



THE WEST AFRICAN PHYSICIAN

Official Newsletter of the West African College of Physicians

July 2021

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From the President Desk



Dr. Durodami Radcliffe Lisk
College President 2021-2022

President's address during the Opening Ceremony of the Nigeria Chapter 44th & 45th Annual General Scientific Meeting held in Abuja in July

Mr Chairman of the Nigerian Chapter of the WACP

I bring you warm greetings from the WACP as you start the deliberations on your 44th/45th annual general meeting.

The College appreciates the efforts of its Chapters in furthering its aims and objectives and of all the Chapters that make up the College we recognize the pivotal and leadership role of the Nigerian Chapter and appreciate its efforts in pursuing the ideals of the College particularly in making the College a strong and united force capable of facing the many health challenges in the sub-region.

These are extraordinary times and the College has been adapting to the arduous conditions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Online meetings, virtual update courses and even virtual examinations have been adopted with the result that College activities have continued.

Innovations such as Computer-based Testing have been implemented and College is striving to open more clinical examination centres for the ease of examiners and candidates alike. To this end, more examiners are being trained and certified.

We aim to complete our building in Abuja within the next two years. This will bring in much-needed revenue to College and reduce our dependency on Examination fees and college dues. This is why we must all endeavour to contribute to the building fund. This should be our legacy to this great College and I implore each and everyone to make their contributions as soon as possible.

The College must grow and we must look at creative ways to bring in suitable colleagues outside the subregion to enrich our faculties. Well established Colleges like the Royal Colleges are already doing this and so must we. At this stage, we must also look at our Constitution and try to amend it to suit prevailing circumstances. A committee headed by Dr Olufemi Ogunbiyi is already working on this and hope a draft will be available before the end of the year.

Great improvements in the administration of the College secretariat have been made with the recruitment of more qualified staff and annual staff appraisal is now in place. Finally, I urge you all to register for the first fully virtual 44th/45th AGSM of College hosted by the Gambian Chapter. The registration site is already available. **This is not a Zoom conference!** This is a professional virtual experience that this College has never experienced so don't miss out.

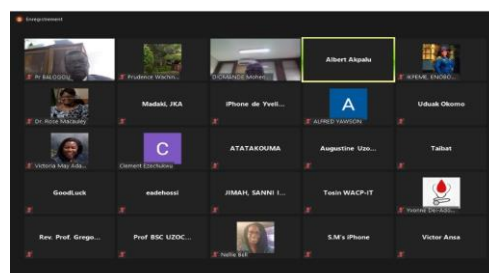
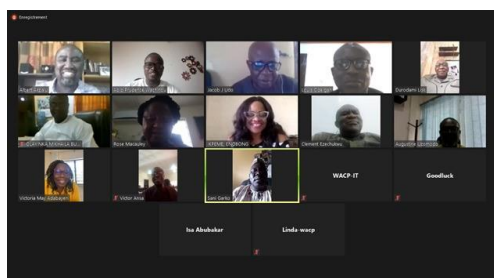
Long live the Nigerian Chapter, Long live the WACP.

I thank you. PWACP

College news

Meeting

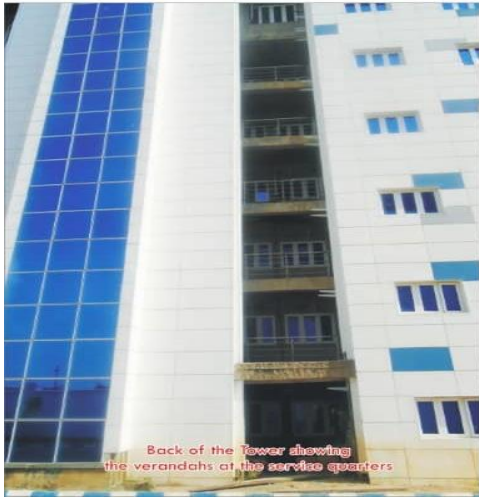
All statutory college meetings (Faculty board, Examination Committee, Education & Research Committee, F&GPC) were held virtually by zoom in July with fruitful deliberations. Decisions are yet to be approved by Council in October.



Abuja building

While significant work has been done on the College building, a lot still needs to be done. Work is ongoing and more funds are needed to complete the remaining work as soon as possible. College thanks all Fellows and Members who have paid in full or started to pay the building levy. All fellows and members are urged to take pride in participating in this historical College achievement by paying 1000 USD to the building fund for Fellows and 500 USD for Members. Payment could be made in 5 annual instalments of 200 USD and 100 USD respectively. Please contact our Honorable College Treasurer or your Chapter Treasurer for your payment. The list of the Fellows who have contributed will be published in the next issue of our newsletter.

The good news is, completed facilities in the College Building are already being used for College activities (examinations, meetings) as well as non-college activities.



WACP Conference center, Abuja



Ongoing work on the tower

Participation in a WAHO meeting

College, represented by VP Togo Dr Kofi Agnon Balogun and the Secretary-General Dr Albert Akpalu, participated in the Statutory Meeting of Regional Council for Health Professionals Education. The meeting was held in Lomé, Togo, on 29-30 July 2021. The objectives were to: i) develop a mid-term roadmap for accreditation of health training institutions; ii) review and validate existing assessment tools for accreditation at regional level.

During this meeting, Dr Kofi Agnon Balogun (VP Togo) has been elected Chairman of WAHO Council of Health Professionals for the next two years.



Constitutional review: The committee led by Dr Olufemi Ogounbiyi has started its work. Comments and amendments are awaited.

Chapters news

Inauguration of the Postgraduate Health Colleges in Sierra Leone

The College President, Dr. D. R. Lisk, represented the College at the inauguration of three Postgraduate Colleges at a glittering ceremony in Freetown on the 29th May 2021. The Colleges inaugurated are: the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the College of Nursing and Midwifery and the College of Pharmacy.

The President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Sierra is Dr. Len Gordon-Harris a Fellow of WACS and the Registrar is Dr. Gibrilla Deen, a Fellow of WACP and past Secretary of the Faculty of Internal medicine. In his goodwill message, the WACP President expressed optimism and the desire to see the Colleges work together with their West African counterparts to improve the health indices of the sub-region.



Local AGSM

Many chapters (Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal, Sierra Leone) have held their AGSM either virtually or as hybrid (virtual & in-person). Full reports and pictures will be posted on the website.

We congratulate all the chapters that have held their AGSM.

Other news

On July 30, 2021, the Liberia Chapter donated 100 cylinders of oxygen to 4 health institutions to assist the institutions in the management/treatment of COVID-19 cases. The donation was made after the Chapter, in collaboration with sister colleges (LCPS, WACN & WAPCP) had issued a position statement on the COVID-19 situation in the country.



Donation at JFK Medical Center



Donation at the Starbase COVID-19 Treatment Center

UPCOMING EVENTS

Examinations

Computer Based Test

Wed. Sept. 1st, 2021

WACP CBT Exams [Membership in Abuja, Enugu, Ibadan & Accra centres]

Thur. Sept. 2nd, 2021

WACP CBT Exams [Primary in Abuja, Enugu, Ibadan, Accra, Banjul, Monrovia & Freetown centres]

Clinical examinations

Wed. Oct. 6th, 2021

Laboratory Med/Internal Medicine Fellowship Theory Examination
Membership Essay Theory, Psychiatry Faculty
Membership Practical Lab. Med.

Thur. Oct. 7th – Sat. 9th, 2021

Fellowship examination continues for all faculties

Sat. Oct. 9th, 2021

Membership Practical exams for all faculties

Mon. Oct. 11th, 2021

Membership Clinical Examinations I

Tues. Oct. 12th, 2021

Membership Clinical Examinations II

College statutory meetings

| Meetings | Dates | Venue |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| Quality Assurance Committee | Sun Oct. 10 @ 12 noon | Zoom /In person |
| International Committee | Sun Oct. 10 @ 12 noon | Zoom /In person |
| Strategic Planning Implementation | Sun Oct. 10 @ 2pm | Oct exam in person /zoom |
| Board of Trustees | Sun Oct. 10 @ 6pm | Zoom |
| Faculty Boards NB Chair /Sec to meet | 7-10 Oct. @ 2pm or flexible per faculty | Oct exam in person/ or zoom |
| Accreditation | Fri Oct. 15 @ 10am | Zoom |
| Exam Committee | Fri Oct. 15 @ 2pm | Zoom |
| Education & Research Committee | Fri Oct. 15 @ 5pm | Zoom |
| F&GPC | Sat Oct. 16 @ 2pm Sun Oct. 17 @ 2pm | Zoom |
| Council | Sat Oct. 23 @ 1pm Sun Oct. 24 @ 1pm | Zoom |

44th & 45th Annual General Scientific Meeting

hosted by The Gambia Chapter

Date: 1-3 Nov 2021

Venue: virtual

Theme: *Universal Health Coverage: A right for everyone, everywhere*

Scientific tracks *universal healthcare,
age-related healthcare,
vaccines,
mental health,
epidemic and pandemic healthcare,
others*

Abstracts submission deadline: extended to 6th September

Early Bird registration: 30th September (100 USD)

For registration and abstract submission, please visit: www.wacp-agsm2021.org

Follow information about the AGSM on Twitter: @wacpagsm2021

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Useful links

College website:

<https://wac-physicians.org/>

AGSM 2021 website:

<https://www.wacp2020.org/>

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