



ILLINOIS INNOVATION PRIZE



TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEUR CENTER
ENGINEERING AT ILLINOIS

Olaoluwapo Ajala is a Ph.D. candidate in the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering whose research is focused on energy resource optimization technology.

Olaoluwapo's passion for energy stems from his childhood in Nigeria where the lack of constant power supply created major problems for homes and businesses. Because of these problems owners have to purchase small-scale diesel generators, battery-storage systems, solar photovoltaic systems and other small-scale power generators to meet their electricity needs. Olaoluwapo's innovation connects homes and business within a small geographical area electrically to create stand-alone power systems—technically known as microgrids. The microgrid concept is a common one, but Olaoluwapo's technology will allow systems in these areas to interconnect and for home and business owners to share electricity from various sources.

While pursuing his bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the Chapel of Christ Our Light University of Lagos he was named the Best Student in the Department of Electrical Engineering.

2017 FINALIST

OLAOLUWAPO AJALA

Ph.D. Candidate, Electrical & Computer Engineering