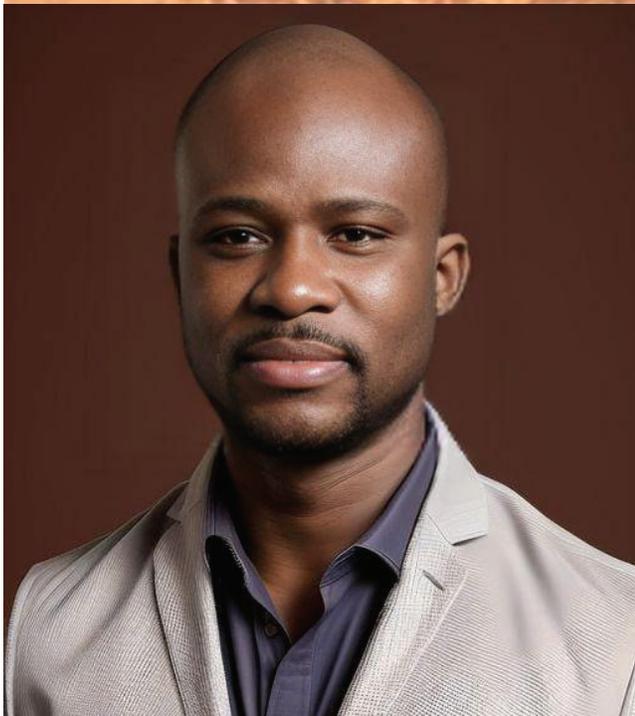


# GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**Fatai Abidemi Olabemiwo**

**Ph.D. Candidate**

**Cohan Lab**

**Biology**

---

## TELL US ABOUT YOUR CURRENT RESEARCH

*I am currently engaged in an intriguing research project on developing nano-plastic bioremediation to mitigate plastic pollution. My interest in this field was initiated during my Master's program, where I deliberately chose to harness scientific knowledge to address real-world challenges such as pollution and sustainability. The alarming increase in plastic pollution and its detrimental effects on ecosystems motivated me to explore innovative solutions. What I find most captivating about my current research is its interdisciplinary nature. The project allows me to integrate principles from microbiology, environmental science, ecology, and evolution effortlessly. Given the global significance of plastic pollution, engaging in research that explores sustainable and eco-friendly solutions aligns perfectly with my commitment to environmental stewardship.*

## WHAT SONG HAS BEEN STUCK IN YOUR HEAD LATELY?

*Dolly Parton's 'Coat of Many Colors' has been my recent mind-hummer—a timeless melody telling a story of resilience and simple joys.*

## TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

*Born and raised in Lagos, Nigeria, my academic journey led me to the United States six years ago, where I have been dedicated to my Ph.D. in Biology at Wesleyan University. Currently navigating my sixth year at Wesleyan, my educational background includes a BSc in Botany from the University of Lagos and a Master's in Environmental Science from King Fahd University in Saudi Arabia. Outside the academic realm, my interests are as diverse as the cultures I have encountered. I find joy in activities like bowling and ping pong, and during moments of reflection, I delve into motivational books—a practice that significantly contributes to my personal growth. One of my proudest accomplishments here at Wesleyan was initiating the Monthly Spotlight during my term as the Graduate Student Association Vice President in 2020-2021. This endeavor has flourished into a vibrant platform showcasing our community's unique talents and achievements. It is a testament to our collective diversity, fostering connections and inspiring one another.*

## WHAT BOOK DO YOU RECOMMEND AND WHY?

*I recommend 'Head First: The Biology of Hope and the Healing Power of the Human Spirit' by Norman Cousins. The book explores the thoughtful link between mindset and healing, sharing compelling stories emphasizing hope's transformative power. It is a captivating read that underscores the importance of a positive outlook for overall well-being.*