

**WEST AFRICAN CENTRE FOR CELL BIOLOGY OF INFECTIOUS PATHOGENS (WACCBIP)
MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
22nd SEPTEMBER, 2022 IN THE WACCBIP BOARD ROOM AT 10:00A.M.**

Present:

Prof. Gordon Awandare	-	Director, WACCBIP (Chairman)
Dr. Lydia Mosi	-	Deputy Director (Administration)
Dr. Peter Quashie	-	Deputy Director (Research)
Prof. David Dodoo-Arhin	-	Representative of the Vice-Chancellor
Prof. (Rev.) W.S.K Gbewonyo	-	Mentorship Coordinator
Dr. Lucas Amenga-Etego	-	Representative of Research Fellows
Dr. Theresa Manful Gwira	-	Head of Research Training
Dr. Anastasia R. Aikins	-	Coordinator of Graduate Admissions and Examinations
Dr. Yaw Aniweh	-	Head of Technology
Mr. Christopher Abana	-	Representative of Postgraduate Student
Ms. Henrietta Ashiabor	-	Assistant Registrar/Secretary

Absent:

Prof. Osbourne Quaye	-	Head, Department of Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology
Prof. Neils Ben Quashie*	-	Representative, College of Health Sciences
Prof. Kwadwo Koram	-	Member, Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research
Prof. Anderson Mon*	-	Representative of the Provost, College of Basic and Applied Sciences (CBAS),
Dr. Yaw Bediako*	-	Head of Advancement
Mr. Francis K. Boachie	-	Chief Information Technology Officer, UGCS
Mr. Anthony Hofe	-	Accountant, ORID

***Apologies**

In Attendance

Ms. Sika Menka	-	Grants Manager
Ms. Sarah Ntim	-	Procurement Officer
Ms. Marian Nanor	-	Accounts Officer
Mr. Andrew Nantogmah	-	Communications Manager
Mr. Eric Afful	-	Laboratory Technician
Mr. Francis Dzabeng	-	Data Manager
Ms. Kyerewaa A. Boateng	-	Public Engagement Officer
Mr. Theophilus Dugah	-	ICT Officer
Mr. Alfred Kazaaresam	-	ICT Technician
Mr. Stephan Danquah	-	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

1.0 Opening

The Chairman opened at 10:06a.m. first for a reserved business meeting of academic senior members, followed by the general meeting.

2.0 Application for the position of Adjunct Research Fellow - Dr. Charles Narh

The Chairman presented Dr. Charles Narh's application for consideration. Dr. Narh, holds a BSc. Hons. in Biochemistry and M.Phil Clinical Microbiology from the University of Ghana and KNUST respectively. His PhD in Genetics was awarded by the University of Melbourne. He worked as a Principal Research Assistant at the Noguchi Memorial Institute of Medical Research (NMIMR), became a post-doctoral fellow at the Burnett Institute in Australia and he is currently a Senior Research Officer at Zip Diagnostics.

Dr. Narh has 20 peer-reviewed publications, co-supervised M.Phil and PhD students, and supported some faculty in writing and winning grants.

The Chairman then invited members to give their comments. It was noted that the applicant has considerable experience in academia and industry, and given his experience in both fields, he will be an asset in building capacity at the Centre. Members unanimously recommended the application for consideration by the College Appointments and Promotions Committee.

3.0 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Subject to corrections indicated in the Minutes CMC3/2021-2022 held on Wednesday, held on June 27, 2022, Dr. Anastasia Aikins moved for the adoption of the Minutes, seconded by Dr. Theresa Gwira.

4.0 PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

4.1 GRANTS MANAGEMENT

The Grants Manager reported that there were two (2) rounds of submission and verification of new results. Disbursement of funds for one round of verified results amounted to SDR 299,040

She also mentioned that the final report for DELTAS 1, and the revised application for DELTAS 2 have also been submitted. However, the outcome for the DELTAS 2 was yet to be received. Prof Awandare gave an update on a review meeting of Directors for DELTAS 1 was held and another one for DELTAS 2 would probably be in November 2022.

4.1.1 DAAD Scholarship

Below is the outcome of an information session held in connection with the DAAD In-Country/ In-Region Scholarship programme.

- Call for applications for DAAD scholarships for the 2023/24 academic year to be out between October and December 2022.

- Scholarships will be awarded over a 3 academic-year period starting from 2023/24 with the following benefits:
 - Stipends covering the cost of living including accommodation
 - Research Allowance
 - Allowance for printing costs
 - Travel allowances
 - Health insurance } (for regional beneficiaries)
 - Tuition fees
- 70% of awardees will be regional candidates.
- Direct payments would be made to beneficiaries except for tuition fees which would go to the host institution.

Rev. Prof. Gbewonyo gave a background to why DAAD paid the students directly and requested that the Chairman engaged them on the matter.

The Chairman indicated that he had already expressed his reservations about the issue but the sponsors were not receptive to his concerns. That notwithstanding, he said the scholarship will promote the enrolment of regional students into the Master's programme at a lesser cost to WACCBIP, which hitherto would have to bear the total cost of sponsorship.

He stated that to receive the full research allowance paid by WACCBIP, the awardees would have to surrender the research amount paid by the scholarship fund.

4.1.2 National Institute for Health and Research Grant

There is a collaboration between WACCBIP and 14 other institutions under the NIHR grant under which students from the School of Public Health and the Department of Computer Science would be enrolled into the Master's programmes.

This was advertised on the WACCBIP website, and applications were received. Ten (10) students would be awarded full fellowships.

4.1.3 New grants

Title	Brief Description of Award	WACCBIP faculty/fellow awarded	Grant PI	Amount and Period
NIHR Global Health Research Group on Digital Diagnostics for African Health Systems	An NIHR funded project aimed at investigating Digital diagnostics for African health care settings	Gordon Awandare Samuel Duodu	Aubrey Cunnington (Imperial College London)	£2,999,952 Sub-award (£473,100) 01/08/2022-31/07/2026
Public Engagement to strengthen	A Wellcome Trust research public	Gordon Awandare	Ian Goodfellow	£110,536

COVID-19 genomics research in Africa	engagement award to be used to support public engagement activity along- side the project titled 'Expansion and support of SARS-CoV-2 sequencing in West and Central Africa to support the COVID-19 pandemic response'	Osbourne Quaye	(University of Cambridge)	Sub-award (£99,801.00) 01/05/2022-30/04/2024
Plasmodium falciparum tolerance to antimalarial drugs in West Africa: Molecular Determinants and Evolutionary Dynamics (Emerging Genomic Selection and AntiMalarial Tolerance in Africa – EGSAT)	EDCTP Senior Fellowships (plus) awarded to train leaders in malaria cell biology and genomics.	Lucas Amenga-Etego	Alfred Amambua-Ngwa (MRC at LSHTM)	€ 749,768.75 (Sub-award € 25,000) 01/04/2021-31/03/2025

Overall Status of Implementation for the coming quarter are as follows:

4.1.4 ACE Impact Project

The Grants Manager and Snr. Accounts Officer were collaborating with ORID to organise a workshop on technology transfer under DLI#5.3 - Entrepreneurship - of the ACE Impact project for students and fellows.

4.1.5 Activities for the coming quarter are:

- i) Submission and verification of new results
- ii) Disbursement of funds for verified results
- iii) The 8th ACE Impact project regional workshop scheduled for November 14 to 18, 2022 in Banjul, Gambia
- iv) Implementation of DELTAS II
- v) Call for applications for DAAD scholarships for the 2023/24 academic year

4.2 LOGISTICS AND PROCUREMENT UNIT

Tasks carried out over for the quarter, as reported by Ms Sarah Ntim were as follows.

- i) Placed orders and took delivery of reagents and consumables from Carramore International Limited and Inqaba Biotechnology under the Framework Contract Agreement. The Unit also handled shipment of reagents, consumables, and samples from WACCBIP to various partner institutions, students and fellows at the Centre.
- ii) Procured the following equipment/items:
 - -20°C Freezer
 - 4°C fridge and -20°C Freezer
 - Three (3) laptops for WACCBIP Fellows and students
 - A 4TB external hard drive and a LaserJet printer for WACCBIP Fellows
 - Cartridge toners
- iii) Sole sourced the following items after receiving approval from Public Procurement Authority
 - 8 units of Class II B2 Biosafety cabinets and 10 units of -80°C freezers under the FCDO project
 - Service Contract for Bd LSR Fortessa
 - X20 Flow Cytometer and Accessories
 - COVID-19 IGM/IGG Antibodies Rapid Test Kits
- iv) Ongoing/completed activities are:
 - To finalise arrangements with the College Facilities Officer for the renovation of the laboratories.
 - To obtain a procurement software for use by the University.
 - To complete the construction of the stairs for the 40-footer container for use as stores.
 - Awarded a contract to Biobase Make Co. Ltd for the acquisition of Biosafety cabinets. The company demanded an initial payment of 30% and a letter of credit for 70%.
 - Processing of documents for renewal of the adobe license software package by the Accounts Unit.
 - The procurement of WACCBIP branded souvenirs and conference materials for the Annual Research Conference.
 - Liaising with UGCS to procure equipment and engage a service provider to convert the conference room and classrooms at the College of Health Sciences into smart classrooms. Ms. Ntim reported that the quotation by the vendor exceeded the allowable threshold so approval needed to be sought from the Procurement Authority before the contract can be awarded.
 - Complete the processes for the procurement of accounting software.

- Procurement of equipment for CK Tadam University

Comments/Concerns:

- i) It was reported that work on the 40-footer container had been unduly delayed even though some funds were advanced to the contractor.
- ii) A separate contract was to be awarded for outstanding works on the construction of shelves, the lining of the interior, wiring and spraying.
- iii) A member suggested that the names of fellows who received external drives and the grant from which payment was made (indicated in (ii) above), should be stated in the report.
- iv) The Accounts Officer and the Procurement Manager were to follow up on a Letter of Credit for the remaining 70% of the payment to Biobase Limited.
- v) The fasteners of the Lapel pins were to be replaced by the supplier.
- vi) The outcome of an investigation into the high cost of tissue papers supplied by WACCBIP stores compared to what is sold outside, revealed that the tissues were supplied by Carramore and the price was pegged in dollars. Thus, the constant rise in the dollar rate had a corresponding effect on the cedi, thereby increasing the cost price. It was decided that tissue papers should be acquired locally through a framework agreement.
- vii) Dr. Quashie added that 3 laptops and 3 MinION sequencing machines were received for distribution to the WANIDA projects sites including WACCBIP. However, the newly acquired sequencing machines have computing units and it would therefore not be necessary to send the laptops.
- viii) A member complained that the Microsoft software installed on his desktop was a pirated one. According to the IT Officer, it was due to some challenges UGCS was facing with the license. The Director suggested that we explore the possibility of obtaining an institutional license for WACCBIP.

4.3 GRADUATE ADMISSIONS AND EXAMINATIONS

Activities for the previous and next quarters are as follows:

- i) A meeting was held with the 2021/2022 cohort of PhD students to discuss and prepare for the comprehensive examination.
- ii) The application portal for Graduate admissions for the 2022/2023 academic year was still open and about 25 PhD and 78 MPhil applications have been received so far. Applicants in Ghana will be shortlisted for an interview after passing the entrance examinations, while international students will be shortlisted for only the interview.
- iii) Dates for the comprehensive exams are as follows:
 - Proposal submission - 14th November 2022
 - Written Examination - 25th November 2022
 - Oral examination - (date to be determined)

- iv) Over 10 applications have been received for entry into the MSc. Programmes.
- v) There would be no scholarships for the coming academic year.

4.4 DATA MANAGEMENT, SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING AND BIostatISTICS (DSCB) UNIT

The unit conducted and provided the usual routine data management and analytics support to students and researchers in the following studies:

- i) Setting and maintaining databases for ongoing projects and provision of technical support for Rockefeller seroprevalence study in Ghana, Burkina Faso and Nigeria
- ii) Other projects are:
 - Breast Cancer genomics,
 - NIHR Malaria genomics surveillance study,
 - COVID-19 study at Regional Hospital,
 - GARH COVID-19 Vaccine study and HIV cohort study

For the next quarter, there would be:

- Routine maintenance of all project data systems set up on WACCBIP servers at UGCS
- Statistical and data management support to researchers and students
- Bioinformatics workshop in October 2022.

4.5 RESEARCH AND TRAINING

The Unit held seminars with the MPhil cohort 7 students. Except for a few, who have substantial remaining work to do which might call for an extension of programme, the rest have progressed considerably with their thesis work.

The M.Phil cohort 8 students have submitted their aims, objectives and research ideas, and were to meet and discuss their proposals with their supervisors. The PhD students would do same before proceeding with their comprehensive exams.

4.5.1. Graduate Internship

The Coordinator, Dr. Gwira reported that she had a successful exit meeting with the graduate interns to evaluate their performance and training over the period. Overall, they were appreciative of the work experience acquired. However, they complained of not receiving additional incentives compared to their contemporaries elsewhere.

They also recommended that incoming interns are assisted with accommodation on campus, and a training in Biosafety. Dr. Aniweh and Dr. Abiola were tasked to organize the Biosafety training.

Dr. Gwira expressed concern about the unwillingness of some Teaching and Research Assistants to accept duties or roles assigned to them because that was not their preferred

role. This challenge was said to be a recurrent one and to avert this it was suggested that the advert for WACCBIP should be separated from that of the Department of Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology.

4.5.2 Vacation Internships

Dr. Gwira reported that it was becoming difficult to handle demands for vacation internships due to the sheer number of requests received. She suggested that the students be admitted in batches, so all, especially those from other universities, can experience WACCBIP.

The meeting decided that:

- i) Students should be regularly engaged to receive feedback from them. The Deputy Director of Research and the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer were to work on that.
- ii) Continuing students are invited to join in the orientation for freshmen as was done in the past.

4.6 MENTORSHIP

The Coordinator, Prof. (Rev) Gbewonyo reviewed the activities of the Unit over the past five (5) academic years, from 2017/2018. From seventy-two (72) mentees in the early years, the number had increased to almost two hundred (200) mentees. Eighty-eight (88) students have not been through mentorship. The coordinator proposed that a virtual interaction session be held for students prior to their arrival.

He expressed his gratitude to the faculty of the university and partner institutions in Ghana and Europe who have assisted in mentoring the students over the period.

It came to light that the students were not taken through orientation upon arrival to help them settle down. The International Programmes Office was to be contacted to know the plans and processes in place for getting international students acquainted with campus and the city.

Rev. Gbewonyo indicated that participation in the evaluation of the mentorship programme was low. It was suggested that a meeting be scheduled in-person/virtually within a definite period to interact with faculty and students.

The following decisions were taken:

- i) The student representative on the Management Committee and the Communications Manager were tasked to organize a tour around campus and town for all freshmen.
- ii) A student on a WACCBIP fellowship who is not keeping up with his studies is to have his sponsorship amounts withheld.
- iii) Supervisors are to submit a Report every 6 months on the performance of students to the Director through the Head of Research and Training.

Looking forward, there would be workshops in the areas of Study and Research, (thesis/project writing workshop), mentorship sessions and for freshmen, faculty, students and staff in stress management.

4.7 ADMINISTRATION

4.7.1 Appointments

Staff appointments were made to the positions of Security Guard, Driver and Laboratory Assistants. Additionally, Research Assistants were appointed under the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Public Understanding of Big Data in Genomics Medicine in Africa (PUBGEM-Africa) funded projects.

4.7.2 Workshops/Conference/Meeting

- i) 2022 WACCBIP Research Conference (July 20 – 22, 2022)
- ii) Hosting of the ARTIC SARS CoV-2 Sequencing Training (August 1 – 12, 2022)
- iii) NIHR Senior Stakeholder Engagement meeting and Launch of Phase 2 of the project (August 31 – September 2, 2022)

A staff meeting was also held to address some challenges encountered during the ARCTIC workshop.

4.7.3 Planned activities for next quarter:

- i) 2nd WABIAN Microscopy & Image Analysis Workshop from September 26 to October 7, 2022.
- ii) W-ASLP workshop - Career development and Leadership initiative for Early Career African Scientists, tentatively scheduled for October 19-21, 2022.
- iii) Single-cell RNA-Sequencing Data Analysis Workshop (Virtual Workshop) from October 17-20, 2022 and from November 14-17, 2022.

4.8 MONITORING AND EVALUATION UNIT

Reporting on work carried out over the period, Mr. Stephan Danquah, Coordinator for Monitoring and Evaluation said the Strategic Plan has been finalized with new implementation timelines stated. An evaluation framework has also been designed to track the Key Performance Indexes (KPIs) of the plan.

A meeting with Lead Implementers of the WACCBIP strategic plan will be conducted to promote an understanding of the plan and its implementation strategy.

4.8.1 Activities over the quarter:

The unit over the quarter pursued the following activities:

- i) Conducted and produced an evaluation report for one short course organized within the quarter.
- ii) Designed a protocol to conduct the proposed impact evaluation study.
- iii) Developed a survey to understand the dynamics of faculty output, which will be circulated among faculty for their input.

4.8.2 Report on Mitigating Brain-Drain

Mr. Stefan Danquah presented a special report on WACCBIP's progress in mitigating brain drain. The report was an outcome of data analysed on student destinations.

Below are highlights of the report:

- i) Mitigating brain-drain requires a multi-pronged approach, which includes brain drain and retention, brain circulation, brain linkage and brain drain
- ii) WACCBIP employs three of these four strategies towards its goal of mitigating brain-drain in Africa.
- iii) For effective analysis of brain-drain, alumni destinations must be characterized into transitional and final destinations.
- iv) Successfully, the Centre has achieved the retention of over 90% of its trainees at all levels in Africa and employs several brain linkage strategies to attract its alumni in transitional roles outside of the continent.
- v) In the future, WACCBIP's drive towards entrepreneurship, institutional advancement, and south-south partnerships will multiply its gains of mitigating brain-drain in research training on the continent.

The Chairman commended Mr. Danquah for putting together the document and asked that the report is finalized for publication.

Activities for the next quarter:

- i) Completion of annual M&E report by December 2022.
- ii) Deployment of course evaluation for the second semester of the academic year.
- iii) Deployment of faculty output survey.

4.9 TECHNOLOGY

4.9.1 Equipment Status

Dr. Yaw Aniweh, Head of Technology, gave the status of the underlised equipment which had some operational challenges and were being worked on.

- i) Quant Studio 5 is running. Quant Studio 3 had also been fixed but a Software update was needed for proper functioning.

- ii) Luminex Magpix was not functioning and would be shipped to the manufacturer for repairs.
- iii) BD LSR Fortessa Flow Cytometer - Engineer to carry out preventive maintenance to reach optimum performance.
- iv) Agilent Infinity II Preparatory HPLC – Conduct periodic tests to determine the evidence of declining performance and submit a scope of work and price quotation for servicing the equipment.

List of outstanding equipment to be procured:

- i) Thermo Fisher Scientific Applied Biosystems Quantstudio 5 Real-Time PCR
- ii) Double Stackable Refrigerated Incubator (Comes with sticky stuff tray)
- iii) Class II A2 Biosafety Cabinet (6 feet)
- iv) Single Channel Pipettes: i) Adjustable 0.5 - 10uL(P10), ii) Adjustable 20 - 200uL(P200),
- v) Adjustable 100 - 1000uL(P1000)
- vi) Liquid Nitrogen Tank
- vii) Stuart vacuum pump
- viii) Ecodyst Rotavap

The following equipment in the Protein Expression lab are not operational:

- i) Refrigerated shaking incubator - Shaking unit has stopped working
- ii) Incubator (Eppendorf New Brunswick S41i) - The control unit panel is damaged
- iii) AKTA purifier and AKTA FPLC are non-operational (to be assessed)
- iv) PH Meter (OHAUS STARTER3100) - Damaged Electrode

4.9.2 Workshops

- i) There were various training sessions and workshops on Sequencing over the period.
- ii) Plans for protein expression workshops for next year are under consideration.
- iii) Grants submitted to support Imaging workshops was not successful.

4.9.3 Overall status of implementation

- i) Quotations for renovation works to be carried out in the laboratories sent to the Director, PDMSD for approval to award contracts were still pending. It is anticipated that the renovation works if done would create space for the installation of a class II B2 Biosafety Cabinet in the Virology Lab.
- ii) WACCBIP had agreed to make an upfront payment of 30% of the total of \$78,950 for the purchase of 8 units of Class II A2 Biosafety cabinets and 10 units of -80°C freezers from Biobase with 70% paid through a letter of credit.

- iii) Renovation of Covid Research Laboratory workstation benches was almost done.
- iv) Some new equipment is expected to be received next year.
- v) Training for technicians in using the microplate spectrophotometer. The equipment had also been set up to send results to email addresses instead of the use of USB flash drives.

4.9.4. Planned activities for next quarter and next year

- i) Completion of renovations of the various laboratories including the Covid Research laboratory.
- ii) Completion of construction and fabrication works, interior lining and spraying of the 20ft double-decker container stores for chemicals and consumables storage.
- iii) A workshop on protein expression and analysis in April 2023 depending on the availability of funds.
- iv) To request for the purchase of an electrode for the OHAUS' PH meter.
- v) To follow up on the repair of the Refrigerated shaking incubator.
- vi) Supply and installation of all equipment would have been completed as well as all pending repairs works and servicing of equipment all under service contracts.

4.10 COMMUNICATIONS

The unit successfully coordinated the WACCBIP Research Conference, published stories on WACCBIP and UG websites, and took delivery of the generic WACCBIP folders, which would be used for all workshops.

The WACCBIP website was revamped, and the Communications Manager took members through the various areas where changes were made.

Areas to be updated are:

- Website is tagged as not secured.
- List of partners not exhaustive and should be updated.
- Some of the pictures on the home page have been featured for too long and must be changed.
- To re-organise the platforms for the various research groups.
- Generate a pool of pictures to draw from whenever there is a need.
- Information and photos for Research Conferences should be organized in folders to avoid pressure at the last minute.
- Update media gallery, research groups and staff information

4.10.1 Public Engagement

- i) Hearing impairment baseline and endline studies were done.
- ii) Meetings were held with families of the hearing impaired.
- iii) Participated in Science and Tech fair in Enyinam in the Eastern Region
- iv) Supported COVID-19 seroprevalence in various parts of the country
- v) Increase in social media followership.

- vi) It was reported that the graduate interns had made a proposal for the SHS Outreach but it could not come on due to some lapses in communication along the line. The incoming batch of interns are to take it up since the current interns had almost ended their service.

4.11 FINANCE

Ms. Nanor gave an account of income received during the quarter:

Grant disbursements	-	USD 877,329.58
Internally Generated Funds	-	USD 13,967.12
Bank balance as at September 15, 2022	-	USD 2,193,761.33

Auditing of ACE-Impact project from January to June 2022 was ongoing by the Internal Auditors.

Reports were submitted and query addressed for the NIHR, PAMGEN, CAN, FCDO, H3A-HI-GENE and Wellcome Public Engagement projects.

There was a deficit on the Royal Society grant and it was attributed to the migration onto a new accounting system by the funder, which had delayed the processing of funds to WACCBIP.

4.11.1 Planned activities for next quarter

- i) Report to funders, monitor compliance with grant conditions, and ensure smooth funds flow.
- ii) Provide the necessary support, including budgeting and financial due diligence, for new grant applications and renewal of existing grants.
- iii) Liaise with UG Procurement Unit and ORID to ensure the processing of requests and the release of funds for related payments.
- iv) Set up accounts for all new grants on the University's system (ITS)
- v) Finalise internal and external audits of the ACE-Impact project
- vi) Update the Centre's risk register.
- vii) tender the bid for an accounting software.
- viii) Prepare to close accounts for the year and make them ready for the full-year audit.

The Chairman questioned why payment to some field workers in public engagement was still pending. Ms. Nanor explained that the CPE team usually delayed with their requests for funds, making it difficult to process the requests early enough before the team leaves for the field.

She also noted that sometimes funds given to the team were used to cater for other expenses which were not budgeted for, leaving insufficient funds to pay for budgeted expenses. Ms. Nanor further explained that the Accounts unit had just received some funds and could now pay the field workers.

The Accounts Officer also informed the meeting that the Senior Accounts Officer had been given access to the Centre's accounts on the ITS.

Remarks

The Chairman stressed that such lapses should be avoided at all costs and funds taken from other accounts to meet emergency needs should be promptly reimbursed. He further directed that there must be budgetary allocations for every expenditure with approval sought before embarking on outreaches/field trips.

4.12 Any Other Business and Closing

- i) International accreditation for Molecular Malaria under which test kits for molecular PCR diagnostics were to be received. A consultant was also expected to come over for the ISO accreditation, Dr. Aniweh reported.
- ii) An Austrian partnership which was to help with accreditation to produce enzymes locally for RT lamps should be pursued. FDA approval was to be sought before trials begin.
- iii) Dr. Quashie mentioned that plans to do serology proficiency testing from WHO were on course.
- iv) Professor Awandare informed the meeting that the Royal Society of Biology (RSB) has accredited the Master's and PhD programmes in Molecular and Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens. He commended Dr. Mosi and the team that put together the document for a great job done.
- v) The MSc. Bioinformatics programme has also been approved at the college level.
- vi) Laptops given to students/postdocs should be returned at the end of their study programme. An asset policy to guide the use of all equipment must be in place to that effect.

Dr. Lydia Mosi moved for the meeting to be adjourned and was seconded by Dr. Peter Quashie. The meeting ended at 2:34 p.m.



Prof. Gordon Awandare
Chairperson



Ms. Henrietta Ashiabor
Secretary