



AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY
ZARIA, NIGERIA.
OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Vice - Chancellor: Professor Kabiru Bala, BSc.(Hons) Building, M.Sc. (Bldg.Serv.), MBA, PhD (Const. Mgt.) (ABU), FNIQB, MAPM, MCABE, C. Bldg E, MICIArb

VC/P.18,615

15th January, 2024

Professor J. J. Maina
Deputy Director
Research and Innovation Unit
Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring
Ahmadu Bello University
Zaria.

Dear Prof. Maina,

APPOINTMENT AS CHAIRMAN, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

You may recall that the University recently approved the upgrade of the Research and Innovation Unit into a Directorate. The Directorate will have two main units; Research Management Unit (in-charge of grants sourcing & management, training of staff on research issues and research publications) and Patent and Commercialization Unit (in-charge of registering patents and partnering with the industry for commercialization of viable research output). This is intended to enhance the quality of research and innovation, promote commercialization of research output and stimulate entrepreneurship culture in the University. Consequently, you are appointment as the Chairman, Intellectual Property, Technology Transfer, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Management Committee.

The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Committee are as follows:

- i. Develop an implementation plan for the intellectual property, technology and material transfer agreements in accordance with the University Research Policy
- ii. Study the entrepreneurship activities in the University and advice on how it can be enhanced
- iii. Identify critical training needs for staff and students on intellectual property, technology transfer, innovation and entrepreneurship
- iv. Develop a revenue generation and utilisation plan for the technology transfer, innovation and entrepreneurship activities in the University

- v. Recommend any other idea (s)/strategy that will promote intellectual property, technology transfer, innovation and entrepreneurship activities in the University

Other members of the Committee are:

1. Professor Emmanuel O. Balogun - Coordinator, Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office
2. Prof. Samaila Malachy – Deputy Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies
3. Dr. Idris Bashir Bugaje – Director, International Centre for Rural Finance and Entrepreneurship
4. Dr. Muhammad A. Yahaya - Department of Plant Science, Faculty of Agriculture
5. Dr. Abudulfatai Adekale - Department of Computer Engineering, Faculty of Engineering
6. Dr. Ahmed Sherif Isah - Department of Human Physiology, College of Medicine
7. Dr. Ibrahim Sule Kekere - Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences
8. Dr. Ramatu Ematum Umahaba - Department of Science Education, Faculty of Education
9. Dr. Umar Sani Bebeji - Department of Commercial Law, Faculty of Law
10. Professor Adrian Eberemu, ACENPEE
11. Dr. Aminu Mohammed, ACENTDFB
12. Mr. James Friday – Secretary, Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring

The Committee is expected to submit a report by the end of July, 2024. I wish you the very best in the discharge of this important task.

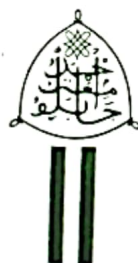
Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Prof. Kabiru Bala
Vice Chancellor

cc: DVC, Administration
DVC, Academic
Registrar
Director, Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring
Centre Leader, ACENPEE
Centre Leader ACENTDFB



OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR
AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY
ZARIA, NIGERIA.

Africa Centre of Excellence on New Pedagogies in Engineering Education (ACENPEE)

AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA

ACENPEE Innovation Seed Grant Competition (AISGC)

1.0 The Competition

The AISGC is an internal competitive grant scheme for young faculty and postgraduate students that was established and funded by ACENPEE to provide a seed grant to selected eligible individuals who submit an innovation and entrepreneurship proposal in fields related to engineering with focus on the four engineering arms namely, Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, and Water Resources and Environmental Engineering. The proposal must clearly show a pathway to entrepreneurship and establishment of business based on innovative idea(s) of the principal investigator or a team of innovators. All submitted proposals will be screened according to criteria set by the evaluation committee of the centre. A successful proposal will typically include the innovation and uniqueness, applicant's experience and management skills, business idea, demonstration of market demand, job creation potential and working conditions, growth potential, and financial sustainability of the business. The overall aim of AISGC is to encourage students to explore new business ideas, start up their own company, or scale a business that is deemed to have considerable potential to boost the local economy and generate employment.

The AISGC will include a process that also involves raising awareness, capacity-building, training, and coaching of entrants, and considerable after-care and support for the winners to ensure maximum impact. AISGC will therefore be used as an instrument to develop and disseminate

entrepreneurial mindset in staff and students to create a fruitful cycle for innovation and, business development, and job creation.

The eligibility criteria are that applicants must be registered students or staff of Ahmadu Bello University, taken and passed at least one of the entrepreneurship courses [GENS202 (Entrepreneurship and Innovation), GENS301 (Business Creation and Growth), NUTR711 (Introductory Management and Entrepreneurship), or SCI801 (Management Entrepreneurship), originate/find/lead the innovative/startup idea for the competition, CEE004 (Entrepreneurship in Engineering)]. For a team, at least the principal investigator/team lead must fulfil all the above criteria. The principal investigator/team lead is the leader of the group who will sign all undertakings with ACENPEE, receive the grant, responsible for reporting, and who will face legal actions in the event of a breach. The AISGC selection committee reserves the right to review submissions on a case-by-case basis and make selection decisions. The licencing of technologies or the commercialization of research that is not the original work of the applicant(s) is prohibited. Competitors who promote illegal, illicit, unethical, immoral, or other types of activities that may be considered unworthy and against the regulations of the University shall be disqualified.

2.0 Objectives of the Competition

The AISGC is organised to achieve the following objectives:

1. To promote an entrepreneurial culture, AISGC will motivate staff and students by competing for prizes. The AISGC will advertise the competition widely through social media platforms, and on ACENPEE and ABU websites.

2. To identify and motivate future successful entrepreneurs that are highly motivated for long-term economic growth and impacts.
3. To promote specific enterprises that are most relevant for tackling societal problems especially those at the local community, such as green entrepreneurs that combat Climate change, social entrepreneurs that address crime and insecurity challenges, or Women entrepreneurs to promote gender equality.
4. To create market linkages and scale up small business opportunities, the competition can also be a strategic way of highlighting talents and giving visibility to outstanding business ideas. This can create market linkages between AISGC entrants and other entrepreneurs and investors, thereby allowing these entrepreneurs to start up or expand their businesses.
5. To promote AISGC winners as role models for upcoming entrepreneurs: The winners of the ISEC will inspire other people, especially young men and women, to become entrepreneurs by sharing their success stories. This will contribute to the overall objective of promoting entrepreneurship among staff and students of ABU.
6. To lay a foundation for a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem: Rather than putting the emphasis on the final prize; ACENPEE see the competition as a process through which the entrepreneurial ecosystem is developed in ABU.
7. To stimulate the development of intellectual property that can be patented and commercialised and enhance ABU's reputation as a hub for innovation and entrepreneurship.

3.0 The Target Groups

The target group for the AISGC grant are young staff and registered students of Ahmadu Bello University who have ideas that can be commercialized or prototype inventions that fits to the improvement of engineering education and anchored to the four ACENPEE focus engineering disciplines viz Chemical, Civil, Mechanical, and Water Resources and Environmental Engineering. Entries can be made on an individual or team basis. The maximum number of students per team will be five. Students' start-ups, emerging enterprises, or established enterprises covering priority sectors (green entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship, women's entrepreneurship, construction, tourism, waste management, etc) will be supported.

4.0 Sponsorship and Partnerships

The AISGC will be sponsored by ACENPEE. For sustainability and expansion of the seed grant, ACENPEE will partner with other relevant stakeholders that are known to be promoters of entrepreneurship in Nigeria and the diaspora. These partners may include the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (SMEDAN), the Bank of Industry (BOI), Innov8 Hub Abuja, the Opolo Innovation Hub, the Development Bank of Nigeria (DBN), and the World Bank *et cetera*.

The AISGC committee will develop a budget that will cover the different costs associated with the organization of AISGC and identify which cost items might be covered through different types of sponsorships by the above-mentioned organizations.

Up-front expenses to start raising awareness about the competition and to start attracting sponsorships are as follows:

1. Developing the “look and feel” of the AISGC through graphical design
2. Conception of promotional materials such as bulletins, flyers, and posters
3. Outreach activities and registration process.

Setting up the promotional materials and outreach activities might require additional costs, especially with regards to disseminating information about the competition and announcement of the winners. ACENPEE will use social media platforms, notice boards, lecture periods, and students’ platforms to achieve wide coverage.

5.0 Eligibility

1. The contesting staff must be a confirmed staff of ABU.
2. Contesting students must be duly registered in the session in which the competition is being organized. The concept and venture must demonstrate Student management and ownership but under the supervision of a staff.
3. Individuals or teams of no more than five Students may submit a concept.
4. No person can be a team lead in more than one team or a member of more than two teams. Teams must be present in person at the AISGC finals. Teams can be interdisciplinary, led by an engineering, technology, computer science, or any other Student, and must be endorsed by their Faculty where the leading Student is registered. Team members who are not present at the AISGC finals will not receive any prizes.
5. Concepts must be the original work of the applicant(s) who comprise the team. The licencing of technologies or the commercialization of research that is not the original work of the student team is prohibited.

6.0 Confidentiality and Intellectual Property

All submitted information is deemed the property of the participating individuals or teams and any licensors. AISGC judges and staff do not need to sign non-disclosure agreements. Teams are strongly encouraged to not provide any specifics or details that are considered to be intellectual property.

7.0 Conflict of Interest Statement

No judge, volunteer, or competition staff member may have any vested interest, equity stake, or financial stake in any of the finalist ventures. Any of the previously listed parties that stand to gain financially or otherwise from the success of any finalist venture or idea are strictly prohibited. Any such associations will result in the disqualification of the team and/or the removal of that individual from his or her associated position with the competition.

8.0 Evaluation Criteria

Each submission will be assessed based on the following criteria:

1. **Problem:** It is shown that there is a significant need or problem that the project is trying to solve. A need or problem is a situation in which it is possible to make improvements to existing conditions.
2. **Solution:** The innovation is shown to solve a significant problem. The product, service, technology, or process solves at least one aspect of the need or problem.
3. **Innovation:** Clarity that the solution is unique in terms of concept, technology, or accessibility. The project (product, service, technology, or process) differs from other

solutions that try to solve the problem in terms of features, user accessibility, or other aspects.

4. **Impact:** Should provide an estimated significant number of people/potential users who have the problem that the project will solve and describe common characteristics based on a reliable source such as government, industry association, prior research, *et cetera*.
5. **Feasibility:** The submission must demonstrate that the concept is achievable within a reasonable time frame (SMART).
6. **Monitoring and evaluation:** Plans for effective assessment of the progress of execution of the project within the approved time frame must be clearly stated.
7. **Passion:** Strong conviction and commitment to the project will be evaluated from the submission and style of the presentation in terms of eloquence, enthusiasm, and clarity.
8. **Business Model:** There must be a clearly proposed path to the establishment and sustainable running of the business to grow it into a profitable venture.
9. **Management Capability:** Each contestant(s) must show their managerial capability based on experience or plans for the submission. Team contestant(s) must show what each member will contribute to the venture.

9.0 Submission Requirements

All submitted work must be the original work of the team members. Any submission that does not meet these requirements will be disqualified.

- AISGC submissions will be through the application form provided.
 - Completed forms with ALL fields filled should be converted and submitted as a single PDF document.

- AISGC submissions are also required to include a video pitch.
 - The video pitch should have a minimum length of 3 minutes and a maximum length of 5 minutes.

10.0 Calendar

The AISGC will take place every academic session. A one-month period will be used for the entire exercise. The precise dates will be determined by ACENPEE Management. The competition will be followed based on the order below:

- Call for submission of applications
- Evaluation of applications
- Shortlisting and invitations to participate in the competition
- Submission of the video pitch
- Physical presentations by selected applicants
- Announcement of winners

The ISEC will have two rounds: the application, screening, qualifying, and final presentation rounds. All applications that are completed in all aspects, along with the required attachments and uploads, will go through a screening process to select the top 20 team applications for the final presentation round. The screening shall be conducted by a panel constituted by ACENPEE. The final presentation round will be planned as an in-person presentation or pitching round and will be a part of the ISEC final to be held at the main campus of the University. This may be held virtually in case the situation demands. The pitch evaluation and selection of winners will be done by a jury panel constituted by ACENPEE. All team members need to be in attendance during the pitch

session. Each team will be given 10 minutes to pitch in front of the jury panel and the audience. There will be 5 minutes reserved for the jury Q&A. The jury will evaluate and score the pitches and select the top three winners who will be eligible for prize money.

11.0 Patenting

The winners must develop prototypes and work towards patent applications. The university's Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office will provide guidance in the patenting process. Ahmadu Bello University Zaria reserved the right to all prototype for all the winning projects.



AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA
Africa Centre of Excellence on New Pedagogies
in Engineering Education
(ACENPEE)



Vice Chancellor: Professor Kabiru Bala B.Sc (Hons) Building, M.Sc (Bldg. Serv.), PhD (Const. Mgt), MBA, (ABU), FNIOB, MAPM, MCABE, C.Bldg E, MICI Arb
Centre Director: Professor Raymond B. Bako *B.A Ed. (ABU), M.Ed., PhD (Unijos), Fulbright Maryland, Eng. Educ. (Pullman) Course Design (MIT), IVLP, MPEAN*

24th November 2023

The Vice Chancellor,
Ahmadu Bello University,

Zaria.

Dear Sir,

NOTICE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Africa Centre of Excellence on New Pedagogies in Engineering Education (ACENPEE) is pleased to inform the Vice Chancellor of the establishment of “ABU Innovator of the Year Award”, under requirements for DLI 5.3. The yearly award is to be given to four outstanding students and staff members who have translated world-class research into an invention or innovation that benefits humankind. The annual nomination process will take place every October and is open to students and staff across all campuses of ABU. The winner shall be judged based on number of patents and/or number of commercialised products. Each award shall be comprised of a Plaque, a Certificate, and a sum of ₦1,000,000. The selection will be conducted by a selection committee and ratified by the ACENPEE management team. The awards shall be given at a ceremony organized by ACENPEE for that purpose.

Award Guidelines

Eligibility

Eligible nominees are registered students and ABU staff who have made substantial progress towards patenting and commercializing their innovations.

We seek to recognize work developed or completed at ABU that has come into existence relatively recently (within the past 2 years); successful innovations must have advanced on the path to development *i.e.* patented, close to market, or currently on sale.

All disciplines and fields, as well as social, business, and teaching model innovations, are welcome.

Team efforts may be eligible if all team members sign a non-conflict statement.

Faculty, staff, and students may submit nominations. Self-nominations are allowed.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be judged on the following criteria:

A strong ABU Story: Was the technology or innovation developed or created while at ABU? Preference will be given to technologies or innovations developed from work conceived and mostly carried out at ABU.

Impact: How many people will the technology or innovation affect? To what degree? How do you measure this impact?

Nomination Process

Nominations will be submitted using an online form and containing articulated descriptions of the commercial value of the technology or innovation. The following components are required:

A: Patents stream (2 Awards)

1. List of patents registered including the certificates as supporting documents
2. Summary of technology or innovation
3. Status of product's dissemination
4. Brief (500 word or 3,000 character) description of the commercialisation relevance/potential
5. Impact of invention or discovery on society.

B: Product commercialisation stream (2 Awards)

1. List of products commercialised including the certificates of approval from relevant regulatory agency as supporting documents
2. Summary of technology or innovation
3. Status of product's market penetration
4. Brief (500 word or 3,000 character) description of work commercialized or currently in the process of commercialisation
5. Impact of product or discovery on society.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Raymond Bako
Centre Director, ACENPEE

ACENPEE Innovation Seed Grant Competition (AISGC)
Funding Scheme Guideline and Application Form
(MAXIMUM FUNDING: ₦2,000,000.00)

This document must be used when applying for **Internal Seed Funds** for Entrepreneurship.

1.0 AISGC applications will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- 1.1. All funding applications are to be aligned to entrepreneurship/commercialization/business establishment and focused on ACENPEE's Research Priority Area/s.
- 1.2. All applications are to be submitted by staff or students as individual contestants or **team** comprised of not more than 5 people from ABU.
- 1.3. Maximum funding for each prize is Two Million Naira (₦2,000,000.00) only.
- 1.4. All applications are to include a project plan for completion within **twelve months**.
- 1.5. All funding applications should provide clear details of how this project will develop a business including:
 - 1.5.1. A plan for evaluation of the business
 - 1.5.2. If needed, an identified partnership for future expansion.
- 1.6. A clear justification for each AISGC finance approved cost item to be included in the budget section.
- 1.7. All funding applications to clearly indicate the significance of the business.
- 1.8. All seed funding applications are to be approved by ACENPEE.
- 1.9. The AISGC funding does not support purchase of car/vehicle.
- 1.10. Professors do not qualify for AISGC Lead applicants. However, student applications could be a joint application with supervisors who may be a Professor.
- 1.11. This is not a scholarship to fund school fees.
- 1.12. A signed electronic copy of the application must be submitted as a single PDF document incorporating the Application Form and all attachments to the Centre leader, ACENPEE.
- 1.13. All researchers must comply with the ABU Research Ethics and Intellectual Property Policy.
- 1.14. Recipients must remain affiliated with ABU for the duration of the funding period.

2.0 Applications will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- 2.1. Originality and creativity.
- 2.2. Value for money – a clearly defined budget with justification aligned to the research

design.

2.3. Entrepreneurial potential.

2.4. Expected acceptability by end users and potentials for profits.

SECTION 1: PROJECT TEAM DETAILS

Lead Applicant:

1.1 Name:				
1.2 Faculty:				
1.3 ID/Reg. Number:				
1.4 Position:				
1.5 Department:				
1.6 Email Address:				
1.7 Team member Details:	Name	College	ID/Reg. Number	Email Address
1.7.1 Team member/s (Internal):				
1.8.2 Team members/s (External):				
1.9 Lead Applicant's Major Supervisor:				

1.10 Please state the roles and responsibilities of each team member. Clearly and precisely include relevant experience of the lead applicant.

SECTION 2: PREVIOUS INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL FUND RECEIVED

Year	Title of Project	Project Code	Amount	Status of Project

SECTION 3: PROPOSED PROJECT DETAILS			
3.1 Title of Project:			
3.2 Duration of the Project <i>(maximum 12 months):</i>			
Start Date:		End Date:	

SECTION 4: RESEARCH PRIORITY AREA(S) <i>(check relevant box)</i>	
Innovation Priority Areas	
4.1 Engineering Education	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.2 Chemical Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.3 Civil Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4 Mechanical Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.5 Water Resources and Environmental Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 5: PROJECT PROPOSAL <i>(In no more than five pages of 12-point font text, provide a convincing case for the proposed research project, completing all sections below.)</i>
<p>5.1 Project Summary: <i>(In 100 to 150 words provide a summary of the project.)</i></p>
<p>5.2 Proposed plan of activities and outcomes (2 pages maximum) provide details of the project using the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.2.1 Project scope, problem, and nature of innovation 5.2.2 Project framework/design 5.2.3 Key activities and timelines 5.2.4 Expected results and outcomes
<p>5.3 National Benefits: <i>(Provide a detailed description in half a page of the specific, immediate, and long-term benefits of the outcome of the innovation/business)</i></p>

5.4 References:

SECTION 6: ETHICS APPROVAL

6.1 Is Ethics approval required for this project?

Yes No

6.2 If yes, have you applied for review to the ABU Ethics Committee?

Yes No

6.3 Describe measures to ensure effective monitoring and evaluation:

6.4 Is there any conflict of interest with the objectives of the project? If yes, please specify?

(e.g. affiliation with or financial involvement in, any organisation or entity with a direct interest in the subject matter or materials of researchers, including personal or family relationships)

SECTION 7: BUDGET

(List each item separately and provide evidence and justification for the cost. Any budget item that is not clearly detailed with justification will be returned for further information.)

Overall Budget Summary: List cost items, amount, and justification.

Items	Amount (total	Justification
Travel Cost <i>(if required):</i>		

Other (please specify):		
Total: should not exceed ₦2,000,000		

SECTION 8: RISK MANAGEMENT

8.1 All key project risks including mitigation strategies should be identified as part of risk management:

SECTION 9: DECLARATION FROM RESEARCH TEAM

9.1 In submitting this application, the applicant(s) bear full responsibility for carrying out the activity.

9.2 The requested funds do not supplement or duplicate a project activity supported by another current internal/external grant or contract.

9.3 All project team members have consulted with their supervisors and have the time and basic infrastructure resources to pursue the project concerned, within the context of existing research, teaching and higher degree supervision responsibilities.

Name	Signature	Date
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9.4 Principal Investigator(s):

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9.5 Co-Investigator(s):

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9.6 Higher Degree by Research Candidate:

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9.7 Major Supervisor(s):		

SECTION 10: APPROVALS

10.1 Head of Department Comments:

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

10.2 AISGC Selection Committee Comments:

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ACENPEE Centre Director USE ONLY

Comments:

Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____