



NISEB
NEWSLETTER/BULLETIN

A Quarterly Publication of the
**Society for Experimental
Biology of Nigeria (NISEB)**

FEBRUARY, 2023

FROM THE EDITOR



IMPORTANCE OF GRANTS AND PATENTS IN THE FIELD OF BIOLOGY

Welcome to the new year and to the latest edition of our NISEB newsletter! In this edition, we will be focusing on the importance of grants and patents in the field of experimental biology. As many of you are aware, grants and patents play a crucial role in funding and protecting research and innovation in the field of experimental biology.

In this edition, we will be discussing the different types of grants and patents available for experimental biologists, and we'll also take a look at some of the latest developments and trends in the field. We'll also be highlighting some of the challenges that scientists and researchers face when applying for grants and patents, as well as potential solutions to these challenges.

In addition, we will be featuring some of our regulars. The year has just started and its high time we brace up to the challenges ahead.

We hope you find this edition informative and valuable. As always, we welcome any feedback or suggestions you may have for future editions of our newsletter/bulletin. Thank you for your continued support, and happy reading!

Sincerely,
Dr David Olugbenga Adetitun

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Prof B. V. Owoyele deleyele@yahoo.com



This being the first edition of our bulletin for the year 2023, I wish to congratulate all of us for witnessing the New Year even though the impact of the currency redesign of the federal government is biting on us. It was Robert H. Schuller that coined the popular saying 'Tough times never last but tough people do' which I certainly believe is true, especially with us. This newsletter is also coming out after the prolonged ASUU strike of 2022 with seized salaries, and consequent low morale among lecturers in the federal universities in Nigeria. Despite the odds, I believe that the resilient nature of Nigerian academics, especially experimental biologists like us would continue to sustain us.

Your society is waxing strong, and your executive committee has committed itself to move the society forward. We have continued to organize webinars and engage the membership through our different social media handles. We appeal to members to continually fulfill their obligations to the society by way of paying their annual dues, organizing activities in their branches, sending reports of activities in their branches to our General Secretary or Public Relations Officer, and publishing their scientific articles in the specialized journals of the society.

Finally, I urge us to contribute our parts to ensure the smooth success of the oncoming general elections in Nigeria. Let us keep safe.

HOW TO WIN ACADEMIC RESEARCH GRANTS FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGISTS

Academic research grants are an essential source of funding for researchers and scholars to pursue their research projects and advance their field of study. Obtaining a research grant can be a challenging task, but with the right approach and preparation, it is possible to increase your chances of success.

Here are some tips on how to win academic research grants.

1. **Understand the funding agency's priorities:** Before submitting a proposal, it is important to research and understand the funding agency's priorities and goals. This will enable you to tailor your proposal to align with their mission and increase the chances of your proposal being selected.
2. **Develop a clear and compelling proposal:** A clear and compelling proposal is essential to winning a research grant. Make sure to include a well-written abstract, a clear research question, and a detailed research plan. Also, ensure that your proposal includes a budget that is realistic and well-justified.
3. **Demonstrate your expertise:** It is important to demonstrate that you are an expert in your field and that you have the necessary qualifications and experience to conduct the proposed research. Include your CV and a list of your previous publications and research projects in your

proposal to show your expertise.

4. **Show the significance of your research:** Your proposal should clearly show the significance of your research and its potential impact on your field of study. Explain how your research will contribute to new knowledge and how it will benefit society.
5. **Build a strong team:** A strong team can increase the chances of your proposal being selected. Include a list of the team members and their qualifications and experience in your proposal.
6. **Follow the guidelines:** It is important to follow the guidelines set by the funding agency. Make sure to adhere to the format and the word count specified in the guidelines.
7. **Get feedback:** Before submitting your proposal, get feedback from other researchers and scholars in your field. They may be able to provide valuable insights and suggestions for improvement.

In conclusion, winning an academic research grant requires a combination of a clear and compelling proposal, expertise in your field, and a strong team. By following these tips, you can increase your chances of success and secure the funding you need to advance your research and make a significant impact in your field of study.

FUNDING BODIES THAT GIVE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES RESEARCH GRANTS



There are many funding bodies that provide grants for biological research. Here are a few examples:

1. **National Institutes of Health (NIH):** The NIH is the largest funding agency for biomedical research in the world. It provides grants for a wide range of biological research, including basic, translational, and clinical research.
2. **National Science Foundation (NSF):** The NSF is a federal agency that supports fundamental research in all fields of science and engineering, including biology.
3. **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA):** NASA provides grants for research in areas related to space biology, such as the study of microorganisms in extreme environments, and the effects of spaceflight on human physiology.
4. **Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI):** HHMI is a philanthropic organization that supports basic biomedical research in the United States.
5. **American Cancer Society (ACS):** The ACS provides funding for cancer research, including basic, translational and clinical research.
6. **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation:** The foundation provides funding for research and development of new technologies, particularly in the areas of global health and development.
7. **Wellcome Trust:** UK-based philanthropic foundation that supports biomedical research and the development of new treatments and therapies.
8. **European Union:** European Union provides funding for research and innovation through its Horizon 2020 program, which covers all scientific domains, including biology.

These are just a few examples of funding bodies that provide grants for biological research. It is important to research and understand the priorities and goals of each funding agency before submitting a proposal, as the funding opportunities and requirements can vary between them.

HOW EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGISTS CAN WIN PATENTS

Winning patents as a biologist refers to the process of obtaining legal protection for an invention or discovery made in the field of biology. Here are a few ways biologists can win patents:

1. Conduct thorough research: Before filing a patent application, it is important to conduct thorough research to ensure that the invention or discovery is new and not already patented or published.
2. File a provisional patent application: A provisional patent application can be filed to establish an early effective filing date and to buy time to conduct further research, make improvements to the invention, or raise funding.
3. Hire a patent attorney: Hiring a patent attorney who specializes in biology can be helpful in navigating the patent process, drafting the patent application and responding to any objections from the patent office.
4. Clearly describe the invention or discovery: The patent application should clearly and

completely describe the invention or discovery, including how it works and its potential uses.

5. Show the usefulness of the invention or discovery: The patent office will also consider whether the invention or discovery is useful, and so it is important to demonstrate the potential benefits and applications of the invention or discovery in the patent application.
6. Be aware of patent laws: It is important to be aware of patent laws and regulations in your country and to file the patent application in the appropriate jurisdiction.
7. Be prepared to defend the patent: Once a patent is granted, the patent holder may need to defend it in court if it is challenged by another party.

It is important to note that the process of obtaining a patent can be complex and time-consuming, so it's important to be aware of the requirements and to seek professional help when needed.

PATENT ORGANISATIONS WORTH KNOWING

Obtaining a patent for an invention or discovery can be a complex and time-consuming process, and it's important to be familiar with the different patent organizations that can help in the process. Here are a few patent organizations worth knowing:

1. National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP)
2. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO): The USPTO is the federal agency responsible for granting patents and registering trademarks in the United States. It is the largest patent office in the world, and it offers a wide range of resources and services to help inventors and entrepreneurs navigate the patent process.
3. The European Patent Office (EPO): The EPO is responsible for granting patents in 38 European countries. It offers a centralized patent application process, which allows inventors to apply for a patent in multiple countries at the same time.
4. The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO): WIPO is a global organization that promotes the protection of intellectual property worldwide. It offers a wide range of resources and services to help inventors and

entrepreneurs understand the patent process and protect their inventions and discoveries.

5. National Intellectual Property Office (NIPO): NIPO is a government office that is responsible for granting patents, trademarks and designs in a country.
6. Intellectual Property Offices of various countries: Each country has their own intellectual property office that is responsible for granting patents, trademarks and designs in that country. These offices can provide information and guidance on the patent process in their respective countries.
7. Professional patent attorney or agent: Patent attorneys or agents specialize in the process of obtaining patents and can provide valuable advice and assistance throughout the patent application process.

It's important to note that patent laws and regulations vary by country, so it's essential to familiarize yourself with the requirements and regulations of the patent office or organization you are working with. These organizations can be a valuable resource for inventors and entrepreneurs looking to protect their inventions and discoveries.

OLD NISEB MEMBERS

All members are expected by now to have NISEB Membership Numbers. All members should also be up-to-date in the payment of Annual Dues. Annual dues for Full Members is N5,000 and for Student Members (including Youth Corpsers) is N2,000. Old members of NISEB will pay their annual dues yearly to NISEB account at UBA with account number 2213930226. This can be by transfer online (via phone, etc) or by physical payment at the bank.

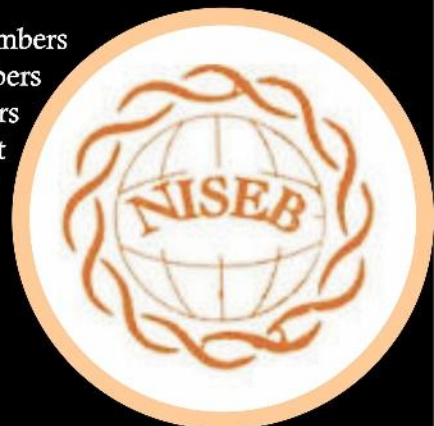
The National Secretariat of NISEB can be reached via the details below:

Prof. M. T. Yakubu

Department of Biochemistry, University of Ilorin, Ilorin.

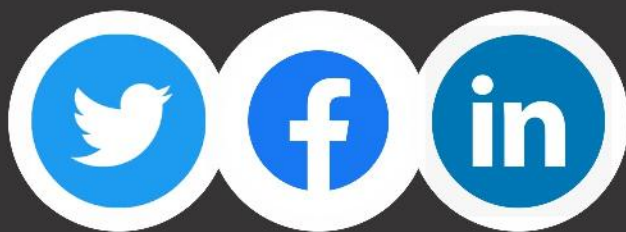
Kwara State. 240001, Nigeria.

Tel: +234 8037544437



NISEB ON SOCIAL MEDIA

NISEB is now on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. Members are enjoined to follow the society on its social media angles and post good content therein.



NISEB WEBINARS

One NISEB webinar was held in December, 2022. The theme of the webinar was How to publish books the right way. More webinars will come our way this year, 2023.


UPDATING OF MEMBERS' INFORMATION ON THE NISEB DATABASE

Updating members information in the NISEB database was embarked upon since many of our members have changed titles (from Mr. Miss or Mrs. to Dr. or Prof.) and also changed phone numbers. Some of the phone numbers in the database then were landlines, which were used in the era of the pre-mobile phone.

NEW NISEB MEMBERS


The current list of members was made available. There were some "members" who couldn't find their names on the list because they did not formally register as members, by completing the Application Form online on the NISEB website. Such "members" or persons were encouraged to submit fresh forms online by visiting www.niseb.org. New members only will pay their membership dues once to NISEB account at UBA with account number 2199353266 (New members only).


Professor R. O. Arise to deliver inaugural lecture, 16 February, 2023



INAUGURAL LECTURES 2021/2022 SESSION
UNIVERSITY OF ILORIN
ILORIN, NIGERIA
PRESENTS

TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH
IN THE SERIES OF
INAUGURAL LECTURES





TITLE:
"Modulating The Mediators of Life Processes: The Strategic Place of Enzymes in Health and Wellness"

LECTURER:
PROFESSOR ROTIMI OLUSANYA ARISE
B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D (Ilorin)
Department of Biochemistry,
Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Ilorin.

DATE: THURSDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY, 2023
TIME: 5.00 p.m.
VENUE: UNIVERSITY AUDITORIUM, Main Campus, University of Ilorin.
N.B: Guests are to be seated by 4.45 p.m.

Chairman
PROFESSOR W. O. EGBEWOLE, SAN
LL.B (Hons) (Ifa); B.L (Lagos); LL.M (Ifa); Ph.D (Ilorin); FCArb; Fapsp
Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin.

DR. FOLA M. OLOWOLENI
B.A. (Hons) (Zaria); PGCE, MEd, M.Sc., Ph.D (Ilorin); NIPRO, NIPRO (UK)
The Registrar, University of Ilorin.

ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED