



PRESIDENT'S WELCOME ADDRESS

Iwelcome you to this edition of WADIAP Newsletter as your newly elected president. WADIAP was inaugurated in 2005 as Anglophone West African Division of the International Academy of Pathology (AWADIAP) and was accepted as a full division of IAP in 2006. The founding of WADIAP was initiated by The Friends of Africa, comprising of Pathologists working in the USA who teamed up with United States & Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) for the sole purpose of advancing the frontiers of pathology on the African continent. The division has continued to participate and keep up to date in the activities of IAP, has organised workshops and conferences, and collaborated with other organizations to advance the practice of pathology in the subregion. One of the major objectives the current executive is reach out to all pathologists in all the...

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REPORT ON THE 3RD AFRICAN ASSEMBLY & THE 14TH WADIAP CONFERENCE

The fanfare that greeted the hosting of the Joint 3rd African Assembly (AA) and the 14th WADIAP conference by Nigeria that held in Abuja, was exhilarating! The Conference theme **"Evolutionary trends in Modern Pathology Practice"** was ably delivered by a group of astute, world renowned pathologists drawn from across the world.

The conference was flagged off by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Ms Daju Kachollom who in her speech outlined key priorities and initiatives within the government's four-point agenda on health (advancements in governance, population health outcomes, the health-care value chain, & health security). She assured that despite economic challenges, the government remains steadfast in its commitment to positive changes in the health sector.

The IAP President, Prof. Martin Hale in his speech, emphasized on the integral role the AA & WADIAP play in educational activities and regional collaboration. While the WADIAP President Prof. Edwin Wiredu highlighted the conferences relevance to contemporary healthcare challenges as the conference covered subthemes such as value of artificial intelligence in anatomical pathology practice, pathology's role in personalised cancer care, bio-risk management, multi-specialization in pathology practice in Low-income settings, and finance management dexterity in low-resource settings.

In his welcome address, the LOC Chairman, Prof. Saad Ahmed was optimistic that solutions to the issues that have retarded the growth of pathology services in Africa will be elucidated. He recalled the origins of graduate training in pathology in Africa and spoke on the inequitable distribution of available manpower now worsened by the "Japa syndrome".

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KNOW YOUR EXECUTIVES
[WADIAP 2023-2025]

Chair of the Electoral Committee, Prof. Yawale Iiyasu, and two (2) members Prof. Barnabas Mandong and Prof. Modupeola OA Samaila (nominated by Congress) conducted an election by the majority. The nominated candidates were duly screened and deemed fit to serve prior to the elections. Check out the [WADIAP Website](#)

Our Executives for the term 2023-2025 are:

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| 1. Prof Fatimah Abdulkareem (Nigeria) | President |
| 2. Dr. Afua Owusua Darkwah Abrahams (Ghana) | General Secretary |
| 3. Dr. Olaleke Folaranmi (Nigeria) | Assistant Secretary |
| 4. Dr. Olayemi Olubunmi Dawodu (Nigeria) | Treasurer |
| 5. Dr. Halima Oziohu Aliyu (Nigeria) | Newsletter Editor |
| 6. Prof. Edwin Kwame Wiredu (Ghana) | Ex-Officio 1 |
| 7. Dr. Garba Dahiru Waziri (Nigeria) | Ex-Officio 2 |



[continued from page 1] *President's Welcome Address*

...subregion and motivate them to participate in educational activities that will provide them access to the latest information in the field with a view to improving the standard of practice. To achieve this, the executive council hit the ground running by appointing members of the Education committee, chaired by *Professor MOA. Samaila*.

The Education committee has come up with several innovative ideas, amongst which are the Quarterly Academic Webinars, EQA's, and Specialty seminars. The first Virtual Academic Seminar held on the 6th of March with the theme "Standardising and Improving histopathology reporting of cancers". I thank the guest speakers, Dr Patrick Akakpo of the University of Cape Coast, Ghana and Dr. Laura H. Tang of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, USA, who gave excellent and engaging presentations. We have also developed a Calendar of events for the year 2024 and plan to rejuvenate this newsletter, to keep the congress updated regularly.

WADIAP, as part of the larger International Academy of Pathology, wants to stand as a beacon of knowledge and collaboration, with dedicated anatomic pathologists who share a common goal, which is to elevate the practice of pathology and improve healthcare outcomes in our region. We are all aware that our profession is dynamic and ever evolving, and the challenges we face are multifaceted including inadequate infrastructure/ resources, shortage of pathologists compounded by the 'Japa syndrome' among many others. Let us continually explore the opportunity to harness the collective expertise of our diverse membership to explore innovative solutions, discuss emerging trends, and forge partnerships that transcend borders.

In closing, I am happy that resulting from aggressive membership drive of the last few months, we now have members from most parts of the subregion coming onboard. May the connections we forge and the knowledge we gain together, propel us forward as leaders in the field of pathology, working together to make a lasting impact on healthcare in West Africa and beyond.

Prof. FB Abdulkareem, *MBBCh, MD, FMCPATH, FNAMed*
 President WADIAP

He concluded that despite challenges, the LOC were able to persevere and put together a great experience.

The conference aimed to stimulate introspective analyses and encourage multi-sectoral interventions for the advancement of pathology services in the region. There were comprehensive discussions and commitment from government officials, healthcare professionals and experts which included: Prof. Olusegun Ojo *Nigeria*, Prof. Liron Pantanowitz *South Africa*, Dr. Juan C. Santa-Rosario *Puerto Rico*, Prof. Francis A. Faduyile *Nigeria*, Dr Roger A. Mitchell Jnr *USA*, Dr. Uwom Eze *Nigeria*, Prof. Modupeola O.A. Soetan Samaila *Nigeria*, Prof. Edwin K. Wiredu *Ghana*, Dr. Ahmed Y. Kalebi *Kenya*, Dr. Arcila *USA*, Dr. Tolulope Adewole *Nigeria* and Prof. Junaidu Kabir *Nigeria*.

Oral and Poster Presentations were taken covering a wide range of thematic and non-thematic topics with the presenters winning bursaries. The General Business meetings of the 3rd AA and 14th WADIAP were successes and the conference ended with an election of the next executives to lead the West African Division of the International Academy of Pathology. Click [here](#) to see photographic coverage of the event.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2024

Event	Date
Hand over	January
1 st EXCO Business Meeting	February
1 st Specialty Seminar	March
1 st Quarter Newsletter	
Clina-Lancet/WADIAP PCR	April
Training Workshop	
2 nd Specialty Seminar	May
2 nd Business Meeting	
2 nd Quarter Newsletter	June
TSL/WADIAP EQA	July
3 rd WADIAP EXCO Business meeting	August
IAP Conference	
3 rd WADIAP Virtual Specialty Seminar	September
3 rd Quarter Newsletter	
WADIAP Virtual training session	October
4 th WADIAP EXCO Business meeting	November
4 th WADIAP Specialty Seminar	
4 th Quarter Newsletter	December

3RD AA/14TH WADIAP CONFERENCE PHOTOS



REGISTRATION TEAM



PRESENTATION ONGOING



REGISTRATION AND PROTOCOL TEAM

CROSS-SECTION OF PARTICIPANTS AT THE 3RD AFRICAN ASSEMBLY & 14TH WADIAP CONFERENCE



NETWORKING



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Necropsy

We sadly announce the demise of our colleague Dr. Bawa Ahmed Abimiku. This sad event took place in December 2023. We are comforted by his brief presence at the WADIAP Conference in November to meet with us despite his ill-health. May his soul rest in peace.

In remembrance, a Memorial Service for the Late Prof. (Pastor) Clement Abu-Okolo held on the 30th December, 2023. May his soul continue to rest in peace.

Appointments

We announce the appointment of Prof. Victor J. Ekanem as the Dean of the School of Basic Clinical Sciences, University of Benin, Nigeria; and the re-appointments of Dr. Olagoke Erinomo as the Chairman Medical Advisory committee of the Federal Teaching Hospital Ido-Ekiti, Nigeria, & Prof. Saad A. Ahmed as the Chief Medical Director, Federal Medical Centre Abuja, Nigeria.

Promotions

We are happy to announce the promotions to professorial cadre of our members: Prof. Joseph Ngbea, Benue State University Makurdi, Nigeria, & Prof. Uchendu J. Obiora, Delta State University Abraka, Nigeria

Other Announcements

Congratulations to Professors Darlington Obaseki and Ezekiel E. Ugiagbe on the successful delivery of their Prestigious Inaugural Lectures both of the University of Benin, Nigeria. These events held in December and February. We wish them well in their careers.

Congratulations to Dr. Uwom Eze on the successful launching of his book "The Dead are not Dead" in March this year.

Call for Abstracts and Registration for the IAP Congress in Cancun, Mexico is ongoing. Click [here](#) to submit your abstract



AWARDS

RECOGNITION OF THE IMMEDIATE PAST EXECUTIVES





BURSARY AWARDEES

DAHIRU Huraira	\$100	Waziri Garba D.	\$50
SANI Kamaludeen	\$100	EZENKWA Uchenna	\$50
OLUWOLE Peter	\$100	KOLAWOLE Ruqqaya	\$100
ABDUL Oluwasesan & Bello J. O.	\$50	ALIYU Halima	\$50
OLAYIWOLA Ismail & IBIYEYE Kehinde	\$50	EHIGHIE Ighodalo	\$100
BALARABE Kabir	\$50	RICHARD Samuel	\$50
USMAN Asmau	\$50	BAPPA Usman	\$50
Folaranmi Olaleke	\$50		

GOVERNMENT PRESENCE



The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Health Ms Daju Kachollom



The Nigeria Police Forensic Investigation Department Representative

