

AGMCP Experience Memorabilia

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Introduction

- AGMCP has emerged as a powerful platform for African students providing mentorship and space for interaction between students and their mentors.
- Students are carefully chosen through a meticulous process of selection and are matched to a mentor based on their respective research interests.
- Since 2020, the program has played a significant role in empowering students in various domains by connecting them to experienced mentors thus building strong and sustainable leadership in Africa.
- I applied, and was selected for the AGMCP cohort 2022, and here is my experience.



Experience, Activities and Output

- The experience first started when I got the mail stating that I was selected for the mentoring program. I was very excited to know and to connect with all the nominees but most importantly with my mentor
- The WhatsApp group was created, and every mentee was matched to a mentor, this was very important as it displayed the uniqueness of this program
- I enjoyed the interaction in WhatsApp because it didn't go out of the mission of the program, most of the posts were linked to a seminar, webinar, Internship, or any other important opportunity for career development.

Experience, Activities and Output

- In the WhatsApp group, many opportunities were shared, I got this link to a wonderful training, <https://forms.gle/4zduUqBqQ1FfBWSd8> , and shared it with a friend who was accepted for the training.
- The second good experience was connecting with people of diverse backgrounds. As students, we tend to connect well with people we shared the same department. Through AGMCP, meeting people from across Africa, with various capacities and knowledge was just amazing.
- Connecting with people from across the continent enabled me to believe in a united Africa and strengthened the spirit of Pan-Africanism in me. Yes, we can build a powerful Africa through the establishment of strong leadership.

Background, Experience, Activities, and Output

- My connection with my mentor Dr Ayodeji Abe was straightforward, we had our first interaction, and this was exciting to receive back his e-mail.
- AGMCP has organized a webinar each month with specific questions to be discussed. After the inaugural webinar, the first webinar empowered us with strategies for writing a powerful abstract.
- The webinar was such an amazing experience to attend, it highlighted key components of a powerful abstract.

Background, Experience, Activities, and Output

- Various webinars were organized providing a wealth of knowledge in various domains.
- Among the webinar sessions, I was more impacted by the Marriage relationship and Work-life balance webinar, the short course on Science-Policy Communication, and the webinar on reference management and plagiarism.
- Nonetheless, all the webinar sessions were important either for career development or skills empowerment.

Outputs

- The program facilitated mentor-mentee and mentee-mentee interactions.
- The program taught me how to create a balance between academic/career pursuits and marital life.
- Different topics in the field of my career including principles of referencing, literature review, and writing manuscripts were addressed.

Suggestions

- I would recommend that AGMCP should facilitate a physical meeting between mentor-mentee for building more interaction
- Data analysis training with software programs such as R should be considered for improving students' decision-making skills
- It would be nice if the graduation could be physical.

Acknowledgements

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About me

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