



## Diaspora Academic Network For Africa (Diana RY)

**Mobilizing the African Diaspora for Knowledge Give Back, Partnerships, Integration and Solidarity.**

**Y-Tunnus: 3241089-9**

**Contact: [gensecretariat@dianary.org](mailto:gensecretariat@dianary.org) Tel: 0452375773 (phone only)  
0417279427 (Whatsapp).**

### PROGRAMME

#### African Academic Night (3rd Annual Edition)

**Where Science meets Entertainment, Business and Cultural Diversity**

**Date: Saturday 30 November 2024, Venue: Vanha Hameentie 29, Turku, Finland**

**Theme of the Year:** Diaspora Accompanying African Union Year of Education & Building Diaspora Entrepreneurship capacities in Finland.

Time: **17:00 to 01:00 (EEST).**

**Registration Link:** <https://dianary.org/the-african-academic-night-aau-third-edition/>

16.30	<b>Arrivals: Introductions &amp; Networking in the Lobby.</b>
17.00	<b>The Learning Cafe and Networking (Exhibitions):</b> Wine sharing for Networking, Project & Business Idea Testing, Exhibition (International House Turku, Finest Future, Ujuzi, Kiplangat Nathan Sikor, Letsmakeitgreener.org)
<b>17:25</b>	<b>Group Photos in the Main Hall</b>
17.30	<b>Start of Programme:</b> Introduction of Anchors-Programme Run Down. <b>Omotomila Ikotun</b> , Researcher, University of Eastern Finland
<b>PART I.</b>	
17.35	Welcome from DIANA ry. <b>Docent Dr. Pascal Doh</b> , General Coordinator of DIANA (Adj. Prof, Faculty of Education, University of Turku/ <b>Dr. Evariste Habiyakare</b> : Head of DIANA ry Education Cluster. Ass Prof, Haaga Helia University of Applied Sciences.
17.40	Greetings from The Minister of Education, Finland. <b>Kati Antalainen</b> , Senior Ministerial Advisor International Relations. Ministry of Education and Culture, Finland
17.45	Welcome to town by <b>Mika Akkanen</b> , Director of International Affairs, Representative of the Mayor of Turku.
17.50	<b>Greetings from Finland-Africa Networks (5 minutes each)</b>
	<b>Maaria Manyando</b> , Project Coordinator, Global Innovation Network for Teaching and Learning, University of Helsinki.
	<b>Satu Nurmi</b> , Finland-Africa Platform for Innovation (FAPI), University of Turku.

	<b>Aino Okinyo.</b> Project Planner. Stakeholder engagement, cooperation, and communications, LEAP-RE-Joint EU -AU Research and Innovation Partnership on Renewable Energy, and HEP-TED-Higher Education Pedagogies for Teacher Education.
	Visiting Partner: <b>Teija Koskinen</b> , Director of Medikumppani. Introducing Medikumppani.
18.10	Musical Interlude: Alina Rein.
<b>PART II</b>	
18.15	<b>Contribution of African Scientists in the Finnish &amp; African Knowledge Economy: My Life as a Scientist in Finland (10 minutes each).</b> <b>Dr Boniphace Kanyathare</b> (Tanzania) Founder and <b>CEO of UJUZI, Ph.D in Physics</b> from University of Eastern Finland - Joensuu / Finland <b>Dr Serge Zambou</b> (Cameroon). Senior Process Engineer in the division of corporate R&D at ASM. <b>Dr. Solomon Ayo Oyewo</b> (Nigeria), Laboratory of Electrical Engineering, Lappeenranta University of Technology.
18.45	Immigration boosting the business and economic growth of Turku region <b>Vesa Palander</b> , Serial Entrepreneur & Director, Business and Economic Development Services, City of Turku
18.55	Bridging Borders and Breaking Barriers: Lessons from Finland-Versus Africa Entrepreneurship, <b>Carita Tissari da Costa</b> . Senior Adviser at Business Finland:
19.05	Education for Happiness. <b>Peter Vesterbacka &amp; Bambi Dang</b> Co-Founders and CEOs of the Finest Future Programme, Finland, <b>Dr Pascal Doh</b> (Ph.D in Higher Education Management: Finest Future Co-Consultant for Africa).
19.20	<b>Musical Interlude:</b> Awak Music Group
19.25	Supporting Living, Studying and Career Insertion of Students in Turku City: Job strategy for International and African Students in Turku: <b>Teemu Saarenpää</b> . Advisor, International House, Turku.
19.35	Supporting Entrepreneurship in Finland: <b>Elvis Fuamba</b> , Afri Nordic Connect, Tampere, Finland
<b>19.45</b>	<b>Main Refreshments.</b>
20.05: <b>PART III: Entertainment, Recognition and Culture</b>	
	Inspiration Talks. <b>Ndidiamaka Ezeliora</b> . SEO-Driven YouTube Scriptwriter   Content Strategist, Strategic Storytelling, SEO-Optimized Content & Product Marketing. Master's student at Abo Akademi University, Finland and Volunteer at DIANA ry.
20.10	Musical Interlude (Awak Music Group)

20.25	Opening of the Floor
<b>PART 1V. Recognitions &amp; Awards (5 Minutes Each)</b>	
20.50	Africans, African Women in Finnish Politics: Avoid being left out again, let's join the change Making process: <b>Dr. Bilola Theresia</b> . Political Candidate, Turku Counsellor and Scientist.
20.55	42 years in Finland. <b>Dr. Filio Degni</b> . The longest staying African Talent-Scholar in Finland (Brief Statement of Experience): <b>Finest Future Award</b> , Peter Vesterbacka and Bambi Dang.
21.00	Most Recent African Doctor in Finland (Brief Statement of Experience). Awardee: <b>Kati Antalainen</b> , Senior Ministerial Advisor International Relations. Ministry of Education and Culture, Finland & Dr. Raoul Yondo, Tampere University of Applied Sciences.
PART V	<b>General Entertainment &amp; Dance</b>
21.05	<b>Animation:</b> Igbo men group (Nigeria) by Umulgbo ry, Turku, Finland
21.20	Alina Rein.
21.30	<b>General Dancing, Dance, Dance Dance &amp; Networking</b>
00.00	<b>End of Programme</b>

#### All Speakers Confirmed

#### PROGRAM ANCHORS

**Omotomilola Ikotun** (Researcher) University of Eastern Finland  
**Charles Oredola** (Doctoral Researcher), Abo Akademi University.

**Ekemini Ekpe:** Abo Akademi University.

**Temisan Omatsola,** Abo Akademi

**Sharon Masitsa:** University of Turku.

#### Technical Crew:

Basil Uzochi, Abo Akademi University

Ekemini Ekpe: Abo Akademi University.

Micaiah Pitmang, Abo Akademi University.

Ben Ewane, Abo Akademi University

#### Partners

Turku City Administration (Grant)

Global Innovation Network for Teaching and Learning (GINTL)

Finland Africa Platform for Innovation (FAPI), University of Turku, Finland

Finest Future, Finland

International House, Turku.

#### **Exhibitions at the Learning Café**

Finest Future, Finland.

International House, Turku

Letsmakeitgreener.org

Ujuzi, Finland/Tanzania

Kiplangat Nathan Sikor,

#### **Extra Solicited Traditional Dance Groups:**

Next Century Dance Group: Helsinki, Finland

Cameroon Dance Group (Helsinki)

Indehamuka Dance Group, (Rwanda), Helsinki.