

MARIA AKUEJEZOI MBELU, Ph.D

Visual and Literary Artist

Principal Lecturer, Textile Design and Technology,

Department of Industrial Design,

Faculty of Art, Design and Printing Technology,

Institute of Management and Technology (IMT), Enugu, Nigeria.

Mobile: **08036635528**

Email: mbelumaria@yahoo.com, mbelumariaakuejeozi@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ADVANCED EXPERTISE IN TEXTILE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY | STUDENT COUNSELING AND MENTORSHIP | RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT | STRATEGIC ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

Dynamic and accomplished academic professional with over three decades of progressive experience delivering lectures, researching, and overseeing academic leadership. Expertise in Textile Design and Technology, with a proven record of success in curriculum development, student mentorship, and innovative teaching methodologies. Skilled at working with students from diverse backgrounds and within a multicultural environment and maintaining professional conduct in all staff interactions. Adept at facilitating an engaging and inclusive learning environment, ensuring academic excellence, and driving student success.

Currently serving as Head of Department, Industrial Design at the Institute of Management and Technology (IMT), Enugu State, with proven dedication contributing to the delivery and continued growth of course modules across the school's academic programmes. Demonstrated exceptional leadership in departmental operations, faculty development, strategic planning, and research proposal development. Authored multiple peer-reviewed articles and presented at international conferences, contributing to the academic community in textile design and practices and enhancing institutional reputation in the global landscape.

Recognised for commitment to mentorship and professional development with strong organisational abilities, an innovative approach to academic administration, and dedication to driving institutional activities to achieve desired goals and outstanding student outcomes. Excellent communicator with extensive ability to collaborate, network, and build relationships and partnerships with interdisciplinary teams focusing on enhancing institutional standards and promoting a conducive environment for continuous while maintaining quality education delivery.

BIODATA

- Sex: Female
- Nationality: Nigerian
- State: Anambra
- L.G.A.: Idemili North Local Govt. Area
- Date of Birth: 9th June, 1962
- Marital Status: Married
- Religion: Christianity

EDUCATION

- **Ph.D. Fine and Applied Art (Textile Option)**
– Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumolueni, River State, Nigeria **2020 – 2024**
- **Master of Fine Art (MFA)**
– Cardiff School of Art and Design; Cardiff Metropolitan University Cardiff, Wales, UK **2017 – 2016**
- **Master's in Public Administration (M.P.A)**
– Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu, Nigeria **1999 – 2001**
- **Post Graduate Diploma in Public Admin (PGD)**
– Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu, Nigeria **1999 – 2001**
- **Post Graduate Diploma in Education (P.G.D.E)** – University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State **1990 – 1992**

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- **Higher National Diploma [H.N.D] Textile Design and Technology**
– Department of Fine & Applied Art, Institute of Management and Technology (IMT) Enugu. Enugu State **1984 – 1986**
- **O.N.D in Fine and Applied Arts** – Institute of Management and Technology (IMT), Enugu State, Nigeria **1981 – 1983**
- **WASCE** – Izzi Girls Secondary School, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State **1974 – 1979**

CORE COMPETENCIES

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| ▪ <i>Academic Program Oversight</i> | ▪ <i>Educational Technology</i> | ▪ <i>Quality Assurance</i> |
| ▪ <i>Lecturing</i> | ▪ <i>Monitoring and Supervision</i> | ▪ <i>Administrative Management</i> |
| ▪ <i>Training and Development</i> | ▪ <i>Student Engagement</i> | ▪ <i>Research Supervision</i> |
| ▪ <i>Textile Design and Principle</i> | ▪ <i>Continuous Improvement</i> | ▪ <i>Executive Level Engagement</i> |
| ▪ <i>Curriculum Design</i> | ▪ <i>Student Assessment</i> | ▪ <i>Reporting & Documentation</i> |

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

- **Resource Person** – Questions Generation for National Business and Technical Examinations Board (NABTEB) **1995 – Present**
- **Project Management Professionals [PMP] – 2016** **26th July – 28th August**
- **Resource Person** – The UNESCO Nigeria Project for the Revitalization of Technical and Vocational Education in Technical Examination Board [NABTEB] **25th – 29th May 2009**
- **Advanced Digital Appreciation Program for Tertiary Institutions Certificate** – Digital Bridge Institute International Centre for Information and Communications Tech. Studies

AWARD AND RECOGNITION

- **Certificate of Merit: Recognised for Outstanding Anglo-American Conference for Academic Disciplines: University of London, U.K Research & Presentation Conference for Academic Disciplines**
– University of London, UK **4th – 7th November 2014**

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY (IMT), ENUGU STATE

- **Head of Department (HOD)** – Industrial Design **March 2021 – Present**
- **Departmental Coordinator**, School of Arts Design and Printing Technology (Continuing Education Programmes) **2020 – Present**
- **Head**, Textile Section **1994 – Present**
- **Students' Adviser**, Department of Fine and Applied Art **1994 – Present**
- **Exam and Timetable Departmental Coordinator**, School of Arts Design and Printing Technology **2018 – 2021**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES – CAREER PROGRESSION

INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY (IMT), ENUGU STATE

- **Lecturer** – Textile Design and Technology **1992 – Present**

Responsibilities and Notable Accomplishments

- Design and deliver engaging, well-structured lectures to ensure comprehensive learning outcomes.
- Conduct innovative research, supervised student projects, and effectively managed research budgets.
- Assess academic work with constructive feedback, driving continuous student improvement and success.
- Lead curriculum development and manage the operations of the Textile Section, aligning programs with institutional goals.
- Facilitate personal and academic development through tailored tutorials and pastoral guidance, providing academic and career counselling to impact student growth and achievement.
- Administer and invigilate examinations, ensuring compliance with academic standards and protocols.
- Author and publish peer-reviewed research papers, contributing to academic journals and knowledge dissemination.
- Organise and manage departmental timetables and examination schedules for efficient academic operations.

STANDARD ORGANISATION OF NIGERIA (SON)

➤ **Textile Quality Control Officer (NYSC)** **1987 – 1988**

Responsibilities and Notable Accomplishments

- Conducted quality control inspections for textiles, ensuring strict compliance with national and international industry standards.
- Developed and implemented quality assurance protocols to identify defects and enhance product consistency.
- Collaborated with manufacturers and stakeholders to provide expert recommendations on improving textile durability, aesthetics, and safety.
- Monitored production processes to ensure adherence to Standard Organization of Nigeria (SON) regulations and best practices in the textile industry.

STATE EDUCATION COMMISSION, ENUGU STATE

➤ **Teacher** **1987 – 1991**

Responsibilities and Notable Accomplishments

- Designed and delivered dynamic lessons, fostering an engaging and inclusive learning environment.
- Assessed student performance through comprehensive evaluations and provided tailored support to enhance academic achievement.
- Collaborated with parents and key stakeholders to align on strategies that promote effective learning outcomes and holistic development.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

➤ **Curator, Museum and Gallery – Enugu Sports Club** **2019 – Present**

➤ **Customer Service Representative/Administrator**

PUBLICATIONS

- ***“Ankara Prints with Symbolic Names as Motifs for Interior Decoration” (PhD Thesis), 2024.***
- ***“Adaptation of Motifs and Design Pattern; An Existent Tool for Textile Fabric Evaluation”:* South-South Journal of Humanities and International Studies, Vol.6 No 4 - Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria. **December 2023.****
- ***“Review and Upgrade of our Artists Training for Professional Edge in the World of Work”:* by Maria Mbelu – IMT International Journal (<https://imtijotas.org.ng>), **2023.****
- ***“Adaptation of Motif and Design as an Effective Tool for Textile Fabric Evaluation in Nigeria”:* IJOTAS IMT International Journal of The Arts And Sciences, Volume 4 No.1, ISSN.2616-1079; E-ISSN;2616, **December 2021.****
- ***Introduction to Fine & Applied Art, 2021.***
- ***Cultural and Creative Arts Fine Arts for Junior Secondary School (JSS I), 2020.***
- ***Cultural and Creative Arts, Fine Art for Junior Secondary School (JSS II), 2009.***
- ***“Cultural Expression Through Historical Textile and Apparel Collection”:* Global Academic Network International Conference, Los-Angeles, California, USA, **2014.****
- ***“Visual Art and Its Role in Communication”:* Journal of Department of Fine and Applied Arts; JOFAA; A Multi-disciplinary Journal of the Department of Fine and Applied Arts and Humanities, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria.**

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

- ***Lecture presentation on “Textiles in Nigeria: Cultural Expression through Historical Textile and Apparel Collection” – School of Human Ecology; The University of Texas in Austin U.S.A.; 26th March 2003***
- ***Paper Presentation at the Eight International Conferences on “Design Principle and Practices” – UBC Robson Square Vancouver, Canada: Topic: Adaptation of Motif and Design Pattern: An Effective Tool for Textile Fabric Evaluation in Nigeria, 16th – 18th January 2014***

- Paper Presentation on **“Apparel Collection”** – Global Academic Network International Conference, Los Angeles, **14th – 17th May 2014**
- Art Exhibition, Bristol, England, United Kingdom
- Art Exhibition, Penarth Cardiff, United Kingdom
- Art Exhibition, 3up Cardiff, United Kingdom
- Art Exhibition: Ankara Prints with Symbolic Names as Motif for Interior Decor.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

- Society of Nigerian Artists (SNA)
- Women in Technical Education (WITED)
- Member Local Organizing Committee “Life in my City Art Festival”
- African Women Entrepreneur (AWEP)