

Australia Africa Universities Network (AAUN) Workshop
Western Sydney University Symposium
25th August 2020

AAUN Attendees:

Professor John Hearn - Chairman, Australia Africa Universities Network (AAUN); **A-Prof Grace Liu** – Company Secretary and General Manager, AAUN Ltd.

WSU Attendees:

Professor Deborah Sweeney – Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Enterprise and International; **Dr. Annette McLaren**, Senior Policy Adviser and Projects Manager, WSU.

AGENDA:

- 1000** 1. Welcome and Introductions – Professor Deborah Sweeney (10 mins)
 2. AAUN - Professor John Hearn (10mins)
- 1020** International Research Post COVID19 – Professor Deborah Sweeney
- 1035** **Health Research Showcase (10 minute presentations) (Convenor Dr Kate McBride WSU)**
 Dr Olayide Ogunsiji (WSU)
1. **1.Dr Olayide Ogunsiji, (WSU) Australia; Ms Margaret Jabbie, Blacktown Hospital, Australia.**
Understanding of health and empowerment among Young African Women in rural Africa Non-communicable disease/ dual burden of care.
2. **Associate Professor Rebekah Grace (WSU)**
‘Supporting the health and early learning of young children who are refugees’
3. **Dr Freya MacMillan (WSU)**
‘Peer support for the Prevention and Management of Obesity and Diabetes.’
4. **Associate Professor Therese Kairuz (Africa general) (UNew)**
“Medicines Utilisation in Africa”
- Q&A**
- 1135** **Sustainable Resources Showcase (10 minute presentations) (Convenor Professor Basant Maheshwari WSU)**
1. **Emeritus Professor Tim Roberts, University of Newcastle; Professor Charles Omwandho, Kirinyaga University, Kenya; Professor Madara Ogot, University of Nairobi, Kenya; Dr Nelson Muchiri Gachoki, Kirinyaga University, Kenya**
‘Transitioning to a sustainable future through STEM training and research’
2. **Professor Ataur Rahman (WSU)**
‘Harvesting rain water in Africa.’
3. **Professor Sathaa Sathasivan (WSU)**
‘Clean water provision’
4. **Dr Dharma Hagare (WSU)**
‘Use of recycled water for agricultural and urban irrigation’
5. **HDR - Professor Basant Maheshwari**
‘MARVI in Africa’
- Q&A**

1235 Lunch

1300 Education and Young People's Resilience (Convenors Associate Professor Rebekah Grace & Dr Prathyusha Sanagavarapu)

1. Dr Olayide Ogunsiji (WSU); Prof. Prem Ramburuth, (UNSW); Assoc. Prof. Abimbola Oluwatosin, University of Ibadan, Nigeria; Julaina, Assoc. Prof. Nasima Carrim, Pretoria University, South Africa; Ms Julaina, Obika, Gulu University, Uganda; Ms Clara Kansime, Gulu University, Uganda

'Women Empowerment: African women in the Workplace'

2. Professor Shirley Randall AO (Rwanda) (UNew)

"Gender and Learning in Rwanda"

3. Lilly Moody & Georgina Theakstone (WSU)

"Young People and Resilience – work in Africa"

Q&A

1300 **CONCURRENT SESSION - PhD Presentations – Chair - Dr Valentine Mukuria (WSU)**

1305 Chioma MaryAnn Igwenagu (Nee: Okafor)

PhD Student | Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment | **Western Sydney University** (westernsydney.edu.au/hie)

Lecturer II - Soil fertility Management | Department of Soil Science **University of Nigeria Nsukka** (www.unn.edu.au)

1320 Sharon Towett-Kirui

PhD Student | Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment | **Western Sydney University** (westernsydney.edu.au/hie)

Western Success Advisor | Western Success, Western Sydney University

1335 Osazee O. Oyanoghafo

PhD Student | Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment | **Western Sydney University** (westernsydney.edu.au/hie)

1350 Q&A

1400 Discussion - (Convenors John Hearn & Deborah Sweeney)

Possible initiatives to discuss/explore (either with AAUN or within WSU):

Opportunities post COVID

Co-funding post-doctoral exchanges

Engagement with CODESRIA (Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa)

Transformative role of WSU/AAUN in the changing landscape in Africa in global health, student and staff mobility, research and innovation.

How to access the emerging markets in research innovation?

1445 CLOSE

This Symposium will be a live webinar via Zoom system:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uws.zoom.us/j/98834913911?pwd=c2M4dVVzemFEVmpwdG9DMmtJSHF2QT09>

Meeting ID: 988 3491 3911

Password: 674165

Dial by your location

+61 8 7150 1149 Australia

+61 2 8015 6011 Australia

Find your local number: <https://uws.zoom.us/j/98834913911?pwd=c2M4dVVzemFEVmpwdG9DMmtJSHF2QT09>

Registration:

Please [register for the event here](#). You will receive a link to the online event page to access the webinar in your order confirmation email.

STUDENT BIOS

Chioma MaryAnn Igwenagu (Nee: Okafor)

I am passionate about sustainable agricultural practices and ensuring global food security through teaching and research. I am also driven by the need for implementable research which can solve the food security problems in Nigeria and beyond. To achieve this; innovations, adaptation studies and skilled labour are explicit, especially in Nigeria while personal growth and research skill acquisition is imminent. This motivated me to seek tertiary education in developed nations with known track record of outstanding, ethical, and sustainable research practices and livelihood. I am building myself as a scientific leader that can drive sustainable agricultural development in Nigeria and beyond. I am currently conducting research in soil nutrient management and microbial ecology in pasture systems under climate change. The outcome of my PhD will aid understanding of how drought and warming will impact the productivity of grasslands used for pasture as well offer opportunity to improving soil nutrient management under such condition.

Sharon Towett-Kirui

A PhD student at the Hawkesbury institute for the Environment (HIE) working on endosymbiont-host interaction and my thesis title is Wolbachia and other endosymbionts of Australian Fruit fly species. Prior to my PhD, I did my Bsc in Biomedical sciences at the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton and Msc in Biotechnology at the University of Nairobi, Kenya.

Osazee O. Oyanoghafo

PhD Student | Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment | Western Sydney University (westernsydney.edu.au/hie)
Master of Science (Ecology) | University of Benin, Nigeria
Master of Research (Biology) Macquarie University, Australia
Bachelor of Science (Plant Biology and Biotechnology-First Class Honours) | University of Benin, Nigeria