



FASC

**Federation of African
Societies of Chemistry**

FASC Newsletter 4, May 2023

This coming month Commonwealth Chemistry (CC) will meet in Trinidad and Tobago. Many FASC countries are also part of this community of chemical societies. A report on the CCAGM and the event, geared to Emerging Chemical Scientists from all over the world will be given in the next newsletter. The launch of the newly formed Chemical Society of Lesotho took place on the 28th April and a report will also be given in the next newsletter

Neil Coville.

Content

ABOUT FASC

- FASC website
- FASC membership and invoices
- Advertising in the FASC newsletter

CHEMISTRY NEWS

- FASC Executive Committee
- i) Profile of the FASC co-opted member: Dr Lydia Rhyman (Mauritius)
- African Chemical Societies and other news
- i) Ethiopia: installation of LC-MS/MS system
- ii) South Africa: Upcoming ZOOM talk by Dr Rhyman: "Do's and don'ts in Research"
- African Academy of Sciences – new Fellows and Affiliates in the Chemical Sciences
- i) Fellow: Prof Eno Ebenso (South Africa)
- ii) Affiliate: Dr Olasunkanmi (Nigeria)
- Emerging Chemist's news
- i) Applications for African students to study in South Africa
- ii) African Early Career Scientists (FACES) African Early Career Chemists Workshop & 8th ACS Nigeria International Chapter Symposium
- iii) The Global Conversation on Sustainability (IUPAC Report)
- iv) Young Scientists' Conference, Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development (South Africa)
- v) 7th African School on Electronic Structure Methods and Applications - ASESMA 2023 |
- vi) 15th Green Chemistry Postgraduate Summer School
- Royal Society of Chemistry News
- i) Hands-on NMR Training Workshop , Kenya
- African Journals of Chemistry
- i) African Journal of Chemical Education
- CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS (Africa)
- West Africa

Nigeria

46th International Conference, Nigerian Chemical Society

8th Annual Symposium of the Nigerian International Chapter of the American Chemical Society

- **North Africa**

Tunisia

OCC and SEPM conference, Tunisian Chemical Society

Algeria

1st International conference on Environment Technologies and Sustainable Energy (ICETSE2023)

- **Southern Africa**

Mauritius.

Virtual Conference on Chemistry and its Applications (VCCA-2023)

South Africa

CATSA 2023; Catalysis Society of South Africa

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS (International)

i) Energy Solutions for Africa (ZOOM)

ii) 7th African School on Electronic Structure Methods and Applications - ASESMA 2023|(smr 3847)

ii) Biophysics in Africa conference,

DETAILED CONFERENCE INFORMATION

See FASC website for data on conferences <https://www.faschem.org/>

ABOUT FASC**FASC website**

The FASC website is now up and functioning. Information on the FASC history, the updated FASC constitution, old copies of the newsletter, copies of the African Journal of Chemistry etc., has been loaded onto the site. <https://www.faschem.org/>

FASC membership and invoices**Payment of fees**

Online payment is now available to all Members and Societies

Please email fasc.chem@wits.ac.za and request an online payment link – Note it will be in ZAR. The Equivalent daily rate will be used when the payment link is created. You can enter card details via a safe site.

Mrs Laila Smith

Membership Fees

Please apply online: http://www.faschem.org/contact/membership_application

Information for the newsletter

Please send all information to Laila Smith (fasc@wits.ac.za), Emmanuel C. Ohaekenyem (ec.ohaekenyem@unizik.edu.ng) or to me (neil.coville@wits.ac.za)

Laila has placed all earlier newsletters on the FASC website (<http://www.faschem.org/>).

Advertising in the FASC newsletter

The newsletter will provide a means of getting messages to our member countries. This newsletter thus provides a means of advertising employment opportunities, conferences and workshops, and even for companies/Universities to promote themselves. We encourage member countries to use the Newsletter for advertising purposes. All conferences and events will be advertised for free; if not a FASC country, there could be a small charge. For advertising costs, contact the FASC office in South Africa: laila.smith@saci.cac.za

CHEMISTRY NEWS

FASC news



- i) **FASC co-opted member:** Dr Lydia Rhyman (Mauritius); represents the Southern African region



Dr Lydia Rhyman is a researcher in the Computational Chemistry Group of the University of Mauritius, Mauritius and the University of Johannesburg, South Africa. She is also working as a part-time lecturer. She was awarded a PhD in Computational Chemistry in 2013. Her research interest lies in the use of Computational Chemistry to solve chemistry and interdisciplinary problems. To date she has 135 publications, 4 book chapters and 1 patent. She is an Affiliate of the African Academy of Sciences, a member of the Royal Society of Chemistry, a Global Young Academy member and a Fellow of the African Science Leadership Programme. She is involved in promoting Computational Chemistry in Africa and science education and she also raises awareness on responsible research practices and integrity. She is active in the organisation of conferences, seminars, workshops and outreach activities.

African Chemical Societies and Other News

i) Ethiopia – installation of LC-MS/MS system

A refurbished LC-MS/MS has been installed in the Chemistry Department, AAU with the help of Dr. Giles Edwards from the Recycling Organization for Research Operations (RORO). He spent one week together with his son Deri in Addis Ababa during the installation (April-5-11, 2023). Five PhD students were trained on the operation of the instrument. Special thanks goes to the RSC and PACN-who have supported this project.



Photo: Giles giving a presentation; Dr Chebude looking at the camera

Thanks again to the Waters Corporation for the donation of a Quattro Premier and Acquity LC-MS system to the Recycling Organisation for Research Opportunities who successfully installed it in the school of #chemistry at the Addis Ababa University in #ethiopia. This was part funded by the Royal Society of Chemistry Pan African Chemistry Network #pacn. The instrumentation had been waiting for us in Addis since before COVID, and somehow managed to get lost during air freight in Saudi Arabia for more than 6 months which was a little stressful.. However, everything is working well. This system is apparently the only working LC-MS in the whole country. Thanks again to everyone who has supported this project in developing one of the key RSC PACN hubs in Africa which will be available soon to train more African scientists from across the continent. Our hosts Dr Estefanos Ele and Prof Yonas Chebude were amazing, we even got to visit Shashamene.

Dr Yonas Chebude

Federation of African
Societies of Chemistry

ii) **South Africa: Talk by Dr Rhyman**

You are cordially invited to attend the following online lecture:

DO'S AND DON'TS IN RESEARCH

BY

DR LYDIA RHYMAN

UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS, MAURITIUS

AND THE UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA



Research is a systematic process aiming at contributing or discovering new knowledge. The strategy used to carry out research is generally based on the scientific method. This leads to the concept of research cycle which involves the following steps: identification of a research area, designation of a research study, carrying out the research, analysis of the results and publication of the research results. In addition to these, there are several ethical issues and good research practices which a researcher needs to consider in each of the steps. This presentation will provide an in-depth understanding of the research cycle and will outline the dos and don'ts in research.

During this talk our esteemed speaker Dr Lydia Rhyman, will share her knowledge and expertise on the topic, covering key aspects of publishing such as selecting the right journal or repository, and formatting and organising your data.

Whether you are a graduate student, postdoctoral researcher or seasoned scientist, this talk will provide valuable insights and practical tips to help you successfully publish your work.

Date: 9 May 2023**Time:** 18h00 SA time (the Zoom link will open from 17h45)

Delegates can register to attend the Zoom meeting at:

<https://eu01web.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5Mkd-6qgDgtH9AqtlapWIDjVBf1iEWGKAaJ>

For more information contact:

Prof Patricia Forbes at patricia.forbes@up.ac.za

or Dr Thishana Singh at SinghT1@ukzn.ac.za



Federation of African Societies of Chemistry

African Academy of Sciences – new Fellows and Affiliates in the Chemical Sciences

- i) **Prof Eno Ebenso.** A number of new Fellows have been elected to the AAS in 2023



Eno E. Ebenso

University of South Africa

Discipline: Chemical Sciences

Prof Ebenso obtained his PhD in Physical Chemistry from the University of Calabar, Nigeria and has been lecturing in the university system since 1990. He started his university teaching career at the University of Calabar, Nigeria. He was the Acting Vice Rector (Research and Planning) and the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences at the entire North-West University in South Africa – Dec 31st 2019. He then took up appointment as Research Professor at the University of South Africa (1st Feb 2021 till date).

- ii) **Dr. Olasunkanmi (Nigeria) AAS Affiliate (2022-2026)**



Dr. Olasunkanmi is a physical chemist with special research interests in electrochemical corrosion and theoretical quantum chemical calculations. He applies both experimental techniques and computational chemistry approaches to formulating new materials as corrosion inhibitors. He is a leading researcher in corrosion inhibition research in Nigeria. His research also extends to molecular and electronic structure calculations with the view to designing new materials with fascinating physical and chemical properties. He is engaged in translational research in formulation of eco-friendly, cost-effective and efficient corrosion inhibitor solutions. He has made significant contributions to research in his chosen area. He has supervised and mentored a number of postgraduate students. He was elected as an AAS Fellow for his immense contributions to research on inhibition of metals/alloys corrosion through experimental and computational studies.

(taken from AAS website).

Emerging Chemists' News

i) Applications for African students to study in South Africa

The Mandela Institute for Development Studies (MINDS) has partnered with the National Research Foundation (NRF) to support doctoral applicants from African countries other than South Africa that are intending to study full-time at a South African public university in the 2024 academic year.

The eligibility criteria for the NRF-MINDS Doctoral Scholarship:

- Be a citizen of an African country other than SA, residing in any African country;
- Be thirty two (32) years of age or younger on 31 December in the year of application for the doctoral scholarship; and
- Be intending to pursue full-time doctoral studies with effect from the following academic year of the year of application at a SA public university.

Applications for the NRF- MINDS Doctoral Scholarship open: April 2023
 Application deadline: 11 July 2023. Funding outcome: 22 December 2023
 Applications for the NRF- MINDS Doctoral Scholarship must be submitted on: <https://nrconnect.nrf.ac.za> under NRF Postgraduate Scholarships (Refer to the call documents for further information)

CONTACT DETAILS

NRF: Busisiwe Sibiyi
 BG.Sibiyi@nrf.ac.za
 +27 12 481 4166
www.nrf.ac.za

MINDS: Sarah Kombasa
 skombasa@minds-africa.org
www.minds-africa.org




ii) African Early Career Scientists (FACES) African Early Career Chemists Workshop & 8th ACS Nigeria International Chapter Symposium June 4-8, 2023, Ibom E-Library Conference Centre, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. FACES <https://acsnigeria.org/meetings-events>



CONTACT
 DR. NNANKE-ABASI O. OFFIONG (LOC CHAIR)
 E-mail: nnoffiong@topfaith.edu.ng; +234 803 061 9718
 DR. OLUSEUN ELIZABETH POPOOLA (CO-VISITOR)
 E-mail: oluseun.popoola@yabatech.edu.ng

Supporting/Collaborating Organizations



iii) The Global Conversation on Sustainability

Since 25 September 2022, the International Younger Chemists Network (IYCN) and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) are jointly organizing the Global Conversation on Sustainability (GCS, <https://www.gcs-day.org>) in an annual fashion. This day has been chosen because it marks the anniversary of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

Report: CHEMISTRY International April-June 2023 Volume 45 No. 2
 by Juliana L. Vidal and João Borges

iv) **Young Scientists' Conference**, Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development; Thohoyandou, University of Venda, 12-13 June 2023.

Organised by the South African Young Academy of Science (SAYAS), the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) and the University of Venda. Email: kholani@assaf.org.za

v) **7th African School on Electronic Structure Methods and Applications - ASESMA 2023** | (smr 3847) 12-23 Jun 2023; Kigali - Rwanda

The School will include hands-on tutorial sessions based on public license codes (including, but not limited to, the Quantum Espresso package). There is no registration fee.

Kitso F. Marape, Administrator, African Materials Research Society Secretariat, www.africanmrs.net

vi) **15th Green Chemistry Postgraduate Summer School**. 5th-7th July 2023, Venezia, Italy. <https://www.greenchemistry.school/programme/>

Royal Society of Chemistry News



i) **Hands-on NMR Training Workshop: 31st July to 4th August 2023**

The University of Nairobi, Faculty of Science and Technology, Department of Chemistry, Chiromo Campus, Kenya

Applications are invited for the above training course from researchers, lecturers, technicians, MSc. and Ph.D. students in the chemical sciences from universities and research institutions across the East and Central Africa region. The workshop is fully sponsored.

The training workshop will focus on the theoretical and practical aspects of the NMR among others:

1. Introduction to NMR Spectroscopy
2. Theory of NMR Spectroscopy
3. Applications of NMR
4. ¹H NMR spectroscopy: Chemical Shifts and Spin-Spin Splitting
5. Applications of ¹H NMR spectroscopy
6. ¹³C NMR spectroscopy - Chemical Shifts, DEPT, APT
7. Applications of ¹³C NMR spectroscopy
8. Introduction to two-dimensional NMR Spectroscopy
9. Applications of 2D NMR spectroscopy
10. Acquisition, Processing and Interpretations of NMR data
11. NMR in qualitative and quantitative analysis

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 15th April 2023

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7036644297437265920/>

Dr Andrew Shore MRSC, Senior Programme Manager, Pan Africa Chemistry Network (PACN)

African Journals of Chemistry

i) **African Journal of Chemical Education (FASC)**

Enquiries and manuscripts should be addressed to the Editor-in-Chief: email eic@faschem.org, PO Box 2305, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Dr. Temechegn Engida e-mail: temechegne@faschem.org

- See the FASC website for a complete list of Journals

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS (Africa)

West Africa

Nigeria

- **46th International Conference, Nigerian Chemical Society**, Awka, Nigeria 17-22 September 2023

Attachment at the end of the newsletter

- **8th Annual Symposium of the Nigerian International Chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS)**. Uyo, Nigeria, June 4-8, 2023. More details at: <https://acsnigeria.org/meetings-events/>.

North Africa

Tunisia

Algeria

- **1st International conference on Environment Technologies and Sustainable Energy (ICETSE2023)**, October 17-18 2023 Tipaza, Algeria www.icetse.crapc.dz

Southern Africa

Mauritius.

- **Virtual Conference on Chemistry and its Applications (VCCA-2023)** 7 to 11 August 2023.

Theme: Chemistry and Interdisciplinary Research towards SDGs;

website: <https://sites.google.com/uom.ac.mu/vcca-2023>

South Africa

- **CATSA 2023**, Catalysis Society of South Africa, Mossel Bay, South Africa. 14–17th November 2023

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS (International)

Upcoming events with dates

ii) **Energy Solutions for Africa**. In conjunction with The African Materials Research Society, African Research Universities Alliance' Centre of Excellence - Materials, Energy and Nanotechnology invites you to send an abstract of up to 300 words for their online Mini Conference taking place online Mini on Zoom at 09:00 am, on the 17th May 2023 (All times are in GMT +2 or South African Time Zone) under the Theme:

The conference is targeted at all scientists and researchers interested in materials, energy and nanotechnology, and will give you a chance to present your work online, and possibly help to obtain interest and some collaborations. The purpose of this virtual conference is to facilitate the exchange

of ideas and advancements among researchers and students regarding the provision of sustainable energy to various regions in Africa. **FREE REGISTRATION**

Kitso F. Marape, Administrator, African Materials Research Society Secretariat, Botswana,
www.africanmrs.net

iii) **7th African School on Electronic Structure Methods and Applications - ASESMA 2023**(smr 3847) 12-23 June 2023; Kigali Rwanda

[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://indico.ictp.it/event/10181_!!DZ3fjg!4iYMUFQq1piknRS8Q2Kz5XrH0A--ZSdMBfR9RBRg5T4k6RakjTr764ysY7ohdro_16p4kPjMB1at48kpfK0\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://indico.ictp.it/event/10181_!!DZ3fjg!4iYMUFQq1piknRS8Q2Kz5XrH0A--ZSdMBfR9RBRg5T4k6RakjTr764ysY7ohdro_16p4kPjMB1at48kpfK0$)

iv) **Biophysics in Africa conference**, Zoom Conference : 2 - 5 May 2023,

<https://biophysics2023.africanlightsource.org/>; <https://events.saip.org.za/event/238/>



FASC

Federation of African Societies of Chemistry