

## From the Chairman, Editorial Team

### LAUNCHING A LEGACY IN LIFE SCIENCES

It is with great pride and a profound sense of academic responsibility that we present the inaugural issue of the **Journal of Biological and Allied Sciences (JOBAS)**. Established in 2022 under the visionary leadership of the then Dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences, **Prof. Adenike Temidayo Oladiji**, this journal was conceived as a premier platform for the dissemination of high-quality research that bridges the fundamental and applied aspects of the biological sciences.

The Faculty of Life Sciences has long been a crucible for innovation, and JOBAS serves as one of the official records of that intellectual rigor. Our mission is to foster a multidisciplinary dialogue that addresses local challenges with global relevance, spanning the vast spectrum of the Allied Sciences - from molecular biotechnology to environmental ecology.

### Highlights of Volume 1, Issue 1

This maiden issue reflects the diversity and depth of contemporary biological inquiry. The selected articles represent a meticulous blend of laboratory-based experimentation, field surveys, and taxonomic profiling:

- **Biochemical Techniques:** The volume opens with a comparative analysis of sedimentation agents (gelatin vs. dextran) for neutrophil isolation, providing essential insights for the purification of myeloperoxidase.
- **Public Health & Epidemiology:** We address critical regional health concerns through a study on the prevalence of helminthiasis among primary school pupils in Yenogoa, Bayelsa State.
- **Biotechnology & Environmental Microbiology:** Research on *Pseudomonas* and *Alcaligenes* species from automobile workshops in Ilorin explores the promising frontier of biosurfactant production and molecular identification.
- **Toxicology & Ethnobotany:** The cytotoxic effects of *Ocimum gratissimum* are scrutinized using the *Allium cepa* assay, alongside a comprehensive GC-MS-based chemotaxonomic profiling of the *Fabaceae* family (*Senna*, *Cassia*, and *Albizia*).
- **Invertebrate Immunology:** A fascinating look at how *Escherichia coli* endotoxins modulate the immune response in the giant African snail, *Achatina fulica*.
- **Botanical Diversity:** The study on molecular and chemical profile of parasitic higher plants within the University of Ilorin's own Botanical Garden, emphasizes the importance of local flora characterization.
- **Soli Science/Environmental Remediation:** The issue concludes with the use of kolanut pod biochar to alleviate cadmium toxicity, improved nutrient composition and enhanced physiological performance of African eggplant.

As we embark on this journey, we extend our deepest gratitude to the contributors, the peer reviewers who ensured the scientific integrity of these works, and the editorial board for their tireless dedication.

JOBAS is more than just a collection of papers; it is a commitment to the growth of the scientific community in Nigeria and beyond. We invite researchers, academics, and students in any part of the world to join us in this endeavour by submitting their original findings to future volumes.

**Prof. R. O. Arise, CMB, FNIPES**

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