The World Association for Academic Doctors, founded by Dr. Henrietta Okoro, met in Linthicum, Maryland, on June 8-10, 2017 for the Inaugural World Congress Conference. Representatives from the following countries participated in the conference:

- United States
- Brazil
- Uganda
- Nigeria
- Cameroon
- India
- Turkey
- Pakistan
- Ghana

The purpose of the WAAD conference was to collaborate on problems of common interest and concern of economic, educational, cultural, and political nature. Researchers presented their work regarding environmental protection, agricultural development, statistical interpretation of data, diversity empowerment, the incorporation of management and leadership practices, and advancement of innovative research, scholarship, and education.

The following were emergent themes from the conference:

1. Diversity in the workplace
2. Discovering opportunities in education
3. Optimizing research and scholarship
4. Strategies that promote economic growth
5. Sound agricultural and environmental practices
6. Government and non-government organization involvement
7. Communication barriers
8. Recognizing and fulfilling various levels of human need
9. Peace, love, respect, and support for others
10. Leadership and empowerment
11. Technological challenges

A common theme of interest that permeated each presentation was to convert knowledge into action through creative and innovative approaches to promote world peace.

Dr. Liz Young, Dr. Margaret Vianna, & Dr. William Woods | Project Facilitators