



'Legacy and Opportunities' ICONS2016



XN Foundation

Celebrates the 10th anniversary of the
International Conference of Nigerian Students

10th to 12th of June 2016

at De Montfort University, Leicester.

ICONS 2016 will be held in:

The Queens Building, De Montfort University, Mill Lane, Leicester LE2 7DR



Leicester, home of the
Premier League champions



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF NIGERIAN STUDENTS

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De Montfort University (DMU)

Friday 10th to Sunday 12th JUNE, 2016



Sponsored by:
De Montfort University

PROGRAMME

De Montfort University

THEME: Legacy and Opportunities

DATE: 10th to 12th of June 2016

VENUE: The Queens Building, De Montfort University (DMU), Mill Lane, Leicester, United Kingdom.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES:

The aim of this initiative is to foster:

✦ **National Development:** To urge Nigerian Youths Abroad to remember their fatherland and endeavour to contribute to national development.

Unity in Diaspora: Networking Nigerian Youths to foster unity abroad and at home. Strengthening the Nigerian International Students Agenda (NISA), the umbrella forum for Nigerian International students.

✦ **Nigeria's Image Abroad:** To challenge them to project Nigeria's Image Abroad positively in everything they do.

✦ **Empowerment:** To enlighten them about Job opportunities as well as help them secure choice jobs through partnerships with corporate bodies.

✦ To give Nigerian Youths in Diaspora a true sense of belonging even away from home.

✦ To recognise the outstanding achievements of distinguished Nigerian International Students.

✦ To show case the work of some distinguished Nigerian youths and International Students.

✦ To enable Nigerian students officially register with the Nigerian High Commission, UK and other Nigerian Embassies in other countries for documentation purposes and for easy access in future.

✦ To share awareness on ways to cope with the British Education, while making an impact in their places of study.

ABOUT X^N FOUNDATION – www.xnfoundation.org

The Nigerian youth is very talented and energetic; unfortunately these talents are sometimes either latent or expressed negatively. It is imperative to create a veritable platform for the Nigerian youth to express energies positively for the common good.

The Xn Foundation was founded in May, 2006 by two young Nigerian Youth, Akanimo Odon and Benedict Okhumale. Since then, it has undergone growth, implementing projects in the UK, Nigeria and Canada. In the UK, it is a registered company limited by guarantee, and in Canada, it is a registered charity. It will soon be registered in Nigeria.

The individuals who run XN Foundation constitute the International Executive Governing Board and they include the following:

- ✦ Miss Yinka Alli- Balogun - Executive Secretary
- ✦ Miss Chidinma H. Ogbonnaya – Assistant Executive Secretary
- ✦ Dr. Ifeolu Akintunde – Director, PAID
- ✦ Dr. Akanimo Odon – Country Director, United Kingdom
- ✦ Dr. Justice Akpan – Country Director, Canada
- ✦ Mr. Gbenga Ogunmodimu – Finance Director
- ✦ Obinna Ajuruchi – Technical Lead
- ✦ Idrees Oloyede – Entertainment Lead

Event Overview

Delegates arrive from the 10th of June, 2016 (Friday)

Programme starts at 6pm on the 10th of June, 2016

- ✦ Official Conference Registration starts at 8.30am on Saturday 11th of June 2016

The programme of speeches and small group sessions will commence at 9.30am and will last for the duration of the day. Several distinguished speakers will address such topics as studying, seeking employment, immigration, investment etc. (see programme for details)

- ✦ The ICONS Nigerian dinner starts at 6pm till late on the 11th of June 2016. This would be a banquet style dinner, consisting of Nigerian delicacies.

- ✦ The ICONS awards will be presented during the dinner ceremony to recognise the outstanding achievements of Nigerian students in academics, community life, creativity etc. There will also be musical performances, fashion show and poetry.

- ✦ At 9.45am on the 12th of June 2016 (Sunday) The NISA Forum Commences. This is a forum for discussing issues relating to studying and working in the UK as well as other National development issues. This is an all student affair, an opportunity for students to present their research, discuss issues at the heart of study in the UK and share knowledge.

- ✦ The conference concludes in the afternoon of the 12th June 2016 with closing remarks, vote of thanks and delegate group photographs

Nigerian International Student Agenda (NISA)

NISA is an acronym for the Nigerian International Students Agenda, which is an initiative of the Xn Foundation. It will act as the umbrella forum for the Nigerian International Student community on several developmental projects. NISA is a student led forum, which means that its programmes will be directed solely by its members, principally through the NISA forum. It was inaugurated during the International Conference of Nigerian Students (ICONS) 2007 at the University of Lancaster. The aim is that the forum will be governed by the Xn Foundation Board.

NISA is an initiative to project the ambitions of Nigerian students worldwide and represent their interests. It will act as the umbrella forum for the **Nigerian International Student community** on several developmental projects. The NISA FORUM will be hosted during the International Conference of Nigerian Student (ICONS) events. We hope to have one day NISA FORUM activities in the future independent of the ICONS event.

The aim is that

It will have a forum where ideas, proposals and creative skills (poetry, musical, scripting, art work, academic papers etc), are displayed online by interested Nigerian students.

It will be an advisory network on academic report writing, thesis and dissertation proposal development, professional consultations on different course areas, help and support for the Nigerian International Student.

The structure will be largely determined by students. It will however be under the general oversight of XN Foundation.

Nigerian/African Student Careers Programme (NSCP/ASCP)

Overview

NSCP/ASCP is a new initiative of Xn Foundation, an offshoot of the prestigious International Conference of Nigerian Students (ICONS). The programme is designed to address the fact that due to the time constraints within ICONS' seminars series, several students are not able to clarify their queries and get the right support and help they need. The intrinsic value of the event for other African students has been continuously highlighted, facilitating the provision of ASCP.

Xn Foundation wishes to add value to Nigerian/African students in the Diaspora, using our extensive experience of the Nigerian/African student populations in the UK, coupled with the competence of our trusted ICONS facilitators and experts under a subsidy framework, to address key issues that impact on careers of Nigerian/ African students.

NSCP/ASCP Training Areas

Key Training Areas

The key training areas covered by this initiative include:

Careers and Employability – This is to help maximize employment potential either in the UK or Nigeria and Africa. Topics to be covered include developing a winning CV, corporate profiles, joining professional bodies, skills development, promoting yourself, volunteering to pick up job skills, searching for a job, continuing onto research degrees, searching for research funds etc

Enterprise and Self-Employment – This is for those who wish to start their own businesses after studies with special reference to starting a business, a project, an initiative or a programme in the UK or in Nigeria/ Africa. Topics to be covered include registrations, building technical partnerships, consultancy, taxation, raising start up funds, business development plans, establishing in Nigeria/ Africa, growing in Nigeria/Africa, understanding the UK/Nigeria/Africa Bridge Business model etc.

All training programmes will cover the two areas above.

Optional Training Areas

In addition, interested persons can pick from any of the seven areas below:

Visas and Immigration Seminar – requirements, process, peculiarities in relation to the Nigerian/African status and experiences.

Etiquette Seminar – developing UK food, conversations, business, associations, interviews etiquette in relation to different Nigerian/African culture.

‘Academia for Nigerians/Africans’ Seminar – how to write essays, reports etc (designed for Nigerian/African students), how to develop research dissertation and theses around Nigerian/African premises, attract research funding from Nigerian/African organisations etc

Socio-cultural Awareness Seminar – disability, cultural, language, complaints, rights etc

Self Motivation Seminar – ‘Making a Positive Impact as a Nigerian/African Student in the UK’ – hobbies, creativity, contributing to society, time management, spirituality, self empowerment and determination etc

Leadership and Politics Seminar – ‘Participating in leadership/politics in Nigeria/Africa and the UK’ – student elections, student representatives etc

Student Resources Management Seminar – student rail cards, student discounts, bank issues, funds transfers, sending money home, receiving money from home, national insurance numbers, health etc

Programme

Friday 10th June 2016 – The Queens Building De Montfort University (DMU), Leicester United Kingdom

17.00 – 18.00	Arrival of Guests and ICONS Delegates.
18.00 – 18.30	Informal Discussions and Networking
18.30 – 19.15	Subject Matter Presentations – Past ICONS Delegate Panel

Dr. Foluke Ipiyonmi—Adebisi

Mr. Yemi Soile

Mr. Dayo Akenroye

Dr. Emmanuel Adukwu

19.15 – 22.00	Private Screening/Games Night
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Wives on Strike Movie

Saturday 11th June 2016 – The Queens Building De Montfort University (DMU), Leicester United Kingdom

08.30 – 09.30	Arrival, Registration, Tea/Coffee
09:30 – 09:35	House Keeping & Introduction of the MC by Chairman of DMU ICONS 2016 Local Organising Committee ICONS Damilare Akintade
09.35 – 09.45	Welcome Address by DMU Director of International Office, Matthew Hornshaw
09.45 - 09.55	Keynote Address by Head of Careers and Employability, De Montfort University, Lucy Madahar
9.55 – 10.10	Xn Foundation – The Legacy– Dr. Akanimo Odon, UK Country Director, Xn Foundation
10.10 – 10.30	Mr. Cees Kramer, Chair of Trustees StreetInvest, <i>‘Investing Now for the Future’</i>
10.30 – 11:00	Dr. Nike Adebajo, Professional Etiquette Coach <i>‘Understanding etiquette in a culturally diverse Britain’</i>
11.00— 11.10	Address by Councillor Manjula Sood MBE LL.D(Hon), Assistant City Mayor for Leicester City
11:10 – 11.20	Dr. Toyin Idowu-Onibokun, Founder & Director, Youth Against Crimes Not Crimes Against You, <i>‘Overcoming Societal Challenges to take advantage of Opportunities’</i>
11.20- 11.30	Dr. Kelechi Anyikude, Celebrity Arsenal Nigerian Supporter, <i>‘Positive Representation of Self and Country’</i>
11.30 – 11.40	Coffee/Tea Break
11.40 – 12:00	Dr. Ohio Omiunu – Lecturer, DMU, <i>‘Employability’</i>
12.00 – 12.20	Mr. Victor Sonde, A Digital Transformation Consultant, <i>‘Knowledge Economy- raising world change leaders’</i>

12.20 – 13.00

First Seminar Series – Break Out Session

ROOM	SPEAKER AND TOPIC
Q0.07	Dr. Emmanuel Adukwu and Dr. Amara Anyogu, Aspiring Professionals Hub , <i>'How to be a Good Leader'</i>
Q0.09	Dr. Thaddeus Onyiye Eze , Lecturer, University of Chester , <i>'Harnessing Information Technology for your career success'</i>
Q0.14	Dr. Kelechi Anyikude, Celebrity Arsenal Nigerian Supporter , <i>'Positive Representation of Self and Country'</i>
Q0.11	Dr. Ife Akintunde, IOA Consults , <i>'Writing Skills for Life and Work'</i>
Q0.10	Dr. Toyin Idowu-Onibokun, Founder & Director, Youth Against Crimes Not Crimes Against You , <i>'Overcoming Societal Challenges to take advantage of Opportunities'</i>

13.00 - 13:40

First Seminar Series – Break Out Sessions Repeated

ROOM	SPEAKER AND TOPIC
Q0.07	Dr. Emmanuel Adukwu and Dr. Amara Anyogu, Aspiring Professionals Hub , <i>'How to be a Good Leader'</i>
Q0.09	Dr. Thaddeus Onyiye Eze , Lecturer, University of Chester , <i>'Harnessing Information Technology for your career success'</i>
Q0.14	Dr. Kelechi Anyikude, Celebrity Arsenal Nigerian Supporter , <i>'Positive Representation of Self and Country'</i>
Q0.11	Dr. Ife Akintunde, IOA Consults , <i>'Writing Skills for Life and Work'</i>
Q0.10	Dr. Toyin Idowu-Onibokun, Founder & Director, Youth Against Crimes Not Crimes Against You , <i>'Overcoming Societal Challenges to take advantage of Opportunities'</i>

13.40 – 14.40

Lunch Break

14.40 – 15.00 Dr. Foluke Ipiyonmi-Adebisi, **Lecturer, University of Bristol** , *'My Grandfather Taught Me That Change Is Impossible: A story of personal and general transformation'*,

15.00 – 15.40 **Second Seminar Series – Breakout Sessions**

ROOM	SPEAKER AND TOPIC
Q0.15	Mr. Dayo Akenroye, International Development Consultant <i>'Overcoming the Career Choice Dilemma'</i>
Q1.12	Dr. Justice Ikpe Akpan, Specialist <i>'Studying, Living and Working in Canada and United States of America v United Kingdom: A comparative Analysis'</i>
Q0.13	Ms. Anaya Kamara, Anaya Hair and Beauty , <i>'Award Winning Entrepreneurship in the 20th Century'</i>
Q0.12	Dr. Ohio Omiunu, Law Lecturer, De Montfort University , <i>'Dealing with cultural factors that influence career choices of Nigerians studying abroad'</i>
Q0.10	Mr. Idrees Oloyede, Divine Keys , <i>'Optimising Social Media as a tool for Professional advancement'</i>

15.40 – 16.20 **Second Seminar Series – Breakout Sessions Repeated**

ROOM	SPEAKER AND TOPIC
Q0.15	Mr. Dayo Akenroye, International Development Consultant <u>‘Overcoming the Career Choice Dilemma’</u>
Q1.12	Dr. Justice Ikpe Akpan, Specialist <u>‘Studying, Living and Working in Canada and United States of America v United Kingdom: A comparative Analysis’</u>
Q0.13	Ms. Anaya Kamara, Anaya Hair and Beauty , <u>‘Award Winning Entrepreneurship in the 20th Century’</u>
Q0.12	Dr. Ohio Omiunu, Law Lecturer, De Montfort University , <u>‘Dealing with cultural factors that influence career choices of Nigerians studying abroad’</u>
Q0.10	Mr. Idrees Oloyede, Divine Keys , <u>‘Optimising Social Media as a tool for Professional advancement’</u>

16.20 – 16.30 Dr. Akanimo Odon, **UK Country Director Xn Foundation**
‘Africa in Perspective’ – Xn Foundation Plans

16.30 – 16.40 Vote of thanks and Wrap up by Dr. Ife Akintunde, IOA
Consults and Adviser, XN Foundation

16:40 – 18:00 RECREATION SESSIONS

Sports Tournaments – Football Tournament, Sports Centre

BANQUET DINNER AND AWARDS NIGHT

18.00—19.00 Commencement of Banquet Dinner and Awards Night

19.00 – 19.10 Welcome Address by DMU Senior Management/VC/Pro Vice

19.10 – 19.20 Opening Speech by Chairman, **Mr. Richard Morgan**, Director, Y2GO Limited

19.20 – 19.30 Guest speech by **Mrs. Olufolake Abdulrazaq**, Head, Consular Education and Welfare Section

ENTERTAINMENT FIRST HALF

19.30 – 19.40 Performance

19.40 – 20.10 Entertainment

20.10 – 20.40 Dinner Served

ENTERTAINMENT SECOND HALF

20.40 – 20.45 Speech by Chairman, CANUK, **Babatunde Loye**

20.45 – 21.10 Dance Performance

21.10 – 21.30 Awards Presentation by Awards Board Head, Assistant Executive Secretary, Xn Foundation, **Miss Chidinma H. Ogbonnaya** & Chairperson, ICONS Awards Committee, Dr, **Kelechi Anyikude**

21.30 – 21.35 Special Surprise Itenary

21.35 – 23.30 Dance!!!!Dance!!! Dance!!!

NISA FORUM/PRESENTATIONS/NETWORKING (Sunday 12th June 2016)

9:45 – 10.10	Opening Speech by Ms Yinka Alli Balogun , Executive Secretary, Xn Foundation
10.10—11.40	Presentations by Student Delegates, Session Co Chair, Olugbenga Ogunmodimu
11.40 – 11.50	Tea / Coffee
11.50 - 13.20	NSCP/ASCP Consultative Session led by Mr. Obinna Ajurichi & Dr. Gbenga Ogumodinmu, UK
13.20 – 13:30	Closing Remarks by Dr. Ife Akintunde
13:30 – 13.45	Group photographs
13:45 – 14.45	Lunch, Networking and Departure

SPECIAL THANKS

DMU International Office

DMU Nigerian Society Student Planning Committee



Yinka Alli-Balogun—An enduring participant of ICONS since the first edition in 2006, Yinka has grown in knowledge, experience and skill alongside the event and is truly a living legacy of the work of Xn Foundation. Holding positions of increasing responsibility in the planning and delivery of ICONS over the past 10 years, Yinka is currently the Executive Secretary of Xn Foundation and continues to lead by example in seek opportunities for personal and professional development. Most recently this includes being selected as one of ten Local Government Officers in the country to take part in the prestigious Local Government Challenge; a competition which seeks out the best and brightest local government officers with the drive and determination to reach the top and flourish in very challenging situation of local government <http://www.local.gov.uk/lgchallenge>. Holding a BA in History, Philosophy and Politics from Lancaster University and a MA in Culture, Diversity and Identity Studies from The University of Hull, Yinka is currently employed as a coordinator for a project that seeks to

remove transport barriers to employment. Building on her existing portfolio of experience in the education, government/political and charity/faith sectors, Yinka is increasingly focusing on developing the next generation of leaders through volunteering and other work in areas such as her local community Food Bank that reaches out to people in crisis with emergency food and support. Yinka is hoping to have more of a direct impact on the Continent through investing in the most valued resource, the people and is exploring opportunities to this end. Her vision for Nigeria and Africa remains as a desire to see the great potentials become great realities enjoyed by the average African. Yinka believes members of the Diaspora like herself have a significant role to play in realising this dream. A former winner of the ICONS award for her contributions to student life as an African Caribbean Society Founder/President and a Student Union Non-Sabbatical Officer, Yinka is living proof of the enduringly positive impact individuals and an organisation like Xn Foundation can have on the success of an individual. With a passion for change only matched by the commitment to see it happen, by the grace of God Yinka hopes to be the change you want to see.



Dr Ifeolu Omoniye Akintunde is a recent recipient of the Nigerian UK Based Achievers Award, (2014), the Pride of the Motherland Award, (2010) and the Greenwich University Nigerian Students' Association award (2010). He is director of the Programme for Advancement and Intervention in Disability, (PAID) a new initiative of the XN Foundation. He is CEO of IOA Consults, a company which specialises in event management and works with international students and disabled people. Among other things, IOA Consults is the external relations consultant for the Nigeria Association of the Blind. In addition, he is also a director of Hatua C.I.C., the Nigerian Election Sensitisation Scheme (NESS), director of the National Ability Project (TNAP) a new body set up to promote a different perspective on disability vice chair of the board of the Sunbeams Music Trust and National Publicity Secretary of the Overseas Fellowship of Nigerian Christians. He is a committed Christian and an occasional gospel music presenter at www.saltfm.com, an internet Christian station. Dr Akintunde currently serves on the Nigerian Centenary Awards UK organising committee. In his spare time, he loves music, current affairs, travel, sports and

reading, although his friends think his greatest love are his mobile phones, which are often clamped to his ears. This year, Dr Akintunde will be sharing his thoughts on how to write a good essay or project, based on his experience as a student, trainer, tutor and proofreader. Students who are interested in attending this seminar are urged to come with some of their work, particularly those with comments from lecturers or tutors.



Dr. Akanimo Odon is an environmental management and business strategy development expert who has gained experience working in several capacities to several global and international bodies. He was an Adviser to the British Government on developing international education policies under the National Student Forum, Education Consultant for British Council, Nigeria for three years, Business Development Consultant for the Grow Creative Scheme under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for two years and was recently appointed as the West African Environmental Business Ambassador for one of Europe's most reputable environmental centres, Lancaster Environment Centre. He has a Masters Degree in Environmental Rehabilitation from the University of Wales UK and a Doctorate Degree in Environmental Management from Lancaster University, UK. He also holds business development certifications from Judge Business School of Cambridge University, UK and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA and an International Fellowship Award from Stanford University Business School. For two years, Akanimo was the National Content Adviser for one of the world largest Oil and Gas

firms (BG Group, UK) as well as an environmental consultant for the National Centre for Energy and Environment under the Energy Commission of the Presidency, Nigeria. Currently, he is CEO of Envirofly Consulting (www.envirofly-group.com). Akan serves on the International Board of Xn Foundation as its UK Country Director. He lives in Lancaster, UK and is married to Ifeyinwa and they both have a daughter, Kaela and a son, Kanaan.



Justice Akpan, Ph.D. is the Country Director of Xn Youth Development Foundation, Canada. He works as Assistant Professor of Management & Information Systems at a top public American University. He presently serves as Secretary/Treasurer of the faculty council at the University. He was recently honoured with an Exceptional Service Learning Project Award at the University. His research interests include Decision Support Systems, Information Systems Strategies, Computer simulation and applications, Information Visualization and Web-based Simulation. He has published scholarly articles in these areas. He also has extensive industry practice/experience as computer information systems consultant specializing in the areas of Business & Systems Analysis and Design, Software Systems Implementation, Business Process Design & Re-engineering, and IT Project Management & Consulting in the UK, USA and Canada. Dr. Akpan

has an unwavering faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and strongly believes that, the purpose of our existence here on earth is to serve the living God, the creator and controller of the universe. He also believes that, God alone deserves all the glory for whatever we may accomplish here on earth, as we can do nothing without divine help.



Dr. Gbenga is the current Finance director of XN Foundation. He has a PhD in the field of Space Plasma Environment and Radio Sciences. He has worked in collaboration with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)-Goodard Space Flight centre, Baltimore, The upper atmospheric centre of the Nigerian space and development agency (NASRDA) and the United Nations office of outer space affairs (UNOOSA). He is currently the research lead at African Youth Leadership conference (A dynamic space research body that comprise of African experts). Recently, he has served as a business consultant to some Nigerian universities. His interest spans the application of science to solving real life problems, to youth empowerment and ministry. He is a leader at the Overseas Fellowship of Nigerian Christians, OFNC-Manchester branch) and a proud supporter of Man-

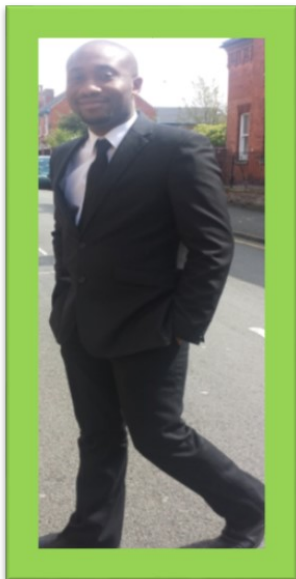
chester city football club.



Idrees Oloyede is an accomplished Musician, Project Manager, Youth Worker and Qualified Teacher. He is an all-round expert in the music sector. He has a BA Hons in Music Technology from Lancaster and completed his masters in Project Management. This led him to a job as a Youth Worker where he co-ordinated 7 estates, running youth projects to help the mind-sets of young people to think bigger than 'Hackney' and to be aware that there is a whole world out there other than what they know. He has worked on getting a group of young people involved in the Olympics 2012 as music artists for the opening ceremony. From here he has taken to teaching identifying his passion to pass on knowledge and sharing what he knows with other people. Idrees is currently in the education sector in Hackney working with students with Special Educational Needs who again need a new focus on life or assistance in accessing the curriculum. Idrees runs his own music business, 'Divine Keys', where he does everything from giving private instrumentals lessons to engineering studio sessions. He has acquired contracts with Hackney Council and is an official music supplier for Hackney Council running music activities on the estates, teaching young people musical instruments and music production. Idrees is currently working on his own EP Called 'My Wor-

ship', the songs are mainly instrumental with songs written by Idrees expressing the way he worships and how his heart cries out to God in his piano playing and how that translates in to lyrics. His latest single is called 'There is none like You' sang with his best friend Tolu Salami.

(<http://divinekeys.bandcamp.com/releases>). Please visit his website to find out more about him and what he does. www.divinekeys.co.uk



Obinna Ajuruchi

Obinna manages XN Foundation's technology strategy and implementation. He is a doctoral researcher at the Lincoln Social Computing (LiSC) research centre, University of Lincoln. His research interests focus on user-generated content on the internet and using crowdsourcing techniques to engage users on social media platforms. He is also works as a graduate teaching assistant at the university and does freelance technology consulting for start up companies and charities on how to effectively develop and leverage their internet presence. He has an MSc in IT and Data Communications from Lancaster University and Bachelor of Technology in Applied Physics from the Federal University of Technology (FUT), Owerri, Nigeria. He's previous entrepreneurial adventures include Litescribe Media, a web design company and Choko & Ruchi, a business that provided social media solutions for SMEs. He has experience in web development, IT user support and ICT4D working for organisations such as These Executive Minds (TEXEM), AFGA Initiatives/Lancaster

Environment Centre (Lancaster University), EON, Unity Bank and Paradigm Initiative Nigeria (PIN). To know more about him ask Google about "ruchione" and visit ajuruchi.org

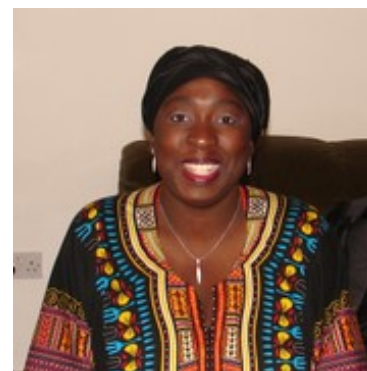


Chidinma Hannah Ogbonnaya is a Law and Sociology graduate, equipped with a peculiar passion for life & enthusiasm for the future with a distinctive drive for life. Chidinma has a passion for Nigeria, the culture, the people and their vivacious style because they represent undying hope and admirable strength despite adversity. She respects their ability to find comic relief in seemingly hopeless situations. Chidinma has various awards and certificates from both her Nigerian Students' Society (NSA), GET and University for her commendable work with Nigerians and service to international students. Chidinma hopes to further her studies. She appreciates and recognizes the difficulty in arriving on new shores with no familiarity with the new culture and so tries to help in her own way through XN Founda-

tion. She is self-employed and runs 'Emerald Infusions', on a Freelance basis.

SPEAKERS PROFILES

ICONS 2016 SPEAKERS PROFILES



Dr Foluke Ifejoba Adebisi is a member of the academic staff of the Law School, University of Bristol. Foluke's PhD, obtained at Lancaster University, examined non-military mechanisms for preventing mass atrocities in West Africa. She holds an LL.M (with Distinction) – also from Lancaster University – in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law. She is a graduate of Law Faculty at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife and the Nigerian Law School. During her NYSC she was the President of the Legal Aid Clinic – a community development group for law graduates. Foluke's academic writing is concerned with the impact of post-colonialism on international norm implementation in Africa. The interplay between cultural diversity and divergent human rights' needs, mostly affects the protection of vulnerable sections of the population – children, women, displaced persons, refugees and people facing physical and economic hardship. Therefore, we need new ways of interpreting the African experience within international law to ensure optimum and effective protection for the voiceless, the unseen and the forgotten. These imperatives also pervade Foluke's iterations as a creative writer, a spoken word poet and a blogger. You can read her blog 'Foluke's African Skies' at folukeifejoba.wordpress.com or follow her on twitter @folukeifejoba. She is married to Olusoji Olusegun Adebisi and together they have a beautiful son.



Matthew Hornshaw is the Director of International at De Montfort University UK Owner and Managing Director, MGH Educational Consultancy (www.mgh-educonsult.co.uk)

Matthew has been involved in international education since 1992 holding a number of senior positions in both the public and private sector and graduating with an MBA in 2000. From 1992 until 2004, Matthew was influential in ensuring that the University of Hull (UK) led the way in Transnational Education with Distance Taught programmes in SE Asia, the Gulf and UK, heading up the marketing & management function of the taught Masters & MBA Programmes Division

Matthew provided the lead on strategy for the student recruitment, marketing and support functions for all programmes with around 1200 students following Hull programmes globally. Target markets for UK delivery included Mexico, Nigeria, Ghana, Russia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and Greece. Matthew then moved into international student recruitment and partnerships, working primarily in Africa, building the university brand in the continent. Gaining extensive knowledge and networks in numerous African countries. Matthew was a founding member of the British Council Nigeria Advisory Group and has been involved in the support of Nigerian youth through the International Conference of Nigerian Students in the UK and Xn Foundation. Using his football coaching background, Matthew played host to the Ghana International Ladies football squad at Hull and became closely involved with the Ghana Football Association providing a number of support activities leading sports science, football coaching and charity projects with the GFA.



Ohio Omiunu is a Law Lecturer at DMU. He consults for government agencies, charities, business start-ups and educational institutions of higher learning in Nigeria and the UK. He is passionate about teaching, research, business development, and volunteering. Dr. Omiunu has a PhD, from the University of Liverpool (2015) and an LLM (International Business Law), University of Hull (2010). Dr. Omiuni initiated and ran an academic mentoring scheme for international students in the UK (2011-2015).



Emmanuel Adukwu is the Co-Creator and Editor of the Aspiring Professionals Hub. Emmanuel has

experience working in several sectors including industry, academia, entertainment, consultancy and the not-

for-profit sector. With this combined experience, Emmanuel teamed up with Amara following six years of

working together at a professional society to create the Aspiring Professionals Hub.

Emmanuel completed a BSc (Hons) degree in Biomedical Science at Coventry University and embarked on a Masters by Research (MRes) degree in Microbiology at Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UK. Following the MRes at MMU, Emmanuel proceeded to work at

ICON plc, a major global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries. Emmanuel proceeded onto a PhD at Northampton in Microbiology investigating issues surrounding community acquired infections. Following his PhD, Emmanuel worked at Coventry University College and

Northampton University as an Associate Lecturer. Emmanuel now works as a Senior Lecturer in Biomedical

Science and Public Health and is also actively engaged in research in the areas of bacteria survival

mechanisms, antibiotic usage and compliance issues, novel antimicrobial compounds and is supervising

PhD students in these areas.



Lucy Madahar is the Head of Careers and Employability at De Montfort University in Leicester. Her current remit includes developing and delivering the employability strategy across De Montfort University; managing careers coaching and development provision as well as developing and shaping the university's employer engagement strategies including their Frontrunners internship scheme and Unitemps recruitment agency. Lucy brings with her, over 20 years experience of developing HE employability and enterprise strategies, delivering careers coaching and employability skills training. She has extensive experience of working with a wide range of clients and partners, including students and graduates, senior university managers and graduate recruiters, locally, nationally and internationally. Lucy has been an Advisory Board member for the Association of Graduate Recruiters (AGR), where she worked closely with a wide range of industry sector specialists and Higher Education institutions in order to share best practice between sectors, contribute to the development of AGR policy and to ensure that university careers services have a strong voice in the AGR.

Lucy was also a Board Director for the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services (AGCAS), where she had responsibility for developing and delivering the quality assurance strategy for AGCAS and its members. Prior to joining De Montfort University, Lucy worked at Birmingham City University as the Assistant Director of Student Services, where her remit included managing the careers and employability services, student finance service and international student advisory service. As the Guidance Services Manager at Graduate Prospects, she set-up the UK's first virtual careers service for graduates, offering 24/7 access to award-winning online career management support via chatrooms, online query services and forums. Lucy also co-wrote the research report "Managing E-guidance Interventions within HE Careers Services" with Marcus Offer and delivered specialist e-guidance and e-counselling skills training throughout the UK and overseas. Lucy has held positions at the University of Wolverhampton as a Career Development Consultant and also lectured in Occupational Psychology at Aston University. Lucy holds degrees in psychology, human resource development and business administration.



Dr Thaddeus Onyinnye Eze currently lectures cyber security at the University of Chester. He was an Associate Lecturer in computing at the universities of Greenwich and Kent. Thaddeus is a graduate of Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Uli (BSc) and the University of Greenwich (MSc and PhD).

Thaddeus' research expertise is on Trustworthy Autonomics and MANET (mobile ad hoc network) with current interest in applying trustworthy autonomies to Cyber Security. He is a conference technical committee member, reviewing conference papers, for a number of international conferences. He currently convenes the Computer Science research seminar series at the University of Chester. Thaddeus is the Vice Chair of IEEE Young Profes-

sionals for UK and Ireland. He was the president of Nigerian Students Association, University of Greenwich, for 2009/2010.



Kelechi holds a Bachelor of Technology degree in Biochemistry from the Federal University of Technology, Owerri Nigeria. In 2011, he obtained his MSc degree in Energy and Environment from the University of Leeds, UK; and has just obtained his doctorate degree in Energy and Environmental Engineering at the same university with interests in Biochar, Environment, Agriculture, Renewable and Sustainable Energy. He is a member of many professional bodies including the British Biochar Foundation and the International biochar Initiative.

Kelechi who has previously served as the President of the Nigerian Students Society at the University of Leeds, has won numerous awards including the Best Nigerian

Student President in the UK at the Nigerian UK Based Achievers Awards, Youth Leadership Award at the Nigerian UK Based Achievers Awards and the ICON of the Year Award at the International Conference of Nigerian Students. Kelechi is a popular and passionate Arsenal Fan and is a regular on Arsenal TV with Metro Newspaper recently calling one of his interviews 'BRILLIANT'. He loves to watch Arsenal matches in his Nigerian attires thereby showcasing Nigeria's rich cultural heritage. In fact he is unapologetically Nigerian and grants interviews in his Nigerian accent. Kelechi is really passionate about Nigeria and is on the verge of setting up his NGO which will focus on the sustainable development goals, as a way of giving back to the society.



Dr. Amara Anyogu is the Co-Creator and Editor of the Aspiring Professionals Hub. Amara's personal experience of academia has developed her belief in the combined power of Education, Mentoring and Networking as essential tools for building impactful careers and lives by the personal motto of 'Ignorance hurts more than anything else.'

Amara graduated with a BSc (Hons) degree in Microbiology and a PhD in Food Microbiology from London Metropolitan University. After completing her PhD, Amara worked as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow within Professor Jane Sutherland's predictive microbiology group in the Microbiology Research Unit at London-Met. Amara's research interests are focused on understanding the microbiology of beneficial microorganisms involved in

traditional food fermentations as well as the survival mechanisms of foodborne pathogens. Amara has communicated her research in international peer-reviewed journals and by presenting at international conferences.



Yemi is the Founder and Head Coordinator of the Nigerian Students' Union UK (www.nsuuk.org). He is also the Chairman of Central Association of Nigerians in the UK Youth wing ([CANUK YOUTH](http://CANUKYOUTH)). He is a Youth leader, public speaker, entrepreneur and youth empowerment advocate. Yemi, has risen to national and international prominence by delivering inspirational speeches that move young people into action by helping them shake off mediocrity, turn their potentials into performance and live up to their greatness.

Yemi sees himself as 'A Leader of Tomorrow in Action Today' and enjoys mobilising young people to act on social problems. He holds a B.A in Politics and Business from the University of Greenwich London, and an Advanced Diploma in Administrative Management from the Institute of Administrative Management, UK.

While at University, Yemi was elected President of the Nigerian Students' Society for 2 years during which he led the organisation to being several awards, including the best society at the University. Yemi, has risen to national and international prominence by delivering inspirational speeches that move young people into action by helping them shake off mediocrity, turn their potentials into performance and live up to their greatness.



Dr. Toyin Idowu-Onibokun (formerly Idowu) [YACnCAY] : After the murder of her friend's son – who was a victim of a horrendous crime; Dr. Idowu-Onibokun was inspired to set up the Youth Against Crime not Crime Against You (YACnCAY) charity, in 2010 www.yacncay.com, which is now registered. Dr Idowu is very passionate about working with youths to channel their energy positively to developing themselves for the good of society, rather than being influenced by their peers to join gangs. The ethos of her organisation is PIPE, which stands for Pray Inspire Promote and Empower young people. Every month the organisation gathers at King's Learning Centre, Somerset House, East Wing, WC2R 1LA to conduct monthly prayers as well as organise inspirational talks, sponsored by King's College London. YACnCAY conducts peer to peer mentoring, most recent one conducted with Kingsford Community School, Beckton. The mentors are YACnCAY members and KCL students that Dr. Idowu-Onibokun teaches.

Dr. Idowu-Onibokun is an achiever in her own right. Whilst working at the University College London (UCL) after her PhD, she was involved in a research project which involved developing a diagnostic test for a specific bone tumour. The research was published and selected for the Roger Cotton Award in 2007, for which she was awarded 10,000 Euros for the best paper for that year in that journal. As well as teaching within the Dental Institute, KCL, she is also a Champion for the Diversity & Inclusion at King's and played a significant role in the Open Doors Project www.kcl.ac.uk/opendoors, whose aim is to showcase the contributions and achievements of staff and students at King's College London.



Anaya Kamara founded her company as a result of an intense traumatic experience that led Anaya into channeling herself via putting her hairdressing and beauty skills into action by visiting customers at their premises. Anaya also went back to college where she studied women's hairdressing and beauty for all types in order to maximize her potentials. Anaya has acquired GCSE O / A Levels, various IT professional qualifications and a Masters Degree in Information Systems Development.

She is also a member of well known Entrepreneurial Associations such as Projx International (Connect MIE), Women's Entrepreneurial Organisation, African-Caribbean Business Network (ACBN) to name but a few. From a Sierra Leonean descent and a strong background on family values, Anaya dedicates her dream and vision in memory of her Dad The Late Colonel Alpha Saba Kamara. Anaya is driven and focussed, has a family of 6 brothers, 1 sister, 2 half sisters and a large amount of extended relations. Anaya has a passion and loves what she does, as long as she helps put a smile on people's face.



Dayo Akenroye is a Procurement Manager at the Sherwood Forest Hospital (NHS) Trust in Mansfield, UK, and acts as international consultant for SNV Netherlands on Procurement Governance in Kenya, Mali and Ghana. He holds a Master (M.Sc.) in Supply Chain Management, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Shipping (Logistics) Technology, and he is a chartered member (MCIPS) of the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply, UK.

He was a Visiting Lecturer in Supply Chain Management, Procurement and Logistics at the University of Salford. He is a member of the

prestigious Cambridge Sustainability Network - (CSN), which includes nearly 4000 most influential decision-makers in business. He has published research papers in the fields of strategic procurement, supply chain management, innovation management and green procurement.

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