

**ISCEST NEWS**

is produced quarterly.

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# ISCEST NEWS

Issue 4

December 2022

## A Heart-warming Welcome for His Excellency Kabine Komara!

Founding President of ISCEST, Professor Steve Azaiki OON, extended a heart-warming welcome to His Excellency Kabine Komara, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Guinea. The exchange was at the recently concluded ISCEST 3rd Virtual and 9th Annual International Conference. His Excellency Komara was the Guest of Honour at the Opening Ceremony.

HE Kabine Komara expressed his gratitude to Professor Azaiki and the organisers of the conference for the timely hosting of such an event. He made particular reference to the conference theme which is: **Rethinking Sustainable Education for Sustainability in a Pandemic Age**. HE considers the focus an appropriate one since education is "a sector that is very challenged on our continent (*Africa*); yet it holds the key to the sustainable development of any nation or region". This view is linked to Goals 8, 9 and 10 of the 2030 sustainable development goals. (Read his summation on Page 7.)



Professor Steve Azaiki & HE Kabine Komara



Guest of Honour HE Kabine Komara

### Publish Your Research Paper in CSCEST!



Current Studies in Comparative Education, Science and Technology (CSCEST) is ISCEST's Official Journal. The journal promotes interdisciplinary studies in education, science and technology. It publishes original research and papers that discuss, analyse or evaluate policies, or those that disclose relevant gaps in existing research. For more information on paper submission please visit <http://www.journal.iscest.org/>.

## An Opening Ceremony that Set the Pace

The Opening Ceremony of the 2022 ISCEST conference took place on Wednesday 30th November 2022. The Chair of the proceedings was **Professor Sheikh Abdullah OON**, former Minister of Agriculture of Nigeria, Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Igbinedion University, Okada Town, Edo State Nigeria. Following the Welcome Address by ISCEST President, Dr Nedie Akani, was a well-delivered and well-received presentation by **Abdulkadir Hassan**, President of the Sweet Potato Forum, on the topic **Sweet Potato, the Gold Mine**.

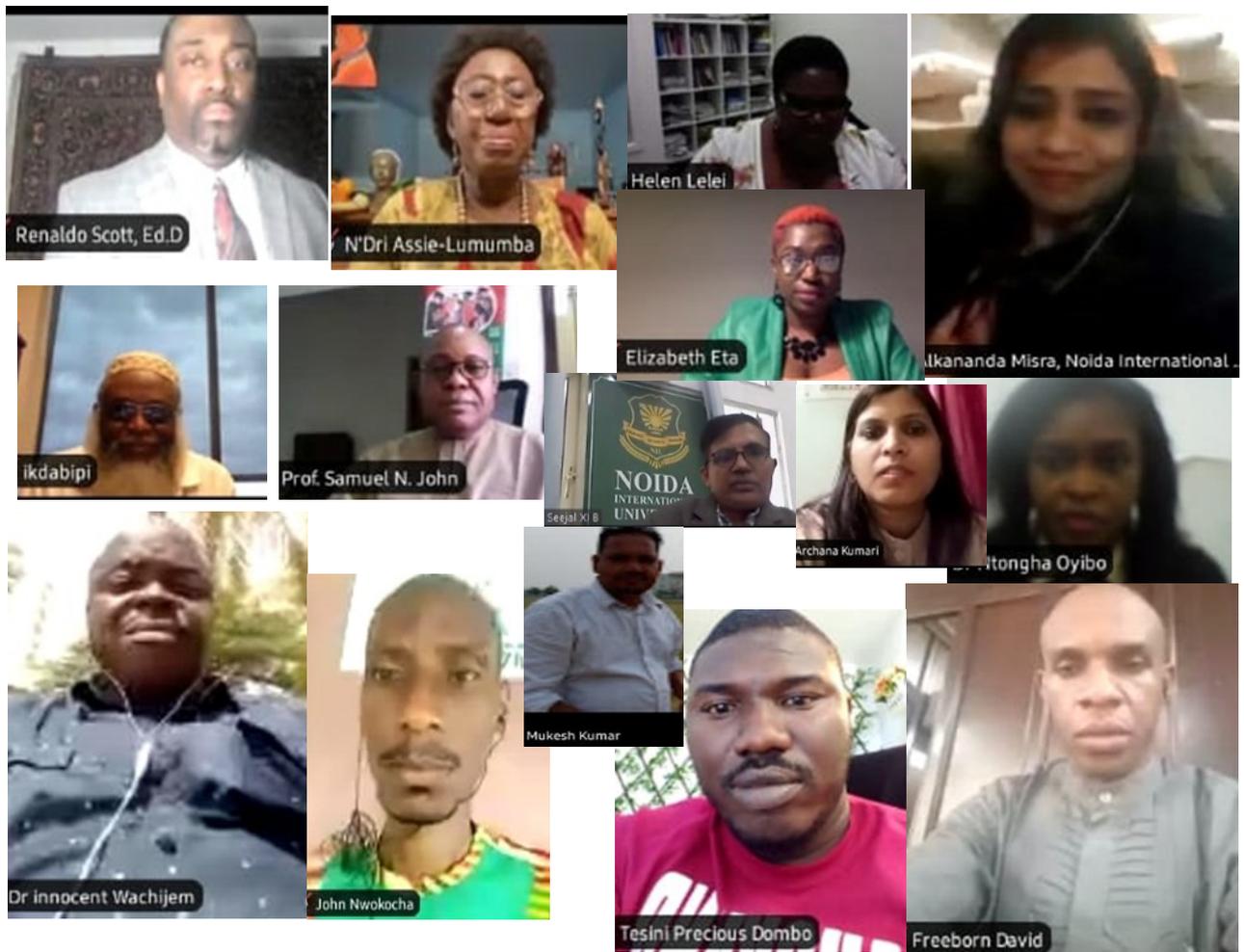
Attendees were treated to Remarks & Goodwill Messages from **Professor N'Dri Assie-Lumumba**, President of the World Council of Comparative Education Society (WCCES); **Professor Joseph Ajenka**, Professor of Petroleum Engineering, University of Port Harcourt; **Professor (Dr) Uma Bhardwaj**, Vice Chancellor, Noida International University, India; **Dr Eta Elizabeth Eta**, University of Helsinki, Finland; **Dr Helen Lelei**, Western Sydney University, Australia; and **Dr Renaldo Scott**, University of Pennsylvania, USA.

**Professor Steve Azaiki** welcomed and introduced the Guest of Honour, **His Excellency Kabine Komara**, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Guinea.

Vote of thanks was presented by **Professor Matthew Wegwu**, Vice President, ISCEST and some closing remarks were given by President **Dr Nedie Akani**.

ISCEST was particularly pleased to welcome the WCCES President, **Professor N'Dri Assie-Lumumba**, who is an honorary member of ISCEST. A special welcome was also extended to **Professor (Dr) Uma Bhardwaj**, Vice Chancellor, Noida International University, India.

## Some Conference Attendees



## A Title that Stirred Up the Imagination!

**Education 4.0 for Industry 4.0** is the title that stirred up the imagination of the ISCEST 2022 Conference attendees. The paper was a keynote presentation given by Professor Joseph Ajienka. It was an excellent presentation that addressed a number of potent issues relating to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), the internationalisation of Higher Education (HE), publishing research work and entrepreneurial activities in HE, among others. This small entry is not enough to bring out the true essence of the presentation. Therefore, more of this presentation will appear in subsequent issues of ISCEST News. The introductory slides shown below, give a very good idea of what the presentation has covered.

## Education 4.0 fit for Industry 4.0 Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)



2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

J. A. Ajienka, *FNIPetE, FNSE, FAEng*

# Education 4.0

Industry 4.0  
 Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)  
 The New Knowledge Society; Knowledge Economy  
 Mainstream the SDGs into the Curriculum and Research Agenda  
 Learning through Nature Study  
 For True Humanity: Blending Science + The Arts  
 Internationalisation of Higher Education; Going Global & Green  
 Changing Paradigms:  
 From Publish or Perish to Patent, Publish, Produce  
 Partnership: Collaborate or Collapse  
 From Triple Helix to Triple Helix Plus+  
 Entrepreneurial Universities contributing to SD



## Keynoters' Abstracts



Professor Juliana Smith

### **Rethinking and exploring Sustainable Education for Sustainability in a Pandemic Age in the 21st Century: Implications for Education and Pedagogy**

Professor Juliana Maria Smith

**ABSTRACT:** The COVID-19 pandemic escalated the crisis in education contributing to a challenging life surrounding education demanding critical reflection, rethinking, and refocusing on existing curricula and pedagogy. In alignment with the conference theme, this paper presents an overview of how we ought to think about sustainable education for sustainable development in a pandemic age. Because education for educational development aims to empower the future generation to address current environment threats and meaningful implementation of sound educational policy and practice, a more critical understanding of sustainability is imperative. The aim of the paper is threefold. Firstly, it highlights global challenges and problems which permeated learning and teaching spaces which, in turn, necessitated a rethinking of educational planning at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Secondly, drawing on critical pedagogy, the paper discusses Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and its goal of sustainable development as transformative education identifying areas that need innovation. Lastly, recommendations are made for a transformative ESD that explore research avenues for critical insight into the future of pedagogy dependent on educational policy decisions impacting professional directions and an approach to curriculum as emancipatory. The future of sustainable education for sustainability is complex and uncertain, therefore its rethinking relies on vision and imagination.

### **Engaging Students in Project-Based Engineering Design - The Wind Tunnel Design in a Freshman Engineering Course**

**ABSTRACT:** With the need for hands-on training in engineering, the task of engraining critical thinking skills and team work in an era of COVID and its dynamics in the educational enterprise becomes an opportunity to explore different approaches to instigate learning objectives for a community of students at several institutions. The wind tunnel project is a NASA funded project where at the freshman level students are required to design a wind tunnel following the three principles of a client, designer and user of the product to develop group dynamics and a final product that meets the client objectives. This paper articulates the process and how independence given to the students to communicate with the client has impacted on the learning process.



Professor I K Dabipi

## Keynoters' Abstracts Cont'd

### Living at the Edge of Chaos

Professor David A. Turner

**ABSTRACT:** People live and work in precarious environments. They live on river flood plains, in the shadow of volcanoes, in areas subject to tropical storms, and on coastal plains ravaged by hurricanes. But the same environmental features that are life-threatening also secure the renewal of the fertility of the land that people depend on. It is not an accident that people live, in large numbers, in environments that are complex and chaotic. Those environments are subject to interlocking feedback loops that make prediction of the future extraordinarily difficult. The development of complexity theory is relatively very recent, and a way to understand such environments better.

Complexity leads to various strands of thought, ranging from self-regulating systems, such as Lovelock's notion of Gaia, to a heightened peril of unexpectedly extreme conditions arising from ordinary antecedents (the so-called 'butterfly effect'). This can make it difficult to interpret complexity theory in a way that is practically useful. In addition, there is the ironic conclusion that being better able to anticipate disaster can actually make the situation worse; if more people can live on a flood plain, then when a disaster eventually happens, many more people will be exposed to danger. This paper examines the double headed coin of disaster / opportunity through the application of complexity theory, with a particular emphasis on the need to re-think 'sustainability' in the light of the new science.



Professor David Turner

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### Education 4.0 for Industry 4.0

Professor Joseph Ajenka

**ABSTRACT:** The 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution comes through the convergence of technologies and data science. The confluence of big data, artificial intelligence and connectivity is leading to the emergence of new industries out of old industries. It coincides with the Age of Sustainable Development with the well-defined defined SDGs. The pandemic has also instigated change in the future of work and learning. As industry changes, education, which equips learners with knowledge, skills, attitude and values must also change. The very structure of the brain made up of the disproportionately large frontal intellectual brain, the cerebrum and the stunted intuitional back brain, the cerebellum, speaks to the lack of balance in the evolution of higher education. The lack of balance of art and science in the curriculum is due to our abandonment of Nature Study. There is art and science in everything in Nature. Proper understanding and adaptation to the Laws of Nature humanizes us. Education 4.0 is about Education for Sustainable Development in which the SDGs are mainstreamed into the research agenda and the curriculum, constantly renewed with new knowledge discovered through research. Education 4.0 equips graduates with competences fit for Industry 4.0, with university degrees, professional skills certifications and innovations.



Professor Joseph Ajenka

## Keynoters' Abstracts Cont'd



### The Nigerian Perspective on Technological Integration by Comparative Education Assessment

Prof. Samuel Ndueso John

**ABSTRACT:** The integration of technology into the education system has come to stay. Across all levels of education in Nigeria, there are elements of technology mixed with day-to-day teaching and learning activities. Educa-

tion in the connected world of today revolves around the appropriate and innovative use of technology to improve the learning experience of every student. The link between technology and education is a veritable tool for social and economic transformation. Technology is integrated into the education sector to improve the learning experience of students and produce graduates that are better equipped for the evolving marketplace. The challenge is how to measure Nigeria's technology integration progress via her education sector. The progress Nigeria has made with integrating technological advancements across multiple sectors of the economy can be gauged through a comparative study of her education sector with other nations of the world. The goal of this keynote speech is to inform through a process of comparing and contrasting the level of technological integration in the educational system of Nigeria and some other nations of the world. Comparative education in this context is a study of the role technology plays in the education of students in selected school systems from other nations of the world in comparison to what is obtainable in Nigeria. The comparative assessment is carried out on *curriculum, teaching strategies, perceptions, technology usage competence, and facilities*. The industrial partnership is an area where education systems in the developed world have a good comparative advantage over Nigeria. This will be analysed in acceptable detail in this lecture. The comparative study would help place education in Nigeria in the right perspective and provide information on the technologies that should be incorporated into the educational sector in the long and short-term plans. Nigeria must be able to continuously improve its use of technology in educating its teeming young population whose orientation and view about learning have radically been affected by recent innovations in technology. Regulatory bodies must make the necessary changes to the curriculum to ensure that technology becomes an integral part of the Nigerian educational sector and that; compared with her peers should not be lagging.



Mr Enifome with two students at the University Campus

### Enifome at ITRIE Week 2022!

Mr Emesakoru Enifome, Country Manager, Nigeria, M Square Media (MSM) represented M Square Media (MSM) Canada at the 2nd Baze University Information Technology, Research, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (ITRIE) Week 2022. The event took place at the University Campus in Abuja from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022. Mr Enifome took the opportunity to catch up with prospective science students who wish to co-create new tech solutions.

## A Wonderful Gesture!



Centre left— Professor Steve Azaiki OON; Centre right—Former Nigeria President, Goodluck Ebele Jonathan

Former President of Nigeria, Goodluck Ebele Azikiwe Jonathan GCFR, GCON, served as president from 2010 to 2015. ISCEST's 2022 conference planning committee had the Former President listed as one of the feature speakers for the Opening Ceremony. Unfortunately, the Former President was unable to attend the ceremony. Founding President Steve Azaiki OON and some other members of ISCEST met with the Former Nigerian President to brief him on what transpired at the 9<sup>th</sup> ISCEST Annual International Conference. What a wonderful gesture!

### Cont'd from Page 1

Indeed, several of the seven aspirations of Agenda 2063 of the African Union directly or indirectly emphasise the importance of education. This is the case, for example, of the first aspiration for a prosperous Africa based on “inclusive growth and sustainable development”. One of the actions to attain this aspiration is for there to be “well educated citizens” with skills “underpinned by science, technology and innovation.” The 2030 sustainable development goals (SDG) of the United Nations underline the same. Thus, Goal Number 4 is about “quality education”, while Goal 8 is on “decent work and economic growth”; Goal 9 is on “industry, innovation and infrastructure” and Goal 10 on “reduced inequalities”. Yet, in order to attain any of these three goals (8, 9 and 10), one must be trained and, in some cases, highly qualified



HE Kabine Komara

**(See the next issue of ISCEST News for the full speech.)**

## ISCEST Extends Heartiest Congratulations to Its Members!



Right: Dr. Ibinabo Ogolo  
PhD in Environmental Management and Control  
Rivers State University, Nigeria



Left: Dr. Solomon Ogbonna  
PhD in Public Health Microbiology  
Rivers State University, Nigeria



ISCEST Sec. General  
Dr. Janet Williams  
Associate Professor of  
Environmental/Industrial  
Microbiology  
Rivers State University,  
Nigeria

*Successful  
and unsuccessful people do not  
vary greatly*



Dr. Barisiale Suka Baranu  
PhD in Environmental Microbiology  
University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria

*in their abilities. They  
vary in their*



Dr Wachijem Innocent ibeyenwo  
PhD in Environmental Management and Control  
Rivers State University, Nigeria

*desires to  
reach their  
potential -*



Professor Boma Isabella Dambo  
Professor of Educational Technology  
Faculty of Education, Rivers State University,  
Nigeria

*John Maxwell  
well*

## **Congratulations from Founding President Professor Steve Azaiki**



President of the International Society of Comparative Education, Science & Technology Nigeria, ISCEST Professor Nedie Patience Akani has officially been promoted to the rank of Professor. She is Professor of Public Micro Biology, Rivers State University. I congratulate a very capable woman of capacity and capability who is currently the President of the International Society of Comparative Education, Science & Technology Nigeria, ISCEST. We are very proud of your leadership and accomplishments. I pray God to help you reach out to the stars. Congratulations!



Professor Steve Azaiki

***HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARDEES FROM THE ISCEST FAMILY!***



## Beyond Formal Education!



Founding President of ISCEST, Professor Steve Azaiki OON was the proud host of the 16th December 2022 event that featured **Miss Universe Nigeria, Iribhogbe Hannah Onosetale**. Miss Universe Nigeria will represent Nigeria at the 71st Miss Universe Competition, which takes place on Saturday 14th January 2023 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

Even before ISCEST's inauguration in 2014, founding members have recognised and accepted that education had a massive role to play outside of the 'four walls' of given institutions. Attendees to ISCEST's up until 2019, can testify to the benefits gained from the many additional activities that complemented the formal conference proceedings.

The ISCEST family takes this opportunity to congratulate its Founding President for hosting the Miss Universe Nigeria. May ISCEST continue to encourage and support all those who are seeking to grow and develop as participating citizens in their nations.

## Cont'd from Page 8



Okafor Onyedika Ifeanyi  
Silver medalist in the Delta 2022 National sports festival in Taekwondo heavyweight division  
Lecturer  
Applied Microbiology and Brewing Department  
Nnamdi Azikiwe University AWKA, Nigeria.



Name: Asikiya Huldah Hanson  
Affiliation: Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni, Port Harcourt  
Milestone Achievement:: 25th Wedding Anniversary

## Attend International Education Conferences!

# ICSE

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

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<https://www.conference.differentartcentre.com/>

XXI BCES Annual International Conference

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quired to Build New and Better Education Systems

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## An Open Letter of Thanks

Dear Conference Participants & Attendees

It is with great pleasure that I am using this medium to say a big **THANK YOU** to all participants and attendees of the 2022 ISCEST Conference, which was held from 30th November to 2nd December 2022. This 3rd Virtual, and 9th Annual International conference, was a great success.



Professor Nedie Akani

I am fully aware that the full commitment, regular collaboration and team-work of committee members were together largely responsible for the success of conference. Other members of ISCEST have also played a vital role in making the conference one that all will remember for a long time to come.

In whichever way each of you has contributed to the success story of the 9th ISCEST Annual conference, I am truly grateful.

## ISCEST IS ALWAYS GRATEFUL!



To all our supporters, friends and affiliates  
The ISCEST family wants to let you know  
That for all that you have done for us  
Our heartfelt gratitude we now do show

Gertrude Shotte