

Philip Emeagwali



My Quest for an Internet

In this, the 33rd installment of our weekly series at emeagwali.com, we present Part 9 of Philip Emeagwali's lecture on reversing the brain drain of scientists and technologists from developing nations to the United States. It was delivered in Geneva, Switzerland on April 26, 2010.

If the internet that I re-programmed as a supercomputer were a person, I will describe him as a young Igbo man. For that breakthrough, I am well known but not known well.

I Am Well Know

But Not Know Well

by [Philip Emeagwali](http://emeagwali.com)

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The lecture [video](#) is posted at emeagwali.com.

I am well known but not known well. The book titled "History of the Internet" described me as the

internet scientist who reinvented the supercomputer as an internet, and vice-versa.

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I was the first to hear the birth cries and witness the paternity of the supercomputer that works like an internet, and vice-versa.

I was logged on sixteen hours a day, seven days a week including Christmas Days on that supercomputer powered by 65,000 sub-computers. It was "Serial Number One."

Only one existed. Only one programmer can use it at a time. Because I was the dominant programmer of the Serial Number One supercomputer, I became the first to hear its birth cries.

If the internet that I re-programmed as a supercomputer were a person, I will describe him as a young Igbo man. For that breakthrough, I am well known but not known well.

That signature moment in science arrived in 1989 when I re-programmed an unconventional



My photo at the time I was an unknown but had invented my equations (Baltimore, Maryland. December 1982)

supercomputer comprised of 65,000 sub-computers to compute in lockstep as an internet.

I did that by using an unorthodox technique of simultaneously sending and receiving supercomputer data to and from 65,000 unique email addresses over a massive network of over a million internet pathways.

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In 1989, my supercomputer was able to perform the world's fastest computation of 3.1 billion calculations per second. For that calculation, I am well known but not known well.

Because I re-programmed my supercomputer that was powered by 65,000 sub-computers as part computer and part internet, I became well known and profiled in books on the history of the Internet but not known well for my discovery of the missing inertial forces in physics and inventions of 72 partial derivative terms in mathematics.

The reason for the difference in echoic retention is that the supercomputer and the Internet are concrete and memorable while mathematics and physics are abstract and invisible.

The [video](#) of this speech is posted at emeagwali.com.



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Date: 6/7/2006, 9:07 pm, GMT +6
Name: Sayyid Ahmad <128.82.253.12>
Location: Norfolk, Va.
Number: 33

Greetings:

The Accomplishment of our beloved Mr. Emeagwali are at best astounding. I hope the real truth about The Internet & many other aspects Of African History will be continued to be revealed.

By,
Sayyid Ahmad

Date: 6/6/2006, 8:39 pm, GMT +6
Name: Maduakonam
Achuama <62.252.128.28>
Location: Glasgow, UK

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Number: 32

I am proud of you as nwa afo Igbo. Part of our responsibility as Nigerians in diaspora is to continue to engage in 'think home philosophy'; trying to know if we can take home some of our great achievements abroad.

I think you are already engaged in this, but you can still convince your friends and associates to go and invest in Nigeria and in ala Igbo particularly.

Keep moving to greater heights. We support you with prayers. You are an asset to our world. You have made the black man proud in the computer world.

Date: 6/4/2006, 3:49 pm, GMT +6

Name: Chief Ibeh
Williams <193.219.251.3>

Location: Ghana

Philip Emeagwali

Number: 31

Philip Emeagwali, You are God sent to the world. A great African thats what you are!! I pray that God keeps you to finish the good works you are doing!! I love you dear Biafran

Date: 6/2/2006, 8:06 pm, GMT +6

Name: Ikeazor Anieto <216.226.234.163>

Location: Onitsha, Anambra ,Nigeria.

Number: 30

good day 2 u sir, u are the greatest scienctist please can u give we the nigerians on how 2 produce super computers and ways to develop our country. thank u.get me on this dial 234 806 387 1875.

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Date: 5/21/2006, 2:30 am, GMT +6

Name: Jamesanna
Robinson <150.199.110.130>

Location: logos

Number: 29

i like this site

Date: 6/1/2006, 5:54 pm, GMT +6

Name: Ogo Okpalaji <193.219.251.3>

Location: Ghana

Number: 28

Philip you are such a trasure to africa and
Africans. I LOVE YOU GREAT
BROTHER!!!

Date: 5/26/2006, 1:34 am, GMT +6

Philip Smeagoli

Name: Charles <151.36.191.118>

Location: keelechi

Number: 27

I am more than proud to have a great thinker like you as a connational and igbo brother. You have made us proud.

Corragio!

Date: 5/24/2006, 2:02 pm, GMT +6

Name: moses nyabere <207.200.116.10>

Location: Tucson arizona

Number: 26

I have learned a great deal in this website. Your honesty, hard work, and discipline has earned you a million dollar ticket, fame, and most importantly you have contributed or invented a mathematics

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formula that has revolutionized the computer industry and other field. It is something that will be known in a life time. Great work, you have proved wrong the ignorant, racist white supremacy in the west. I was so socked to know that Euclid the great mathematician was a black African. This white supremacy has created a dysfunctional historical scholarship. Writing books for the past five hundred years glorifying themselves at the expense of others especially black Africans. I am a Kenyan 100% African. I would prefer that African people to start teaching African children African history especially about the great kemetite people and possibly refer to themselves as the children of the great kemetite people because we are truly the kemetite people. I believe that we are the descendant of the great kemetite people. I would truly like you to take your expertise and leapfrog Africa to the modern age. My dream is to see Africa as a united states of Africa. It's so sad that we are not

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controlling our own resources. Our continent is the wealthiest in natural resources yet we are the poorest. Truly you have done an amazing job and am hoping you have many more inventions in the future good luck to you and your family, by the way I hope Denzel Washington will make a movie about you thanks a lot bye.

11 I Am Well Known But Not Know Well

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Below are lecture companion photos taken on April 26, 2010 at Intercontinental Geneve, Switzerland. The captions were as provided by the conference planner.



Gov. Uduaghan and lead speaker, Prof. Philip Emeagwali, Nigerian-born world acclaimed-computer programmer and inventor of the internet.



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Gov. Uduaghan watches as Prof. Emeagwali displays a memorabilia on Delta State presented to him after his captivating address in Geneva, Switzerland.



Mrs. Moremi Soyinka-Onijala, Special Assistant to the President on Migration at the launching of the European hub of the Delta Diaspora Direct (D3) programme in Geneva, Switzerland.



A cross-section of Delta Diasporans at the launch of the European hub of the Delta Diaspora Direct (D3) programme in Geneva, Switzerland.

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Mr. Gordon Bristol, Nigeria Ambassador to France in a warm handshake with Prof. Emeagwali during the launching of the European hub of the Delta Diaspora Direct (D3) programme in Geneva, Switzerland.



A cross-section of diplomats and guests listen to a presentation with rapt attention during the launching of the European hub of the Delta Diaspora Direct (D3) programme in Geneva, Switzerland.

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Mr. Bernard Okumagba, Commissioner for Economic Planning with Dr. Lucky Akaruese of the University of Port Harcourt listening to a presentation with rapt attention during the launching of the European hub of the Delta Diaspora Direct (D3) programme in Geneva, Switzerland.



Emeagwali captures the attention of the audience with his riveting presentation during the launching of the European hub of the Delta Diaspora Direct (D3) programme in Geneva, Switzerland.

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Amb. Torn York Chor, Permanent Representative of Singapore to the United Nations, Geneva, Gov. Uduaghan, and Dr. Martins Uhomoibhi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nigeria Ambassador to Switzerland and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Geneva, who was chairman of the event.



Prof. Emeagwali (right) displays a souvenir of the True Face of Delta presented to him by Gov. Uduaghan at the Delta Diaspora Direct (D3) summit held in Geneva, Switzerland

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Mr. Simon Ighofose, a Deltan Diasporan in the UK, Mr. Sam Omatseye, Chairman, Editorial Board of The Nation Newspaper, Mr. Okumagba, Prof. Emeagwali, Mr. Oma Djebah, Mr. Eddy Odivwri, Member, Editorial Board of Thisday Newspaper, and Dr. Akaruese.