

# RESEARCH BRIEF

A PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH,  
INNOVATION AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (RIIC)

Research News

Funding Opportunities

Grants

## RIIC VISION

A research focused department, building capacity in excellent innovative research and development.

## RIIC MISSION

To serve as a catalyst for cutting edge ethical research, through interdisciplinary collaboration and joint ventures that impact national and global needs.

## EDITORIAL

CHIEF EDITOR

*AVP RIIC*

EDITORS

*RIIC Team*

WRITER/DESIGNER

*Ibitoye Ayomide Paul*

### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: A NEW SEASON OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Every great leap in knowledge begins with a spark but it is collaboration that turns that spark into a flame. At Babcock University's Office of Research, Innovation and International collaboration (RIIC), we believe that research excellence is not achieved in isolation; it is born when minds, disciplines, and institutions converge to pursue a shared vision.

This season has reminded us that collaboration is more than a strategy it is the lifeblood of discovery. From our REDCap training that united faculty across diverse schools

to our strengthened partnership with the University of Venda in South Africa, to the global recognition of our scholars through fellowships and grants, one truth stands clear: when we work together, boundaries dissolve and possibilities expand. Collaboration empowers us to ask bigger questions, to harness broader expertise, and to deliver solutions that resonate far beyond our campus.

As we look ahead, I invite every member of our community to embrace this spirit of partnership. Let us continue to build bridges across disciplines, across borders, and across generations. Together, we will not only elevate Babcock University's research culture, but also contribute meaningfully to the pressing needs of our nation and the world.



**Prof. Foluso Ojewole**



## REDCap Training: Research Data Management

The Office of Research, Innovation and International Collaboration (RIIC) organised a two-day REDCap Training Course on Data Management and Administration held on June 23 and 24, 2026, at Babcock University.

The programme was designed to introduce faculty members to the Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) application and to enhance their practical skills in data capturing, reporting, and troubleshooting for research studies and public health programmes.

Twenty-eight faculty members drawn from various schools and departments across the University participated in the training.



The training was facilitated by a team of highly experienced REDCap professionals Mr. Kayode Alalade of the REDCap Global Consortium, Mr. Eniade Olarenwaju, a biostatistician and data analyst, and Mr. Tobi, a data manager and REDCap administrator. The programme combined lectures with structured hands-on exercises, ensuring that participants were actively engaged throughout. Sessions were delivered on both web and mobile platforms, giving participants a comprehensive and practical learning experience.



Day one introduced participants to REDCap project types, survey design, cross-sectional data entry, and platform navigation across web and mobile interfaces. The second day focused on longitudinal data entry, mobile application data capture, data quality prompts, REDCap Messenger, troubleshooting, and secure data transfers. A post-test assessment was administered at the close of the programme to evaluate knowledge gained.

By the end of the course, participants had acquired hands-on competence in REDCap data management, enabling more efficient collection and analysis of data for clinical trials, bioinformatics, epidemiologic studies, and student research projects. The training is expected to significantly enhance Babcock University's research credibility, strengthen integrity in data handling, and expand its capacity for global collaboration.

## BABCOCK STRENGTHENS PARTNERSHIP WITH UNIVERSITY OF VENDA, SOUTH AFRICA

As part of Babcock University's strategic effort to deepen its research footprint and expand its international academic network, the Office of Research, Innovation and International Collaboration (RIIC) welcomed a delegation from the University of Venda, South Africa, to the Babcock University campus.

The visit marked a significant step in formalizing a bilateral partnership between both institutions, with discussions centered on collaborative research opportunities, staff and student exchange programmes, joint publications, and capacity building initiatives that align with the research priorities of both universities.



The RIIC team, led by the Associate Vice President, Prof. Foluso Ojewole, received the delegation warmly and engaged in productive dialogue on the structures and frameworks that will guide the partnership going forward. Both institutions expressed enthusiasm for the collaboration and committed to taking concrete steps toward a formal Memorandum of Understanding.

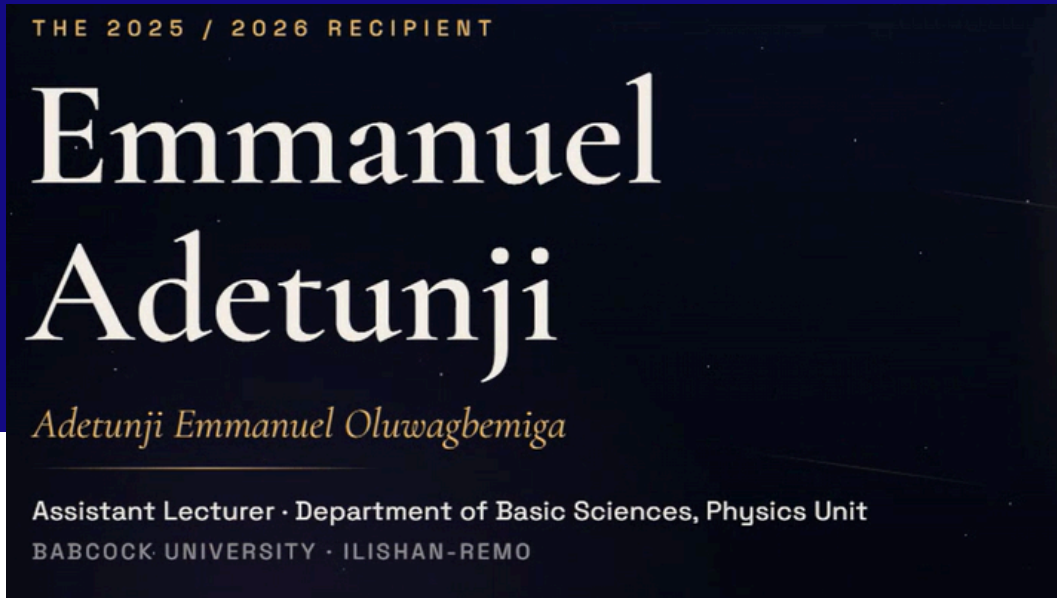
This partnership reflects Babcock University's unwavering commitment to global relevance, research excellence, and the building of strategic alliances that position the institution competitively on the African and international academic stage.





# RESEARCH AWARD

## THE DR. ABAYOMI EMMANUEL OPADELE ANNUAL RESEARCH GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT



### Emmanuel Adetunji Wins 2025/2026 Dr. Abayomi Emmanuel Opadele Annual Research Grant

The Office of Research, Innovation & International Collaboration (RIIC) is pleased to announce Mr. Adetunji Emmanuel Oluwagbemiga as the winner of the Dr. Abayomi Emmanuel Opadele Annual Research Grant for the 2025/2026 academic session.

An Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Basic Sciences, Physics Unit, Mr. Adetunji was selected for his research proposal, Solar-Wind Drivers of Ion Upflow and Equatorial Ionospheric Disturbances over Nigeria a study that will investigate how disturbances in the upper atmosphere, driven by activity from the Sun, contribute to the fading of satellite communication and navigation signals across the region.

The proposed work sits at the intersection of space-weather science, ionospheric physics, and machine learning, and builds on Mr. Adetunji's growing body of published research in the field. Its outcomes carry practical significance for the reliability of satellite-based communication, navigation, and positioning services that Nigeria and the wider equatorial region increasingly depend on.

The Dr. Abayomi Emmanuel Opadele Annual Research Grant supports promising early-career scholars at Babcock University and provides funding to advance original, high-impact research. Selection followed a competitive review of proposals assessed on scientific merit, feasibility, and potential contribution to the field.

FOR HIS WINNING RESEARCH PROPOSAL

### Solar-Wind Drivers of Ion Upflow & Equatorial Ionospheric Disturbances over Nigeria

— a proposed study of their effect on satellite signal fading

• SPACE WEATHER

• IONOSPHERIC PHYSICS

• MACHINE LEARNING

Building on his published work in Advances in Space Research

# RIIC Sponsors Early Researchers for Summer School in Gene Expression, Sequencing, and Bioinformatics

The Office of Research, Innovation and International Collaboration (RIIC) sponsored Babcock University early career researchers to attend the Research Summer School in Gene Expression, Sequencing, and Bioinformatics, held from June 15 to July 4, 2026.

The training was organized by the Babcock University Central Science Laboratory, a unit under the RIIC office, and provided participants with hands-on exposure to modern techniques in molecular biology and bioinformatics analysis.





## WORKSHOP: POWERING THE FUTURE OF LAW THROUGH FOCUSED RESEARCH



The School of Law and Security Studies (LSS), Babcock University, hosted a one-day research capacity workshop on Tuesday, 15th July 2026, bringing together experts, scholars, and faculty to strengthen research capacity and drive innovation within the school.

The workshop featured four focused sessions delivered by members of the Research Innovation and International Collaboration (RIIC) team:

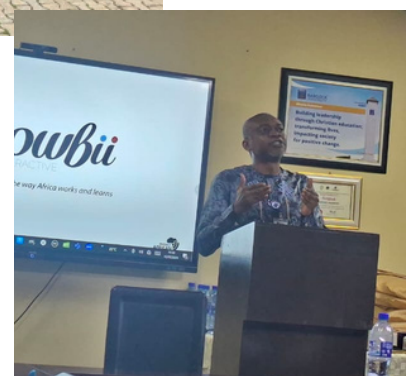
Publishing in Scopus-Indexed Journals was led by Dr. Anokwuru Chinedu; Responsible Conduct of Research was facilitated by Dr. Ayodele Kolawole; Crafting Grant Winning Proposals: Pitfalls to Avoid and Pathways to Success by Ms. Mary Obadimeji; and Navigating Research in the AI Era was delivered by Dr. Tutu Habib.



Key takeaways from the day included the understanding that ethics and integrity remain the bedrock of impactful research, that clear goals and realistic budgets are essential for grant success, that publishing in reputable journals builds lasting academic legacy, and that artificial intelligence is rapidly transforming both research methodology and career development.

The event concluded with appreciation remarks, prayers, and group photographs, celebrating a productive day of learning, collaboration, and innovation.

RIIC extends its appreciation to the School of Law and Security Studies for the invitation. It was indeed a rewarding and enriching engagement.



## **MASCC AFRICA FELLOWSHIP AWARD - DR. OGOCHUKWU IZUEGBUNA**

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Babcock University is proud to celebrate Dr. Ogochukwu Izuegbuna, Senior Lecturer and Consultant Haematologist at the Benjamin S. Carson (Snr.) College of Health and Medical Sciences, on his successful completion and award of the 2025 Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC) Africa Fellowship, with the Fellowship Certificate awarded in June 2026.

Dr. Izuegbuna is a Fellow of the National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria, Faculty of Pathology, with research interests spanning cancer biology, blood cancers, supportive care in cancer, and sickle cell disease. He has presented papers at numerous local and international conferences and has published in several reputable international journals. He is an active member of distinguished scientific societies including the Nigerian Society for Haematology and Blood Transfusion, the Nigerian Cancer Society, MASCC, and the American Society of Clinical Oncology.



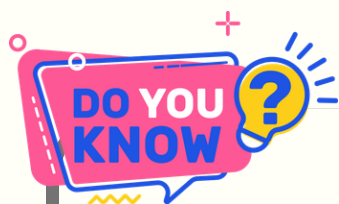
This fellowship is a testament to Dr. Izuegbuna's commitment to advancing cancer care research across Africa and reflects positively on Babcock University's growing international research recognition.

Congratulations, Dr. Izuegbuna. RIIC celebrates you!

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

|                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>BrightFocus Foundation</b></p> <p>Open Date: Opened<br/>Deadline: 1 SEP 2026<br/>Funding type: Grant<br/>Award Ceiling: US\$300,000</p>                           | <p>The BrightFocus Foundation is accepting applications for its FY27 Standard Funding Program in Alzheimer's Disease Research, supporting innovative, high-impact studies that advance the understanding, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD).</p> <p><a href="#">Learn More</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Wellcome (Wellcome Trust)</b></p> <p>Open Date: Opened<br/>Deadline: 22 Sept 2026<br/>Funding type: Grant</p>                                                     | <p>Wellcome, one of the world's largest charitable funders of health research, is accepting applications for its flagship Discovery Awards. The scheme funds established researchers leading ambitious, curiosity-driven discovery research across a broad range of disciplines the sciences as well as the humanities and social sciences wherever the work has the potential to improve human life, health and wellbeing.</p> <p><a href="#">Learn more</a></p>                                                           |
| <p><b><u>Google Academic Research Awards 2026 (Quantum Computing)</u></b></p> <p>Open Date: Opened<br/>Deadline: 7 August 2026<br/>Award Ceiling: Up to US\$100,000</p> | <p>Following today's advisory on the 2026 Google Academic Research Awards, this Office respectfully suggests that the colleagues named below consider forming Babcock's proposal team for this call, whose Quantum Computing Security track aligns closely with their combined expertise in cryptography, systems security and cyber/network security governance. The call admits a maximum of two Principal Investigators per proposal, so a focused two-person team is recommended.</p> <p><a href="#">Learn more</a></p> |





**A single researcher can ask important questions, but collaboration multiplies insight, accelerates discovery, and transforms ideas into solutions that change the world.**

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Research is to see what everybody else has seen and to think what nobody else has thought.”

— ALBERT SZENT-GYORGYI,  
NOBEL LAUREATE IN  
PHYSIOLOGY

## OUR TEAM



**FOLUSO  
OJEWOLE**

Associate Vice  
President/ Director  
RIIC



**CHINEDU P.  
ANOKWURU**

Deputy Director, Research,  
Innovation & International  
Collaboration



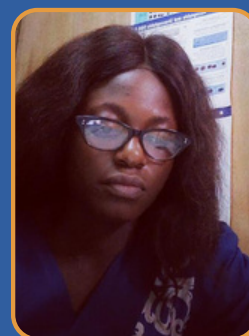
**ADETAYO  
ADEBOWALE**

Deputy Director Grant  
Management & Industry  
Relations



**KOLAWOLE O.  
AYODELE**

Principal Research Officer



**MARY M.  
OBADIMEJI**

Grant Writer



### Phone

+234-703-6849812



### Email

riic@babcock.edu.ng



### Address

Senate Building, Babcock University.