

Professor Lawal Bilbis

Federation of African Societies of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Dear Prof Bilbis,

RE: Request for Students to attend the BIO Africa Convention: Student Chapter

The 6th annual BIO Africa Convention takes place between the 1st – 6th of September 2023 at the Durban International Convention Centre, South Africa. The theme for the 2023 BIO Africa Convention is **“Re-imagining Biotechnology Innovation for Africa’s Development and Security”**. The Convention hosted by AfricaBio, a non-profit association of biotechnology industry stakeholders, has had five (5) successful conventions since 2018. At the BIO Africa Convention in 2022 there were over a thousand (1 000) registered delegates, thirty-four (34) countries participated (both local African and International) and a total of thirteen (13) Tracks, six (6) Plenaries and forty-one (41) Sessions were held.

We are in the process of recruiting postgraduates (Masters’ and PhD’s) within the Life Sciences, or related, fields to attend the BIO Africa Convention. These students will receive sponsorship in terms of:

- Registration
- Travel to and from the Convention (where necessary)
- Accommodation (where necessary)

As the Federation of African Societies of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, BIO Africa would like to formally request your assistance in recruiting and recommending a maximum of thirty (30) students to be sponsored to attend.

Further, the Students have the opportunity to win two (2) prizes that are sponsored by our stakeholders. The first prize is the **BIO Africa Innovation Prize**, which will be won by a student with the most innovative idea/project used to solve a societal issue. The second prize is the **Naked Scientist Fellowship**, the fellowship will be awarded to one student that attends the Science Communications Pre-convention workshop. This is hosted by Dr Chris Smith. The fellowship is an 8-week fellowship at the University of Cambridge.

This letter is accompanied by programmes, student call-out, and reports of the previous Conventions.

We are looking forward to your participation, should you have any queries please contact us.

Kind Regards,

Dr N Msomi



President: AfricaBio, 2023 BIO Africa Convention