TRANSCRIPT OF LECTURE DELIVERED ON DECEMBER 17, 2018

Theme: Welcome and Introductory Speech

 Speaker: Scholar Gafari Abiodun Lukumon (Lukgaf), University of Kwazulu Natal, RSA.

Moderator: Scholar Theorem

Introduction

I deem it quite expedient to welcome all of you, on behalf of the entire forum admins and all erudite scholars of this redoubtable media platform of named International Scholarship Forum (ISF). ISF was created on the 16th of October, 2016. Motivated by the challenges faced by graduate students such as unemployment, difficulties in securing post graduate admissions (some universities require your familiarity with a Professor in the Department before you are admitted), sadist advisors (some lecturers are fond of saying I completed my PhD after 10 years with hard service, how come you aimed at finishing in 3 years?) etc., selfless Scholars from varying Universities worldwide merged ideas to cater and control this gap through the help of this platform. Interestingly, ISF has over 900 members with majority being Nigerians.

Group Rules and Regulations

The strength and developmental framework of every good community varies jointly as the set of laws governing it and the law-abiding of individuals in the society. ISF rules are simple and concise.

The basic law allows you to post everything that is scholarship related. Non-related scholarship posts are boldly not allowed on the Group. This is irrespective of post's importance. Anybody that violates the rules, irrespective of the scholar, shall unceremoniously be removed immediately.

However, the scholar may be readded upon formal apology which is subject to the availability of space. This therefore reminds us to keenly sieve our posts.

Organization of the Group

The group constitutes active admins recruited from the group through experience in scholarship and administration to carry out the affairs of the group. Anyway some admins are just honorary. One may ask, what is **honorary admin?** The Admin crew concluded in one of their meetings to give automatic "adminship" to any scholar that secures scholarship. This is for the purpose of statistics and a kind of re-enforcement. Admin role is voluntary and conferred based on meritorious and experiences in the Group. They are classified as follows:

☞Disciplinary: Those responsible of organizing eviction party for the erred members.☹☹☺

☞Adding Adkins

☞Moderators

☞Editors✍✍

Activities of the Group

> **Forum:** There used to be frequent forum (usually monthly) where experienced scholars and beneficiaries are invited to give lecture on how other members can apply and be granted scholarship with ease form the same body. Floor is opened for questions/answers alongside contributions. Lecture transcripts are then compiled by the Group editor and saved to Google drive for future use. I am happy to inform you we have at least recorded a successful number of all the fora.

➢ **Admonitions:** There used to be frequent admonitions to encourage scholars who are yet to secure one.

➢ **Testimonies**: In order to motivate other scholars on the Group, we do urge the scholarship awardees to give testimony through the Admin. By the Grace of God, we have recorded up to 100 testimonies.

➢ **SOP Vetting:** We have panel of erudite volunteers who assist scholars to review their SOP for scholarship application.

➢ **Group Resources:** Majority of formal fora's transcript in PDF/msc format can be found here (https://drive.google.com?folderview?id=1UVI5yT-5JfMwyHHloxPwkuuPm08L_zBn). The drive also contains TOEFL/IELTS/GRE materials, SOP format and other useful resources. You can as well check for updates.

➢ **Collaborations**

  ❖ The Group in 2016, merged with a sister Group to form a coalition called **Associate Scholars on Telegram** which comprises members of the Group.

  ❖ **TOEFL/GRE subsiding**: Thanks to some scholars in the Group who subsidize and register TOEFL/GRE at a very low price (25k/30k).

  ❖ **Payment of Application fees**: Some scholars also assist members to pay part or the entire application fee.

➢ **Challenge**: The major challenge we are facing is the inability to accommodate all members in a single WhatsApp group leading to the creation of extension groups. This however increases the work load for this gratuitous service. The group is now of four arms with full members. A series of letter have been written on WhatsApp to review the number of participants on a group.

Conclusion

In a nut shell, below are the needed documents for scholarship/fellowship/admission

☞ Transcript/ statement of results

☞ Proof of English Test (IELTS, TOEFL, GRE or medium of instruction letter). In UK, some Universities accept a credit pass in your WAEC in lieu of other proof of English

☞ Certificate, if available (or notification of result)

☞ Curriculum Vitae (CV)

☞ Published literature(s) (journals, sometimes optional but it is an added advantage)

☞ Two or three recommendation letter **(one must be from a Professor)**

☞ International Passport

☞ Faith in God ☺

Generic Questions and Answers

➢ Who do we contact for the subsidized exams?
✓ Kindly contact any of the Admin for the subsidized proficiency test.

➢ Are we due of paying any of the services rendered on this platform?
✓ NO! It is absolutely free

➢ Are there any criteria on should meet to be considered for proficiency test?
✓ It is only subjected to availability

Moderator's Piece

For those that care to know, Scholar Lukgaf is the founder and chief admin of this noble group and through his indefatigable efforts, many beneficiaries of various competitive scholarships emerged from the group.

My Candid advice for all is to explore every piece of scholarship links shared in this group.

On behalf of the admin, I welcome you all to the world of unlimited opportunities.

Cc: Admins

For the International Scholarship Forum

Edited and compiled by Scholar Michael Frimpong