

Women in Science

8 – 10 December 2015, Sandton Sun Hotel, Johannesburg, South Africa

Proactively Advancing and Promoting Women in the Pursuit of Changing the Face of Science

FEATURED KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS:

Dr. Aprille Ericsson, SBIR/STTR Program Manager, Innovative Technology Partnerships Office, NASA

Achievement:

The first African American woman to receive a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Howard University

Dr. Adriana Marais, Theoretical Physicist, Quantum Research Group Achievement:

The winner of the 2015 L'Oréal-UNESCO Women in Physics award. From more than 200 000 applicants across the world, she is one of 100 potential astronauts shortlisted for a one-way expedition to Mars.

Dr. Buyisiwe Sondezi, Scientist and Physics Lecturer, University of Johannesburg Achievement:

The first woman in Africa to be awarded a doctoral degree in experimental physics

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Our Esteemed Panel:

Dr Margaret Mkhosi, Senior Manager, Necsa

Kate Munnik, Senior Marine Scientist, Lwandle Technologies

Bongiwe Mbebe, Senior Specialist-Metallurgy: SARA, National Nuclear Regulator

Dr. Tanya Hughes, R&T Analytics Scientist, Sasol Technology

Kariska Potgieter, Medical Scientist, National Institute for Occupational Health

Professor Nulda Beyers, Director, Desmond Tutu TB Centre

Dr. Daphney Bucher, Research Scientist, iThemba Labs

Dr. Cynthia Chiang, Astrophysics Lecturer, University of KwaZulu-Natal

Dr. Lisa du Toit, Senior Lecturer of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, University of the Witwatersrand

Dr. Sarita Maree, Molecular Biologist, University of Pretoria

Dr. Malebo Tibane, Senior Lecturer in Department of Physics, University of South Africa

Kenda Knowles, Fellowship Doctoral, 2015 South African Women in Science Award Nominee

Dr. Oghenetega Ighedo, Senior Lecturer, University of South Africa

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P O Box 413629 Craighall 2024 Johannesburg South Africa





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Dear Woman in Science,

"For what is done or learned by one class of women becomes, by virtue of their common womanhood, the property of all women." - Elizabeth Blackwell

Elizabeth Blackwell was the **first female physician** in the United States and the first woman to be registered on the UK Medical Register. History is replete with women breaking the gender barrier and entering into fields of science previously dominated by men. However, that has not changed the global sentiment that science is still a man's world.

Government, higher education institutions and industry are pushing forward campaigns to **draw more women into science**, as they are seen as solution providers to the intrinsic needs of the African continent, primarily in the alleviation of poverty. **Women are seen to bring diversity in the way they utilize technology and innovations** in the development of solutions such as food production and water and sanitation. To say that these are the only areas female scientists can add value to would be shortsighted indeed.

Women the world over continue to make great strides to advance their research and find solutions through science to the needs of their regions. With that in mind, **AMC International's inaugural Women in Science conference** is an opportunity to take stock of the accomplishments of women in science so far and glean over ideas and inspirations for the future.

This event boasts a line-up of eclectic women in science across the spectrum that will come and showcase the history and impact they have made in their positions. Take this opportunity to discover your potential and capitalize on the prospects now available in this digital age. From the role you can make in meeting social needs, to taking advantage of social media, and partnerships and mentorship programs, this not-to-be missed event will ensure the next standing ovation will be made for you!

PS: LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE!

Best regards,

Chipo Chibaya Project Director AMC INTERNATIONAL

Who should attend?

Deputy Executive Directors/ Chief Directors/ Heads of the Department/ Principal investigators/ Vice Principals/ Director Generals/ Pioneers/ Assistant Director-Generals/ Deans/ Professors/ Lecturers/ Directors of Departments/ Directors of Research Departments/ Research Group Leaders/ Senior Scientists/ Principal Research Scientists/ Physicist Researchers/ Marine Biologists/ Molecular Biologists/ Scientists/ Mineralogy: Geologists/ Medical Scientists/ Senior Environmental Scientists/ Environmental Scientists/ Research Specialists/ Astronomers/ Associate Professors/ Researchers/ Field application specialists/ Senior Physiotherapists/ Palaeobiologists/ Microbiologists/ Senior Lecturers/ Wildlife Biologists/ Research Managers/ Biologists/ Field Biologists/ Marine Biologists/ Postgraduate Students/ Postdoctoral Researchers/ Junior Scientists/ PhD Students

Our Esteemed Panel Achievements:

Dr Margaret Mkhosi

Achievement: South Africa's first female nuclear engineer

Kate Munnik Achievement:

Published oceanographer

Kariska Potgieter

Achievement:

The winner of "Best national presenter at the Young Spectroscopist's Symposium for 2013"

Professor Nulda Beyers

Achievement:

She has received many awards and honours for her research work into tuberculosis and founded the Desmond Tutu TB Centre

Dr. Daphney Bucher

Achievement:

One of the pioneers in Nuclear Physics

Dr. Cynthia Chiang

Achievement:

Recently returned from Antarctica after participating in SPIDER, an experiment which studies the earliest moments of the universe's creation.

Dr. Lisa du Toit

Achievement:

Multiple award winner for recognition of outstanding research achievement and contribution, including Claude Leon Foundation Merit Award – Awarded to emerging researchers, 2014.

Kenda Knowles

Achievement:

The winner in the Doctoral Fellowship category at the 2015 Women in Science Award

Dr. Oghenetega Ighedo

Achievement:

The first black female pure mathematics PhD graduate

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Pre-conference Day: 8 December 2015

08:15 Registration

09:00 Opening Remarks from the Chairman

Workshop A: 8 December 2015

9:00 – 11:00

Conducting a Mind-Map of Your Career and Strategically Meeting Your Goals and Objectives

Workshop Description:

- Discussing the benefits of mind mapping
- Identifying the mind-mapping tools and techniques
- Evaluating your short term career planning
- Outlining the steps to achieve that
- Useful tools for long-term career mapping and planning

Your Facilitator:

Dr. Sarita Maree, Molecular Biologist, University of Pretoria

Workshop B: 8 December 2015

11:00 - 12:30

Capacity Building Initiatives For Women In Research

Workshop Description:

This workshop will cover:

- Women in science, doing research for impact
- Mentorship an important tool in achieving better human capital development outcomes
- Motivating women to enroll into the field of science and technology
- Discussing the doors that science opens for women keen to participate in research and innovation

Your Facilitator:

Dr. Daphney Bucher, Research Scientist, iThemba Labs

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Conference Day 1: 9 December 2015

08:15 Registration

09:00 Opening Remarks

Chairman: **Dr. Buyisiwe Sondezi,** Scientist and Physics Lecturer, **University of Johannesburg**

HARNESSING POTENTIAL TO ACCOMPLISH CHANGE

09:10 Keynote Address: Highlighting the Significant Challenges that are being faced by Industry and strategies for benefiting from the opportunities

- Pinpointing the current biggest inhibitor to progress
- Understanding the strategies that are imperative to ensuring your business is well-positioned
- The role of the industry in facilitating economic growth

Dr. Buyisiwe Sondezi, Scientist and Physics Lecturer, University of Johannesburg

09:50 Game Changer: Establishing Interventions within Your Organization Employed To Bridge the Gender Gap

- Identifying the disparities between genders
- Formulating internal policies to mitigate these gaps
- Implementing support structures
 Dr Margaret Mkhosi, Senior Manager, Necsa

10:30 Contextualizing the Diversity That Women Bring To Researching New Frontiers

- Incorporating gender differences into the dynamics of leadership styles
- Harnessing the role of women as agents of change
 Dr. Tanya Hughes, R&T Analytics Scientist, Sasol
 Technology

11:10 Morning Refreshment and Networking Break

- 11:40 Game Changer: Strengthening the Unique Contributions Made In Breaking Barriers and Increasing Productivity
 - Effectively taking advantage of human potential in rapidly changing areas
 - Improving the utilisation of technology
 - Handling the obstacles that arise in the process
 Bongiwe Mbebe, Senior Specialist-Metallurgy: SARA,
 National Nuclear Regulator

- 12:20 Panel Discussion: Discussing the Opportunities That New Research Can Provide Economically, Socially and Environmentally
 - Discussing latest developments in new research
 - The benefits of a good role model
 - Conducting a self-appraisal Kate Munnik, Senior Marine Scientist, Lwandle Technologies Dr. Cynthia Chiang, Astrophysics Lecturer, University of KwaZulu-Natal
- 1:00 Lunch and Networking Break

INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

14:00 Keynote Address: Discussing the Interventions Which Have Done Well In Getting Women Ahead

- Evaluating the partnerships that have globally promoted women in science
- The role of government in social development
- Prioritizing the participation of women
 Dr. Aprille Ericsson, SBIR/STTR Program
 Manager, Innovative Technology Partnerships
 Office, NASA
- 14:40 Game Changer: Identifying and Exploiting the Innovations Available For Increasing Industrial Productivity
 - Discussing the direction the industry is headed in terms of innovative breakthroughs
 - Ascertaining the impact research innovations have on providing useful solutions
 - Capitalizing on these innovations
 Dr. Lisa du Toit, Senior Lecturer of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, University of the Witwatersrand

15:20 Afternoon Refreshment and Networking Break

- 15:50 Reassessing the Inhibitions Peculiar to Field Of Science and Building the Capacity of Women
 - Driving the agenda to promote women entering into the field
 - Creating channels that make access to opportunities attainable

Kenda Knowles, Fellowship Doctoral, 2015 South African Women in Science Award Nominee

16:30 Closing Remarks from the Chairman

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Conference Day 2: 10 December 2015

08:15 Registration

09:00 Opening Remarks from the Chairman

- 09:10 Keynote Address: Recognising and developing partnerships which maximize on current economic opportunities
 - Capitalising on corporate social responsibility for strategic sustainable growth
 Dr. Adriana Marais, Researcher, Quantum Research Group
- 9:50 Discussing How Science and Technology Is Paving the Way for Supporting Social Needs and Promoting Leadership in Women
 - Identifying and assessing social needs such as poverty, food security and job creation
 - Improving social issues and systems through science and technology
 - Evaluating the function of women in remedying leadership disparities
 Dr. Maloba Tibana, Sonier Lecturer in Department.

Dr. Malebo Tibane, Senior Lecturer in Department of Physics, **University of South Africa**

TAPPING INTO OPPORTUNITIES TO ADVANCE YOUR CAREER

10:30 Game Changer: Maximizing On the Impact of Social Technology on Personal Growth and Successfully Branding Yourself

- Identifying the most influential technologies available
- Evaluating which social media are for you
- Ascertaining whether you have the appropriate resources

Dr. Daphney Bucher, Research Scientist, iThemba Labs

11:10 Morning Refreshments and Networking Break

11:40 Game Changer: Adapting Effectively and Making a Valuable Contribution in a Male Dominated Environment

- Cultivating your authenticity
- Strategies for ensuring you advance in your career
- Successfully entering into a male environment and persevering
 Professor Nulda Beyers, Director, Desmond Tutu TB Centre
- 12:20 Recognising Emerging Trends and Innovations in Science and Technology and How They Can Take Your Career Forward
 - Factoring the increasing significance of changing technologies
 - Increasing your participation in utilizing these new innovations
 - Overcoming the stereotypes
 Kariska Potgieter, Medical Scientist, National Institute for Occupational Health

13:00 Lunch and Networking Break

14:00 Increasing Your Personal Performance, Input and Involvement

- Instilling discipline and investing in yourself
- Prioritizing resources available to you
- Changing your outlook and improving your decision
 making tools

Dr. Oghenetega Ighedo, Senior Lecturer, University of South Africa

14:40 Peer Exchange: (15 minutes Open Floor Discussion Sessions)

Topic 1: Demystifying the "imposter syndrome"

Topic 2: Overcoming the persistent lack of support in the workplace

Topic 3: Motivating and mentoring those pursuing a career in science

Topic 4: Changing perceptions and making a valid contribution

15:40 Closing Remarks from the Chairman



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