

Member Profiles

Tunde Amole

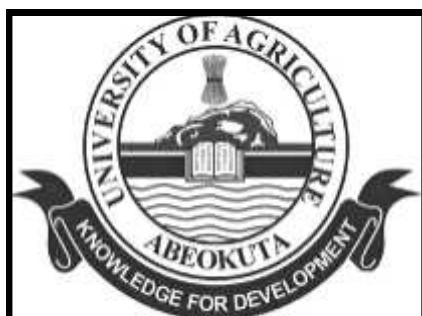
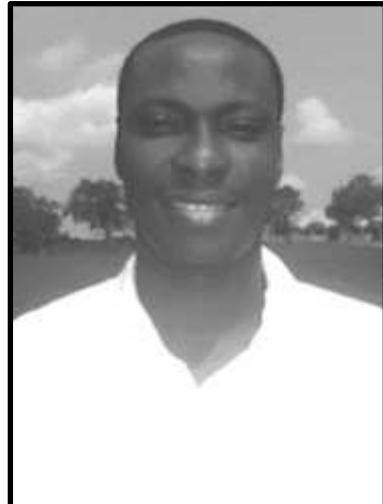
Federal University of Agriculture

Abeokuta

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Tunde Adegoke Amole (Ph.D, Forage Production & Utilization) was born in Nigeria where he attended the Federal College of Agriculture Akure and Ibadan (Moor Plantation) and later the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta. He is currently a Research Fellow at the Institute of Food Security, Environmental Resource and Agricultural Research, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta Ogun State Nigeria.

His research interest over the years has been on integration of forage into arable crops to enhance herbage yield as ruminant feed resources. He is also involved with production of feed towards the dry season in the forms of hay, silage, pelleted hay and fodder banks. He also focuses on determination of appropriate stocking rates for local breeds of cattle, sheep and goats with respect to different forage species and their mixtures. He lives happily in Abeokuta Ogun state Nigeria with Olajumoke (wife) and Hadassah (daughter).

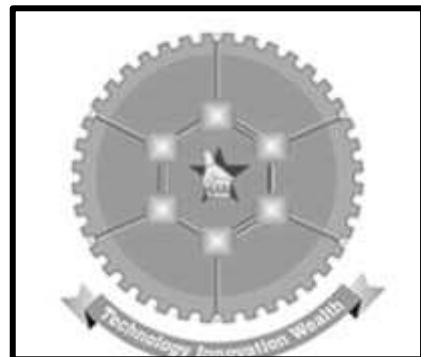


Movers and Shakers

Edson Gandiwa

Chinhoyi University of Technology,
Zimbabwe

Edson Gandiwa is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Wildlife and Safari Management at the Chinhoyi University of Technology, Zimbabwe. He finds this a very energetic department with enthusiastic staff that aim at contributing to the training of high quality wildlife ecology students. Previously he held the senior ecologist position in the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority. His current research interests include: bushmeat hunting and trade dynamics, community-based natural resources management, media framing of wildlife conservation, plant ecology, population ecology and biodiversity conservation.



Leana Nel
Advance Seed
leana@advanceseed.co.za

I've been appointed as Research Manager at Advance Seed. As this company is involved in the local and international markets for forage seed, turf seeds, popcorn, legumes, pulses and confectionary seeds for human consumption, my new job is ever evolving. As my field of expertise is in the pasture sciences, I currently contribute to the research in the use of seed coating in rehabilitation of mines and planted pastures. With the support from my colleagues, I am sure this will be the beginning of something great.



New and Resigned Members

New Members

Barbara Maasdorp, University of Zimbabwe
Cathrine Odendaal, Agricultural Research Council / University of the Free State
Devan McGranahan, University of KwaZulu Natal
Florence Nherera, Agricultural Research Council
Fusi Kraai, Free State Department of Economic Development and Tourism
Jock McMillan, Mabula Private Game Reserve
Jonathan Swart, Welgevonden Game Reserve
Marnus Smit, University of the Free State
Matthew Becker, South African Environmental Observation Network
Mike Braack , KwaZulu Natal Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs
Tamara Hiltunen, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
Aerisha Ramkalawan, IMFS - eThekewini
Izak Smit Dr, South African National Parks
Freddy Milambo

Resigned Members

Mrs Annelene de Beer
Prof Dave Cumming, Percy FitzPatrick Institute for African Ornithology
Mr Gus Le Roux, Anglo Coal Environmental Services
Mr Moses Oliphant, Taung Agricultural College
Mr Vhali Kavhagali, Department of Environmental Affairs
Prof Ruth Hall, Programme for Land and Agrarian Studies
Mr Shaun MacGregor, Ecoleges Environmental Consultants



Council News

GSSA's fourth Strategic Review

Council kicked off the New Year with the first council meeting which took place on the 21st of January. As always, the upcoming 49th Annual GSSA Congress was high on the agenda. Hosted by the Free State, the congress will take place at Phillip Sanders Resort & Conference Centre near Bloemfontein. Members can look forward to a very stimulating and packed congress program organised by an enthusiastic and competent organising committee headed by Paul Malan (University of the Free State).

For the first time the congress will run back-to-back with the Society's fifth *Research Skills Workshop* as well as a *Short Course on Fire Management in South Africa*. Some highlights include exceptional keynote speakers, special sessions on *Curriculum Development in Grassland Sciences* and *Soil Carbon for Sustainable Pasture Production*, as well as the launch of our journals' 2014 Special Issue on Bush Encroachment. The most important news to report on however is that the council and selected members took part in the Society's fourth Strategic Review in October last year. The society is required to do such a review and produce an updated Strategic Plan once every five years. The recent two-day review was excellently facilitated by Owen Henderson, Director of Business Presentation Group (Pty) Ltd.

The review process addressed aspects such as what works and what does not work in the Society, as well as what likely scenarios we will be facing in the future. A Strategic Plan implementable for 2014 to 2018 was produced with the following priority outcomes:

1. Increase the number of papers published in the **African Journal of Range and Forage Science** (AJRFS).
2. Create a forum for **policy debate** and a session on **curriculum development** in Grassland Science at each Annual Congress.
3. Establish a self-fuelling **mentorship programme** that recognises both mentors and mentees.
4. Increase **feedback and interaction from non-council members** in all GSSA channels (e.g. Facebook, satellite functions).
5. Improve the quality of our **Annual Congress to become the congress of choice** in South Africa.

6. Develop and implement an **accreditation system** for delegates attending specific congress presentation and/or special sessions.
7. Leverage **additional funds** for the Society from our existing financial and administrative resources.
8. Highlight and disseminate the **value and advantages of being a Society-member**.
9. Highlight and implement modern and innovative methods of **disseminating credible information** through all channels (e.g. social media, website, print media)
10. Improve the **impact factor** of the AJRFS
11. Increase the Society's number of **international members**.

The new Strategic Plan will be circulated to all Society members for comment before being finalised and formally accepted at this year's Annual General Meeting. Steered by our President, Dr Igshaan Samuels, council members are already working hard at implementing the above-listed objectives, with exciting new initiatives such as a Planted Pastures Special Edition planned for the AJRFS as well as a Membership Referral Incentive. Please keep an eye on *Grassroots* as we reveal more during the rest of the year. We look forward to a very exciting and productive 2014!



African
Journal of Range
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Research

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