

SCIENCE EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Newsletter

University of Sierra Leone, Fourah Bay College October 15 – 17 2016



Message from Professor Sahr Gbamanja






The 2016 Science Education Workshop organised by the Science Resources Africa programme and the University of Sierra Leone was held at the Fourah Bay College on the 5th October 2016. Each student originated his or her topic and conducted various research projects. The focus of this year's research projects was on 'Working towards the 17 Sustainable goals of the United Nations (SDG4). Members of the Sierra Leone Association of Women in Science and Engineering facilitated the presentation session supporting the students as they aligned their projects with the 17 SDG4 goals. These projects were presented in the following 4 thematic areas: Nutrition, Health, Environment and Engineering.

These annual events, which have never been carried out by any other person from the diaspora are now very popular in the country. We remain very grateful to Dr. Bridget Bannerman and we pray she obtains more funding to enable her to continue this project. She is fondly appreciated in our institutions of learning.

Science Fair/Education Workshop news 2016

The 2016 Science Fair/Education workshop for Senior Secondary school students was organized at the University of Sierra Leone, Fourah Bay College on 5th October 2016.

The following were highlights of the workshop:

-  Science Fair Competition
-  Keynote Speeches
-  Sustainable Development Goals SDG4 / SLAWiSE
-  Demonstration of Students' Science projects
-  Prize Giving Ceremony

Save the Date: Target participants: SS2

Proposal dates

30 June 2017
Proposal for exhibiting scientific projects with real life applications.

Submission dates Workshop dates

August 2017
Science and Mathematics project competitions for SS2 students in Sierra Leone

September 2017
Science Fair/Education Workshop to inspire the next generation of scientists in SL



Keynote Speeches

Professor Gbamanja, Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Sierra Leone, Fourah Bay College gave the opening and closing remarks of the workshop. He commended the Science Research Africa programme, for initiating these annual workshops in Sierra Leone and welcomed both staff and students to the event.

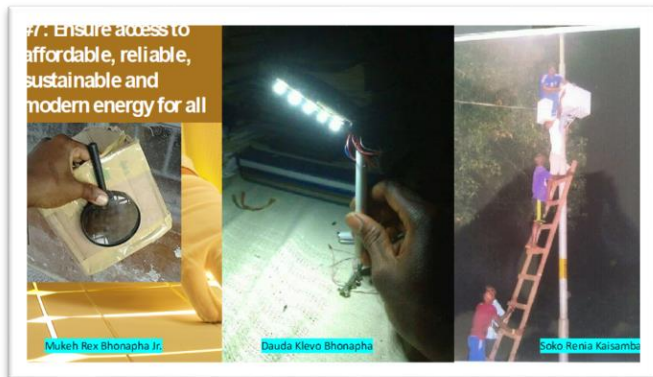


Ms Rachel Kargbo, the Public Relations Officer of the Sierra Leone Association of Women in Science and Engineering facilitated the presentations. She highlighted the various sustainable development goals of the United Nations and called on the students to present their projects, demonstrating the students' passions and how these SDG4 goals are being achieved.

The project facilitator of the annual workshops, Mr Farmanga Ngobeh, commended the students for the excellent projects presented.

Lecturers and teachers from various colleges in the country introduced themselves and thanked the organisers and sponsors of the workshop.





SDG7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable and sustainable and modern energy for all by Soko Kaisamba (Kenema province), Dauda Bhonapha and Mukeh Bhonohopa (Bo province).

Highlights of winning Scientific Projects

Soko Renia Kaisamba from the Holy Trinity School, Kenema received the 1st prize of 1 million Leones (SLL) for his contribution towards clean energy.

Soko is an innovative scientist who was instrumental to the repair of a solar panel in his school. He went further to connect this source of power and to provide electricity to several classrooms in his school and extended his project to other schools in his community. We identify with Soko's success and believe that his experience and expertise can be shared to other local communities.

2nd Positions: Mahmoud Gbessay & Joseph Cooper
Mahmoud Osman Gbessay from Wesleyan Secondary School developed a tv transmitter circuit for educational broadcast. Joseph Ellie Cooper inspired us with his local design of a fire extinguisher. Each of them received Le 400,000.00

SDG3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages








Other winning projects during the workshop:

1. Mukeh Rex Bhonapha Jr., Government secondary school, Bo & Emmanuel Tholley, Methodist Boys High School 3rd Prize – Le 300,000.00 each)
2. Umu Sall: Sierra Leone Association of Women in Science and Engineering Faculty for the Future Award – Le500,000.00

Science Fair Competition

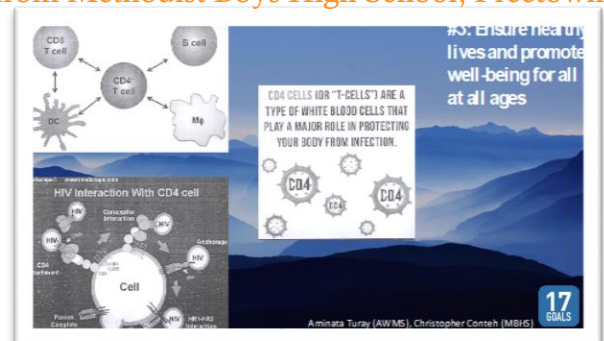
Practical demonstration of scientific principles in fields of Physics, Chemistry and Biology by Secondary School Students in Sierra Leone as it relates to their environment.

Participating Schools

-  St Josephs' Convent Secondary School
-  Annie Walsh Memorial School
-  Methodist Boys High School
-  Wesleyan Secondary School
-  Sierra Leone Grammar School
-  Holy Trinity Secondary School, Kenema,
-  Government Secondary School, Bo



SDG8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all by Emmanuel Tholley, Emmanuel Mansaray and Andrew Norma from Methodist Boys High School, Freetown



Annual Tuition Scholarships of Le100,000 each were awarded to 6 participants including: Aminata Turay, Mariama Mansaray, Shirley Williams and Zaratu Sankoh of Annie Walsh Memorial School; Andrew Norma, Methodist Boys High School and Dauda Klevo Bhonapha, Government secondary school, Bo

Launching of the Sierra Leone Association of Women in Science and Engineering SLAWiSE Faculty for the Future Award



Umu Sall from (St Josephs convent) received the newly launched SLAWiSE Faculty for the future award as she develops as an all-round scientist. She gave us a novel dimension to her studies by analyzing the knowledge gathered from satellites to care for planet earth. Previously, Umu has delivered a great health talk/project to the nation during the ebola crisis (this is besides her innovative work in caring for the under-privileged in the society).

The Sierra Leone Association of Women in Science and Engineering (SLAWiSE) Faculty for the Future Award was launched during this workshop. The aim is to identify and acknowledge the contributions of young girls who participated in previous workshops and have decided to pursue careers in the sciences. SLAWiSE will continue to provide the required mentorship.



Acknowledgements

The Science Fair/Education workshop 2016 Freetown, Sierra Leone was made possible by contributions and sponsorships from our patrons:

- ✚ Prof Tom Blundell, Department of Biochemistry, University of Cambridge
 - ✚ Prof Stephen Middleton, Department of Medicine, University of Cambridge
 - ✚ Prof Sahr Gbamanja, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone
 - ✚ Festus Bannerman Education Foundation
- More details - <http://scienceresourcesafrica.com/>



SLAWiSE

The Sierra Leone Association of Women in Science and Engineering continues to play a key role in supporting our annual workshops as well as mentoring young girls in science and engineering.