

Dr. Ndegwa is an Assistant Professor of Animal Health at VSU Agricultural Research Station with a background in Veterinary biomedical sciences. Her research focuses on animal health research topics of economic and public health importance in farm animals. Since joining VSU, Dr. Ndegwa has established an interdisciplinary and collaborative One Health/Animal health research program that utilizes 21st century research skills in biological/biomedical sciences to solve complex health issues of local, national and global relevance.

Her research output has been phenomenal both as researcher and student research mentor with publications in high impact journals as primary author and co-author with her colleagues. As a reflection of the quality of her research output and research mentorship, her students, both undergraduate and graduate student have won Awards in national and VSU graduate and undergraduate student conferences. Moreover, because of her research skills and expertise she has been invited to participate in reviewing research proposals for funding agencies like AFRI, NIH, NSF, SARE and FFAR. She is an invited Co-Editor in a Special issue in the high impact Pathogens Journal, has received invitation to serve as an editorial member in journals, and review manuscripts in her area of expertise by several journals. She served as the Vice-chair of Virginia Academy of Science- Agriculture, Forest and Aquaculture section. She has been invited to participate in selective workshops related to her research expertise and present during stakeholder workshops within and outside of the state. At VSU, her research was featured in the University's Research and Economic calendar and was among invited select STEAM presenters to highlight her research work at VSU.

She has also been outstanding in seeking extramural grants to support her research program at VSU. Within the period she has been at VSU, she has been awarded funds totaling over \$ 2.0 million either as principal investigator and/or Co-PI. These awards have included funding from the highly competitive AFRI Foundational Program, SARE program and from the 1890's funding NIFA CBG program. This reflects Dr. Ndegwa's exceptional grantsmanship skills and high quality research output from her program at VSU.

Her passion for teaching and mentoring students using her research has been impressive. She has been an instructor in the Biology department, successfully mentored two (2) graduate students as the thesis advisor, five (5) as a co-advisor, hosted several graduate research rotation students and several undergraduate students have been and continue to gain hands-on skills in her research laboratory.

Thus, Dr. Ndegwa's passion for excellence, impact and continued success backed by her achievements establish her as a leading researcher, educator and mentor in her field.