



CBR NEWSLETTER

A NEWSLETTER OF CENTER FOR
BIOETHICS AND RESEARCH

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The Centre for Bioethics and Research (CBR) is the leading organization providing training in research ethics in Nigeria. We continue to implement a wide variety of bioethics and research training programs for biomedical researchers, members of health research ethics committees, and health professionals in Nigeria and other West African countries. In this edition of our Newsletter, we describe our activities in the second half of 2021.

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1.0 Masters' degree training in Bioethics

1.1 M.Sc. Bioethics at the University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

We continue to support the implementation of the highly successful postgraduate degree training in Bioethics at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. 10 students were admitted into the MSc Bioethics program during the 2020/2021 session. These students have completed their coursework and are now working on their research projects.

The process for admission of students into the MSc Bioethics program for the 2021/2022 academic session has commenced. Interested applicants should visit the website of the Postgraduate College of the University of Ibadan at <https://pgcollege.ui.edu.ng> for information on how to obtain the application form and admission requirements.



Faculty members of the UNN Bioethics program and MPH Program with Bioethics concentration during the students' presentation

1.2 M.Sc. Bioethics at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria

The MSc. Bioethics program at the University of Nigeria which is supported by the Center for Bioethics and Research has been highly successful. The pioneer students that were admitted for the program during the 2020/2021 academic session have successfully completed their course work and are currently working on their research project. A new set of 6 candidates have been shortlisted for admission into the program for the 2021/2022 academic session.

1.3 MPH with Bioethics concentration at University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria

CBR works with the Department of Community Medicine, University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN) to implement a Masters in Public Health (MPH) with Bioethics concentration program. The objective of the program is the rapid training and development of bioethics researchers in Nigeria. Interested MPH students who have completed their course work are eligible to apply for the program. After interviews, the top 5 candidates were selected. The successful candidates conduct their MPH research projects on bioethics topics and complete CBR's blended diploma in research ethics. The first cohort of trainees in this program recently completed their research and was examined by faculty members from the MPH and Bioethics degree programs at UNN.

The candidates and their research topics are: Ms. Chisom Ebube Chris-Onu, 'Knowledge and Perception of Health Research Ethics among Health care Professionals in Enugu'; Ms. Victoria Ukpaka, 'Perceptions of research misconduct among medical researchers in southeast Nigeria'; Ms. Chisom Ngwu, 'Communication Strategies as vital instruments for enhancement of the

informed consent process in a culture-bound society, Nigeria'; Mr. James Ver Ityough, 'Evaluation of the activities and operations of research ethics committees in research and training institutions in southeast Nigeria'; and Mr. Chukwukelu Victor Nnabu, 'Public Perceptions and Impediments to the return of Health Research Results and Incidental findings to Research Participants'. The second cohort of students for this program is currently being evaluated.

1.4 Online Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) in collaboration with BRANY, New York

As part of our partnership with the Biomedical Research Alliance of New York (BRANY)'s CITI program, we provided 8,520 online CITI trainings in Informed Consent, Responsible Conduct of Research, and a specialized module on the Nigerian National Code for Health Research Ethics from the 31st of March 2021 to 15th December 2021.

1.5 Publications by MSc. Bioethics Students & Faculty

- Ezeome IV, Akintola SO, Jegede AS, Ezeome ER. Perception of Key Ethical Issues in Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) by Providers and Clients in Nigeria. Int J Womens Health. 2021 Nov 3;13:1033-1052. doi: 10.2147/IJWH.S331917. PMID: 34764702; PMCID: PMC8572738.
- Ewuoso C. Ubuntu philosophy and the consensus regarding incidental findings in genomic research: a heuristic approach. Med Health Care Philos. 2020 Sep;23(3):433-444. doi: 10.1007/s11019-020-09953-4. PMID: 32335796.

1.6 My MSc. Bioethics (University of Ibadan) experience by Mordecai Owajioniro, (2020/2021 student)

Taking a step further after Online Blended Diploma in Bioethics at CBR, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria:

In the words of Henry Ford, "Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young". Brian Tracy, my favorite author has this to say, "Continuous learning is the minimum requirement for success in any field."

My awareness of the existence of the field of bioethics was the best miracle that happened to me in 2018 when my quest for professional diversification got to its pinnacle. This quest for professional development had led me to take a short and modular online course in the field of clinical trials offered by Global Health Network as well as Protecting Human Research Participants course by NIH Office of Extramural Research that further deepened my overall interest in research. Little did I know I was gradually diving into the world of bioethics by taking those courses among which are informed consent, introduction to clinical research, good clinical

practice, protecting human research participants, etc. This journey led me to discover and apply for CBR's Blended Diploma in Bioethics in 2018 but I was shortlisted for admission in 2019. The admission came with unquenchable joy and excitement because at the time my interest in bioethics had just begun to swell unimpeded. The experience of the diploma training is unforgettable, especially with my exposure to stakeholders in the field and the 2019 set of students who are just too wonderful to associate with.

During the last session of the second weekend retreat for my set, I became aware of the opportunity for a fully sponsored MSc. program in Bioethics at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria and I said to myself, I cannot afford to miss this rare opportunity. Without further delay, my colleagues and I inquired as to when the opportunity would be available, and we were informed that the Postgraduate College of the University of Ibadan had just closed the sale of forms and was getting ready to conduct the examination for English proficiency the following week. I was beginning to be sad in my spirit because I could not imagine myself missing the admission for that session, but again there was another miracle. Prof. Jegede asked how many of us were interested in admission for the MSc. Bioethics program and about six (6) of us indicated interest. When he saw the number of us (almost 50% of the participants) interested, he instantly placed a phone call to the Provost of the Postgraduate College to plead for an extension on the sale of application forms which will allow us to purchase the form. A month later, Prof. Jegede called to say the Provost has granted his request for extension. To the glory of God, all of us that bought the application forms were admitted after a long delay because of COVID-19 Pandemic which obstructed the academic calendar.

After one year of waiting, we finally resumed lectures online precisely on the 6th of April 2021, because of the instituted measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 it is now on record that we are the first set of students (2020/2021 set) to run the program online throughout the first semester and spanning into the second semester. We are also the first set of students to be admitted for the program in the new Department of Bioethics and Medical Humanities. The program was formerly domiciled in the Department of Surgery.

Online lectures had posed a great deal of challenge to me and some of my colleagues, I believe this was caused by lecture times that coincided with other personal engagements, especially office work, but my colleagues in the office, to whom I am grateful were of great help to me.

We completed five courses in the first semester. The first module was (Introduction to philosophy) which started with some elements of familiarity as Prof. Agulanna introduced the course with historical facts that made me feel at home, we progressively got to the peak of the course when the likes of Prof. Abass, Prof. Oduwale, Prof. Okpokolo, and Dr. Victoria charged us with intellectual fireworks alongside assignments, term papers and readings. At a point, I asked myself when will this module end? But again, it was quite intriguing as my perception of life began to change when I learned about the various moral and ethical theories that govern man's

behavior. While I was grappling with finishing the assignments and term papers to beat the deadlines, the next module was up and running.

Foundations of Modern bioethics came with volumes of reading materials, presentations, and group research proposal writings. The course director Prof. Adejumo was at his best as he took us on a voyage into the world of bioethics with seamless effort. It was obvious the depth of commitment from Prof. Adejumo as he often referred to the program as his baby program. His class was always exciting - no dull moments at all.

Principlism propounded by Beauchamp and Childress and Precautionary principles were the high points for me in this module. Even though we had more than enough materials to chew, with the help of Prof. Adejumo we finished chewing all without knowing how we were able to achieve that. The course has helped me come to terms with decision-making, especially when faced with a dilemma.

Dr. Eyelade welcomed us to the third module on the program as she and other lecturers took us into the world of informed consent and management of ethics committee. She took us on a ride into the historical development of Bioethics with the Nazi experiments, the Tuskegee Syphilis Study, and the Pfizer's Trovan trial which was particularly interesting to me. The video of Miss Evers' Boys trial drove home the needed points.

While we were marinating in the wonderful and unforgettable experiences with Dr. Eyelade and other astute internationally acclaimed lecturers and the content delivered, Prof. Ajuwon' welcomed us to the domain of Research Designs. Different types of research designs ranging from experimental to descriptive and controlled trials were explicitly explained. Teaching and Writing Methods in Bioethics was the last course for the first semester, but it felt like we just started the semesters.

Prof. Omobowale' passionately brought the beauty of literature in medicine to the fore making me love every aspect of it. As a result, I can sit down and write more than five pages of a short story of an event that took place in my office some time ago. Dr. Ayo worked with Prof. Omobowale on this module, he was great at delivering lectures and preparation of lesson notes. His stories were touching, and they helped me have a perfect understanding of the lecture. I wished his part of the lectures should never end. Prof. Odebunmi also worked with Prof. Omobowale, he practically took us through the rigors of writing a research project as well as the process of paper publications in reputable journals as well as the characteristics of predatory journals. After a one-week break, we resumed for the second semester with Prof. Ike Ajayi who unveiled the world of quantitative research methods. It wasn't easy at all, but it came with great learning from Prof. Ajayi, Dr. Dairo' and Dr. Joshua who bombarded us with statistical fireworks.

I could not wait to meet Prof. Jegede, the man God used to work out the miracle of my being an MSc. bioethics scholar. Prof. Jegede guided us into the realm of qualitative research methods, another module on the program. The course sheds light on the right method to be used in our proposed research. The fact that the lectures were interactive made learning easy for me. With all the motivation and positive influence from the crop of lecturers and students, I hope to take a step further in the field of bioethics.

The choice of lecturers on the MSc. Bioethics program attests to the fact that the organizers really mean business as all the lecturers impacted greatly in my life. It will be difficult to forget them because they certainly have become a part of my success story. They are phenomenal and seasoned in their various fields. The administrative staff of the Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) are a team of professionals that you can always depend on. They are always there to help. Mr. Olusegun Adeyemo was always there to guide us through the admission and clearance process, keeping us updated with necessary information about the course and ensuring we beat deadlines especially when we took the required CITI courses. No lazy or unserious person can do this kind of program. He is a true manager indeed. I call him the doyen of CBR.

Mr. Akinwale Akinjiola is the one who ensures that zoom links are ready before lecture time and is always there with us in class to ensure hitch free lectures. Sometimes, when we had lectures as early as 6am, he never complained that it was outside official time. What a commitment!

Mr. Rasheed Taiwo, the mentorship support guru. He always picks my call to make sure things work out as planned.

Truth be told, the students in the 2020/2021 set are just too intelligent. Each of us has something to bring to the table. I can easily relate with anyone of them. Having 50% of the entire class from the 2019 set of blended diploma program made it easier for me to relate with everyone. My fellow students have been wonderful during lectures, group discussions, presentations, assignments, and term paper writing. Although most of our meetings were held virtually, it felt like we were seeing each other face to face.



Mr. Mordecai Owajioniro

Dr. Peter, the philosopher, Dr. Beno, the Clinical trial regulator, Miss. Blessing, our indomitable class representative, Mr. Victor, the public health expert, Dr. Gabriel, and Dr. Ejembi, the Veterinarians, Mr. Joseph, Mrs. Adeniji and Mrs. Ogunyemi, the Medical Laboratory Scientists, I am happy you all crossed my path, and I will forever cherish this relationship.

One great motivation behind this program is the monthly stipends, free textbooks and brand-new laptops that were provided for us. To crown it all, the introduction of the new e - mentorship platform is something phenomenal, one cannot but thank the brain behind this program, Prof. Clement Adebamowo who thought it wise to create room for us to tap into the wealth of experiences of our lecturers' turned mentors in the next one year and possibly beyond.

Our Head of Department, Prof. T.O Ogundiran is worthy of thanks as he ensures quality leadership. Finally, I thank the Center for Bioethics and Research, Nigeria, and Fogarty International Center of the United States National Institutes of Health for sponsoring the MSc. Bioethics program.

I am Mordecai Owajioniro Godstime, a Medical Laboratory Scientist and a graduate of Niger Delta University, Bayelsa State.

2.0 Blended Diploma in Research Ethics

2.1 Current Blended Diploma in Research Ethics Training

A total of 41 applicants were admitted for the diploma program this year, they were divided into 2 batches for training. The first batch of applicants completed their training in November 2021. At the end of their 2 - month training the participants assessment of the program through an online questionnaire that was administered showed that all the respondents rated every aspect of the program as excellent. The second batch of participants will commence their training next year.

The Blended Diploma in Research Ethics is for individuals with interest in research ethics who desire to acquire more competence in research ethics and bioethics but are unable to take advantage of the 18 months fully sponsored M.Sc. Bioethics program at the University of Ibadan and University of Nigeria. The Program is generously funded by the United States' National Institutes of Health Fogarty International Center and the National Human Genome Research Institute.



Coordinators of the diploma program and the First batch of 2021 diploma participants holding their certificates of completion at the end of the 3 - month program.

One of the participants of the diploma program shares his experience in the following write up:

2.2 My experience as a participant of CBR Blended Diploma program

My experience on CBR Blended Diploma can be summarized as a maximal benefit with no risk involved after the benefit-risk ratio assessment. The experience 'started before it even started.' I received interesting online training on some aspects of research ethics through Online Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) program – part of the requirements when it is time to apply for the Blended Diploma Program - last year. Immediately the call/advert for the 2021 Blended Diploma was out, I submitted my application for onward review within two weeks from the date of its announcement. I obtained approval (letter of admission) in late July.

Upon being admitted, I knew I was in for an interesting research life in research ethics. I was so eager to take off and 'couldn't wait for September - commencement month - to arrive'. Suffice to say that I see the preparation of CBR towards the program as one of the signs the program is going to be educative. A month before commencing, the Program Coordinator had emailed to notify us of the imminent arrival of the main textbook (Institutional Review Board Management and Function by Robert J. Amdur Elizabeth A. Bankert) to be used to our addresses, which did arrive. Several online materials were sent through email also. As one who is passionate about the protection of human subjects in a research study (a member of my institution's Health Research Ethics Committee), reading through this textbook and online materials brought pleasure to me. I was enlightened on various concepts even before commencing the program.



Pharmacist Oyebode O. Dosunmu, Blended diploma participant (Batch A) 2021. Bowen University Teaching Hospital, Ogbomosh, Oyo State

The first week (September 13-19) of the program came and my expectations were not disappointed. The contents of the video presentation for the week were concise and the materials dispensed knowledge with accuracy. The weekend chat room session was another aspect I always look forward to, where I do marvel at the way our facilitators answer questions posed to them as one having authority indeed in research ethics. This weekly cycle of e-learning continued for four weeks. However, during all those days of the four weeks, the research question 'Who are these?' kept coming to my mind. I was looking forward to receiving the answer to my question by seeing our facilitators (lecturers) face-to-face in the weekend retreat and the brain behind the well-organized program (Manager and Program Coordinator of CBR).

The commencement day of the first-weekend retreat was so much approached with enthusiasm. I arrived at the venue of the retreat (Davies Hotel, Bodija, Ibadan) and was warmly welcomed by the Program Coordinator and Manager of CBR. They encapsulated me with love and humility. They were so eager to lend a helping hand per time. 'This is definitely an enjoying research life in research ethics', resonated in my heart. I rested for a while in the accommodation prepared for my convenience and later had my prepared lunch.

The first-day lecture started with Prof. Jegede taking the lecture. The boldness with which he lectured confirmed my experience in the online chat room session. Throughout the remaining two days of lecture, the addition of the calmness of Prof. Ogundiran and the fluency of Prof. Adejumo was lovely to behold. These three were indeed erudite professors with expertise and deep knowledge in research ethics. The key moment of the first-weekend retreat was when the three dissected the difference between compensation, inducement, and reimbursement. The mock IRB session was also impactful. At the end of the first weekend retreat, my aim and objectives were achieved.

However, I had curiosity in me to research (know) more about the sponsor of the program - Fogarty International Center, National Institute of Health (FIC, NIH) during the weekend retreat. This led me to register for the 2021 NIH Virtual Seminar on Program Funding and Grant Administration (held November 1-4). Through this program, I connected and exchanged messages with Dr. Barbara Sina (FIC lead for Bioethics Programs) and Dr. Brad Newsome (Program Officer, Division of International Training and Research, FIC, NIH). I had a one-on-one zoom meeting with Katie Stinson (MyNMRN Liaison) of the National Research Mentoring Network (NMRN) as well and relayed my grateful message to FIC to her at the end of the meeting for funding Diploma in Research Ethics in Nigeria where I have immensely benefited from.

Meanwhile, the second-weekend retreat was approaching after another four weekly cycles of e-learning and the weekend chat room session was coming to an end. From the conversation with other students, we were all eager to arrive for the second-weekend retreat as we know we will again be baptized with more knowledge of research ethics and so it was. The presentation of a certificate of completion at the end of the second and final weekend retreat brought a smile to my face like a researcher successfully concluding his research study with remarkable results, discussion, and conclusion.

The program, being multi-disciplinary, availed me the opportunity to connect with other students who are respected figures in other disciplines like Prof. Obatunde Adetola (Professor of Development Sociology), Barrister Nna Ogbonna (Legal Practitioner), Dr. Ajibola Alabi (Pediatrician), Mrs. Agbaje Becky (Ethics Committee Administrator), Dr. Erohubie Paul (Psychiatrist) to mention a few. I will forever be grateful for this program as it is a turning point in my professional and research life.

3.0 Onsite Local Health Research Ethics Committees and Health Researchers training

The following onsite trainings were facilitated by CBR from April to Dec. 2021.

Institution	Date	Attendance	Participants	Training type
Eye Foundation Hospital, Lagos, Lagos State	23 rd & 24 th April	11	Members of Health Research Ethics Committee.	Modern Research Ethics.
Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Ikeja, Lagos State.	3 rd & 4 th June	19	Members of Health Research Ethics Committee.	Modern Research Ethics.
National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD), Abuja, FCT.	15 th – 17 th June.	9	Members of Health Research Ethics Committee.	Modern Research Ethics.
Irrua Specialist Hospital, Irrua, Edo State.	19 th – 21 st August.	17	Members of Health Research Ethics Committee.	Modern Research Ethics.
Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR), Ibadan, Oyo State.	16 th – 17 th December	7	Members of Health Research Ethics Committee.	Modern Research Ethics.

These trainings are part of the requirements by the National Health Research Ethics Committee (NHREC) for members of an Ethics Committee and the registration of newly inaugurated Ethics Committees.

4.0 Onsite International Health Research Ethics Committees and Health Researchers training

CBR, Nigeria collaborated with the College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), University of Sierra Leone; Sierra Leone Ethics and Scientific Review Committee (SLESRC); Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone; and King's College London, with support from the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP), to hold a three day Research Ethics Training Workshop for members of the Sierra Leone Research Ethics Committee and representatives from some research hubs in Sierra Leone. The training which was from 23rd – 25th November 2021 had 37 participants drawn from different health and research institutions in Sierra Leone.

5.0 New CBR Programs

5.1 CBR e-Mentoring Program

CBR recently launched an e-mentoring program for trainees and researchers in the field of health research ethics and health research in general. The program provides structured mentoring for in Research Ethics, Responsible Conduct of Research, and general research career development. The program was established to support the career development of local researchers, members of ethics committees and bioethicists. The e-mentoring program addresses the problem of lack of local mentoring resources by recruiting accomplished local and international researchers to mentor, provide career guidance and support for mentees. The mentoring process is proactive and managed by a program manager at CBR.

To support mentors and mentees, the program includes compulsory training courses in mentoring, behavioral nudges, and inducements to support establishment of successful mentoring relationships. The e-mentoring program is integrated into the postgraduate degree programs supported by the Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) in different Nigerian universities but is also available to interested individuals/groups outside of these programs. Information and steps on how to enroll or get invited into the program, either as a mentor or as a mentee is available via the following link. Please visit - Mentoring Training – Center for Bioethics and Research (bioethicscenter.net) for more information.

5.2 CBR Sexual Harassment and Safe Working Environment Training Programs

CBR also recently launched new courses on 'Sexual Harassment Prevention' as part of our programs for building capacity of biomedical researchers in Nigeria. The main objective of the course is to educate, inform, protect, empower, and support the research community in confronting all forms of sexual misconduct and harassment in the workplace. Sexual harassment undermines the integrity of working relationships and interferes with the right of individuals to work and learn in an environment free from harassment. Please visit Sexual harassment training – Center for Bioethics and Research (bioethicscenter.net) for more information. CBR is committed to being a leader in preventing and effectively educating individuals on sexual harassment and misconduct.

5.3 CBR constitutes a Health Research Ethics Committee

The Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) selected new members for its health research ethics committee and organized the mandatory onsite training for the members. The CBR HREC was commissioned to review research projects involving human participants. It safeguards the rights, dignity and welfare of the individuals volunteering to participate in research studies. The members of the committee are well respected persons from diverse backgrounds with prior experience of serving on an ethics committee. The Committee is an independent body comprising of experts and lay member and is supported by appropriate research and medical advisers.



CBR Ethics committee members and trainers. First row from left to right: Dr. Maduka, Prof. Ogundiran, Dr. Ishola, Prof. Osungbade. Second row from left to right: Pastor Sangodokun, Prof. Adejumo, Prof. Agulanna, Dr. Ogah and NHREC desk officer – Mr. Danladi.

5.4 Publications on ProQuest

CBR is now live on ProQuest! CBR now publishes the theses of postgraduate trainees sponsored by CBR in universities in Nigeria on ProQuest. ProQuest is a key partner for content holders of all types, preserving and enabling access to their rich and varied information. It includes the world's largest collection of dissertations and theses and collections of the world's most important scholarly journals and periodicals. The thesis on ProQuest becomes available to the global community and is searchable and citable thereby giving more exposure and opportunities for collaboration to our trainees and faculty.

6.0 Appointments/Achievements

6.1 Promotions

Professor A. O. Adejumo was appointed as the Head, Department of Psychology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria. Prof. Adejumo is a founder member of the Center for Bioethics and Research. He is a faculty member of the Department of Bioethics and Medical Humanities University of Ibadan and has facilitated numerous trainings on modern research ethics for ethics committees members and biomedical researchers in Nigeria and internationally. He is Director of the course on Foundations of Modern Bioethics in the University of Ibadan MSc Bioethics degree program. CBR is proud to be associated with Prof. Adejumo.



*Prof. A.O. Adejumo, HOD Psychology
Department University of Ibadan and
DBMH faculty member*



*Prof. Ike Ajayi, Director of IAMRAT
and DBMH faculty member*

Professor I. O. Ajayi was appointed as the Director of the Institute for Advanced Medical Research and Training (IAMRAT), College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria. Prof. Ike Ajayi is a founder member of the Center for Bioethics and Research, she is also a faculty member of the Department of Bioethics and Medical Humanities University of Ibadan. She directs the course on Quantitative Research Methods in the University of Ibadan MSc Bioethics degree program. CBR is proud to be associated with Prof. Ike Ajayi and wish her more success.

6.2 Achievements

Professor S.O. Akintola delivered the 498th inaugural lecture of the University of Ibadan titled '**Going back to my roots? Leveraging customary law jurisprudence to address health inequities in Nigeria**' at the Trenchard Hall, University of Ibadan, Nigeria on the 5th of August, 2021. The event was live-streamed and is available on the University of Ibadan YouTube page.

Professor A.S. Jegede won the '**World Academy of Sciences Prize in Social Science**' at the Third World Academy of Science (TWAS) 15th general conference that took place in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the 1st – 4th November 2021.

Professor Temidayo Ogundiran was inducted as one of the Foundation Fellows of the Academy of Medicine Specialties of Nigeria on the 29th of July 2021 in Abuja, Nigeria. The objective of the academy is to promote excellence in medical research and education, promote the application of research in medicine, and enhancement of human health and welfare. Members are selected based on their outstanding achievements and contributions in Medicine.

Professor Temidayo Ogundiran is the contact MPI of a new research grant awarded to the Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) for a project called "Bridging gaps in the ELSI of Data Science Health Research in Nigeria (BRIDGEELSI) by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The 5-year project is part of the Harnessing Data Science for Health Discovery and Innovation in Africa (DS-I Africa) program - [Harnessing Data Science for Health Discovery and Innovation in Africa \(DS-I Africa\)](#). | [National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering \(nih.gov\)](#).



Prof. T. O. Ogundiran, CBR Academic Director and Head, Department of Bioethics and Medical Humanities, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria



Prof. C. A. Adebamowo

Prof. C.A. Adebamowo was featured in ASCO Connection, a special publication of the American Society of Clinical Oncology in May 2021. CBR is proud to be associated with Prof. Adebamowo and we celebrate his achievements and contributions to science and bioethics education. ASCO is the leading professional society for oncologists all over the world and ASCO Connection is the organization's official members publication. Prof. Adebamowo 's interview with ASCO connection.org can be accessed through the following link: <https://connection.asco.org/magazine/asco-member-news/how-i-became-surgeon-clinical-researcher-and-director-global-health-cancer#ASCOconnection>

Prof. T.O. Ogundiran was recently elected as a member of Council of the West African College of Surgeons at the 2021 concluded annual scientific conference of the College in Cotonou, Benin Republic. The Council is the highest decision-making parliament of the College, and he will serve on the membership for two years. CBR is proud to be associated with Prof. T.O. Ogundiran and wish him more success in his endeavors.

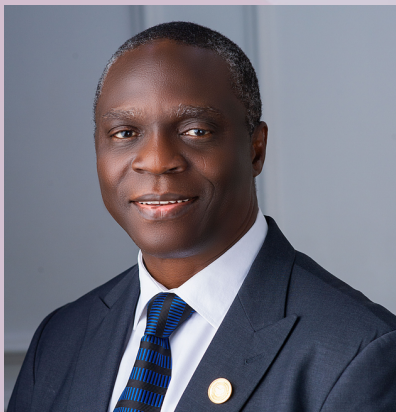
Dr. Sally Adebamowo MBBS, MSc, ScD, is an Associate Professor of Epidemiology & Public Health at the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM), and a research volunteer at the Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR). Dr. Adebamowo recently received a US federal grant of \$5 million in June 2021. She will work with her colleagues at several universities in Africa and the United States to develop a genomic dataset that includes more than 50,000 African ancestry participants. The following link is for the announcement of the award.

<https://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/news/2021/UM-School-of-Medicine-Researchers-Awarded-5-Million-NIH-Grant-to-Improve-Use-of-Genetic-Risk-Scores-in-Diverse-Populations.html>

Dr. Adebamowo also received the MPH Mentoring and Teaching award during the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health commencement ceremony, for her exceptional role as a mentor and teacher at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. She has also been a volunteer at the Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) where she trains and mentors graduate students towards achieving their individual development plans and research career objectives. CBR is genuinely proud of Dr. Adebamowo and her achievements.



Dr. Sally Adebamowo, Research Collaborator at the Center for Bioethics and Research



Dr. E.R. Ezeome, Director of UNN Bioethics Program

Professor Emmanuel. R. Ezeome MB; BS, MA Bioethics, FWACS, FICS, FNaMed was recently elected 1st Vice President/President elect of the West African College of Surgeons, he will assume office as the President of the College from 2023. Dr. Ezeome is the Director of the Bioethics Program at the Institute of Public Health, University of Nigeria. Dr Ezeome has collaborated with CBR on many completed and ongoing projects. He is MPI and Director of the NIH funded ENRICH Bioethics training project at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. The collaborative project between the Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) and the University of Nigeria Nsukka (UNN) and University of Maryland, USA trains bioethicists and Health Research Ethics Committees' members in South-east and South-south Nigeria. CBR celebrates Prof. Ezeome on his achievements.

7.0 BeOnline Journal – Accepting Manuscripts for Review and Publication

BeOnline Journal - the Bioethics Online journal of the Center for Bioethics and Research is an open-access online journal that provides a platform for individuals to contribute to the global discourse on bioethics by adding the voice of Africans and research in Africa to the discussions about clinical and research ethics, primarily in Africa and in the world at large.

To better serve potential submitters, our journal now has a dedicated online home - [BeOnline® Journal of the Center for Bioethics and Research \(beonlinejournal.net\)](https://beonlinejournal.net). You can also submit by contacting the Editor in Chief directly by email at editorinchief@beonlinejournal.net.

We invite you to submit your work to our panel of experienced reviewers and publish in the BeOnline Journal. Rapid review and decision are guaranteed. We also provide text editing support to improve the quality of your papers. Let the world hear your view about research ethics.

For more information on how to submit a manuscript for review, please visit us at [BeOnline® Journal of the Center for Bioethics and Research \(beonlinejournal.net\)](https://beonlinejournal.net), or send an email to editorinchief@beonlinejournal.net.

8.0 Information on Job Opportunities

The Center for Bioethics and Research widely disseminates information about job opportunities in research and bioethics on our social media pages and website for interested individuals. Please visit <https://bioethicscenter.net/jobs/> for more information.

Closing Remarks

Thank you for taking the time to read this issue of the newsletter. Your comments about the current issue and ideas for the next issue are what will keep the Center for Bioethics and Research Newsletter an interesting and lively newsletter.

Please send contributions and suggestions to admin@bioethicscenter.net

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**Center for
Bioethics and Research**

wishes you a

Prosperous New Year