

About Us & Our History

Welcome to the official chronicle of the **Uniben Agric Excellence Guild (UAEG)**, also proudly known as the **First Class Scholars Association**. Our journey is more than just a gathering; it is a dynamic convergence that celebrates academic excellence, leadership, and enduring positivity within the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Benin ^[1].

“From a humble beginning of 30 first-class graduates, we have grown to become a thriving movement of over 70 exceptional scholars from 2004 till date. This is proof that when passionate minds unite, transformation happens.” — Dr. Smith Avivier ^[1]

The Genesis: Our History

The vision of the UAEG was conceived in March 2020 by Dr. Onoriyode and Dr. Smith Avivier ^[1]. Their vision was simple yet profound: to create an exclusive forum of first-class graduates from the Faculty of Agriculture solely aimed at lifting others up and building a robust, progressive future for the faculty ^[1].

Although bringing this ambitious plan to fruition took more than six years, demanding immense resilience, dedicated resources, and tireless effort, the founders remained steadfast ^[1]. From starting with just 30 pioneering first-class graduates, the association has steadily expanded to embrace over 70 brilliant minds spanning graduation years from 2004 to the present ^[1].

Leadership And Organizational Milestones

The UAEG is steered by a committed Executive Committee led by Dr. Osarodion Nosakare ^[1]. Under his visionary leadership, the association has achieved remarkable organizational milestones:

- **February 1, 2025:** Formal inauguration of the UAEG Executive Committee (ESCO) ^[1].
- **March 1, 2025:** Inaugural General Meeting held, culminating in the official approval of the association's constitution ^[1].
- **March 15, 2025:** Official adoption of the UAEG logo and letterhead ^[1].
- **April 2025:** Launch of the comprehensive member database ^[1].

- **May 2025:** First webinar series hosted, focusing on studying and migration overseas opportunities for aspiring graduates ^[1].
- **July 2025:** Second webinar series conducted on career transition opportunities, expanding outreach beyond first-class graduates to all interested students ^[1].
- **August 2025:** Establishment of targeted mentorship cohorts for prospective study-abroad applicants, launch of the official UAEG YouTube channel, and hosting of the vibrant "Then and Now" member challenge ^[1].
- **November 2025:** Successful completion and formal Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) registration, making the association fully incorporated within Nigeria ^[1].
- **January 18, 2026:** In collaboration with the 2003 and 2004 graduating set, UAEG conducted a virtual condolence visit to the family of late Victor Adegoke Adegite, the first Animal Science first-class graduate who passed away in January 2021 ^[1]. In his enduring memory, the overall best graduating student award of the faculty was named after him ^[1].
- **Recent Milestones:** Official bank account opening with First Bank of Nigeria to facilitate donations and annual dues, setting the stage for the historic maiden award ceremony ^[1].

Our Core Philosophy And Call To Action

The UAEG stands as living proof that starting from scratch is never an insurmountable barrier when driven by shared purpose ^[1]. As our leadership notes from international academic and professional experiences spanning Africa, Europe, and Asia, greatness begins with the simplest of steps ^[1].

Our faculty and our nation may not be where they are supposed to be today, but genuine change begins with us ^[1]. The Uniben Agric Excellence Guild is far more than an association; it is a call to action, a call to serve, and a commitment to create a lasting legacy that will outlive us all ^[1].

Document compiled for the Uniben Agric Excellence Guild (UAEG) Official Website.