**Cold email**

Dear Professor Adeleke,

I am writing to express my interest in a doctoral position in your group. I recently completed my masters in the laboratory of Professor. Dr. Esan Ajayi. I have 14 years of experience studying microbial interactions and stress signaling cascades. My bachelor’s thesis was on antibiotic resistance patterns of Escherichia coli and Enterococcus faecalis strains isolated from cow dungs across 10 local government areas of Ekiti State, Nigeria. The study which was commended as one of the best in the department showed multidrug resistance of both organisms to conventional antibiotics. I have also worked extensively on various bacteria such as Salmonella, Shigella, Klebsiella, Pseudomonas aeruginosa among others. I have 5 years of experience working with filamentous fungi including Aspergillus fumigatus, Aspergillus nidulans and Alternaria alternata. In my Master thesis, I characterized the role of the rax1 gene encoding a putative regulator of G protein signaling in A. fumigatus. The findings of the research highlighted the role of Afurax1 in sporulation and oxidative stress. The work was published at BBRC.

 To acquire more knowledge in the field of mycology, specifically fungal pathogenesis and to stay connected with academics, I started my Ph.D. in Professor. XXXX group at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). My Ph.D. thesis work focused on understanding the mechanism of light responses in the plant pathogen A. alternata. A. alternata is a black spore producing fungus capable of producing over 70 classes of toxins harmful to human health. I investigated the role of the red (FphA) and blue (LreA) light photoreceptors and the interplay with the high-osmolarity glycerol (HOG) mitogen-activated protein (MAP) kinase pathway. Loss- of function mutations for fphA, lreA, and hogA were created using the CRISPR-Cas9 technology. Part of the findings of this study, which has been published in mBio, showed that high-osmolarity sensing required FphA and LreA, suggesting a complex cross talk between light and stress signaling.

I read some of your research articles, and the area of research being pursued in your group is very interesting. Your recent publication on XXX caught my attention and I will appreciate an opportunity to discuss potential research ideas that align with your area of interest.

I am confident that my investigative qualities, independence, creativity, and critical thinking, my technical skills in nucleic acid isolation and manipulation, qRT-PCR, protein localization, protein-protein interactions, stress assays and my experience in cell biology and microbial pathogenesis would be an asset to your laboratory. I am enclosing my curriculum vitae. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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