



**AFRICAN CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR DRUG RESEARCH, HERBAL
MEDICINE DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATORY SCIENCE
(ACEDHARS)
UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS
AKOKA-YABA, LAGOS, NIGERIA**

Email: acedhars@unilag.edu.ng Contact Number: +234 8024390633

DLI 5.3 MODULE 1: STRENGTHENING OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

TASKS:

Establish University innovation/entrepreneurship ecosystem through the strengthening of the Technology Transfer Office (TTO).

*A physical 5-day workshop for potential TTOs identified by the University and ACEDHARS (faculty) will be carried to train personnel in the act of Technology Transfer. The University Innovation and Technology Management Office (ITMO) which was carved out of the Research and Innovation Office about a year ago is still without one competent TTO. Therefore, a *professional TTO from Penn State University, USA who has agreed to mentor the ITMO will facilitate the workshop along with professional Intellectual property, Entrepreneurship experts within the University. The trained TTOs will also do some practical demonstrations of lessons learnt which will be judged by invited experts from the industry.*

**Note: Unfortunately, the person died during the preparation for the workshop, and another TTO was contracted from South Africa.*

REPORT

A. TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

A physical 5-day workshop for potential Technology Transfer Officers (TTOs) was carried to train personnel in the act of Technology Transfer as part of the drive to improve the human capacity in the University Innovation and Technology Management Office (ITMO).

Target Participants

The Technology Management Workshop was advertised in the University bulletin (<https://unilag.edu.ng/?p=15050>) by the University's Innovation and Technology Management Office (ITMO) and made open and free for non-academic staff of the University while the Center invited members of its faculty to also participate.

Objectives of the 5-Day Workshop

1. To attract non-faculty members of staff in the University to the Technology Management profession
2. To empower non-faculty members of staff in the University with technology management skills required to work in ITMO.
3. To assess the capability of workshop trainees as potential TTOs after the workshop

Expected Outcome of the 5-Day Workshop

At the end of the workshop,

1. Some non-faculty staff of the University would have become skilled in the task of technology Management
2. Some of the trained staff would be recommended for transfer to the ITMO as TTOs, since there is an embargo on fresh employment in the University
3. The University would begin to record successful technology licenses and start-ups as product of the ITMO in the nearest future.

Workshop's Modules

MODULE	TITLE
1	Identification of Potential Inventions
2	Local and International rules on Intellectual Property
3	Assessment/evaluation of a disclosed invention
4	How to Work with Inventors - From Disclosure to Commercialization
5	Marketing: How to Seek Licensees – General overview
6	Industry Sponsored Research
7	How to Negotiate a License

Participants

Twenty-three persons applied, however sixteen non-academic and four faculty staff participated in the workshop. Five investors along with the Chief Facilitator rated the performance of the participants at the mock pitching and negotiation session.

The Chief Facilitator was Ms. Thandiwe Maretlane from South Africa. Thandiwe works in academia as a technology transfer specialist in the division of Innovation and Commercialization, at Stellenbosch University, South Africa. She has high interest in academic entrepreneurship and innovation for economic development. She previously worked in the mining industry as an extractive metallurgist, where she majored in hydro-based processes of gold extraction. She manages a diverse portfolio of projects in biochemistry, biotechnology, physical sciences, and polymers. Her responsibilities are offering entrepreneurial support to students and staff, identifying Intellectual property and commercialization of research. Her academic accolades include an MBA (candidate), MPhil. Science and Technology Studies (Scientometrics), PGDip. Intellectual Property Law, BSc. Hons. Technology Management, and B.Tech. Degree Engineering Metallurgy. She is a member of Association of European Science & Technology Transfer Professionals (ASTP), Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM), Southern African Research and Innovation Management Association (SARIMA) and Licensing Executive Society (LES.). The Center Leader, Dr Omobolanle Ade-Ademilua coordinated the workshop as a Research Commercialisation Expert while Dr Ifeoma Oluwasemilore, an intellectual property expert and member of the Center handled the IP module.

The workshop was very interactive (see Workshop manual) and involved Quantitative, market-based valuation exercises and mock pitching and negotiation by non-academic participants. The following documents are available via links

- (i) Attendance sheets:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qpM7E9Ed2JbIsVnzJzAPS8PI5UIbRNke/view?usp=share_link
- (ii) E-copy of Workshop Manual:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PU9IYRh19xSReMiN0UK1J8TrWe_wOPQ5/edit?usp=share_link&oid=111266483553075209444&rtpof=true&sd=true
- (iii) Photographs:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1cQjASJc1u158p9_cLHdjBsEkCEBLy45B?usp=share_link

B. TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND OPERATIONAL MANUAL

The ITMO in collaboration with University Management, set up an eleven-man committee to develop the University's Technology Management Policy and the Operational manual for the ITMO. The task was done commencing with a two-day Bootcamp for the committee on 8th and 9th December, 2022. The Committee continued thereafter to review its draft documents, validate with stakeholders and then submit to the University management to process for approval. The following documents which were developed are available on the Center website via the links provided

- (i). University's newly developed Innovation and Technology Management Policy:
https://www.acedhars.unilag.edu.ng/upload/ITMO%20POLICY%20FINAL_1677028652.pdf
- (ii). The Innovation and Technology Management Office (ITMO) Operational Manual
https://www.acedhars.unilag.edu.ng/upload/FINAL%20ITMO%20OPERATIONAL%20MANUAL_1677028699.pdf