

**Communiqué of the 2nd Lead City University Postgraduate Multidisciplinary
International Academic Conference held between Monday, 6th and Thursday, 9th
October 2025 at Adeline Hall, and Lead City International Conference Centre,
Lead City University, Ibadan.**

Introduction

The 2nd Multidisciplinary International Conference, 2025, organised by the Postgraduate College, Lead City University, Ibadan, was hosted between Monday, 6th, and Thursday, 9th October 2025. The conference convened scholars around the globe to address 'Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity in Research'. Attendees were both in virtual and in-person.

The goals of the conference were to:

- i. Foster dialogue on inclusive Engineering research and technological advancement. Share knowledge and best practices on equity, Inclusivity, sustainability, and school leadership.
- ii. Develop actionable strategies for equity, diversity, inclusion, and office information management.

Pre-Conference Workshop & Technical Session

The conference commenced with pre-conference workshops facilitated by Prof. Godwin E. Oyedokun on the Step-by-Step Guides on Academic Writing, another workshop presentation was facilitated by Dr Fortune Afatakpa on Grant-winning Proposals, while Prof. Francis O. Akinluyi presented GIS Application in Modern Research.

The Technical Session focused on “AI and Research”, which was presented by Dr Adetomiwa Basiru. The fifth workshop training during the conference was on Leadership and anchored by Dr Igho Fayomi on “Actionable Leadership Tools for Researchers and Academic Teams”.

Opening Ceremony

The opening session, featured Peter Okebukola, Emeritus Professor of Computer Science Education, who presented a thought-provoking Keynote Address on the theme of the conference: “Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity (EDI) which he advocated for expanded

sampling frames, diversify epistemologies, and build trust with the publics we serve when we widen the circle across gender, disability, ethnicity, age, class, language, and geography, we do not dilute standards; we deepen them” and he ended by charging the conference participants that work together to make every research inclusive, every discipline transformative, and every community member empowered to thrive.

The Lead Paper presenter, Prof. Abigail Ogwezzzy-Ndisika, Professor of Mass Communication from the University of Lagos, presented on the title “Advancing Diversity, Inclusiveness and Equity in Research: Pathways for Postgraduate Scholarship”. She stated that Diversity, inclusiveness, and equity are foundational, not optional imperatives of credible, ethical research. Without them, research risks perpetuating biases and social injustices; with them, it becomes innovative, just, and transformative. Lead City University’s postgraduate conference embodies a critical commitment to fostering research practices grounded in these principles. She encouraged that it is now incumbent upon all stakeholders: scholars, institutions, funders, and policymakers to boldly pursue inclusive research agendas, dismantle systemic barriers, and cultivate environments where every voice can contribute to knowledge creation, and the future of research depends on who we invite in and how we enable their full participation.

The following are the conclusions and recommendations from the conference:

- ❖ The conference called for evidence-based policy making that uses research for effective health policy, advocates for African-led research and inclusive data governance reflecting local realities, and strengthens policies and waste management systems to enhance environmental and public health sustainability.
- ❖ Government should promote Inclusive Digital Policies at the School Level by developing policies that support equitable access to technology for all teachers and pupils. This addresses infrastructure challenges such as unreliable power supply and internet connectivity.
- ❖ AI-powered metadata systems can be amended to enhance equity and accessibility in corporate knowledge management, supported by formal and informal feedback loops that improve performance and teamwork; however, workforce diversity is only moderately achieved, and public relations tools face challenges like limited budgets and weak management support.
- ❖ Cultural and media industries also require inclusive development; hence, Nollywood’s evolution should emphasise capacity building for grassroots filmmakers, equitable

financing, and cultural impact assessment. Similarly, radio and political programme producers should enhance interactivity and produce content that is informative and locally relevant.

- ❖ Stronger stakeholder engagement, stricter policy enforcement, and improved infrastructure are essential to mitigate health and environmental hazards from abattoir waste, while higher education institutions should integrate landscape design into campus development to foster supportive and enriching environments for students.
- ❖ The various governments and policy makers should review, strengthen, and enforce laws and policies that promote women's political participation, protect against gender discrimination, and ensure equal opportunities in leadership roles.
- ❖ The government should prioritise education in state budgets to improve infrastructure, learning materials, and teacher welfare. They should implement continuous professional development programs to improve teaching quality, recruit qualified teachers, and provide incentives to retain them in rural and underserved areas.
- ❖ Interdisciplinary approaches combining science, policy, and community engagement are vital for improving public health and environmental sustainability, and clear, interpretable models can facilitate early health identification, supporting Sustainable Development Goal 3 by enhancing preventive healthcare and informed decision-making in resource-limited settings.
- ❖ The Ministries of Health should adopt a multilingual communication framework that includes major indigenous languages in public health messaging, consent forms, and patient education materials.
- ❖ African governments and leaders of thought should promote inclusive digital policies at the School Level by developing policies that support equitable access to technology for all teachers and pupils. This addresses infrastructure challenges such as unreliable power supply and internet connectivity.
- ❖ The conference urged the government to empower individuals and communities by intensifying awareness campaigns on preeclampsia during antenatal care, promoting public education on vasectomy with free services, raising awareness of the safety of street-vended beverages through better hygiene and oversight, and integrating structured nutritional education into routine antenatal care to enhance maternal and child health.
- ❖ The conference encourages the application of the Health Belief Model (HBM) to design effective workplace health programmes in Nigerian industries, implement guidelines

on working hours and work conditions to ensure nurses' well-being, and intensify public health campaigns to improve the quality of home-based care for the elderly.

- ❖ Nigeria's digital switchover remains incomplete, requiring stronger policy commitment, infrastructural investment, subsidies, and local content development to ensure inclusivity and socio-economic benefits. The NBC should enforce stricter regulations, while private broadcasters should form partnerships to overcome financial constraints.
- ❖ Stakeholders should develop an AI tool tailored to its specific context, similar to the existing Law Pavilion, with mechanisms for detecting AI fraud and establishing appropriate levels of permission. Additionally, restorative justice should focus on the needs of victims, ensuring they are protected and compensated, and that they are not exposed during any phase of the trial process.
- ❖ Pentecostal preachers should be made more aware of the performative power of their utterances (for example, blessings, declarations, rebukes) and how unintended implicatures can lead to misinterpretation or doctrinal confusion.
- ❖ The government should develop and implement leadership training programmes specifically designed for women at all levels, community, local government, and national, to enhance their political and sociological influence.
- ❖ Educational boards should promote ethical standards to prevent misuse, plagiarism, and bias in AI applications. They should establish national and institutional policies regulating AI use in academic research, teaching, and administration. They should encourage critical thinking and human oversight when using AI tools to avoid over-dependence.
- ❖ Information-seeking behaviour influences lecturers' service quality; thus, better teaching environments and in-service training are required. Educational institutions should conduct gender audits, promote gender sensitivity, and justify research design choices with a clear problem focus and defined performance metrics.
- ❖ Libraries should continue promoting digital literacy and computer-based learning, while government support through reduced book import duties and soft loans to publishers can strengthen the education sector.
- ❖ Immunisation rates remain suboptimal despite high awareness, necessitating targeted health education, improved healthcare access, and better communication between health workers and mothers. Furthermore, AI-driven technologies can effectively address environmental challenges and promote sustainable development, and

protecting aquatic ecosystems from heavy metals and radioactive nuclides is essential for ecological balance, food security, and long-term human health.

Acknowledgement

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Prof. Olatunji Kolapo
Chair, Conference Organising Committee