

THE AWARD OF POST-GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP
At the 26th Annual Award of Postgraduate Scholarship of the
S.O. Awokoya Foundation for Science Education
March 197th 2024- Muson Center
BY- DR. FOLA AWOKOYA

Mr. Chairman, Baba Oba Dr. Oladele Fajemirokun
Our Special Guest of Honour , Professor Konyin Ajayi SAN
Our Guest Speaker Professor Folasade Ogunsola
Our distinguished Honourees
Professor Oladapo Ashiru
Rear Admiral Afolabi Macaulay

and

Mr. Sola Oyinlola

Chairman and Members of the Board of Trustees

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

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It is my distinct honor and privilege to present the 2024
Awardees of the Stephen Oluwole Awokoya Foundation For
Science Education Postgraduate Scholarship.

When the Awokoya Foundation was started in 1995, some
29years ago, it was formed with the primary objective of
promoting science and science education in institutions of
higher learning in Nigeria.

In furtherance of this primary objective, the Foundation has
made yearly awards of postgraduate scholarship for studies in
the area of science and science education.

Our approach to the awarding of postgraduate scholarships is to reward excellence. The scholarship is awarded to the best students nominated from all the universities participating.

In the area of scholarship award, the Foundation has made a yearly awards of postgraduate scholarship for studies in the area of science and science education for the past 29years. Our approach to the awarding of postgraduate scholarships is to reward excellence. The scholarship is awarded to the best students nominated from all the universities participating.

SLIDE 1

In the area of scholarship award, the Foundation has made a total of One Hundred and Twenty Eight (128) postgraduate scholarship awards to date.

SLIDE 2

The course programs that the postgraduate scholarship award have been used for are listed on this slide and covers a broad range of science, technology , engineering and mathematics (STEM) .courses;

SLIDE 3

The 128 total number of scholarships awarded to date have gone to beneficiaries from thirty (30) different universities.

The top five(5) universities benefiting from these 128 awards to date are;

University of Lagos with thirty one (31) awards ,

The University of Nigeria, Nsukka with Fourteen (14) awards

University of Ibadan with Thirteen (13) awards,

Nnamdi Azikwe University with ten (10) awards,

and Covenant University with eight (8) awards.

SLIDE 4

The process for the award of the scholarship starts with the nomination of candidates by the deans of the various faculties or heads of departments related to science or science education at the tertiary institutions in Nigeria.

The nominees are expected to be the best graduating students from the various tertiary institutions.

The scholarship awardees are chosen based on excellence in educational performance, stated long-term objectives and an interview of the shortlisted candidates by the Board of Trustees.

This year for the first time, the interview was done via Zoom

It is important to note that the scholarship is not based on need but on excellence in educational performance.

In order to qualify for this award , you have to be very good in your educational performance both in your university and in comparison to other students in other universities.

The Awokoya Foundation scholarship is a reward for excellence and it is aimed at encouraging excellence in educational performance.

It is an award for the best among the best.

SLIDE 5

This year, we had 110 nominations from 43 universities. The distribution of the nominations is shown on this slide,

The top ten universities with the highest number of nominations were;

Nnamdi Azikwe University with 13 nominations
Ahmadu Bello University with 9 nominations
Federal University Lafia with 9 nominations
Umaru Musa Yaradua University, Kaduna with 7 nominations
Osun State University with 6
Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta with 5
University of Lagos 5
University of Ibadan 4
Bayero University 3
Baze University 3.

About half of all the nominating university had only one nomination.

From Adekunle Ajasin University to the University of Uyo

SLIDE 6

Out of the 110 nominations, there were

- 71 First Class Graduates or graduates with Distinctions**
- 34 Second Class Upper Honours Graduates**
- 5 incomplete without required data that were automatically disqualified.**

SLIDE 7

The postgraduate scholarship award covers tuition and Board.

The value is now Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N=500,000) per student per annum.

It is renewable each year, for a maximum of three years, provided the awardee maintains a good record of academic performance as attested to by the authorities of the university he or she attends.

It is tenable in any Nigerian university.

For nominees that have admission into foreign universities, we convert the scholarship into a travel grant.

SLIDE 8

This year we have five (5) postgraduate scholarship awardees chosen from the nominations received.

The first awardee for the Postgraduate Scholarship of the Stephen Oluwole Awokoya Foundation for Science Education for the year 2024 is Mr. Miracle Ebube Chukwuma.

SLIDE 9

Mr. Chukwuma, please come up to the rostrum.

Mr. Chukwuma attended the Confidence High School in Nwogo, Enugu State and the the Command Day Secondary School in Abakpa, Enugu State for his secondary schooling.

He had 8 distinctions out of nine (9) subjects in his Senior School Certificate exams, including four A1.

He later went to study Electrical Engineering at the Nnamdi Azikwe University in Awka, Anambra State , where he graduated with a First Class honours degree, with a cummulative Grade point average of 4.66.

Mr. Chukwuma intends to pursue a masters course in Electrical Engineering.

SLIDE 10

The second awardee is Miss Faith Umo.

Miss Umo, please come up to the rostrum.

Miss Umo went to Omonef High School in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State and Pegasus High School in Eket, Akwa-Ibom State to for her secondary schooling.

She had nine (9) distinctions in the nine(9) subjects she sat for in her SSCE exams including 6 A1s.

She later went to Akwa Ibom State University to study Mechanical Engineering.. She graduated with a first class degree in Mechanical Engineering with a cumulative grade point average of 4.53.

Miss Umo will be going for a Master of science degree in Mechanical /Mechatronics Engineering.

SLIDE 11

The third awardee is Mr. Oluwatobiloba Osedimilehin.

Mr. Osedimilehin, please come up to the rostrum.

Mr. Osedimilehin attended Evaton Comprehensive Colege at Abule-Egba, Lagos for hisb secondary schooling, where he got 9 distinctions with 4 A1s in the nine(9) subjects he took in his SSCE exams.

He later attended the University of Lagos, where he studied Cell Biology and Genetics and graduated with a first class B.Sc Honours degree and a cumulative grade point average of 4.93

Mr. Osedimilehin intends to pursue a masters degree in Cell Biology and Genetics.

SLIDE 12

The fourth awardee is Mr. Gbenga Awojinrin.

Mr. Awojinrin please come up to the rostrum.

Mr. Awojinrin attended the Onyieme Glorious College, in Oron, Akwa Ibom in starting his secondary schooling and later the Igbokoda Grammar School in Igbokoda, Ondo State in finishing his secondary schooling.

Mr. Awojinrin got 8 distinctions in the 9 subjects he took in his SSCE exams including 4 A1. He later went to the University of Ibadan to study Petroleum Engineering, where he graduated with a first class honours B.Sc degree with a cumulative grade average of 3.94 out of a maximum of 4.0.

Mr Awojinrin will be pursuing a masters degree in petroleum engineering.

Ladies and Gentlemen , the final awardee of today is Mr. Saidu Abubakar Saidu

SLIDE 13

Mr. Saidu, please come up to the rostrum.

Mr. Saidu attended the Federal University of Technology Staff School, Minna for his primary schooling and the Federal Government Colege Minna for his secondary schooling. He got 9distintions in the 9 subjects he took in his SSCE exams including 8 A1.

He later attended the the Federal University of Technology Minna to study Electrical /Electronics Engineering, where he graduated with a First Class honours degree with a cumulative grade point average of 4.73 out of 5.0

Mr. Saidu will be pursuing a postgraduate program in electrical/ electronics engineering .

SLIDE 14

Ladies and Gentlemen: , please congratulate the distinguished awardees of the 26th Annual Postgraduate Scholarship award of the Stephen Oluwole Awokoya Foundation for Science Education

Mr. Saidu Abubakar Saidu
Mr. Gbenga Awojinrin
Mr. Oluwatobiloba Osedimilehin
Miss Faith Umo
and
Mr. Miracle Chukwuma

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Stephen Oluwole Awokoya Foundation for Science Education , I congratulate you all.

I wish you every success in your academic endeavors

Dr. Fola Awokoya Ph.D.(Engr.)
Member, Board of Trustees