



Director, Centre for Artificial Intelligence, BIU

Email: aicenter@biu.edu.ng

Abiodun Falodun, PhD, FISPON, FCPharm, FAAS, is a Professor of Medicinal and Natural Product Chemistry at the University of Benin, Nigeria. He is a fellow of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists, and also a leading expert in anticancer natural product drug discovery, with over 150 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

He is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Scholar Award, USA; ICCBS- TWAS; DFG, Germany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China. He executed his postdoctoral research in many recognized institutions such as The University of Mississippi, USA, University of Rostock, Germany, South China Botanical Gardens, China etc.

Prof. Falodun's Natural Product Research Group is acclaimed for discovering therapeutic molecules. He isolated the first chemical compound from a local plant used for managing threatened abortion, earning him the May & Baker Professional Innovative Award. He identified a novel compound, 'falodone,' from a Nigerian plant for breast cancer treatment, now in clinical trials. He is the EIC of the Tropical Journal of Natural Product Research Q3 www.tjnpr.org

He received the PSE and TETFUND grants, with notable success in internal and external funding. As PI, he led a \$30,000 USAID-funded project with the University of Mississippi (2011–2015). He also secured a \$45,000 World Bank STEP-B grant for drug discovery, and in 2020, his team received N45,244,000 from the NRF for COVID-19 research. As Rector of Edo State Polytechnic, he attracted a \$33,000 grant from IDRC Canada.

Recently, he attracted over 25,000 USD equipment from Marblehead, Massachusetts, California in the USA, to the Department of Computer Engineering, University of Benin to setup an artificial intelligence unit. He led the team that developed the proposal for establishing the Centre of Excellence in Telecommunications at the University of Benin.

As former DVC (Academic) at UNIBEN, he enhanced the office's impact, advancing the University's global standing. He initiated the Annual Research Day, Doctoral colloquium, and Eminent Lecture Series, attracting renowned figures like Nobel Laureate Wole Soyinka, Walter Carrington, and Prof. Humphrey Rang in 2015 and 2016.

Falodun is a certified Public Leader from Harvard Kennedy School, USA, and his academic achievements have gained international recognition. He was ranked among the world's top 2% of scientists by Stanford University.

Prof Falodun is currently on sabbatical leave at the prestigious Benson Idahosa University, Nigeria. And he is the head of the Polymer, drug Discovery, Environmental and Sustainable Chemistry Group (PODESC Research Group) , BIU, Nigeria. He is also the Director of Research and Innovation, BIU.