

** Dear Colleagues,

** Welcome on board SW-NICONET Newsletter!!!

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** Editorial

Welcome to the 8th edition of the Space Weather Nigerian Communication Network: SW -NICONET Newsletter. A Platform where all issues pertaining to Space weather and ionospheric research in Nigeria and UN-ISWI activities are made known to us.

The objective of this initiative is to build a stronger space weather and ionospheric research network in Nigeria. It is also intended to keep us abreast of new developments and research progress in Nigeria. The platform will also continually feature experiences of senior and mid career researchers in the field of Ionospheric and space weather research from Nigeria. This would help young researchers in the field build their research directions. It will also help reduce research repetition but rather help build up on existing works. SW-NICONET is in collaboration with the International Geophysical Research Group /Europe-Africa (IGRGEA).

** EXIT OF A LEGEND: PROFESSOR KIYOHUMI YUMOTO (1951-2019)

By Prof. Babatunde Rabi, Centre for Atmospheric Research, National Space Research and Development Agency,
Kogi State University Campus, Anyigba, Nigeria

The Exit of Professor Kiyohumi YUMOTO from this world at 06:21 Japanese Standard Time on 7th October 2019 drew the curtain on a life well spent for humanity and science. A life that was characterized with substance and impartation. It has taken me time to respond to the news as I have remained shocked with the heavy news of the inevitable passing away of such a great man who has touched several lives, including mine, positively. His life was an example of commitment to science of space weather and ionosphere in general. He traveled far and wide propagating the message of the science for which he lived. He was a great team player. He was a man who followed his instinct with great faith, he believed in breaking new frontiers and set up the famous 96 Magnetic Meridian chain and equatorial chain in Africa between 2006 and 2012. This was after the highly successful Circum-pan Pacific Magnetometer Network was set up by him while at Nagoya University. In all, he set up over 70 magnetometers worldwide during his fulfilled career. He was indeed the first of the international scientists to set up a network of ground observational facility known as Magnetic Data Acquisition System

MAGDAS in Africa, during the United Nations' endorsed International Heliophysical Year program (2005–2009). There were enough discouraging factors to discourage installations in Africa as at 2006. Professor Yumoto ignored negative reports and confronted obvious difficulties as he set up Magnetometers in Nigeria, Cote d' Ivoire, Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Zambia and South Africa. He successfully set up the first African MAGDAS capacity building school in Nigeria in 2011; other editions later held in Indonesia and Cote d' Ivoire. His outstanding contributions to our science had helped to change the landscape of space weather research in Africa and global community at large. He was a master planner, a great mentor, a pacesetter, and a scientist par excellence. He was one of the founding fellows of the African Geophysical Society, AGS. It is of note, that the initial constitution of the AGS was drafted in 2008 by me when Professor Yumoto hosted me as a visiting scientist on sabbatical at his then Space Environment Research Center, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan. He was passionate about knowledge sharing and transfer. He created the International Center for Space Weather Science and Education ICSWSE (iku-Sei). He was a scientific giant who lent his shoulders to many of us to stand tall today. Though gone away from our midst, he lives forever in the hearts of those of us whom he has touched positively. Ironically, Kiyohumi Yumoto live forever in our hearts. At this moment, his life has become a positive lesson to us. His legacies outlive him and so his name will continue to vibrate in literatures and in scientific meetings. Adieu Yumoto Sensei. Professor Yumoto teaching at the African regional 'International Heliophysical Year' School AFRIS, November 2008, Enugu, Nigeria

** 2020 SCOSTEP Awards – Call for Nominations

The SCOSTEP has announced a call for nominations for the 2020 SCOSTEP Awards for Distinguished Scientist, Distinguished Young Scientist and Distinguished Service. Recognizing the societal importance of studies in the field of solar–terrestrial physics and willing to give credit to scientists who contribute significantly to these studies and to SCOSTEP activities, the SCOSTEP Bureau has instituted the following awards:

SCOSTEP Distinguished Scientist Award

This award is given to recognize an outstanding contribution of a scientist to solarterrestrial physics

SCOSTEP Distinguished Young Scientist Award

This award is given to young scientists who have achieved considerable success in solar–terrestrial physics and have taken an active part in SCOSTEP–related activities

SCOSTEP Distinguished Service Award

This award is given to recognize unique contributions to SCOSTEP–related activities, to realization of its programs and events. This award is nominally made in odd years. Since no award was made in 2019, it may be made retroactively in 2020.

The SCOSTEP awards are given biennially. The first Distinguished Science Awards were awarded in 2014. The first Distinguished Service Award was given in 2013. The Award Statutes and Procedures are placed on the SCOSTEP web site section "Awards" (<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=d0d4ee03f0&e=56393be7dc>).

Award nomination packages (nomination letter and nominee' s curriculum vitae) for the Distinguished Awards should be submitted to the SCOSTEP secretariat (Patricia.Doherty@bc.edu) by no later than February 29, 2020, as a single pdf file.

The currently serving SCOSTEP Executive Officers and Bureau Members are not eligible for nomination. The award decision will be made by the SCOSTEP Awards Committee (SAC) and communicated to the Bureau after considering submissions.

For more information on the award nomination, Please contact Patricia.Doherty@bc.edu

** Job Opening: Research Chair in Space Weather at South African National Space Agency (SANSA), South Africa

The South African National Space Agency (SANSA) is searching for a Research Chair in Space Weather, preferably specializing in Solar Physics. The Research Chair would be mainly responsible for undertaking research within the specialized area, providing guidance to the operational space weather centre, and supervising postgraduate students.

The successful candidate will: · have an extensive research track record within an area of Space Weather (preferably Solar Physics)

- high and sustained publication record in reputable research journals
- international collaborations
- lead large projects
- raise and manage research funds
- lead research groups and postgraduate student supervision and training.

The position is based in Hermanus in South Africa, and would be for an initial 5 year period renewable for an additional 5 years based on performance.

The applicants do not have to be South African - this is a global recruit initiative for a specialised scarce skill area.

You can find out more about SANSA at the following links:

<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=54b20f144e&e=56393be7dc>

<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=92545fa8c8&e=56393be7dc>

<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=328bb207e0&e=56393be7dc>

SANSA has 3 campus locations. The position is to be based at the Hermanus Campus within the Western Cape province of South Africa.

Here is a link to more information on Hermanus

<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=2e1dc48b31&e=56393be7dc>

<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=b8af47aa5e&e=56393be7dc>

More information including full requirements and application process can be found at:

[/www.sansa.org.za/2019/07/29/sansa-sarchi-chair-in-space-weather/](http://www.sansa.org.za/2019/07/29/sansa-sarchi-chair-in-space-weather/)

Dr Lee-Anne McKinnell | Managing Director Space Science

T: +27 28 312 1196 | F: +27 28 312 2039 | Web:

<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=8ed55f973c&e=56393be7dc>

Hospital Street, Hermanus 7200 | PO Box 32, Hermanus, 7200

**** Chukwuka Cosmas Ezenma - CBSS Research Grant for African Students in Space Science and Astronomy**

The 2019/2020 Chukwuka Cosmas Ezenma-CBSS research grant for African students in space science and astronomy is now open. Chukwuka Cosmas Ezenma-CBSS offers grants in favour of African students and researchers including Nigerians in order to develop capacity in space science and technology, Electronics Engineering, Astronomy and Astrophysics, foster international, cultural, scientific and technological cooperation in Africa. The grant is designed to support bold and visionary African students and researchers who are undertaking a postgraduate program related to space science, technology and astronomy.

Potential applicants should NOT be more than 32 years of age as at the time of the application. The candidate must be committed to Africa's development and demonstrate outstanding academic and professional achievement, as well as effective team work and leadership potential. Grants are offered to pursue study, training, and/or research programs at any Higher Educational/Research Institution in Africa, international conferences and workshops.

Application deadline is 31st December 2019.

For more information on the grants and application procedure, please visit

<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=49cb9924a5&e=56393be7dc>

** Job opportunity at the Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research (ISEE), Nagoya University

The Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research (ISEE) is recruiting for a postdoctoral researcher to proactively engage in research in collaboration with the ISEE faculty. Established as a joint usage/research center that interlinks space science and earth science, the Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research (ISEE) works towards the mission of clarifying the mechanisms and relationships between the Earth, the Sun, and cosmic space, treating them as a seamless system, and to contribute to solving issues related to the global environment and human society spreading in space. To achieve the mission, ISEE promotes researches based on the institute structure consisting of seven research divisions (Division of Integrated Studies, Division of Cosmic-Ray Research, Division of Heliospheric Research, Division of Ionospheric and Magnetospheric Research, Division of Meteorological and Atmospheric Research, Division for Land-Ocean Ecosystem Research, and Division for Chronological Research) and three research centers (Center for International Collaborative Research, Center for Integrated Data Science, and Center for Orbital and Suborbital Observations). ISEE is therefore calling for application for the position of a postdoctoral researcher who will collaborate with the faculty members of ISEE while understanding the role of this institute.

Job requirements and Qualifications:

- i. Work location: Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research (ISEE), Nagoya University
- ii. Appointment conditions:
 - (a) Position: Postdoctoral researcher
 - (b) Salary: Approx. 300,000JPY/month
 - (c) Work hours: 30 hours/week
- iii. Insurance enrollment: Health insurance, Welfare pension, Employment insurance, Workers compensation insurance
- iv. Research area: Any field related to space-earth environment
- v. Number of vacancies: A few positions available
- vi. Qualifications: Applicants must satisfy all of the following conditions:
 - (a) Holds a doctoral degree or is expected to earn a doctoral degree, and
 - (b) does not have other primary occupation or is not a graduate student or a researcher at the time of start of the employment.
- vii. Starting date: April 1, 2019 or later at the earliest possible time
- viii. Term of employment: Renewable each fiscal year (2 years maximum from the first employment).
- ix. Application deadline: 5:00pm on Friday, December 20, 2019 (Japan time)
- x. Screening process: Document screening
- xi. Application materials:
 - (a) Curriculum Vitae
 - (b) Summary of research achievements
 - (c) Research plan (Information on ISEE faculty staff or research division or center to work with must be included.)
 - (d) Publication and research activity list and a copy of major papers (three papers max.)
 - (e) Possible start date
 - (f) Name and contact of two professional references

The applicant is required to contact the relevant research divisions or centers prior to applying. All application printed-documents must be sent by postal mail to the address below:

c/o Ms. Asana Goto, Personnel Affairs Section, General Affairs Division
Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research (ISEE), Nagoya University
F3-3 (250), Furo-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya, Aichi 464-8601, Japan
Phone: +81-52-788-6057 Fax: +81-52-747-6313

*Please write "Application Documents for Researcher at ISEE enclosed" in red on the front of the sealed envelope and send by registered mail.

For more Inquiries regarding application documents, please contact:

Ms. Asana Goto, Personnel Affairs Section, General Affairs Division
Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research (ISEE), Nagoya University
F3-3 (250), Furo-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya, Aichi 464-8601, Japan
e-mail: obuo@isee.nagoya.jp

For enquiries regarding research content:

please visit:

<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=463ce32527&e=56393be7dc>

For inquiries regarding respective research fields, please contact relevant research divisions or

centers:

<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=a1b0f99300&e=56393be7dc>

**** West African Summer School for Young Astronomers (WAISYA) 2019
A brief Report**

The Centre for Basic Space Science-NASRDA recently held the international West African Summer School for Young Astronomers (WAISYA)2019 at the Senator Boroffice Ajayi Conference hall, Obasanjo Space Centre Abuja between 28th October and 1st November 2019. The West African International Summer School for Young Astronomers (WAISYA) is a program held every two years in West Africa. This year's summer school tagged "Empowering Young Africans in Becoming Scientific Leaders" was the 4th edition in the series. The school had Over 60 participants, mainly undergraduates and few graduate students, from across West Africa with about 13 local and international instructors. The school was hosted by CBSS-NASRDA in collaboration with University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN), University of Toronto, Dunlap Institutes for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Development for Astronomy for Africa (DARA), International Astronomical Union, Las Cumbre Observatory, Open Astronomy Schools, The Royal Society, AAPT Physics Education and International Centre for Theoretical Physics. The participants went through a rigorous training session and several topics in Astronomy and space technology applications including but not limited to cultural astronomy, radio astronomy, exoplanets, science communication, galaxies, stars, cosmology and the future of Astronomy in Africa.

It is worthy of mention that the Director, Centre for Basic space Science (CBSS- NASRDA) Dr Bonaventure Okere with three other top scientist; Dr James Chibueze, Dr Jielai of the University of Australia, and Dr Linda Stubbe of the University British Columbia, UBC came together to form the West African International summer school for Young Astronomers in 2012. The objective was to set a professional standard in actualising the visions of technology innovation and to set West African scientist as a leading voice in astronomy research and development while focusing on

- i. The empowerment of West African students to pursue STEAM related subjects/courses and think scientifically about the world,
 - ii. Exchange of ideas on education between West Africa and North America
 - iii. Building a foundation for sustained astronomy partnership between West Africa, Canada, and the International community and
 - iv. Building a critical mass of astronomers in West Africa.
-

**** Post Doctoral Position- Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, India**

The Department of Physics at the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee invites applications from outstanding and enthusiastic researchers for postdoctoral position under the mentorship of Dr. M.V. Sunil Krishna focused on "Study of thermospheric and mesospheric cooling by Nitric Oxide radiative emissions"

The prospective candidate is expected to have a strong background in the area of Atmospheric and Space Physics specially related to the space weather, mesospheric and thermospheric structure, dynamics and processes. Knowledge of data analysis methods, numerical and analytical modelling techniques with a strong programming background are essential. Prior experience on

working with global atmospheric models such as TIE-GCM, WACCM-X, CESM will be an added advantage.

Last date for the submission of application is 1 December, 2019. Department intends to fill the position by 30th December, 2019.

Minimum Qualification and Experience: Ph.D. in Physics/Atmospheric Physics/Space Physics / Computational Physics / Meteorology.

Candidates who have recently submitted their thesis are also eligible to apply subject to the condition that they will furnish the proof of the award of Ph.D. degree at the time of interview at IIT Roorkee, if shortlisted.

Duration:

The duration of the fellowship will be of two years extendable to one more year, if necessary. The candidate is expected to join the Department as soon as offer letter has been released.

How to Apply:

Candidates can apply with cover letter, curriculum vitae, list of publications (with the most significant publications highlighted), research statement describing past research and plans for future research in the context of the title of project by both regular and e-mail to:

Professor and Head
Department of Physics,
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee
Roorkee - 247667
Uttarakhand
INDIA
Email: physics_office@iitr.ac.in (and copy to sunilfph@iitr.ac.in)
Phone: +91-1332-285335 (office)

Notes:

(i) All the postdoctoral fellows (PDF) will be registered as IIT Roorkee students for availing the facilities of accommodation, hospital, medical insurance scheme, computer center, library, sports etc.

(ii) The candidate called for discussion/interview will be reimbursed Bus/Train (2nd AC) fare from their place of residence/work and return by the shortest route within India on production of train/bus tickets or PNR number.

For more information, For more details, please visit:

<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=f3ff33cec2&e=56393be7dc>

**** SPECIAL FEATURE OF THIS ISSUE- The End of an Era
'ODE' TO PROFESSOR KIYOHUMI YUMOTO (1951-2019)**

A life well spent for Humanity
A candle that burned self to give light to others
A life sown passionately for others to thrive
Yumoto, came, saw and conquered.

He was a trailblazer
He possessed extra-ordinary energy and passion
He touched lives positively
He bound us together with strong cord

He was a great scientist
He walked in humility
He changed the landscape of space weather research
Our MAGDAS creator is gone

His exit left us with a sense of responsibility
He left us with great lessons
He lives on forever in our hearts as his emissaries,

Adieu Yumoto Sensei

Prof. Babatunde Rabi, Centre for Atmospheric Research, National Space Research and Development Agency, Kogi State University Campus, Anyigba, NIGERIA .

Yumoto sensei and Prof. Babatunde Rabi, Spring of 2008 at Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan. Inset was his handwritten message of goodwill to me.

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Header Image is an artist illustration of events on the sun changing the conditions in Near-Earth space.

Credits: NASA

(<https://niggs.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6444fef62afb8ddf44ae305c7&id=2c330b8257&e=56393be7dc>)

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For more on the network,

Please contact

Bola R. Abdulrahim, (Ph.D)

The Editor, SW-NICONET

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