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MY PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AT WAAVP 2019

My attendance at WAAVP 2019 was indeed a life-changing experience and an eye opener for greater productivity in my career! Prior to my departure for the conference, I listed three major areas of my career as researcher that need support vis-à-vis networking with experts, expert feedbacks on my work and understanding of the current techniques in molecular parasitology.

As a young researcher in molecular parasitology, standing on the shoulders of experts via strong collaboration is highly imperative for my career development. I was happy that the conference provided me the platform to achieve this as I was able to meet myriads of expert in the field whose work I have cited in some of my manuscripts in the last few years. I woke up each morning during the conference with strong enthusiasm to attend few minute appointments with some of these experts

who gave me listening ears underscored by their welcoming facial expressions and willingness to provide post-conference research support. I strongly believe this networking could go a long way to metamorphose into a research collaboration that will contribute positively to my career in this field.

Similarly, as an advocate of quality research, I opted for poster competition not purposely to win but to get thorough feedbacks of experts. Reading through those feedbacks after the conference solidifies my confidence and provides me the opportunity for improvement which is *sin qua non* to any quality research.

Lastly, listening to various speakers during different plenary sessions on the One-Health approach to curtailing parasitic infection widened my horizon and triggered some novel ideas. Also, the different oral and poster presentations during this conference gave me clues to the future direction in the area of molecular parasitology which will greatly influence my research study in the nearest year.

Finally, as wing is to the eagle so is this scholarship by WAAVP African Foundation to my career. I believe the impact of this on my career will be of benefit to upcoming researchers who will come under my tutelage. Thank for you for the privilege!