesus Name. We have looked forward with excitement for this great event. History is made today!

We heartily thank and congratulate the Dean of Veterinary Medicine, Prof. I. C. Nwaogu for his visionary leadership and dogged commitment to purpose, which stirred us to take the bull by the horn, and launch out in faith towards the success we see today. Many thanks to our amiable Vice Chancellor, Prof. Charles Igwe who provided the enabling environment and all necessary support to us as we planned for the conference. My Vice Chancellor sir, thank you for hosting our special guests and providing them with the hospitality for which our university is known.

We sincerely appreciate the humility, sacrifices and partnership of our special guests, who have made this occasion memorable by their presence and scientific presentations. Prof. Musa Ahmed came all the way from Zuru in Kebbi State, in spite of his crowded schedules as Vice Chancellor. Sir, we are honoured by your presence and have picked much good information from your keynote address. Thanks for being a part of our success. Similarly, Prof. B. B. Fakae traveled a long way from Port Harcourt. He is our man, having been a teacher and mentor in our faculty for many years before his journey unto higher heights; to fulfill some special assignments in his home state. So, we listened to his presentation with nostalgia, looking back to our days in his class. Prof. BB, we are favoured to have you speak in this conference. Thank you very much for making out time to be with us. I will not forget to mention Prof. L. O. Aka, our second lead paper presenter. He will speak to us tomorrow via zoom from St. Matthew's University of Medicine, Cayman Islands in British West Indies. We thank him for accepting to be a part of this conference.

We recognize the presence of University Governing Council members, Deans of Faculty, Heads of Department, distinguished Professors and Lecturers and other University Functionaries who have come to grace this occasion. Our joy knows no bounds for your support at a time like this. A friend in need is a friend indeed, they say. Thank you for being here.

Our resource persons that will serve as Chairmen/Chairpersons and Rapporteurs for the parallel presentation sessions are humbly acknowledged. We are grateful that you are willing to serve.

To our conference participants, we say "God bless you." We have received a good number of high quality abstracts from you, and that indeed is what makes a conference worthwhile. We look forward to a robust interaction tomorrow and next, as we listen to your presentations and exchange ideas on innovations and advances in agro-veterinary and biomedical research.

This conference could not have been a good success without the support of some of our alumni and some veterinary companies that sponsored us in one way or another. Worthy of mention are Dr. Anyalebechi of Guinness Nigeria Plc., Dr. Cosmas Okeke of Kosy konsult Ltd, Dr. David Onuora of Komplete Pasture Ltd., Mr. John Okeke of Johnny Agro-pharmaceuticals, Dr. Tunji Nasir of Truthmiles Ltd., MD, Bullion Surgical Ltd. and the MD, Nwasoweto Concept Ltd. We are immensely indebted to you for your kindness.

We thank the Faculty Board of Veterinary Medicine for the trust and confidence reposed in us by entrusting the planning and execution of this great event into our hands. Our students have been a great support. We are delighted to have you on ground at this time. Thanks for your sacrifices and the services you rendered. Finally, I want to particularly appreciate members of the Conference Planning Committee for their diligence and team work. The result is the success we have today.

We wish everyone a safe trip at the end of the conference, and we pray God to keep us safe in the face of COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you very much and God bless you.

Stay Safe!

Professor Udensi Maduabuchi Igwebuike
Chairman, Conference Planning Committee



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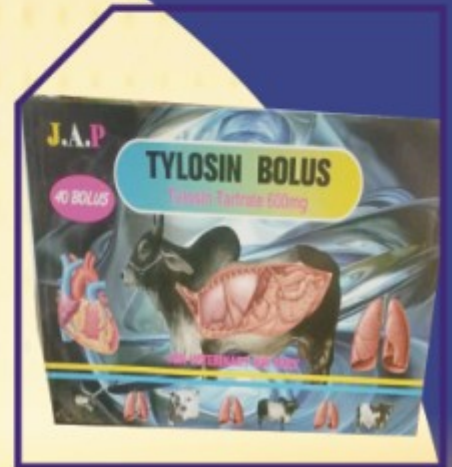


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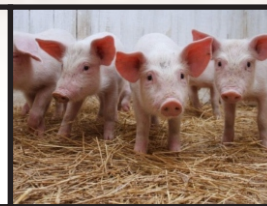
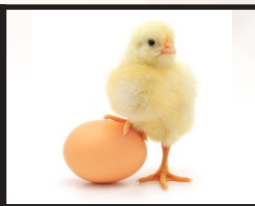
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