Briefly introduce yourself

I am Salim Oyinlola. I am an undergraduate student at the University of Lagos who is driven to learn, build and grow collaboratively. I am also a Beta Microsoft Learn Student Ambassador with interest in Artificial Intelligence.

As a Microsoft Learn Student Ambassador and volunteer at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, I am known for my public speaking prowess and drive to build diverse and inclusive tech circles where everyone's growth is prioritized. A United Nations Millennium Alumnus for the class of 2021 who is passionate about making an impact and believes except the least of the world is taken care of, the best cannot survive. I advocate for the fourth Sustainable Development Goal – Quality Education for all.

Briefly introduce your community

My community is one that boasts of young, enthusiastic persons who are passionate about learning and technology in general. Members of my community will like to change the world, one line of code at a time if presented with the right opportunities. This apparent lack of opportunities makes me describe my community as one with a gap that needs to be bridged. I say this because although my community seems to have access to information, the gap between the industry and the academia deters members of my community. In all, my community is one such that initiatives like meetups, hackathons and workshops can take it to the next level.

My community's leadership structure is quite simple. It starts with a staff counselor who is a professor in my college that advises and guides the community. Thereafter, we have student leaders like myself who generally coordinate the community and these are the students from whom other students seek guidance from. The other students include volunteers who double as co-organizers and level representatives who help with publicity of opportunities and events.

Finally, my community is one with a poor men-women ratio and poor awareness about available tech opportunities.

Why do you want to become a GitHub Campus Expert?

For as long as I can remember, I have always been passionate about impacting and building collaboratively. As at the time of this application, this is only my fourth month as a Microsoft Learn Student Ambassador and in this short span of time, I have been able to organize four virtual events and written a handful of tech blogs. With this, I have been able to help students in my community by leading my local tech articles whilst developing my technical and career skills.

However, I believe more can be done. As a student leader, I am convinced that the training, resources and support from the GitHub Campus Expert program will help me foster communities on my campus. I would like to be a GitHub campus expert to continue my strides to help other students learn valuable industry skills, secure opportunities and prepare us all to become the next generation of world-class software developers.

How will the Campus Expert Program enable you to support your local community better?

The GitHub Campus Expert program will enable me to support my local community even better by:

i. Giving me more opportunities to organize events in collaboration with other student leaders for my tech community.

ii. Giving me more opportunities to speak at workshops to impact and build my tech community.

iii. Giving me the opportunity to write tech blogs to educate my tech community.

iv. Giving me the opportunity to organize events that are centered on women in technology to help encourage more women in tech and help my community as a whole.

v. Giving the activities of my community a bigger platform and hence, awareness.

And most importantly,

vi. Enabling me to help bridge the gap between academia and industry that exists in my community.

Link to Video Application here for the SECOND stage!

Note: It is my understanding that since my application was written in August 2022, the application essay questions have changed over time. I am of the opinion that although these set of questions are different, the underlying idea the team at GitHub Education are trying to seek remains the same.

Wishing you the best of luck with your application and cheers to making impact.