



DANIEL OKUN, PhD.

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Nationality : Kenyan

Carrier aspiration: RESEARCH SCIENTIST.

Educational Background

1. **Ph.D** (Biochemistry & Molecular Cell Biology),
Thesis Title: Distribution and Molecular characterization of Toxigenic and Atoxigenic strains of *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus parasiticus* in Kenya.
Graduation date: December, Kenyatta University - 2012.
2. **Degree: Master of Science (Biochemistry)**
3. **Degree: BSc. (Biochemistry)**

Research works and publications

1. **Okun, O. Daniel**, Muluvi, M. Geoffrey, Fathiya M. Khamis, Otiende M, and Kenya, U. Eucharia (2015). Distribution of Indigenous Strains of Atoxigenic and Toxigenic *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus parasiticus* in Kenya. *Bio Med Central (Agr. & food sec)* vol. **4**:14
2. Otiende M, Kivata M, Makumi J, Mutinda M, **Okun D.** Kariuki L, *et al.*, (2015). Epidemiology of *Theileria bicornis* among black and white rhinoceros metapopulation in Kenya. *BMC Veterinary research* vol. **11**(4).
3. Aluoch AM, Obonyo MA, **Okun DO**, Akinyi A, Otiende YM, Mungai PG. (2015). Morphological Diversity of *Ascobolus* and *Pilobolus* Fungi from Wild Herbivore Dung in Nairobi National Park, Kenya. *Journal of Microbiology Research*. **5**(4): 134-141

4. **Okun, O. Daniel**, Muluvi, M. Geoffrey, Fathiya M. Khamis, Otiende M, and Kenya, U. Eucharia (2015). Molecular characterization of Toxigenic and Atoxigenic strains of *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus parasiticus* in Kenya using ITS markers. (in press).
5. Kenya, E.U, **Okun, D.O.**, Gachuche, D.N., Abdulahi, A., Abubakar, L.U. and Manohar, R. (2006). Detection and presumptive identification of *Clostridium perfringens* in drinking water. *Aquacult journal* vol. 7(1). 27-36.
6. **Okun, D. O.**, Kenya, E.U., Oballa, P. O., and D.W. Odee, Muluvi, G.M. (2008). Analysis of genetic diversity in *E. grandis* (*Hill ex Maiden*) populations using Inter simple sequence repeats (ISSR) molecular markers. Vol. 7 (13), pp. 2119–2123, *African Journal of Biotechnology*
7. **Okun, D. O.**, Kenya, E.U., and Ochanda, J. O.(2002). Evaluation of the antifungal effect of three selected medicinal plants against *Candida albicans*. (Undergraduate dissertation)

Research Grants Won:

1. VICRES- PI, 2014 – USD 19,700
2. AICAD grant, in 2004 -
3. DAAD (Ph.D) grant from
4. AAU Grant, in 2009.

Seminars/Conferences

- i). Rappatuer, [Capacitate East Africa conference](#), Kenyatta University (22nd-29th June 2012)
- ii). [IRD-IFS Workshop on Applying for Research Funding](#) at The African Academy of Sciences Karen, Nairobi, Kenya. (28 May – 1 June 2012)
- ii). Project Launch: [Development and Commercialization of Biological Control of Aflatoxins in Nigeria and Kenya](#) (3 June 2011)- Nairobi Safari Club, Nairobi, Kenya.
- iii). [BioVision.Nxt fellowship programme at BioVision 2011 - the World Life Sciences Forum \(March 2011\)-lyon, France.](#)
- iv). Progress Reports presentation workshop at African Institute of Capacity Development (AICAD) headquarter, Juja, Nairobi, Kenya. (21st and 22nd February, 2005)
- v). Annual Final reports workshop at AICAD headquarters (12th to 14th September 2005).
- vi). Kenyatta University Annual postgraduate seminar 2005 (2nd to 7th October, 2005)
- vii). Annual Biochemical Society of Kenya (BSK) 2008 symposium.

Current employment status:

Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry & Biotechnology, Kenyatta University

Responsibilities:

- Teaching & Research,
 - SPAS- Undergraduate students (BSc. Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology & Forensic Science)
 - SPAS- Postgraduate Prog.- (MSc. Biochemistry, Medical Biochemistry & Biotechnology)
 - School of Medicine:
 - Year 1 & 2 MBchB- Medical Biochemistry
 - Year 1 & 2 Bachelor of Pharmacy & Complementary Medicine- Medical Biochemistry
 - Year 1 & 2 Bachelor of Nursing & Public Health- Medical Biochemistry
- **Coordinator, Medical Biochemistry** for Bachelor of Medicine & Surgery (MBchB) and Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm). – from April 2014 – to-date
- Departmental time tabler, Biochemistry Dept.
- Coordinator, Biochemistry club (KUBBIOC)- students club
- Treasurer, KUBBSWA (Departmental welfare) -2013 to date
- **Chairman, Board of Undergraduate studies**, Dept. of Biochemistry (from 2013 January to date).

Other responsibilities:

- Part-time lecturer, Dept. Nursing (KU) – Teaching Biochemistry and Microbiology units (KU)
- Part-time lecturer, Dept. Medical Laboratory Sciences (KU) – Teaching Biochemistry and Genetics units (KU)
- Part-time lecturer, Dept. Environmental Health sciences (KU) – Teaching Biochemistry and Genetics units (KU)
- Part-time lecturer, Dept. of Biochemistry & Biotechnology, Technical University of Kenya
- Part-time lecturer, Dept. of Nursing, Aghakhan University (AKU), Nairobi campus.
- Part-time lecturer, Dept. of Biochemistry, JKUAT

- Part-time lecturer, Dept. of Biology, Catholic university of Eastern Africa (CUEA).

- **Mace bearer, 34th Kenyatta University Graduation ceremony, July 2013.**

Student projects- Under my supervision

1. Determination of genetic variability and repellent effects of *murraya koenigii* from different geographical locations on plasmodium vector *anopheles gambiae* s.s. – MSc research- on going- **Levi Waswa**
2. Morphological and molecular characterization of coprophilous ascomycetes and zygomycetes fungi diversity in kenya national parks. **MSc research- complete- Miyunga Antoinette Aluoch** (reg no. : sm14/3263/12)- Egerton University.
3. Assay of Carbonic anhydrase activity in erythrocytes of sickled and non-sickled children in Getrude Hospital, Nairobi. MSc research- on going- **Midiwo Charote- Kenyatta** University.
4. Evaluation of preconception care given to women of child bearing age at Kenyatta National hospital clinics, Nairobi. MPH research- on going- **Madina Guye Edalia**
5. Case study of bush-meat consumption prevalence using cytochrome b mitochondrial DNA marker within Nairobi Kenya- MSc research- on going NGADI OWINO MATHEWS. **Kenyatta** University.
6. Prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* in peptic ulcers patients with chronic gastritis or gastric ulcers and efficacy of its laboratory diagnosis. MSc research- **on going- Mwaleso Khamisi Said.**
7. Survey on bank fraud investigation using win hex forensic tool in nairobi Kenya. Bonaventure m. Ngala. **BSc, Forensic Science - complete.**
8. Molecular characterisation of termitomyces mushroom species in arabuko sokoke, mount kenya and kakamega forest using AFLP. Naman Onyango, I56/26256/2011.**M.sc. biotechnology- on going**
9. Determination of relatedness and introgression in coffee cultivars in kenya MSc.biotech – COMPLETE. **Daniel Omari Omingo, 156/21025/2012**
10. Optimization of DNA extraction from *Aspergillus section flavi* using SDS and CTAB protocols. **Owuor peter oluoch, BSc. Biochemistry - complete.**
11. **Isolation and morphological characterization of *Aspergillus section flavi* species from soil samples.** Victoria Zawadi Safari, **BSc. Biochemistry - complete.**
12. *In vivo* toxicological investigation of aflatoxin B1 in mice. **Juma Peter Ochieng- BSc, Forensic Science. - complete.**

13. Analysis of fire accelerants in arson suspected crime scene using Uv/Vis spectrophotometry. **Dennis Ngao Kivva, BSc. Forensic Science - complete.**
14. Determination of toxigenic and atoxigenic isolates of *aspergillus* section *flavi* using thin layer chromatography. BSc, Biotechnology. Complete. **Eunice Adhiambo Obuora- KU.**

REFEREES:

Prof. Eucharia Unoma Kenya, Deputy Principle, Embu University College
e-mail: ukunomakenya@yahoo.com, kenya.eucharia@ku.ac.ke

Prof. Geoffrey M. Muluvi, Vice chancellor, South Eastern University College
e-mail: gmmuluvi@avu.org

Dr. Fathiya M. Khamis, Dept. of Molecular and Cell Biology, ICIPE.
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