



Report of One day National Symposium and Inauguration of Nigerian Society for Microbial Ecology (NSME) held at Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko, Ondo State on 21st March, 2019

by

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The memorable and epoch-making event of the 1st National Symposium of Nigerian Society for Microbial Ecology (NSME) titled '**Microbial interaction and advances in microbial ecology**' that took place on Thursday 21st March, 2019 at Mandela Hall, Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko, Ondo State, Nigeria was very successful. It aimed at promoting the exchange of scientific information in microbial ecology, enable participants to interact and discuss some of the latest advances in the field, as well as providing information on International Society for Microbial Ecology (ISME); the sponsor of the event. Two hundred and seventy two (272) participants attended the 1-day Symposium. There were two (2) Lectures delivered by two carefully-selected erudite speakers: Prof. Obasola E. Fagade, Dept. of Microbiology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria and Prof. Adebayo Shittu, Dept. of Microbiology, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria who spoke on 'Microbial interactions in different ecosystems' and 'Advances in microbial ecology, evolution and diversity: the human microbiome' respectively. These were followed by questions and comments.

Prof. T.O. Adejumo, the National President (NSME) and Ambassador (ISME) welcomed members of the University management, Invited Speakers, Board of Trustees (BOT) members, Directors, Head of Departments, junior colleagues, other members of staff and students. He defined microbial ecology, emphasized the importance of the study that it could help improve our lives via the use of microbes in environmental restoration, food production, bio-engineering of useful products such as antibiotics, food supplements and chemicals. He emphasized that this important study drives numerous processes essential for ecosystem function, production, and sustainability like energy cycling, nutrient cycling, methane degradation, toxin processing and environmental sustainability.

A brief history of the formation of NSME was given with the first meeting of the group known as ISME, Nigerian Chapter on Thursday, 22nd March, 2018 which was attended by nine (9) members. The second meeting was held at the close of AAUA Humboldt-Kolleg on 6th June, 2018, where 23

Conference participants from various institutions attended and joined the Society. NSME has 88 financial members, including 40 young students of Microbiology.

Highlights of the event include pre-symposium meeting with members of BOT, welcome address by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Igbekele A. Ajibefun; inauguration of NSME and presentation of Certificates to members. Later, ISME and Ambassadorship Programme were discussed where the following ISME promotional materials in digital format were discussed: ISME Presentation, ISME Flyer and ISME18 slide. A short video about ISME sponsorship opportunities: https://youtu.be/_e1Bu0F2EbE was played and made available to WhatsApp platform and members. After the Symposium, Adekunle Ajasin University radio reported the event and was forwarded to NSME WhatsApp platform. Participants were encouraged to attend ISME18 at Cape Town, South Africa from 9 to 14 August 2020, as well as visit the Societies websites: <http://nsme.com.ng> and <https://www.isme-microbes.org>.

NSME remains very grateful to International Society for Microbial Ecology (ISME) for sponsoring the creation of NSME website (<http://nsme.com.ng>) and travels of early career delegates.

Thank you.



Prof. Timothy O. Adejumo

PICTURES







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18th
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9-14 August
2020

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