

CITATION FOR THE FELLOWSHIP AWARD OF NUTRITION SOCIETY OF NIGERIA (NSN) FOR PROFESSOR OGECHI CHINYERE NZEAGWU (*FDAN, RDN*)

Professor Ogechi Chinyere Nzeagwu has shown outstanding achievements in nutrition science, academic scholarship, leadership, and professional competence. She is a Full Professor of Community and Applied Nutrition in the Department of Human Nutrition and Dietetics, Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, Nigeria. She rose steadily through the academic ranks over the past two decades, following her first appointment as an Assistant Lecturer. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated exceptional commitment to advancing nutrition research, education, mentorship, and professional development within Nigeria and beyond. Her scholarly contributions are extensive and impactful, as evidenced by numerous publications in reputable peer-reviewed journals and presentations at International scientific conferences. She has also successfully attracted and participated in several competitive research grants, thereby strengthening evidence-based nutrition practice and policy development. Professor Ogechi also served as the Head of Department of Human Nutrition and Dietetics (2021 - 2025) of Michael Okpara University of Agriculture Umudike.

Professor Nzeagwu has made remarkable contributions to capacity building through the supervision and mentorship of many postgraduate students and early-career nutrition professionals. In addition, she has contributed immensely to academic excellence through her services as an editor, reviewer, and assessor for journals, academic programs, and research awards.

Her research interests in lifestyle nutrition, elderly nutrition, maternal, child and adolescent nutrition, food systems, nutrient composition, and sustainable healthy diets have significantly enriched the field of nutrition and public health in Nigeria and across Africa.

Importantly, Professor Nzeagwu has served the Nutrition Society of Nigeria with uncommon dedication and exemplary leadership. Her notable contributions to the Society include among others:

- Member, NSN Expert Committee on Tropical Nutrition Issues, Engage Nutrition Academia in Nigeria (ENAN) by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Chairperson, Young Nutritionists Award Committee of Friesland Campina WAMCO/NSN
- Member, Central Planning Committee of the 51st Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference of NSN, Enugu
- Member, 2022 NSN Awards Committee.
- Line Manager for the Nutrition Leadership Development in Nigeria Project (LEDA-NN).
- Chairperson, Nutrition Society of Nigeria, Abia State Chapter
- Chairman, Central Organizing Committee of NSN for Scientific Conferences and Annual General Meetings (2024–2026).
- Editorial member and Reviewer for the Nigerian Journal of Nutritional Sciences, among several other Professional contributions.

These numerous responsibilities clearly demonstrate her unwavering dedication, administrative competence, exemplary academic accomplishments, professional integrity, mentorship record, leadership contributions, and commitment to the advancement of the Nutrition Society of Nigeria and the nutrition profession at large.