

# **REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF DRIC AND THE RESEARCH CLUB OF EBSU 2019**

The Directorate of Research, Innovation & Commercialization (DRIC) EBSU and members of the Research Club EBSU, wish to thank the Vice Chancellor, His Excellency, Prof Chigozie Ogbu, OFR for initiating the EBSU Research Club to support local research effort in EBSU. This report presents the activities (meetings and workshop) organized by DRIC in 2019 for the VC's brainchild, EBSU RESEARCH CLUB.

## **1. Members of the Research Club**

Currently members include all the EBSU research teams Principal Investigators and their team members, however membership is open to all EBSU academic staff and non-academic staff who are interested in research.

## **2. Activities of the Research Club**

### **First meeting:**

The first meeting organized by DRIC for the club held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2019 with a hundred (100) participating members of staff. The Vice Chancellor was represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics), Prof. Jesse Uneke, who was directed by His Excellency to represent him in the meeting.

The DVC (Acad.) thanked the VC and management for the appointment of a new Director of DRIC (Dr. Bilikis I. Uneke) and formally introduced her on behalf of the VC to the members of the research club. The DVC (Acad.) reminded members of the passion of the VC to promote research in the university.

The DVC (Admin.) notified members of the call for proposal of the TETFund National Research Fund (NRF) and provided information on the guidelines for application.

### **Second meeting: TETFund NRF 2019 CALL FOR CONCEPT NOTES**

The second meeting took place on 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2019 and was chaired by the Vice Chancellor represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics), Prof. Jesse Uneke, as His Excellency, the Vice Chancellor and DVC (Admin.) were unavoidably engaged on official duties.

Sixty five (65) academic staff attended.

The DVC (Acad.) took the teachings on guidelines for the TETFund NRF 2019 CALL FOR CONCEPT NOTES. The director of DRIC had earlier sent the electronic copies of the guidelines to members before the meeting and hard copies presented to His Excellency, the VC.

The director of DRIC provided information on how the grant application was to be processed by EBSU for submission to TETFund.

### **Third meeting: EBSU ACADEMIC STAFF MENTORSHIP WORKSHOP**

The third meeting organized by DRIC held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2019 with a hundred and thirty seven (137) participating members (academic staff from Lecturer 1 to Graduate Assistants).

Both DVCs were invited to present papers on various aspects of mentorship. The DVC (Admin.) was however unable to make it to the program due to the visitation of expert collaborators from outside Nigeria.

The DVC (Acad.) in his presentation encouraged participants to work hard and take advantage of available opportunities for research, training and conference attendance. He introduced the commonwealth scholarship programs (split & full) and encouraged eligible individuals to apply so that administrative support could be provided for their applications before the deadline.

Two sessions of teachings were held.

**First session** was by the Director of DRIC, Dr. Bilikis I. Uneke on the topic “**Academic Capacity Building for Global Relevance**”

Highlights were as follow: Capacity Building; Interest in Research; Skill Acquisition in Research Methods/Techniques; Skill in Research Paper Writing; Skill in grantsmanship; Sufficient interest to access vital information online; Local and international partnership and Participation in local and international workshops and Conferences.

**Second session** was taken by the former Co-ordinator of Turnitin & Antiplagiarism, EBSU and Co-author of “Simple Guide to Originality in Research, Prof Abel E. Ezeoha on the topic “**Publishing your research in credible journals (Emphasis on Predatory and Non-predatory journals)** (Doc. 7).

Highlights were as follow: The environment for academic publishing; WHY publishing? WHAT to publish? WHERE to publish? HOW to publish? WHEN to publish? FOR WHOM to publish? HOW MUCH to publish?; The place of quality and originality in academic publishing; Credible and predatory journals/publishers compared; Identifying and avoiding predatory journals/publishers; Opportunities and strategies for credible publishing.

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