

W.TEC
Women's Technology Empowerment Centre

Annual Report 2009

About W.TEC

The **Women's Technology Empowerment Centre (W.TEC)** is a Nigerian non-governmental organisation working to empower girls and women economically and socially using information and communication technologies (ICTs). This is done through **technology literacy training, technology-based projects, mentoring, work placement and research**. Our alumni are women and girls who are well-equipped for working and living in an increasingly technology-driven world.

W.TEC was set-up in **January 2008** and conceived in response to research that showed that although ICTs significantly contribute to a nation's development and growth, women – who make-up approximately half of Nigeria's population – are severely lagging behind in their knowledge and use of technology.

W.TEC works in partnership with local and international NGOs, educational and research organisations. W.TEC programmes have been supported by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) through the Harambee initiative, the Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology, Fahamu and Laureates College – Lagos, Nigeria.

Mission Statement

To educate, connect and empower Nigerian women through active engagement with information and communication technology.

Programmes

- **W.TEC Girls** is principally organized for secondary school students between the ages of 11 and 17 and seeks to help them develop technology literacy skills, as well as achieve awareness in career options related to technology, science and engineering. The main constituent is the Girls Technology Camp.
- **W.TEC Young Women** is for women between the ages of 18 and 30 years. The objective is to equip the young women with ICT skills, which will help prepare them for empowered lives as professionals and leaders within their communities.
- **W.TEC Women** is targeted at women above 30 years who have little or no technical skills and provides them with foundational computer skills.
- **Specialised Programmes** are more advanced trainings for women who are looking to build skills and knowledge in specific areas, and includes Database Development and Management, Web Development, and Graphic Design.
- **Alumni Programme** includes annual gatherings and membership to the alumni network and mailing lists.
- **Research** delves into how women are using technology with an eye on how they can better utilise technology for social and economic empowerment.

Vision Statement

A society where Nigerian women are able to use information and communication tools successfully for work, activism and leisure.

Goals

- To provide technology education for Nigerian women and girls so that they are able to use ICTs effectively for work, activism and leisure
- To produce innovative and ground-breaking research that supports the development and implementation of technology programmes for women and girls
- To promote and support the use of ICT in uplifting women's rights
- To establish a network of technology-fluent alumni and mentors

Board of Trustees

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Staff

- **Oreoluwa Somolu** – Executive Director
- **Oluwatoyin Ajao** – Outgoing Project Coordinator
- **Omokemi Akinbodunse** – Incoming Project Coordinator
- **Nkechi Nnamchi** – Office Assistant

Message from the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees



I am delighted to present to you the annual report and accounts of the Women's Technology Empowerment Centre (W.TEC) for the year 2009. This year saw W.TEC continuing to make strides in its mission of educating, connecting and empowering women through access to and training in information and communication tools.

2009 was our second year of operation and was a time of consolidating on achievements made in our first year. It saw us learning valuable lessons from our first set of programmes and refining them to more appropriately meet women's needs.

With the economic recession in full swing, financial considerations dominated many women's thoughts and W.TEC sought to prepare young women to adequately manage their financial affairs by launching the Young Women's Programme (YWP). The YWP was focused on teaching young women technology-related skills for financial empowerment, including graphic design, photography and video editing. The Girls Technology Camp, our annual vacation programme, moved into its second year and received more applications from secondary school girls around the country.

Believing that there is greater strength in numbers, W.TEC worked to forge more strategic partnerships with organisations and individuals who share our deep interest in the development of women. One instance is the social networking workshop, which W.TEC facilitated for BAOBAB for Women's Human Rights' Young Women's Leadership Institute. Others are training sessions conducted for the Center for Policy & Development and the Kudirat Initiative for Democracy.

In the years to come, W.TEC will continue to expand our retinue of activities as well as the scope of our programmes, and we look forward to taking this journey with you.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all the organisations and individuals who have supported W.TEC thus far. I also want to appreciate the efforts of my colleagues on the Board of Trustees, as well as the staff for their commitment to executing W.TEC's mission.

Together we can work together to transform women's lives through technology literacy training, mentoring and research.

Sincerely,

Engr (Mrs) Christy Adelowo

Executive Director's Notes



It is my utmost pleasure to present you with W.TEC's 2009 annual report. This was certainly an eventful year for the **Women's Technology Empowerment Centre (W.TEC)**. Funding was difficult to come by in this recession year, but this challenge forced us to think seriously about alternative income generation strategies. Trying to deliver our programs in this economic situation was tough, but it was probably a very good thing that we experienced this while still in our infancy stage, so that we could develop and incorporate a more entrepreneurial approach in our work.

Consequently, for the future, we have planned more training and consultancy services as a means of sustaining our girls and women empowerment programs and covering our operational costs. In addition, after carefully reviewing the needs of our beneficiaries, of people within our locality and keeping in our mind our mission, W.TEC decided to open a business centre, which offers Internet access, document management services and a training facility for rent.

Working towards these projects and seeing the effects of our programmes on the lives of the women and girls we work with kept us focused and motivated.

In our second year of operation, we were able to build-upon the work started in 2008 to educate, empower and connect girls and women through active engagement with information and communication technology (ICT).

In the year 2009:

15 girls attended the **2nd Girls Technology Camp** and learnt to use computers and gained a broader knowledge of technology-related career options

97 women learnt to use technology for learning, leadership, and developing their careers through **W.TEC programmes and workshops** organised with partner organisations

We published the **first W.TEC magazine**, which featured our activities in 2008 and explored the impact on our alumni. The magazine was widely distributed to programme beneficiaries, civil society organisations, media, government bodies and other stakeholders.

We published an article in **i4d: Information for Development** journal highlighting strategies for teaching technology effectively

The Executive Director was awarded the **Anita Borg Change Agent Award** for her efforts in supporting women in computing

UN-GAID (Global Alliance for ICT and Development) & Taking IT Global recognized W.TEC as a **Best Practice** in its publication on community transformation through ICT

Plan International, a global body working to alleviate child poverty, profiled W.TEC in its 2009 **Because I Am a Girl** report as an organisation dedicated to improving the lives of girls

We educated 417 people about ways to empower women and girls using information technology via our mailing lists and online group

We were able to achieve all these with assistance from supportive individuals and organisations. It is our hope that they will continue to support W.TEC in 2010 and beyond. Their financial and in-kind donations enabled W.TEC offer high-quality programming to Nigerian girls and women, as we continue in our work of building communities where women are able to use information technology successfully for learning, working and creating positive social change.

Whether you are able to give **N5, 000, N50, 000 or N500, 000**, your gift is greatly appreciated and enables us to continue our work. All gifts will be recognized in our donor listings in our publications.

Oreoluwa Somolu

TRAINING & CAPACITY-BUILDING

TRAINING & CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMMES

1ST YOUNG WOMEN'S PROGRAMME

In April 2009, W.TEC launched the Young Women's ICT Programme (YWP) aimed at teaching women aged 18 to 30 years how to use information and communication technology (ICTs) to develop and advance themselves as leaders and advocates in their communities. Participants learnt how to use technology in four major areas: Learning; Leadership; Advocacy; and Career Advancement.

The YWP was primarily targeted at young women between the ages of 18 to 30 who were students in a tertiary institution, about to start their higher education or recent graduates (graduated within the last 4 years).

Through the programme, the young women succeeded in:

- Developing skills in the use and management of Web 2.0 tools (blogs, wikis, podcasts) and other ICTs for learning, self-development and capacity building
- Understanding how to apply ICTs to creating change in their communities
- Learning how to work collaboratively with others using ICTs
- Developing skills that are relevant to their careers
- Learning how to build a formidable network for leadership, career and activism based activities

YWP provided a thorough introduction to blogs and social networking sites. Participants also learnt how to capture events by video and how to disseminate these videos on sharing sites like YouTube. The focus was always on building the young women's capacities to enable them to use these tools appropriately to their professional and personal lives.



FEEDBACK FROM THE YWP PARTICIPANTS

The organisation was wonderful with dedicated personnel, ready infrastructure, wonderful facilitators...

Danita Okeya

It was lively, educative and inspiring – especially the session on gender and leadership.

Patience Nwanekah

I would recommend this programme to others because ICT makes one exposed and able to communicate and discuss issues with other people especially outside one's location without meeting them physically.

Regina Ugwu

It is a great thing you have done here bringing women together to enlighten us more on ICT. It is a privilege being here. God bless you. I look forward to more of this.

Susan Irikefe

It's been an eye opener for me and I am going to tell friends about the importance of information technology to the nation's development.

Ayotola Onasanya



W.TEC Project Coordinator Oluwatoyin Ajao explaining a tool to Ayotola Onasanya

A cross-section of the class

2ND GIRLS TECHNOLOGY CAMP

W.TEC held the second edition of its **Girls Technology Camp** in August 2009, following the successful pilot in 2008. The 1-week residential camp took place at Laureates College, Lagos. This W.TEC initiative was aimed at helping girls develop an early interest in computers and other information and communication technology (ICT), as well as enabling them develop positive images of technology-related careers. The long-term goal is increased numbers of women working with and using information technology productively for professional and leadership activities.

The sessions that the girls participated included a computer foundation class, technology lab sessions (Microsoft Word and Excel; web design; blogging), career talks on technology and engineering related jobs. The speakers and facilitators were high-flying professionals. In a spirit of partnership, two graduates of Paradigm Initiative Nigeria's Ajegunle.org technology-training program came to share their experiences with our campers.

To add a practical dimension to the week-long camp, the girls visited the factory of Omatek Computers to learn how computers are assembled. Workshops like Gender and Leadership, Self-Confidence and Self-Esteem were aimed at nurturing the girls' sense of purpose and confidence.

The camp ended on a triumphant note with the girls sharing some of the things they learnt and displaying some newly-acquired confidence at the camp closing ceremony.

Prizes were given to six of the girls for academic and social achievements made during the camp. Omatek Computers donated a laptop, which was awarded to Mayowa Akintola, who emerged as *Ms. Excellence* – the best performing student at the camp.

We are very proud of all our 2009 campers.



Chidinma practicing her typing



Mayowa receives her laptop prize from Omatek representative Mrs. Etokakpan

WHAT OUR GIRLS HAD TO SAY ABOUT THEIR CAMP EXPERIENCE

The W.TEC Girls Camp has really impacted my life. When I was in school, I never knew anything about computers but when I came to the W.TEC camp, I learnt so much. As I am leaving, I leave as an ambassador of computing. I even think I need to change my career from architecture to computer science, because I really love it.
*Ngozi Shedrack, Grace School, SSS 1**

I would like to thank W.TEC so much for giving me this opportunity and I will tell them to continue to keep the flag flying. They have taught me to persevere to acquire the desire I admire. If I am tired, I should not retire, but acquire my desire. I would tell them to continue with the good work they have started and not relent in their efforts to train girls as well as women.

*Mosopeoluwa Amao, Our Lady of Apostles, JSS 2**

The W.TEC Camp has made me understand the use of the Internet. Now I have two e-mail addresses, my own website and blog. Now I can write information about myself, write contributions on various topics, chat with friends on Facebook, meet new people, download and upload my own photographs.

*Udochi Okoronkwo, The School for the Gifted, SSS 2**

I have learnt that we women should not accept a weaker position and that in whatever we are doing, we should believe in ourselves and not feel discriminated against. We should always put up our head and believe that no matter what, we will make it as far as we are focused and determined.

*Nancy Nduka, C.M.S Girls Senior Grammar School, SSS 2**

When my brother went for computer training, he paid N11,000 and I did not pay any money, but gained more than N11,000 's worth. I have learnt for free in the W.TEC Camp.

*Abigail Adegoke, Ifako Comprehensive Junior Secondary School, Ifako – Gbagada, JSS 2**

(* The girls' classes at the time of application)

SOCIAL NETWORKING FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS PROGRAMME

From March 12 to 13, W.TEC organised a **Social Networking for Women's Rights workshop** for the Young Women's Leadership Institute.

The Young Women's Leadership Institute is a programme of BAOBAB For Women's Human Rights, aimed at training and mentoring young feminists. The workshop demonstrated the use of social media for leadership and advocacy.



Priscilla at the programme



Some participants and the facilitator

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF W.TEC STAFF

Professional development for W.TEC staff is crucial to our success in realizing our vision. In 2009, W.TEC staff participated in a number of learning and development opportunities.

INFO-ACTIVISM CAMP, BANGALORE, INDIA: In February, Project Coordinator, Toyin Ajao attended the camp.

W.TEC INDUCTED TO COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS OF NIGERIA, ABUJA: On June 25, W.TEC was welcomed as a Corporate Member of the Computer Professionals Registration Council of Nigeria – CPN (registration number: 00219/2008). In 2008, W.TEC Executive Director had been inducted as an Associate Member (registration number: 001864/2008).

CPN is a legal entity, established by Decree no. 49 of 1993, and charged with the control and supervision of the computing profession in the country.

UTURN CONCEPTS 'VISION TO FUNDING' FORUM, LAGOS: On July 3, Executive Director Oreoluwa

Somolu attended this workshop, which connected social entrepreneurs with corporate organisations.

WOLE SOYINKA ANNUAL LECTURE, LAGOS: Toyin Ajao attended on July 13.

DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE 'ICT FOR NGOS' FORUM, ABUJA: Oreoluwa Somolu attended this forum on July 16, which explored how non-governmental organisations can use ICTs to advance their work.

ASSOCIATION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES OF NIGERIA (ATCON) CONFERENCE, LAGOS: Oreoluwa Somolu and Omokemi Akinbodunse attended the annual conference in November.

DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES & RESOURCE CENTRE WORKSHOP, LAGOS: In December, Oreoluwa Somolu and Omokemi Akinbodunse attended the workshop on 'Strategic Planning.'

MICROSOFT NGO CONNECTION DAY, LAGOS: Omokemi Akinbodunse attended this educational programme organised in December for the Nigerian civil society.



INTERNSHIP & VOLUNTARY WORK

W.TEC welcomed two short-term personnel in 2009.

Eniola Bright is a graduate of Religious Studies from the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife in Osun state. Prior to volunteering at W.TEC, Eniola had volunteered at Afterschool Graduate Development Centre and taught at a nursery school in Birnin Kebbi in Kebbi state.

Eniola interned at W.TEC for 3 weeks and helped to coordinate the logistics of the Girls Technology Camp and ensure that the camp ran smoothly. She also facilitated the well-rated 'Self-Esteem and Self-Confidence' session at the camp.



Ding Jie is an undergraduate of Tianjin University in Tianjin City, China, where she is studying industrial design. Ding Jie has a passion for art and development and volunteerism (having worked at a local orphanage and the Xinhua Education Library bookstore). Ding Jie is also a committed member of the global student-run Organization AIESEC, through which she was placed at W.TEC.

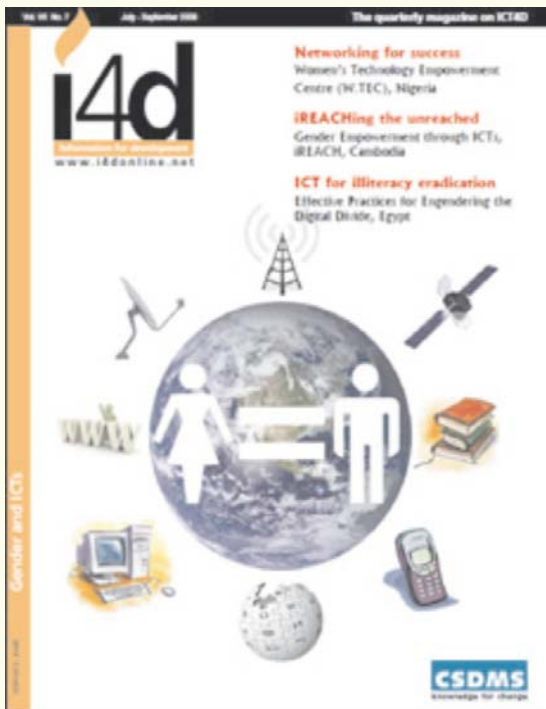
Ding Jie interned with W.TEC for 2 weeks and during that time she developed the curriculum for the 'Website Development' session at the camp. She also facilitated this session and worked as a laboratory assistant in other technology sessions.



RESEARCH & DOCUMENTATION

RESEARCH

PUBLISHED 'NETWORKING FOR SUCCESS' ARTICLE



Information for Development Journal

Oreoluwa Somolu and Toyin Ajao co-authored the article “**Networking for Success**”, which highlighted strategies for teaching technology effectively. The article was based on W.TEC's experiences and the outcomes from the Networking for Success project, which ran from May to July 2008.

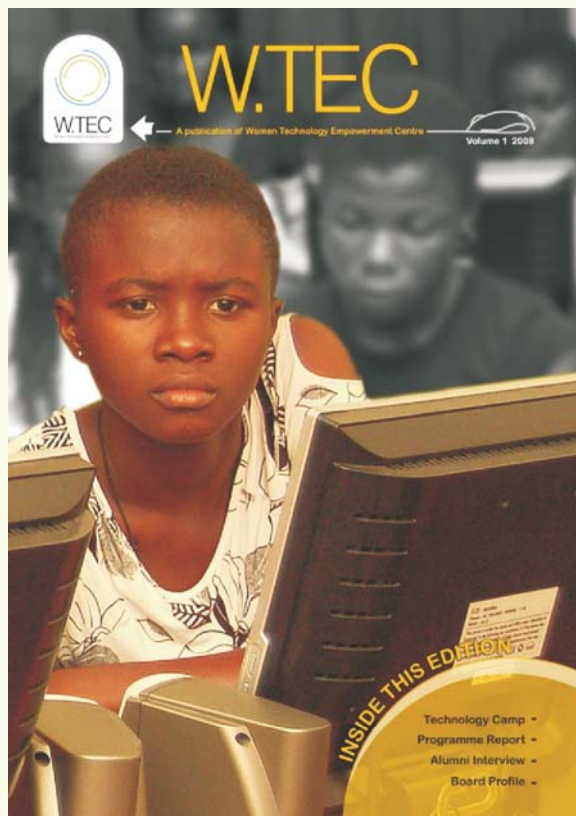
The IDRC-funded project was aimed at helping women develop skills in the use and management of Web 2.0 tools (blogs, wikis, podcasts) and other technologies in order to build capacity and efficiency into their organisation's work. It also helped them learn how to work collaboratively with colleagues within and outside of their organisations using ICTs.

The article was published in the September issue of i4d: Information for Development journal which focused on gender and ICTs. Read it online: <http://www.esnips.com/web/i4d>

DOCUMENTATION

1ST W.TEC MAGAZINE PUBLISHED

In June, W.TEC published its flagship magazine, which featured programme news and articles from our alumni. 500 copies of the magazine were circulated to our funders and supporters, alumni, civil society organisations, and the media. The magazine was also available online (http://w-teconline.org/publications/wtec_mag1.pdf).



1st Issue of W.TEC Magazine

ONLINE MEDIA:

W.TEC uses information tools to keep our funders, supporters, alumni and colleagues updated on our activities.

The W.TEC **website** and **blog** form an integral part of our online communication channels and feature reports on W.TEC's programmes, and highlights other gender and technology related initiatives. In 2009, the website and blog received 98,005 unique site visits.



W.TEC Website

W.TEC maintains 3 mailing lists – with 345 members – through which we keep in touch with our supporters and programme alumni.

In addition to this list, W.TEC hosts the “Women and Technology in Africa” group on the Facebook social networking site – with 240 members, which shares links to gender and technology-related resources and events.



W.TEC Blog



W.TEC 'Women and Technology in Africa' Facebook Group

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

AWARDS

BLOGHER INTERNATIONAL ACTIVISTS SCHOLARSHIP

In July, Ms. Toyin Ajao (W.TEC Project Coordinator) won the BlogHer International Activists Scholarship to attend the annual BlogHer Conference for women bloggers.

BlogHer is a community and media company created in partnership with women in social media. Today, BlogHer is the world's largest community of women who blog (with 23+ million unique visitors per month).

PEACE & SECURITY FELLOWSHIP FOR AFRICAN WOMEN

In August, Toyin Ajao was awarded a 1-year Peace & Security fellowship for African Women. The fellowship included a 6-month study period at Kings College London and learning and work experience at the United Nations and ECOWAS Small Arms Programme.

CHANGE AGENT AWARD

In August, Ms. Oreoluwa Somolu (W.TEC Executive Director) won the Change Agent Award from the Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology.

The Change Agent award honors technical women living and working outside the United States who work in their community to attract and support women in technology.

RECOGNITION

SELECTION OF W.TEC AS ICT BEST PRACTICE

In July, the United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development (UN-GAID) and Taking IT Global selected W.TEC as a best practice of community transformation through ICT in "A Digital Shift – Youth and ICT for Development Best Practices".

This publication showcased the ways that young people are improving the world through the use of ICTs. This initiative was coordinated by the eLeaders Committee of the United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development (UN-GAID) in collaboration with TakingITGlobal and Organisation Internationale de la francophonie.

RECOGNITION BY PLAN INTERNATIONAL

W.TEC was profiled in Plan International's 2009 "Because I Am a Girl" report on the state of the world's girls.

Plan International is a global organisation working to alleviate child poverty. This is the third in a series of annual reports examining the rights of girls throughout their childhood, adolescence and as young women.



PUBLIC AWARENESS & MEDIA

In 2009 W.TEC strove to educate the public about the importance of women and girls learning about and using information tools. We educated and raised awareness at conferences and other events, through online channels, press releases and collaboration with the media.

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SYSTEMS DAY, LAGOS: On May 17, W.TEC together with Paradigm Initiative Nigeria released a press release titled 'Vision 2020 and ICT', both to commemorate the day and also to draw attention to the role that information technology has to play in realizing the objectives of the Nigerian government's Vision 2020 strategic plan.

BAOBAB FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS' NATIONAL FORUM, ABUJA: This theme of this year's discussion, which took place from July 21 to 22, was the African Union protocol and its relationship with upholding women's rights. Oreoluwa Somolu participated as a moderator.

DREAMER'S CONFERENCE, LAGOS: On July 25th, Oreoluwa Somolu spoke about the problems that inspired the need for W.TEC.

BLOGHER ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CHICAGO, IL, USA: Toyin Ajao won a BlogHer International Activist Scholarship to attend this global gathering of women bloggers in July. As part of this award, Toyin participated on a panel discussion talking about her work as an activist and advocate of women's rights.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE WORKSHOP, LAGOS: On September 10th, Oreoluwa Somolu spoke on "Youth & Technology: Partnership for the Future" to the teenage participants of the 2009 GET Global Youth Leadership Workshop.

GRACE HOPPER CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN COMPUTING, TUCSON, AZ, USA: In October, Oreoluwa Somolu was conferred with a Change Agent Award for her contributions to supporting women in computing by the Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology. As part of this award, she was invited to speak on a panel about her work educating and empowering women and girls using technology.

KUDIRAT INITIATIVE FOR DEMOCRACY'S KUDRA PROGRAMME, LAGOS: On October 14, Oreoluwa Somolu facilitated a Training of Trainers' workshop on the importance for women using technology for advocacy and networking.

AFRICA INTERNET SUMMIT, LAGOS: On October 16, Oreoluwa Somolu spoke on "Using Web 2.0 for Effective Networking" at this annual summit that brings together established and aspiring Internet entrepreneurs.

CENTER FOR POLICY & DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP: On November 12, Oreoluwa Somolu facilitated a session on "Web 2.0 Technologies for Civil Society & Media Organisations."

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

The 16 Days of Activism takes place every year from November 25 to December 10, to raise awareness about issues of gender-based violence. Women's organizations, public and development agencies participate in the campaign in a myriad of ways from hosting conferences, and workshops to organizing dramas and marches.

W.TEC participated in this annual campaign by publishing daily blog articles exploring gender violence.

MEDIA COVERAGE: In 2009, W.TEC was featured in a variety of news publications and online portals including Technology Times, KIND Leader, Business Wire, Fast Company, TW Magazine, NTA Lagos Channel 10 News, The Nation, Silverbird Television, Business Day, Daily Champion, Daily Independent and Punch.

W.TEC Alumni Interview: Bisola Alade



Can you tell us how you got to know about W.TEC?
I heard of W.TEC at a seminar in 2008.

Can you explain what the W.TEC Young Women's Programme was all about?

[The programme was about] Empowering young women to be knowledgeable in ICT (information and communication technology) with the use of computers, because computer literacy is necessary for all in today's organisations.

What was your experience like at the workshop?

The experience was good and worthwhile. [The workshop was held] in a friendly environment with capable instructors, who were patient enough to put one through the practical lessons. I also got to socialise with other people and discuss other general issues related to the female folks.

Did the programme add value to your life? If yes how?

Yes. It did. The information I acquired increased my knowledge beyond the basic computing skills I was familiar with prior to the workshop. It has been very useful.

Can you tell us a bit about your work?

I presently work with an ICT firm that offers services such as developing web-portals, e-mail marketing, electronic cards (e-cards) and biometric software. My duties have included digitizing content from hard

copy to a soft copy format for electronic viewing and research. I find it interesting!

What do you consider to be the importance of information technology to women and girls?

It is very important for women and girls to be I.T. inclined in every sense of the word – especially in this time where technocracy is prominent and rules the socio-economic state of the nation. Also, I.T. helps improve our lives.

What do you consider to be the obstacles preventing more women and girls from using computers, the Internet and other information tools?

Some are not aware of the use and benefits of the internet. Some can be discouraged due to the fraudulent actions carried out on the internet. Some are not trained and even when trained can't afford to own the hardware to ensure continuity.

How have you been using the skills acquired at the programme? How has it enhanced your work?

It helps make my work interesting and results-oriented.

How have you affected your environment/community with the knowledge obtained from the Young Women's Programme?

The knowledge obtained has for example helped me share information to others online via social networking sites.

Any final advice or word of encouragement for women and girls out there interested in equipping themselves technology-wise?

Go for it! Acquire the skills and be I.T inclined. You will be well-informed to make a difference and be the best you can for yourself and the society.

At press time, Bisola was working at computer software and sales company.

My Experience at the W.TEC Girls Technology Camp



First of all, I learnt how to use Microsoft Excel. I already had some experience with it, but when I came here the teacher sharpened my skill and I now know how to find averages, sum and differences.

I learnt how to create blogs and websites, which I am going to practice when I get home. I also opened two other e-mail boxes, thanks to W.TEC.

I learnt how movies are made. I also learnt about the operating system, how it works and how to update the computer by installing the O.S. I also learnt how to use Windows Movie Maker, how to split, how to create effects and how to create titles for the movies.

I learnt how to surf the Internet properly, including how to use social networking site. In the Gender and Leadership workshop, I was taught that I should not accept that I am a weaker sex. I learnt to fight for my rights and about gender-based discrimination and stereotypes. I was taught about self confidence and self esteem, and how to improve my self esteem.

I also learnt what engineers do and the different types of engineers. I was also urged to be focused, to read well and to have passion for my future career.

I was also motivated to help others who do not have the opportunities that I have. I was urged to make a change in society.

By Mayowa Akintola

(Air Force Secondary School, SSS 1)



I came to the camp on Sunday and I was sad because I was going to miss my Mummy. The next day, Mr. Odeleye (one of the instructors) taught us about ICT (information and communication technology) and we learnt a lot from him. We also learnt about Microsoft Excel and now I can teach my friends who did not know it. I am so happy that they taught us how to use Microsoft Word.

We also learnt to use the Internet and create our own email address. So when I get home, my Daddy will be happy that I have an email account now and not like before when I would disturb him to create one for me.

I really do not want to go home, but I miss my Mummy and Daddy. I will really miss everyone. I am so glad I met the fifteen girls and I really enjoyed everything we did throughout this camp. I am so happy I now know how to operate a computer at last and show my brother I know more information than him.

I love you W.TEC. I will always remember you at the back of my mind.

By Peniel Ohiman

(Command Secondary School, JSS2)*

** Classes at the time of application*

Volunteering at W.TEC

By Ding Jie

I am an intern from China, I have been staying in Nigeria for over one month, I feel so glad that I have the chance to spend my last two weeks volunteering in W.TEC. I worked for one week in the office with Ore and Toyin, one week in the camp. When I was told I was going to live with 15 selected girls in a camp teaching this was more than I expected, it's amazing.

I can see the 15 girls really learnt a lot from some technology knowledge and information about technology jobs. I thought it's cool. Later when I really joined in the camp, I found that actually it's even better because some of them even didn't know what Microsoft is and have never browsed before, but at the end of the camp they all learnt how to use Microsoft Word to write essays and how to use Microsoft Excel to do some simple calculation. They also learnt how to make a short movie. Now they all have their own emails and some of them even built their own blogs and can build a website themselves.

It was not only computer knowledge that they got from the camp. They also had classes about ICT, career talk, peace education, leadership, gender and self-defense like Taekwondo.



DingJie teaching the web design class

On the third day we paid a visit to Omatek Computers factory, where they showed us the process of building a computer. Omatek even donated a laptop the best girl in the camp!

These girls are not only fast learners but also good actors. They were divided into three groups. Each prepared a drama and we selected out the best one to perform at the closing ceremony. Their performance was over my expectation, they were full of passion, good at acting. It was a lot of fun when we were in the drama session. We had good

time together in these 7 days. At the end of the camp all the girls felt sad to leave.

I can't say they were all very good at using computers and going to be excellent engineers in the future, because it's impossible. But something I am sure is that after the camp we made a strong impact on them, conveying the information about how important ICT is for women and that we girls can be as good as boys or even better in technology. What the 15 girls learnt is not only the knowledge about how to use software, but a new view of how to build a beautiful life for girls.

It's a brilliant idea to organise this camp and Ore and Toyin are doing a great job. I still can't believe W.TEC is run by only two women, because it's so well organized. Later I knew that since we didn't get a lot of sponsors, Ore was using her own savings to run the project and even the NGO. As for Toyin, she is an independent woman and I am always influenced by her passion.



DingJie shares her experience for the camp video

W.TEC is only two years old and the camp is running next year. I hope more volunteers will work in it and the society will pay more attention to the NGO to empower more Nigerian women in technology.

Ding Jie interned with W.TEC in August 2009 and is now continuing her studies at Tianjin University, China.

EVENT REPORT: GRACE HOPPER CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN COMPUTING

By Oreoluwa Somolu

The Grace Hopper Celebration (GHC) of Women in Computing Conference is designed to bring the research and career interests of women in computing to the forefront. The GHC Conference is the world's largest gathering of technical women in computing.

I had heard about the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing, but had never had the opportunity to attend. However, my first experience was, in my opinion, the best introduction that I could have ever had to the annual event. The Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing is a series of annual conferences designed to bring the research and career interests of women in computing to the forefront. The conference is targeted at women working in technical and closely-related roles, researchers, educators and students.

At the start of the year, Toyin Ajao (W.TEC's then Project Coordinator) mentioned that she wanted to nominate me for an award. I thanked her and then forgot about it – until that Friday evening in August when I opened an e-mail, which started with “Congratulations.”

“For what?” I wondered. Maybe a grant proposal came through....

As I scanned the rest of the letter, I saw that I had been selected by the Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology to receive their annual **Change Agent Award**. The Change Agent awards honor technical women living and working outside the United States who work in their community to attract and support women in technology. There would be 3 recipients of this award (the others were Halima Ibrahim, the Director of Mu'assassatul Mar'aatus



At the award ceremony (L-R: Telle Whitney, President, Anita Borg Institute; change agent winners Halima Ibrahim, Anne Ikiara, Oreoluwa Somolu; Alan Eustace, Senior Vice President, Engineering & Research, of Google and Board of Trustee Member of the Anita Borg Institute)

Saliha Women's Skill Acquisition Centre, Bauchi, Nigeria and Anne Ikiara, the General Manager of Nairobits Trust, Nairobi, Kenya). As a condition of the award, I was required to attend the Grace Hopper Celebration.

The 2009 GHC took place in Tucson, Arizona in the United States. Presenters at GHC are leaders in their respective fields, representing industrial, academic and government communities. Leading researchers present their current work, while special sessions focus on the role of women in today's technology fields, including computer science, information technology, research and engineering. This level of expertise makes for highly fascinating sessions and engaging discussions. However there were about 100 different sessions, many taking place simultaneously, which made it difficult deciding which to attend.

The sessions covered technical specifics, strategies for balancing work and personal life, tips for

selecting university courses and guidelines on preparing for and advancing career development. I was able to identify some technology-centered programmes for girls, which gave me ideas to develop W.TEC's work.

As an award winner, I participated in a panel with the other change agent awardees, where I talked about W.TEC's mission and achievements. My change agent award was presented at a glittering ceremony, where I was presented with a trophy before a distinguished audience of GHC attendees and executives from leading technology companies.

It was definitely a thrill to be recognised on such a global scale for W.TEC's work, but perhaps more importantly, the Grace Hopper Celebration provided a phenomenal opportunity for meeting women passionate about technology's potential for making this world a better place to live and improve quality of life.



At the change agent award winners' panel (L-R: Anne Ikiara, Oreoluwa Somolu, Halima Ibrahim)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 2009

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The President has the pleasure of presenting her report with the Audited Financial Statements of the Incorporated Trustees of Women's Technology Empowerment Centre for the year ended December 31 2009.

Activities

The activities of the Incorporated Trustees of the Women's Technology Empowerment Centre for the year ended 31st December 2009 is as contained in the Executive Director's report.

State of Affairs

In the opinion of the President, the State of Affairs of the Incorporated Trustees is satisfactory.

Employment Policies

The Incorporated Trustees of the Women's Technology Empowerment Centre does not discriminate in its employment policies.

Significant Changes in Fixed Assets

No significant changes occurred in the Fixed Assets of the Incorporated Trustees of the Women's Technology Empowerment Centre other than additions in the ordinary course of its operations.

Post Balance Sheet Events


There are no post balance sheet events which could have a material effect on the state of affairs as at December, 31st 2009 and the receipts and payments for the year ended on that date which have not been adequately provided for or disclosed in these financial statements.

Auditors

Messrs AZIENGBE OSIMHEN & Co has indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with Section 357(2) of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

Financial Results

	2009 N	2008 N
Revenue Receipts	6,338,615	4,334,250
Excess (deficit) of Revenue over Expenses before depreciation.	1,084,768	(193,318)
Depreciation	490,841	541,322
Excess (deficit) of Revenue over Expenses after depreciation.	593,927	(734,640)
Excess(deficit) of Revenue over Expenses brought forward	(734,640)	-
Excess(deficit) of Revenue over Expenses carried forward	(140,713)	(734,640)



Engr. Oyindamola Adelowo
Board Chair



AZIENGBE OSIMHEN & CO

(Chartered Accountants)

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF WOMEN'S TECHNOLOGY EMPOWERMENT CENTRE (CAC/IT/NO27027)

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying Financial Statements, which includes the balance sheet as at 31st December 2009, the receipts & payments and cash flow statement for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and explanatory notes.

Trustee's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation & fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Nigerian Statements of Accounting Standards and with the requirements of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an independent opinion on the financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements, plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Trustees as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

The activities of the Incorporated Trustees of Women's Technology Empowerment Centre is closely supervised by the Trustees who are involved in the every day running of the NGO and in the circumstances; a lot of reliance was placed on their representations particularly where there was no audit trail and it was not possible to obtain independent third party confirmation. We believe that the representations made to us are sufficient to provide a basis for our opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effect of the matter referred to in the preceding paragraph, the Financial Statement give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Incorporated Trustees of Women's Technology Empowerment Centre as at 31st December 2009, and of the receipts & payments and cash flow for the period ended on that date.


for: AZIENGBE OSIMHEN & CO
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
LAGOS - NIGERIA.

20th September 2010



BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2009 N	2008 N
Fixed Assets	1	4,545,046	2,085,887
<hr/>			
Current Assets			
Debtors/Prepayments	2	-	60,000
Bank & Cash	3	1,752,863	1,284,607
<hr/>			
		1,752,863	1,344,607
<hr/>			
Current Liabilities			
Accrued Audit Fee Expense	4	140,000	200,000
<hr/>			
Net Current Assets		1,612,863	1,144,607
<hr/>			
Total Assets		6,157,909	3,230,494
<hr/> <hr/>			
Financed By			
Accumulated Funds	5	6,157,909	3,230,494
<hr/>			
		6,157,909	3,230,494
<hr/> <hr/>			

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 2009

	Notes	N	2009 N	N	2008 N
Turnover					
<i>Revenue Receipts</i>	6		6,338,615		4,334,250
Deduct Expenditures					
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>	7	409,086		895,240	
<i>Personnel Cost</i>	8	2,430,455		2,191,446	
<i>Repairs & Maintenance</i>	9	332,566		176,575	
<i>Utilities</i>	10	227,653		217,190	
<i>Other Expenses</i>	11	1,849,410		954,603	
<i>Finance Cost</i>	12	4,677	(5,253,847)	92,514	(4,527,568)
Surplus(Deficit) of Revenue Over Expenditure before Depreciation			1,084,768		(193,318)
Depreciation	13		490,841		541,322
Surplus(Deficit) of Revenue Over Expenditure after Depreciation			593,927		(734,640)
Surplus(Deficit) of Revenue Over Expenditure after Depreciation brought forward			(734,640)		-
Surplus(Deficit) of Revenue Over Expenditure after Depreciation carried forward			(140,713)		(734,640)

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 2009

	2009 N	2008 N
Cash Flow from Operating Activities		
Surplus(Deficit) of Revenue Over Expenditure after Depreciation	(140,713)	(734,640)
Adjustment for Non Cash Items:		
Depreciation	490,841	541,322
	<u>350,128</u>	<u>(193,318)</u>
Adjusted for Changes in Working Capital		
Increase(Decrease) in Debtors/Prepayments	60,000	(60,000)
Increase(Decrease) in Creditors/Accruals	(60,000)	200,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>140,000</u>
Cash Flow from Investment Activities		
Purchases of Fixed Assets	(2,950,000)	(2,627,209)
	<u>(2,950,000)</u>	<u>(2,627,209)</u>
Cash Flow from Financing Activities		
Cash contributions by Trustees	3,068,128	3,965,134
	<u>3,068,128</u>	<u>3,965,134</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash/Cash Equivalents	468,256	1,284,607
Opening Cash/Cash Equivalents	1,284,607	-
Closing Cash/Cash Equivalents	1,752,863	1,284,607

ACCOUNTING POLICES

The following are the significant accounting policies adopted by the Incorporated Trustees of the Women's Technology Empowerment Centre in the preparation of its Financial Statements.

Basis of Accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost basis of accounting. No adjustments have been made to reflect the impact on the financial statements of specific price changes or changes in the general level of prices. The financial statements comply with all the statements of accounting standards issued by the Nigerian Accounting Standard Board (NASB)

Turnover

Revenue Receipts represents amounts received as grants, subventions and donations.

Foreign Exchange

All donations received in foreign currencies are translated into Naira at the ruling exchange control rate on the day of Exchange

Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation

Depreciation charged on fixed assets is calculated on the straight-line basis at rates considered appropriate to the class and life of Assets concerned. The annual rates are:

Books	-	10%
Furniture & Fittings	-	15%
Office Equipment	-	15%
Electric Power Generator	-	20%
Office Building	-	5%

Repairs & Renewals

All repairs & renewals are written off as it occurs.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1. Fixed Assets

	Books	Furniture & Fittings	Office Equipment	Electric Power Generator	Office Building	Total
Cost	N	N	N	N	N	N
01.01.2009	15,762	1,199,049	477,398	935,000	-	2,627,209
Additions	-	-	-	-	2,950,000	2,950,000
31.12.2009	15,762	1,199,049	477,398	935,000	2,950,000	5,577,209
Depreciation						
01.01.2009	1,576	110,974	117,105	311,667	-	541,322
Charge	1,419	163,211	54,044	124,667	147,500	490,841
31.12.2009	2,995	274,185	171,149	436,334	147,500	1,032,163
Net Book Value						
01.01.2009	14,186	1,088,075	360,293	623,333	-	2,085,887
31.12.2009	12,767	924,864	306,249	498,666	2,802,500	4,545,046

	2009 N	2008 N
2. Debtors & Prepayments		
Staff Debtors	-	60,000
	=====	=====
3. Cash /Bank		
Bank	1,752,863	1,284,607
	=====	=====
4. Creditors/Accruals		
Accrued Audit Fee Expense	140,000	200,000
	=====	=====
5. Accumulated Funds		
Opening Balance	3,230,494	-
Add Surplus(Deficit) for the Year	(140,713)	(734,640)
Cash Introduced by Trustees	3,068,128	3,965,134
	-----	-----
Closing Balance	6,157,909	3,230,494
	=====	=====
6. Revenue Receipts		
Donations	2,818,350	1,106,000
Accrued Donations	70,000	-
Income – Training & Seminars	299,430	329,920
Other Income	200,835	271,121
Donation of Assets Monetised	2,950,000	2,627,209
	-----	-----
	6,338,615	4,334,250
	=====	=====
7. Administrative Expenses		
Newspapers	27,450	23,100
Travels	217,751	260,564
Board Meetings	20,060	18,330
Office Provisions & Toiletries	29,260	-
Entertainment	-	23,000
Transportation	42,295	-
Printing & Stationery	72,270	271,251
Course Materials	-	298,995
	-----	-----
	409,086	895,240
	=====	=====

	2009 N	2008 N
8. Personnel Cost		
Salaries & Wages	2,253,769	2,183,336
Leave Allowance	27,000	-
Utility Allowance	100,186	-
Staff Training	49,500	8,110
	<u>2,430,455</u>	<u>2,191,446</u>
	=====	=====
9. Repairs & Maintenance		
Diesel Consumption	93,750	116,450
Diesel Oil & Lubrications	4,300	-
Generator Repairs	231,216	60,125
Air Conditioner Repairs	3,300	-
	<u>332,566</u>	<u>176,575</u>
	=====	=====
10. Utilities		
Website Technology Cost	25,177	-
Internet Subscription	168,000	-
Telephones	17,500	207,900
Electricity Charges	16,976	9,200
	<u>227,653</u>	<u>217,190</u>
	=====	=====
11. Other Expenses		
Incorporation Expenses	-	117,943
Audit & Accountancy	140,000	200,000
Sundry Expenses	1,100	9,670
Registration & Subscription – CPAN	99,450	58,550
Publication Expenses – W.TEC	120,000	-
Expenses – Girls Tech Camp	958,510	568,440
Expenses – YWP	530,350	-
	<u>1,849,410</u>	<u>954,603</u>
	=====	=====

	2009 N	2008 N
12. Finance Cost		
Bank Charges	4,677	92,514
	-----	-----
	4,677	92,514
	=====	=====
13. Depreciation		
Books	1,419	1,576
Furniture & Fittings	163,211	110,974
Office Equipment	54,044	117,105
Electric Power Generator	124,667	311,667
Office Building	147,500	-
	-----	-----
	490,841	541,322
	=====	=====

14. Comparatives

The comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation in the current year

Get Involved

W.TEC welcomes your involvement in these ways:

- **Apply for Programmes**
- **Donate:** Cash, books, software, and other relevant resources are welcome
- **Volunteer:** If you have technology skills, are interested in developing women and are available to assist with programmes, please contact us and let us know your particular area of expertise and interest
- **Interact:** On our blog (www.w-teconline.org/blog), Facebook group (Women and Technology in Africa) and mailing list.

To support W.TEC, please call +234.819.115.0387 or +234.1.850.9782 or email info@w-teconline.org.



Contact Information

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Email: info@w-teconline.org

Website: www.w-teconline.org

Appreciation

Thank you for funding and supporting our work in 2009.

Individuals

Engr. Olayinka Abdul
Professor & Engr. Adelowo
Mr. Femi Afolabi
Mr. Adeoye Afolayan
Ms. Wunmi Akinbodunse
Mr. Yinka Akingbade
Mrs. Ify Anaele
Mrs. Ruth Anok
Ms. Itunu Aramide
Ms. Opeyemi Aramide
Ms. Yemisi Aroyehun
Mr. Korede Asuni
Mr. Abayomi Ayoola
Mr. Jide Babatunde
Mr. Shina Badaru
Ms. Kofo Belo-Osagie
Ms. Eniola Bright
Mr. Alfred Daodu
Mr. Olaleye Dawodu
Dr. Nadu Denloye
Ms. Sylvie DingJie
Ms. Oghomwen Ehigbie
Mrs. Toyin Falade
Ms. Maria Gorretti-Dokubo
Ms. Obo Henshaw
Ms. Omonor Imobhio
Ms. Bose Ironsi
Mrs. Tope Johnson
Ms. Bianca Li
Mr. Roland Nzimora
Mr. Samuel Odeleye
Ms. Esther Olatunde
Mrs. Funmilola Omojola
Mr. Muyiwa Onadeko

Ms. Ayotola Onasanya
Mr. Adebola Oni
Mrs. Adesuwa Onyenokwe
Ms. Linda Orajekwe
Mr. Gbenga Sesan
Ms. Ayoola Somolu
Engr. Foluseke A. Somolu
Mr. Foluseke B. Somolu
Dr. Olatokunbo Somolu
Ms. Oreoluwa Somolu
Mr. Ibikunle Williams

Organisations

Centre for Policy and Development (PoDeC)
Human Development Initiative - HDI
Idris Akinsoyinu & Co. (Chartered Accountants)
Kabissa
Kudirat Initiative for Democracy – KIND
Laureates College, Mafoluku, Lagos
Omatek Computers Limited
Paradigm Initiative Nigeria

Media

Business Day
Champion Newspapers
Daily Independent
The Punch
The Nation
News Agency of Nigeria – NAN
NTA Lagos Channel 10
Silverbird Television
Technology Times
TW Magazine