

# Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project Highlights

March 2019

Scholar Program 38

## GRADUATE STUDENTS ORGANIZATION (GSO): HOME AWAY FROM HOME

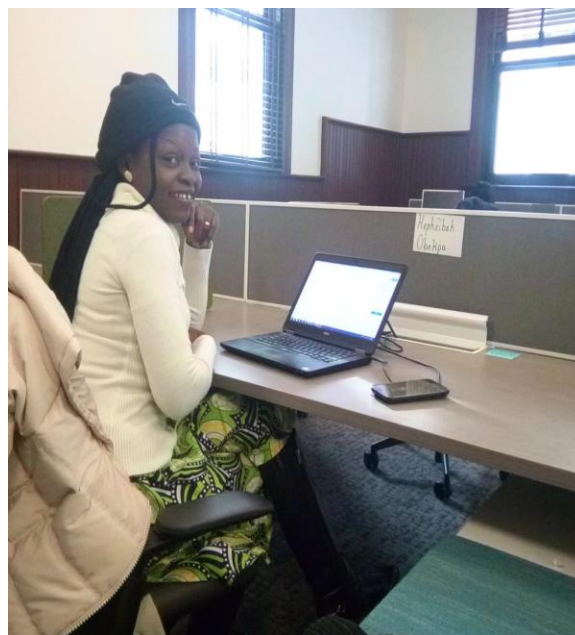
On arrival at the department of Agricultural Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University, the visiting scholars were asked if they were interested in having office spaces at Cook Hall. I quickly obliged as I was fascinated at the thought of a student having an office space to study in the university. In less than a week, we were given our desks, my colleagues and I were taken on a tour in Cook hall and shown all the facilities available and accessible to everyone who gets an office space in Cook Hall. The kitchen is my favorite as I get to carry some Nigerian dishes to school for Lunch. The kitchen has fridges to store your food, microwaves to heat them, plates, silver ware and a section to eat and relax. We also used their conference room on several occasions for group discussions and assignments in order not to disturb others in the office. The toilets are always properly kept and there is also a room available for breastfeeding mothers, everyone is important and thought of in Cook Hall.

Happy hours are organized every month to enable graduate students to have fun and network with others while unwinding from the stress of academics. On the 15th of February 2019, I got to my space in cook hall to find valentine gifts on everybody's desk from the GSO, the moment was priceless as I was teary. Members of GSO are very friendly and welcoming. Cook Hall is also very secured as only members can have access into it via their school identity cards. It is also available for use 24 hours in a day. It is also well equipped with stationary and printers for use by everyone. GSO members pay a stipend as dues for the running of the organization every semester but the excos were magnanimous to exempt the scholars from their dues but we enjoyed all the privileges of being a member. Coffee hours are also organized from time to time when we get to meet with other students, have free coffee and doughnuts. I will go back home with beautiful memories and thoughts about GSO-AFRE.

Long live GSO-AFRE!



In Front Of Cook Hall



In My Cook Hall Office Space

By: Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa

This work is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the Feed the Future initiative through the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project, Associate Cooperative Agreement Number AJD-620-LA-15-00001. The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

Copyright © 2019, Michigan State University, and the International Food Policy Research Institute. All rights reserved. This material may be reproduced for personal and not-for-profit use without permission from but with acknowledgment to MSU, and IFPRI.

Published by the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University, Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture, 446 West Circle Dr., Room 202, East Lansing, Michigan 48824.